

**NEW! our**  
**Immaculata Fraternity Mission Statement:**

***As members of the Secular Franciscan Order we seek to live the Gospel so as to inspire others to share love in Jesus in the spirit of St. Francis.***

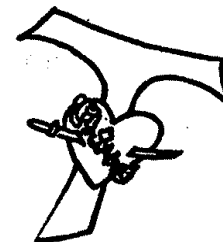
*(Ratified at our Council Meeting on Sept. 11, 2017)*

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**Immaculata Vision ~ ~ October, 2017**

**Immaculata Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order**

Riverside, CA / Editor: Lisa M. Boebinger, OFS ~ ~ lisa.sfo@att.net



**Calendar of Events for October, 2017:**

**3 – Transitus of St. Francis @ St. Thomas’ KDC Chapel @ 7:00 pm**

4 – St. Francis of Assisi Feast day  
6 – First Friday Adoration, Queen of Angels old Church, all day. Liturgy of the Hours and Benediction at 5 pm

**9 (2nd Mon.) – Council Meeting @ 4:00 pm @ Lorraine’s.**

**14 – 2017 Regional Gathering (see next page)**

**16 (3rd Mon.) – Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Brigade, 4:00 pm @ St. Thomas’ KDC.**

**28 (4th Sat.) – Fraternity Gathering/Meeting @ 9:30 am @ St. Thomas KDC.**

31 – Halloween – Holiday – All Hallowed’s Eve

**Looking Ahead to November...**

1 – All Saints’ Day  
2 – The Comm. of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls’ Day)  
3 – First Friday Adoration, Queen of Angels old Church, all day. Liturgy of the Hours and Benediction at 5 pm  
5 – Daylight Saving Time Ends

**13 (2nd Mon.) – Council Meeting @ 4:00 pm @ Lorraine’s.**

**18 (3rd Sat. due to Thanksgiving holiday weekend being the 4th Sat.) – Fraternity Gathering/Meeting @ 9:30 am @ St. Thomas KDC.**

**20 (3rd Mon.) – Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Brigade, 4:00 pm @ St. Thomas’ KDC.**

21 – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
23 – Thanksgiving Day – Holiday  
26 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Sunday

**Birthdays & Profession Anniversaries:**

October Birthdays: 14th – Aarne Lozano  
22nd – Ray Hardwick  
23rd – George Molchan  
24th – Lorraine Cardin  
October Anniv.: 5th – Jim Neuffell’s Deacon Ordination Anniv., 1985

November Birthdays: 13th – Mickie Rogers  
29th – Joice Quinsaat

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**Minister’s Letter**  
*From the Desk of*  
**Lorraine Cardin, OFS**

**DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

*There has been some disagreements about the apostolate we do due to a misunderstanding as to when the sandwiches were to be distributed. Actually the sandwiches were kept a whole week before being distributed. That is too long. The Council has to work out a better solution. Please be patient and understanding. We will work things out for better understanding and satisfaction. It is my opinion that we should not abandon this apostolate until a better one comes along. We might check into the suggestions in the TAU and into Mary’s Table or the homes that Fr. Barry started in San Bernardino. Will one of our council members check into these and report on them?*

*Remember that prayer is also a powerful weapon and tool against Satan. Love and prayers, Lorraine*

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**Our September 23rd Fraternity Gathering**  
**On-going Formation Questions**  
**from: Ray Hardwick, OFS**

**Topic: The Charism and Mission of the SFO**

**Reflection Questions:**

1. What is our Franciscan Charism?
2. What is our Mission?
3. How do we accomplish our Mission?

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**Coming Up: The TRANSITUS of St. Francis**

**On: Tuesday, October 3rd, Time: 7:00 pm**

**At: St. Thomas’ KDC Chapel**

**Format: by Ray Hardwick, OFS**

**Refreshments: Moastaccioli (Mustaches) Almond Cookies by Georgia Zepek, OFS, and please feel free to bring other cookies to share & drinks.**

***All are welcome to attend!***

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**2017 Regional Gathering**  
**A Day of Celebration and Renewal**  
**When: Oct. 14, 2017: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm**

Continental Breakfast 8:30am Meeting starts: 9:00am.  
Pot luck is encouraged! Bring your special dish to share.  
**As we all know, it isn't what we do; It is WHO WE ARE!**

Bring your Fraternity photo albums, and let's share who we are (and maybe a little bit about what it is we do as Gospel People)! We will have time to share, to meet old friends and make new ones, and to look at OUR ORDER, where we are and where we are going.

