

Tau Cross Region

Secular Franciscan Order for The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk

Minister's Message

Joan Geiger, ofs
Regional Minister

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

May peace be with you!

With the coming of fall, there's already much excitement and anticipation as the winter holiday season all too quickly approaches. Is not summer barely over? Perhaps September heralds the news as this morning I heard a countdown on the radio – only so many shopping days left!

In late May, I received a summons to serve on Grand Jury (Grand Jury determines if there is sufficient evidence for the case(s) to go to trial). I had four weeks – June 17th to July 12th – during “down-time” to deplete the magazines that had stack-piled on my coffee table as well as read some books that I had recently acquired. I bring them to your attention as you may want to put them on your “Christmas Wish List.”

St. Francis, A Short Biography by Kathleen M. Carroll gives a good glimpse of the man whose influence continues to be heard and has so much to say to our present age 800 years later. There are several references and excerpts from primary sources (*Legend of the Three Companions, Thomas of Celano, Major Life of St. Francis by St. Bonaventure*). The book can be purchased from Franciscan Media for only \$4.99. As a biography on the life of St. Francis is given to those beginning initial formation at the “Ceremony of

Introduction and Welcoming,” you may wish to consider this small, reasonably priced, compact book.

I, Francis by Carlo Carretto as you can already guess, was written in the first person. It's easy to get into this book as you can almost feel yourself becoming Francis – the “I” character. The book is somewhat poetic and the author does take liberty imagining Francis' thoughts and actions. It reflects on Francis' youth, teachings and the development of the Friars Minor from the intimacy of an autobiographical narrative. It concludes with “Praying with Saint Francis” – A Little Divine Office composed from his words and from his prayers. The book is available from Orbis Books.

Francis of Assisi the Essential Writings – In His Own Words by Jon M. Sweeney is a compilation of the writings by the Saint. “The Rule” (1209), “The First Rule of the Third Order” (1210) as well as other notable rules and letters to friends and people in power, Franciscan praises and canticles are included in this small volume. There are also annotations throughout the book that put the writings into historical and theological context. This book is considered a good translation from the original writings that we can now appreciate. The book is available from Paraclete Press.

Another book I was introduced to this summer is *A Sense of the Divine – A Franciscan Reader for the Christian Year*. Unlike the books mentioned above, this book journeys through the year and seasons with Saints Francis and Clare and their early followers,

using the words of their contemporaries and their immediate successors. In addition, readings are provided for Franciscan saints and special Franciscan Feast Days. The readings lend to reflection and can easily be incorporated into Morning and Evening Prayer. Commissioned and compiled by the Society of St. Francis this book speaks daily about a Christian tradition that has captured the hearts of so many followers. The book is available from Canterbury Press.

Books awaiting my read: *First Encounter with Francis of Assisi, The Franciscans, and Francis and Jesus* – just to name a few.

I hope this has wetted your appetite to pick up a book on St. Francis and/or Franciscan Spirituality. Learning from St. Francis, may we better imitate Christ and bring the Gospel to life and life to the Gospel.

Happy Feast Day of St. Francis – the Poor Man of Assisi – to all!

I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Gathering at St. Joseph's, Babylon on October 26!

Peace and all good,
Joan

Francis before the Sultan



Fr. Matthias' Message

Rev. Matthias Wesnofske, ofm, Cap.
Regional Spiritual Assistant

Animate and Guide Our Fraternity

It was a typical council meeting. We began with the prayer from the ritual, that 'through our good example, wise decisions and courageous action, may we faithfully *animate* and guide our fraternity.....' Then the secretary proceeded to read the minutes of the last meeting, which everyone had already received two weeks previously and had plenty of time to read. Then we looked over the treasurer's report rather carefully, and reviewed the expenses, which are basically the same every month, and then we were informed that the candidates and inquirers had moved ahead one more month in their lesson. We asked if there was any news from our sick or excused members, and then we discussed who was taking care of the liturgy for our upcoming day of recollection; lectors, Eucharistic ministers, songs, and who is bringing the banner, who is bringing the flyers, if the local parishes were informed of the day, who was conducting the raffle, etc.

We then moved onto the feast of St. Francis and the Profession Mass, and the dinner afterwards, and who was bringing the cooler, the ice, the cold cuts, and how much ham and roast beef to order, and then the mustard and pickles, paper goods, and rolls, salads and the cake. Many of these things are important and have to be attended to, since a day of recollection and a luncheon require organization, but maybe a committee could handle these things rather than the council.

