

Padre Pio FraterniTy

Brothers and Sisters of St Francis Region

Jerry Rousseau, OFS (1939-2022)



Losing Jerry Rousseau, OFS is akin to losing one of our own fraternity members. He is of major importance for the reemergence of the Padre Pio Fraternity in 2014. His loss is felt deeply by those of us who remember his guidance and constant help when we needed him the most. Joanne Jacovec, OFS who was the appointed minister at the time says that his work with us, side by side, is the reason why we are such a flourishing community today. Ellen Ferrone, OFS, our past vice minister and the newly elected minister of the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region stated the he and his wife Madeline were both immensely dedicated to the Order. Ellen said, “Jerry always modeled his love for our Lord by his service to our brothers and sisters.” We certainly have missed his skilled Franciscan involvement since he began his long struggle with leukemia. We pray for Madeline and the family as we mourn his loss together with them. Jerry was a man of the Gospel and God has called his son home. – *Joanne Jacovec, OFS and Frank Peluso, OFS*

Come & See

Come & See was held on September 25, at St. Francis Church, in place of our regular gathering. We had 16 guests, at least some of whom already intend to start Inquiry this upcoming January!

Gladys Whitehouse, OFS, Zubair Simonson, OFS, Rachel Bongiorno, OFS, and Chris Peffley, OFS, each shared reflections of their own journeys in the Secular Franciscan Order. Our Formation Director Char Witosky, OFS, and Vice Minister Dave Shick, OFS, shared with our guests an overview of formation.

It looks like our fraternity will continue to keep growing! Glory be to God!



**Holy Father’s Intentions for October –
A Church Open to Everyone**

We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

**Candidate’s Corner –
Nkem Okereke**



My full name is Nkemji Dorothy Okereke and my birthday is February 21st. I was born in Port-Harcourt, in Rivers State, Nigeria. I came to the United State in 2001 with my husband Chinenyenwa Okereke. We have been married for 41 years. God blessed us with three daughters and one son. We have five grandchildren, ages 2-14. I work as a preschool teacher in Raleigh. My parish is St Francis of Assisi in Raleigh. I have worked in various ministries throughout the church. I like to watch sports. I love to pray and be of service to others. I came to the Fraternity because I want to be closer to God and to better serve him.

Council Members

Spiritual Assistant:

Fr. Hugh Macsherry, OFM

Minister:

Sharon Winzeler, OFS

Vice Minister:

Dave Shick, OFS

Formation Director:

Charlotte Witosky, OFS

Treasurer:

Zubair Simonson, OFS

Secretary:

Anna Rzewnicki, OFS

Councilors:

Joan Monti, OFS

Jeanne Casciere, OFS

Chris Peffley, OFS

BSSF Region Minister:

Ellen Ferrone, OFS

Area 3 Councilors:

Lee Cunningham, OFS

Betti Pettinati-Longinotti, OFS

Apostolates

For JPIC:

Email Gladys Whitehouse, OFS

For the website:

Email Sharon Winzeler, OFS

For Oak City Cares:

Email Lee Cunningham, OFS, or
Marylou Holoway, OFS

For CPO or Library:

Email Maureen Copan, OFS

For Hospitality:

Email Maureen McFadden, OFS or
Alma Hammer, OFS

For Prayer Requests:

Email Deacon Phil Rzewnicki, OFS

For Scrapbook:

Email Jeanette Cottone, OFS

For Sunshine:

Mayra Rangel

For the Newsletter:

Email Rachel Bongiorno, OFS



Did you know that one of St. Francis’ requests while he was laying on his deathbed was...cookies?!

The almond & spice cookies made by Blessed Jacoba of Settesoli (1190-1273) were a particular favorite of our seraphical father.

