

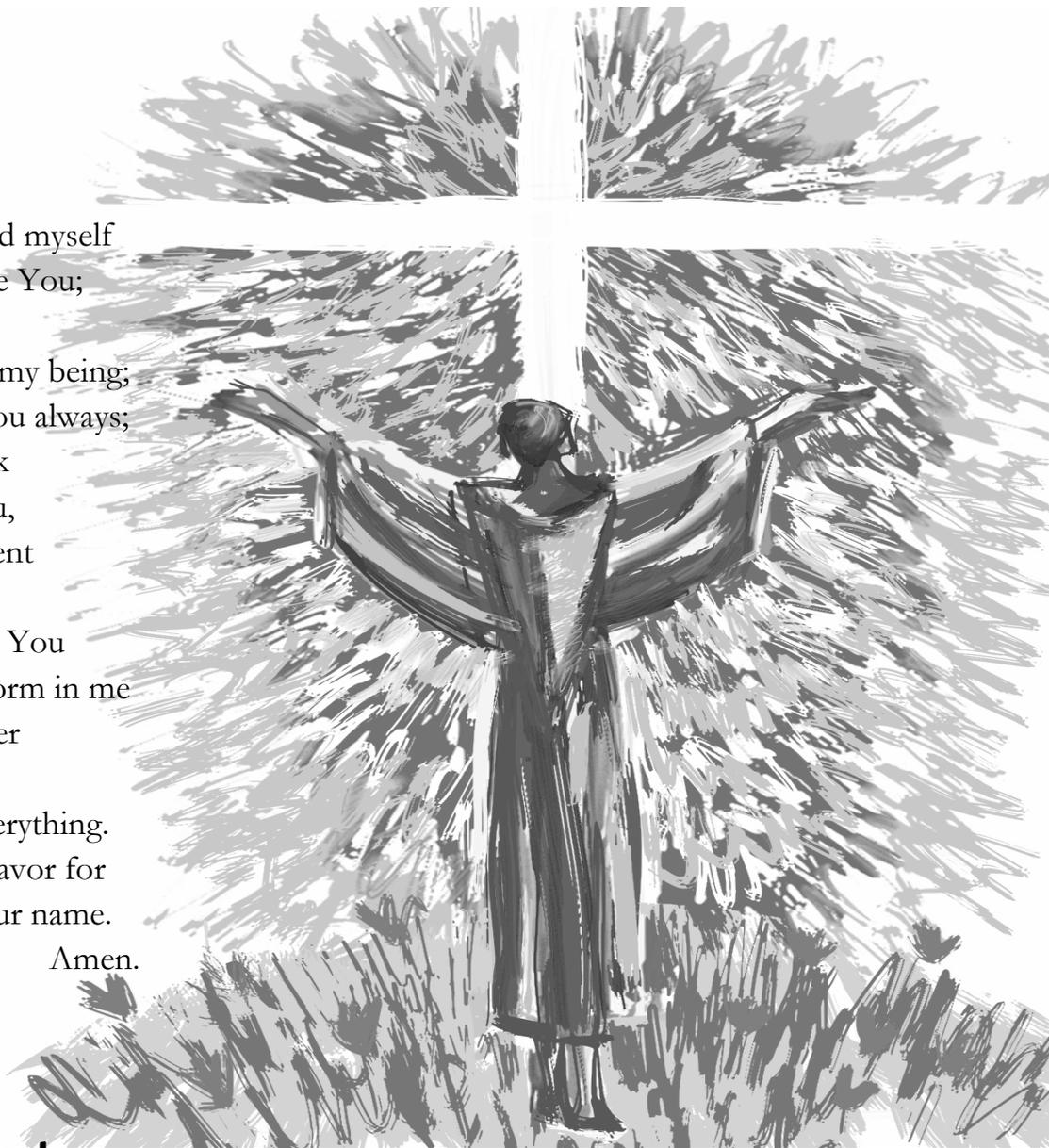
# ROUBADOUR

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGIONAL FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

**D** teach me to hold myself  
**I** in silence before You;  
**V** to adore You  
**I** in the depth of my being;  
**N** to wait upon You always;  
**E** and never to ask  
 anything of You,  
 but the fulfillment  
 of Your will.  
**M** Teach me to let You  
**A** act in me and form in me  
**S** the simple prayer  
**T** that says little,  
**E** but includes everything.  
**R** Grant me this favor for  
 the glory of Your name.

Amen.



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PRAYER, AGENDA, REG. FORM



## FROM OUR REGIONAL MINISTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On Saturday, April 28, we will celebrate our annual **Convivenza!** Our family gathering will take place at St. Bonaventure's Church, 174 Ramsey Street, Paterson, NJ, in the Franciscan Hall across the street from the front of the church. Our speaker will be the pastor of St. Bonaventure's, Fr. Daniel Grigassy, OFM.

In the afternoon after Mass and lunch, we will have a wonderful opportunity to put personal action into our Commissions of Peace and Justice, Family, and Work. We will have a brief presentation on Catholic Relief Services' program called Fair Trade. They are partners with CRS Fair Trade who import goods and handicrafts made by artisans in very poor parts of the world. They sell these goods and a fair price is paid to the producers of these articles, which allows them to earn a living for themselves and their families.

Currently, a committee is working on the consignment sale which we will conduct on the afternoon of the Convivenza. We will also supply catalogs for additional sales of items not on display. The catalogs can also go back to the fraternities for purchase by individuals. The crafts, chocolate, and coffee in the catalog are attractive, tasty, and hand made.

Please bring your money, cash or check, to enjoy these items for yourself, for gifts and to help support our brothers and sisters who are in need.

I look forward to seeing you at Convivenza and shopping with you!

Peace and love,  
Your sister,

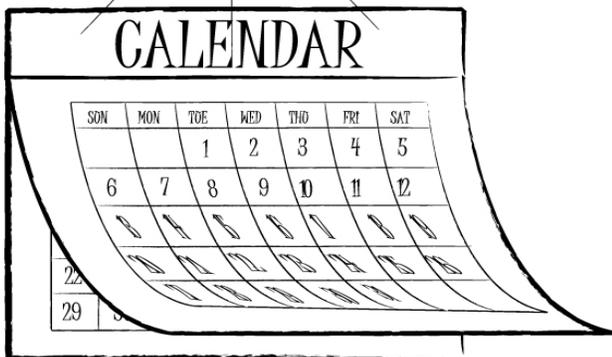
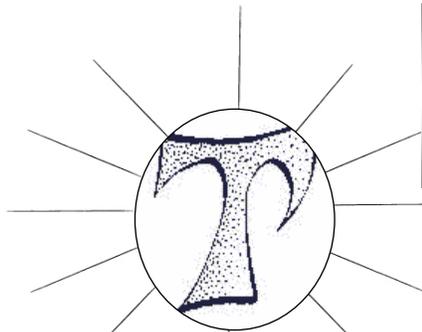
*Marcia*

Marcia Stamboulia, SFO  
Regional Minister  
Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity



Pictured is **Jacqueline DeCarlo**, Catholic Relief Services program advisor for *Work of Human Hands and the Fair Trade Program*, who spoke at the North Jersey Cluster meeting on March 10. Jackie explained the program and gave us tips on running the consignment sale mentioned in Marcia's letter.

**E**IGHTH CENTENARY  
OF THE BIRTH OF  
ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY  
1207-2007



# 2007

## REGIONAL EVENTS

Check our website often for Calendar updates.  
<http://ourladyoftheangelsregion.org/>

# APRIL

**CONVIVENZA**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

St. John Vianney  
 Fraternity  
 Paterson, NJ, 9:00 AM

See page 2 for more  
 details.

# July

**QUINQUENNIAL  
 CONGRESS**

**JULY 3—8**

Radisson Hotel  
 Pittsburgh, PA

See pages 21—23  
 for more details.

**ANNUAL  
 REGIONAL PICNIC**

**SATURDAY, JULY 28**

Mt. St. Francis  
 Ringwood, NJ

# August

**MANHATTAN CLUSTER  
 CELEBRATION FEAST  
 OF ST. CLARE**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 10**

31st Street  
 New York City

# October

**REGIONAL RETREAT**

**OCTOBER 19—21**

St. Mary's Villa  
 Sloatsburg, NY

# November

**CHAPTER OF  
 MINISTERS**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

96<sup>th</sup> Street and  
 Amsterdam Avenue  
 New York City

**DID YOU ATTEND AT LEAST ONE REGIONAL EVENT THIS PAST YEAR?**

If you didn't, please try to make it this year.

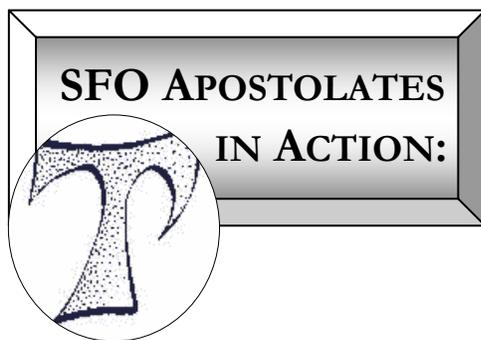
Our Regional Council and Clusters work hard to bring a variety  
 of programs and events that everyone will enjoy.

But your participation is essential in order to make them a success.

If transportation to an event is problematic, please enlist the aid of your local  
 minister or your regional cluster groups to help you. You may also e-mail me at  
[acpg@aol.com](mailto:acpg@aol.com) at the Troubadour. Let's work together to create a buddy system which  
 will benefit everyone. Regional events are educational, informational, and entertaining.

Don't miss out. Come join your fellow Secular Franciscans and be involved.

IT'S OUR FRANCISCAN CHARISM.



## 'MASTER' ROSARY MAKER GIVES BACK TO GOD

JENNIFER WILLEMS

Eddie DePauw will never cure cancer. He won't lead the stock market to a record-breaking rally and he will never be elected to office. Born with Down Syndrome, his gift is much simpler, but it still has the potential to change lives around the world.

