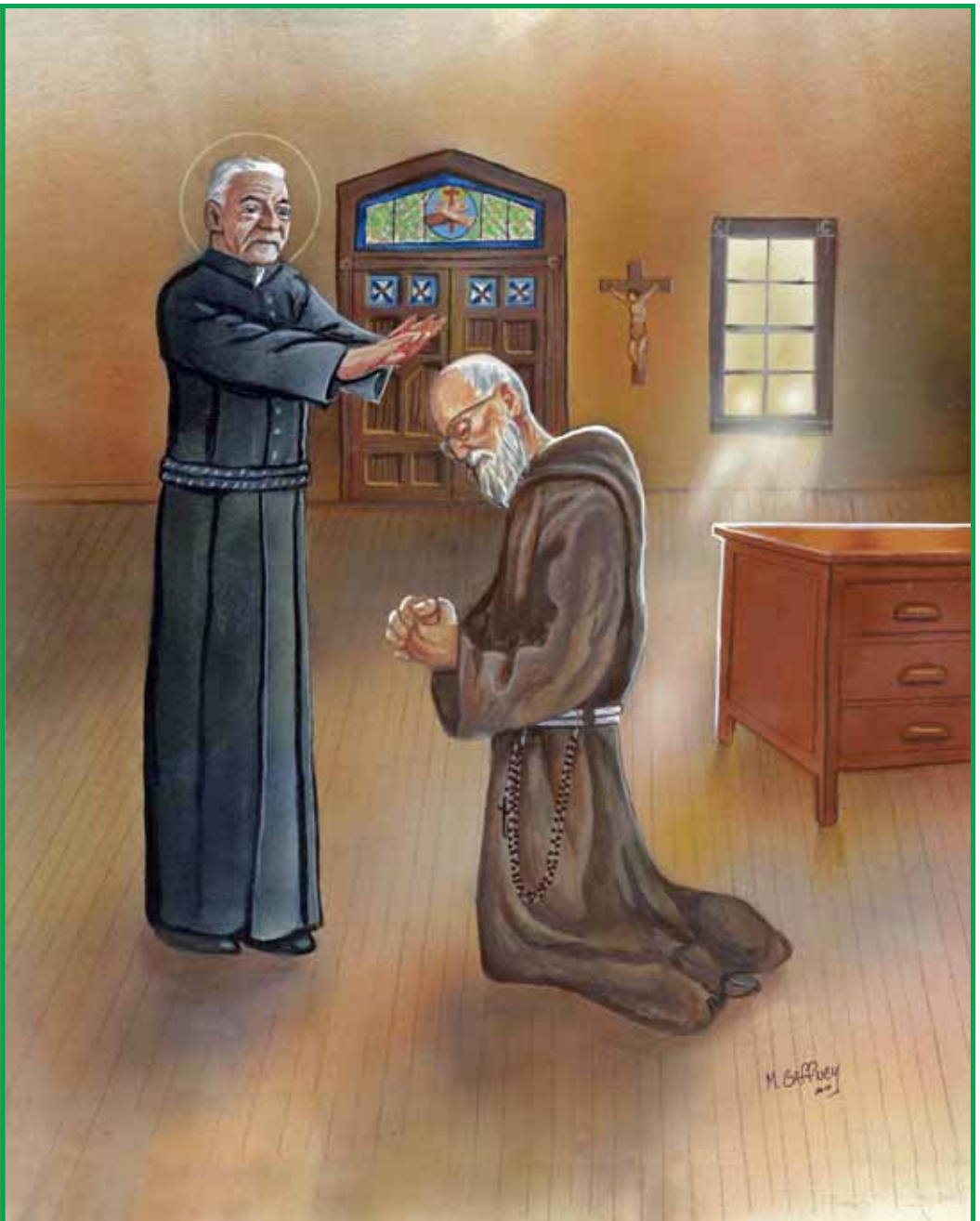


VOL. 70, NO. 12
DECEMBER 2010

THE POWELL

ST. BONAVENTURE SECULAR FRANCISCANS ✦ DETROIT, MICHIGAN



On October 17th of this year Blessed André Bessette, founder of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, was canonized. In 1935, Br. André visited the Capuchin Monastery here in Detroit to meet Fr. Solanus. As Capuchin Fr. Lawrence Merten recalled, at the end of the visit, Br. André knelt to ask for Fr. Solanus' blessing. Then Fr. Solanus knelt before the holy brother and asked for his blessing as well.

