

VOL. 72, NO. 11  
NOVEMBER 2012

# THE DOVERFIELD

ST. BONAVENTURE SECULAR FRANCISCANS ✕ DETROIT, MICHIGAN



*All you holy Franciscan  
men and women,  
pray for us.*

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

# MINISTER'S LETTER

My dear brothers and sisters,

May God's peace and joy be with you!

I want to express my thanks to **Laura Sapian** and **Eileen Smith** for coordinating the *Gospel Happenings* events on Saturday, September 29. I participated in the *St. Vincent de Paul Walk* with **Bev and Chuck Sapian, Joe Driessen, Teresa Westbrook-Lienert, and Laura Sapian. Theresa and Bill Haas, Caroline Florescu, Sophia Cisneros, Ruby Thompson, Sylvia Snigier, Eileen Smith** and her sons, Raymond and Matthew, worked at the *Capuchin Service Center*. At 4:00 p.m., we gathered for a *Corporate Communion Mass* at St. Albert the Great Church. We concluded the day with a delicious dinner at Andiamo's in Dearborn. My special thanks to **Lettie and Javier Aguilar** for taking pictures at all of the events. Just from the photos you can tell that we had fun and enjoyed our time together. I encourage you to join us for a future *Gospel Happenings* event.

I want to express my gratitude to **Br. Pat McSherry** for preparing the program booklets for the *Transitus* service and for the Mass in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, to **Joe Boland** and **Hank Forys** who did an outstanding job of reading the account of the final days of the life of St. Francis, to **Connie Musial, Loretta Chmielarczyk** and **Joe Boland** for making the delicious scones for the *Transitus* service.

**Hank Forys** invited me to attend the Induction Ceremony of the **St. Clare Franciscan Society** at the Opening Mass at Regina High School on October 4. I was thrilled to have an opportunity to meet the members of the St. Clare Franciscan Society and to say a few words to the assembly. Twelve young women were inducted into the Society. I was impressed with the remarkable work Hank is doing with the members of the St. Clare Franciscan Society.

I want to express my appreciation to **Jo Marie Nardi**, Infirmarian, for preparing the list of our deceased Franciscan brothers and sisters for the Mass on October 27, for contacting the family members of our deceased members and inviting them to attend the Mass, and for providing us with a delicious banquet following the Mass.

As you know, our Chapter of Elections was held on Sunday, October 21. The following people were elected to serve on the Leadership Council:

Minister ..... **Maryann Kummer**  
Vice Minister ..... **Teresa Westbrook-Lienert**  
Treasurer ..... **Laura Sapian**  
Secretary ..... **Anthony Lienert**  
Formation Minister ..... **Beverly Sapian**  
Councilor ..... **Mary Williams**

Unfortunately, we were unable to complete the elections on October 21. We still need to elect four councilors to the Leadership Council. **THEREFORE, WE WILL CONTINUE OUR CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AT 1:30 P.M. IN THE DINING ROOM OF THE SOLANUS CASEY CENTER.** Please remember that we need a quorum to conduct the elections. Please spread the word and encourage members to attend this important event in the life of our fraternity.

Please note on your calendars and plan to attend our **OFS PROFESSION MASS on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 at 1:30 P.M.** This year, seven candidates (**Javier Aguilar, Leticia Aguilar, Anthony Cerroni, Hank Forys, Therese Joseph, Eileen Smith** and **Ruby Thompson**) completed the initial formation process and will make their permanent commitment to live the Gospel way of life in the Secular Franciscan Order. I invite all fraternity members to participate in this joyous celebration and to show our love and support of these newest professed members of our Fraternity.

I pray that you and your family will have a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving. Please remember to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order.

With a heart filled with joy and gratitude for each of you, I am your sister in Ss. Francis and Clare,  
maryann



- 1..... Mary Williams
- 4 ..... James Heymes
- 7 ..... Rose Longo
- 8 ..... Robert Peckham  
          Connie Musial
- 9 ..... Evelyn Olden
- 12 ..... Caroline Hojna
- 15 ..... Mary Klein  
          Shirley Ivan
- 22 ..... Caroline Florescu
- 23 ..... Norbert Chmielarczyk
- 24 ..... Stella Mordarski
- 25 ..... Julia Ertzbischoff-Donohue

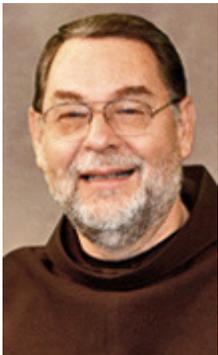
## From the Friars' Choir



**Only by giving  
are you able to receive  
more than  
you already have.**

– Jim Rohn

## FR. TOD LAVERTY, OFM



Four months ago, **Fr. Tod Laverty, OFM**, regional spiritual assistant of the Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity, was diagnosed with liver cancer. He was to lead a pilgrimage to Assisi and thought that he was well enough to do so. Less than 24 hours after arriving in Rome, he began hemorrhaging, lost consciousness and was hospitalized.

