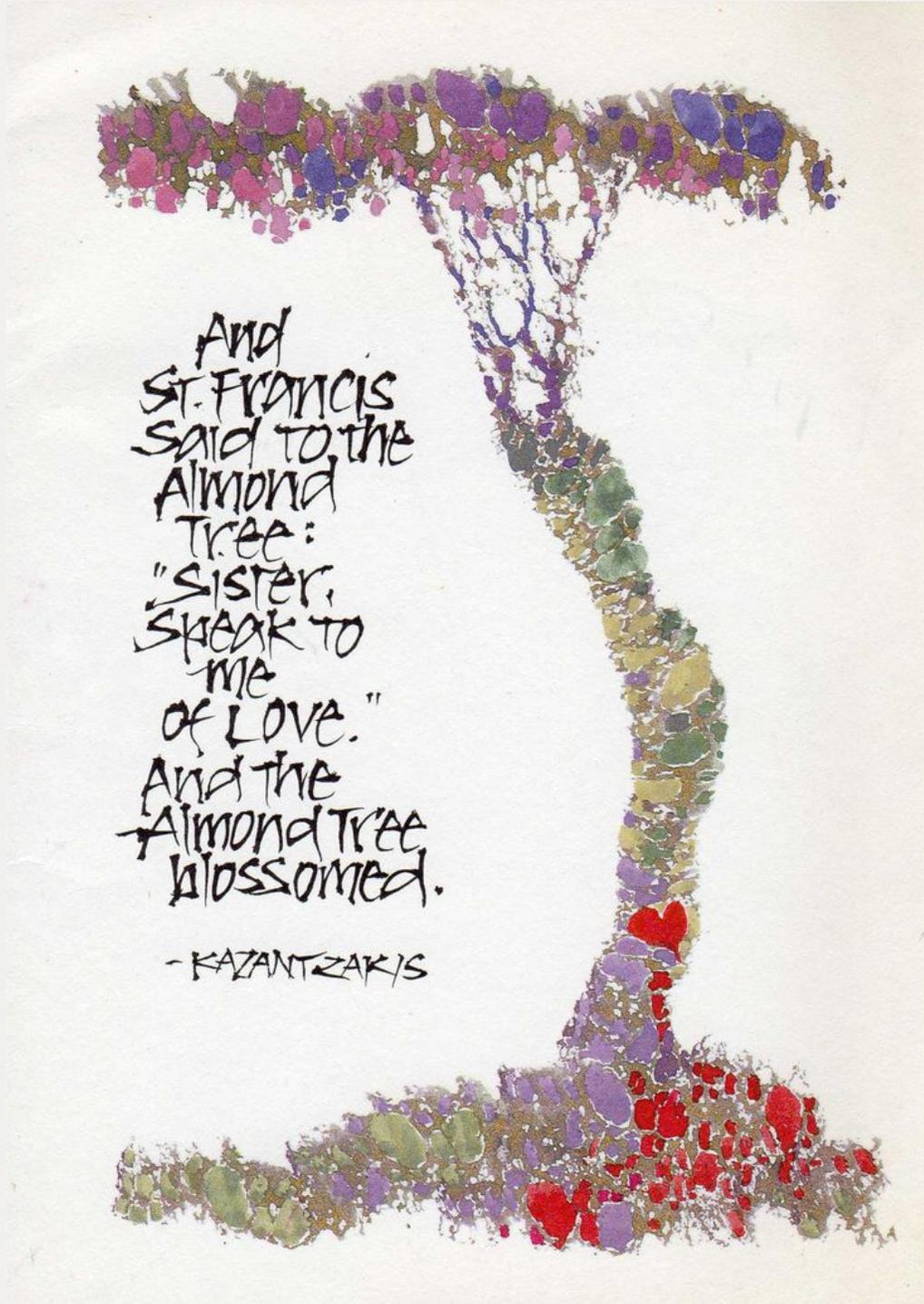


The Pozverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ✠ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 77, no. 2— February 2017



Minister's Letter

My dear sisters and brothers,

OUR FRATERNITY VISION: RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING – BRIDGE-BUILDING - SERVICE

Fraternity members are needed to assist with the reception after the Healing Prayer Service on Wednesdays from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. If you are able to assist with this fraternity ministry, please contact **Ron Kessler** and let him know if you are able to commit to helping with the reception on a regular basis, one Wednesday a month, or to have your name added to the substitute list.

