

VOL. 69, NO. 2
FEBRUARY 2009

THE DOVERELLO

ST. BONAVENTURE SECULAR FRANCISCANS ✦ DETROIT, MICHIGAN



Secular Franciscan Order Elects Leaders to Serve for the Next 6 Years

HUNGARY, 19 Nov. 2008 – **Encarnación del Pozo** of Spain was re-elected general minister of the worldwide Secular Franciscan Order by an overwhelming majority during a general chapter held November 15-22 near Budapest. The 111 attendees, including 68 voting delegates, gave her a standing ovation. The general minister and other newly elected leaders will serve for the next six years. The Order's international leadership, known as the Presidency, includes the general minister, general vice minister and the Presidency's international councilors. Seven councilors are elected according to a combination of major language groups and geographic areas, and one represents YouFra, or Franciscan Youth and Young Adults. **Doug Clorey** of Canada was elected general vice minister. The newly elected Presidential councilors are:

- **Consuelo Núñez** of Venezuela, representing Spanish-speaking areas.
- **Tibor Kauser** of Hungary, English (North America/Europe).
- **Lucy Almiranez** of the Phillipines, English (Africa, Oceania, Asia).
- **Michele Altmeyer** of France, French-speaking areas.
- **María Aparecida Crepaldi** of Brazil, Portuguese-speaking areas.
- **Ewald Kreuzer** of Austria, German-speaking areas.
- **Benedetto Lino** of Italy, Italian-speaking areas.
- **Ana Fruk** of Croatia, YouFra (Franciscan Youth).

Presiding at the elections was Fr. Marco Tasca, OFM Conv., General Minister of the Conventual Franciscans. Fr. Marco offered his gratitude, on behalf of all the general ministers of the First Order and Third Order Regular families, "for your service to the Secular Franciscan Order."

Visit our website: <http://www.sfofbonaventure-detroit.org>

THE STATE OF THE ORDER

by SFO General Minister, Encarnación del Pozo

Secular Franciscans Need to Stand Up as an Order

Secular Franciscans need to take charge of their identity as an Order, and act on the conviction they are equal partners in the Franciscan Family, not just passive members, General Minister Encarnación del Pozo told some 110 attendees at the Order's 12th general chapter on Sunday, Nov. 16.

"I would dare to affirm that, in this historic moment, the SFO feels more responsible than other members of the family," and plays a unique "unifying" role because of "our Rule," she said. Noting fruitful, ongoing relationships with other branches of the family – a family ready to celebrate the 8th centenary of the birth of the Franciscan charism – General Minister del Pozo asserted:

I beg of you – the SFO must not and cannot trail behind...the other components of our family. The SFO has to re-claim...its own place in these family events. The life experiences of our Order must be known and well present to the rest of the family. I do believe that the First Order, the Second Order and the Third Order Regular at all levels need the knowledge that we can offer" as people fully immersed "in the ordinary circumstances and problems related to work, family, politics, education and science, including situations of extreme poverty and all kinds of misery.

Del Pozo offered some challenges for the future:

- deepen the formation process;
- intensify and revitalize the local Fraternity where the life of the Order exists and vocations are developed;
- increase the sense of mission in the world;
- consider different ways of living within the Secular Franciscan Order, such as family groups, young couples and groups arising from the YouFra (Franciscan youth);
- foster the call to holiness, with fraternities becoming home to individuals who, taking their baptism seriously, want to become saints.

Del Pozo gave a demographic overview of the Order, while noting some difficulty in getting an accurate census for fraternities in all 110 countries where the Secular Franciscan Order exists. The number of professed active members remains constant at some 400,000, she reported. They belong to 65 established national fraternities, 42 emerging national fraternities, and three areas working toward canonical establishment of their first local fraternities. Franciscan Youth, or YouFra, is present in 64 countries as an organization.

The Western World, particularly Europe, has seen a decline or stagnation in numbers, while so-called Third World countries, including some in Latin American, Africa, Asia and, Slavic nations as well, are seeing an astonishing growth in vocations. In one country there are young people in their 20s serving in leadership positions.

She also urged:

- continuation of the "China Project," to spread the Franciscan charism and provide support for some 7,000 Secular Franciscans and 120 fraternities who have been discovered in China despite decades of Communist repression.
- a commitment to support and collaborate with **Franciscans International**, which brings a Franciscan voice to the United Nations.

