

THE LITTLE FLOWER



“Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis”

San Jose Fraternity

San Antonio, Texas

Secular Franciscan Order

December 2024

Minister:

Margarita Gonzalez, ofs

Vice Minister:

Lois Guckian, ofs

Secretary:

Mary Basile, ofs

Treasurer:

George Irving, ofs

Formation Director:

Florencio Sepulveda, ofs

Spiritual Assistant

Friar Dennis Schafer, ofm



Ninety-Eight members of our Franciscan Family attended the 2024 Fiesta Franciscana that was held at our San Jose Mission, St. Francis Parish Hall. An excellent lunch was provided by our San Jose Youth.

Next Fraternity Meeting: Sunday, December 15, 2024 (3rd Sunday)

San Jose Mission's St. Francis Parish Center

Initial Formation at Noon Followed by Social time and Meeting

12:00 Noon Initial formation for our Inquirer with Florencio Sepulveda, ofs

12:30PM Professed Member Arrival & Social Time – bring your food items. We will eat first before the meeting. Please bring canned goods (the pop-top kind) for our donation to St. Vincent de Paul at one of the San Antonio Parishes.

Please bring pot luck food items.

(All) Side Dishes

Main Dish of Ham will be supplied by the San Jose Fraternity.

2:00PM Liturgy of the hours for the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

3:00PM On-Going Formation Presentation

4:00PM Adjourn

Save the Dates

1. January 19, 2025, Fraternity Meeting, St. Francis Parish Center
2. February 16, 2025, **Fraternity Chapter of Elections, St. Francis Parish Center**
We need everyone to attend this meeting
3. March 16, 2025, Fraternity Meeting, St. Francis Parish Center
4. April 13, 2025, Fraternity Meeting, 2nd Sunday due to Easter being on 3rd Sunday.

Charitable Donations for the end of 2024: During our November and December meetings we will be discussing what organizations to which we may wish to make donations. San Jose Fraternity will be able to donate up to \$1,500.00 this year. In 2023 our membership voted to send \$300 each to the following:

The Seton Home

Catholic Charities

St. Clare Parish for building upkeep

Haven for Hope

Assumption Seminary to the delayed
vocations program

Fraternity Election: San Jose Fraternity will be having an election of officers on 16 Feb. 2025.

PRAYER LIST: Continued prayers for health and spiritual blessings for all our members and their family members, and most especially:

Margarita Gonzalez, ofs, Maggie Padilla, ofs, Lois Guckian, ofs, Judy Hooge, ofs, R. Michael Cook, ofs, Mary Zanyi, ofs, Petra & Gino Macias, ofs, Raquel Gomez, ofs, and husband Gilbert, Ana Gaus, ofs, Maria de Jesus Rios, ofs, and Maria's niece, Frances Rosales, ofs, Lydia Ramon, ofs, Alice McCrae, ofs, and Mary Solomon, ofs.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY: *Feliz Cumpleaños!!*