The meeting of these two holy men was commemorated on October 31, 2010 with the solemn blessing and placement of an image of St. André's visit. The artwork was created by Capuchin Br. Michael Gaffney. It was solemnly blessed by Abp. Allen Vigneron and can be found on the Mount Elliott side of the chapel, next to the statue of St. Anthony. It is reproduced here with permission.

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

MINISTER'S LETTER

My dear brothers and sisters,

May God's peace and joy reign in your heart!

Sunday, November 21, was a day of great joy for our fraternity as **Pat Cardellio, Ilene Manning** and **Mary Williams** publicly proclaimed their permanent commitment to live the Gospel way of life and to be active participants in the life of our fraternity. I am grateful to the formation team (**John, Janet, Mary, Frank, Sylvia, Bev** and **Chuck**) for guiding Pat, Ilene and Mary through the formation process, to **Br. Pat** for preparing the Profession Mass booklets, and to **Teresa Westbrook-Lienert** and **Tony Lienert** for handling the arrangements for the reception following the Mass.

If you have not already done so, please remember to mail in your **Fair Share** and **Poverello** contributions as soon as possible.

This is a reminder that our fraternity is responsible for providing the food and beverages for the reception following the **Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m. Please call Teresa Westbrook-Lienert to inform her of what items you are planning to bring to this event.

Please remember to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order.

REFLECTION

Because of love, God sent an angel to a young Jewish girl, Mary, and said to her, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." The angel continued to explain to Mary, "You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name, Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." Because of love, Mary, though afraid and deeply troubled, responded, "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you have said" (Lk 1:38).

Because of love, Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because of love, Joseph, a righteous man did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and instructed him on what to do. Because of love, Joseph did what the angel of the Lord had commanded and took Mary home as his wife (Mt 1:19-20, 24).

Because of love, God, the Creator of all that is, freely chose to send his only Son to dwell with us, to walk with us, to eat with us, to touch us and be touched by us, to weep with us, to teach us how to love God and to love one another. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16).

Because of love, "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel which means God with us" (Mt 1:22-23). Because of love, the active and living presence of God is with us today. Jesus said to the disciples, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Mt 28:19).

Because of love, we, as Secular Franciscans, are called to spread the Gospel message of peace, hope and love to a world that is in darkness and despair, to be instruments of peace to our family and friends, to shine the light of Christ for all to see, and we are to do all of this in the name of the One who first loved us.

- During this Advent season, what will you do to prepare your heart to fall more deeply in love with God?
- During this Advent season, because of love, what will you do for others to make the Gospel message of hope, peace and love come alive for them?

As I complete my first year as Minister of our fraternity, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support, cards and prayers throughout the year. I wish you and those you love a blessed and peaceful Advent season and a joyous Christmas season filled with peace, hope and love.

Your sister in St. Francis and St. Clare, maryann



Solanus Center to host "Living our Faith" December Series

Wednesdays of December

December 1: How does faith help us to prepare for the rebirth of Christ in us?

December 8: How does faith help us to actively prepare for the rebirth of Christ?

December 15: How does faith help us to see signs of promise?

December 22: Faith nourished in our community

December 29: Living the consequence of faith

- Mass at 12:00 Noon
- A 15-minute presentation on the above topic will follow at 12:30.
- Enjoy a hearty soup and bread lunch before Mass or after.
(A donation of \$2.00 for the soup is suggested).
- Stay for the 2 p.m. Prayer Service, if you'd like.

Mark Your Calendars

December 5 Leadership Council meeting (2:30 p.m.)

December 10 Christian Service at the Meldrum Soup Kitchen (10:30 am - 1 pm)

December 19 Christmas Concert (Formation at noon, everyone at 1:30 p.m.)



Deceased Relatives:

Stefan Florescu (†Oct. 29, 2010)
Edmond Ertzbischoff (†Nov. 19, 2010)

Members needing prayers:

Wilhelmina Adkins	Rose Longo
Peter Aluzzo	Joseph Marra
Kay Balas	Sophie Martin
Gertrude Beattie	Maria McNally
Evelyn Bishop	Genevieve Ochenkowski
Rocco Cesaro	Eleanor Pulido
Wesley Faust	Rosie Patin
Marie Fontanive	Dolores & Bob Peckham
Mary Gillen	Theresa Pfaendtner
Natalie Grabowski	Joseph Pierce
James Heymes	Mary Saber
Caroline Hojna	Francis Scallion
Dora Sue Jay	Gene Snyders
Anna May Jezak	Alice Vier
Donna Marie Johnston	Helen Wardowski
Denise Joseph	Joseph Wisk
Mary Klein	Stephen Yuhase
Les and Josie Lafata	Veronica Yuhase
Janice Litch	

