

The Pozverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ✠ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 78, no. 4— April 2018



The True Cross

Minister's Letter

My dear sisters and brothers,

Happy Easter! May our risen Lord grant you peace!

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

On behalf of our brothers and sisters at MCREST and Franciscan Ministries who will benefit from your generous donation of white towels, I thank you and the members of the Regina High School community. My thanks to everyone who brought a salad or fresh fruit for our potluck dinner following our Jubilarian Mass.

PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Men's Retreat Weekend – April 20-22 at the Capuchin Retreat Center in Washington, MI. If you are interested in attending this retreat, please contact *Stephen Haycox*.

Day of Reflection - Sunday, April 15 - 11:00 a.m. – Sue Crimmins, Regional Coordinator of Evangelization of the Archdiocese of Detroit will give a presentation on the charisms of the Holy Spirit. Please bring a brown bag lunch and, if you are able to do so, a dish to pass. There will not be a Mass on our Day of Reflection.

Reflection

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Jesus is alive! Alleluia!

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce the news to his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

– Matthew 28:8-12

We have been made living members of the Church by being buried and raised with Christ in baptism; we have been united more intimately with the Church by profession. Therefore, we should go forth as witnesses and instruments of her mission among all people, proclaiming Christ by our life and words.

– Rule of the Secular Franciscans, 6

We believe in the Risen One who conquered evil and death! Let us have the courage to “come out of ourselves,” to take this joy and this light to all the places of our lives! The resurrection of Christ is our greatest certainty; he is our most precious treasure! How can we not share this treasure, this certainty with others? It is not only for us: it is to be passed on, to be shared with others.

– Pope Francis at the General Audience, St. Peter's Square, April 3, 2013

On Easter Sunday, we will gather with our parish families to commemorate Jesus' Resurrection from the dead 2,000 years ago, to sing joyfully “Alleluia, Jesus Christ is Risen Today”, and to celebrate that Jesus is alive and his living and active presence is with us. Following Mass, we will return home to continue our Easter celebrate Easter with family and friends. On Monday, we will return to our normal routine of work, errands, home projects, etc.

Yet, Easter Sunday is the beginning of 50 days of celebrating the Jesus' resurrection from the dead and his active and living presence with us. As followers of Christ and as Secular Franciscans, the joy of Easter is a daily celebration of the presence and power of God with us.

Like Mary and the disciples, once we have encountered the joy of the Risen Lord in our midst and experienced his unconditional love for us, we see the world with new eyes and our hearts overflow with joy. Because of this encounter, we go forth as witnesses to share the marvelous works God has done and continues to do in our lives through his presence with us and by the power of his transforming grace.

Being a faithful witness in our world today seems like a daunting task because it requires us to let go of our fear of the unknown, of taking risks to build a relationship with the other, of dying to old ways of being, and to changing our attitudes and behaviors, and giving of our time to be truly present to the other. We are called to show compassion to those who are poor in spirit, to show forgiveness to those who have hurt us, to bring joy and encouragement to those who feel overwhelmed by the pressures of life, to work for justice for all our brothers and sisters. We are to be the message of joy, compassion, mercy, kindness, and love to our family members, coworkers, to our elderly neighbor, to those living in despair, and to all those we encounter in our daily lives.

Left to our own devices, we are unable to fulfill our mission as a faithful witness. Only through continually encountering the Risen Lord in the ordinary occurrences of our daily lives and allowing his presence, his word, his power and his peace to strengthen and calm our fears can we go forth in service to others and bring about the reign of God in our world.

During this Easter season may our eyes be opened to recognize the presence of our Risen Lord with us. May the gifts of God's loving presence, transforming grace, and peace with you.

