
The Canticle

St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity, Saint Hedwig Church, Los Alamitos, California

Anne Killian, ofs, editor

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SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
ORDO FRANCISCANUS SÆCULARIS OFS

September 2018

Fraternity Information

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS:

Monthly Fraternity Meeting: Sunday, Sept 9 - St. Hedwig's, in the Parish Lounge - Formation at 2pm, and Meeting at 3pm continuing with Laudato Si

Monthly Prayer and Social: Saturday, Sept 22 – 11am **Cynthia's profession** @ St Francis Home

Fraternity Council Meeting: Sunday, Sept 23 - 2 pm at Tina's



August Fraternity meeting

Your Council

Minister – Tina Gath, ofs - (562) 598-5202 tinagath@yahoo.com

Vice Minister – Anne Killian, ofs - (714) 468-9814 annekillian@yahoo.com

Secretary – Terrie Moore, ofs - (909) 658-5852 terriemooreofs@gmail.com

Treasurer – Lina Daukas, ofs - linadaukas@yahoo.com (562) 494-4402

Formation Director – John Davies, ofs - (562) 355-1550 jrdavies53@ymail.com

Spiritual Assistant – Sr Miriam Joseph Teresi, osf cell: (310) 594 6971

Councilors - Diane Halal, ofs - (562) 596-3162 dhalal@juno.com

Gwen Murphy, ofs - (562) 260-5814 dmurphy004@socal.rr.com

Jeanette Barrera, ofs - 562-240-5422 jabsfo3@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact any of us for information or concerns.

Franciscan websites of interest

St. Francis Regional website:

www.stfrancisregion.org

National Fraternity of USA

www.nafra-sfo.org/

Tau USA, newsletter

http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau_newarticles.html

International Fraternity

www.ciofs.org/

Youth and Young Adult

<https://secularfranciscansusa.org/youth-and-young-adult-commission-members/>

Franciscans International

www.franciscansinternational.org/

Franciscan Action Network (FAN)

www.franciscanaction.org

Liturgy of the Hours

<http://www.ebreviary.com> or <http://divineoffice.org/> or <http://www.universalis.com/>

National JPIC Website

<https://sites.google.com/site/jpic4ofs/home>

Catechism of the Catholic Church

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catechism/catechism-of-the-catholic-church/epub/index.cfm> or http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM

Minister's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are living in difficult times for our Church. The recent scandals have many people questioning their faith and the Church.

Some are using the scandals as an excuse for leaving the church. In the Gospel of John that we heard on the 21st Sunday of Ordinary time, Jesus asks his apostles if they also wanted to leave?

But to whom would they go? And where would we go?

I for one love our Church, as I am sure all of you do. This is the Church that Jesus started. I love the sacraments, the Mass and especially the Eucharist. I love the Communion of Saints. I love my community and all the good and holy priests who minister to us.

While righteous anger is justified because of the scandals, it is not enough. We must stay and we must do everything we can do to rebuild the Church, just as St. Francis was asked to do. By our good example, by our love for our Church, by our prayers and extra sacrifices on behalf of the church and by our love and compassion for all affected we can help to rebuild and strengthen the Church.

It may be a long and difficult struggle, but we are Franciscans and we can do it.

After all, this is Jesus' Church and He is with us always as He promised.

Peace and Blessings,

Tina Gath, ofs

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### **A Prayer by Saint Pio of Pietrelcina**

May Jesus comfort you in all your afflictions.

May He sustain you in dangers,  
watch over you always with His grace,

and indicate the safe path

that leads to eternal salvation.

And may He render you always

dearer to His Divine Heart

and always more worthy of Paradise.

Amen

## **Upcoming Fraternity Events**

*All are invited to attend any of these events*

Sun. Sept 9 - Formation at 2pm, Meeting at 3pm

Sun. Sept 16 - 7 pm Pro Life Holy Hour at St Hedwig

Sat. Sept 22 11am mass for **Cynthia's Profession** at **St Francis Home** in Santa Ana. Followed by a reception Come early, parking is an issue.

Sun. Sept 23 - 2 pm Council Meeting at Tina's

### **Looking ahead:**

Wed Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6pm -feast of the Transitus of St Francis at St Simon & Jude, Huntington Beach

Sun Oct 14 - Formation at 2pm, Meeting at 3pm,

Tues. Oct 16 - 7pm Pro Life Holy Hour at St Hedwig

Sat Oct 20 – 8:30am Mass at St. Hedwig's followed by breakfast

Sun Oct 28 - 2pm Council meeting at Tina's home

### **Save the Date:**

## **Cynthia's Profession**

Sept. 22 - At 11am

**St Francis Home**

1718 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St

Santa Ana, CA 92703

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

Sister Miriam Joseph who has retired and will be moving out of the area.