If, for tax purposes, you would like a letter stating your 2016 financial contributions to our fraternity, please call **Laura Sapien** *before* February 19th.

REFLECTION

Witnessing to the good yet to come and obliged to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation they have embraced, they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters.

– OFS Rule, 12

Love one another the way I have loved you. This is how all will know that you are my disciples: that you truly love one another.

– John 13:34-35

“Our ability to live in freedom within the Kingdom is connected to our ability to dialogue about ways and means to live the Rule. Our freedom is given direction by the Rule. The Rule creates a structure which guides daily decisions.

“The OFS Rule offers direction – on what to choose and what to reject; what to do and what to leave undone; how to deal with one another; when to support others in finding their way; how to move to contemplative prayerfulness; discovering the need to change in order to promote relationships. Franciscan growth surrounds us through the OFS Rule given us by the Church.

“Profession is our free response to the call of the Holy Spirit to commit ourselves to the Franciscan spirit. We freely choose to live within the framework of Franciscanism. The freedom to follow Francis’ spirit becomes part of our personal identity. Our trust in and love for God continues to grow and brings peace and joy in its wake. It moves us to love one another just as Jesus loves us.

“The Franciscan revolution means that we hold nothing back but share whatever gifts God has given us. Joy is present in our life where love for Jesus, the Father, and the Holy Spirit spills over into a love for all of creation.

... to acquire purity of heart requires us to cleanse our mind, heart, emotions and actions of anything that hinders the love of God working through us. As the Beatitude puts it, “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.” This beatitude is an invitation to develop our sense of the presence of God in people whose lives we touch, even if they are far from God. We are not deceived by another’s selfishness or violence or withdrawal. Rather, we discover God’s presence and see into the heart of the “other.”

“Purity of heart is important in living our Franciscan life. We humans can be good at hiding our real selves. We have all kinds of excuses for refusing to change. We create attitudes that keep people from getting to close to us. We rationalize behavior that has little or no connection to a gospel life. We silently bear hurts and grief that ought to be verbalized and addressed.

“Purity of heart enables us to see the things that bind people. We initiate actions that will bring people to freedom. Purity of heart enables us to relate to people in ways that bring them to new life. It establishes a new dimension to our relationship with one another. We are wise enough to know when we need help from other people.

“When we respond to the Spirit’s call to follow Francis, many decisions and choices are already made. The Franciscan spirit surrounds us within and without. We show the Franciscan spirit by the life we lead. Following the guidance of the OFS Rule, our lives become visible models of Franciscan life and Kingdom people. The formation of a Franciscan is ongoing and never ends.”