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear brothers and sisters,

May our Lord's peace and all good be with you!

And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened (Lk 11:9).

During this month we move into the solemn season of Lent. One area of Franciscan spirituality that seems to be especially suitable to reflect on during this time is the concept or perhaps even attitude of ***solitude***. In his book, ***In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare*** (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Press, 2006), Fr. Roch Niemier, OFM poignantly states that "One cannot understand the early movement's success without this dimension from which the Franciscan movement established itself for all time" (p.48).

As a Secular Franciscan, juggling the pieces of my life into ever diminishing segments of time, *solitude* is something I truly wish to grasp and cling to with a passion! According to Fr. Niemier, we "need to build a rhythm of daily solitude into [our] life in order to clarify and reaffirm the primacy of God. God alone is God and no other" (p. 47). Of course, it is our prayer time that is our place for solitude that helps us to develop this inner attitude.

It is fraternity that sustains us in this way of life. "This was Francis' genius as he arranged for life together in a solitude setting...Always included were arrangements for the brothers to come together for specific times of the day" (p. 47). As Seculars it seems that life is not always conducive to practicing *solitude*. However, we may begin to realize this important dimension of Franciscan spirituality "[through] Francis's remarkable amalgamation of prayer in solitude and in a fraternal, relational context" (***Franciscan Solitude*** by Cirino, A. and Raischl, J. (ed.), St. Bonaventure NY: The Franciscan Institute, 1995.) Cirino and Raischl actually did a study of historical and contemporary attempts by Franciscan religious communities to establish hermitages whose main purpose was to lead lives of active/contemplative solitude. The study lists both successes and failures in these attempts. The quest continues.

Mary Catherine Gurley, OSF, relates that "as praying people we look for healing measures that will slow the pace, close the empty or overcrowded places, ease the aloneness, satisfy the yearning for connection" (p. 335). Franciscan solitude is exactly what I hope to seek and find this Lent. Lord, help me!

Lent is a special time of personal conversion and renewal. This is no easy task; however, Capuchin Franciscan scholar Br. Costanzo Cargnoni states that reforms "always begin from a radical experience of prayer which finds its natural setting in insecure, solitary, abandoned and poor places" (p. 215). I can think of no better insecure, solitary, abandoned, and poor place than my own heart! Where do you find solitude? This Lent let us go, each in our own way, to seek this special dimension of Franciscan spirituality – ***Franciscan solitude!***

God bless you, dear ones, and may you have a most blessed Lent!

Your sister in Francis and Clare,
Janet



Deceased Members:

Adele George (former member) († Jan. 4, 2009)
Bella McKigney (former member) († Jan. 13, 2009)

Deceased Relatives:

David Hampel, son-in-law of Natalie Grabowski
Marie E. Weber, mother-in-law of Ralph Marson

Members needing prayers:

Wilhelmina Adkins	Maryann Kummer
Peter Aluzzo	Les and Josie Lafata
Jan Atkinson	Janice Litch
Kay Balas	Rose Longo
Gertrude Beattie	Joseph Marra
Evelyn Bishop	Sophie Martin
Janet Bodell	Dorothy Matargas
John Bodell	Maria McNally
Anthony Brodeur	Raymond Morehead
Loretta Chmielarczyk	Genevieve Ochenkowski
Laurie Drobnicki	Rosie Patin
Clara Falzone	Dolores & Bob Peckham
Wesley Faust	Theresa Pfaendtner
Marie Fontanive	Joseph Pierce
Natalie Grabowski	Mary Saber
James Heymes	Joanne Schumacher
Caroline Hojna	Helen Wardowski
Anna May Jesak	Joseph Wisk
Donna Marie Johnston	Br. Leo Wollenweber

Relatives needing prayers:

Susan Arcznski, cousin of the Atkinsons
Avian, great nephew of the Atkinsons
Angel Bettin and Donna Mitchell,
daughters of Caroline Hojna
Melanie Bruss, niece of Dan and Jan Atkinson
Kate Comizio, sister of Br. Pat