Eddie, 44, is a "master missionary rosary maker." As a member of the Rosary Makers of St. Malachy's Church in Geneseo, he has been responsible for helping the group send approximately 3,200 missionary rosaries to people in hospitals, nursing homes and adoration chapels in the United States as well as missions in Africa, the Philippines, Brazil and India over the last seven years. "I think we formed the group for Eddie and for the Blessed Mother, so he could give something back," said Jolene Thompson, a member of the Rosary Makers. "His rosaries are definitely blessed."

Part of a national organization known as *Our Lady's Rosary Makers*, which is based in Louisville, Kentucky, the Rosary Makers of St. Malachy's Church create two kinds of rosaries. The first are chained rosaries, which are sold to help the group buy materials and ship what they have made to the missions. Thompson noted that these rosaries require some practice and skill to make. The second type of rosaries the group makes are cord rosaries, which are knotted. These are the rosaries at which Eddie is a master.

Jeanette DePauw, Eddie's mother, said the repetition is what makes it possible for Eddie to make the rosaries so easily and with such grace. "Once you get it, you've got it," she explained. Thompson provides the supplies and then lets Eddie make the rosaries in whatever colors he chooses. When asked what his favorite colors are for the rosaries, Eddie lists red, blue, white and green. Many of those colors can be found in the *World Mission Rosary*, which was developed and promoted by Archbishop Fulton Sheen, whose cause for sainthood is pending. The decades, made of clear, red, yellow, blue and green beads, represent different continents, according to Thompson.

Eddie received a World Mission Rosary kit for his birthday and works on them, along with all of the other rosaries he makes for the missions, at a table in his bedroom that is piled with beads and plastic crosses. Spools of white, black and brown cord rest on the television stand behind the desk, within easy reach. Meticulous in counting and placing the beads just so, Eddie ties the knots as he moves from one decade of the rosary to the next. Having a visitor taking pictures and being bombarded by conversation all around him might have distracted another person, but Eddie—a man of action, but few words—focused his full attention on what he was doing until he had a rosary made to his satisfaction.

Commitment is what makes Eddie such a valuable member of the Rosary Makers of St. Malachy's Church, according to Thompson.

---

"Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta.

Find the sick, the suffering and the lonely right there where you are -- in your own homes and in your own families, in your workplaces and in your schools... You can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have the eyes to see. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by society -- completely forgotten, completely left alone." *Blessed Mother Teresa*

---

"He is very committed to it -- he keeps us going," she said, noting that he also contributes joy and a simple faith to whatever he does. In addition to making rosaries, Eddie bags them and puts labels on the bags to let the recipients know who has provided the prayer aids for them. He even has a say in where they'll go. "We give Eddie a list and say, 'Where shall we send them?'" Thompson explained.



"We have gotten some beautiful letters back with blessings for Eddie," she said. "I always include a paragraph about Eddie and his work when we ship the rosaries out to the missions." "Blessing" is a word that Jeanette also uses about her son, who lives with her and her husband, Julian. "He's no different from any other handicapped person, but maybe he's more blessed because of the people who have been put into his life." One of Eddie's gifts is his ability to connect with and remember the people he has met, she said, noting that when he was in school they used to say, "the superintendent is as good as the custodian to Eddie." What's important to the DePauws, however, is that they just try to live life each day as the Lord wants them to. "Bloom where you're planted," Jeanette said.

"That's the same whether you're handicapped or not."

# MINISTRY OF THE TELEPHONE



**1 - 8 0 0 F r a n c i s**

There are many people searching for information about the Secular Franciscan Order. What is it? Is it for me? There are those who are looking for a fraternity that might be close to them. Some have moved away from their local fraternity and now are looking for another fraternity nearer to them. They do not know where to go to get answers to their questions.

In 1994 the National Minister of the United States, Richard Morton SFO, was aware that there was need for a telephone number where anyone could call free of charge and get an informed answer about the Order. In addition they could be directed to a fraternity near them. He requested a dedicated telephone number from the phone company and was delighted when the request for the number "**1-800 Francis**" was granted. The Secular Franciscan Order in the United States now has an opportunity to serve those who need accurate and updated information about the Order and the fraternities in our country. At first Richard answered the telephone calls himself, but he soon discovered that there were so many calls that his service as national minister limited the time he could give to answering them.

In 1995, at Richard's suggestion I was appointed to the new service of Vocation Minister for the United States. I then became the one who answered the telephone number "1-800 Francis." I reply by sending two different letters. One is sent to the inquirer with a copy of our Rule, a brochure explaining the Order and the name and phone number of the local minister of the fraternity nearest to them. The other letter is sent to the local minister with the information about the request and the phone number of the person inquiring.

Today, the website for the National Fraternity of the United States publishes the number and an e-mail address that anyone can use to contact me for information. Messages are left on my answering machine or at the website and I can answer them when convenient.

**MARIE AMORE, SFO**  
Vocation Minister  
National Fraternity

Since the 800 Francis telephone line was installed at my home, inquiries into the SFO by way of that number and the e-mail address have passed the 11,000 number. The average number of inquiries is 1,000 a year.

If I am given a proper e-mail address the responses are sent by return e-mail. This saves stamps and stationary. The other responses are sent by regular mail to the inquirer and to the local minister. I have received calls from all over the United States, some from Canada, a few from other countries, one from as far as Turkey.

Often I am asked the question: "If you get so many requests why are there not more Secular Franciscans?" There are several reasons for this:

- Some people are just curious about the Order.
- More Secular Franciscans have died than have been received into the Order
- Some inquirers did not find what they were looking for in the local fraternity.
- After investigation, inquirers recognize they do not have a vocation to the SFO.

This service is a labor of love and I am blessed and honored to perform it.



**A FRIEND IN SRI LANKA  
TOLD ME THIS STORY  
I'D LIKE TO SHARE.**

An angry mob of anti-Christians attacked one of his churches. They threw stones through the windows and happened to hit a young woman who was a new believer. She suffered a deep gash on her head and was taken to the hospital where she received many stitches.

A few days later, Fr. John traveled to the church and was able to talk with the young woman. He was worried that she might reject the faith because of the incident and asked her if she felt anger or held a grudge against those who threw the stones. She answered, "No, I have kept the stone that hit me and I am praying that the one who threw it will come to Christ."  
*APG—Editor*

## RITE OF ADMISSION



ENTERING THE THIRD STAGE OF FORMATION, CANDIDACY, THE FINAL, FORMAL PERIOD OF INITIATION. A TIME OF PREPARING FOR PERMANENT COMMITMENT BY IMMERSION INTO FRATERNITY LIFE.

**ST. JOHN'S FRATERNITY**  
New York City, NY  
January 2007

- Armande Augustin
- Mabel Bessey
- Josette Barbot
- Leticia Carbonell-Conlu

Let's keep them in our prayers as they continue their journey, "to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following Saint Francis of Assisi, who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people." *Article 4, SFO Rule*

## RITE OF PROFESSION



**ST. JOHN VIANNEY FRATERNITY**  
Paterson, NJ  
October 27, 2006

- Rev. Dave Thomas N. Sison
- Carol Cullen
- Diane Palazzone



*Thank you to Mary Newman, SFO for photo  
Pictured l-to-r: Rev. Dave Sison, Diane Palazzone, Fr. Christian Camadella, OFM,  
Spiritual Assistant to the fraternity, Carol Cullen and Fr. Daniel Grigassy, OFM,  
Pastor of St. Bonaventure Church.*

## RECIPE — ITALIAN EASTER PIE — Fr. Robert D'Aversa, TOR



If you enjoy cooking or just eating good food, I invite you to submit a seasonal favorite recipe.

Sharing food can build a profound connection with one another... and it's yummy.

APG—Editor

### FILLING:

- 1 ½ cups of ricotta
- 2 hard cooked eggs
- 3 beaten eggs
- ½ lb hot sausage, cooked
- ½ lb sweet sausage, cooked
- ¼ lb salami
- ¼ lb prosciutto
- 1 lb mozzarella
- ¼ cup grated cheese
- 1 tsp each, salt & pepper.

### PIE DOUGH:

- 1 ½ cups sifted flour
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ½ tsp salt
- 3 TBS lard
- 1 egg
- 2 TBS cold water

Mix flour, pepper, salt and lard until the size of small peas. Add beaten egg and cold water. Gather into a ball and roll dough out into two 9" crusts. Place filling in bottom crust, layering meat and cheese. Prick dough on top crust about 10 times. Bake at 350 for about 1 hour.

# ELECTION RESULTS



**Congratulations** to all newly elected council officers.

Let us pray each may be led by the Spirit in their leadership roles in the Secular Franciscan Order.

APG—Editor

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY FRATERNITY NEW YORK CITY, NY

CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS HELD  
JANUARY 7, 2007

THE NEW COUNCIL IS:

Minister: Deacon Roberto S. Abundo, SFO

Vice Minister: Michael Pelligrino, SFO

Secretary: Kenneth Newkirk, SFO

Treasurer: Ernesto Bals, Jr., SFO

Formation Director: Arthur Kogge, SFO

Presiders: Julia McCants, SFO and Larry L. Meyers, SFO

Friar Witness: Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, Spiritual Assistant, OLTAR

## LITTLE PORTION FRATERNITY MT. VERNON, NY

CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS HELD  
DECEMBER 17, 2006

THE NEW COUNCIL IS:

Minister: Richard Spana, SFO

Vice Minister: O'Donnell Joshua, SFO

Secretary: Roseanne Cerbone, SFO

Treasurer: Lori Patrona, SFO

Formation Director: Toni Maconi, SFO

Presiders: Julia McCants, SFO,

Larry L. Meyers, SFO,

and Carolyn D. Townes, SFO

Friar Witness: Fr. André R. Cirino, OFM

St. Mary's Catholic Church

## ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA FRATERNITY NEW YORK CITY, NY

CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS HELD  
JANUARY 28, 2007

THE NEW COUNCIL IS:

Minister: Anna P. Geraci, SFO

Vice Minister: Frank Pamas, SFO

Secretary: Eleanor Giuffra, SFO

Treasurer: Connie Prestia, SFO

Formation Director: Joseph Geraci, SFO

Spiritual Assistant:

Fr. Joseph Lorenzo, OFM

Presiders: Julia McCants, SFO, and

Larry L. Meyers, SFO

Friar Witness: Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM

Spiritual Assistant, OLTAR



Pictured are the new Council members: Spiritual Assistant Fr. Alex Pinto, Formation Director Marian Licameli, Secretary Karen Bonillo, Minister Adele Kenny, Vice Minister Ken Wilshaw and Treasurer Bill Zimmerman.

## ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA FRATERNITY SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ

Chapter of Elections held  
Sunday, February 11, 2007

THE NEW COUNCIL IS:

Minister: Adele Kenny, SFO

Vice Minister: Ken Wilshaw, SFO

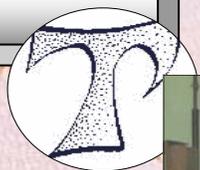
Secretary: Karen Bonillo, SFO

Treasurer: Bill Zimmerman, SFO

Formation Director: Marian Licameli, SFO

Spiritual Assistant: Fr. Alex Pinto

## ANNIVERSARIES



### ST. FRANCIS FRATERNITY MEMBERS CELEBRATE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

St. Francis Fraternity, Hackensack, NJ, was founded in 1926 as an Italian-speaking fraternity, with the first three professions taking place in April of 1927. In 1962, an English branch was formed to accommodate the large number of English speakers who desired to become members. Three charter members of the English Branch recently celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of profession.

**Pictured are: Frank Cavallo, Marguerite Cox and Lucy Stamilla.** All three have been integral members of our fraternity for their entire professed lives. Marguerite and Lucy have served in many capacities on the Council including Minister, Treasurer and Director of Formation. Frank has been a devoted member serving wherever he has been needed. *Ad multos annos!*

## OPENING OF ST. ELIZABETH JUBILEE

*From CIOFS website:  
<http://www.ciofs.org>*



On Friday November 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2006 at 18:00 hours, at the St. Cosmos and Damian Basilica in Rome a solemn Eucharist was celebrated, as the official opening of the Eighth Centenary of the birth of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Patroness of the Secular Franciscan Order and of the Third Order Regular.

Concelebrating were Monsignor Gianfranco Agostino Gardin, Secretary of the Vatican Congregation IVCSVA, Monsignor Csaba Ternyák, Secretary of the Congregation for the Clergy, First Order Minister Generals and TOR', Vicarious and Provincial Ministers, as well as many other priests.

In the name of the SFO, Encarnación del Pozo, General Minister was present, together with General Assistants and Rosa Galimberti, Italy National Minister; also National Assistants, and Spiritual Assistants from different local SFO and Franciscan Youth Fraternities, together with a good number of Secular Franciscans.

Paczolay Balazs, Hungary National Minister, and International Councilor from Hungary, Tibor Kauser, were also present at this important event.

During the homily, the Cardinal recalled the extraordinary figure of St. Elizabeth, emphasizing among other aspects, her great love for God and the poor people always surrounding her. He also recalled how this Saint has offered a splendid testimony of motherhood and conjugal love, transforming her testimony in an actual "message" for families of our time.

At the end of this celebration the Cardinal, by the initiative of Italian Secular Franciscans, presented a St. Elizabeth's relic. This relic will be carried in pilgrimage throughout the entire year by the SFO and Franciscan Youth Fraternities. It will help to promote and motivate, during the Jubilee year, a more profound knowledge of this attractive and current saint.

**We are grateful to Fr. Ivan Matic, OFM for this beautiful image of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. The painting hangs in the Church of the OFM General Curia in Rome.**

# A NTHONY OF LISBON AND PADUA

**JOSEPH PASQUENZA, SFO**

St. Thomas More Fraternity  
New York City, NY

During the summer of 1970, I traveled to Athens, Rome, Naples, Florence, Venice and many other towns and villages before I finally arrived at Padua. How could a practicing Catholic journey to Italy and not visit the Basilica and tomb of Fernando—Anthony? Since he was born in Lisbon, Portugal, the people of that city refer to him as Anthony of Lisbon — and rightly so!

Fernando, a name which means “bold fighter for peace,” became a Franciscan to live a simple life as announced in the Gospel following the Rule of St. Francis. Anthony's fame was at its zenith when, in 1228, he was sent to Padua. Here he spent the last few years of his life in the city with which his name has been associated for seven centuries.

The Basilica was built over the Church of Mary, the Mother of God. The construction of the burial church followed and the Saint's body was transferred to the new Basilica on April 8, 1263. The impressive view of the Basilica as shown in the photos below is not only majestic, but architecturally appealing with its domes, spires, steeples and ornamented colored tiles.

The expansive piazza can accommodate hundreds of visitors and pilgrims who come from all over the world to see, touch, feel, thank and venerate the remains of this Portuguese friar.

The respect given to Anthony spread out from Padua so much that he is called the “Saint of the whole world.” Indeed, beyond any doubt, Anthony was called to sanctity.

One of his famous quotes: “If we do not resist the evil of debauchery, all our other good intentions will be nipped in the bud. Wherever there is excess of riches and pleasure, there dwells the leprosy of the vices. These live in people who are lukewarm and given to idleness. But before it sinks into debauchery, the heart lifts itself up in the spirit of pride which is the beginning of every sin.”

Men, women and young adults, in the past and the present, regard St. Anthony as a personal friend, brother and perhaps a father figure. A special place to realize this closeness and intense presence is at the Shrine of Padua. They are a vast army of millions of followers and admirers of the Saint who are attracted or bonded to him through faith, love and his intercessory power. Engaged couples who wish and desire to be joined in the sacrament of marriage at this popular Shrine leave a token of their love attached to his tomb.

In the year 1263, the tomb of the Saint was opened in order that his blessed remains might be transferred to the new sanctuary built in his honor. The marvel was then discovered that, though his flesh had fallen to dust, his tongue remained fresh and ruddy like that of a living person. It was on this occasion that St. Bonaventure, then Minister General of the Franciscan Order, taking the tongue of the Saint in his hands, uttered the words which now constitute the antiphon preceding the Miraculous Responsory:

*“O blessed tongue  
that never ceased  
to praise God,  
and always taught  
others to bless Him,  
now we plainly see  
how precious thou art  
in His sight!”*

Titles of various degrees can be singular or multiple when awarded to a deserving person.

In Anthony's case the titles that are attributed to him are not only numerous, but certainly worthy to be noted because of his extraordinary example of Gospel preaching —Ark of the Testament, Repository of the Holy Spirit, Wonder and Miracle Worker, Hammer of Heretics, Proclaimer of the Gospel, Finder of lost articles. On May 30, 1946, Pope Paul XII elevated St. Anthony to Doctor of the Church.

In short, Franciscans have taken to heart the perception of Father Leonard Foley, OFM, that “the life of St. Anthony was what every Christian's life is meant to be, but writ large — a steady courage to face the ups and downs of life, the call to love and forgive, to be concerned for the needs of others, to deal with crises great and small, and to have our feet solidly on the ground of total, trusting love and dependence on God.”

What further mention can anyone express except to write that Anthony the former Augustinian, the humble Franciscan, the Manifestor of the Gospel, the Wonder Worker surely merits the dignity and esteem that the Universal Church ascribes to him.

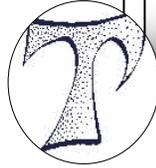
“The study of St. Anthony's life convinces us that the reason for his irresistible attraction to people everywhere must be sought in the absolute fidelity with which he proclaimed the Gospel, and in the courageous consistency with which he strove to embody its teachings.”

*Pope John Paul II*

SOURCES: St. Anthony's Guild  
Paterson, NJ.



## ENTERED INTO ETERNAL LIFE



**L**ET US PRAY for all our departed sisters and brothers in Christ and St. Francis. May all of our brothers and sisters who sleep in the Lord find eternal happiness and peace. *May the Souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen.*

St. John's Fraternity, New York City, NY  
 † **Frances Sinkwich, SFO**, January 3, 2007.

† **Hanley Denning**, January 18, 2007. Known in Guatemala as "the angel of the garbage dump" because she helped poor children escape garbage picking as a livelihood, died in a car crash in Guatemala. Denning died from injuries suffered when the car she was in, collided with a bus on a mountain road outside of Guatemala City. She was a native of Yarmouth, Maine. With help from a \$10,000 grant from the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Dayton, Ohio, Denning founded *Safe Passage* in 1999, an educational reinforcement program for children whose parents take them daily to Guatemala City's garbage dump to look for recyclable articles that could be sold. Five days after her death at age 36, a documentary featuring Denning was nominated for an Oscar. "Recycled Life," a documentary in which Denning commented on the lives of garbage pickers was nominated for an Oscar in the category for best documentary short by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.



• **P**RAISED BE YOU,  
 MY LORD,  
 THROUGH OUR  
 SISTER  
 BODILY DEATH,  
 FROM WHOM  
 NO LIVING MAN  
 CAN ESCAPE.  
 • **L**AUDATO SI,  
 MIO SIGNORE,  
 PER SORA NOSTRA  
 MORTE CORPORALE,  
 DE LA QUALE  
 NULLO UOMO VIVENTE  
 PUO SCAPPARE.  
 • **L**OADO SEAS,  
 MI SEÑOR,  
 POR NUESTRA HERMANA  
 LA MUERTE CORPORAL, DE  
 LA CUAL NINGÚN HOMBRE  
 VIVIENTE PUEDE ESCAPAR.