**Location: Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Coleman Center**  
900 W La Habra Blvd, La Habra, CA 90631

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**Spiritual Assistant's Letter**  
From the Desk of **Bob Murray, OFS**  
**Vocations, September, 2017**

In today's world, our Region's newsletter 'The Joy of Francis' is no longer mailed out but is to be found at [stfrancisregion.org](http://stfrancisregion.org) under 'Region Newsletter, *current newsletter*'. If your computer isn't working these days you can find the website on your cell phone. In any event, hopefully you enjoyed the most recent edition and read Sylvia Paoli's article concerning vocations under the heading 'Regional Spiritual Assistants'.

To quote our sister Sylvia "One of the biggest problems the Order has always had is a lack of visibility. We cannot be the "best kept secret in the Church" and still expect to have vocations. I've never heard of a person having a vocation to an Order which they've never heard of."

In her article Sylvia challenges us to make, and take, opportunities to ensure that the name of our Order is known in our parishes.

Does your pastor know you are a Secular Franciscan? Are you known in your parish? Are you an active member of your parish? If not, why not? Are you enthusiastic about your vocation or has your excitement faded? Do you only show up for fraternity meetings only because it is a social outlet? If you lack enthusiasm for our Order, our spirituality, our lifestyle, something is wrong. We are an Order in the Church founded through Rome. We are not a Religious Order as are the friars and Poor Clares, we are secular. We live, move, and act in the world today. We are to make gospel values visible in the world around us. Did you know that since the late 1800's three popes have told us that we are a true Order in the Church? If the popes have been convinced of our standing in the church, and have even said so, we should be too. You and I did not join a social club, we joined an ORDER!

Think back to the day of your profession. What did you feel? What did you promise God? By our profession we accepted the challenge to live a gospel life which means we accepted the challenge to 'experience' gospel life. As Franciscans and gospel people we follow in the footsteps of the Christos along with St. Francis the *alter christos*.

We will find two of Jesus' sayings early in each of the four gospels as he walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee that apply: 'come and see' and 'come follow me'. We too are to say "come and see", not just to Christianity and Catholicism but to Franciscan life as well. We are to share God's abundant

blessings. And when you are asked "what do you do?" how do you respond? Please don't say 'we do it all'. It sounds so flippant. Instead consider preparing a 30 second speech that basically says the Order doesn't have a specific ministry such as visiting hospital patients or feeding the poor or prison ministry, although we do these things too. We undertake ministries that have been overlooked. We look for needs that are not being met; needs that might include a huge project such as digging wells for people without clean water, to such things as working with the homeless or perhaps listening to someone's troubles; to be there for others just as Jesus was as he walked the earth. That is BEING Franciscan.

Someone brought the Order to our attention all those years ago. Now, it's our turn. Invite members of your parish to a fraternity meeting. It just might be that they too have a vocation to an Order they never heard of.

~~ Bob Murray, OFS

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**Council Meeting Notes for September 11th**

- **Council Formation:** by Bob Murray, OFS. Bob's position as the spiritual assistant. Charism: we must be greatly devoted and enthused about being a Franciscan. Do we have that deep enthusiasm for the order? Do we really know what we professed to? You never lose your enthusiasm to being with your brothers and sisters in fraternity. We need to rejuvenate ourselves if we are going to rejuvenate the fraternity. Our Franciscan values are the primary thing we do. Our model: Jesus and Francis, always stood up for the Gospel values. This is our challenge as a council and as a Franciscan. Everyone in the church is called to an apostolate, whether they know it or not. A very strong Eucharistic Spirituality: what does that mean to you? How are we eucharist (with a small "e") to others? It's common union = communion.
- **Plan our next Fraternity Gathering/Meeting:**  
**At: St. Thomas' KDC @ 9:30 am on Sept. 23rd**  
**Opening Prayer:** by Lorraine, the Franciscan Crown Rosary, no Glory Be or the O My Jesus prayer.  
**Ongoing Formation:** by Ray, Franciscan Charism and how to maintain it.  
**Break:** Fellowship & Refreshments by (whoever wants to bring something to share.)  
**After Break:** On what Apostolate we should do. Maybe having small groups of certain apostolates – possible idea.
- **Closing Prayer:** by Joice Quinsaat, OFS or Aarne Lozano (Taize prayer)
- **Ray's Book Recommendations:** (none this month) ☹
- **Regarding our PB&J Apostolate – a new group within the fraternity:** Will be passing around a sign-up sheet to a group of us who will commit to this Apostolate, to bring the items we need and to come and make 50 sandwiches.
- **Next Council Meeting** is the 2nd Monday, October 9th at 4:00 pm at Lorraine's house.
- **Next PB&J Brigade** is the 3rd Monday, October 16th @ 4:00 pm @ St. Thomas' KDC.