Angelina and Joey Daleo,
daughter-in-law & son of Josie and Les Lafata
Starr Dehn, niece of Mary Poole
Raymond Donahue, husband of Julia E-Donahue
Rose Dreissen, wife of Joseph
Barbara Erzbischoff, mother of Julia E-Donahue
Beverly Falzone, mother of Clara
Stefan Florescu, husband of Caroline
Bob Fontanive, husband of Marie
Sr. Shirley Heymes, OP, sister of James
Judy Hojna, Caroline's sister-in-law
Ted Hojna, husband of Caroline
Fred LaChance, brother of Donna Marie Johnston
Jane I. Litch, mother of Janice
Michael McSherry, brother of Br. Pat
Marilyn Nichols, daughter of Anthony Brodeur
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas
Lawrence and Teresa Poole, parents of Mary
Sean Sherman, son of Sandra
Dan Tyrna, grandson of Mary Hebert
Steve Yuhase, father of Claire Johnson

Memorials:

Marie Weber, offered by Jo Marie Nardi

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Andrew Arcznski
Christopher Beattie
Francisco Biber
Thomas Chmielarczyk
Thomas Greenia
Edward Kluk
John Kristensen
John Marra III
Joseph Marra, Jr.

Pray for ALL

who have entrusted themselves to our prayer.

Help keep our list up-to-date,
to remove or add names, call:

Jo Marie Nardi at 586-978-2335

Brothers and Sisters

Not much in the way of *good* news this month, but God is good and continues to love, guide and watch over us – his people.

A former member of our Fraternity, **Adele George** passed away on January 4, 2009. Another former member of our Fraternity, **Bella McKigney**, passed away on January 13, 2009. Bella was a member of St. Bonaventure SFO Fraternity, professed on November 14, 1999, who transferred to the Fraternity in Roseville in 2003. Please pray for the repose of Bella's soul also and for her and Adele's family. Our condolences, too, to **Ralph Marson** whose mother-in-law, Marie, passed away on January 8th.

A number of our members are experiencing health-related difficulties right now, so many, in fact, that I was tempted to sub-title this column: "Bruised and Broken".

Jim Heymes fell and broke his right ankle in two places. He had corrective surgery and will be laid up for at least six weeks. That certainly isn't preventing **Charlotte** from going to the Philippines. Jim will stay home until Charlotte leaves on January 22, and then go to their daughter Ann's for two weeks with their children caring for him during Charlotte's absence.

Janet Bodell had a skiing accident and is in a knee brace. She underwent foot surgery on January 23. The surgery went very well and Janet expects to be getting around on crutches for a couple of weeks.

Our Director of Initial Formation, **John Bodell**, lost the hearing in his right ear on New Year's Day and doctors think he has Meniere's disease. He may or may not get his hearing back; however, I ask you to pray for its return.

Caroline Hojna has been experiencing difficulty breathing lately, along with her CLL Leukemia, anemia, and other complications, especially in her lungs. Tests are underway to determine the cause and to find a solution.

Maryann Kummer recently underwent emergency surgery and is recuperating. **Mary Mason**, Ralph's wife, also needs our prayers. And **Clara Falzone** is recuperating from pneumonia.

Our dear Capuchin **Br. Leo Wollenweber** (91-years old) had a cancerous tumor between the 2nd and 3rd vertebrae and underwent surgery on Sunday, January 18th to remove the tumor. The surgery went perfectly as expected. Br. Leo remained for a short time in Beaumont-Grosse Pointe Hospital, and then returned home to St. Bonaventure's on Sunday, January 25.

Some good news (at least for Joe and myself) is that we are leaving at the end of this month for Florida and will not return until around the 4th of April. We will have our laptop computer and can be reached on our cell phone (586) 996-3342.

Our Chapter of Affairs on January 18th went very well. It was relatively well-attended considering the blasts of arctic air that has pommeeled our region this Winter. Written reports from each councilor, the secretary, treasurer and minister had been prepared beforehand and sent out prior to the Chapter to allow members time to read and reflect on them. Members had an opportunity during the Chapter to raise whatever issues they cared to with regard to current leadership of our Fraternity. After the presentations, Br. Pat McSherry, our Spiritual Assistant, gave his own presentation which you will find printed in the current issue of *The Poverello*.

Remember the March Day of Reflection which begins at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 15th. There is no Mass and members are asked to bring a bag lunch. Joe and I will not be able to be there; but we do look forward to September's Day of Reflection.

