

# The Poverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ☩ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 78, no. 8 — August 2018



**“This means we are to become vessels of God’s  
compassionate love for others.”**

**St. Clare of Assisi**

# Minister's Letter

My brothers and sisters,

May the Lord grant you peace!

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

On behalf of our entire fraternity, I want to express our gratitude to **Onakapoma Moore** for her outstanding coordination of the arrangements for our annual fraternity picnic on Belle Isle held on July 15. My heartfelt thanks to everyone who brought a dish to pass and helped with the picnic set-up and clean up. Our fraternity picnic was a relaxing and fun time!

## PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Fraternity elections will begin promptly at **11:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 21.**

## REFLECTION

“Gaze upon Him, examine Him, contemplate Him, as you desire to imitate Him.”

*From the second letter of St. Clare to St. Agnes of Prague*

“Place your mind before the mirror of eternity;  
Place your soul in the brilliance of glory;  
Place your heart in the figure of the Divine substance;  
And transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead Itself  
through contemplation.”

*From the third letter of St. Clare to St. Agnes of Prague*

On **August 11**, we will celebrate the feast of St. Clare of Assisi, the co-founder of the Franciscan Movement and the mother of the nuns of the Second Order of St. Clare (Poor Clares).

St. Clare was born in Assisi in 1193, the eldest daughter of noble parents. As the daughter of wealthy parents, Clare was educated in reading and writing. When Clare heard St. Francis of Assisi preach at the Church of San Giorgio, she felt something stir within her and vowed to live the Gospel message in a radical way. At the age of 18, Clare gave up her nobility and wealth to live poorly and humbly, adopting the way of life proposed by St. Francis of Assisi. Among Clare's many virtues were compassion, tenderness, and love for the poor, deep devotion to the Eucharist, total surrender to God, and trust in Divine Providence.

St. Clare and her sisters owned nothing in this world and depended entirely on God's providence and the generosity of others to provide for their needs. Unlike the Franciscan friars who traveled around the country to preach the Gospel, the Poor Clares lived in a secluded monastery and dedicated their lives to prayer.

St. Clare teaches us the importance of making time in our busy lives to sit quietly to gaze upon God. As Secular Franciscans, our vocation calls us to an active life in the world; however, we also need a daily quiet time to strengthen and deepen our personal relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Because of our busy schedules, we may need to rearrange our daily schedules in order to sit quietly in the

presence of our God who loves us more than we can ever imagine. Perhaps a few easy ways to achieve this is to arrive at your parish church 15 minutes before Mass or to stay 15 minutes after to sit quietly in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, or to attend Eucharistic Adoration at your local parish, or to sit quietly and gaze upon a crucifix in your own home.

St. Clare teaches us that contemplation of God and His Word are transforming. As we spend more time in contemplation and reflection and allow the Word of God to dwell in our hearts, the more our thoughts and actions will be transformed into the likeness of Christ. Our quiet times of contemplation will fill us with the grace and strength needed to go forth as witnesses of God's love, peace, joy, and mercy to all those we encounter in our daily lives and to be of greater service to our brothers and sisters who are most in need.

St. Clare of Assisi, humble servant of Christ, pray for us.

St. Clare of Assisi, brilliant light of holiness, pray for us.

St. Clare of Assisi, model of Franciscan Gospel living, pray for us.

Remember to pray daily for vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order and for our fraternity elections in October. Looking forward to seeing you at the fraternity gathering on Sunday, August 19.

Your sister in Sts. Francis and Clare,

Maryann



## Prayer for our upcoming election

Please join in praying the following prayer daily that our fraternity will experience a Spirit-filled election process.

Lord, you know me  
even better than I know myself.  
Therefore, I come to you  
in that same spirit  
as our Father Francis and Mother Clare  
to know how I can respond  
to the many needs of our Fraternity.

I pray with Francis:  
“All high, glorious God  
cast your light  
into the darkness of my heart.  
Lord, give me right faith,  
firm hope,  
perfect charity,  
profound humility,  
wisdom and insight  
so that I may do  
what is truly your holy will.”

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### **NEXT STEPS**

During the next four months, please pray to discern which leadership position you are willing to be nominated for. If you have any questions about serving on the Leadership Council or have any questions about a specific position, please contact any member of the Leadership Council.

At our fraternity gathering in August, you will be asked to nominate individuals for the various leadership positions.

Please keep in mind:

1. You may not nominate yourself.
2. If you intend to nominate someone, please ask that person before the August fraternity gathering if they are willing to have their name placed in nomination.