Relatives needing prayers:

Mary Ala, sister of Jo Marie Nardi
Mary Ann Avery, niece of Lorraine Korte
Tasha Blackwood, niece of Jan and Dan Atkinson
Terry Crawford, nephew of Sandra Sherman
George Ertzbischoff, uncle of Julia
Fr. Ed Ertzbischoff, brother of Julia
Parents of Clara Falzone
Bob Fontanive, husband of Marie
John Gold, husband of Rose
Judy Hojna, Caroline's sister-in-law
Ted Hojna, husband of Caroline
Wilma Keatley, aunt of Clara Falzone

Esther Mae Kelly, wife of Charles
Tyrone Mack, brother of Anna Tyler
Manning Family, especially Bill, son of Ilene
Gayle Mazurkiewicz, niece of Janet Atkinson
Melanie McAleer, sister of Alice Vier
Charlie, John McCaay & Family of Ilene Manning
Marilyn Nichols, daughter of Anthony Brodeur
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas
Teresa Poole, mother of Mary
Simone Robinson, mother of Joanne Schumacher
Amy Schumacher, daughter of Joanne
Bob Stevenson, son-in-law of John and Janet Bodell
Jasper Gicconi, father of Melissa Lindow
Dan Tyrna, grandson of Mary Hebert
Chester Wisk, brother of Joe

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Andrew Arcznski
Christopher Beattie
James Anthony Brannigan
Thomas Chmielarczyk
Thomas Greenia
John Marra III
Joseph Marra, Jr.
Gerard Williams

Please help to keep our list up-to-date; to remove names of those who are no longer in need of urgent prayer, or to add names of members and immediate family members who are in great need, call:

Jo Marie Nardi at 586-978-2335

We ask, however, that you pray for ALL who have asked for our prayers.

Keep in Touch

Dora Sue Jay would love to hear from you. She's residing at:

**Bortz Health Care on Green Lake
6470 Alden Dr
West Bloomfield, MI 48324**



Dec. 6	Mary Saber *	Dec. 20	Charles Sopian
Dec 7	Mary Ann Kristensen	Dec. 24	Joseph Pierce *
Dec. 11	Ralph Mason *	Dec. 25	Patricia Meldrum
Dec. 12	Irene Mecha	Dec. 29	Lorna Brock *
Dec. 13	Veronica Yuhase *	Dec. 30	Frank Laramie *
Dec. 17	Helen Wardowski *	Dec. 31	Sylvia Snigier

Franciscan Saints of December

- Dec. 1.....Bl. Mary Rose Pellesi**, TO religious of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Christ (Sant'Onofrio)
 Dec 1Bl. Anthony Bonfadini (1400-1482) Franciscan friar
- Dec. 2Bl. Mary Angela Astorch (1592-1665) Virgin, Capuchin Poor Clare
 Dec. 2Bl. Raphael Chylinski (1694-1741) Conventual Franciscan Friar
 Dec. 2Bl. Angiolo of Monteleone (-1399) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 3Bl. Cherubin Capponi of Florence (-1480) Franciscan friar
- Dec. 4Bl. Peter Pettinaio of Siena** (1230-1289) Penitent, Secular Franciscan
 Dec. 4Bl. William of Radicofani (-1270) Franciscan friar
- Dec. 7St. Mary Joseph Rossello** (1811-1880) virgin, Secular Franciscan, founder of the Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy
- Dec. 8Immaculate Conception, patron of the Franciscan Family**
 Dec. 8Bl. Andrew Venuti of Cortona (-1501) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 9Bl. Clare Isabel Fornari (1697-1744) Poor Clare
- Dec. 10Bl. Peter Tecelano**, Franciscan Third Order
 Dec. 10Bl. Bartholomew Albizi of Vico Pisano (-1360) Franciscan friar
- Dec. 11Bl. Hugolino Magalotti** (1300-1373) Secular Franciscan, hermit
- Dec. 12Bl. Bertolo Buonpedoni** (-1300) Secular Franciscan priest
 Dec. 13Bl. John Anthony of Parma (-1440) Franciscan friar
- Dec. 15Bl. Mary Frances Schervier**, Third Order of St. Francis, virgin
 Dec. 15Bl. Anthony del Fornai of Florence (-1440) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 16Bl. Bartholomew of Florence (-1500), Franciscan friar
 Dec. 17Bl. John of Montecorvino (1247-1328), Franciscan Bishop, First Apostle to China
 Dec. 19Bl. George Greco (-1492) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 20Bl. Benedict of Lavoraccio (-1455) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 20Bl. Alexander of Verona (-1486) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 21Bl. Dominic of Fossano, Franciscan friar
 Dec. 22Bl. Jacopone of Todi (1228-1306) widower, lawyer, Franciscan poet
 Dec. 27Bl. Mansueto Manni of Castiglion Fiorentino (-1265) Franciscan friar
 Dec. 28Bl. Rinaldo of Arezzo (-1252) Franciscan Bishop
 Dec. 28Bl. Matthia of Nazzarei (1253-1320) virgin, Poor Clare
 Dec. 30Bl. Margaret Colonna (1254-1280) virgin, Poor Clare