Faye Kluk Boland
(586) 996-3342
boland14@sbcglobal.net

Send news items about our members to Faye Kluk Boland at:
(tel) 586-939-3342 or (e-mail) Boland14@sbcglobal.net

MARK YOUR 2009 CALENDARS

Please note changes to the Christian Service dates at the Meldrum Soup Kitchen!

- February 15 3rd Sunday Meeting (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)**
February 18 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
February 20 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
February 28 SFO Mass for the Deceased (10 am)
March 13 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
March 15 SFO Day of Reflection (11 am) - NO Mass; bring bag lunch
March 18 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
April 15 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
April 19 Mass for SFO Jubilarians (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
May 15 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
May 17 3rd Sunday Meeting (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
May 20 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
June 12 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
June 14 3rd Sunday Meeting (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
June 17 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
June 27 SFO Mass for our Deceased (10 am)
July 10 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
July 15 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
July 19 Fraternity Annual Picnic (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
August 14 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
August 16 3rd Sunday Meeting (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
August 19 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
September 11 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
September 16 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
September 20 SFO Day of Reflection (everyone at 11 am) - NO Mass; bring bag lunch
October 9 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
October 18 CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS
October 21 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
October 24 SFO Mass for All Deceased Franciscans (10 am)
November 13 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
November 15 SFO Renewal Mass (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)
November 18 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
December 11 Christian Service at the Meldrum Kitchen (10:30 AM-1:00 PM)
December 16 Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
December 20 3rd Sunday Meeting - Christmas Concert (Formation at Noon; everyone at 1:30 pm)



Celebrating Janet Bodell

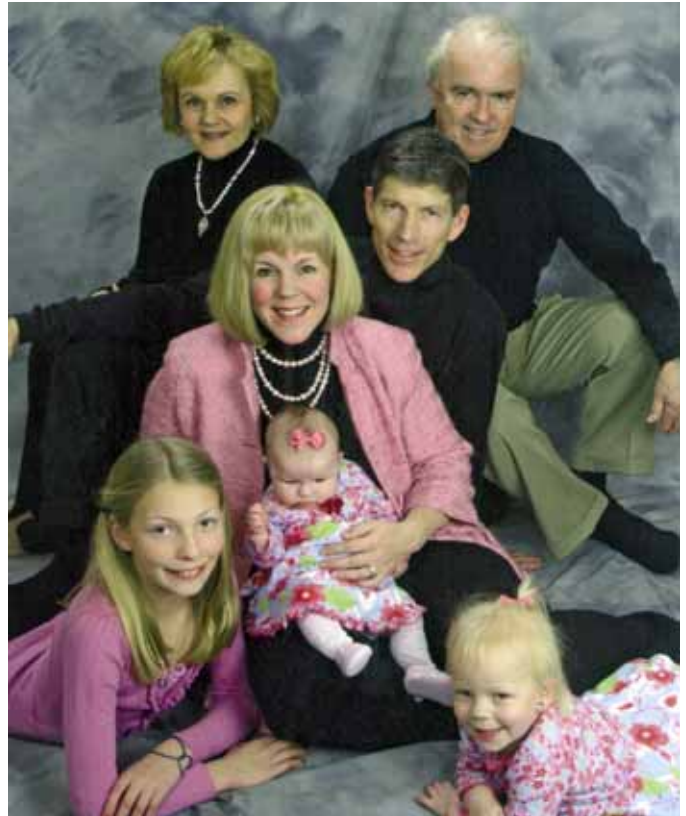


Janet was born on October 22, 1947 in Highland Park. Her parents, Frank and Irene Parada lived on Chene Street in Detroit, members of St. Stanislaus Parish. She has two brothers: Frank (a postal worker in Waterford) and Ken (the Director of the Emergency Room and E.R. physician at Cheboygan Hospital).

After graduating from St. Mary Magdalen School and Hazel Park High School, Janet worked as an Accounts Receivable Bookkeeper at the Golf Mart in Birmingham, and then attended Macomb County Community College of Nursing, graduating *summa cum laude* in the first official class (1971). She worked as a Recovery Room nurse while her future husband, John, was in his surgical residency, and in John's clinic while their daughter Dawn was in school. She attended St. Joseph's College in Maine where she earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Professional Arts (i.e., half psychology – half sociology, with a concentration in writing) before matriculating at Madonna University in Livonia where she earned a Masters of Science degree in Hospice Care with a spiritual care concentration and was awarded the Catholic University's academic scholar achievement award, *Kappa Gamma Pi*.