- **District Meeting:** Saturday, Nov 11 @ 9:30 am @ St. Thomas KDC for Minister, Vice-Minister and Formation Director. Refreshments needed.
- **Retreat for Council** @ San Luis Rey Mission lead by Bob Murray, OFS. Still ironing out the details.
- **Retreat Master** for the 2018 Serra Retreat: Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D.! Start saving your \$.

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**(From the Word Among Us Catholic Magazine –  
Daily Meditations for September, 2017)  
Saturday, September 23  
Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest (Memorial)  
1 Timothy 6:13-16**

*Keep the commandment without stain or reproach.  
(1 Timothy 6:14).*

No matter how easy or difficult his life was, Padre Pio, whose feast we celebrate today, always tried to encourage the people he met. “Pray, hope, and don’t give up.” This was his constant motto, a rallying cry to any and all who came to him for counsel. And without fail, everyone who spoke with him left with a greater sense of hope and trust in the Lord.

In today’s first reading, Paul is the one encouraging his beloved son in the faith, Timothy. He has confidence that Timothy has all the gifts he needs to meet any challenges: “Keep the commandment . . . until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Timothy 6:14). In other words, when things are easy, “Keep on keeping on, Timothy!” And when they are tough? “Keep on going—until Jesus comes again.”

We can do it too—we can be the ones cheering on the people around us. Just think how a simple word of encouragement does a world of good: “That was a delicious dinner you made last night!” is like music to a cook’s ears if she slaved over a hot stove for two hours. “I am so proud of the way you handled that difficult situation at school” can make any child’s face light up. “You worked hard on this project—thank you for all your efforts” are welcome words to an employee from his supervisor.

Even though we understand the benefit of kind words, it’s easy to slip into a habit of giving only critical feedback. After all, we are constantly surrounded by negative comments. We just have to glance at a tabloid or watch the news on television to see how hard we can be on one another. But it doesn’t have to be that way.

You can turn the tide with just one word of encouragement. Every day, you have an opportunity to be the salt and light that Jesus asked you to be. So who in your life could use some encouragement—a child, your spouse, a coworker? Remember Padre Pio and his encouraging words. Remember Paul cheering on Timothy. You can make a difference for someone you meet today.

**“Jesus, show me who could use a kind word today.”**

- Psalm 100:1-5
- Luke 8:4-15

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**(From the Word Among Us Catholic Magazine –  
Daily Meditations for October, 2017)  
Wednesday, October 4  
Saint Francis of Assisi (Memorial)  
Nehemiah 2:1-8**

*Send me to Judah . . . to rebuild it. (Nehemiah 2:5)*

Perhaps you know the story of the call of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day we celebrate today. Praying in a run-down chapel, he heard the Lord saying, “Francis, go and

repair my house; look, it is falling into ruins.” Now, God wasn’t speaking about that particular chapel; he was speaking about the challenges facing the whole Church at the time. It took Francis some time to realize this, but once he did, he and his fellow friars went out and changed the course of history.

Nehemiah feels a similar call in today’s first reading: to go and rebuild Jerusalem. And like St. Francis, he does more than “look sad” and bemoan the state of his people (Nehemiah 2:3). He too springs into action.

In every age and for every generation, God has called his people to rebuild his Church. No matter what the era, there has always been a need for renovation, for a return to our roots in the Lord, and for addressing the challenges of the day. In every age, God invites his people, not just to mourn the situation, but to rebuild.

It doesn’t have to be difficult. Look at St. Francis. As soon as he heard God’s call, he grabbed a hammer and set to work. Of course he would! God had told him to rebuild his Church, so that’s what he did. Over time, though, God helped him become more clear about what the call really entailed.

