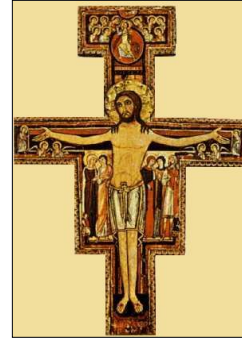


THE CORD

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



February 2010

Next Meeting: February 7, 2010

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.
Candidates – Clare Room

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
General Meeting – Clare Room

FRANCISCAN SAINTS in February

Feb 01 – Bld. Veridiana of Castel Fiorentino (III)
Feb 02 – Mother Alexia Hoell (III)
Feb 04 – St. Joseph of Leonissa (I)
Feb 05 – Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel (III)
Feb 06 – St. Peter Baptist & Companions (I III)

Feb 07 – St. Colette (II)
Feb 08 – St Giles Mary of St. Joseph
Feb 19 – St. Conrad of Piacenza (III)*
Feb 25 – Bld Sebastian of Aparicio (I)

January's Meeting

At our January meeting, Frances Garcia briefed us on the fraternity's financial situation for the year ending 2009, and distributed the approved budget for 2010.

Our records show a serious decline in contributions compared to 2008. We believe this is due to a failure on the part of our members to send in their contributions whether or not they attend the monthly meeting(s).

However, all is not lost. If every member could contribute \$10 per month for 12 months in 2010, the fraternity would be on a firm financial footing. Of course, we recognize there are some who cannot contribute this amount. We also have members who contribute \$20, \$30 and \$50 dollars a month, and ask that they continue to contribute at this level, as there are some members who give at the \$10 level.

What we do expect is that everyone contributes every month. If you cannot attend a meeting, send your contribution with another SFO or mail it directly to the fraternity Treasurer:

Frances Garcia, SFO
26272 Kathy Lane
Hemet, California 92544

“Regarding expenses necessary for the life of the fraternity and the needs of worship, of the apostolate, and of charity, all the brothers and sisters should offer a contribution according to their means. Local fraternities should contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils.”
(The Rule, paragraph 25).

Our February Gathering

The Regional Ministers' Meeting was really great this year. Bob Fitzsimmons, the National Formation Commission Chair, gave several presentations. I spoke with him at length, he gave a brilliant presentation on the Franciscan charism which I need to share with you.

We'll also look at new developments at the Regional level and some new opportunities available to us.

Tim Corrigan will illuminate the lives of our February saints, St. Peter Baptist & Companions.

Karron's Korner –

We are now into February, and Lent will soon be upon us. So I am offering a suggestion, for our own lives and our lives in fraternity, that I know you can take to heart.

On TV, I have been watching the pain and struggles of the Haitian people, as well as the outpouring of care and aid to them from all over the planet.

How fine it would be to set an expectation and a clear understanding – in our families, our business, our institutions – for people, above all, to respect one another and be kind. And we, as Christians, can be kind in the Name of Jesus, and for Him, so we will find help to live in kindness.

The easiest way to know God's love is to be loving – in our families, to our pets, to friends and to strangers. Kindness is a demonstration of love. Going out of our way to be deliberately kind, even if it is a little inconvenient, or takes us a few steps out of our way, or postpones our own comfort for a minute or two, is a great work. It is heroic and has effects far greater than we can see or anticipate.

As we bring the Lord with us as our companion, friend and guest, we go forward in His kindness. He will speak to others through us. Though we may think we are small, working in union with Christ gives us tremendous power in Him.

So I propose kindness for Lent in 2010, and then simply keeping it up.

St. Peter Baptist & Companions

Died at Nagasaki, 5 Feb., 1597. In 1593 while negotiations were pending between the Emperor of Japan and the Governor of \ Philippines, the latter sent Peter Baptist and several other Franciscans as ambassadors to Japan. Well received by the emperor, they established convents, schools, and hospitals, and effected many conversions. When on 20 Oct., 1596, a Spanish vessel of war was stranded on the isle of Tosa, it became, according to Japanese custom, the property of the emperor. The captain was foolish enough to extol the power of the king, and said the missionaries had been sent to prepare for the conquest of the country. The emperor became furious, and on 9 Dec., 1596, ordered the missionaries to be imprisoned. On 5 Feb., 1597, six friars belonging to the First Order St. Francis (Peter Baptist, Martin of the Ascension, Francis Blanco, priests; Philip of Jesus, cleric; Gonsalvo Garzia, Francis of St. Michael, lay brothers), three Japanese Jesuits (Paul Miki, John Goto, James Kisai) and seventeen native Franciscan Tertiaries were crucified. They were beatified 14 Sept., 1627, by Urban VIII, canonized 8 June, 1862, by Pius IX.

Prayer Requests:

- Please continue to pray for Scott Herman's recovery, and for God's protection for Connie and their children.
- Please pray for our Fraternity, that God may bless us and give us every spiritual and material blessing!

Birthdays

On the 6th of this month, **Jack Shuk** celebrates a birthday, and **Mary Behnke's** birthday will be on the 28th. Happy Birthday to all!

Anniversary of Profession

Carol Imhoff celebrates her 25th (Silver) Anniversary as an SFO on the 14th. Happy Anniversary, Carol!

Memorials

Gertrude W. February 2, 1996
Charles D. February 9, 2007
Florence C. February 21, 1996

Scriptures on Kindness

1 Jeremiah 9:24

but let him who boasts boast about this:
that he understands and knows me,
that I am the LORD, who exercises **kindness**,
justice and righteousness on earth,
for in these I delight,"

Romans 2:4

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his **kindness**, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Ephesians 2:6-7

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his **kindness** to us in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, **kindness**, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

2 Peter 1: 5-8

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly **kindness**; and to brotherly **kindness**, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, February 7, 2:00pm

San Luis Rey Fraternity February Meeting

Thursday, February 11, 12:30 pm – St. Francis Region Ministers' Meeting

Fraternity Council Meeting, St. Francis of Assisi parish, Vista

Wednesday, February 17, 10:30am or 5:30 p.m.

"Companions in a Desert Place - An Ash Wednesday Reflection" with Fr. Philip G., OFM

Monday, February 22, 10:30am - 8:00pm

Sessions are on each Monday beginning at 10:30am-noon OR from 7:00pm-8:30pm
With Fr. Philip G., OFM and Brother Kelly C., OFM. Free will offering.

Masses will be offered for San Luis Rey Fraternity Members, Living & Deceased:

All Fraternity Members are welcome to attend.

Masses have been scheduled at the San Luis Rey Parish Church, as follows:

Saturday, February 13, 8:00 am

Saturday March 13, 8:00 am

Saturday April 10, 8:00 am

Saturday May 8, 8:00 am

Sunday, June 13, 5:00 pm

Saturday, July 10, 8:00 am