

The Pozverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ✠ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 75, no. 3— March 2015



St. Francis embracing Christ Crucified by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo
Museum of the Fine Arts in Seville, Spain

Minister's Letter

My dear sisters and brothers,

May God's peace and joy be with you!

I want to express my gratitude to **Eileen Smith** for coordinating all of the arrangements for the *Right to Life of Michigan* Panel Discussion on Abortion held on Saturday, February 14 at the Solanus Casey Center. The event was a huge success! I also want to thank **Pat Cardello, Laura Sopian, Bev Sopian, Chuck Sopian, Caroline Florescu** and **Sylvia Snigier** for assisting with the set up and cleanup for the event.

Please plan to attend our **Day of Reflection** on **Sunday, March 15 at 11:00 a.m.** Fr. Dan Crosby, OFM Cap will give a presentation on Pope Francis' encyclical, *The Joy of the Gospel*. The first talk, entitled "Catch the Joy", will begin at 11:10 a.m. and the second talk, "Live the Joy", at 1:10 p.m. Please remember to **bring a brown bag lunch and, if you able to do so, a dish to pass.** There will **not** be a Mass on our Day of Reflection.

Your presence at our fraternity gatherings is vital to the life of our fraternity. If you have not attended a fraternity gathering in a while, I invite you to come back to be a part of our sharing and celebrations.

Reflection

Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all of your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning; rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment.

– Joel 2:12-13

"With these insightful words of the prophet Joel, the liturgy introduces us into Lent today, indicating the conversion of the heart characteristic of this time of grace. The prophetic call is a challenge for all of us, without exception, and reminds us that conversion is not something that can be reduced to outward forms or vague intentions, but engages and transforms one's entire existence from the center of the person, from the conscience. We are invited to embark on a journey in which, in defiance of the routine, we strive to open our eyes and ears, but especially the heart, to go beyond our 'little garden.'

"With its call to conversion, Lent comes providentially to rouse us, to shake us from our torpor, from the risk of moving forward merely by inertia. The exhortation that the Lord speaks to us through the prophet Joel is loud and clear: 'Return to me with all your heart' (Joel 2:12). Why must we return to God? Because something is wrong in us, in society, in the Church – and we need to change, to turn things around, to repent! Once again, Lent comes to make its prophetic appeal, to remind us that it is possible to realize something new within ourselves and around us, simply because God is faithful, continues to be full of goodness and mercy, and is always ready to forgive and start over from scratch. With this filial confidence, let us set out on our way!"

– excerpt from Pope Francis' homily on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015

This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.

– Mark 9:17

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

– 1 Samuel 3:10

As Jesus was the true worshiper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do.

– OFS Rule, 8

On Ash Wednesday, God extended a personal invitation to each of us to return to him with all our heart. God is now awaiting our response to his invitation. Are you ready and willing to accept God's invitation to turn back to him? When was the last time you sat down in quiet and listened to God speaking to your heart? Are you willing to commit some of your precious time to be still and listen to him?

God desires to have a personal, intimate relationship with us. In order to grow in our personal relationship with God, we need to create time and space in our daily life to allow God to speak to us in the silence of our hearts and through contemplating his Word. We need to find a quiet place with nothing to distract us, detaching ourselves from all the other voices and noises (phone, television, computers) clamoring for our attention. And perhaps we need to slow down the pace of our lives.

Praying is first and foremost listening to Jesus who dwells in the very depths of your heart. He doesn't shout. He doesn't impose himself upon us. His voice is an unassuming voice, very nearly a whisper, the voice of a gentle love. Whatever you do with your life, go on listening to the voice of Jesus in your heart. This listening must be an active and very attentive listening, for in our restless and noisy world, God's so loving voice is easily drowned out. You need to set aside some time every day for this active listening to God if only for ten minutes. Ten minutes alone each day for Jesus alone can bring about a radical change in your life. You'll find that it isn't easy to be still for ten minutes at a time. You'll discover straightaway that many other voices, voices that are very noisy and distracting, voices which do not come from God, demand your attention.

— from *Solitude of the Heart*, from the works of Henri J.M. Nouwen, edited by Steve Mueller

As we turn back to God, we delight in sitting quietly in the presence of God who loves us more than we can even imagine. As we quiet ourselves to ponder and allow the power of the Word of God to permeate our being, we will grow in knowledge of who God is and who we are. As we grow in relationship with God and know how much he loves us, is always with us, is trustworthy and faithful, we open our hearts to seek his guidance and to listen to him.

During this Lenten season, may we grow closer to God by sitting in the silence to listen to his still small voice, and may God's amazing grace transform our hearts so that we may birth the new, abundant life God has planned for each of us.