PROFESSION 2010





From the Friars' Choir

We must not seek the child Jesus
in the pretty figures of our Christmas cribs.
We must seek him among the undernourished children
who have gone to bed at night with nothing to eat,
among the poor newsboys
who will sleep covered with newspapers in doorways.

– Abp. Oscar Romero, December 24, 1979



Clinton 5 years old medulloblastoma

In June 2009, Clinton began having headaches and nausea, but it wasn't until November that doctors discovered the shocking cause of his illness. Little Clinton suffered from the most common type of brain tumor in children. Clinton underwent surgery to remove the tumor, and his parents began searching for the best place for his continuing care. They came to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

At St. Jude Clinton received 31 radiation treatments and four rounds of high-dose chemotherapy. His treatment was sometimes tough, but Clinton's doctors and nurses helped him through the difficult moments. Clinton and his family love St. Jude and the personalized care they received during his treatment. Clinton's mom said the St. Jude staff kept her informed. They also listened to what she had to say. "I'm part of the team," she said. "When I have questions or things to tell them, I'm not a troublesome mother, a problem mom, and that's very, very important."

Clinton finished treatment and was able to return home. He is a bright boy who loves fishing and making up jokes. Unfortunately, recent follow-up tests revealed that Clinton's cancer has returned. But Clinton and his family have vowed to continue to fight on despite this setback.

Rule Reflection for December

SFO Rule, Article 19

Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon. Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others. Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father.

Constitutions, Article 26

1. Even in suffering, Francis experienced confidence and joy from:
 - the experience of the fatherhood of God;
 - the invincible faith of rising with Christ to eternal life;
 - the experience of being able to meet and praise the Creator in the universal fraternity of all creatures (see 2 Celano, 125; Legend of Perugia 43; Major Life, 9).

Rule, 19: Following the Gospel, Secular Franciscans, therefore, **affirm their hope and their joy in living. They make a contribution to counter widespread distress and pessimism, preparing a better future.**

2. In the fraternity, the brothers and sisters should promote mutual understanding and they should see to it that the atmosphere of their meetings is welcoming and that it reflects joy. They should encourage one another for the good.

For reflection:

Cynicism, skepticism and disillusionment are rampant in society and in the church, and seemingly with good cause. Franciscans are called neither to deny reality nor to be Pollyannas. Faith gives us a vision that sustains us in hope. Is your vision positive or negative? In your personal life and in your dealings with others, are you a source of optimism or pessimism, hope or despair, sadness or joy?





Celebrating Mary Williams



Mary Alice Latham Williams was born on Nov. 1, 1940 to Emerson and Mary Latham in Natchez, Mississippi. Mary was the fifth of 11 children (Corine Henderson, Freddie Latham, Charlie Latham, Albert

Latham, Larry Latham, Laura Askew, Annie (deceased), Emma (deceased), Emerson, Jr. (deceased) and Henry (deceased).

Mary graduated from S.V. Thompson High School in Natchez in 1958. She attended Harris Teachers College in St. Louis, Missouri and Kentucky State University in Lexington where she graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in Liberal Arts in 1972. She also earned an Associate of Science degree in Nursing from Wayne County Community College.

Mary met Al Williams in 1958 and they were married a year later. Mary and Al were blessed with three children: Kenneth, Michele and Edward and five grandchildren: Candice, Kenneth Jr., Joshua, Jossilynn and Anthony. Candice is in her last year of residency working towards her goal of becoming a pediatrician. Kenneth Jr. is a

Marine currently stationed in North Carolina and preparing to go to Africa soon. Joshua, Jossilynn and Anthony are in college at Wayne State University. After a lengthy illness, Al passed away in 2004.