Your sister in Ss. Francis and Clare,
Maryann

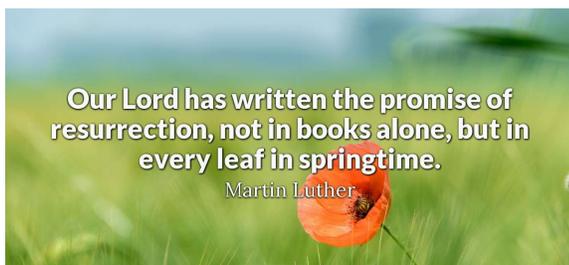


Relatives needing prayers

Kate Comizio, Br. Pat's sister (progressive Multiple Sclerosis)
Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forys
Bernadette Haycox, wife of Stephen
Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis
David Kaminski, son of Joyce
Patricia Mcleary, mother of Therese Joseph
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas
Theresa Poole, mother of Mary
Tom Sherfield, son-in-law of Claire Boutain
Nellie Westbrook, mother of Theresa
Sandra Woods Family

Members of our Fraternity

Dan and Jan Atkinson	Mabel Michaels
Janet and John Bodell	Hugh Montpetit
Joe Boland	Mary Ann Montpetit
Claire Boutain	Stella Mordarski
Joyce Brouillette	Ray Mylenek
Pat Cardellio	Barbara Pardington
Mary Gillen	George Pelyak
Stephen Haycox	Diane Raymond
James Heymes	Marilyn Ricard
Caroline and Ted Hojna	Mary Saber
Anna May Jezak	Joe Sapien
Gary Johnson	Bridget Schultz
Louis Joseph	Ben Stapel
Joyce Kaminski	Ruby Thompson
Esther Kelley	Anna Tyler
Ron Kessler	Terry Westbrook-Lienert
Rosalie Liccardello	Joseph Wisk
Patricia Long	
Ilene Manning & Family	



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

Jo Marie Nardi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1.....Sharon Krill
Mary Myler
- 6.....Margaret Aluzzo
- 14.....Ruby Thompson
- 17.....Elizabeth Greenia
- 23.....Doris Allen
- 25.....Rose Ossowski
- 30.....Loretta Chmielarczyk
Dolores Samulski



Mark your Calendars

- Apr. 21: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)
- May 19: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)
- Sept. 23: Luncheon with St. Charles Parish (11:30-3)
- Oct. 20: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)
- Nov. 10: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)
- Dec. 15: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)



On Sunday, April 15th, our fraternity is hosting a new class of orientees. We will gather 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 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 the Gospel way of life for themselves.

New Address



Br. Patrick McSherry, OFM Cap
Via Piemonte, 70
00187 Rome
Italy



Celebrating Susan Barna Ayoub

Susan Barna Ayoub was born on August 30, 1953 in Dearborn, Michigan to Joseph Ivers (deceased in 2002) and Lucille Ivers. Susan is the oldest among her siblings: Joseph Ivers, Mary Ivers and Martha Androsian.

Susan attended Our Lady of Grace Catholic Grade School in Dearborn Heights, Fordson High School in Dearborn, and graduated from Wayne State University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Music in Education degree. Susan's college graduation was a bit delayed because she and the members of a chamber music decided to continue playing together professionally. Susan went back to school to finish before they accepted a residency in the Dominican Republic. Susan is a professional flutist.

Susan and her first husband, Thomas Barna, were married in 1975 at Duns Scotus in Southfield. Tom was a pianist and managed the group that started at Wayne State – the Pastiche Wind Quintet. Tom was hit by a car and died in Chicago when he was 39 (1989). Susan and Tom had a son Mark (born 1985) who lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife of almost two years, Kimberly. Both Mark and Kimberly are in the theater business. Kimberly works at the Shakespeare Theatre in DC; Mark works from home for Foresight Theatrical, except for his monthly trips of a couple of days to New York. No children yet.

Susan met her current husband, Alan Ayoub, at the dedication of the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC, for which we both performed. Al is a professional guitarist. Susan and Alan were married at his family parish church, St. Mark in Warren, in 2000.

Susan and Alan belonged to St. Mark Parish since before they were married, though they performed for Masses at St. Clement in Center Line and then at the Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak. Al still plays there as well as at St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Once it was obvious that Susan's mother had dementia, Susan alternated taking her to Mass at St. Mark and St. Therese of Liseux in Shelby Township, near the senior home where her Mom was. Later, when it was clear that her Mom needed memory care, Susan began taking her Mom exclusively to St. Fabian in Farmington Hills near where she lives now. However, Alan and Susan attend daily Mass at St. Bonaventure's, and she is there most often. Susan has not had a parish family per se for awhile. Historically, Susan's parish service has been primarily musical in nature, playing the flute.