During this special time of grace, please remember in prayer Pope Francis and our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East who are undergoing persecution.

Your sister in Ss. Francis and Clare,
Maryann



Come and See

On Sunday, **April 19**, the St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity is hosting a new class of orientees. The gathering begins at 12 Noon in the second floor conference room of the Solanus Casey Center. Orientees are invited to remain for the fraternity gathering and social, if they wish.

Please consider inviting even just one person to come and see what we are about. We are looking for practicing, dedicated Catholics. Invite them, and let them decide if they want to pursue the Gospel way of life for themselves.



Members of our Fraternity

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dan & Jan Atkinson | Frank & Rosalie Liccardello |
| Kay Balas | Patricia Long |
| Mary Lou Catino | Joseph Marra |
| Mary Gillen | Sophie Martin |
| Grabowski Family | Mabel Michaels |
| James Heymes | Hugh Montpetit |
| Caroline Hojna & Family | Barbara Pardington |
| Anna Marie Jezak | Bob Peckham |
| Gary Johnson | George Pelyak |
| Donna Marie Johnston | Tom Ricard |
| Louis Joseph | Mary Saber |
| Joyce Kaminski | James Schoenherr |
| Esther Kelley | Michael & Bridget Schultz |
| Mary Klein | Gene Snyders |
| Lorraine Korte | Ben Stapel |
| Josie Lafata | Alice Vier |
| | Joseph Wisk |

Relatives needing prayers:

- Mary Ann Bridge, daughter of Connie Musial
 Kate Comizio, sister of Br. Pat
 Fr. Edward Ertzbischoff, brother of Julia
 Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forys
 Veronica Gulock, sister of Ilene Manning
 Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis
 David Kaminski, son of Joyce
 Stephanie Kummer, mother of Maryann
 Irene Kutchev, daughter-in-law of Julia Ertzbischoff
 Rosemary Marson, sister of Ralph
 Barbara Musial, daughter of Connie
 Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas
 Teresa Poole, mother of Mary
 Lorraine Roberts, cousin of Julia Ertzbischoff-Donohue
 Sandra Woods Family

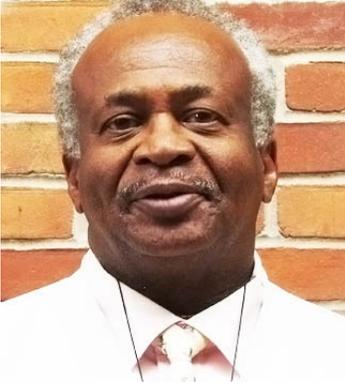
Please help to keep our prayer list up-to-date. Call:

Jo Marie Nardi



	<p>6 Ilene Manning 7 Patricia Cardellio 11 Laura Sapien 27 Maryann Kummer 29 Brittney Walendzik 31 Charlotte Heymes</p>
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Celebrating Mack Betts



Mack Betts was born to Robert (deceased) and Fannie Mae (Aikins) Betts on July 22, 1949 in Toomsuba, Mississippi. Mack's Mom is 84 years old and lives in an assisted living facility in Farmington Hills. Mack is the older brother to Samuel, Wayne, Mylyn (deceased), and Robert (deceased).

Mack was graduated from George Washington Carver Grade School in Royal Oak and attended Clinton Junior High School in Oak Park, Oak Park High School and Mumford High School in Detroit. He dropped out of high school, but earned his GED certificate in 1970.

Mack worked at the Chrysler Corporation's Lynch Plant as a large press operator and as an assembly line worker at the Ford Motor Company's Wayne Assembly Plant.

Because of a job-related injury in 1977, Mack was permanently disabled and unable to continue working.

Mack was raised in the Baptist Church. In 1995, he participated in RCIA classes at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Detroit and was baptized and confirmed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Service in 1996.

Mack learned about the Secular Franciscans from one of the priests at St. Aloysius. Mack attended fraternity gatherings at St. Aloysius until that fraternity dissolved. He began attending the healing services at St. Bonaventure's and, following one of the services, attended a presentation given by Joe Gentile on the Secular Franciscan Order. Mack decided to join our formation program and is currently in the candidacy phase.

We love you, Mack!



St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan 2015 Lenten Towel Campaign

Hank Forys has agreed to serve as the coordinator of this year's Towel Campaign. The members of the **St. Clare Society** will collect white towels from March 2-13.

To answer a need in our community and to spread the Franciscan charism, we are asking you to donate new white bath- and hand towels and wash clothes to be distributed to the homeless veterans living at **Piquette Square** in Detroit and to the **Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team** (MCREST). MCREST provides shelter for men, women, children and families for up to 90 days across Macomb County.

Please bring the towels to our fraternity gathering on Sunday, March 15 or Sunday, April 19. If you need to drop the towels off at a different time, please contact **Hank Forys**.



