



THE CORD

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

February 8, 2015

Mass in the Serra Center at 10:00 AM

Community Prayer in the St. Clare Chapel after Mass

Lunch in the O'Keefe Lounge from 12:00-12:50 PM

General Meeting in the Luiseño Room from 1:00-3:00 PM

Council Meeting will follow at 3:00 PM



Future Meetings:

March 1, 2015, April 5, 2015, May 3, 2015, June 7, 2015, July 12, 2015(tentative)

The Gap Prayer

From
The Catholic Prayer Book
By Rev. Fr. Robert Fox
Published in 1972

Lord, of the ages, Lord of the Nations, Lord God Almighty. Give me a heart to understand others' point of view. Widen my vision beyond the narrow confines of my little world to embrace the horizons of knowledge and love that scan all boundaries.

There is no man or woman, no teenager, no child, from whom I cannot learn something. Each person, young or old, black or white, yellow or red, is a unique creation of God. And Lord, the God of Love, You made each one of us with our unique personality, with unique bodily characteristics, because you loved us. And to each one of us you have said, "I have loved you with an everlasting love."

God You talk to us in everything and in everyone. The beauty of Your World which tells of Your existence and Your power, we sometimes mar with our excessive living and our uncharitableness toward other persons created in Your own image and likeness. Lord, deliver me from polluting the beauty of Your world and the gifts of Your creation. Lord spare me from failing to see You in the face of every man, woman, and child that I shall ever meet.

Too often dear Lord, we do not recognize You in the goodness of Your creation. We fail to see You in the faces of certain people because their skin is colored different from our own. We

are more blind than the blind, who in their love for one another are not bothered by the color of skin.

To often dear Lord I do not appreciate the view of one that is older. His vision may be deeper and wider than my own. Too often dear lord I do not comprehend the view or one who is younger. His vision is fresher, bolder, more courageous than my own.

Too often dear lord, I do not appreciate the view and the custom of one whose culture is different from mine. Different cultures penetrate your goodness and beauty, Your wisdom and knowledge, from angles I have never seen or known. I could learn to know and to love more from (the) cultures of others. Instead dear Lord, I recognize Your beauty and Your Goodness in limited color, in restricted goodness and narrow views.

Help me God of Love to blend Your freshness and fortitude in youth with Your wisdom and experience in age. Help me recognize the fuller beauty of Your persons in persons of various colors. Bless me dear Lord with knowledge and a love that is tempered by age, wisdom, culture and You God in Christ Jesus, Who are all things to all men. Amen

Read this slowly, and think about it.

What attributes of what peoples, cultures etc are you guilty of being uncharitable to, or just simply, without being aware of it shun away from, or simply don't listen to or allow to speak freely in your conversation/sharing...?

RESULTS OF OUR REGIONAL ELECTIONS.

Sandy B was our fraternity's delegate at the regional elections, and here are the newly elected regional council members.

Hi everyone,

I wanted to let all of you know who the newly elected members of the Regional Council are. I will report on the entire weekend at our next Council Meeting in Feb.

Old Regional Council Members Council Members

Newly Elected Regional Council Members

Sylvia P., Minister

Judith B. M., Minister

Robert H., Vice Minister

Frank M., Vice Minister

Judith B. M., Secretary

Dave T., Secretary

Frank M., Treasurer

Bob H., Treasurer

A. Tuan C., Councilor

A. Tuan C., Councilor

Margarita R., Councilor

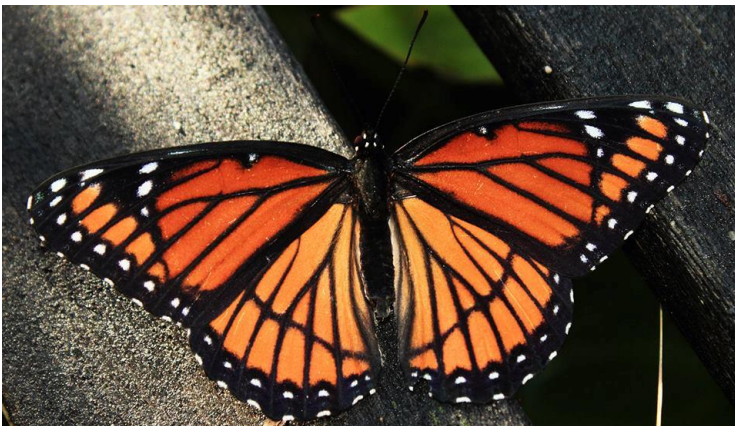
Margarita R., Councilor

Rosa Y., Councilor

In the Spirit of St. Francis,

Sandy B.

Thank you Sandy, and God bless you, and our newly elected
Regional Council.



Monarch Butterflies were Dorothy's favorite butterfly, have seen one today? If so, she just might have guided it into your path.

Have You Seen the 'Habit' of a Secular Franciscan?

...if you have not seen a Secular Franciscan's habit then perhaps you are not looking at us the way you should look.

As far as outward sign, Secular Franciscans wear...

- a Tau Cross, metal or wood- which can be found pinned on the their jacket, blouse or shirt or hanging from a chain or cord about their neck.
- or some choose to wear a ring with the Tau Cross on it. This ring is generally worn on the right ring finger, as their wedding ring is on the left hand.

This visible symbol reminds all of our commitment to God and to the Secular Franciscan Order.

Secular Franciscans also wear other things, however, if you are looking at the material items such as clothing then you will miss seeing them.