Susan's volunteer activities have been educational. She was in a group of parents who studied Waldorf education and began the Oakland Steiner School (which was located in Rochester Hills and closed its doors after 22 years in 2016). (There is a Waldorf school located near the Solanus Casey Center in Indian Village, called the Detroit Waldorf School.) At times, Susan was a substitute teacher, working in the office and serving on the board. Later, when her son attended U of D Jesuit High School, Susan was a parent volunteer there in various capacities. Susan taught and played the flute for a living until she turned 50. For a short while still, Susan will be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Detroit Federation of Musicians – the union of professional musicians in the Detroit area. Susan has served in that capacity for 15 years. Susan anticipates beginning work in the Solanus Casey Center Gift Shop in April 2018. Susan still plays the flute professionally and also anticipates doing more of that once she is done working for the musicians' union.

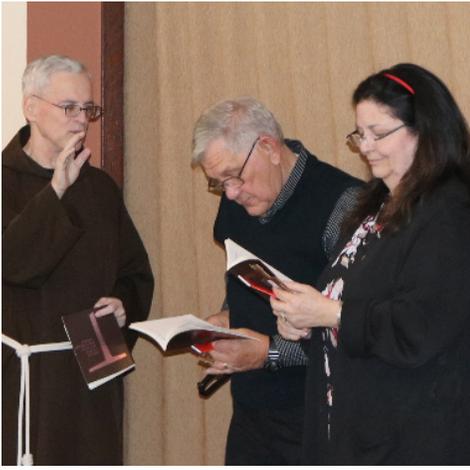
When asked how she learned about the Secular Franciscan Order, Susan responded that once she "met" Fr. Solanus in 2016, she could not spend enough time at the Center and at St. Bonaventure's. She became acquainted with Secular Franciscans at St. Bonaventure's, and it became the center of her life. Susan can't imagine what life would be without all of us.

Susan's experience of her Franciscan journey thus far has shed tremendous light on her path and gives much depth of meaning to the twists and turns of the journey. Susan is very grateful!

When asked if there was anything else she wanted to share, Susan responded that her husband, his sister, and she have been looking for a home in the neighborhood of St. Bonaventure's. Please pray with us that we find our new home!

We love you, Susan!

Celebrating Jerry Boryczk



Br. Pat, Jerry and Sue

Jerry was born on December 25, 1942 in Detroit to Edmund and Rose Boryczk (both deceased). Jerry's older brother was Fr. Eddie Borycz, who served in several parishes for the last 20 years and was an Army chaplain reaching the rank of Colonel. Fr. Borycz died in January of this year. Jerry has a younger sister, Marilyn, who he affectionately calls his "baby sister".

Jerry attend Resurrection Grade School in Detroit and graduated from St. Stanislaus High School in Detroit in 1961. Jerry was as a Police Officer in the Detroit Police Department for six years. When he left there, he opened a private detective agency and was appointed an investigator for the Circuit Court, District Court and the Federal Court. In those capacities he also attended several courses on hostage negotiation, report writing, counter intelligence and many more. As a peace officer, he often stopped

at the Monastery to pray when he was patrolling the area.

Jerry married the love of his life, Lee, on June 18, 1977 (the last 40+ years have been the happiest of his life). Jerry and Lee have four children, nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Jerry and Lee were members of Divine Savior Catholic Church in Westland until it merged with two other parishes. They now attend St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Church in Westland. Jerry and Lee served as Eucharistic Ministers and Marriage Coordinators at Divine Savior for 20 years.

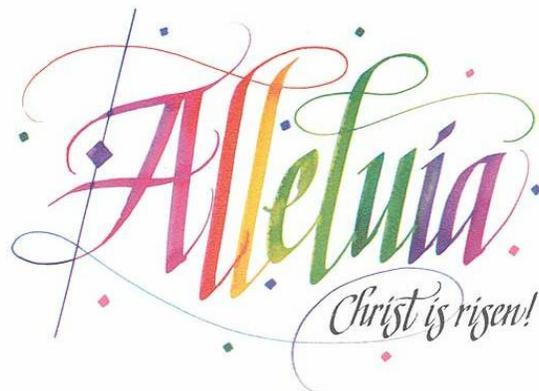
Jerry has volunteered at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen for several years, collected food for the food pantry at his parish. He also volunteered at the Methodist church in his area during Thanksgiving and Christmas when they feed the homeless. During winter, they would open up their church for one week to care for the homeless and hungry. Jerry considered serving the homeless and hungry as a great blessing in his life.