Mary was employed as a nurse at Grace Hospital, Outer Drive Hospital, and for the State of Michigan at the Lafayette Clinic, Clinton Valley Center and Huron Valley Center. During her tenure as a labor and delivery nurse at Brent General Hospital, Mary delivered numerous babies.

Mary learned about the Secular Franciscan Order through **Gene Snyders**. When Mary attended Secular Franciscan Fraternity gatherings, she not only felt comfortable, but also that the Franciscan way of life was a perfect fit with her beliefs. Because Mary has always had a great concern for helping others, she feels that she has been a Secular Franciscan all of her life. Mary was professed into the St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity on Sunday, November 21 of this year.

Mary belongs to Corpus Christi Catholic Church, where she serves as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, sings in the choir, is a money counter, and a member of the Evangelization Team. Mary's hobbies are reading, cooking, golf and bowling.

We love you, Mary!



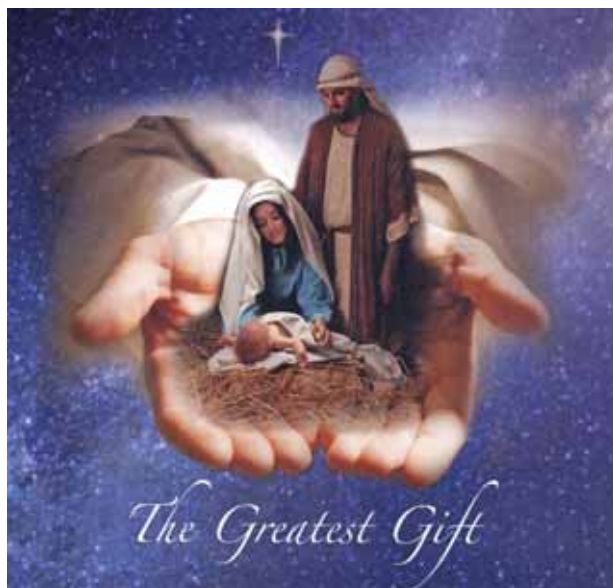
Christmas Concert

December 19, 2010

A few years ago, our Secular Franciscan Fraternity agreed to host a social following what has become an annual Christmas Concert put on by the Solanus Casey Center.

The Concert will run from 2:00-4:00 P.M.

There is no charge.



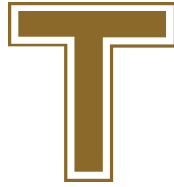
Merry Christmas!

DECEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 ADVENT 2 Pss Wk 2 Council Meeting at 2:30 PM	6	7	8 Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)	9	10 MELDRUM KITCHEN 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM Solanus Cell ?	11
12 ADVENT 3 Pss Wk 3	13	14 St. Joan of Arc: 1 PM	15	16 EMB Board: 10 AM	17	18
19 ADVENT 4 CHRISTMAS CONCERT Formation at 12 Noon Everyone at 1:30 PM	20	21	22	23	24 Bl. Luchesio: 7:30 PM	25
26 HOLY FAMILY	27	28	29	30	31	

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FAX ET PHONUM

Minister

Maryann Kummer

Vice Minister

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

Treasurer pro tem

Eugene Snyders

Secretary

Patricia Meldrum

Initial Formation

John Bodell

Councillors-at-Large:

Stephen Haycox

Tony Lienert

Patricia Munafo

Beverly Sapien

Chuck Sapien

Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry

APPOINTMENTS

Infirmarians:

Jo Marie Nardi

Sylvia Stanik

Continuing Formation Commission:

Chuck & Bev Sapien (chairs)

Christian Service Commission:

Patricia Munafo (chair)

Hospitality Commission:

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

& Tony Lienert (chairs)

Vocations Ministry Commission:

To be announced (chair)

Eucharistic Mission Band (EMB):

To be announced

MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

The entire St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity gathers on the Third Sunday of every month. For more information, contact:

Chuck & Bev Sapien

In addition to our monthly Fraternity gathering, some members also gather in small groups:

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

Mary Ann and Hugh Montpetit

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

Frank Liccardello

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

Connie Musial

FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

Usually on the 2nd Friday of each month.

&

Healing Service Social

Patricia Munafo (contact)

OTHER SFO-AFFILIATED GROUPS:

Interfaith Justice & Peace Group:

Jo Marie Nardi

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