

# Our Mother of Sorrows Fraternity Ordo Franciscanus Secularis (OFS)

A Member of Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity



## NEWSLETTER

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July, 2014

### *July 30, 2014: Celebration of Mass and Profession of Four Members*

On Wednesday, July 30, 2014, 7:00 PM at Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Father Jim Chelich will celebrate Mass. Ray Boisvenue will accept the profession of **Jennifer Bahm, Carol and Jeff Dills, and Peg Wagenka**. What a wonderful celebration it will be. These candidates have been journeying together for over three years through Orientation, Inquiry and Candidacy. They are

ready and the Executive Council has voted acceptance of their request for profession. Please keep them in your prayers these days leading up to this wonderful celebration. Thanks to Patti Reynolds, (and formerly Lynn Dubridge) who have led these members throughout the process.

We will have a reception following the Mass so please bring a treat for this special evening.

Do you remember your profession? I hope you find as much excitement at this coming event as you did at your own profession. Welcome Jenn, Carol, Jeff and Peg. We are proud of you and are looking forward to the gifts God will bring us through you.

Peace and all good.



### *Coming up in August....*

Mark your calendars for our August 27, 2014 Meeting. Ray Boisvenue will be our featured speaker doing a presentation on St. Angela of Foligno on Franciscan Spirituality. Our meeting will be at St. Thomas at 7:00 PM.

Also in August, **please pray** for all ministers as they attend their Annual Regional Fraternity Meeting in DeWitt, including **our own Jim Howard, Ray Boisvenue and Patti Reynolds**, the weekend of August 8, 9, 10.

### What do you think...?

The Executive Council would like your thoughts on what our Fraternity could be doing in service, either a single project or an ongoing service apostolate. **Let us know** your thoughts (see the cover for our contact information).

### Executive Council

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Reviewing from Our General Constitutions, Chapter 1, Article 1 *Keeping up with our Constitutions is as important as praying our Rule. For your review....*

1. All the faithful are called to holiness and have a right to follow their own spiritual way in communion with the Church.
2. *Rule 1* There are many spiritual families in the Church with different charisms. Among these families, the Franciscan Family, which in its various branches recognizes St. Francis of Assisi as its father, inspiration, and model, must be included.
3. *Rule 2* From the beginning, the Secular Franciscan Order has had its own proper place in the Franciscan Family. It is formed by the organic union of all the Catholic fraternities whose members, moved by the Holy Spirit, commit themselves through profession to live the Gospel in the manner of St. Francis, in their secular state, following the Rule approved by the Church.
4. The Holy See has entrusted the pastoral care and spiritual assistance of the Secular Franciscan Order (SFO), because it belongs to the same spiritual family, to the Franciscan First Order and Third Order Regular (TOR). These are the "Institutes" who are responsible for the *altius moderamen*, referred to by Canon 303 of the Code of Canon Law.
5. The Secular Franciscan Order is a public association in the Church. It is divided into fraternities at various levels: local, regional, national, and international. Each one has its own juridical personality within the Church.

***We're you there at our last picnic ?***

***WE HAD A GREAT TIME!***

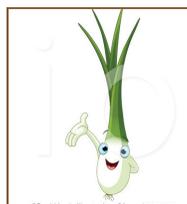
While the weather was of concern earlier in the day...would there be thunder storms?... by the time the picnic started there were no storms and only clouds (in the Old Testament, the Lord comes in the clouds). And even though the rain started half way through, we had the club house so we were well protected.

The weather did not dampen our Franciscan Spirits and we filled the place. The food was amazing as always and no one left hungry. There was a table full of door prizes and thanks to the help of the Bueche children, Kristen, Karolyn, and Klaire, everyone had a number drawn and walked away with something. It's funny how God works. I was saying to

the Lord I needed a new wallet recently, and low and behold, when I went to pick my prize, there was a wallet, a nice one. It fits perfectly my check book and cards....and God is good, all the time.

One of our newest members, Margaret Gesner, at her first ever annual picnic, was amazed at what a fun evening she had.

An added bonus came from Marilyn Hawkins who brought some wild onions from her garden for anyone who wanted to take some to plant and/or just simply enjoy. Thanks Marilyn for sharing your masterful gardening gifts with us.



Couldn't join us this year? Mark your calendar for the third Wednesday in June, 2015 and we will plan on seeing you then (it's never too early).

***It is at the local level that activities have their greatest meaning to members of the SFO. The Local Fraternity Council should expend great care to provide for thought-provoking activities and programs to foster Franciscan life and to deepen Franciscan spirituality among fraternity members.***

***OFS Statutes, Article 18,#9.***



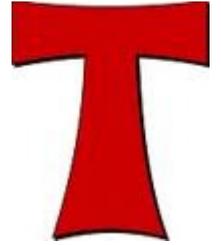
## *Birthday Celebrations*

*Chris Bueche (7-15)*  
*Elaine Kozloski (7-15)*  
*Marcia Dohm (7-19)*  
*Amy Oatley (7-21)*  
*Carol Dills (7-30)*  
*Joann Dusendang (7-31)*



## *Profession Anniversaries*

*James Hickey (7-24)*  
*Elaine McCarthy (7-24)*  
*Kathleen Rosen (7-24)*  
*Michelle Bryk (7-26)*  
*Barb Czurak (7-26)*  
*Gloria Heflin-Oates (7-31)*  
*Elaine Kozloski (7-31)*



## *Pope Francis will canonize a Secular Franciscan in November.*



Our Holy Father, Pope Francis decreed that on 23 November 2014, festivity of Christ King of the Universe, Blessed Amato Ronconi will be inscribed in the book of saints: Blessed Amato Ronconi, an Italian layperson of the Third Order of St. Francis, is the founder of the Hospital-Hospice for Poor Pilgrims of Saludecio, now the Beato Amato Ronconi Nursing Home.