– from *Franciscan Journey* by Lester Bach, OFM Cap

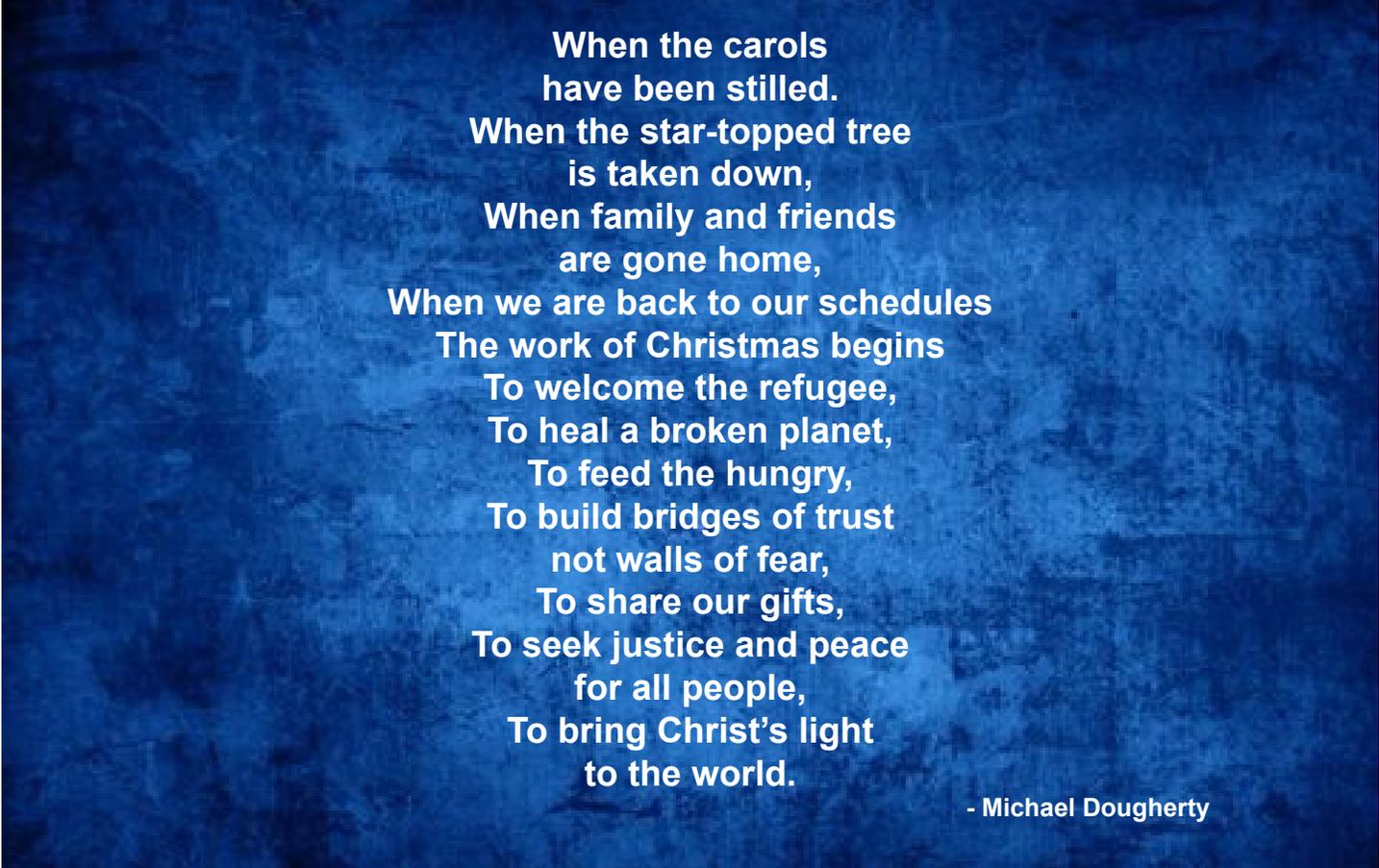
In celebration of Valentine’s Day, I share with you this lovely prayer to warm your heart. Enjoy!

We give thanks for the blessing of winter:
Season to cherish the heart.
To make warmth and quiet for the heart.
To make soups and broths for the heart.
To cook for the heart and read for the heart.
To curl up softly and nestle with the heart.
To sleep deeply and gently at one with the heart.
To dream with the heart.
To spend time with the heart.
A long, long time of peace with the heart.
We give thanks for the blessing of winter:
Season to cherish the heart. Amen.

– from *The Prayer Tree* by Michael Leunig, 1991

Looking forward to seeing you at our fraternity gathering on February 19th.

Your sister in Ss. Francis and Clare,
Maryann



When the carols
have been stilled.
When the star-topped tree
is taken down,
When family and friends
are gone home,
When we are back to our schedules
The work of Christmas begins
To welcome the refugee,
To heal a broken planet,
To feed the hungry,
To build bridges of trust
not walls of fear,
To share our gifts,
To seek justice and peace
for all people,
To bring Christ’s light
to the world.