## **D**ISCIPLINES FOR THE DISCIPLE

*submitted by Dolores Jules, SFO*  
 St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity  
 Scotch Plains, NJ

**DO NOT DISTAIN THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD  
 NOR LOSE HEART WHEN HE REPROVES YOU;  
 FOR WHOM THE LORD LOVES,  
 HE DISCIPLINES.**  
*Hebrews 12: 5-6*

The Lord commands us neither to disdain His discipline nor lose heart when we receive it. To obey these commands, it would be helpful to know what His discipline is. Some think every suffering is the discipline of the Lord. Yet are arthritis, pneumonia, or a car accident God's discipline?

### **KEYS TO RECOGNIZING THE LORD'S DISCIPLINE ARE:**

- Is this discipline making you a better disciple of Jesus?
- Are peace & justice the fruits of this discipline? (Heb.12: 11)
- Is this something a loving father would do for His child? (Heb 12: 7)

### **EXAMPLES OF THE FATHER'S DISCIPLINE ARE:**

- « taking away some of our possessions
- « letting us fail
- « grounding us
- « limiting our time for eating, sleeping, & entertainment
- « making us work hard & long
- « giving us dryness in prayer
- « bringing troublesome people into our lives
- « not letting us have our way

### **PRAYER:**

Father, may I let you father me through  
 Your provision, affection, teaching,  
 correction and discipline.

## TAKE TOUGH DECISIONS TO CHRIST IN THE EUCHARIST

### AN INTERVIEW WITH SPOKESMAN OF THE SACRED MONASTERY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



**S**t. Francis would urge everyone to make life decisions in prayer before the Eucharist, says the spokesman of the Sacred Monastery of St. Francis, in Assisi.

In this interview, Father Enzo Fortunato, who is also a professor at the Pontifical Faculty of St. Bonaventure in Rome, explains that the saint, known for ecology, peace and poverty, was also a great promoter of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

**Q:** WHAT WAS THE MEANING OF THE EUCHARIST FOR ST. FRANCIS?

**FATHER FORTUNATO:**

In Franciscan spirituality, discernment is very important, which St. Francis presented in relation with the Eucharist.

Discernment affects man's most important appointments before God, when he must make decisions. In Francis' writings, in the testament, in the letter he addressed to the whole order, and in the letter to all the faithful, the word discernment appears in relation with the Eucharist. Francis presented the Eucharist as central for the life of each one, in his relationship with God, in his relationships with other brothers.

To encourage discernment before the Eucharist, it is as if St. Francis was saying to each one of us:

When there are significant moments in your life and you must make decisions, stay before the Eucharist. Try to reason with faith, as faith leads us to discern, and to see in the piece of bread and in the wine, the presence of Christ.

Francis wanted this reasoning, suffused with faith, to be applied to all decisions.

**Q:** WHAT DO THE "ADMONITIONS" SAY ABOUT THE EUCHARIST?

**FATHER FORTUNATO:**

Francis wrote the *Admonitions*, exhortations for the different circumstances of life, all of them very brief.

The first one, however, is longer, and is dedicated almost entirely to the Eucharist.

The text says: "Sublime humility and humble sublimity! That the Lord of the universe, God and the Son of God, should humble Himself to the point of hiding for our salvation in a piece of bread."

This passage of the admonition shows us that Francis is emotionally involved before the Eucharistic mystery. In this language we perceive a relevant aspect of our identity as Friars Minor. The central character of the Eucharist in the action of discernment gives value to decisions of minority and fraternity that characterizes St. Francis and the Franciscans.

**Q:** Francis' most famous writing is perhaps the *Canticle of the Creatures*. How is this Eucharistic vision of life present in that composition?

**FATHER FORTUNATO:**

The Eucharist is the source of that thanksgiving that Francis gives vent to in the *Canticle of the Creatures*, as element of praise of existence. In the Canticle is perceived all God's goodness for man. Animate and inanimate nature is a gift of the Lord, and Francis matures his first gratitude before the Eucharist.

**"O SPIRIT OF GOD, we ask You to help orient  
all our actions by Your inspirations,  
carry them on by Your gracious assistance,  
that every prayer and work of ours  
may always begin from You  
and through You  
be happily ended.**

**Amen."**

# FRANCISCAN FAMILY COMMITS TO ONE VOICE FOR ADVOCACY

RUSSELL TESTA

JPIC Animator for Holy Name Province



**M**ore than 130 members of the Franciscan Family, leaders and justice, peace & integrity of creation representatives from 69 provinces, congregations, Secular Franciscan Regions and Ecumenical partners from throughout the United States, met March 7-9, 2007 in Baltimore, Maryland to discuss and discern ways to bring a more visible and effective Franciscan presence to the effort of repairing relationships to establish justice in the world.

In this meeting, Franciscan friars, sisters, seculars and ecumenicals called for themselves and the larger U.S. Franciscan Family to “speak with one Franciscan Voice in order to effect the transformation of national social policy.” The gathering represented the largest U.S. Franciscan group ever assembled in the U.S. solely to discuss ways to be better advocates with persons who are poor, marginalized or victims of injustice.

The meeting began with prayer, which was woven through all the proceedings. Following prayer, the participants interacted with three speakers to explore more deeply a Franciscan approach to advocacy. Fr. Michael Perry, OFM, councilor for the Sacred Heart OFM Province, began the discussion by looking at the Franciscan Charism and how it requires its followers to be engaged in the transformation of the world, or, to put it in a modern context, to be engaged in advocacy. Next, Sr. Meg Guider, OSF, professor of Missiology at Weston Jesuit School of Theology, explored the modern context of globalization and the reality of American Exceptionalism. To be most effective, our Franciscan advocacy work must be grounded in this context and boldly challenge how the U.S. interacts with the rest of the world. Finally, Marie Dennis, SFO, director for the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, shared how religious communities have been, and can continue to be, effective shapers of public policy.

Each of the three presenters was paired with a “Franciscan Voice” who shared personal stories and realities. Br. Rodrigo Peret, OFM of Brazil, Mrs. Mary Mwangi, SFO of Kenya, and Sr. Sheila Kinsey, OSF from Wheaton, IL, grounded the three presentations with the experiences of those ministering with persons who are poor or marginalized. The “voices” were able to help make clear the connections between our experiences in the world and our rich Franciscan Charism.

Building from the first day’s input, the participants in the historic meeting moved from why we should have an organized Franciscan Voice for Advocacy, to how we should establish it. The group collectively wrote a vision statement (*see below*) calling the Family to work together for social transformation. From the vision statement, the participants then committed themselves to having further dialogue and finding the resources to establish a broad-based Franciscan Family Commission for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, as well as a Center for Action based in Washington, DC. These two structures will be launched in the next six to twelve months so that the Franciscan Family in the U.S. will be able to effectively “walk with our brothers and sisters who are poor and marginalized... to advocate for peace, and to reaffirm the dignity of all creation.”

The meeting ended with the newly appointed steering committee anointing the assembly. With this action, participants sealed in prayer the commitment they verbally made to one another, to work together to establish structures that can bring the voice and spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, to a world that is crying out for transformation.

## VISION STATEMENT OF THE FRANCISCAN FAMILY

**Adopted  
March 9, 2007**



Franciscan brothers and sisters, Religious and Secular, from throughout the United States, gathered together in Baltimore, MD, to discern the possibility of a unified Franciscan Voice for justice.

With great concern for dehumanizing issues in our society, we recognized trends contrary to our calling as followers of Christ. We see that we have the power to effectively advocate for the redistribution of resources, the responsible care for creation, and the healing of relationships within the Franciscan Family, the Church and society. To these ends, we commit ourselves and call all members of the Family to speak with one Franciscan Voice to effect the transformation of national social policy. By walking with our brothers and sisters who are poor and marginalized, we intend to advocate for peace and to reaffirm the dignity of all creation.

## NOVENA FOR DARFUR

As agreed at the recent NAFRA meeting, the SFO in the United States would like to institute a “perpetual” novena for at least one year on behalf of the people of Darfur.

Every day for the next year, members of the SFO will be praying the novena prayer. For this to happen, I am proposing that 5 Regional fraternities be assigned to cover each month. To make sure we cover the entire month, there will be four to five “waves” of the novena, each starting on Sunday.



	Dec/June	Jan/July	Feb/Aug	Mar/Sept	Apr/Oct	May/Nov
<b>Week 1</b>	St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Bl Kateri Tekakwitha	Fr Solanus	The Tau Cross	<b>Our Lady of the Angels</b>	St. Katharine Drexel
<b>Week 2</b>	Lady Poverty	St. Margaret of Cortona	Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis	Five Franciscan Martyrs	St. Maximilian Kolbe	Holy Trinity
<b>Week 3</b>	Divine Mercy	Our Lady of Indiana	La Verna	Mother Cabrini	Franciscans of the Prairie	St. Clare
<b>Week 4</b>	St Joan of Arc	Queen of Peace	Juan de Padilla	Los Tres Companeros/ Three Companions	Our Lady of the Rockies	Santa Maria de las Montanas
<b>Week 5 or Week 1*</b>	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Troubadours of Peace	Bl. Junipero Serra	St. Francis	St. Thomas More	Ohana O Ke Aneunue

People are assigned to these waves by Region again, as noted on the chart.

For example, the first Sunday of December, members of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region will begin praying the novena; the second Sunday of the month Lady Poverty will begin the novena.

In this way, the people of Darfur will be held in prayer by the SFO for the entire year.

In the event there are only 4 Sundays in the month, the fifth Region can pray week 1, or choose another week.

### NOVENA PRAYER FOR DARFUR

Merciful Father, Prince of Peace, Spirit of Wisdom and Compassion, please look upon our brothers and sisters in Darfur. We humbly pray:

—For those who have been subjected to violence: women, children, young and old men, we ask for healing, consolation, and relief of further suffering.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

—For those who have done violence, we ask for healing, forgiveness, and the grace of conversion.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

—For those in authority throughout the world, we ask wisdom, creativity, compassion, and courage in addressing this situation.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

Lord Jesus, Your Sacred Heart burns for love of all Your people. Please place in our hearts that same love and inspire us to have the courage, wisdom, and ingenuity to take what measures we can personally to relieve the suffering in Darfur. We pray this in the Name of Jesus, our Lord, through the intercession of the sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary.