Blessed Amatus was a thirteenth-century Tertiary who rose to great heights of sanctity by serving God as a hermit, as a pilgrim and as a nurse. Born at Sldezzo, near Rimini, about 1238, he lost his parents while still very young, and was brought up by a relative. He was then urged to get married, but he felt that God called him to a life of prayer and penance. After joining the Third Order of St Francis, he fled to a solitary place and began to live as a hermit. By many he was considered a fool, but God showed how much He was pleased with the virtuous life of Amatus by marvelous signs. A mysterious light was seen shining over the hut which served as his shelter, and heavenly songs were heard to issue from it.

Amatus left his hermitage at times to make pilgrimages on foot to Santiago de Compostela in Spain and other famous shrines, or to care for the poor and the sick. He founded the Hospital of St Mary of Mount Orciale, near Rimini, and there he spent the last years of his life as a nurse.

## *On Your Way To Sainthood...*

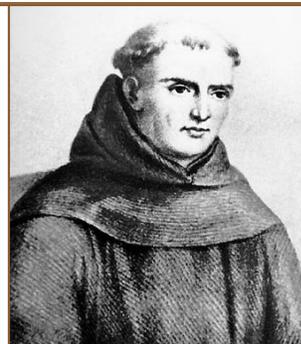
United by their vocation as "brothers and sisters of penance" and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel calls "conversion." Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily. On this road to renewal the sacrament of reconciliation is the privileged sign of the Father's mercy and the source of grace.

OFS Rule, Chapter 2, Article 7

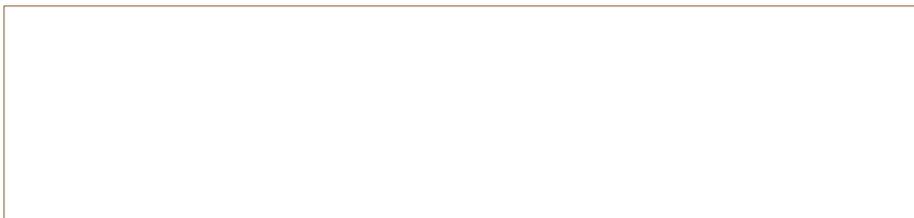
- ◆ **Ongoing:** *Openings for Hourly Adoration at St. Isidore Chapel (sign up at the Chapel)*
- ◆ **Ongoing:** *Holy Hour at St. Ann's home on Sunday nights at 7:00 PM (Adoration, Rosary and Benediction)*
- ◆ **Ongoing:** *TauStore.com (for all your Franciscan religious good needs)*
- ◆ **The Tau On-Line:** [https://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau\\_newarticles.html](https://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau_newarticles.html).

## July 1: Blessed Junipero Serra (1713-1784)

Junipero Was born in Petra on the island of Mallorca in the Mediterranean Sea. His parents were farmers. He became a friar in 1729, taking the name of Juniper (St. Francis' childlike companion, Brother Juniper.). He developed a great love for the saints and made it a priority to imitate them as much as possible. After serving in Mexico he traveled to the United States. Junipero founded nine of the twenty-one Franciscan missions that stretched from San Diego to San Francisco. He and his confreres baptized over 5,800 Native Americans in what is now California. He was so holy a man that it was felt by many that his soul went immediately to heaven. Junipero was small, physically, but worked with all he had (all five feet—two inches) to be an influential force in all he did for Christ. He died at Mission San Carlos on August 28, 1784. He was beatified in 1988 by Saint John Paul II. Junipero was zealous in his missionary work with his motto, "always forward, never back." Many fraternities throughout the country have Junipero Serra as their model and namesake. Blessed Junipero pray for us.



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## July 15—Saint Bonaventure (1218-1274)

Saint Bonaventure was born at Bagnoregio in Tuscany and was baptized John. As a child he was cured by Saint Francis. Bonaventure studied at the University of Paris, where he became a Franciscan Friar. Bonaventure's teaching career was shortened when he was elected as minister general of the friars in 1257. He dedicated his energies to restoring harmony among the friars at a time when the order was plagued by many factions. Two of Bonaventure's most famous writings include Saint Francis (*Legenda Major*) and his brilliant *Journey of the Soul to God*. Saint Bonaventure attributed his knowledge to his meditation of the cross (something we can all do). Like Saint Francis, Bonaventure knew that poverty and humility are the natural allies of the gospel.



You can read the newsletter on line in color at: <http://www.ourmotherofsorrowsofs.org>.