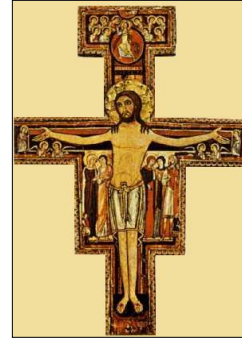


# THE CORD

San Luis Rey Fraternity  
of the  
Secular Franciscan Order  
Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside, CA.

December Issue

Coming Meetings: December 5, 2010  
& January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011



12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Candidates – Clare Room

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

General Meeting – Clare Room

## FRANCISCAN SAINTS IN DECEMBER

Dec. 1 - Rembert Kowalski (I)

Dec. 2 - Blessed Rafal Helsinki (I)

Dec. 5 - Blessed Mary Frances Schervier (III)

Dec. 16 - Blessed Honoratus Koziminski (I)

Dec. 18 - Mother Alfred Moes (III)\*

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### NOVEMBER'S MEETING

At our November meeting, we learned about the new on-going formation series that will be starting up early next year for all members.

The fraternity also conducted a very successful nomination process for our coming election in January, assuring a prayerful and stress-free election in January and a smooth transition for a new fraternity council.

### THE DECEMBER MEETING

At our December gathering, we will be having a Christmas celebration and potluck. This year, the celebration includes something new.

The Formation team brings us a presentation by a well-known Franciscan scholar on the meaning and symbolism of the **San Damiano Cross**.

Just for fun, we will have a "**white elephant**" gift exchange. Bring a wrapped, unused gift that you would like to "re-gift" because you haven't found a use for the

item. Or bring something new that costs less than \$5.00

And also bring along a few dollars so that you can buy tickets for a **Franciscan gift raffle**. We'll be raffling off Franciscan images, books, et cetera. Proceeds of the raffle of these new items will be given to the Mission friars in memory of Brother Kelly.

Please find a list of potluck foods and who signed up at the end of this Newsletter. The Fraternity is providing fruit.

### DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

For those who forgot to bring canned goods and other staples to the November meeting, it's not too late: we will collect food and donations for Brother Benno's this meeting also. Please bring food items to make life brighter for the poor this Christmas.

Also, Sister Madeline will collect new socks and warm jackets for poor & homeless workers. If you have any of these to donate, bring these to the December meeting as well.

## **Karron's Korner: Thoughts at Christmas**

At this very busy time of year, filled with travel, shopping, entertainment and festivity, do let us remember how greatly we are blessed, so that we will stop and thank God as we move through our day.

We thank the Father for sending His Son Jesus to open Heaven for us. And for the Holy Spirit, His Presence among us. We thank Him for having created us, and gracing our lives with talents, skills, interests, and all that we think about as ours. And for the varied, vibrant and infinite universe He's given us to call home.

And how can we thank Him for the gift of faith that allows us first to learn about the Lord and then to walk with Him through life? How to thank Him for the path shown us by Christ's church? How would we begin to find Him without the Eucharist, the sacraments, and Scripture? And the huge,

deep and magnificent spiritual heritage we have in this Church – its teaching, its history and its people.

As Franciscans, we are mentored by Francis and Clare, who achieved a very intimate relationship with Christ by living according to His Word. As a community, we are particularly privileged by being based at the Mission, where we enjoy the guidance and help of the friars and of Sr. Madeline, who have welcomed us into their spiritual family.

And each of us also thanks and praises God for the people, experiences and opportunities He has put into our particular lives. Christmas just serves as a reminder of how great and beautiful and generous our God is. We give you praise and thanks, Almighty God!

## **Profession Anniversary**

Penny J. & Freeda P. were professed on December 10, 2006.