After an hour and thirty eight minutes discussing many things that perhaps could have been settled through a few phone calls or emails, someone mentioned that he was disappointed in the response of the members to an

event in which they promised to attend, and the number of promised attendees was sent in to the hosts, so that the catered dinner could be prepared, and then, how so few actually attended, after promising to be there. There was no sense of commitment and common courtesy. This opened up a can of worms.

Suddenly, the meeting got exciting! You might use the word, 'animated', and the discussion actually turned to how we could animate the fraternity. One person mentioned how the fraternity welcomed first-time inquirers and how they were sometimes sitting alone at their first meeting. Someone discussed cliques and the same people always sitting together. Another mentioned how much conversation during the social period at the monthly gathering tended to be on medical issues, doctors and prescriptions, and then how the social part of the gathering seeped into the discussion that was supposed to be on the topic presented as continuing formation. Someone mentioned how members seem to come unprepared to the gathering and didn't even look at the section of the text they were supposed to read ahead of the time of the gathering. Another mentioned that there seemed to be so much complaining about the political situation in our country. Then someone said there seemed to be no joy at the fraternity gathering and there was not a visible spirit of fraternity. Another talked about the lack of a fraternity apostolate in which more of the members could be involved, our aging population and that many members would not or could not attend the monthly gathering unless someone else brought them and the lack of younger vocations.

We drew up a list of all these subjects and how each would take a meeting in itself to discuss or to come up with a solution.. But it was so gratifying to see that we were no longer discussing just business, but trying to animate the fraternity.

The next day I was still pondering what had happened at the meeting the night before. It was the feast of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, and the opening prayer for the Mass was; "O God, who made the Abbot Saint Bernard a man *consumed with zeal* for your house and a *light shining and burning* in your Church, grant, through his intercession, that we might *be on fire* with the same spirit and walk always as *children of light*." (Emphasis and Italics added)

Perhaps, we can all honestly look at our fraternities and the monthly gathering. Individually the members are wonderful, inspiring and prayerful people. But as a fraternity, as an Order, do we exude a spirit of joy, fraternity, light, and fire. Would a young person, or any person, see us as mirrors of Christ, filled with energy and joy to proclaim Christ and His Gospel in the spirit of St. Francis in the 21st century?

The Death of St. Francis



National Prayer for Vocations to the Franciscan Order

O Good and Gracious God, God of mercy, compassion, generosity and love,

As we live our lives today in the model of St. Francis, choosing daily to live the Gospel life.

Help us to help others hear your call.

Help us to help others to recognize their vocation as a Secular Franciscan that You have already planted in their heart.

Help us, so that together We all may work to bring the Gospel to life.

Amen

Young Adult Ministry A Comprehensive View

Jean D'Onofrio, ofs
Bl. John XXIII Frat.

When we read the life of Francis, I think that we can easily lose sight of the fact that Francis was 16 years old when Assisi was freed from imperial domination, 20 when he was imprisoned in the battle against Perugia, 23 when he had the “Servant or Master Dream”, 25 when he embraced the leper, renounced his former life before the Bishop, and heard the call to rebuild San Damiano, the Church and by age 28 years old had become an itinerant preacher of the Kingdom of God after being granted Papal permission in 1209. Clare was 18 or 19 when she left her father’s home thru the death door to start to live the Gospel life. In other words, both of their conversions to the Gospel life happened at ages which we consider to be young adults! It is precisely because of that age in our development that we as professed Seculars, and indeed

Christians, are called to be supportive of those young adults who are seeking Truth and meaning in their lives. The parishes in our region have wonderful programs for our youth till Confirmation. Then, at a very critical time in our children’s lives, for many reasons, the Church and in particular, our Franciscan charism, is not readily approachable for them as young adults.

At the Quinquennial, our General Minister, Encarnacion del Pozo, OFS presented us with the fact that in Europe and China there are thriving young adult fraternities (YouFra’s). At my “Q” fraternity, I was privileged to have one of the two college students who were part of the Siena College Franciscan Earth Corps/ You Fra group. And at our most recent visitation, we were challenged to start working with the young adults—in other words at both higher levels the call to Get with the Program was coming in loud and clear! So, when Joan Geiger asked the ministers, past and present at that time, for a volunteer to head up this initiative in our area, it seemed that the only answer for me was “Yes, I’ll put out the nets and see what the Lord brings in”.