If you want to see the habit then you must look:

- into their eyes - there you will see the shining glow of hope.
This hope is a belief that there is a Heaven and the hope we will be with our loving savior when we leave this earthly world.
- At their smiles - a sign of happiness and joy in the life we have chosen serving God and our smiles knowing that God loves all.
- In to their hearts - there you will see the love and compassion for all those they minister to and for God.

You must also listen. Listen to:

- their laughter - one cannot help laughing with people about the joys of life especially when God is always tickling their hearts.
- their voices - for in their words they share the Good News of the Bible, the prayers within their hearts, the love we have for God and the stories of St. Francis of Assisi (their founder).

These are just a few items of our "Franciscan habit." Perhaps it is not the habit people are looking for but I know one thing. It is a habit that we clean, repair and change easily through prayer, retreats and fraternity life. It never wears out; it is contagious and is truly an outward sign of our love of service and commitment to God in the footsteps of St. Francis. Yes, as 'Secular Franciscans,' we wear this habit every day! Our prayer is that you can see it. Oh what a beautiful habit it is!!!!

(Don't remember the web site, where I found the original, but this is based on a thought from a 'Sister of Mercy,' whose 'habit,' was a simple cross and a ring along with the other items.)

We ask you to pray for Minister David as he travels for his job and our fraternity.

Notes from our Treasurer

MISSION SAN LUIS REY FRATERNITY SUPPORT OF FRANCISCAN CAUSES

Last July, our Fraternity donated \$100 to the Franciscan Foundation, who among many righteous endeavors, safeguards the Christian presence in the Holy Land. This is a cause we would like to support annually, with \$100 donations.

The Fraternity Council discussed the subject of financial support for other Franciscan causes. We budgeted \$500 for 2015, to potentially donate to charities that have been agreed upon, by Fraternity members.

At our last Council meeting, the following causes/charities were suggested for your consideration, in donating \$100 or more to each, annually.

- San Diego Humane Society & ASPCA, including all locations in San Diego County. This is for the precious animals that rely on us for help, as Franciscan shepherds of all God's creation.
- Franciscan School of Theology students. Many of them are from families with very modest resources. Our donation should be used to help promote the "Franciscan" effort.

At upcoming Council meetings, your input for other Franciscan related causes/charities would be greatly appreciated!

OFS Council



Pope Francis' wish is that everyone would pray to the Holy Spirit in these of similar words.

Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God.

Make my heart open to goodness.

Make my heart open to the beauty of God every day in my life.

Amen.

Formation Reminders from Sandy, Formation Director



FORMATION: Orientation and Candidacy, Luiseno Room MSLR Retreat Center

10:00 AM Orientation...1:00 PM Candidacy, February 8, 2015

Sandy B., OFS and Penny J., OFS

ORIENTATION: Joe C., Mia H. and Kelly F.

Orientation was off to a great start in January with Joe C. and Mia H. On February 8th, we will introduce Kelly F. and discuss Chapter 2 from "The Franciscan Journey Book." We will examine Organizational structure of SFO in connection with National, Regional and local Fraternity communities. Learn and discuss discernment of a vocation to the call, in response by the Holy Spirit, into our Community at San Luis Rey Mission. Let us all pray, as a Fraternity, that they will grow in the Spirit of St. Francis during this journey.

CANDIDACY: Brenda D., Luis G., Karen W., Laura C., Dorothy M. and Michael P.

CONGRADULATIONS to Brenda, Luis and Karen who are now Candidates within our Fraternity at San Luis Rey Mission! They are now considered to be Franciscans and will receive the Tau Magazine in the mail. Pray for them as they continue on their journey to Profession.

On February 8th, we will discuss Chapter 16 of "The Franciscan Journey Book," "When You Pray," Rule 8, Constitution/Article 12.3. This is an important chapter in the life of Secular Franciscans as we reaffirm our prayer life, especially in the Eucharist and when we pray the Liturgy of the Hours. We pray in the Spirit of St. Francis, which leads us to the love of the Gospel, and in turn raises us up to the love of Christ, then to show our love for each other going from "Gospel to Life and Life to the Gospel."

FORMATION FOR ALL:

As Professed Secular Franciscans we should be supporting our Inquirers and Candidates in their journey towards Profession. Keeping in mind, they are the future of our Community at San Luis Rey and showing them what our Fraternity life means to us. We should think and pray about becoming sponsors for our new prospective Inquirers and listen to our call to serve.

God Bless,

Sandy B., OFS
Director of Formation

Anniversaries of Profession



Feb. 06, 2011 Sandra B. (4 years)
Feb. 10, 2002 Edna P. (13 years)
Feb. 14, 1965 Carol I. (50 years)

Memorials



February 2, 1996 Gertrude W.
February 9, 2007 Charles D.
February 21, 1996 Florence C.
May their souls, and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Birthdays



Feb. 06 Jack S.
Feb. 28 Mary B.
Feb. 14 Marta K.

Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially:



- For the repose of those who went to their eternal reward during 2014:
Dorothy J., Bob P., Edna P.'s sister Anna and Edna's son Bob.

- For Karron E., Mary B., Dorothea H., Marta K's mother Marta, Pat D., Anna D., Virginia V., Joseph D. (Prudy's brother) and all of those who need our prayers for their health and well-being.

- For the health and well-being of Pope Francis.
- For the appointment of a pastoral bishop for our diocese.
- For our particular parish pastors, and all the priests of our diocese.
- For the members of all three branches of the Franciscan Order who have need of prayers.
- For our Minister David in his travels.



Epiphany/Reception Festivities Jan 4 2015

Reception of, B.
Dunkelman, Luis G.
and Karen W. as
Candidates