Janet met her husband, John, at Bi-County Hospital where she was a charge nurse on the surgical floor. They were married in 1973 and have one daughter, Dawn Bodell, D.O. who specializes in female reconstructive urology and is married to Robert Stephenson, DDS. They have two children: 3-year-old Madison Kaitlin and 4-month-old Sophie Anne. Because they live in Oregon, Janet and John try to see them about once a month.

The "crowning event" of Janet's nursing career came when she became the primary caregiver for both of her parents. After living with Janet and John for a year and a half, her father died in her arms. Three years later, Janet cared for her mother. Especially during the time Janet cared for her dad, she felt especially close to our Lord. She felt the need to be more involved in her Catholic faith and saw an ad in the *Michigan Catholic* for a Secular Franciscan orientation day at St. Alfred's in Taylor. She attended St. Alfred's satellite where her prayer life deepened and she found herself "hooked" on the SFO way of life.



Between caring for her parents and work, Janet didn't have much time to get heavily involved in the SFO. Eventually, however, she became part of the Family Commission, the Formation Team, and used to serve at the Capuchins' Smith's Old Timers dinner sponsored by St. Bonaventure Fraternity. She made her profession in the Secular Franciscan Order on November 21, 1993 at St. Bonaventure's. Janet is currently serving her sixth consecutive and final year as Minister of – in her words – "this fantastic fraternity in which I have grown to love each and every one of you!"

Her hobbies include reading, writing and gardening, golf, skiing, walking and traveling. For the past 23 years, she has worked as Nurse Administrator at John's clinic and surgery center in Trenton. People appear amazed that a husband and wife can work together and remain happily married! Janet says she used to quit about once a week but John would never accept her resignation. Things have gotten better over time, now she only quits about once a year!

We love you, Janet!



MORE GENERAL CHAPTER NEWS

With Secular Franciscans present in over 110 countries, Fr. Marco Tasca remarked, “This is a vast army for good in the world!”

Reflecting on the conversion of St. Francis, he said: “Francis started changing **his way of thinking**,” thus accomplishing a conversion of the mind. Francis moved from being centered on himself to being totally centered on Christ, with his mind giving full attention to the Jesus of the Gospel. After conversion of the mind, “we come to **conversion of the heart**.” Prayer and penance are good, but fall short without conversion of the heart – which shows itself in love, in giving a witness that inspires others. If one is easily irritated and doesn’t have love in his heart for others, then there is no conversion of the heart. Referring to the secular cultures where people live as if God did not exist, in a world that is centered on self, Franciscans and people of faith have a crazy logic – the logic of self-giving. “It’s by dying that we live. We acquire something by giving things away.” So the lesson for all of us here is that the heart of Francis’ choice was Christ, he said. The general chapter convened near Budapest in conjunction with the closing of the 8th centenary of the Order’s patron, St. Elizabeth of Hungary.



Tony Cain 7-year-old Ewing Sarcoma

When 6-year-old Tony developed a limp and later hurt his leg while roughhousing, his family never imagined cancer was the root of these problems. An X-ray revealed devastating news: Tony had a tumor. His pediatrician referred the family to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital right away. “I was in disbelief, I didn’t know what to think,” Tony’s mom said. “It all happened so quickly.”

As soon as the family arrived at St. Jude, they felt at ease. “We walked in the doors and my tears just stopped,” his mom said. “We saw kids playing and nobody looked sad.” St. Jude doctors found Tony suffered from Ewing sarcoma, a cancer of the bone and soft tissue. He underwent five rounds of chemotherapy, followed by surgery to remove the tumor and part of his pelvis affected by the tumor. He then received 12 more rounds of chemotherapy. Tony also received physical and occupational therapies to help him regain strength. He now returns to St. Jude every three months for checkups.

Tony’s mom is thankful for all that St. Jude has provided for her family during this difficult time. Aside from Tony’s treatment and care, St. Jude provided housing, meals and transportation for him and one family member, as well as activities like arts and crafts projects to keep Tony and his sister, Alexis, occupied. The family is grateful, too, for the donors who help support St. Jude. “There’s no way we could have done it on our own,” his mom said.



