

OFS Newsletter August 23, 2015

Franciscan Crown: Thais Beter; 6 volunteers

Franciscan Reading: Cathy Edwards

Liturgy of the Hours: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Daytime & Evening Prayer II

FRANCISCAN NATIONAL THEME:
"BE THE JOYFUL FACE OF CHRIST"

It is a privilege and a big responsibility to be a Franciscan.

We must live that commitment and embrace the responsibility of the call everyday of our lives.

Please be sure to bring your Liturgy of the Hours book and your Rituals. These two books are most important for our prayer and Gathering. Also, you should have your Divine Office for DODO's book/journal for those in on-going formation. Please make every effort to be prepared at all times.

Today we will be commissioning and re-commissioning those of our Franciscan members who have accepted the role of Ministers of Praise. We have six of our members that will continue to pray for our fraternity while we are in our Fraternity Gathering. We are very blessed to have them take on this special role. Thank you, Elizabeth, Jim, Myrtis, Theresa, Dick and Sarah.

In addition, Sister Martha Ann will help in the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All will have a quiet moment with reflection and adoration. After a few minutes of silence, we will pray the Divine Praises to the Blessed Sacrament. Please try to remain silent during this quiet time out of respect for others. Thank you.

August 11th was the Feast Day of St. Clare. Today Gerry Burton will bring a 1st class Relic of St. Clare for us to meditate with during our prayer in the Chapel. Thank you, Gerry, for sharing this beautiful gift with us.

Remember: after our fraternity prayer, we will come over to the Center for Agape time. Refreshments will be in the hall. Please welcome those who are new to our fraternity and spend some quality time with your brothers and sisters in Francis. Also, take a look at our library!

For those of you who help to serve at St. Vincent de Paul, August 29th is our next day to serve. Those who have signed up to serve are: Louis, Thais, Charlene, Denise, Paul, Gerry and Sister Martha Ann. Anyone else who may be interested in helping out, you would be more than welcomed to serve. I believe they ask you to be there for 11 am so they can start to serve at 11:30. Thank you for participating in this beautiful apostolate.

As another reminder, two more of our on-going apostolates are collecting stamps and old eyeglasses. Please help out with this when you can. Bring them to our next Fraternity Gathering and give them to Cathy Edwards. We appreciate your help in these two apostolates.

In September, a couple of members from our Regional Executive Council will be attending for our Fraternity's visitation. During our Gathering, I will be handing out a questionnaire for each member to fill out. This questionnaire will be beneficial for when the Regional Ex Council meets with us in September. A couple of questions that will appear are listed below for you to think about ahead of time.

- What means is the council using to build community in your fraternity?
- What future do you see for your fraternity - short and long range basis?
- Should new, young members be brought into your fraternity? _____ or should they be formed into a separate group? _____ What is your fraternity's potential to attract new members?
- What goals should the council set for the future?
- Does the fraternity understand and celebrate its identity as Franciscan penitents and encourage a growth in on-going conversion in its brothers and sisters?

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Eddie: for my children to return to the faith.

SMA: for friends who lost their only child; 30 y/o son.

Ruth: safe birth of grandchild and daughter's return to the faith.

Charlene: for Carolyn Greene's full recovery from lupus attack, for job prospects.

Cathy E.: completion of home soon, and for an Oratory.

Yvonne: wellness in mind, body, spirit for family members, special intention

Denise: special intention

Louis: for Sharon, Dolores, Angela

Debbie: for the shooting victims at the Lafayette theater

Barbara: for brother who is dealing with return of cancer

Kathy D: for special intentions

Patsy: for son to find a job and for grandson to find a job

Elizabeth: for her health

For an increase of Secular Franciscans and to our fraternity

For those of our members who have died, who are homebound, and in nursing homes.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

MOTHER MARY, PRAY FOR US.

ST. FRANCIS & ST. CLARE, PRAY FOR US.

Patsy Thibodeaux-Burgess, OFS

Minister