You can follow the same approach. Just do what makes sense to you. What would be helpful? Where are the needs the greatest? What kind of work are you best suited for?

No matter what you choose to do, just get started. If you take that first step, you can be sure that the Holy Spirit will guide you and help clarify your mission. He may give you the sense that you are doing exactly what you should be doing, or he may nudge you in a different direction to make you more effective.

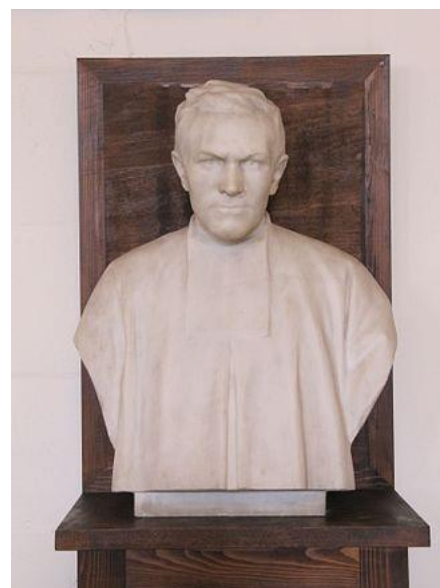
Both St. Francis and Nehemiah got out there and made a difference for the Lord. So can you.

**“Lord, teach me how I can help rebuild your house!”**

- Psalm 137:1-6
- Luke 9:57-62

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**Secular Franciscan Saint/Blessed of the Month Club:**  
*(Catholic saints are holy people and human people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God’s invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint.)*



**Blessed Antoine Chevrier**  
**16 April 1825 – 2 October 1879**

**Blessed Antoine Chevrier** (16 April 1825 - 2 October 1879) was a French Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Third Order of Saint Francis. He was the founder of the Sisters of Prado and the Institute of the Priests of Prado. His entire life and pastoral mission was devoted to the

service of the poor and the education of poor children and those on the peripheries.

He was beatified on 4 October 1986 on the occasion of the visit of Pope John Paul II to France.

Antoine Chevrier was born on Easter on 16 April 1825. He was the sole child born to his parents and received baptism on the following 18 April. From his father he inherited a humble spirit and gentleness while he received from his mother a passionate and energetic disposition. He had his First Communion in 1837.

In 1840 - at the age of fourteen - a parish priest asked him if he wanted to become a priest himself. Chevrier never thought about it but said he would like to. He felt immediate happiness in this realization and decided to become a priest. Chevrier commenced his studies for the priesthood at the age of seventeen in 1842. He received the cassock in October 1846 and received the tonsure in 1847.

Prior to his being made a priest he wanted to join the foreign missions but his mother opposed and said to him: "You are an ingrate, mister, a bad son. Do you think I raised you for you to be eaten by savages? Savages you can find in Lyon! If you go in spite of me, I will disown you as my child". He was ordained to the priesthood on 25 May 1850 from Cardinal Louis Jacques Maurice de Bonald and was sent to Saint-André de la Guillotière as an assistant priest where he became obsessed with the miserable conditions of the poor that he encountered. On suffering he wrote: "Do you know what makes men? Suffering, hardships, mortifications. The man who has not suffered knows nothing - he is a limp noodle".

In a sermon - on the issue of the poor - he said: "as long as the great ones of the earth enrich themselves, as long as the world's wealth remains locked in the greedy hands of the few who search for it, so long will poverty increase, work opportunities decrease and salaries remain unpaid. We see poor workers laboring from the dawn of the day far into the night, hardly earning enough for their bread and that of their children".

In the middle of the night on 31 May 1856 a great storm caused flooding. He rescued several victims despite the danger to his own life. On Christmas Eve in 1856 he meditated before the crib and it was there and then that he realized his true mission as a priest was to evangelize to the poor but also to tend to the poor on the streets while forming a religious congregation for all those who were poor. This experience was almost like a sudden "conversion". In Ars-sur-Formans - in January 1857 - he consulted with Saint John-Baptiste-Marie Vianney on his mission and who encouraged his work. He asked to leave his parish to pursue this aim and a meeting with layman Camille Rambaud in June 1857 hastened this. Sometimes parents sent him their delinquent children and others asked him to get their children out of prison and take them to live with him for a better life.