Alice McCrae, ofs

Henry Ramon, ofs

DECEMBER PROFESSION: None

George Irving, ofs, December 17, 1978

Mary Basile, ofs, December 20, 2015

Lydia Ramon, ofs, December 20, 2015

Yolanda Montoya, ofs, December 17, 2017

R. Michael Cook, ofs, December 16, 2018

Margarita Padilla, ofs, December 16, 2018

CALENDAR OF FRANCISCAN SAINTS for December – Month of the Incarnation

1. Bl. Marie-Angele Astorch, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1665
2. Bl. Raphael Chylinski, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1741
3. St. Francis Xavier, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, Martyr, 1623
4. Bl. Francois Galves, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1623
5. [Bl. Peter of Siena, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1289](#)
6. Bl. Elisabeth la Bonne, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1420
7. Bl. Louis Beltrame Quattrocchi, Confessor, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1951
8. Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the Seraphic Order, Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
9. Bl. Delphine de Glandeves, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360
10. [Bl. Conrad of Offida, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1306](#)
11. [Bl. Hugolinus Magalotti, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373](#)
12. Discovery of the tomb of St. Francis 1820
13. Bl. Pius Bartosik, Priest, Conventual religious, Martyr 1941
14. Bl. Barthole Buonpedini, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1300
15. Mary Queen of the Seraphic Order
16. Bl. Honorat de Biala, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1916
17. Bl. Francois Bell, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1643
18. [Bl. Mary Francis Schervier, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular \[living in community, under a Rule\], d. 1876](#)
19. Bl. Jean Discalceat, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1349
20. Bl. Antoine Galvao, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1822
21. St. Raphael Kalinowski, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1907
22. [St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1917](#)
23. [Bl. Nicolas Factor, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1583](#)
24. [Bl. Bentivolio of Bonio, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231](#)
25. Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Day of Obligation
26. St. Albert Chmielowski, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1916
27. [Bl. Matthia Nazzarei, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1373](#)
28. Feast of the Holy Innocents
29. [Bl. Gerard Cagnoli, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1342](#)
30. [Bl. Margaret Colonna, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1373](#)
31. St. Gaspard Buffalo, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1836; Plenary Indulgence (Chant the Te Deum in public)

Apostolate for Food Banks: Please bring can goods (the Pop-Top kind only) to our monthly gatherings. We will collect these and distribute to one of our local parishes who have food distribution to the poor.

Apostolate for Homeless: Please bring items to pass to the homeless at the breakfast at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine. Needed are: SOCKS, Hats, Glover, Scarfs. **Another Apostolate:** At Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, Br. Joseph's Franciscan Outreach Ministry is at work every week usually in the mornings around 8:00am. We can try to help in the kitchen during the week to help Br. Joseph.

They serve M- F around 9:30- 12. They start cooking around 8:30 on Monday and Friday. The Minister of St. Francis Fraternity has been working there. She indicates that the same folks seem to eat there most days. She visits with the people as they eat and recommends this as a good outreach to the homeless of San Antonio.

Right to Life Rosaries: A friend of one of our members has donated three Right to Life Rosaries. Each is a gorgeous rosary with remembrances of the value of a developing human life in each decade. We will raffle these off with sales of chances for \$100 at our Christmas gathering and at the Election in early 2025.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

159. Why is the Church called the temple of the Holy Spirit?

She is so called because the Holy Spirit resides in the body which is the Church, in her Head and in her members. He also builds up the Church in charity by the Word of God, the sacraments, the virtues, and *charisms*. *"What the soul is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to the members of Christ, that is, the body of Christ, which is the Church."* (Saint Augustine) *Further reading: CCC 797-798, 809-810*

160. What are charisms? Charisms are special gifts of the Holy Spirit which are bestowed on individuals for the good of others, the needs of the world, and in particular for the building up of the Church. The discernment of charisms is the responsibility of the Magisterium. *Further reading: CCC 799-801*

161. Why is the Church one? The Church is one because she has as her source and exemplar the unity of the Trinity of Persons in one God. As her Founder and Head, Jesus Christ re-established the unity of all people in one body. As her soul, the Holy Spirit unites all the faithful in communion with Christ. The Church has but one faith, one sacramental life, one apostolic succession, one common hope, and one and the same charity. *Further reading: CCC 813-815, 866*

162. Where does the one Church of Christ subsist? The one Church of Christ, as a society constituted and organized in the world, subsists in (*subsistit in*) the Catholic Church, governed by the Successor of Peter and the bishops in communion with him. Only through this Church can one obtain the fullness of the means of salvation since the Lord has entrusted all the blessings of the New Covenant to the apostolic college along whose head is Peter. *Further reading: CCC 816, 870*

163. How are non-Catholic Christians to be considered? In the churches and ecclesial communities which are separated from full communion with the Catholic Church, many elements of sanctification and truth can be found. All of these blessings come from Christ and lead to Catholic unity. Members of these churches and communities are incorporated into Christ by Baptism and so we recognize them as brothers. *Further reading: CCC 817-819, 870*

Pax et Bonum! Peace and All Good!! Paz y Bien!

Margarita Gonzalez, ofs, Minister; 7750 Culebra Rd., Apt 3112, San Antonio, TX 78251