For Jodie who is settling in near her son's home.

For the needs of each and every fraternity member.

### **Area Happenings**

**Every Wednesday – Centering Prayer** at St. Irenaeus Church in Cypress at 7:30pm.

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month** - food and clothing distribution to the poor by H.O.P.E. at St. Irenaeus Church in Cypress, 8:30 to 10:00am.

### **Local Needs**

**Catholic Worker, Santa Ana** – Good used clothing and blankets, coffee, powdered drink mix, canned meat, and paper goods. Please contact Dwight and Leia Smith at (714) 835-6304

### **Saint Pio (Pius) of Pietrelcina, O.F.M. Cap.,**

(25 May 1887– 23 September 1968) was a Capuchin Catholic priest from Italy. He was born **Francesco Forgione**, and given the name Pius (Italian: *Pio*) when he joined the Capuchins, thus he was popularly known as **Padre Pio**. He became famous for his bearing the stigmata. On 16 June 2002, he was canonized by Pope John Paul II.

## September Birthdays

Sept 12 Anne

Sept 19 Terrie

Sept 20 Tina and Luz

Sept 22 Diane

## September Profession Anniversaries

Sept 16 Jeanette

## September Franciscan Calendar of Saints

### Month of the Holy Cross

1. Bl Joachim de Albocacer, Priest, Capuchin, martyr 1936
2. Bl. Martyrs de Carmes, d. 1792
3. St. Pius X, Pope, III Ord, d. 1914
4. St. Rose of Viterbo, Virgin, III Ord, d.1252
- 5 St. Teresa of Calcutta
5. Bl. Gentil de Matelica, Priest, I Ord, martyr 1340
6. Bl. Liberatus of Lauro, Priest, I Ord 7. Bl. Eugenie Picco, Virgin, III Ord, d. 1921
- 7 Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, founder of St Vincent de Paul
8. **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
9. Bl. Seraphina Sforza, Virgin, II Ord; "Poor Clare" , d. 1478
10. Bl. Martyrs of Japan, religious of I & III Ord, d. 1622-1632
11. Bl. Bonaventure of Barcelona, lay brother, I Ord, d. 1684
12. **Feast of the Name of Holy Mary**
13. Bl. Apollinaire Franco, Priest, I Ord, martyr 1622
14. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15. Feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows
16. Bl. Roland de Medicis, Confessor, III Ord, d. 1386
17. Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi
18. St. Joseph de Cupertino, Priest, Conventual, d. 1664
19. Bl. Louis Alleman, Bishop, III Ord, d. 1450
20. St. Francis Mary of Camporosso, lay brother, Cap, d. 1866
21. Bl. Elizabeth Amodei, Virgin, III Ord, d. 1498
22. St. Ignatius of Santhia, Priest, Capuchin, d. 1773
23. **St. Pio of Peitrelcina**, Priest, OFM Capuchin, d. 1968
- 24 **Finding of the Body of St. Clare**
24. St. Pacific of San Severino, Priest, I Ord, d. 1721
25. St. Nicholas de Flue, Confessor, III Ord, d. 1487
- 26 **Birth of St Francis** Sept 26, 1181
26. Bl. Lucy of Caltagirone, Virgin, religious of the III Ord Regular d. 1400
- 27 St. Vincent de Paul and Mother Theresa Hackelmeier (III)
27. St. Elzéar of Sabran, Confessor, III Ord, d. 1323
28. Bl Bernadin of Feltre, Priest, I Ord, d. 1494
29. **Feast of St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael, Archangels**
30. Bl. Charles of Blois, Confessor, III Ord, d. 1364

**Meeting notice:** Please remember to bring your cup or mug to our meetings. St. Francis would approve.



## What is The Transitus

It's the annual Franciscan devotion to mark the passing or Transitus, of Saint Francis from this life into eternal life.

The Church's tradition believes that birth alone is not as significant as the way one lives their life. In Ecclesiastes 7:1 "The day of death is better than the day of one's birth". So we gather to remember the life and death of St. Francis of Assisi. He died on the evening of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1226, at the age of 44, just as the friars were singing the verse of his Canticle of the Creatures that says:

*"Be praised, my Lord, for our sister Bodily Death whom no living man can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin! Blessed are those whom she will find doing your holy will, for to them the second death will do no harm".*

"The Transitus specifies the living memory of St. Francis. By remembering his passing we hope to intensify our commitment to follow Christ in the way of the poor man of Assisi", to quote Daniel Grigassey, OFM. In other words, we find our own unique way to follow Christ in the Gospels just as Francis did for his time.