In 1859 he became a professed member of the Third Order of Saint Francis.

On 10 December 1860 he purchased a disused ballroom in order to establish a chapel and a shelter for poor children and those on the peripheries in order to provide them with a Christian education. In his lifetime he received around 2400 male adolescents. In 1866 he opened a clerical school - that grew into his male institute - for clerical aspirants. The first lot were ordained in Rome in 1876. The female branch of his order - the Sisters of Prado - opened not long after his first was established. Social unrest threatened Lyon and Paris in 1871 but the conflict in Lyon stalled as Chevrier celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi and paraded the Eucharist through the streets; the quarrelers dared not interrupt the celebration.

Chevrier was also a writer and he wrote both the "Disciple of Jesus Christ" and "God sends Revolutions". The latter was

a critique of priests who pursued greed and their excessive attachment to material goods.

He fell ill in the spring of 1874 which began his long period of illness until his death. He recovered and made a four-month visit to Rome to be with his future priests. But one left to become a member of the Trappists while the others - who were ordained in May 1877 - were reluctant to return with Chevrier to the congregation.

He knew his death was approaching in September 1879 due to his ailment. Chevrier died on 2 October 1879 after suffering a long illness. Around 10000 people attended his funeral. His order was approved of diocesan right in 1924 and was aggregated to the Conventual Franciscans in 1930. The order received the papal decree of praise of Pope John XXIII on 28 October 1959.

### **Beatification**

The beatification process commenced once a diocesan investigation commenced into his life. Its closure allowed for theologians to compile all of his written works and assess whether or not such writings adhered to the official magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church - these were cleared and approved on 11 January 1911.

The formal introduction to the cause did not come until 11 June 1913 under Pope Pius X. This granted Chevrier the title of Servant of God - the first stage in the process.

The second process opened and continued the work of the first following the introduction of the cause. Both processes received formal ratification from the Congregation of Rites on 19 November 1930 which would allow for Roman officials to begin their own investigation into Chevrier's cause.

On 16 January 1953 he was proclaimed to be Venerable after Pope Pius XII recognized that Chevrier had lived a model Christian life of heroic virtue.

The process on a miracle commenced in its diocese of origin and after closure was validated on 11 November 1930. It wasn't until decades later that Pope John Paul II approved it and beatified Chevrier on his visit to France on 4 October 1986. *(from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)*

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### **Please keep in your prayers:**

*(If you are in need of prayers, please email me at [lisa.sfo@att.net](mailto:lisa.sfo@att.net) and I'll add your intentions to our list below:)*

**and please add to your Prayer Tree List the following:**

**Our brother Bruce McAdams had extensive back surgery, but is now home. He doesn't want any visitors or phone calls (maybe send him a card or two). He is not able to drive until Nov. 6th, but Ray has agreed to drive him to the Council Meeting and Fraternity Gathering for October. He is in a lot of pain and just greatly needs your prayers.**

**Please pray for the health of my husband Bob Boebinger, he has a lot of pain and several health issues. We're hoping he can go back to work soon.**

**Thank you kindly! (Lisa)**

**Our Sister Dixie Marshall wrote: *Please pray for our little great granddaughter Ava Marie Marshall and her brother Aaron Liam Marshall. They are 3 and 4. She is experiencing speech delays and is having to live with challenges at home. Please also keep in prayer her mother Candice and her father Aaron***

*Marshall who is trying his best to deal with the challenges and protect the children. Also please remember our daughter June Marshall who is also doing her best to be of help to everyone. Thank you all and God bless you. Dixie*

*Update on Georgia Zeppek's parents: My mom (Ruthie King) is still not doing very well with dementia. My father (Bill King) passed away on Sept. 13th. Please keep the family in your prayers. God Bless You, Georgia*

**Please add Tiffany Maskew to our prayer list. She is only thirty years old and she had a stroke.**

Thanks, Carol

**Please continue to pray for Ken Wilde for emotional reasons and migraines and pneumonia. (Ken is very lonely! He would like his fraternity brothers and sisters to call him, or come by to visit if they can, but please call him first.)**

**Please continue to keep Jo-Ann Hardwick in your prayers & Ray who has a lot of pain in his knees, lower back and hip.**