To give proper credit, I remember the youth/young adult groups that Kathy Taormina, OFS coordinated when she was the NAFRA Chair. And in St. Jude’s Parish there was a youth group under the direction of Eileen Will, OFS. And then, it seemed that no-one was out there responding to a call to bring Franciscan values to the world at a younger age than we presently see in formation at our fraternities. Being with Rob Breen, OFS and newly appointed NAFRA Chair of the Franciscan youth and Young Adult

(YouFra) Commission at the “Q” and hearing about the students at Siena college, and hearing his vision does give us hope and well as challenges! Rob has written his vision in our National Tau Newsletter with the focus being on YouFras for young adults ages 18-28 rather than youth minors. Lonnie Ellis and Rhett Engelking, OFS from Franciscan Action Network, have started the Franciscan Earth Corps (FEC) nationally with a great response from young adults. This FEC can either be the apostolate for a YouFra, or exist as its own group. Because our young adults are so high tech, the FEC and even the YouFra connections are on the web. We are going out to meet the young where they are and not waiting for them to come to us!

God is so good all the time – our region also has a Spiritual Assistant in place for our Young Adult groups already! Br. Padraic Campbell, OSF is the Chaplain at Queens College and he had some students interested in YouFra’s already. He has graciously consented to serve our region as the SA for this work.

The work? Joan Geiger attended the Confab event over the summer, with Rob Breen giving the details on YouFra and FEC as we are seeing it today. My husband was also a great help and drove a little extra so that we could both see Rob’s homestead and meet his family as we were enroute to an engineering conference. And as for myself, I have been a Franciscan presence to several young adults in the region:

Kelly is the nutrition coordinator at Bronx Healthreach, an organization that promotes empowerment and healthy living in urban multi-cultural

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Young Adult continued from p3

populations. Kelly and Rhett came out to Ronkonkoma one day in June for a jam-packed tour of my local favorite and ecology-minded places (bagels, pizza and McNulty's ice cream included!) . Kelly asked me to assist her in presenting a Renew and Refresh retreat at the Capuchin Center in Garrison. She had a lot of great ideas and wanted some clown skits to go along with them. Kelly would like to be connected with other Franciscans in the Bronx.

Keith, a college freshman who just received confirmation this spring, is in my parish and seeking to learn more about his faith and relationship to Jesus as well as how to care for creation. We met at my parish to chat. Hopefully we can get more students from the local colleges to join in, as my parish, St. Louis de Montfort in Sound Beach, has agreed to allow the FEC to use a room one night biweekly.

Caroline, his RCIA sponsor, who was a Sienna graduate and past member of the college's FEC, moved back to LI and wanted to get involved with the Franciscans once again. We had several meetings over hummus, coffee, and phone calls to try to work Pope John XXIII Ecology Stations of the Cross from the FAN website to a PowerPoint program with music suitable for our parish to use during Lent. Caroline was accepted into a special Teaching program in the Bronx and so is learning, teaching and living there. Caroline is quite busy at present, but perhaps some outreach might be welcomed periodically.

Alex, also a Siena grad and past FEC member, who spent two years with the Lay Franciscan Missionaries in Camden, NJ, moved back to LI and

was overjoyed to know that we are in place to help her get started with a FEC here! She will be accompanying me to the FEC training in Washington, DC in September. I am most grateful for her willingness to come, especially as she needs to "foot the bill" for her travel expenses herself.

I have met with the campus minister at Stony Brook University and was present at the Vocations "Day". We are working on a date for me to come and talk about the FEC.

I have also talked with the Theology Chair at St. Joseph's as to how we can make our presence known to the students especially in the area of JPIC. After the Sept. training, I will be setting up a date to go and present a talk there.

YouFra fraternities were never intended to be vocations nurseries. (from Koinonia article). However, we, professed Seculars, are challenged to live the Gospel at all times and be the bridge between generations, and between our faith and creation. We each need to be open to that young adult who may be seeking a more authentic response, a Gospel based response, to our world's dilemmas. Are you ready? If you are interested in being connected in some small way, please contact me at my e-mail address: JADSFO@aol.com. IMPORTANT: Be sure to reference

Confirmation of the Rule



SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 ADVENT RECOLLECTION DAY

Come to the Manger...



and allow God to transform
our idols.....



into Icons.



with...