#### MEMORARE:

Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins, my mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen

Individuals may start and end their novena on other days if necessary, or do a different week. If you want to continue to pray before or after your week/month, you can certainly do that!

You are also encouraged to share the novena with people in your parish, youth groups, or other organizations to which you belong.

A novena allows us to hold a particular concern before God in a special way. The name “*novena*” comes from the Latin for “*nine*.” Traditionally we pray a novena every day for nine days, and the prayer is usually a bit longer than a brief intercession. This allows us to give more of ourselves to our prayer for the concern we are bringing before God.

# LIVING BY FAITH

## February 2007

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A LETTER FOR THE ILL, THE AGED, THE SHUT-IN, AND THE HANDICAPPED.

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL FAMILY COMMISSION

REPRINTED IN *THE TROUBADOUR* FOR THE  
BENEFIT OF THOSE WITHOUT COMPUTER ACCESS.

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Every spring the church invites all of us on a Lenten journey. During this time we reflect on Jesus' final journey from death to resurrection. We too can journey with Jesus. This is a time to reflect on specific areas of our own life that need transformation and resurrection.

As with any journey, I need to pack the essentials for the trip. First, I need to find the time to spend with Jesus every day. We have been called to "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalms 46:10). Commit myself to a daily appointment. And I need a quiet, comfortable place with my Bible, prayerbook, a journal and a spiritual book to read — maybe one about St Francis and his life.

Preparation for the journey. Have I gone to the Sacrament of Reconciliation recently? Do I make an examination of conscience every evening before going to sleep? Have I forgiven those who have hurt me? Let go of anger and perceived hurts? Lent is a time to grow deeper in our Lord.

A journey always has a destination in mind. Lent is no different. I ask myself where do I want to be spiritually in 40 days? The *Rule of Saint Francis* states that we must fast during Lent. What do I need to give up in order to create new life-giving spiritual growth? Maybe I've wanted to read the scriptures on a more regular basis. Or get around to reading a spiritual book that's gathered dust on my shelf. Choose something that will bring me closer to the person God has created me to be.

Our journey begins on Ash Wednesday with the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". The ashes signify that Christ crucified has redeemed me. Christ died for me, how can I die to self and grow closer to Him? Along the way I ask myself what in my life needs to die, to be transformed, to rise in a new way. Maybe there are areas of my life that need letting go. A relationship, grief or even the hope that health and wellness will return. Prayer and contemplation will bring these things to light. Journaling the trip will chronicle the growth and insights gained during our Lenten path. Meditation upon a crucifix is also an amazing practice during Lent.

### Saint Francis' Prayer before the Crucifix

**Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.**

The Franciscan friars have a prayer that says:

"When the world was going cold, You renewed the marks of Your passion in the flesh of our Father Francis and so rekindled our love for You." St Francis' stigmata came during a time of intense prayer during Lent. May we recognize God's great love for us.

And when Easter arrives, we can look back on our Lenten journey with gratitude and see all the things we have let go and left behind. And with joy, see the progress we have made.

We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

### PRAYER OF LETTING GO

**LORD**

That I may let go of grudges in order to forgive  
 That I may let go of past hurts so that I can be healed  
 That I may let go of judgments in order to accept  
 That I may let go of pity in order to be compassionate  
 That I may let go of greed  
     in order to give to those in need  
 That I may let go of negativity in order to be positive  
 That I may let go of blame so that I can affirm.  
 That I may let go of hate in order to love  
 That I may let go of control in order to serve.

by ANNE KILLIAN, SFO  
 St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity

## GENERAL INTEREST



SPRING 2007 EDITION  
OF TAU-USA AVAILABLE ONLINE

All professed SFO members currently receive TAU-USA, the SFO National newsletter, by mail four times a year.

Did you know it's also available online? You can now read the entire edition at

<http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa.html>

Ministers and Formation Directors, please make your Inquirers and Candidates in formation aware of this so that they can become acquainted with the activities of our National fraternity and gain valuable insight about our way of life.

ALL OF US WILL FIND THINGS OF INTEREST IN IT.



### JUBILEE YEAR OF 2008

Plans are underway at Lourdes, France for the commemoration of the 150<sup>TH</sup> anniversary of Our Lady's appearance to Bernadette Soubirous. The Jubilee Years which celebrated the anniversaries of Lourdes—the 50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary in 1908 and the centenary in 1958 – attracted more pilgrims than the previous years. They surpassed all expectations. Will 2008 be the same? We have all been invited to try—be part of the Jubilee Year celebrations where Pilgrims of every race, nation, and language will gather together.

Those who wish more information on the Jubilee festivities may find them at: [www.lourdes2008.com](http://www.lourdes2008.com)

## Tau

Franciscans living in the world wear this reminder of their commitment to a Gospel life. If you are married or single and you feel the call from God to embrace a Franciscan lifestyle, call us today to learn more.

- Live in the world.
- Work in the world.
- Celebrate your family life in the world.

Become a Secular Franciscan where you'll find fraternity and support while living in the world.

God is waiting for your call.  
[vocations@nafra-sfo.org](mailto:vocations@nafra-sfo.org)

**1-800-FRANCIS**  
[www.nafra-sfo.org](http://www.nafra-sfo.org)

### ATTENTION SFO'S:

You can download this ad and circulate it in your parishes, retreat houses, or other places where Catholics gather.

An informative 39-page **SFO-PR GUIDE MANUAL** for all SFO local, regional and national levels is available at the NAFRA website:

[http://www.nafra-sfo.org/pressroom/nafra\\_pr\\_manual-1-1.pdf](http://www.nafra-sfo.org/pressroom/nafra_pr_manual-1-1.pdf)

NINTH ANNUAL

## SIMON SCANLON WRITING AWARDS

In memory of Franciscan Friar Simon Scanlon, longtime editor and publisher, *The Way of St. Francis* established the annual Simon Scanlon Writing Awards.

Special Edition Online Issue  
**THE WAY**  
of ST. FRANCIS

Applicants submit an original essay or feature-length article (1500-2000 words).

This entry must not have been previously published or presented in any form. Subject: any theme dealing with the influence and relevance of Franciscan life, spirituality, history, etc. to our world today. Must be oriented to a general reading public, not an academic audience. Profiles, essays, poems, human interest stories, interviews, etc. are acceptable. Published examples in *The Way* can be used for reference.

Submissions must be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins. Entries should be submitted electronically, as e-mail attachments. (MS Word is strongly preferred.) As an alternative form of submission, text can be typed directly into the body of the e-mail; if this method is used, it is understood that *The Way* will not be responsible for electronic alterations of format and content. Receipt of your submission will be acknowledged by return e-mail.

Prizes are: 1<sup>ST</sup>: \$1000; 2<sup>ND</sup>: \$500; 3<sup>RD</sup>: \$250

Submissions must be postmarked by October 4, 2007

All entries will be submitted to a jury

Decision announced by December 15, 2007

Applicants agree that, if chosen, their work will be published in *The Way*, which holds exclusive first-time rights in all media, and that winning entries will be posted on *The Way's* website. Authors are responsible for submitting photos and accompanying materials (photocopies, prints, drawings, etc.). For further information go to their website at:

<http://www.sbfranciscans.org/THEWAY/theway/contest.htm>

Interested applicants may send an SASE (with four first-class stamps) for a sample copy of *The Way*. Please make your request to:

*The Way*, 1112 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95816-5610.

Please e-mail all submissions to: [ofmcaway@att.net](mailto:ofmcaway@att.net). Include telephone number(s) as additional, essential contact information.

### NEW BOOK—

*The View From My Window* is a delightful collection of articles selected from Fr. Joe's weekly column in the church bulletin. These articles not only educate and inspire you in matters of the Catholic faith, the priesthood, and the Franciscan Order, but often entertain you with lively anecdotes about his Italian family, his parishioners, and his own beliefs.

Written by Fr. Joseph Lorenzo, OFM, over the course of 9 years, this compilation captures your attention without sounding preachy, and you come away uplifted and feeling you know Fr. Joe personally and are part of his parish family.

It is available for \$23.00 through Barnes and Noble, Borders, and Amazon.com. It is also available at Fr. Joe's parish rectory—St. Anthony of Padua Church, 154 Sullivan Street, New York City, 10012. 212. 777. 2755. <http://stanthonynyc.org>

### The View from My Window

Father Joe Lorenzo, O.F.M.



## FULTON SHEEN WEB-SITE

Fans of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, are going to love this new [www.FultonSheen.com](http://www.FultonSheen.com) site that has just launched.

Hundreds of his talks are available. Listen free to Fulton Sheen Radio, which plays the talks 24/7. There are Radio On-Demand features that allow you to choose particular talks to listen to. And you can also download any talks you want. You can get (10) free Fulton Sheen talks to download. There is also VIP membership available to join that gives you unlimited downloads of all talks available. Talks are being added all the time. You can be alerted by email whenever new talks are added with free sign-up.

We were asked to spread the word about this great web-site resource of the man who worked tirelessly to spread the truths about Jesus Christ to the world.

## SUMMER BIBLE STORY DAY FOR KIDS

Activities, stories and fun.  
Sharing the story of God's  
love. 11:00AM—4:00PM

### EDISON, NJ

Saturday, July 21, 2007  
**DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL**  
561 US Route 1 South,  
Wick Plaza, Edison, NJ  
For information phone:  
732.572. 1200

### NEW YORK CITY

Saturday, July 28, 2007  
**DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL**  
150 East 52<sup>ND</sup> Street,  
New York City, NY  
For information phone:  
212.754.1110

## FAITH & FILM EVENINGS

**The Church of  
Holy Innocents—  
Parish Hall**  
128 West 37<sup>TH</sup> Street  
@ 7th Avenue  
New York City, NY

For information phone:  
212.754.1110

### April 13—

#### PRIZEWINNER OF DEFIANCE, OHIO

A mother of ten uses  
her knack for words  
to win thousands of  
dollars in “jingle  
contests” to keep  
her family together.