From the Friars’ Choir

Become an expert in the art of discovering the good in every person. No one is entirely bad. Become an expert in the art of finding the truthful core in views of every kind. The human mind abhors total error.

– Dom Helder Camara

Chapter Address

by Br. Pat McSherry, OFM Cap
18 January 2009

Every January our fraternity celebrates a Chapter of Affairs (i.e., a business chapter), during which the fraternity focuses on issues directly related to the life of our fraternity. The minister and councilors each present a review of their stewardship. Although this is a form of transparency and accountability, the primary purpose of this “review of life” is to be a reality check for us – to see where we have been, where we are, and where we want to go.

At your last Chapter of Elections, through the working of the Holy Spirit, you chose a group of extremely talented and truly dedicated men and women to lead this fraternity. Their commitment to our Franciscan way of life and specifically to this fraternity cannot be understated. I think it’s safe to say that no matter how great our members are, it is always much more difficult to be in a leadership role than it is to be a member.

You have read their reports. *Some* [and this is only some] of the things they did not report to you, but which also consumed their time and psychic energy were the following.

a) This council has had to deal with some problem members. Your council has dealt equitably, charitably and with respectful confidentiality toward members who have significant mental or psychological problems. In one instance, this minister and council faced a situation unheard of in any other fraternity at the local, regional or national level, and they received praise for the way the situation was handled.

b) This council, with the invaluable help of your treasurer, **Gene Snyders**, has had to face financial issues during this period of recession, which some even call a depression. The council struggled with how best to invest the fraternity’s resources in a way that is both fiscally sound and value-based. When the international leadership of the Secular Franciscan Order defined the fair share as an obligation of the fraternity rather than of individuals, the council acknowledged that fewer of our members can afford an equal sharing in the expenses of the fraternity, and creatively brainstormed ways of creating added sources of income to cover those obligations while building up the spirit of our fraternity and affirming local talent. Thus was born the idea of sponsoring an annual Fr. Solanus Concert, the proceeds from which help defray our fraternity’s expenses to the regional, national and international fraternities.

c) This council, aided by **Maryann Kummer** and **John Bodell**, has had to face the question of restructuring, refining and restaffing our initial formation program and, how to effectively draw new and younger members. Considering all of our ages, this latter dimension is a task that should have been put in motion at least 20 years ago; it is long overdue. Although this is still in process, a good foundation is being laid for it, and we hope to see results in the future.

In all these aspects of fraternal life, your minister and councilors have given 100% ... and often, even more. Of course, they’re not the only ones who have gone the extra mile (or more) for this fraternity. Only some examples are: **Faye Boland**’s monthly article in *The Poverello*; **Jo Marie Nardi** and **Sylvia Stanik**’s help with the Masses for the Deceased and notes to the sick, etc.; **Bev and Chuck Sapien**’s fearlessly assuming the major task of coordinating the Fr. Solanus Concert; those on our **Formation Team**; **Mary Hebert**, **Pat Meldrum** and **Ralph Mason** who regularly help with the mailing of *The Poverello*; those who help in the **Kitchen** and who bring goodies to our functions; those who help with our *Transitus* celebration, especially those who make the scones; those who helped with our **120th jubilee** celebration; the members of the **EMB** who add to the atmosphere of prayerful worship through the work of their hands; **Ona Harris** who was inspired to begin the Towel Drive; the various coordinators of the **Cells**; **Frank Kraimer**’s efforts to promote our fraternity’s apostolic outreach; the extraordinary lengths to which **Maryann Kummer** has gone to make our monthly meetings spiritually effective,

those who represent us at the social following the **Healing Services**, etc. Without forgetting the sacrifices and loving service of so many of our members – those I have mentioned, and many others unnamed –, I would like to single out our minister, **Janet Bodell**, and our councilors and say that, although I don't think they are God's gift to humanity, I certainly do believe that they have been God's gift *to us* at this particular time in our history.

This Chapter of Affairs also has another aspect which captures our attention. In October of this year, we will celebrate a Chapter of Elections. Since our minister has completed her terms of office, we must seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to find a new minister for our fraternity. You will also be looking to some new faces on the Council. Before our last Chapter of Elections we made a pledge about how we would conduct ourselves during the discernment period. I would invite you to make the same pledge this year. In addition, I would like to share with you some of the qualities which I believe go into a good and effective Franciscan **leadership team**.