He has since regained consciousness, is alert and talkative. He asked to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Tod appears to be accepting and generally at peace, understanding and telling people that he is in the dying process.

Fr. Tod was transferred from Santo Spirito Hospital to the Villa Betania, an infirmary in Rome operated by Franciscan Sisters. Currently plans are for him to get a wheelchair and begin some physical therapy to build up his strength. He has begun to eat a little more.

Please keep Fr. Tod in your prayers.

## GOOD NEWS FROM PAT LONG

I have some good news to share. According to my third MRI screening, I do not have three tumors on my liver, but nodules. These, I believe, are mineral deposits. So I do not have cancer not will I need a liver transplant. You can imagine my emotional relief after being in knots over this for over two months. This is a miraculous answer to many, many prayers being said for my health. So praise the Lord for the power of prayer. I am astounded by this development. No I pray for all people having a transplant experience – before, during and after. The doctors and surgeons need many prayers for guidance, too. Looking forward to a brighter future and thanking you for your continued prayers.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Long, OFS



**Our Deceased:**

Raymond Denomme († October 21, 2001)  
 Br. Patrick Forton, OFM Cap († September 15, 2012)  
 Br. Leo Wollenweber, OFM Cap († October 5, 2012)

**Members needing prayers:**

Wilhelmina Adkins	Les and Josie Lafata
Peter Aluzzo	Frank & Rosalie Liccardello
Dan & Jan Atkinson	Tony Lienert
Kay Balas	Patricia Long
Claire Boutain	Rose Longo
Mary Lou Catino	Ilene Manning
Rocco Cesaro	Joseph Marra
Mary Gillen	Sophie Martin
Natalie Grabowski & Family	Mabel Michaels
Nona Mary Hebert	Hugh Montpetit
James Heymes	Barbara Pardington
Caroline Hojna	Bob Peckham
Dora Sue Jay	George Pelyak
Anna May Jezak	Joseph Pierce
Gary Johnson	Tom Ricard
Donna Marie Johnston	Mary Saber
Louis Joseph	Francis Scallion
Mary Klein	Alice Vier
Lorraine Korte	Joseph Wisk
Frank B. Kraimer	

**Relatives needing prayers:**

Richard Boutain, son of Claire  
 Theresa Brannigan, daughter-in-law of Marguerite  
 Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forys  
 Ted and Judy Hojna  
 Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis  
 Esther Mae Kelley, wife of Charles  
 Fred LaChance, brother of Donna Marie Johnston  
 Family of Patricia Long  
 Family of Ilene Manning  
 Rosemary Marson, sister of Ralph

Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas  
 Teresa Poole, mother of Mary  
 Joseph Ricard, brother of Tom

**Those serving in the Armed Forces:**

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

**Please help to keep our list up-to-date. Call:**

**Jo Marie Nardi at 586-978-2335**



**Maddie**  
**11 years old**

In summer 2010, during a softball tournament, Maddie came down with a temperature of near 100 degrees. Five months later, her family learned she suffered from acute myeloid leukemia. Her family was devastated. They turned to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital for Maddie’s treatment and care. At St. Jude, Maddie underwent radiation and chemotherapy, followed by a bone marrow transplant using an unrelated donor. To her family’s relief, Maddie’s cancer went into remission.

Then routine tests revealed the cancer had returned, and Maddie was once again sidelined. Her continuing treatment at St. Jude included chemotherapy and a second bone marrow transplant in September 2011. Her dad served as her donor. Maddie’s cancer went back into remission, where it remains today.

Maddie now returns to St. Jude for regular checkups. But more importantly, Maddie has also returned to the softball field. Her goals are lofty: She hopes to play collegiate softball. Thanks to St. Jude, Maddie’s family has no doubt she’ll meet her goal. “St. Jude is a wonderful place,” said her mom. “I don’t know where we’d be today without them.”



## Celebrating Sophia Cisneros, OFS



Sophia Cisneros was born on July 6, 1936 in Chicago to Sam and Frances Chournos. Sophia has a younger brother, George. Because her Dad is Greek, Sophia was baptized in the Greek Orthodox Church. Her parents separated for a while and she moved with her mother and brother to Wisconsin to live with her grandparents. When her parents reunited, the family moved to Los Angeles.