- Michael Dougherty



Our Deceased

Edna Julian † Jan. 3, 2017
Mary Burghardt † Jan. 4, 2017
Joseph Bonocci † Jan. 15, 2017 (nephew of Ray Mylenek)

Members of our Fraternity

Dan and Jan Atkinson	Patricia Long
John Bodell	Ilene Manning
Claire Boutain	Joseph Marra
Pat Cardellio	Pat Meldrum
Mary Gillen	Mabel Michaels
Natalie Grabowski & Family	Hugh Montpetit
James Heymes	Mary Ann Montpetit
Caroline and Ted Hojna	Stella Mordarski
Anna May Jezak	Barbara Pardington
Gary Johnson	Bob Peckham
Donna Marie Johnston	George Pelyak
Louis Joseph	Diane Raymond
Joyce Kaminski	Tom Ricard
Esther Kelley	Mary Saber
Ron Kessler	James Schoenherr
Lorraine Korte	Bridget Schultz
Rosalie Liccardello	Ben Stapel
Teresa Lienert	Anna Tyler
	Joseph Wisk

Relatives needing prayers:

John Patrick Atkinson, brother of Dan
Mary Ann Bridge, daughter of Connie Musial
Kate Comizio, Br. Pat's sister (Multiple Sclerosis)
Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forsy
Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis
David Kaminski, son of Joyce
Stephanie Kummer, mother of Maryann Manning Family
Ada Mylenek, mother of Ray
Donna Mylenek, wife of Ray
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas
Theresa Poole, mother of Mary
Barbara Sienkiewicz, daughter of Connie Musial
Patricia Smith, daughter of Claire Boutain
Enza Tranchida, cousin of Melissa Lindow
Nellie Westbrook, mother of Theresa
Sandra Woods Family

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

Jo Marie Nardi



- 1..... Stephen Haycox
- 3..... Mary Ann Montpetit
- 20..... Mabel Michaels
- 28..... Teresa Westbrook-Lienert



Join us in helping at the Capuchin Service Center (6333 Medbury). Members of our Fraternity will be there on:

Saturday, February 18, 2017

and

Saturday March 18, 2017

from 9 am until 12 noon

Bring a friend!

COME AND SEE

On Sunday, April 30th, our Fraternity is hosting a new class of orientees. We gather at 12 Noon in the second floor conference room of the Solanus Casey Center. All are invited to remain for the fraternity gathering and social, if they wish.

Consider inviting someone 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 our Gospel way of life for themselves.

Quips from Pope Francis:

“You can’t follow Jesus standing still.”

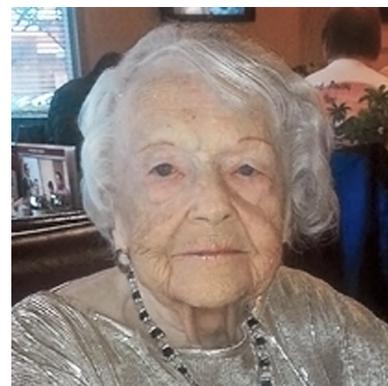
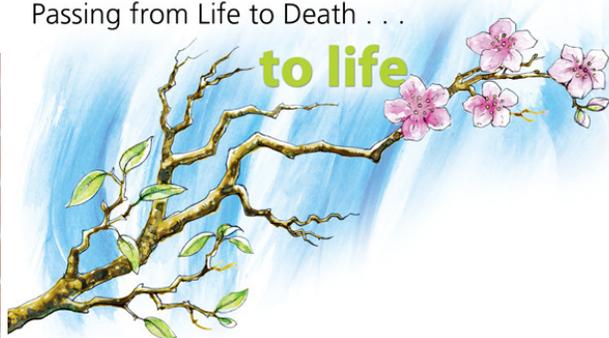
“Don’t watch life from the balcony.”

Passing from Life to Death . . .



Mary Burghardt, OFS

✠ Jan. 4, 2017



Edna Julian, OFS

✠ Jan. 3, 2017

Pope Francis: Called to Direct Involvement

- General Audience of October 19, 2016

...Reality must be accepted and faced for what it is, and often it makes us meet situations of urgent need. It is because of this that the cry of hunger and thirst is found among the works of mercy: to feed the hungry — there are so many today — and give drink to the thirsty. How many times the media informs us of populations that suffer from the lack of food and water, with grave consequences, especially for children.