Brother Richard Contino, OSF
at St. Anthony High School

TAU CROSS REGION

The TAU CROSS REGION is published quarterly in January, April, July and in October. Articles by fraternity members are welcome. If accepted, they may be edited. Please submit copies by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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The Graces of the Franciscan Charism: Penance and Ongoing Conversion

Margaret Birth, ofs
St. Michael Fraternity

As important as all of our charisms are within the Franciscan tradition, penance is perhaps the most important—after all, St. Francis of Assisi addressed us Third Order Seculars as “Brothers and Sisters of Penance” and the current version of our Rule is prefaced by a version of his “Letter to the Faithful” which he started by writing about “Those Who Do Penance.”

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines interior penance as “a conversion of heart toward God and away from sin, which implies the intention to change one’s life because of hope in divine mercy” and lists “fasting, prayer, and almsgiving” among the external acts of penance. “[S]uch acts lead to and follow upon the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance,” according to the catechism.

This relationship between penance and conversion is noted in paragraph 7 of our Rule: “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.”

If a charism is a Holy Spirit-given gift or grace that’s intended to help one live the Christian life and or to assist in the common good of the Church, how do penance and conversion serve these purposes?

What makes them Christian concerns as well as Franciscan charisms, and how do we live them out?

Our first hint as to our answers may lie in paragraph 7 of our Secular Franciscan Rule, which notes that, because of our “[h]uman frailty,” we need to remain actively aware of our need for conversion on an ongoing—a daily—basis. Human frailty is weak and imperfect; the fact that we could even seek the strength to conform our “thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel calls ‘conversion’” is a testament to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. “[N]ot my will but yours be done,” as Jesus said to God the Father before He sacrificed Himself on the cross (Luke 22:42); such strength of character isn’t human nature, but holy nature.

One Scripture reference to the role of the Holy Spirit in conversion is 2 Corinthians 3:18: “And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.” This is talking about a transformation—or a conversion—“toward God and away from sin,” as our catechism puts it.

When we exhibit our penance for the Church and the world to see, those external signs of our interior penance—signs such as fasting, prayer, giving alms, celebrating the Sacrament of Penance and participating regularly in the Eucharist—are not only a reaffirmation to us of our ongoing conversion and penance, but are also a gift to the Church, whether that gift is spiritual, monetary, or in the form of fellowship with the body of Christ.

All Christians are called to conversion and penance, from which the rest of the Christian life emanates—but, as with so much else in Franciscan Christianity, the difference isn’t in the

quantity of these gifts, but is in the ever-conscious quality of them, as we make the decision minute by minute, day by day, to choose and choose again to be a brother or sister of penance.

FLIC 2013

Dcn. Robert Campbell, ofs
Bl. Raymond Lull Fraternity

On August 12-25, 55 Franciscans, including our Spiritual Assistant, Rev Matthias Wesnofske OFM Cap, gathered at Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls NY for FLIC 2013. FLIC stands for Franciscans Living In Community – it’s not a retreat but truly a gathering. Included in the 4 days are the same elements we experience in our local monthly fraternity gatherings: prayer, formation, a bit of business and a lot of social.

As in the past several years, formation was provided by Teresa Baker OFS, former National Formation Commission member and author of several formation books. This year’s theme was Living the Gospel – Evangelized to Evangelize. In a nutshell: “in order for us to bring the Gospel to the world, we first must have it within ourselves.”

Some highlights:

· Pope Paul VI: “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.”

· Pope Paul VI: St Francis was a “wordless witness.” Remember his admonition: “use words when necessary.”

· Evangelize: bring the message of the Gospel to the world by living the message

· “ministers” - all called to ministry - are called to serve; this seems to be the message of Pope Francis I

· St Francis, in the Letter to the Ministers: three prescriptions for love:

FLIC continued from p. 5

1. Love and do not expect them to change
2. Love and do not wish them to be better Christians
3. Love and always be merciful

In one of his homilies, Fr Matthias pointed to one of the stained glass window in the chapel and translated the Latin words: “go out into the whole world and proclaim the message of the Gospel to all creatures.” Father said that we are not called to make everyone a Catholic or even a Christian. We are simply called to bring the message, not to convert others. We hope that by our living the message others will get the message.