### May 11—

#### ST. ANTHONY

The first feature-length  
film of the life of  
St. Anthony of Padua.

### June 8—

#### PERSUASION

The acclaimed  
adaptation of Jane  
Austen's classic love  
story.

## LECTURE SERIES — MANHATTAN

### CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION FOR TODAY

At 1:00PM AND 5:30PM

### DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

150 East 52<sup>ND</sup> Street, New York City, NY  
For information phone: 212.754.1110

### March 29, 2007

John Paul II: The Mercy Pope  
Fr. George Kosicki, CSB  
Author & Divine Mercy Speaker

### April 19, 2007

Paul for the Modern Age  
Msgr. James Turro  
Professor of Sacred Scripture  
St. Joseph's Seminary

### May 17, 2007

Pope Benedict XVI & the New Evangelization  
Br. Jude Lasota, BH  
Brotherhood of Hope, Local Superior

### May 24, 2007

Finding God in the Dark:  
Spiritual Exercises & Movies  
Fr. Michael Tueth, SJ  
Associate Professor of Communications & Media  
Studies at Fordham University, NYC

### June 5, 2007

Wise Choices: Spiritual Guide to  
Making Life's Decisions  
Margaret Silf, Author, Retreat Leader

## LECTURE SERIES — NEW JERSEY

### CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION FOR TODAY

Every 3<sup>RD</sup> Saturday at 11:30AM

### DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

561 US Route 1 South, Wick Plaza  
Edison, NJ  
For information phone: 732. 572. 1200

### April 21, 2007

Paul for the Modern Age  
Msgr. James Turro  
Professor of Sacred Scripture  
St. Joseph's Seminary



### May 19, 2007

Pope Benedict XVI & the New Evangelization  
Br. Jude Lasota, BH  
Brotherhood of Hope, Local Superior

**THE FRANCISCAN BROTHERS OF BROOKLYN** are  
sponsoring a **CANTICLE LECTURE SERIES**,  
designed specifically for the SFO.

The next lecture, “Praying with Clare” is  
**May 5, 2007.**

Brown bag lunch, \$20.00 suggested  
donation.

The location to be announced. You may call  
Br. Tom Barton, OSF, 631-261-5730 to  
register. Limited to 30 people.

## 24-HOUR CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMMING

In December 2006,  
the Archdiocese of  
New York began  
broadcasting  
nationally with  
The Catholic Channel  
on Sirius Satellite  
Radio.  
Sirius and the  
Archdiocese  
collaborated in  
developing the new  
subscription channel,  
Sirius 159.

**CROSSES AND CRUCIFIXES**

ON EXHIBITION UNTIL JUNE 17



As a celebration of the Christian faith, the 167 crosses and crucifixes in this exhibit are being displayed for the first time.

They were collected from around the world where they were used in churches or by individuals. Some are exquisitely adorned by talented artisans; others are simple symbols of faith made by unskilled hands. The oldest, from the Balkans, was fashioned more than 800 years ago.

A crucifix differs from a cross in that it carries the figure of Christ, either as a painted or sculpted corpus. Crosses vary in size from miniatures to massive structures over 100 feet high erected, for example, on mountaintops. Every Christian church has a cross mounted on it, a beacon to the faithful. Crosses and crucifixes are carried by Christians on their person; are displayed in their homes; or are used in religious services. Some are traditionally handed down by families through the generations.

Come participate in this journey of faith, to undergo both a spiritual and an artistic experience. *Crosses and Crucifixes* has an impact that goes beyond the symbolic, to epitomize the very essence of Christianity. Bring your family to see firsthand how past generations have expressed their love of Jesus crucified, He who died that we might live.

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1 Columbus Plaza,  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203) 752-4000  
Website: <http://www.kofc.org>



# A STORY OF LIFE AND AN ENVIRONMENTAL ETHIC OF LIFE-GIVING CREATIVITY

MICHELLE KIM

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Religion and Religious Education  
of Fordham University  
(mymikim@gmail.com)

## I. INTRODUCTION

Today, pollution of air, water, and land is approaching a point of no return. Some scientists say that a major extinction of the Earth's species—"the sixth extinction"—is already in progress. Past major extinctions were caused by some drastic environmental changes. The most recent—the fifth—was caused by collisions between Earth and an extraterrestrial bolide. The sixth extinction, however, is believed to be caused by humans. It is believed that humans, with the invention of agriculture about 10,000 years ago, did not have to interact with other species for survival, and so could manipulate other species for their own use, which eventually led to the massive violation of the ecosystem today (Eldredge 2001).

John Paul II closely relates the current ecological crisis to other moral challenges we face today. In his 1990 World Day of Peace Message, *Peace with God – Peace with All of Creation*, John Paul II identifies the environmental crisis as an urgent moral and theological crisis, which arises primarily from the lack of respect for life. Hence, John Paul II calls urgently for a morally coherent world view, which can provide a basis for solutions to the environmental problems (John Paul II 1990, No. 1, No. 2).

In response to the current ecological crisis, the theologian Jürgen Moltmann calls for a dialogue between theology and science. Noting that today theology and science have become "companions in tribulation under the pressure of the ecological crisis, and now share a common destiny", Moltmann argues that if human beings and nature are to survive at all on Earth, theology and science must work together in search for a new direction for human life (Moltmann 1993, 23, 34).

Cultural historian Thomas Berry calls the current ecological crisis a religious crisis, a consequence of the separation of humans from nature, and of human history from the history of the Earth. Berry urges that we move from our human centeredness to an earth-centered norm of reality and value, and restore a balance in earth-human relationships (Berry 1999, 58). If the human species is to survive, Berry insists, we need a new unifying context for humanity, for "no community can exist without a unifying story". He suggests that we can "discover" such a context by turning to contemporary science and forging a new story of the universe (Berry 1988, 194-195).

In our postmodern age, there is often a focus on fragmentation and the incompleteness of all knowledge. I propose that we move beyond the fragmentation of our age by drawing together core convictions from science and religion into a new unified world view. I echo Berry and emphasize that we need a shared story of life that can give us such a world view, which we can tell in a way that brings us together, and enables us to deal with the current ecological crisis.

Guided by a contemporary scientific story of life, of which Berry speaks, and which is rooted in Christian faith, my aim is to promote in this paper an environmental ethic that could foster ecological responsibility, and to provide Christians with a sacred story that will enable us to relate to people of other faiths and ultimately to all people of good will.

*Continued on page 18*

## GROUND ZERO'S T-BEAM CROSS MOVED TO ST. PETER'S CHURCH

The transfer of the Ground Zero Cross, (also known as the Last Artifact) from its present place in the World Trade Center, to nearby exterior of St. Peter's Church, located on Church and Barclay Streets, took place on Thursday, October 5, 2006. This "Last Artifact" is a T-beam from the construction of the original Twin Towers. This crossbeam, discovered amidst the ruins of World Trade Center 6, has provided consolation for the many who pay their respect at Ground Zero on a daily basis.

Workers dismantled the two-ton, 20-foot-high cross from its original site, placed it on an 18-wheeler flat bed truck, and moved it to its new temporary home. Under bright sunny skies, Fr. Brian Jordan, OFM, led the procession on this short, but significant trip.

"Let the cross be the only symbol displayed today during this march," said Brian. "This time the cross speaks for many other symbols. Put aside your differences and let us walk with reverence as a sign of unity." Once the cross reached its final destination at St. Peter's Church, a crane lifted the heavy steel beam, and two construction workers secured it to the base that had been prepared ahead of time. Fr. Kevin Madigan, pastor of St. Peter's, was the first to sprinkle holy water on the cross. Fr. Brian thanked all those who in one way or another had contributed to this relocation and asked them to put aside all misunderstandings. "God bless us all, and God bless America," Fr. Brian concluded.

The cross is expected to remain outside St. Peter's Church for at least four years, the estimated time required to finish the new freedom tower at the site of the World Trade Center. Then the cross will return to an external place on the new WTC site.

### STORY OF LIFE...continued from page 17

In the next section, I will describe a new story of life as a story of life-giving creativity. I will argue that such a story of life provides a morally and theologically coherent world view.

In Section 3, I will propose to formulate an environmental ethic of life-giving creativity as a Lakatosian research program<sup>1</sup>, and as a framework that can provide the common ground for a dialogue between science and religion.

In Section 4, I will examine the potential of a story of life to become an educational and religious educational guide for fostering a greater sense of ecological responsibility, and conclude the paper.

### II. A Story of Life

*Long, long, long ago, there was only a tiny speck in the vast blackness. It was extremely small, hot, and dense. Then, some 13 billion years ago, the little speck exploded in a giant firework, sending off hot flakes in all directions. Scientists call this explosion the Big Bang. So, with the Big Bang, began the grand cosmic dance that gave birth to the universe that continues to expand to this very day.*<sup>2</sup>

Everyone loves a good story. I begin here with Big Bang, a story from science that can help us gain a deeper understanding of who we are and of our place in the universe, and can enable us to deal with the current ecological crisis.

The Big Bang theory tells us how the universe emerged from a tremendously dense and hot state about 13.7 billion years ago and has been expanding and cooling ever since. Edwin Hubble, an American astronomer, discovered in 1929 that distant galaxies were moving away from us, such that the farther a galaxy is, the faster it is moving away.

In other words, we are living in an expanding universe—not in a fixed and unchanging world as it was previously thought. The distance between the different galaxies is growing all the time (Hawking, 57). And yet, despite this ever increasing expansion, radiation released from the Big Bang is still all around us today<sup>3</sup>.