Pray Daily for Vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order



Happy St.Patrick's Day !



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>LENT II <i>Pss Wk 2</i></p> <p>BD: Stephen Haycox</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>BD: Ilene Manning</p>	<p>7</p> <p>BD: Patricia Cardello</p>
<p>8</p> <p>LENT III <i>Pss Wk 3</i></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>BD: Laura Sopian</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Meldrum Soup Kitchen: 10:30-1:00</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>LENT IV <i>Pss Wk 4</i></p> <p>OFS DAY OF REFLECTION 11:00 AM</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>ST. JOSEPH'S DAY</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>LENT V <i>Pss Wk 1</i></p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>BD: Maryann Kummer</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY <i>Pss Wk 2</i></p> <p>BD: Brittney Walenzik</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>BD: Charlotte Heymes</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>HOLY THURSDAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>4</p> <p>HOLY SATURDAY</p>

Fax et Phorum

Minister

Maryann Kummer

Vice Minister

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

Treasurer

Laura Sapien

Secretary

Anthony Lienert

Formation Minister

Sylvia Snigier

Councillors-at-Large:

Patricia Cardellio

Caroline Florescu

Melissa Lindow

Beverly Sapien

Joseph Sapien

Mary Williams

Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry, OFM Cap.

APPOINTMENTS

Infirmarian:

Jo Marie Nardi

Continuing Formation:

Beverly Sapien

Healing Service Coordinator:

Melissa Lindow

Soup Kitchen Coordinator:

Joseph Sapien

Hospitality Coordinator:

Pat Cardellio

Annual Picnic Coordinators:

Terry Westbrook-Lienert
and Tony Lienert

Gospel Happenings Coordinator:

Laura Sapien

MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

Our Fraternity gathers on the Third Sunday of every month. For more information, contact:

Maryann Kummer

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

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

Mary Ann and Hugh Montpetit

FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

Usually on the 2nd Friday of each month.

&

Healing Service Social

Wednesdays at 2 PM

Soup Kitchen volunteers for March 13th

Ona D. Moore

Sylvia Snigier

Mary Myler

Stephen Haycox

Ron Kessler

Liz Kessler

If you are unable to volunteer at the Soup Kitchen on March 13th, please contact another person from the list below to take your place.

Javier Aguilar

Leticia Aguilar

Marguerite Brannigan

Joe Gentile

Stella Mordarski

Ray Mylenek

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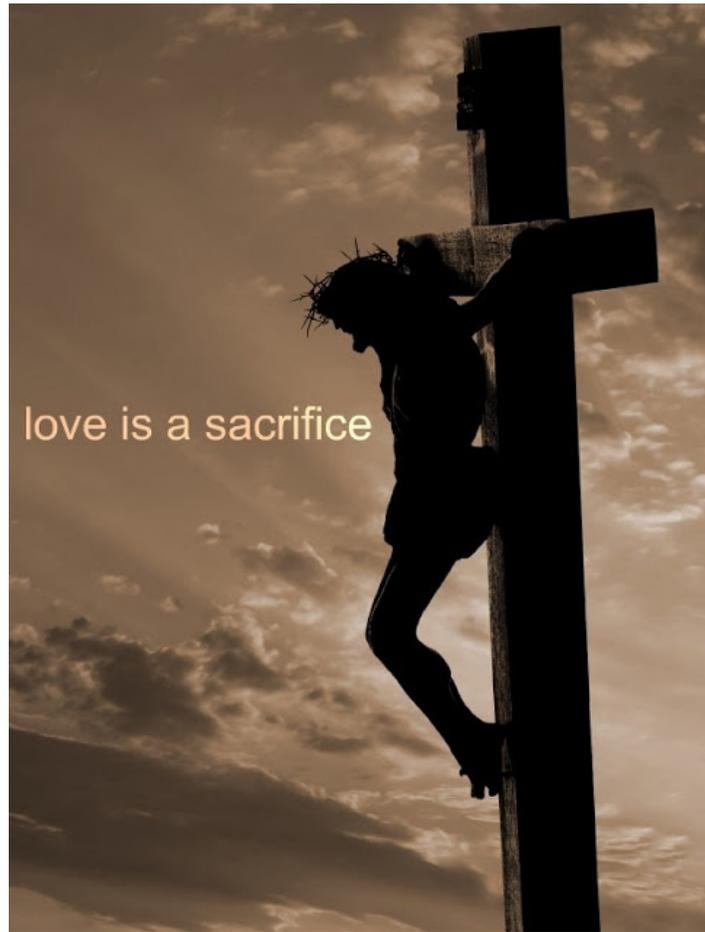
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Join us on FACEBOOK:

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans



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