A photo of each nominee, a brief statement about the nominee, their past service to the fraternity, and their reason for serving on the leadership council will be published in the October Poverello.

**PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR: Chapter of Elections will be held on Sunday, October 21.**

# Leadership Council Job Descriptions

According to Article 51 of the OFS General Constitutions:

## **MINISTER**

While firmly upholding the co-responsibility of the council to animate and guide the fraternity, the minister, as the primary person responsible for the fraternity, is expected to make sure that the directions and decisions of the council are put into practice and will keep the council informed about what he or she is doing.

The minister also has the following duties:

1. To call, to preside at, and to direct the meetings of the fraternity and council;
2. To request in writing to the Regional Executive Council, a Chapter of Elections for fraternity officers. These elections should be held every three years.
3. To represent the fraternity before the ecclesiastical and civil community and within the Secular Franciscan Order.
4. To request in writing Pastoral and Fraternal Visitations upon Council approval, usually every three years.
5. To provide an annual written report to the Regional Fraternity incorporating an accurate overview of the entire fraternity.
6. To be present at the reception and subsequent profession of candidates approved by the Council into the fraternity according to the Profession Ritual.
7. Conducts the Franciscan Vigil Service for deceased fraternity members.
8. As Minister of our fraternity, he/she is serves as a member of the Solanus Casey Center Advisory Board.

## **VICE MINISTER**

The Vice Minister acts as an informed assistant to the Fraternity Minister, ready to handle any and all fraternity operations should the Fraternity Minister be unable to do, whether on a temporary or prolonged basis. The responsibilities are:

1. To assist the Minister in all administrative functions required within the fraternity as requested by the Minister.
2. To represent the fraternity when so delegated by the Minister (OFS General Constitution, Article 52:1)
3. To assume the functions of the Minister when the office remains vacant

## **SECRETARY**

The Fraternity Secretary keeps an accurate and legible account of the minutes of the Council meetings and maintains such records in the fraternity archives.

All communication with the fraternity on behalf of the Council is ordinarily carried out by the Secretary under the direction of the Minister and Council. No official correspondence should be sent out without the prior approval of the Fraternity Minister. (OFS General Constitutions, Article 52.2)

1. To record actions, discussions and approvals at fraternity gatherings.
2. To maintain all fraternity records in a safe storage location.

3. To update active member lists
4. To maintain attendance records for Council meetings and regular fraternity gatherings.
5. To maintain the fraternity's official registry.
6. To collect and maintain all election documentation signed by the President, the Friar Witness or delegate and the Election Secretary and Tellers.

### **FORMATION MINISTER**

The Minister of Formation has the immediate care of those in formation and is usually assisted by others so that a team approach to formation provides for a fullness of instruction prior to Profession.

The Minister of Formation is required:

1. To be familiar with Rule, Constitutions and Statutes of the OFS.
2. To ensure formation of new members is conducted within the guidelines of both the National and Regional Fraternities.
3. To maintain attendance records of Inquirers and Candidates.
4. To direct and lead members of the Formation Team.
5. To request and maintain all required candidate documents.
6. To provide the Council with a summary report with recommendations on each Candidate two months prior to the proposed Profession date. (OFS General Constitution, Article 52.3)

### **COUNCILORS**

Councilors are elected by the fraternity to serve the needs of the fraternity in an advisory position.

Councilors are required to:

1. Attend Leadership Council meetings
2. Make and receive motions on fraternity business
3. Approve the reception of inquirers and profession of candidates by the required vote by secret ballot.
4. In addition to their regular duties, Councilors may be chosen to fill special functions for the fraternity. (OFS General Constitution, Article 50.1-2)

### **INFIRMARIAN**

The Infirmarian is a professed member of the fraternity with the following duties:

1. To maintain contact with the afflicted, hospitalized, aged and confined members of the fraternity.
2. To let them know that they are remembered in prayer and that they are in the hearts of their fraternity brothers and sisters. This may be accomplished by: a get well card with a note, a phone contact, a personal visit
3. Coordinates the Mass for the Deceased Members and the reception following the Mass.

## **The following are the items that the fraternity asked the future Leadership Council to consider for the upcoming election in October.**

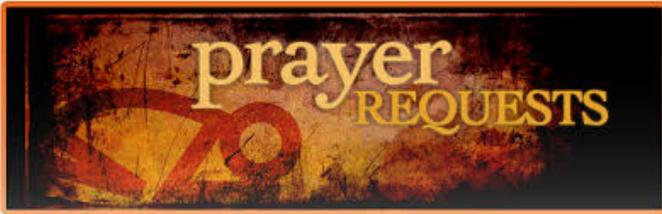
At May's gathering, the fraternity indicated what areas of focus they would like the Leadership Council consider and also what leadership qualities that they would like their future council to exhibit.