**Donna Baylor asked for prayers for her daughter Beth Baylor, who suffers from paranoia. And please keep Donna in your prayers also.**

**Please pray for Sekoia Spencer's sons Darius and Jason. Please continue to pray for David Burrola and Aarne Lozano.**

**Please continue to pray for Lorraine's beau Edward Watkins, still recovering from pneumonia, but is now home.**

**Please continue to pray for MaryBelle & Jim Neufell. MaryBelle is very frail and weak, but she feels each and every prayer prayed for her. For Jim Neufell to keep up his strength in caring for MaryBelle.**

**Please continue to pray for Stella Pacifica Caywood's sons Mark and Paul. Mark has Cirrhosis of the liver stage 4.**

**And please continue to pray for George & Barbara Molchan.**

**Please pray for all those unemployed in our fraternity who are looking for a job, along with those who have lost their healthcare coverage. And who are in great financial problems due to being unemployed or other problems.**

**And please continue to keep your Fraternity brothers and sisters in your prayers along with their intentions.**

**AND ... Have you hugged & prayed for your Franciscan Prayer Partner lately?**

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**Do you know what our Region's website is?  
<http://www.stfrancisregion.org/>  
Check it out sometime!**

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**Your Monthly Pearls of Wisdom:**

*I didn't know what Facebook was, and now that I do know what it is, I have to say, it sounds like a huge waste of time.*

~~ Betty White

*Everybody gets so much information all day long that they lose their common sense. ~ Gertrude Stein*

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**The Daily Extra ... Fun Fact:** Researchers have found a way to turn peanut butter into diamonds.

**The Daily Extra ... Bizarre Holiday: World Smile Day: October 6:** The first Friday of October is World Smile Day, a day to make someone smile with an act of kindness. The yellow smiley face is one of the most recognized symbols of cheer. Harvey Ball created the smiley face in 1963.

**The Daily Extra ... 25 Years Ago on This Date ... October 9, 1992 ...** A meteorite streaks through the skies of the northeastern United States and is captured on video by at least sixteen people before it crashes into a Chevy Malibu parked in a driveway in Peekskill, New York. More than 4 billion years old, the meteorite is about the size of a bowling ball and weighs approximately 28 pounds.

**The Daily Extra ... Spelling Bee ...** Choose the correct spelling of this frequently misspelled word:  
a. nectere b. necter c. nectar

**The Daily Extra ... Did You Know ...** Referred to as Lucy after the Beatles song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," the biggest known diamond in the universe is a white dwarf star. The star has a carbon interior that crystallized, forming the ten-billion-trillion-trillion-carat gem fifty light years from Earth.

**The Daily Extra ... Groaners: World's Best Bad Jokes and Puns ...** I wondered why the baseball kept betting bigger. Then it hit me.

**The Daily Extra ... Riddle ...** The first two letters represent a man, the first three letters represent a woman, the first four letters represent a great man, and the word as a whole represents a great woman. What is the word?

**The Daily Extra ... Easy Energy-Saving Tip ...** Fight the urge to open the oven door and take a peek at what's cooking. Instead, turn on the oven light and look through the oven window. Opening the door lowers the temperature inside by as much as 25 degrees, which increases cooking time and wastes energy.

**The Daily Extra ... 150 Years Ago on This Date ... October 18, 1867 ...** The United States purchases the territory of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million, a bargain price of less than 2 cents per acre. The acquisition of the 586,412-square-mile territory is credited to Secretary of State William Henry Seward under President Andrew Johnson. Considered foolish by some at the time, the deal proved itself with Alaska's rich natural resources – from gold to oil.

**The Daily Extra ... Money-Saving Tip ...** Cancel unused club memberships such as the gym or country club. Don't keep paying for a membership if you haven't been in months.

**The Daily Extra ... Famous Doodler ...** U.S. President John F. Kennedy often doodled words. In one example, he

repeated the word “Vietnam” eight times in scrawled writing with boxes around the words. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, some of his doodles included a checkerboard and a sailboat along with the words “Castro,” “Blockade,” and “NATO.”

**The Daily Extra ... Trivia ...** Which U.S. state name comes from a Spanish word meaning mountainous?

- a. Colorado b. Montana c. Washington d. Wyoming

**The Daily Extra ... Did You Know ...** Celery can help produce a good night’s sleep because of the vitamins, minerals (especially magnesium), and nutrients it contains.

