



“Share the Joy”

**Holy Spirit Fraternity of the
Secular Franciscan Order
of Claremont**



Newsletter

Listen, Discern, Go Forth!

June 2025

Minister's Corner

We have a new pope. I was struck by his choice of name on several levels. Pope Leo XIII was famous for speaking out on the rights of workers in the Encyclical *Rerum novarum*. The thought is our new pope *may* emphasize Catholic Social Teaching as well as Catholic Moral Teaching. We should all be familiar with an earliest Leo who was one of the early followers of St. Francis and our new pope is following a pope who took the name of St. Francis of Assisi so another reason for the choice of name. This reminds me of my formation both initial and as a Spiritual Assistant, we are called to imitate the example of St. Francis who tried to imitate Christ in his time. We are called to imitate the example of Christ in *our* time. Christ, spent much of his time reaching out to the unpopular (tax collectors) and those living on the margins. At the same time he continued to meet with the powerful and remind them to be true to the spirit of their faith, not just the literal interpretation. I feel its sometimes too easy to keep accepting old habits. As our speaker, Fr. Albert Haase, OFM reminded us at the retreat, we need to check out if our routines are actually bringing us closer to God or just checking boxes.

Your servant.

Bill Mussatto, OFS

Calendar of Events:

May 31st 10:00 am ~noon	Council Meeting OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Jun 1 st 7:30 ~ 12:45 pm	Coffee and Donuts at OLA
Jun 8 th 1:00 ~ 4:00 pm	Monthly Fraternity Meeting: OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Jun 21 st 10:00 am ~noon	Council Meeting OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Jul 13 th 1:00 ~ 4:00 pm	Monthly Fraternity Meeting: OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Jul 19 th 10:00 am ~noon	Council Meeting OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Aug 10 th 5:00 ~ 6:30 pm	District Picnic, Blaisdell Park in Claremont
Aug 30 th 9:30 ~ 2:30 pm	Regional Gathering, St. Thomas Korean Catholic Center, Anaheim.
Sep 21st 1:00 ~ 4:00pm	Fraternity Elections OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Sep 27th 10:00 ~ noon	Joint Council Meeting OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
Oct 3rd - 5th	Annual Fiesta at OLA
Late Sept?	Blessing of the Animals at OLA

Outreach:

In the calendar you will see Coffee and Donuts listed for the 1st of June. We will also have our large tri-fold display board and a table in the auditorium where we will be able to reach out to members of the Our Lady of the Assumption Parish (OLA) to tell them a bit about our order. While we have done Coffee and Donuts before, this the first time they have offered us a chance to actively reach out to the members of the parish. We will need people to help us reach out. We had a visitor at our last meeting based on the pamphlet we keep on the rack at the back of the Church, so its like Jesus said about sowing seeds. Hopefully some will germinate. We are also looking to arrange our renewal of profession at a parish other than OLA to do this. Normally this should happen on the first weekend in October, but we need to get on some parish's calendar.

If you have an opportunity to do an outreach at your parish you can use our board. We can customize flyers with your contact information which you can place in the back of your parish church. Just get your pastor's permission first. We now have them in both Spanish and English. Please do let your council know what opportunities exist in the parishes for outreach of which you are a member.

Fraternity Election:

A reminder our meeting in September will be on the 3rd Sunday, September 21st. This is your chance to select the council who you want to animate and guide our Fraternity, for the next three years. Nominations can be submitted any time after the June meeting. Gail and Chris have agreed to be the nominations committee. Frank has offered to mentor the team.

Formation:

Randy lead the council formation using Chapter 4 of *Care for Creation*. The council reflected on how the Franciscan view of our place in creation differs from that of our society. Judith will lead next month's formation using Chapter 5 of *Care for Creation* by Keith Warner, OFM, Illia Delio, OFS and Pamela Wood.

Please remember that those who received scholarships from the Fraternity for the Regional Retreat at Serra will report at the July meeting. They need to coordinate with each

other on how they will provide their reports.

Andora has begun her formation journey. Please reach out to Jacqui if you would like to participate in her journey. Each of us has something unique to offer.

If you have ideas for ongoing formation please contact the Formation Director or one of the other members of the council.

Council meeting:

Your council will meet after this newsletter is sent because of the annual Regional Retreat. This next council meeting will be on May 31st at 10:00am at OLA in building C-5.

Marian Celebration:

We had our annual Marian Celebration on the 3rd Sunday in May. We were joined by several guests who may continue to journey with us. We need to thank Myrna who coordinated the celebration. We began by honoring our Blessed Mother with a hymn and praying the Franciscan Crown Rosary. Thanks for the fresh flowers which were placed with the statue of Mary. Adele was able to join us as well as Jannine Norvell, OFS who has moved down from Washington. We also had two guests who are looking into becoming seculars.



Regional Retreat:

Fr. Albert Haase, OFM conducted the annual Serra Retreat May 23-25. The Franciscan Spirit of Prayer & Devotion was the topic. He provided unique insights some of which we should hear about at the July meeting. There will be DVD's of the talks available either for purchase or in our library by the Regional Gathering.

Upcoming Events:

This years Regional Gathering will be on August 30th at St. Thomas Korean Catholic Center. The topic will be the

Canticle of the Creatures since it's the 800th Anniversary of its creation.

On August 10th we will host the District Picnic at Blaisdale Park in Claremont. It is a family event so plan ahead.

Its time to start planning for the 21st Quinquennial Congress which will be held July 29 - Aug 2 2026 in Lexington, KY. Quinquennials are a great way to meet Franciscans from throughout the nations. This Quinquennial will feature Br. Bill Short, OFM, Fr. Wayne Hellmann, OFM Conv. and Darleen Pryds, PhD. For details please visit <https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/21st-quinquennial-congress-q2026>. While your Fraternity *may* be able to offer partial scholarships, the distance and costs are such that members will have to pay most of the costs so start saving your coin. You may also donate to the scholarship fund for the 'Q' to help other members of our Fraternity Attend. Please either use the memo field on a check or as a note attached to the cash. If you use your envelope it will be included in the tax receipt for this year.

Thoughts of Francis and Friends:

Let us desire nothing else, let us wish for nothing else, let nothing else please us and cause us delight except our Creator and Redeemer and Savior, the one true God.

St. Francis of Assisi

Please remember in your prayers:

Please pray for the repose of Pope Francis's soul and for his successor, Pope Leo XIV..

Please pray for Maria del Rosario Cruz, Maria E. Martinez's sister; Zoila, Amelias' sister, and our members Amerila, Frank, Adele, Gail, Myrna and Myrna's new grandchild. All Secular Franciscans who are, for whatever reason, unable to attend Fraternity meetings.

For refugees especially those suffering the effects of conflicts, weather and economic disruption.

That we listen to St. Francis who reminds us we are called to be peacemakers, bridge builders and for the willingness to listen and learn from each other.

For peace and an end to suffering in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and those places that do not make the news.

To be always thankful for our many blessings.