### **Areas of Focus**

- Increase membership with more written material to hand out
- Continue support for Franciscan Ministries and St. Charles Parish
- Set up table to encourage membership at outside events
- More frequent Liturgies
- Keep politics out
- Have an event on the Westside
- Balance service with prayer
- Prayer group to focus on needs of the fraternity
- "Liturgy of the Hours" education and practice
- Importance of service to formation
- Participate in the young adult ministry, Tap Into Life
- Secular Franciscan Procession
- Prayer service for Fr. Solanus
- More support for the Caring Hearts ministry
- More participation at member funeral services
- More "FUN Manual" content at fraternity gatherings
- More prayer at gathers with the friars at their "Liturgy of the Hours" prayer meeting
- Participate in prayer at St. Joseph Church
- Visiting a nursing home at Christmas

### **Leadership Qualities**

- Being flexible
- Have vision
- Diversity
- Open to new ideas
- Good listening skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Deep spiritual intent
- Ability to make the time to read, to fulfill obligation
- Bookkeeping and computer skills
- Knowledge of conducting a meeting



**Our Deceased**

Nellie Westbrook, mother of Theresa Westbrook-Lienert

**Relatives needing prayers**

Lee Borycz, wife of candidate Jerry Borycz  
Melanie Corcoran, sister of Brittney Walendzik  
Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forys  
Bernadette Haycox, wife of Stephen  
Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis  
David Kaminski, son of Joyce  
Denise Maltese, mother of Brittney Walendzik  
Patricia Mcleary, mother of Therese Joseph  
Frances Mocerri, great aunt of Brittney Walendzik  
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas  
Theresa Poole, mother of Mary  
Jim Smith, grandson of Clarire Boutain  
Tom Sherfield, son-in-law of Claire Boutain  
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 at**

**The Rule of the Secular Franciscan  
Order is celebrating its 40th  
anniversary this year**

The Divine Mercy Region Annual Day of Formation in October will be a Jubilee Day dedicated to the Rule this year.

**Mark on your calendar**

**Saturday, October 27, 2018**  
at the Center for Ministry in Saginaw, MI.

**Everyone is invited to attend!**

**COME AND SEE**

On **Sunday, September 16**, 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. 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.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 9 ..... Anna Tyler
- 13 ..... Janet Atkinson
- 17 ..... Joanne Marshall
- 22 ..... Mary Poole
- 25 ..... Patricia Munafo
- 27 ..... Mary Gillen
- 30 ..... Marilyn Ricard
- 30 ..... Susan Barna Ayoub

## Gospel Happenings Calendar

- Aug. 18: Conner Soup Kitchen (10:30-1:00)
- Sept. 23: Luncheon with St. Charles Parish (11:30-3:00)
- Oct. 20: Capuchin Warehouse (9:00-12:00)



Address for the soup kitchen  
4390 Conner  
Detroit, MI 48215



**HEALING SERVICE HELP**

Fraternity members are needed to assist with set-up and clean-up of the food and beverages for reception after the **HEALING SERVICE** on the second and fourth Wednesdays in June, July, and August. Please contact **Ron Kessler** and let him know which Wednesdays you are able to participate in this fraternity ministry.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	2	3	4 9:30 am - 11:30 am Council Meeting
5 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 18 Pss Wk 2	6	7	8 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	9 BD: Anna Tyler	10	11 ST. CLARE OF ASSISI
12 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 19 Pss Wk 3	13 BD: Janet Atkinson	14	15 ASSUMPTION OF MARY 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	16	17 BD: Joanne Marshall	18 10:30 am - 1:00 pm Gospel Happening Conner Soup Kitchen
19 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 20 Pss Wk 4 FRATERNAL GATHERING 1:30 pm	20	21	22 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service BD: Mary Poole	23	24	25 BD: Patricia Munafa
26 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 21 Pss Wk 1	27 BD: Mary Gillen	28	29 1-4 pm: Social after Healing Service	30 BD: Susan Barna Ayoub BD: Marilyn Ricard	31	

# Fax et Phorum

## Minister

Maryann Kummer .....

## Vice Minister

Eileen Smith .....

## Treasurer

Laura Sapien .....

## 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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<http://www.sfofbonaventure-detroit.org>  
*editor:* Brittney Walendzik

## 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

### 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 at



**St. Bonaventure  
Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
1820 Mount Elliott Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48207**

