



THE CORD

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

website: www.slr-ofs.org



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 12:30-3:00 PM

Upcoming Gathering on March 5, 2017

Council Meeting before meeting at 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Future Meetings:

April 2, 2017, May 7, 2017, June 4, 2017, July 2, 2017 dates subject to change.

We adore you, O Christ, and praise you. Because by your holy Cross
you have redeemed the world.



Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Photo of OMSLR's 2016 Lenten display, by Editor.

Naming God for Lent

The season of Lent has been called, wisely and beautifully, “the springtime of the Church.” This year our ecclesial spring begins on March 1. For Franciscans, it can be - maybe should be - a time of deep and abiding joy. (Remember that “joy” and “happiness” are not the same thing!) After all, it is a chance for closeness with the One who loves us beyond all telling.

For us who follow Christ in the manner of Francis and Clare, there are many things we do NOT have to worry about in Lent. We don't have to worry about how others observe the season. We don't have to worry about whether this or that person should receive Communion. We don't have to worry that serving the poor might harm us in some way.

Our focus need not be on what is wrong with others, the world, or even ourselves. We can make God Himself the focus of our conversion. This is what the little poor man of Assisi realized. Francis kept his focus on God. In the prayers of Francis, many words for God come tumbling out of him all in a rush. Here is the prayer he wrote after visiting the Sultan Malik al Kamil in 1219. If you pray it slowly, you might feel a new, God-centered way to enter Lent.



The Praises of God

You are the holy Lord God Who does wonderful things.
You are strong. You are great. You are the most high.
You are the almighty king. You holy Father,
King of heaven and earth.

You are three and one, the Lord God of gods;
You are the good, all good, the highest good,
Lord God living and true.

You are love, charity; You are wisdom, You are humility,
You are patience. You are beauty, You are meekness,
You are security, You are rest,
You are gladness and joy, You are our hope, You are justice,
You are moderation, You are all our riches to sufficiency.

You are beauty, You are meekness,
You are the protector, You are our custodian and defender,
You are strength, You are refreshment, You are our hope,
You are our faith, You are our charity,
You are all our sweetness, You are our eternal life:
Great and wonderful Lord, Almighty God, Merciful Saviour.



What are your words for God?

Donna, OFS



Important Dates for San Luis Rey Fraternity

March 31: Fraternity report due to Region. Minister and Council working on this.

August 6: Fraternal Visitation.

August 12: Area Picnic at Santee Lake. Our fraternity will lead the multilingual prayer.

August 27: Day of Recollection with Fr. Michael Higgins, TOR. "Vocation" will be the theme.

San Luis Rey, pray for us!

Minister's Notes from Regional Chapter: January 13 – 15, 2017

Regional Minister's Report

Using the figure of the Roman god, Janus, Minister Judith Mussatto reflected on theme of looking backward and forward at the same time. She noted that the current Regional Council looks very different from the Council that was elected. Illness and relocation among members required new appointees to the REC. We give thanks for those generous sisters and brothers who've stepped up to serve. Her presentation was warm, humorous and encouraging.

Regional Leadership Training Workshop

Will begin in June 2017 and will meet 6 weekends over two years.

Promoted as both a program for potential Spiritual Assistants and for potential fraternity leaders, details will be made available after the March Regional Executive Council meeting.

New Status for Some Homebound Members

The National Fraternity (NAFRA) will be piloting a trial experience using a new category for homebound members – "Emeritus." This is to address the concerns of many fraternities around the country. Currently homebound members are called "excused" but still count as "active" when calculating Fair Share. The "Emeritus" status would allow for 50% Fair Share, and would not entail the burden of yearly forms. (Less paperwork!) The local fraternity Council will decide when and how to use this status. **Note: this will go into effect next year and does not affect this year's fraternity report.**

Archives

Our National Fraternity Archivist, Sharon Deveaux, gave an excellent presentation on local fraternity archives and what to include. (Hint: It is much, much less material than most fraternities are keeping.)

Respectfully submitted,
Donna, OFS
Minister

Holy Gospel for 1st Sunday of Lent (A)

Pondering the words of Jesus in his heart, Matthew meditates on the meaning of three typical temptations that constantly threaten Christianity:

(1) God may not be used for one's own gain or profit ("turning stones into bread");
(2) faith has nothing to do with the spectacular ("throw yourself down"); and
(3) religion may be mixed up with political power (kingdoms displayed in their magnificence).

Jesus answers with three quotations from Scripture. He will be faithful to his calling and not be swayed by these temptations. We who are the Church of this age and prone to these same temptations should keep in mind our Lord's example.

Commentary from St. Joseph Sunday Missal © 2011

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him,
"If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread."
He said in reply,
"It is written:
One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written:
He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support

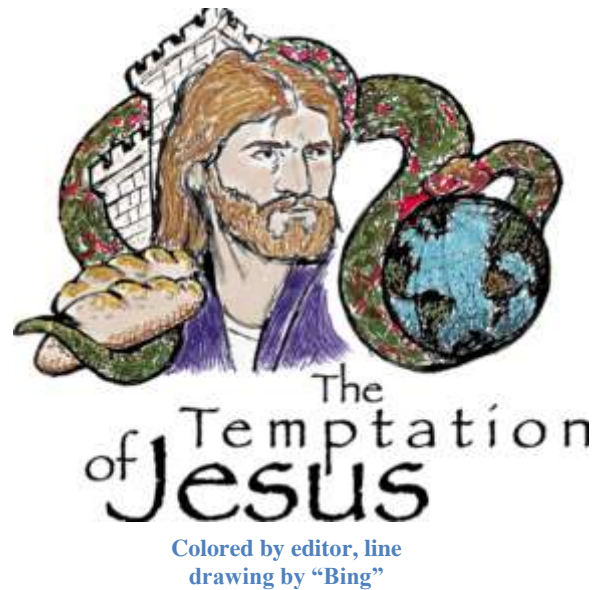
you, lest you dash your foot against a stone."
Jesus answered him,
"Again it is written,
You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."

Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me."

At this, Jesus said to him,
"Get away, Satan!
It is written:
The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.
(Mark 4:1-11 NAB)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Formation Reminders from our Formation Director



Classes are held the Saturday before the meeting, Please call Sandy for more information

God Bless,
Sandy Baden, OFS
Director of Formation



Anniversaries of Profession



Mar. 8, 2009	David York (8 yrs.)
Mar. 8, 2015	Dorothy Mann (2 yrs.)
Mar. 8, 2015	Michael Pollack (2 yrs.)
Mar. 9, 1997	Mary Behnke (20 yrs.)
Mar. 9, 1997	Patricia Dominguez (20 yrs.)
Mar. 20, 1994	Marjo Gray (23 yrs.)

Memorials



March 2, 1995	Amanda Martineau
March 9, 2012	Thomas F.M. Siersma
March 11, 2012	Thomas Siersma
March 15, 1995	Robert Wells
March 16, 1989	Gertrude Brown
March 28, 2001	Katherine Kundinger



Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially:



- For the safety of Donna our Minister in his journeys during this busy time of year for her.
- For Pope Francis, Bishop Robert McElroy, for our pastors, priests, deacons and consecrated religious, including those in lay orders and institutes.
- For the victims of the atrocities of ISIS throughout the world.
- For all our Secular Franciscan brothers and sisters served by the fraternity's outreach program.
- For our sick, infirm and hospitalized members
- All of our Fraternity members, especially: our council members, our brothers and sisters who are in formation, our elderly and or homebound who aren't able come to our fraternity gatherings.
- Members of all three Orders of the Franciscan Family who need our prayers.