In 1955, Sophia married Joseph Cisneros and they were blessed with a son, Joseph. In 1957, Sophia and her husband were divorced. During that same year, Sophia moved with her son and her sister-in-law to a townhouse on Bagley Street in downtown Detroit. She was hired as a waitress at the Tuller Hotel and at Carl's Chop House. At the same time, Sophia enrolled in night classes and earned her high school diploma. In 1980, she attended classes at the Detroit College of Business for one year.

Sophia has worked at a number of venues as a banquet manager. First at Veterans' Memorial Hall, then at Cobo Hall, and at Fairlane Manor. She worked at Sinbad's Restaurant before returning to work in the banquet center of Cobo Hall. In 1984, she was hired as the coordinator of janitorial maintenance for the City of Detroit and worked there until 1991. She has since worked as a care giver at Bon Secours Hospital and is currently employed in a clerical position at the Unite Here Local Union 24 on Joseph Campeau.

On Easter Sunday of 1960, Sophia was attending Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church when the priest encouraged fallen away Catholics to get their lives straightened out. She was touched by his words and began the process of having her marriage annulled.

Sophia travels to California twice a year to visit her son, Joseph; her daughter-in-law, Uvon; and her five precious grandchildren (Joseph, Sam, Benjamin, Gabrianna and Sophia).

Sophia is also a cancer survivor. She was diagnosed with cancer of the tongue in 1991 and cancer of the cervix in 2008. She has undergone two hip replacement surgeries.

Sophia learned about the Secular Franciscans from an ad that appeared in the St. Clare of Montefalco parish bulletin. She joined the cell group meeting at St. Joan of Arc Church. When the cell group dissolved, she transferred to St. Bonaventure. Sophia was professed into the Secular Franciscan Order at St. Bonaventure in 1993.

Through a priest at St. Aloysius where she attended daily Mass, Sophia learned about Heartline, an organization that helps young, homeless women seeking a second chance. She decided to serve Heartline as a volunteer. When the shelter ran out of room, Sophia opened her home to the young women. As a way of paying back for the many blessings she has received, Sophia became a foster mother in 1965 and three teenage girls moved in with her.

Sophia is a parishioner of both St. Mary's in Greektown and St. Anne's Catholic Church. She serves as a Eucharistic minister and a lector at St. Anne's, helps with the preparation of the flyers advertising the Novena for St. Anne and works at the gift shop at St. Anne's on the first, fourth, and fifth Sunday of the month.

In her free time, Sophia enjoys reading, volunteering at various parishes in Detroit, and working with the homeless. Sophia has attended daily Mass for the past 15 years.

We love you, Sophia!



## RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL FRATERNITY ELECTIONS

Minister ..... **Tom Bello**  
Vice Minister ..... **Elaine Hedlke**  
Secretary ..... **Jan Parker**  
Treasurer ..... **Cecilia Maljan**

Councilors:  
**Mary Bittner**  
**Mary Francis Charsky**  
**Arturo Villarreal**  
International Councilor ..... **Mary Stronach**

# GOSPEL HAPPENINGS

Thank you all for participating in our Service Day on September 29. In whichever way you served – by prayer or active participation – we made a difference in our community. God showered us with many blessings that day, even with good weather. Our Franciscan joy abounded in our hearts and we passed it on to those we met.

**Mark your calendar for Thursday November 15.** We will be visiting the *Covenant House* in Detroit to light a candle against youth homelessness. We are hoping to learn how our Fraternity can serve these young people in their search for God and family. If you are interested in attending, or want more information, please contact Eileen Smith.



## COVENANT HOUSE CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Thursday, November 15, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Covenant House Campus - 2959 MLK Jr. Blvd. Detroit  
[www.CovenantHouseMi.org](http://www.CovenantHouseMi.org)

Covenant House Michigan is a sanctuary for young people who have nowhere to go. Kids who come to our doors have been abused and neglected, have slept on friends' couches or in abandoned buildings. These kids have been forgotten by those who are supposed to care about them the most. When they come through our gates, they become part of a family. Our staff, volunteers and donors carry out our mission based on faith and the belief that all of God's children deserve unconditional love, respect and hope.

## CORPORATE COMMUNION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2012

Come and enjoy the Solanus Casey Center's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concluding celebration which begins with a Noon Mass on December 2, with Archbishop Vigneron presiding.

## CAPUCHIN SERVICE CENTER EVENT SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2013

We are scheduled to work at the Capuchin Service Center on January 12 from 9am– 1pm. We are committed to a minimum of eight (8) volunteers. Contact **Eileen Smith**, if you plan to participate. Looking forward to hearing from you.

“Yes, Jesus, I want to be on your right or left side, not for any selfish reason. I want to be on your right or left side, not in terms of some political kingdom or ambition. But I want to be there in love and in justice and in truth and in commitment to others, so that we can make of this old world a new world.”

– Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. February 4, 1968

# Homily for the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, 2012

Br. Pat McSherry, OFM Cap

Tonight, I'd like us to consider how St. Francis went about preaching. The early Franciscan sources tell us that Francis went from village to village preaching the love of God – sometimes up to five villages a day – to anyone who would listen to the “fiery little preacher from Assisi”. Francis also gave some advice to the brothers who were preachers. He told them to spend hours in prayer before they went out to preach, so that they themselves would be so on fire with the love of God that their words would be inflamed with that love and set other hearts on fire with that same love.

I'm sure all of us have heard the saying attributed to St. Francis, “*Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary use words.*” It's a very catchy phrase. The problem is St. Francis never said that, and in fact the saying doesn't reflect the overall attitude of Francis. It's simply not the example he passed on to us, his followers. It's true that Francis was never satisfied with *just* the spoken word, and he wrote in his Rule to the brothers, “Let all the brothers preach by their deeds.” But saying “preach the gospel, and if necessary use words” is somewhat like saying, “feed the poor, and if necessary use food.”

God's love – the Gospel – is not meant to be the best kept secret on earth. There are some things that just **HAVE** to be spoken. Things that have to be shouted from the housetops. God's love is one of them.

Do you remember the musical and movie, *Fiddler on the Roof*? After 25 years of marriage, Tevya, the husband, turns to his wife, Golde, and asks her: “Do you love me?” She says: “Do I *what*?” They've never said it to each other before. They've done lots of things for each other and with each other: “For 25 years I've washed your clothes, cooked your meals, cleaned your house, given you children, milked the cow, for 25 years... I've lived with him, fought him, starved with him: if that's not love, what is?” “Then you love me?”, Tevye asks. “I suppose I do.” “And I suppose I love you, too.”

Francis **boldly proclaimed** God's love not only to people, but to animals as well. He was the original Dr. Doolittle who talked to the animals at Bevagna and the original wolf-whisperer of Gubbio. To the birds he said: “Praise your creator because he gives you everything you need.” And to the wolf, Francis preached about not hurting others. And to the people of Gubbio, he preached about taking care of each other and meeting each other's needs. Francis' message and spirituality are not complicated. He saw the birth and death of Jesus Christ as concrete signs of God's immense love for us.

Like Francis, we, too, are called to proclaim loudly and boldly the love of God that embraces all people and all creation. My pulpit is here, but yours is wherever you hang your hat. Together, both you and I are on a mission. Not called to silence, but to be **troubadours – LOUDSPEAKERS** – of the Great King. May God show us what is ours to do.

## Elections — Part 1 (October 21, 2012)





**Gospel Happenings: September 29.2012  
Corporate Communion at St. Albert the Great Parish and Dinner**



**Capuchin Service Center**





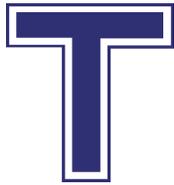
Matthew and Raymond Smith helping at the Center.

## The Friends of the Poor Walk/Run



# NOVEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> All Saints Day	<b>2</b> All Souls Day	<b>3</b> Clocks Change 1 Hour BACK
<b>4</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> Week of Ordinary Time Pss Wk III  CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS Part 2: 1:30 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Election Day	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> MELDRUM KITCHEN (10:30-1:00)  Solanus Cell: 7:30 PM	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Veterans Day 32 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time Pss Wk IV	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Covenant House Candlelight Vigil 6 pm - 7:30 pm [see page 6]	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Fraternity Council 1:30
<b>18</b> 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Pss Wk I FORMATION: NOON PROFESSION MASS: 1:30 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Thanksgiving	<b>23</b> Bl. Luchesio: 7:30 PM	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Christ the King Sunday Pss Proper	<b>26</b> 34 <sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time Pss Wk II	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	



Pray for Vocations  
to the OFS Daily

## FAX ET PHONUM

### Minister

Maryann Kummer

### Vice Minister

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

### Treasurer

Laura Sapien

### Secretary

Tony Lienert

### Initial Formation

Sylvia Snigier

### Councillors-at-Large:

Mary Williams

### Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry

### APPOINTMENTS

#### Infirmarian:

Jo Marie Nardi

#### Continuing Formation Commission:

#### Christian Service Commission:

#### Hospitality Commission:

#### Vocations Ministry Commission:

To be announced (chair)

### MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

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

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

Fr. Solanus Cell (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 7:30 pm):

Mary Ann and Hugh Montpetit

Bl. Luchesio Cell (4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 7:30 pm):

Connie Musial

### FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

Usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month.

&

Healing Service Social

(call for information)

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