Evangelization is a job description for Jesus; Discipleship is a job description for the people of God

Definition of evangelization: ev = good, angeliz – angel or messenger, ation = action; thus, we are called to action as messengers of good

Dialogue: true dialogue has three components:

1. Change both parties
2. The outcome is a mystery – it cannot be known in advance; there is always an unknown in dialogue – otherwise it would be a script; both parties come to a new understanding.
3. Dialogue and hierarchy are incompatible – equals are speaking

Newbies:

A number of years ago, inspired by Brother Bernard Frey OFM Cap, we described people attending our gathering for the first time as “newbies”. The term stuck! This year we had 9 newbies and, as always, we invited them to share their FLIC experience. Here is the response from a 2013 newbie, Grace

Callahan.

Never before had I ever heard of that word “newbie”. It turned out to be quite a revelation as so much that I learned at FLIC has become. My first year there was sheer joy, from the first day that I saw a bluebird to the closing on Thursday.

I learned an entirely new concept of evangelization from Teresa Baker, a very skilled speaker. Some of the treasures she shared with us were:

- We are called to those who are disconnected from Christ.

- We are not called to convert people, but to evangelize, the act of being a messenger of Christ.

- Love requires that we do not expect people to change.

- Notice the person that no one else notices.

- Put the ZING into the Good News. The culture today is opposed to the Gospel message.

- Have a joyful attitude.

- I am called to make my own contribution, inspired by St Francis and his message.

- Be a wordless witness.

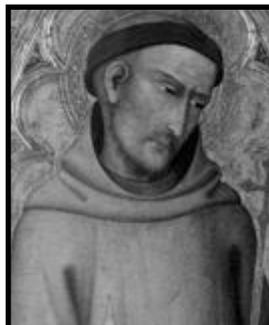
I would be remiss if I did not share some of the wisdom that Father Matthias gave us in his homilies:

- Be a friend to the alien.

- Do not denigrate what others believe.

- The way the media sees happiness is opposed to reality. The reality is finding the way to eternal happiness.

FLIC 2014 - here I come!



Clare of Assisi

Bro. Thomas Barton, ofsf
Franciscan Brothers of Brooklyn

Chiara di Favarone di Offreduccio

Clare of Assisi was born to parents of noble birth in 1193 in the city of Assisi, a remote outpost of the Holy Roman Empire, centered then in Aachen, in what today we call Germany. The fortress which today hovers over Assisi is a scaled down replica of the German citadel which dominated that area of the Spoleto Valley. The Rocca Maggiore, as it is called, faced the other outpost, Perugia, itself an outpost of the Papal States.

The Lord Favaronne and the Lady Ortolana were Clare's parents. There is no knowledge as to whether Favaronne was deceased when Clare reached her maturity, or if he was on Crusade in the Holy land; he never enters into the picture in Clare's adult life. Ortolana was a deeply devout woman, who was a frequent pilgrim. The sisters were Catherine (who became Sister Agnes) and Beatrice. In time the mother and three daughters were all Nuns in San Damiano. Clare's cousin Lord Rufino became one of Francis's first eleven brothers.

.....continued next page

REMINDER

The Fall Regional Gathering will, be held at St. Joseph Parish Hall in Babylon. The date is Saturday, October 26. Registration begins at 9:30 A.M. A light breakfast will be available. The gathering will begin with Morning Prayers and will conclude at about 3:00 P.M.

Mass will be celebrated in the late morning followed by a ‘Brown Bag’ lunch. After lunch, speaker Jean D’Onofrio will address the topic “Franciscan Youth.”

These are very informal, friendly sessions; a chance to renew old acquaintances and worth the trip.

Clare of Assisi continued from p 6

In the chronology of Clare's family Charlemagne is listed as an ancestor. There is much evidence to indicate that the nobility of Assisi were descendants of their German overlords. If we used a current phrase to explain something important about her, we could say she appeared "to have had it all".

The family lived in their own fortified compound, with their own private security service. The history of Assisi indicates that in her day there were seven knights in her family, which means, among other things, that they were military in nature. They appear to have had a decent amount of funds, so that they were separated from the impoverished nobility. They had significant connections with the diocesan bishop and they gave evidence of being strongly faithful Roman Catholics.

We could reasonably assume that with three eligible young, connected, wealthy noble women, there would be many suitors. What seems to have muted that for a significant period of time was the disruption in the civil governance of Assisi for a number of years with the departure of the Holy Roman Empire from the Rocca Maggiore, and it's subsequent destruction by the populace of Assisi in May 1197.