1. Those you consider for leadership – as minister or councilors – must be firm in their *Secular* Franciscan identity and commitment. They need to be individuals of integrity who abide unflinchingly by the principles of transparency and accountability, and who uncompromisingly keep confidential matters confidential.
2. Leadership is not an easy task. We need leaders who have human sensitivity toward others, – people who exhibit human warmth, care and concern. However, leadership is not for those with particularly thin skins. If you take things very personally or cannot keep a healthy distinction between your role/ministry and your person, you should not consider an elected leadership role.
3. Plays well with others. The council works by consensus, not by majority rule. This requires certain skills: listening with openness to other [and contrary] opinions, trusting that the others are as equally committed to Catholic-Franciscan values as you are yourself, and a willingness to seek together a mutually acceptable plan of action. This often involves a willingness to compromise and negotiate. People with more fixed opinions or who only want to sway others to their way of thinking will find our corporate leadership style very frustrating and will frustrate the other members of the team. If you want dynamic leadership, avoid electing members of the leadership team who are either too compliant so as to have little to offer, or too argumentative or combative. Leadership teams that operate by consensus work best when everyone shoulders the responsibility for working toward common goals and means, and whose creativity inspires even more creativity in others on the council as well as within the general membership.
4. Those you consider for leadership must have an abundance of energy (not necessarily of time). Youth and energy are not always synonymous, but especially for the sake of our outreach to youth, please consider some young members on the council.
5. It helps if you consider not only those with common sense (practicality), but also those with creative ideas. The two qualities help balance a council.
6. Leadership is not a position of power. At best, it is a position of influence. It is always a position of service.
7. Lastly, for now, there *is* a certain amount of “glory” that comes with being elected to office. It's flattering. That “glory”, however, is very short-lived. Whatever true glory comes to those elected to serve the rest will only be after a lot of hard work and challenges.

Let our prayer be:

Come, Spirit of the living God, be with us as we seek your wisdom.
We ask for the gifts of listening, understanding and patience
as we work together to give shape to the future,
and to carry out faithfully your mission in the world.
We ask all this with confidence in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA FRATERNITY



is sponsoring:

A LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

Saturday, March 14, 2009

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Father Yagley Hall

St. Alphonsus Parish

13540 W. Warren

Dearborn, MI

Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Marie and Elena will be discussing:

Lenten Reconciliation and Franciscan Joy

Francis: A Passion for the Passion

Donation: \$15.00

Registration and Continental Breakfast at 8:30 am

Lunch provided: soup, salad and beverages

R.S.V.P. by March 7, 2009

Please contact: June McRae at 313-278-7613, or
Sylvia Jagielski: 734-285-0798

Mail checks to: St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity
4175 High Street
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

Third Order Saints of February

- 1 **Bl. Andrew Charles Ferrari** (1850-1921) SFO Archbishop, educator
- 6 **Ss. Peter Baptist, OFM, Paul Suzuki, SFO (1563-1597), Lucy Freitas, SFO and Comp. Martyrs,** I Order and SFO, martyrs (“The Martyrs of Japan”)
- 7 **Bl. Pius IX** (1792-1878) SFO, pope
- 8 **Bl. [Lady] Jacoba [i.e., Jacqueline] of Settesoli** (U 1239) lay follower of St. Francis
- 19..... **St. Conrad of Piacenza** (1290-1350) SFO, hermit



- February 1 Stephen Haycox
- February 3..... Josephine Perry
Mary Ann Montpetit
- February 13 Sylvester Lafata
- February 18 Clara Kowalski
- February 19 Rocco Cesaro
- February 20 Mabel Michaels
- February 21 Raymond Morehead
Claudia Damian
- February 23 Mary LaBudie
- February 28 Teresa Westbrook-Lienert



Prayer for the Beatification of Ven. Solanus Casey

O God, I adore you. I give myself to you.
May I be the person you want me to be,
and may your will be done in my life today.

I thank you for the gifts you gave to Fr. Solanus.

If it is your will,
bless us with his beatification
so that others may imitate and carry on his love
for all the poor and suffering of our world.

