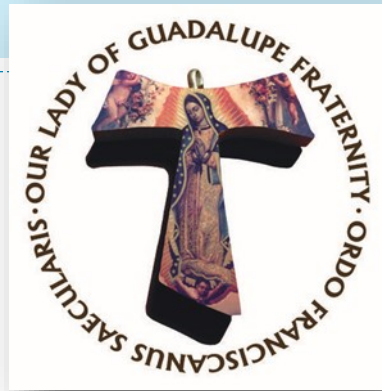


November 2018



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Since November marks my 26th year as a Secular Franciscan. Here follows some reflection: I see my own Franciscan life as a commitment of my profession as a consecration to the service of His Kingdom strengthened by my Baptism and Confirmation to live in union with God. I am entirely in the hands of God becoming God's sacred property which is a daily transformation. I have vowed obedience, poverty and chastity for all of my life in order to live out my commitment to live a gospel life according to the approved Rule of my true Order and true Profession. St Francis is my example, my role model, who shows me how to live out the gospel life of Jesus Christ. Living out the gospel message of salvation is my spirit and life. This leads me to attain the perfection of charity of an evangelical-Franciscan life. My Rule (Life) is to observe the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in a radical, light-filled, joyful manner. My Franciscan Life is built upon a solid foundation of Gospel life discipleship of following Christ. This is to structure my whole life upon the action of God, who emptied Himself to the point of dying on the cross for the Salvation of the world. My Franciscan life is centered upon Christ who is the way, the truth and the life. Uniting myself to be conformed to Him in all my heart, soul and mind. In order to fulfill this my Franciscan identity must be penitential so the Spirit of the Lord overtakes my life through daily repentance and conversion. My state of life married, family, teacher, Iconographer/artist, Minister, is at the service of the Kingdom of God.

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Fraternity Council Members

Minister: Veronica Kortz

Vice-Minister: Jason Ramos

Formation Director: Angel Ramos

Secretary: **Greg and Marty LoVetere** (in Cathlynn's absence)

Editor: Cathlynn Morse

Treasurer: Ben Soriano

Spiritual Assistant: Sylvia Paoli

Councilor: Greg LoVetere

Councilor/Infirmarian: Marty LoVetere

Councilor: Ron Wakefield

JPIC: VACANT

-ATTENTION-

DECEMBER 16, 2018

Please note meeting date out of schedule NOT the 2nd Sunday—due to Fraternal Visitation by our

Regional Minister,

Judith Mussatto

Council and Fraternity Meetings

Monthly on the second Sunday of the month. Exceptions will be noted.

Location

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

1345 Turnbull Canyon Road

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

AT DOLAN HALL BEHIND THE O'CALLAGHAN CENTER

2018 Council and Fraternity meetings

Nov 11, Dec 16

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This is the Secular state that is consecrated to God to affirm salvation in the world. God's love burns in my heart for His people this is only a gift from God when one denies oneself, takes up his daily cross follows His will must be crucified to the world purified by penance in service of humanity this all is a process of sanctification through the spirit of the beatitudes. Come Holy Spirit help me to live for You Alone. Amen

Your humble servant of great love & humility,
Verónica

November All Saints, All Souls', St Martin de Porres, St Leo the Great, St Josaphat, St Frances Xavier Cabrini, St Albert the Great, St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude, St Elizabeth of Hungary, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Cecilia, St Clement I, St Columbian, Bl Miguel Agustin Pro, St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, & St Andrew pray for us.



Mary Queen of Peace
Pray for us

Gospel Living: Peace and the Language of Love

by Cathlynn Morse, OFS

The Pope's prayer intention for November is Universal: In service of Peace. That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

We further explore the attributes and characteristics that are part of who we are as Catholic Christian Secular Franciscans and Gospel People. **Peace is the reflection of Jesus love for all of Creation.** On January 1, 2017 Pope Francis gave his message for the celebration of the Fiftieth World Day of Peace called: "*Nonviolence: a Style of Politics for Peace.*" I recommend taking time to read and digest this document. He starts his message with: "I pray that the image and likeness of God in each person will enable us to acknowledge one another as sacred gifts endowed with immense dignity. Especially in situations of conflict, let us respect this, our "deepest dignity", and make active nonviolence our way of life." (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, 228) Pope Francis applies this message on several levels going from global to the family level. For us, as Secular Franciscans the family level is our life in our fraternities. The Pope states, "Jesus himself lived in violent times. Yet he taught the true battlefield, where violence and peace meet, is the human heart: for it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come. (Mark 7:21)"

