



“Share the Joy”

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



Newsletter

Listen, Discern, Go Forth!

July 2025

Minister’s Corner

There will be no Fraternity Meeting in July!!

We all have different gifts the Lord has blessed us with, but as Franciscans I believe we are all called to take them, examine what our community needs and use those gifts. In much of Catholic teaching we are reminded to have a ‘Preferential Option for the Poor’. Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM suggests we ask ‘How can we all grow and change together’. In Pope Francis’s encyclical Laudato Si he suggests that local, marginalized communities decide how to best decide how to deal with environmental challenges rather than have a solution dictated to them. This does not exclude our need to look for the wider implications of decisions we need to make both in our personal life and in our public/community choices. While I understand we each have different needs and this will lead to different choices, I believe our public policy should not penalize choosing to support mother earth, particularly on the 800th Anniversary of the St. Francis’ Canticle of the Creatures.

Your servant,
Bill Mussatto, OFS

Calendar of Events:

- ~~Jul 13th 1:00 ~ 4:00 pm~~ Monthly Fraternity Meeting: OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
- Jul 19th 10:00 am ~noon Council Meeting OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
- Jul 26th 11:00~2:00 pm Part II JPIC Pilgrimage La Purisima Mission
- Aug 10th 5:00 ~ 6:30 pm District Picnic, Blaisdell Park in Claremont
- Aug 30th 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
- Oct 10th 11:30~noon Blessing of the Animals at OLA
- Oct 11th 10:00~10:30am Blessing of the Animals at OLA
- Oct 11th or 12th Renewal of Profession at St. Margaret Mary Parish Chino

Part II JPIC Pilgrimage

To Celebrate the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si, the Region is having a Pilgrimage to the La Purisima Mission

State Historical Park, 2295 Purisima Rd., Lompoc, CA 93436. We have been invited to join with our Native American family for a Demonstration Day at the mission. While our Fraternity is not meeting in July, this is our chance to practice in community. Please consider carpooling. It is an over three hour drive from Claremont.

District Picnic:

Our next meeting will be the annual District Picnic. It will again be held at 5:00 pm on August 10th at Blaisdell Park off of south College Ave. in Claremont. The Fraternity will provide drinks, hamburgers, cheese, buns, relish, mustard and catchup. We need volunteers to bring sides, dessert lettuce, onions and tomatoes. As good stewards of the environment, please bring re-useable plates, glasses and flatware. It’s a family event so all are invited. We will have a game as well. Its well shaded and normally very cool for the time. Please call Bill (909-626-3777) with the number of people who will be coming.

Outreach:

If you have an opportunity to do an outreach activity 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 brochures in both Spanish and English. Please do let your council know what opportunities for outreach exist in the parishes of which you are a member.

Fraternity Election:

Professed members of our fraternity can nominate any professed member of the fraternity to *your* council. There are a few restrictions: they must have been a member of the fraternity and professed for a least a year. Minister and Vice Minister must have been professed for three years. In our Region they may not be members of the Regional Executive Council in any capacity except Regional Councilor. You should have already received (and hopefully) returned your nomination forms. Please remember that if you are able you should, as part of your

profession commitment, serve. If you hold an office you are responsible for the duties of that office, but you can ask for someone else to assist you. The council acts as a collaborative group and we assist each other. While your current council meets on Saturday morning this can change to meet the needs and schedule of the new council.

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. Gail and Chris have agreed to be the nominations committee. Frank and Margie have offered to mentor the team.

Formation:

Jaqui lead the council formation using Chapter 9 of *Care for Creation* (Contemplating Our Crucified Earth). Juanito will lead next month's formation using Chapter 11 (The Spirituality of Conversion) 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 October meeting. They need to coordinate with each other on how they will provide their reports.

Andora continues 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 met on June 21st at 10:00am and confirmed, because of the large number of people who will be on vacation on the 2nd Sunday in July that there will be no Fraternity Meeting in July. The next council meeting will be on Saturday July 19th at 10:00 am in the dining room in building C-5 at OLA.

Tentative Schedule of next year:

We have reserved the 1st floor of C-5 at OLA for the 2nd Sunday of each month from September 2025 through June 2026 and should have access from noon through 4:30 pm. Our meetings will remain starting at 1:00 pm, but we should have a bit more time for setup. The room is also reserved for the morning on the Saturday following the Fraternity meeting for council meetings, but this is subject to the guidance of your new council.

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.

We have been asked to run the food ticket sale booth at the OLA parish Fiesta on Oct 3rd, 4th and 5th. Please contact Judith or Bill if you wish to volunteer to work at this booth. This reminds me that in the early days of our order, in Italy it was often required that the city treasurer had to be a Secular Franciscan since they could be trusted with money.

We will assist with the annual Blessing of the Animals on October 10th at 11:30am for the OLA school children and on the 11th at 10:00am for the parish. We are checking with other parishes to see if they need assistance.

We are planning to arrange the annual renewal of profession on October 11th or 12th at St. Margaret Mary parish in Chino.

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:

Is it not time that we pray for one another's conversion?
Bls. Solanes Casey, OFM, Cap

Please remember in your prayers:

V Please pray for peace and an end to suffering in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, especially those affected by the devastating flash floods in Texas and those places that do not make the news.

Please also pray for Maria del Rosario Cruz, Maria E. Martinez's sister; Zoila, Amelias' sister, and our members, Mary Pat, Gail, Myrna; Dominic Trancosky (Myrna's grandchild) and Katharine and Michael Cullen (children of Therrisa Cullen, OFS†). 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 that we are called to be peacemakers, bridge builders and for the willingness to listen and learn from each other.

To be always thankful for our many blessings.