It happened that Emperor Fredrick died in a flash flood while on campaign in the spring of 1197 and many the Germany Lords rose in revolt against Empress Constance who was serving as regent for the infant emperor. The Duke, who lived in the Rocca fortress, was called back to Aachen to defend the infant's interests and was told to surrender Assisi to the Papacy. At their departure, the Assisi merchants, probably including Francis, his father Pietro and brother Angelo, rose up and destroyed the walls of the citadel, using the stones to build up the walls

of Assisi as defense against the Papal forces.

The civil war which ensued in Assisi pitted the nobility against the merchant free men. Many of the noble houses were attacked, and the inhabitants fled as refugees to Perugia. The Offreduccio house was able to withstand the pressure for several years, but they, too, fled to the protecting walls of their former 'archenemy'. I would suggest that it was during this time in exile "as pilgrims and strangers" in Perugia that Clare began to see the disruptive power of property and the consequences of the need to protect it.

Eventually when the nobility returned to Assisi, there was a new power structure called "the commune", a bicameral structure for governance in which the upper house, the Maiores, and the lower house, the Minores, governed together, through the Podesta, a mayor. Into this situation, the battle scarred, and prison weary Francis emerges as Knight of the Most High God.

Returning now to Clare, who had it all, we must ask the question: what, then did she receive from Francis?

In her own hand, Clare wrote these words to her sisters "The Son of God was made the way, which Francis his perfect lover and imitator gave me".

Around the Region

Alicia D'Amato, ofs
Regional Secretary

Anniversaries

51 Years: Marie Collins, St. Monica
49 Years: Peter Koch, St. Monica
48 Years: Phyllis Coulbourne, St. Mon
25 Years: Florence O'Connor,
St. Adalbert

Admissions

6/9: Daphne DeMills, St. Monica

6/17: Gregory & Stacey Baltrusitus,
Holy Poverty

Professions

6/23: Patricia Zavola, Canticle of Sun
8/10: Frank Scotto, St. Helen
9/07: Josephine Cahill, Holy Povrerty
9/15: Diana Bartoli, St. Thomas More

Elections

6/30: Barbara Hansen, elected
Minister, O.L. Queen of Angels

Deaths

6/26: Kathleen McGourty, St. Barnabas
8/04: Virginia Wymbas, St. Barnabas
8/22: Louise Bell, St. Boniface
9/20: Evelyn Cammarata, St. Helen

Activities

7/14: Immaculate Conception
Fraternity: Special Anniversaries.
7/20: 4th Annual "Getting to Know
You Picnic," St. Helen Fraternity
8/03: Portiuncula Celebration at St.
Anthony H.S. sponsor, Franciscan
Brothers of Brooklyn
8/12-15: FLIC, Mt. Alvernia Retreat
Center, Wappingers Falls
8/24: Day of Recollection sponsored
by St. Lawrence of Brindisi Fraternity

Upcoming Events

Transitus Liturgies celebrated at:
5:30 P.M. O.L. of the Angels Church,
Bay Ridge, Brooklyn
7:00 P.M. Cure of Ars Chapel, Merrick
sponsored by Cure of Ars Fraternity
7:30 P.M. St. Joseph the Worker
Church, East Patchogue sponsored by
St. Maximilian Fraternity
10/26: Regional Fall Gatherting to be
held at St. Joseph Parish Center,
Babylon
11/30: Advent Day of Recollection to
be held at St. Anthony H.S., Melville
Third Tuesday of every month
Franciscan Luncheon NOW HELD AT
CANDLELIGHT DINER, Commack.
(In the Macy's Shopping Center)



Profession of Josephine Cahill, Holy Poverty Fraternity, Sept. 7, 2013. Bro. Ed Bacon, OSF. Josephine Cahill, OFS, Fr. Matthias OFM, Dcn. Joe Peralta, OFS, Bro. Damian Novello, OSF, Pauline and Raph DiCicco, OFS



A Prayer, A Pooch and A Picnic :-)
 "Can't beat that combination!"

Mary Ann Kellen of St. Helen Fraternity



St. Lawrence of Brindisi: Welcoming Gary Duryee into the fraternity, 8/4. Bob Metz and Fr. Matthias presiding.



Special Anniversary celebration sponsored by Immaculate Conception Fraternity, Bronx



Day of Reflection at Our Lady of the Island Shrine, Eastport. 8/24



FLIC: August 12-15, Wappingers Falls



Marianne O. and Friends at Portiuncula Celebration



Florence O'Connor celebrates 25 years professed. St. Adalbert's Fraternity. Congrats!