In face of certain news, and especially of certain images, public opinion feels touched and from time to time, aid campaigns are launched to stimulate solidarity. Donations are generous and thus, one can contribute to alleviate the suffering of many. This form of charity is important, but, perhaps, it does not involve us directly. Instead, when we go on the street and come across a person in need, or a poor person comes to knock on the door of our home, it's very different, because we are no longer before an image but we are involved personally. There is no longer any distance between me and him or her, and I feel challenged. **Poverty in the abstract does not challenge us**, it may make us think, may make us lament, **but when we see poverty in the flesh of a man, of a woman, of a child, this challenges us!** Because of this, we tend to flee from the needy, to avoid getting close to them, to falsifying somewhat the reality of the needy...to distance ourselves. When I come across him, there is no longer any distance between me and the poor one. In such cases, what is my reaction?...

...The experience of hunger is harsh. Someone who has lived periods of war and want knows it. Yet this experience is repeated every day and it exists beside abundance and waste. The Apostle James' words are always timely: 'What good is it, if someone says he has faith but does nothing? Can that faith save him? If someone has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and you say to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,' but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (2:14-17) because it is incapable of doing works, of doing charity, of loving. There is always someone who is hungry and thirsty and is in need of me. **I cannot delegate it to any other. This poor one is in need of me, of my help, of my word, of my commitment. We are all involved in this.**

In the Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, Pope Benedict XVI affirms: "Feeding the hungry is an ethical imperative for the universal Church... The right to food, like the right to water, has an important place within the pursuit of other rights ... It is therefore necessary to cultivate a public conscience that considers food and access to water as universal rights of all human beings, without distinction or discrimination" (n. 27). Let us not forget Jesus' words: "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35) and "If anyone thirsts, come to me and drink" (John 7:37). These words are a provocation for all of us believers, a provocation to recognize that our relationship with God passes through feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty, a God who revealed in Jesus his merciful face.

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service BD: Stephen Haycox	2	3 BD: Mary Ann Montpetit	4 9:30 am - 11:30 am Leadership Council Meeting
5 Ordinary Time Week 5 Pss Wk 1	6	7	8 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	9	10 Women's Retreat Meldrum Soup Kitchen: 10:00-1:00	11 Women's Retreat
12 Women's Retreat Ordinary Time Week 6 Pss Wk 2 BD: Natalie Grabowski	13	14 	15 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	16	17	18 Capuchin Service Center: 9:00-Noon
19 Ordinary Time Week 7 Pss Wk 3 FRATERNITY GATHERING 1:30 p.m.	20 BD: Mabel Michaels	21	22 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	23	24	25
26 Ordinary Time Week 8 Pss Wk 4	27	28 BD: Terry Westbrook-Lienert	1 ASH WEDNESDAY 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	2	3	4 9:30 am - 11:30 am Leadership Council Meeting

Fax et Phorum

Minister

Maryann Kummer

Vice Minister

Eileen Smith

Treasurer

Laura Sapien

Secretary

Ray Mylenek

Formation Minister

Sylvia Snigier

Councilors:

Joyce Brouillette
Onakapoma Moore
Mary Myler
Brittney Walenzik

Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry

APPOINTMENTS**Continuing Formation Coordinator:**

Eileen Smith

Gospel Happenings Coordinator:

Brittney Walenzik

Healing Service Social Coordinators:

Ron Kessler

Hospitality Coordinator:

Elaine Masbouth

Infirmarian:

Jo Marie Nardi

JPIC Coordinator:

Joyce Brouillette

Soup Kitchen Coordinator:

Ray Mylenek

Annual Picnic Coordinator:

Ona Moore

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:

Healing Service Social

Wednesdays at 2 PM

&

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

2nd Friday of each month.

SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS***FEBRUARY:***

Margaret Steele

Zena Sadik

Mary Ann Kristensen

Sharon Krill

Irene Mecha

Loretta Chmielarczyk

Norb Chmielarczyk

Dan Gabriel

MARCH:

Margaret Steele

Zena Sadik

Mary Ann Kristensen

Sharon Krill

Irene Mecha

Jacqueline Hale

**For more information,
call Ray Mylenek**

OFSDetroit@gmail.com

<http://www.sfofbonaventure-detroit.org>

Join us on FACEBOOK:

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans

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