Scientific discoveries of the twentieth century are often described as revolutionary, giving rise to a new view of the world. In this new view, nature—including all life forms—is understood to

be evolutionary, historical and emergent, and as governed by a complex combination of law and chance, whereas in the old view, nature was thought to be immutable with no genuine novelty, and governed by fixed and deterministic laws. To use Kuhn's term, a paradigm shift has occurred in science (Kuhn 1996).

The Big Bang theory tells us that the universe in which we live has been and is expanding still. Related to the Big Bang theory is the anthropic principle, the idea that the universe appears to be fine-tuned, or designed, in order to allow the development of life. It tells us that if any of the basic physical constants at the time of Big Bang had been slightly different, life as we know it would not have been possible (Hawking, 130).

In the meantime, quantum "mechanics" introduces unpredictability, or randomness, into science. Quantum mechanics can only predict a number of different possible outcomes, rather than a precise outcome, and tell us how likely each of these is. Quantum theory also tells us that protons, neutrons, and electrons, which were thought to be indivisible basic building blocks of matter, are in fact made up of smaller particles called "quarks."

*Continued on page 19*

## HOPE LODGE IN MIDTOWN

When a cancer patient lives far away from treatment, the thought of leaving home and finding a place to stay can be over whelming. As a relief to people in such situations, the American Cancer Society (ACS) has founded Hope Lodges across the United States ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)). These facilities, founded entirely through contributions provide free, temporary housing on a first-come, first-served basis to adult cancer patients and their companions during the course of their treatment away from home. For some cancer patients, being able to stay at a Hope Lodge makes the difference between whether or not they receive treatment.

The first Hope Lodge in New York City will open this year in midtown Manhattan, in the building being constructed by Holy Name Province and its partners. Hope Lodge New York will have its entrance on 32ND Street.

Holy Name Province leadership is pleased to be in the same building as an organization that offers so many needed services; counseling, support groups, transportation to doctor appointments and related services will be provided to out-of-town patients. "Being part of ACS's team is a natural fit for us," said Provincial Minister Fr. John O'Connor. "Serving those in need is part of the Franciscan tradition." Fr. Jerome Massimino, pastor of St. Francis, said "Here at St. Francis we are always looking to offer new opportunities for the friars and our partners in ministry as well as to develop programs to meet the needs of the people we minister to especially when they are unique to our mission.

He added, "It seems that outreach to Hope Lodge would be a natural fit for us to partner with them. It will be exciting to match the needs of Hope Lodge residents with such offerings as our Counseling Center, Spiritual Direction Center and Twelve Step Programs as well connecting our friars with the patients and their families for spiritual support and possible sacramental needs."



### A STORY OF LIFE...continued from page 18

One of the most unsettling discoveries about quarks is that they cannot be measured in isolation—at least not so far. They exist only in relationships—only in a larger whole. As such, nature in this “evolutionary” view is characterized as relational and interdependent, and is seen as a community of life, of which humanity is a part (Barbour 1997, 282-284; 324).

#### **A Story of Life-Giving Creativity**

*When the universe cooled a little, a force called gravity joined in the cosmic dance. Over thousands of millions years, this force made the scattered flakes to clump together, forming large galaxies. As time passed, the hydrogen and helium gas in the galaxies broke up into smaller clouds. From these clouds our first stars were born — zillions of them!*

*Then, about 5 billion years ago, a large cloud of gas containing the debris of earlier supernovas gave birth to the Sun, the Earth, and the other planets in the Solar System.*

The unfolding story of the universe is a story of cosmic creativity, and leads to life.

The universe is the stage for the drama of both astronomical and biological evolution. Stars are a key stepping stone on the way to life. Massive stars forge heavy elements, such as carbon, and oxygen, which constitute biological organisms. At the end of their lives, such stars explode into supernovas, and give large nuclei to the galactic molecular clouds, from which new generations of stars and their accompanying planets are born (Adams, 34-35).

*Over time, the surface of the Earth cooled, forming a solid crust. Slowly, the Earth's atmosphere became filled with carbon dioxide as the volcanoes released into the atmosphere a gas that is essential to life—carbon. After a billion years, the first living cell, a form of bacteria, emerged. Bacteria could reproduce themselves, and they multiplied rapidly. The Earth would never be the same again.*

The first living cells consumed various materials, including hydrogen, and released oxygen. Free oxygen, once it entered the Earth's atmosphere, turned everything into dust. The remaining cells, in order to protect themselves from the

harmful gas, went underwater. And there they hid for the next 2 billion years. Then, 2 billion years ago, new forms of bacteria emerged. This time, they received their energy from the Sun, their hydrogen from the water, and their carbon from the atmosphere. And they learned to power their living activities with oxygen. These “clever” bacteria had managed to use the once harmful gas to their advantage. It was now possible for living things to survive in the Earth's oxygen atmosphere. For 90 percent of the Earth's history, all living things remained underwater.

*The first life forms that left the water to explore the land were plants. Plants had long survived the strong currents of the ocean. Once on land, they found themselves baked by the Sun and flattened by gravity. Eventually, plants learned to cope with the new environment by developing a hard outside. They had “invented” the wooden cell! With this protective surface, plants could now stand tall and not dry out. This was about 425 million years ago.*

About 200 million years after the plants began to spread over the land, the first animals appeared.

*Continued on page 20*

## A STORY OF LIFE...continued from page 19

Then, about 240 million years ago, dinosaurs appeared on the Earth. They traveled and hunted together for food. The dinosaurs were the first animals that looked after their young ones. About 100 million years later, the first bird, a descendent of the dinosaur, began to fly over the Earth's surface. It took another 25 million years for the first mammals to appear on the Earth.

*Then, about 200,000 years ago, our direct ancestors, Homo sapiens, began to walk the Earth. Newcomers to the universe, we humans took our first steps in the exciting cosmic dance that had started with the Big Bang some 13 billion years ago!*

I argue that this cosmic story of life is a story of life-giving creativity. All life forms as we know them today are made of the materials that came originally from the stars—made available through their creative, life-giving transformations from hydrogen to helium to carbon to protein. They have already been incorporated in the thousands of animals and plants and even in non-living elements on Earth, such as rocks.

As such, life-giving creative forces of the universe have been and are still in constant action, while continuously reshaping the universe. Hence, I claim that an evolutionary view of the world—the relational and communal view of the world with life-giving creativity—is inherently moral, for it conveys a message of human ethics. It locates humanity in the natural world in a morally meaningful manner.

Similarly, Murphy and Ellis argue that in the contemporary evolutionary world view, there is evidence for a kenotic<sup>4</sup> principle of morality—that of self emptying and self sacrifice.

They view the kenotic as representing the moral nature of God. Moreover, they recognize in the unfolding universe the necessary conditions for morality—law-likeness and chance. In order to be moral, one is to act freely within the confines of the laws.

For without law-likeness, or order, free response is meaningless, and unless the physical events in the universe also allow chance, a meaningful moral response is not possible (Murphy et al., 206).

Elizabeth Johnson also recognizes that the radical freedom (chance, or randomness) found throughout the universe is the condition for the possibility of the emergence of free and conscious human beings as part of the universe (Johnson 1996, 3).

How can then God act in an evolving world that is governed by contemporary scientific laws? Can an evolutionary world view be compatible with the Christian traditions? Karl Rahner, in his essay *"The Unity of Spirit and Matter in the Christian Understanding of Faith"*, argues that Christianity is compatible with an evolutionary view of the world. In search of new contemporary insights to inform intellectual efforts to understand and confess Jesus Christ, Rahner shows systematically that Incarnation is "an intrinsic possibility" within an evolutionary view of the world (Rahner 1969).

Quoting Thomas Aquinas, the International Theological Commission—an advisory body to the Vatican congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith—states that divine causality can be active in a process that is both contingent (chance) and guided (lawful). But any evolutionary mechanism that is contingent can only be contingent because God made it so (ITC 2004, no. 69).

Similarly, quoting Thomas Aquinas, Elizabeth Johnson states that "the stuff of the world" has an inherent creativity by means of which the new continuously emerges through the interplay of chance and law. Seeing in nature inherent creativity that continuously renews the world, Johnson points out that creatures participate in the divine by being creative and by sustaining in their own right.

For it is a measure of the creative power of God to raise up such creatures, and furthermore, God is glorified by the creature's flourishing in the fullness of its powers—not by its diminishment (Johnson, 6).

Thomas Berry, on the other hand, is not very optimistic about the role of the Christian traditions in embracing the new evolutionary, ecological world view. He argues that religion—more specifically anthropocentric Christianity—is much to blame for the gulf between nature and humanity that has subsequently led to the present ecological crisis (Berry et al. 1991, 15-7).

In response to Berry's criticism of Christianity and the perceived discontinuity between the new world view and the Christian traditions, Donald Senior argues, in contrast, that there is a fundamental continuity between a new story of the universe and many biblical themes. Senior suggests that there is much in the "treasure house" of biblical themes that can be brought to the new story (Senior 1991, 41-50).

I agree with Senior that there is much we can discover from the Christian traditions that can contribute to the new story. One such example is Saint Francis of Assisi (1182-1226), who was named the patron saint of ecology by Pope John Paul II in 1979. Saint Francis embraced all of nature, including all non-living creatures, as part of God's family. He saw all things in the natural world as sisters and brothers—as God's gifts. Francis' world view was truly inclusive, relational and communal (Dennis 1993).

Finally, John Paul II says: "Nature becomes a Gospel that speaks of God".<sup>5</sup> John Paul's vision of nature highlights solidarity among human beings and between human beings and nature, which needs to be an essential part of our new story.


 NOTES

<sup>1</sup> A This program was developed by Imre Lakatos (Lakatos 1978) as an effort to harmonize the well known conflict between the two opposite views of philosophers of science of the twentieth century—Karl Popper and Thomas Kuhn. The British philosopher Karl Popper is known for his contributions to the understanding of scientific reasoning and his attacks on historicism. His works include *The Logic of Scientific Discovery* (1931). Thomas Kuhn is most famous for his book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, in which he presented the idea that science does not evolve gradually toward truth, but instead undergoes periodic revolutions which he calls "paradigm shifts."