As he joyfully accepted your divine plans,
I ask you, according to your will,
to hear my prayer for [your intention],
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Blessed be God in all his designs.”

This is the type of Fast I desire (Micah)

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of life.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.

Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; feast on divine order.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.

Fast from unrelenting pressures; feast on unceasing prayer.

Fast from hostility; feast on nonresistance.

Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.

Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth.

Fast from discouragements; feast on hope.

Fast from facts that depress; feast on verities that uplift.

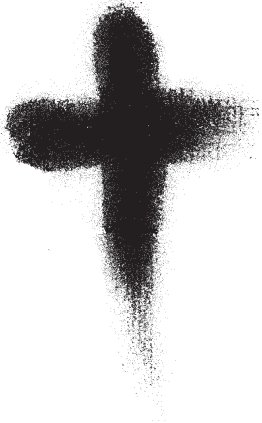
Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.

Fast from shadows of sorrow; feast on the sunlight of serenity.

Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that undergirds.



FEBRUARY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>WEEK 4 ORD. TIME Pss: Wk 4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>First Thursday Meeting: 1 PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>WEEK 5 ORD. TIME Pss: Wk 1</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>St. Joan of Arc: 1 PM</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Fr. Solanus Cell: 7:30 PM</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>WEEK 6 ORD. TIME Pss: Wk 2</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>SFO COUNCIL: 6:30 PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>EMB Board: 10 AM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>CHRISTIAN SERVICE: Meldrum Kitchen 10:30am - 1pm</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>WEEK 7 ORD. TIME Pss: Wk 3</p> <p>3rd Sunday Meeting 12 - Formation 1:30 - Everyone</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Bl. Luchesio: 7:30 PM Interfaith: 7 PM - 9 PM</p>	<p>28</p> <p>SFO MASS for our Deceased: 10:00 AM</p>

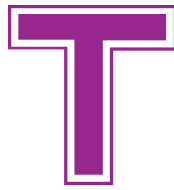
Please patronize our advertizers

Gerry Marson
Shaklee Distributor
8070 Busch
Centerline, MI 48015 • 586-754-3808



Products in Harmony with Nature and Good Health

Types of Products
Nutritional
Household
Personal Care



JERROLD MARSH
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR

23100 Jeffeson S. of 9 Mile
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
1-586-445-0123 or 1-313-884-7322 (24 Hours)

FAX ET PHONUM

Minister

Janet Bodell

Vice Minister

Ona Harris

Treasurer

Eugene Snyders

Secretary

Patricia Meldrum

Formation

John Bodell

Councillors:

Clara Falzone
Caroline Florescu
Gary Johnson
Frank B. Kraimer
Maryann Kummer

Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry (313) 579-2100, x. 141

APPOINTMENTS

Infirmarians:

Jo Marie Nardi
Sylvia Stanik

Continuing Formation:

Maryann Kummer

Christian Service:

Frank B. Kraimer

Ecology:

Clara Falzone

Work:

Gary Johnson

Family:

Peace and Justice:

Jo Marie Nardi

Eucharistic Mission Band (EMB):

Caroline Florescu

MEETING CONTACTS

(for Locations and Times of Meetings)

Fr. Solanus Cell (2nd Friday, 7:30 pm):

Faye Boland

St. Joan of Arc Satellite (2nd Tuesday, 1 pm):

Frank Liccardello

First Thursday Meeting (1 pm):

Raymond Morehead

Third Sunday General SFO Meeting:

Maryann Kummer

Bl. Luchesio Cell (4th Friday, 7:30 pm):

Connie Musial

FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

See Fraternity Calendar (page 6)

Frank B. Kraimer

OTHER SFO-AFFILIATED GROUPS:

Interfaith Justice & Peace Group (4th Friday, 7-9 PM):

Jo Marie Nardi

The Poverello is published by the
St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity
1780 Mt. Elliott St.

Detroit, Michigan 48207

Phone: 313-579-2100, ext. 136

e-mail: secular_franciscans@yahoo.com

URL: sfostbonaventure-detroit.org

editor: Br. Pat McSherry, OFM Cap.

Deadline for articles is 3:30 PM
of the 3rd Sunday of each month.



St. Bonaventure
Secular Franciscan Fraternity
1780 Mt. Elliott St.
Detroit, Michigan 48207