In his free time, Jerry enjoys reading, swimming, wheel chair martial arts and likes to entertain his grandchildren with magic tricks. When asked how he found out about the Secular Franciscans, Jerry replied that in his senior year of high school he would come to the monastery and pray to the Blessed Mother before the Marian statue in the grotto. Capuchins often mentioned the Third Order of St. Francis to him.

When asked about his Franciscan journey thus far, Jerry responded that this journey has taken him to a new relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit and that he has learned to live a Gospel life.

Jerry shared that before he started this fantastic journey, this fraternity allowed him to attend our fraternity gatherings for three months prior to taking the orientation class. During this time, Jerry witnessed the love and support we had for each other and our caring for the forgotten ones of this world and this is what he wanted to be a part of.

We love you, Jerry!





**Jubilarian Mass & Farewell Celebration for Br. Pat
March 18, 2018**



Homily for the Jubilarian Mass — March 18, 2018

Br. Pat McSherry, OFM Cap

Today, Christians enter into the final stage of the Lenten Season leading up to the central mystery of our faith. I would like to focus our attention today on a Franciscan approach to or a Franciscan spirituality of the Cross.

If you were to tour the Christian catacombs in Rome, you would see a number of symbols etched into the walls. Curiously, however, the one symbol you would *not* find is the Cross. It took a good 300+ years before Christians slowly began to adopt the Cross as a symbol of our faith. For the early Christians, the Cross was a sign of utter defeat, an embarrassing reminder of how our Lord and Savior was executed. It was like telling a story, but stopping in mid-sentence because it didn't portray "and then, what happened". It evoked the words of ridicule spoken by Jesus' tormentors: "Come down now from the cross, and then we will believe in you" (Mt 24:42; Mk 15:32).

Over time, there were two fluctuating waves of influence in the Church. During some periods, human intellect reigned as a way of getting to know God, and at other times, the focus shifted to experiencing God through human senses and emotions. Franciscans played a prominent role in both of these movements. Among the great philosophers and theologians were St. Bonaventure and Duns Scotus. The Franciscan School of Thought was not identical to the Dominican School of Thomas Aquinas, or others. We offered a different slant on things, a nuanced perspective.

During those periods when the emphasis shifted to a more human dimension of religious experience, Franciscans also played a key role and offered a particular slant on spirituality. Francis himself gave birth to this more down-to-earth approach. We see it in his view of creatures as sharing an affinity to us as brothers and sisters all called to reflect the Creator's goodness and to give praise to the Maker of all things. We see it in Francis' insistence that all men and women are brothers and sisters to each other, and how being rooted in one God and Father of us all directs how we relate to other people ...including the Muslim Sultan. And we see it in a particularly Franciscan approach to the Cross itself.

Other spiritual writers depicted the image of the Cross as a symbol of suffering – "embrace the Cross", they said, as if to say embrace suffering and pain, or sometimes we've all heard the phrase "offer it up". Others used the image of the Cross as a means of inspiring a lifetime of guilt leading to repentance. For them, "penance" meant feeling badly about what we had done to cause so much pain and suffering.

Of course, there is a grain of truth in most everything. But for Franciscans, the Cross was preached from a very particular faith perspective. For Francis, the gospel injunction to "take up your cross and follow me" was not a call to embrace pain and suffering. Penance was not about remorse and feeling guilty.

Francis once prayed: "Lord, may I die for love of your love as you died for love of my love" [*Absorbeat*]. For Francis, it was all and only about love. Sin is our failure to love. But our call to be Brothers and Sisters of Penance does not look to our past, but to our future. It involves conversion – a real change in our behavior, a change in the way we think, a change in the way we feel, a change in the way we look at things, a change in the way we react. It's a very concrete reality — this is how I used to be, this is how I am now.

