



The Herald of St. Francis

July 2013
Vol. XXXIII, No. 7

Next Meeting:
Sunday, July 14th
@ 1:30 p.m.

Newsletter of the St. Francis Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order, St. Katharine Drexel Region
Meeting at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Saxer Ave. & Rolling Rd., Springfield Delaware County, Pennsylvania 19064
www.stfrancisfraternity.org • info@stfrancisfraternity.org

IMPORTANT:

Due to the council's meeting with our regional leadership, July's gathering will start at 1:30 NOT the usual 12:30.

Our July Gathering

Our July gathering will be held at 1:30 PM in Conway Hall for all Professed members, Inquirers and Candidates. **Please do not come before that time.** There will be a Council meeting at 12 PM with members of St. Katherine Drexel Region. Their agenda is to discuss the future of our Fraternity. Please keep us in prayer.

If you are unable to fulfill your obligation to attend the monthly meeting, please call Pat Simon at 610-352-5390

"And we will be involved in the monthly meeting as an act of worship and a building of community."

--from The Lay Franciscan Monthly Pledge

Don't Forget

- To sign the attendance log
- Petition slips
- Pennies for missions and flip tops off aluminum cans

July Franciscan Saints and Blessed

- 8 St Gregory Grassi
- 9 St Nicholas Pick and Companions
- 10 St Veronica Giuliani
- 12 Sts John Jones and John Wall
- 13 Bl Angeline of Marsciano
- 14 St Francis Solano
- 15 St Bonaventure
- 21 St Lawrence of Brindisi
- 23 St Cunegunda
- 23 St Bridget of Sweden
- 24 Bl Louise of Savoy
- 27 Bl Mary Magdalene of Martinegro

St. Francis Inn Needs:

- Powdered Milk
- Sugar
- Deodorant
- #5 & #6 Disposable Diapers
- 13 Gal. & 30 Gal.
- Trash Bags
- Prayers

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On the Web

Don't forget that the fraternity newsletter is available at our website as soon as it is finished (usually about a week before our next meeting). The website is also a great

resource to share with someone who might have an interest in joining the Order.

The web address is: <http://www.stfrancisfraternity.com/>

Formation Information

I sincerely apologize for having to cancel our June ongoing formation session at the last minute. If we have a chance to do ongoing formation at our July gather, I would like to use the material we were planning on using in June. We will focus on the first two pages and the first paragraph of page three of the paper *Finding Identity as a Secular Franciscan* by Edward M. Zablocki, OFS. If you were at the May meeting, you should have gotten a copy of this paper as well as the handout with all the information you need to prepare. If you don't have the handout or the paper but have web access, you can download them from this page on the fraternity's website: <http://www.stfrancisfraternity.org/ongoing-formation>. If you don't have internet, contact Lee and he'll try to get it to you before the meeting.

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Some other quotes of interest:

Article 7 of the Rule: *United by their vocation as "brothers and sisters of penance" and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel calls "conversion." Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily.*

On this road to renewal the sacrament of rec-

onciliation is the privileged sign of the Father's mercy and the source of grace.

From The General Constitution of the Secular Franciscan Order:

Article 13

1. *Rule 7 Secular Franciscans, called in earlier times "the brothers and sisters of penance", propose to live in the spirit of continual conversion. Some means to cultivate this characteristic of the Franciscan vocation, individually and in fraternity, are: listening to and celebrating the Word of God; review of life; spiritual retreats; the help of a spiritual adviser, and penitential celebrations. They should approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation frequently and participate in the communal celebration of it, whether in the fraternity, or with the whole people of God [12].*
2. *In this spirit of conversion, they should live out their love for the renewal of the Church, which should be accompanied by personal and communal renewal. The fruits of conversion, which is a response to the love of God, are the works of charity in the interactions with the brothers and sisters [13].*
3. *Traditional among Franciscan penitents, penitential practices such as fasting and abstinence should be known, appreciated, and lived out according to the general guidelines of the Church.*