For every encounter whether in the world (as we are called to live our vocation) and in our fraternity families how do we become "peace"? Pope Francis quotes Saint Francis of Assisi: "As you announce peace with your mouth, make sure that you have greater peace in your hearts. (The Legend of the Three Companions *Fonti Francescane*, No. 1469)"

When I communicate with my Brothers and Sisters in my fraternity am I acting in Peace or am I :

- ◆ So invested in my own message I fail to listen to what others are communicating with their words, tone of voice, body presentation and behavior?
- ◆ Conveying back to others through these same actions a message of impatience, distrust and loss of relationship?
- ◆ Always going to agree with everyone, no, so through dialogue am I willing to see another point of view and compromise?
- ◆ Going to shut the other person out of my heart when I am annoyed, angry and disagree or do I become the first one to reach out in love after self evaluation to talk about what triggered me to feel and act in a specific way-owning my behavior?
- ◆ Considerate, recognizing everyone processes emotions and information differently or do I try to force others to reconcile on my timeline because it would make me feel better?

In reviewing these questions-please look at this as an opportunity for spiritual and behavioral transformation. Jesus says Peace starts in our hearts.

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

"The poverty of our century is unlike that of another. It is not, as it was before, the result of natural scarcity, but of a set of priorities imposed upon the rest of the world by the rich. Consequently, the modern poor are not pitied, but written off as trash." -[John Berger](#) quoted from *Pace E Bene-Peace and All Good* email subscription for This Non-Violent Life on Sunday October 21, 2018

"Just a Little Bit Less" *October 9, 2018* -[Susie Tierney, Executive Director](#) article from *JustFaith*
This weekend's Gospel reading from Mark contains one of the most cringe-worthy lines in all of scripture for many of us in the U.S.: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:25).

Our tendency is to reduce this line of scripture to simply meaning wealth isn't a problem, so long as we are generous with what we have. However, more and more people today are realizing that wealth is one of the biggest issues of our time. The issue of wealth can be summed up in a quote from John D. Rockefeller, the first American billionaire. When a reporter asked Rockefeller, "How much money is enough?" Without hesitation he responded, "Just a little bit more."

This attitude may be why Jesus expresses such stern warnings about wealth in this weekend's scripture passage and all throughout the Gospels. While it is true that wealth in and of itself is not inherently bad or evil, the problem is we always seem to need "just a little bit more." In my own life, if someone asked me if all my needs are being met, I would quickly respond by saying that I have everything I need and more. Yet, I also know that if I won the lottery tomorrow what I have would instantly be inadequate. I think this is why Jesus repeatedly tells his would-be-disciples, "Go, sell what you have, and give it to the poor." Simply put, material wealth has a way of getting in the way of our relationship with God and everyone else.

And, it's not just money that gets in the way of our relationship with God. It's also the power that almost always comes with it. Rockefeller could just as easily have responded "just a little bit more" to the question, "how much power is enough?" Power and wealth go hand and hand.

Like money, power in and of itself is not evil. In fact, individuals and groups who have claimed their own personal power over the centuries have literally changed history for the better. However, when power and privilege are used for one's own personal gain or the gain of a select few, it nearly always equals the oppression of many others. Power held over those with less or those without, has tainted our past and is actively threatening our future.

According to multiple studies, we are at a time in history when the **top 1% of the population owns half of the world's wealth**. We are also at a time when instances of sexual abuse seem to be leaping off the charts. And, we are in a time when sexual assaults and rape has necessitated the MeToo Movement. Whether it's wealth at the expense of the poor, power run amok in our churches and institutions, or some other unhealthy embrace of wealth, power or privilege, we have a significant problem today. It seems we have completely lost sight of the wisdom of Mark 10. If it really is harder for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to get into heaven, then it's incumbent upon the rest of us to use our personal power to remind those with wealth and the power that comes with it that the solution is not smaller camels or bigger needles; the solution really is living simply so others can simply live. When everyone has enough, only then will we all be truly wealthy.

November 2018

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Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 10am requiem mass at San Juan Cap Basilica for de- ceased OFS
11 10am Council Meeting 12pm potluck 1pm Fraternity	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