<sup>2</sup> The primary resources I have consulted for the scientific content of a story of life as presented in this paper are: Hawking's *A Briefer History of Time* (Hawking 2005) and Swimme and Berry's *The Universe Story* (Swimme 1992). To make the story more easily accessible to children, I have written it "down" to a readability score of 7 (meaning 7<sup>th</sup> grader and above) from a representative passage in the story.

<sup>3</sup> Radiation from the very hot early stages of the universe was discovered in 1965 by two American physicists, Penzias and Wilsom. For this, they were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1978 (Hawking, 61).

<sup>4</sup> As an ancient Greek word, κένωσις kénōsis means an "emptying". In a Christian theological context, the word kenosis is used as the concept of the 'self-emptying' of one's own will and becoming entirely receptive to God, as in Philippians 2:7, "...he emptied himself..."

<sup>5</sup> John Paul II' general audience, January 26, 2000.



TO BE CONCLUDED IN THE NEXT  
ISSUE OF *THE TROUBADOUR*

# Quinquennial Congress Prayer

BY ANNE MULQUEEN, SFO

Most Holy and Blessed Trinity,  
as we anticipate our Seventeenth Quinquennial Congress,  
we turn to you in prayer.  
We ask you to be a member of the planning committee,  
because without your presence we can do nothing.  
We must await your inspiration.

Our God and Father,  
You brought us to life and called us by name.  
Each one of us is precious in your sight.  
Remind us that when we encounter others,  
they are your children as well.  
Through your grace, blend our beautiful diversity  
into a single symphony of harmonious gifts and talents.

Jesus, Son and Word made Flesh,  
Smooth the path before us and pick us up when we stumble.  
You became one of us and lived as a Jew.  
You respected the law of Moses,  
yet you gave us a new way to live.  
You said "no" to an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.  
You said love your enemy and return good for evil.  
We ask you to teach us how to love one another as you love us.

Holy Spirit, breath of the Blessed Trinity,  
inspire and bless all those who have and will have shared  
their gifts and talents to make this Quinquennial Congress  
a spiritual awakening.

Bless those who will travel distances to participate.  
Bless those who cannot participate and let them be aware  
that, although absent in flesh, they are present in spirit.  
Bless our youth and our seniors  
and all those people in between.

Holy Father Francis, pray for us.  
Holy Lady Clare, pray for us.  
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas,  
pray for us.  
All the angels, saints and holy men and women,  
pray for us.  
First, Second and Third Order Franciscans,  
pray for us. **AMEN.**

SEVENTEENTH  
QUINQUENNIAL  
CONGRESS

JULY 3—8, 2007, PITTSBURGH, PA

Held every five years, our 17<sup>th</sup> Quinquennial Congress will convene at the Radisson Hotel Pittsburgh Green Tree, 101 Radisson Drive, Pittsburgh, PA.

Situated just three miles from downtown Pittsburgh, the Radisson Green Tree offers complimentary airport transportation and free parking for guests.

The 'Q' Planning Committee had to change plans and relocate the congress from Ohio to Pittsburgh in order to better accommodate the needs of the SFO, reported past National Vice-Minister and 'Q' Chair, **John Sanborn**, SFO. National Minister, **Patrick Mendés**, SFO noted: "They have given us a very favorable package. The dates remain the same and there will be a bit of savings over the previous venue... Mendés encourages all U.S. Seculars to consider attending the Quinquennial Congress, and urged regional and local fraternities to send representatives.

The 'Q' offers Franciscans of all stripes, and anyone with an interest in St. Francis of Assisi, the chance to share and explore the Franciscan *Charism*. With a focus on celebrating cultural and ethnic differences, the 'Q' theme is:

**"MANY CULTURES – THROUGH FRANCIS – IN CHRIST."**

The multicultural theme will be highlighted during liturgies and presentations.

In addition to the general sessions and workshops, there will also be:

**SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT SESSIONS**

Sessions will provide hands-on training and formation for those religious and lay who are serving SFO fraternities as spiritual assistants.

**FRANCISCAN YOUTH CONGRESS**, the first one held in the USA in over 30 years, for those between the ages of 16 and 26. Plans include the Youth and Young Adults to participate in a track that will include the collection of new tennis shoes and socks to be donated to *Footprints Ministry*, a non profit organization that helps the underprivileged, begun by Rose Averill, SFO. Additionally, workshops on Youth to Youth Leadership Training, Franciscan Ecology with an Urban Renewal Restoration Project, and other activities and dances.



THE Q — DAY BY DAY

**TUESDAY**—The Quinquennial Congress kicks off. Attendees may arrive anytime during the day. The first function is dinner at 6:00PM, followed by introductions and announcements at 7:00PM, and Opening Mass at 7:15PM. Bishop Daniel Conlon, DD, of Steubenville, Ohio, will preside. There will be a procession of cultures (with attendees encouraged to wear native costume or attire).

JULY 3

JULY 4

**WEDNESDAY**—begins with Morning Prayer and announcements at 9:00AM. At 10:00AM Keynote Speaker, Fr. Eric Law. The keynote presentation will last one hour, followed by a short period for questions. After lunch and free time, there will be three concurrent sessions at 2:00PM. General attendees will join "Congress Fraternities," while Spiritual Assistants gather for their first session. At 4:00PM, Fr. Francis Kim, OFM, will celebrate Mass in the Korean language. The day will culminate with a 4<sup>TH</sup> of July Dinner celebration at 6:00PM.

THE REST OF THE CONGRESS WILL FOLLOW A SIMILAR FORMAT, BEGINNING WITH MORNING PRAYER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AT 9:00AM EACH DAY. ON SOME DAYS, MORNING PRAYER WILL FEATURE SONGS IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.

JULY 5

**THURSDAY**—At 10:00AM, Fr. Law will deliver another keynote presentation followed by questions. At 2:00PM, the Congress Fraternities and Spiritual Assistant sessions run concurrently. At 4:00PM, Fr. Peter Vettickanakudy, OFM Cap, will celebrate Mass in the Indian, Syro Malabar Rite. At 7:30PM, Part 1 of a Festival of Cultures will be held, with the Multicultural Commission and Fr. Law facilitating.

JULY 6

**FRIDAY**—features Off-theme Workshops at 10:00AM, which repeat in the afternoon at 2:00PM. The workshops are:  
— **Patti Normile, SFO**, "Caregiving and the Elderly."  
— **Ed Shirley, SFO**, "Spirituality in Today's Secular World."  
— **Ron Pihokker, SFO**, "Secular Franciscans and the Catechetical Ministry."  
— **Javier Orozco, SFO**, "Francis, Divine Providence and Our Secular Life."  
At the same time, Spiritual Assistants will have their own workshop. At 4:00PM, an Eastern Rite Divine Liturgy will be celebrated. At 8:00PM, there will be a Social.

JULY 7

**SATURDAY**—returns to the themed format, with a keynote presentation by Fr. Law at 10:00AM. At 2:00PM, the Congress Fraternities and Spiritual Assistant sessions will run concurrently. Fr. Moises Villalta, OFM Cap., will celebrate Mass in Spanish at 4:00PM. At 8:00PM, Part 2 of the Festival of Cultures will take place, featuring music and dancing.

**SUNDAY**—the Congress concludes with Morning Prayer and announcements, followed by closing remarks by national leaders, and a "traveler's style" bagged lunch.

JULY 8

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**SFO: QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS**  
**JULY 3-8, 2007**

Opening Mass on Tuesday, July 3 at 7:00 pm  
Congress Concludes Sunday, July 8 at 1:00 pm

**Important Instructions:**

1. Please TYPE or PRINT all information clearly.
2. Only one participant or married couple per registration form.
3. Payment must accompany this form and is NON-REFUNDABLE.
4. Make your check for registration and meals payable to **NAFRA**.
5. Mail this form with payment to: Dennis W. Ross, NAFRA Treasurer,  
8933 Trailwood Court, Mentor OH 44060-2131  
[d\\_ross@oh.rr.com](mailto:d_ross@oh.rr.com)
6. **Hotel reservations must be done separately by each person (see bottom of this form).**

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Address	City	State	Zip	Country	
Home Phone	Work Phone		E-Mail Address		

Early Registration: # of people \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 110 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
After May 10, 2007 the registration is \$ 150 per person.

Meal Plan: Tuesday Dinner through Sunday Breakfast

# of people \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 150 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If received by May 10, 2007: TOTAL = \$ 260 per person  
If received AFTER May 10, 2007: TOTAL = \$ 300 per person

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Housing and the Congress are at: The Radisson Hotel Pittsburgh Green Tree  
101 Radisson Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 Telephone: (412) 922-8400 [www.radisson.com](http://www.radisson.com)  
NAFRA has arranged for a discounted room rate of \$ 74.00 per night. Each room has twin double beds with 1 to 4 occupants possible. You should make your own room arrangements directly with the hotel **prior to June 9** in order to get this reduced rate.  
**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SHARING A ROOM AND NEED A ROOM MATE, PLEASE CONTACT: ELIZABETH ALLEN AT 619-427-4613 RATHER THEN THE HOTEL, PRIOR TO JUNE 1.**  
The Hotel provides free shuttles to and from the Pittsburgh Airport.

# THE TROUBADOUR

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGION  
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### 2007-2008

YEARLY SCHEDULE  
FOR FUTURE ISSUES OF  
*THE TROUBADOUR*

Articles for future newsletters  
must be received by:

JUNE 15	SUMMER 2007
SEPTEMBER 15	FALL 2007
DECEMBER 3	WINTER 2007
MARCH 15	SPRING 2008

### SEND ALL

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:

BY E-MAIL: [acpg@aol.com](mailto:acpg@aol.com)

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

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# THE TROUBADOUR

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGIONAL FRATERNITY NEWSLETTER  
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