**The Daily Extra ... Trivia ...** technically a drupe, the almond is not a nut. It is the pit of a fruit related to peaches, plums, and apricots.

**The Daily Extra ... Fun Fact ...** The average American eats more than three pounds of candy over the weeks before and after Halloween. Are you ready for tomorrow night’s trick-or-treaters?

**The Daily Extra ... Years Ago on This Date ... October 31, 1892 ...** The book *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Scottish author and physician Arthur Conan Doyle is published. The book’s namesake detective with extreme mental prowess became a legend.

(Answer to Spelling Bee: c. nectar)

(Answer to Riddle: heroine)

(Answer to Trivia: b. Montana)

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**National Prayer for Vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order**

*O good and gracious God, God of mercy, compassion, generosity, and love, as we live our lives today in the model of St. Francis, choosing daily to live the Gospel life, help us to help others hear your call. Help us to help others recognize their vocation as a Secular Franciscan that You have already planted in their heart. Help us, so that together we all may work to bring the Gospel to life. Amen! (Composed by Marian R. Crosby, OFS, at the 2010 NAFRA gathering in Scottsdale, AZ)*

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**The Ritual of the Secular Franciscan Order**  
**—its historical origin**

**(Authors: David Eckelkamp, OFM & Tom Cooney, OFS)**  
*(As found in the San Juan Capistrano July 2016 Newsletter, pg. 5)*

For the early 20th century the only Ritual available in English for members of the Third Order Secular of St. Francis was contained in the Third Order prayer book “The Tertiary’s Companion,” originally edited by Vincent Schrempp, OFM.

In 1955 there was a demand for a more elaborate ritual book, which resulted in the Ritual for Public Functions, Franciscan Third Order, compiled and published by Mark Hegener, OFM.

In 1966, following the Second Vatican Council, it became necessary to revise the ceremonial to bring it into accord with the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. This resulted in the New Ritual for Public Functions, compiled by Benet A. Fonck, OFM, and his associates.

In 1978, the revised Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order was approved by Pope Paul VI on June 25 and promulgated by the four Franciscan Ministers General on October 4. Immediately work began on updating the Ritual to conform to the new Rule.

On March 9, 1984, the Latin text of the new Ritual was approved by the Sacred Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship and, on August 5, 1985, this English edition, we know of as The Ritual book, was approved by the same Congregation.

The Latin text of this Ritual was compiled by an International Commission. Immediately after its approval on March 9, 1984, an English edition was circulated to the Tertiaries of all English-speaking countries with the invitation for their appraisal and suggestions. The final English text, incorporating the fruits of two rounds of international consultations, was then produced by the International Commission—chaired by General Spiritual Assistant, Benet A. Fonck, OFM who also served as its editor—with approval of the Franciscan Friars Conference of the USA (OFM, OFM Cap, OFM Conv, TOR).

The Conference of National Spiritual Assistants of the USA was then commissioned by the Secular Franciscans of the English-speaking countries (Australia, USA, the Philippines, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, India, England, Zambia, Singapore, Malta, and Tanzania) to produce and distribute this new English Ritual for the Third Order Secular.

Some history indeed! After reading all the above, you may be a little out of breath! I think you will agree with me that we owe a debt of gratitude and thanks to all those involved in this publication over the many years it took to produce it. The rich content contained therein goes well beyond those two pages cited, to include the Profession Ritual and many prayers that we turn to for guidance, direction, and inspiration. NOW...as promised, the secret clue to finding the full story... Open the Ritual Book, turn to the section titled “Foreword” and see pages v and vi. There you will find all the above and more. It may have been missed when turning so fast to Page 35.

OUR RITUAL BOOK—A TRUE TREASURE.

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***(He who sings well, prays twice! ~ ~ St. Augustine)***

**O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God**

*St. Columba*

O breathe on me, O Breath of God,  
Fill me with life a new,  
That I may love the things you love,  
And do what you would do.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure;  
Until my will is one with yours,  
To do and to endure.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God,  
My will to Yours incline,  
Until this selfish part of me  
Glow with Your fire divine.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God,  
So I shall never die,  
But live with you the perfect life  
For all eternity.

*Text: CM; Edwin Hatch, 1835 – 1889, alt. Music: Trad. Irish.*

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