In a certain sense, Francis did not embrace the Cross at all. There is a spirituality promoted by non-Franciscans that talks about "embracing the Cross" – in Italian, "*abbracciare la croce*" – which basically entails the acceptance of pain and suffering. But there's another spirituality, specifically Franciscan, which uses the phrase: not "*abbracciare la croce*" but "*abbracciare il Crocifisso*" – which literally means, "to embrace the Crucified One". We have on today's worship aid cover the famous painting by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo which depicts very well our Franciscan heritage.

We Franciscans embrace not a piece of wood, but Christ Crucified. When we gaze upon the Cross, we are less preoccupied with pain and suffering as with the depth of Christ's love for us – that is what we see – and the extreme measures he went to to show that love. It inspires in us not so much guilt, as a desire to follow in Christ's footsteps and to reciprocate that unbounded love.



Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, 1668

Christ put his arm around Francis, and Francis, a man authentically in love with Christ, extends his arm to Christ with tenderness and intensity. Francis wanted to be so intimately united with Christ that leaving all else, he followed Christ without hesitation — wherever that might lead, whatever that might entail. As those of us in a loving commitment to others say: “In good times and in bad.”

The *tau* – a symbol adopted by Francis himself – also has a privileged place in our Franciscan spirituality. It’s not simply a piece of jewelry or ornamentation, but something we wear outwardly either to our praise or to our shame. Just as in the *Our Father* we pray that God forgive us our sins [i.e., trespasses] as we forgive others, so the *tau* proclaims to everyone who sees me – without needing excuses or explanations: “judge me by my deeds”; “judge me by what you see”, because “by this shall everyone know that you are my disciples: if you love others” (Jn 13:35).

Today we celebrate sisters and brothers who made living the Gospel way of life after the example of St. Francis, the priority in their lives. To you I say: continue to embrace Christ. Continue to give a real and living Gospel witness. Continue to help us who proclaim that just as Christ died for love of our love, we might die for love of his love. Because, if we don’t have anything to die for, we don’t have anything to live for either.



Francisco Ribalta, 1620



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 EASTER <i>Pss Proper</i>	2 LITTLE EASTER	3	4	5	6	7 9:30 am - 11:30 am Council Meeting
8 Divine Mercy Sunday <i>Pss Proper</i>	9 ANNUNCIATION	10 <i>Pss Week 2</i>	11 BD: Patricia Cardello 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	12	13	14
15 EASTER 3 <i>Pss Wk 3</i> DAY OF REFLECTION 11:30 am-4 pm	16	17	18 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	19	20	21 GOSPEL HAPPENING: Capuchin Warehouse (9 am-12 noon)
22 EASTER 4 <i>Pss Wk 4</i>	23	24	25 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	26	27	28
29 EASTER 5 <i>Pss Wk 1</i>	30	1	2 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	3	4	5 9:30 am - 11:30 am Council Meeting

Fax et Phorum

Minister

Maryann Kummer

Vice Minister

Eileen Smith

Treasurer

Laura Sopian

Secretary

Ray Mylenek

Formation Minister

Sylvia Snigier

Councilors:

Joyce Brouillette

Ona Moore

Mary Myler

Brittney Walendzik

Spiritual Assistant:

TBA

APPOINTMENTS

Continuing Formation Coordinator:

Eileen Smith

Gospel Happenings Coordinator:

Brittney Walendzik

Healing Service Social Coordinators:

Ron Kessler

Hospitality co-Coordinators:

Ona Moore

Julia Ertzbischoff-Donohue

Infirmarian:

Jo Marie Nardi

JPIC Coordinator:

Joyce Brouillette

Annual Picnic Coordinator:

Ona Moore

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MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

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

Maryann Kummer

FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH: **HEALING PRAYER SERVICE SOCIAL**

Wednesdays at 2 PM

&

Meldrum Soup Kitchen
2nd Friday of each month.

FRANCISCAN MINISTRIES

2nd Saturday of each month
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Franciscan Ministries Office next to St. Aloysius

Contact Joyce Brouillette

FRANCISCAN BOOK DISCUSSION

Prior to each of our monthly meetings, from 10:45 a.m. until Noon, a Franciscan Book Discussion group gathers in the Solanus Center Library for anyone interested. For more information, contact:

Jacqueline Hale

Easter falls on April Fools' Day this year

**We
are
fools
for
Christ...**

1 Cor 4:10





**St. Bonaventure
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