Each year millions around the world, especially the members of the Franciscan family, gather to remember St. Francis' passing, his Transitus, into eternal life. Part of that memorial usually includes specific prayers and readings. For more info on the Transitus see:

<http://www.franciscanfriarstor.com/archive/stfrancis/Transitus/index.htm>

**Finally, when all God's mysteries had been accomplished in him, his holy soul was freed from his body and assumed into the abyss of God's glory, and Francis fell asleep in God.**  
*(Bonaventure, Major Life.)*



This is the infirmary at the Shrine of the Porziuncola in Assisi outside of which St. Francis died.

The mural of the Transitus was painted by D. Bruschi in 1886.



# 20th OFS Quinquennial Congress 2021: JUBILEE!

(This article originally appeared in the [Spring 2018 issue of Tau-USA](#))

In less than four years Secular Franciscans will celebrate the 800th anniversary of the approval of our 1221 Rule. Happily, this special anniversary will coincide with our next Quinquennial Congress, scheduled for the summer of 2021. Our Quinquennial theme, **JUBILEE**, was chosen to commemorate that historical and holy occasion. As we celebrate the 800th anniversary of our Rule, we *also* celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first Quinquennial Congress held in the United States. Given these *two anniversaries* there will be much to celebrate! It truly will be a **JUBILEE!**

## What is a Quinquennial?

This may be the first time some of you have seen this word, Quinquennial. The dictionary defines it as an event that happens every five years. In our Franciscan history, we recall that Francis would gather the members of the Order for a chapter of mats – where the members of the Order would take up their mats and meet for the purpose of prayer, formation, sharing and jubilation. We continue that tradition. Every five years, members of our National Family gather for the same purpose. Our documents call this a “National Congress,” and this gathering has come to be known as the “Quinquennial,” or “Q” for short. Of course, today, we are far more comfortable – we don’t have to sleep on mats – but our intention is the same.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,  
I hope many of you plan to attend our 2021 Quinquennial! It’s not too soon to start saving for it. The location has now been announced, and this next “Q” will be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona – a great location that will hold the 800-900 Franciscans that we hope to see there. This hotel is across the street from a Franciscan Parish – St. Mary’s Basilica!

See: <https://saintmarysbasilica.org/> This is such a blessing!

Peace and joy,

**Jan Parker OFS** May 5, 2018

## Save the date!

The Q is our big family gathering. Last time we not only had members from the USA, but also from around the world!

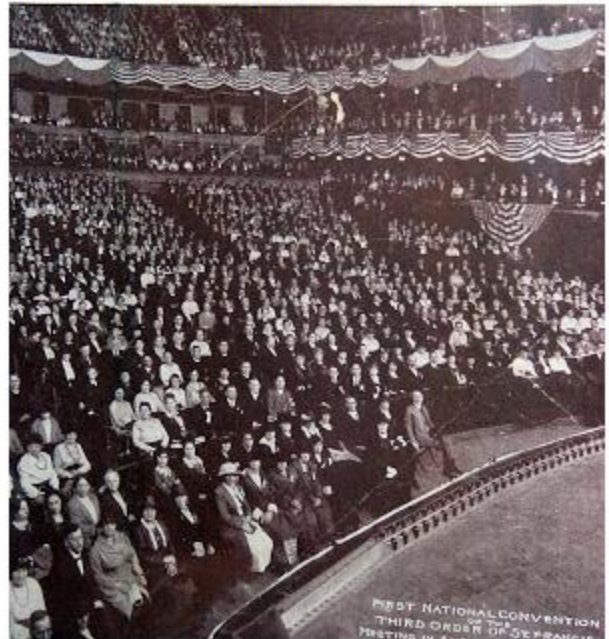
Start saving for an amazing time together and listen to great speakers that we all know and love!

Anne

## History of Quinquennial Congress

by William Wicks, OFS  
National Fraternity Historian

The first congress was held in Chicago in 1921.



[www.quinquennialcongress.org/p/history.html](http://www.quinquennialcongress.org/p/history.html)



At the last Q in 2016, we all brought items for the blessing bags. Then during breaks, everyone pitched in to fill them. There were so many, they had to bring a bigger truck!