Rachel Bongiorno, OFS, was kind enough to bake some and bring them to Come & See. But just in case you missed them, or were curious about the recipe, Brother Andrew Corriente, OFM, posted it on:

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/encounters/baking-with-brother-andrew/>



Sr. Mary Conner, OSC – October 2

Deacon Phil Rzewnicki, OFS – October 18

October – Month of the Holy Rosary and the Holy Angels

1. Bl. Nicolas of Forca, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1449
2. Bl. Antoine Chevrier, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1879
3. St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, Patron of France; St. Marie-Joseph Tossello, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1880
4. Solemnity of our Seraphic Father St. Francis, d. 1226, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
5. Commemoration of the establishment of the 3 Orders/ Blessed Felicia Meda, Order of Poor Clares, d. 1444
6. St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular
7. Feast of the Holy Rosary
8. St. Bridget of Sweden, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
9. Bl. Marie-Angele Truszkowska, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1899
10. St. Francois Borgia, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1572; and St. Daniel and Companions, Religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyrs, d. 1227
11. Feast of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady
12. St. Seraphin of Montegrano, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1604
13. Bl. Pacifique de Valence, lay brother, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
14. St John of Dukla, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1936
15. Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
16. Bl. Anicet de Dbrzno, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr, 1941
17. Bl. Balthassar of Chiavari, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1490
18. Bl. James of Strepas, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1409
19. St. Peter of Alcantara, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1512
20. Bl. Contardo Ferrini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1902
21. Bl. Martyrs of Polonais, d. 1941-42
22. Bl. John Baptist Bullaker, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1642
23. St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1870
24. Bl. Josephine Leroux, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, martyr 1794
25. Bl. Maria Veronica Masia Ferragut, Bl. Maria Felicidad Masia Ferragut, and Bl. Jesus Masia Ferragut, Virgins, Capuchin religious, Martyrs 1936
26. Bl. Martyrs of the War of Spain, 1936-37
27. Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1711
28. Bl. Anne-Eugenie Picco, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1921
29. Bl. Thomas of Florence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1447
30. Bl. Angelo of Acre, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1739
31. Bl. Christophe de Cahors, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1272

Our website is at: <https://ofscentralnc.org/>

Words of Faith by Padre Pio:

“Love Our Lady and make her loved. Always recite the Rosary.”

<https://www.themarianroom.com/padre-pio-our-lady-and-the-holy-rosary/>

Items of Interest:

-The fraternity is considering whether to add L'Arche, which Ben and Gladys Whitehouse, OFS, both volunteer for, as an apostolate for our own fraternity. Contact Ben or Gladys about volunteering opportunities to learn more about the wonderful work done there!

-Gladys Whitehouse, OFS, is going to be our new JPIC animator. Remember to congratulate her!

-Rachel Bongiorno, OFS, is going to be the new editor of our newsletter. Congratulate her as well!

-Chris Peffley, OFS, is our newest Councilor in place of Dave Shick, OFS, who became our new Vice Minister last month. Congratulate them as well! And don't worry, that's all the congrats you have to give out for the rest of the month...

-October 22 will be the Convocation at St. Francis of Assisi Church. If you are a parishioner, sign up on Realm. Otherwise, contact Ellen Ferrone, OFS.

-Speaking of Convocation...St. Francis Church is in need of volunteers the day before in preparation for it. Please contact Ellen Ferrone, OFS, if you are able.

-Do you hate reading stuff? Well then I've got some good news: we have nothing to read for on-going formation next month! Instead, we'll be watching a video which is available at: <https://wildgoose.tv/programs/collection-dyy7fbd6cie> Please note that you *must* register to watch this video (options to donate or access it for free will both appear).

-The Transitus will be on October 3, at 7 pm, at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi

-Any professed who are interested in becoming formators for our orientees, who are soon to be inquirers, contact Sharon Winzeler, OFS.

Profession Anniversaries:

Ida Irwin, OFS, will be a whopping 67 years professed on October 9! Jeanette Cottone, OFS, will be 18 years professed on October 20. Yay!

A Word from the Editor:

Having new duties as regional treasurer, and my current duties as local treasurer, I've decided to step down as the editor. The newsletter is in much better hands with Rachel Bongiorno, OFS, stepping up to plate. It has been a pleasure!

Our next fraternity gathering will be on October 23, at the Church of St Francis of Assisi