## **In Memoriam**

Mary P. Ryan M.	December 4, 2002	Mae C.	December 29, 1998
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## **Prayer Requests**

- Pray God will increase our fraternity – in members, blessings, influence and good work.
- Pray for God's blessings on the coming fraternity election.
- Pray for the repose of the soul of Brother Kelly C., OFM, who died unexpectedly of a heart attack on Saturday, Nov. 13, in Rome, Italy. He was 57 years old.
- For a full recovery for Sandy B., Barbara U., and for Leeann B., who are recovering from surgery.

*This coming January, we will elect a new Council and Minister for the San Luis Rey fraternity. Each of us is responsible for the quality of life within the fraternity, and has gifts that are critical to its vitality, its spirit and its ability to bless others.*

*I ask that you print or copy this page and carry it with you. If you say this prayer every day, we will have a successful fraternity election in January. God bless you!*

*Your Minister*

### **Prayer for Our Fraternity and the Coming Election**

I thank you, Lord, for making me a Secular Franciscan.

Pardon my shortcomings, weaknesses and failures as I seek to lead a Gospel life according to our Rule. Please make me the Franciscan you want me to be.

Jesus, just as I have a body, and my body has several parts and each part has a separate function, so all of us in this fraternity, in union with you, Lord, form one body. As parts of that body, we belong to each other. Each of us has gifts that you have given us.

If my gift is administration, let me use it for administration; if teaching, let me use it for teaching. If I be a preacher, let me deliver sermons, if an alms giver, let me give freely, if an officer let me be diligent, and if I am to do works of mercy, let me do them cheerfully. Whatever my gifts, Lord let me use them to serve you as you see fit.

Do not let my love be a pretense, but let me love others as a brother or sister should, and give me a profound respect for each of them.

Let me work for you and with you, Lord.

Let me recognize in myself and others the gifts that will further your life in our fraternity. Give us the gifts we need to enliven and guide this group. Let us encourage and assist one another in your work. Lord, we give thanks for all your gifts, especially wisdom, knowledge, strength, discernment, kindness and generosity of spirit.

Lord, give me right faith, firm hope and perfect charity, and give me the wisdom and perseverance to accomplish your will. I trust in you and ask for your light.

Jesus, grant that your Gospel in the spirit of St. Francis be alive in our community.

Jesus, grant that we know what you want us to do, that we want what pleases you, and will do what you want for your sake alone.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Sunday, December 5th, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
**San Luis Rey Fraternity Meeting,**

**Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon.**  
**Council Meeting,** St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Vista.

**Tuesday, December 14, 2010, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.**  
**"Christmas at the Mission"**

This celebration is a night of lights, music and especially, good food. The decorated Historic Church and singing carolers put everyone in the spirit of the season, and the gardens and Mission buildings are lit in hundreds of lights. The main event takes place in the Sacred Garden where area restaurants offer generous samplings of their specialties. In addition, opportunity drawings will feature travel and other coveted prizes. Admission tickets at \$35 per person include all food samplings and one "spirit" beverage. Proceeds will help the conservation of the Old Mission. Make your reservation by December 7. Call 760-757-3651 x127

**Sunday, January 9th, 2:00 pm – 4:00 p.m.**  
**San Luis Rey Fraternity Meeting,**

**Thursday, January 13th, 12:00 noon**  
**Council Meeting,** St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Vista

<b>Member</b>	<b>December Potluck Dish</b>
Carol I. & Dorothy J.	Fruit Salad
Sister Madeline	Cheese & Crackers
Mary Rose & Bob G.	Chicken wings & Drumsticks
Tim C.	Sweets
Freeda P.	Vegetable Platter
Sandy B.	Swedish Meatballs or Swedish Cookies
Jack S.	Crock-pot chili
Anna D.	Vegetable Tray
Dorothea H.	Chip & Dip
Edna P.	Finger Jell-O
Winnie B.	Fruit Bowl
Irene E.	Potato Salad
Frances G.	Dessert
Denise S.	Sweet
Karron E.	Sweet – brownies or cake
Penny J.	Salty treat
Eileen C.	Sandwich Wraps
Fraternity Treasury	Large Fruit Plate