



THE CORD

San Luis Rey Fraternity of the
Secular Franciscan Order
Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside, CA.
www.slr-ofs.org



Upcoming Gathering on May 6, 2018

- ❖ Prior to Mass at 10am, bring any Potluck items to the Old Mission Pavilion
Kelly and Liz will be there to welcome you and receive the Potluck items
- ❖ Mass in the Serra Center at 10:00am with the Professions of Joe & Connie
- ❖ Potluck to Celebrate Professions to follow in the Old Mission Pavilion
- ❖ Meeting of the Fraternity Council to Follow Potluck

Future Meetings:

June 3, 2018, July 1, 2018, August 5, 2018, Sept 2, 2018, dates subject to change.

The Month of May is dedicated to Our Lady
St. Francis was also devoted to Our Lady

Below is the prayer to the Virgin Mary, Theotokos (a Greek word meaning 'Mother of God' or 'God Bearer').
Francis's Devotion to Mary was deeply felt throughout his adult life. The images used in this prayer —
handmaid, mother, spouse — each correspond in Mary's ministry to one of the persons of the Trinity.

Holy Virgin Mary,

There is none like you
among all women on earth.

You are the daughter and
handmaid of the Most High King and
Father in Heaven.

You are the mother of our most holy Lord
Jesus Christ.

You are the spouse of the Holy Spirit.
Pray for us with Saint Michael the Archangel

and all the powers of heaven
and all the saints,
to your most holy and beloved Son,
Our lord and Master.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Beautiful Happenings at our April 8th Fraternity Gathering – The Rite of Admission for Linda, Peter, and Pam



Linda, Peter, and Pam all experienced their Rite of Admission into the Secular Franciscan Order at our April Gathering on Sunday, April 8th, 2018



The Rite of Admission celebrates our call to live the [Gospel way of life](#) in fraternity in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi. As our Minister, Donna Foley (left) asked Linda, Peter, and Pam what they requested of our fraternity.

They responded, 'we ask to enter this fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order so that we may live more intensely and faithfully the grace and dedication of our Baptism....'

What a beautiful example of grace by the witness of Linda, Peter, and Pam. Sandy Baden (right), our Director of Formation presented each with a copy of the Secular Franciscan [Rule](#) as well as a [Tau](#) as they now enter the final phase of their initial formation - [Candidacy](#).

- Laura Chun, OFS



Divine Mercy at our April 8th Fraternity Gathering – Divine Mercy Sunday



Carol beautifully presented our ongoing formation on Divine Mercy Sunday. In the Chapel, Carol led us in the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a devotion familiar to some, entirely new to others.

Carol highlighted the centrality of [‘Mercy’ in Franciscan spirituality](#). In his Testament, Francis describes ‘Mercy’ is a key element in his own conversion:

The Lord gave me, Brother Francis, thus to begin doing penance in this way: for when I was in sin, it seemed too bitter for me to see lepers.

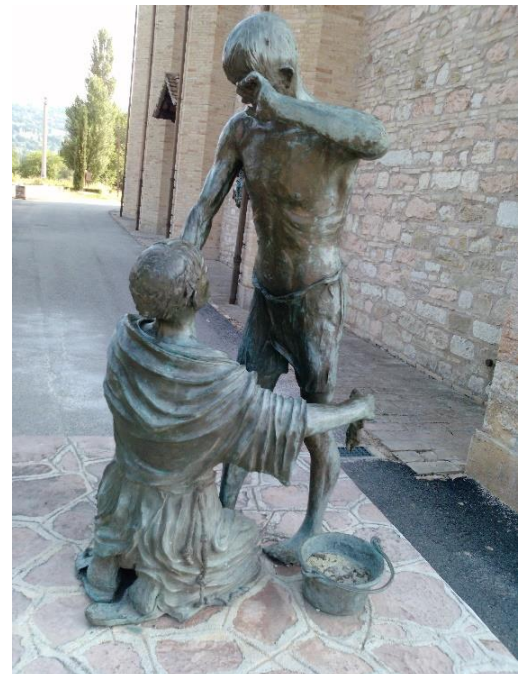
*And the Lord Himself led me among them **and I showed mercy to them**. And when I left them, what had seemed bitter to me was turned into sweetness of soul and body. And afterwards I delayed a little and left the world (Testament, 1:1–3).*

Carol then invited us to *feel* the social isolation of a leper. As we walked from the St. Clare Chapel to the Ibarra room, we had ‘clickers’ or bells (or announced verbally, ‘Unclean!’) so that others could avoid us. We could experience being marked, of being ‘set apart’ from the community.

Carol continued her experiential thought exercise once back in our meeting room with an experience of begging as a leper would do – keeping in mind a leper’s frail hands, difficult mobility, and lack of dexterity. We used bowls of yummy cheesy crackers for our exercise, but it did very effectively make her point that this was a *very* difficult life.

Carol invited us to contemplate an image (right) of St. Francis bathing a leper and to imagine the courage it took to get this close and intimate to a person with what, at the time of St. Francis, was believed to be a highly contagious disease and tenderly kissing a leper’s hands.

We are invited to reflect on the lepers in today’s society and follow in the footsteps of St. Francis.



Love one another!

Read John 15 (or the Gospel for May 6, 2018's - John 15 9-17).

While thinking about the following "Lecto" from the *Catholic Prayer Bible* page 1709.

Chapter 10 emphasized faith, Chapter 15 emphasizes love.

Disciples must remain with Jesus, and must bear fruit, must take care of each other. They are friends of each other. They are friends of Jesus, and then are friends of each other. They will have problems in the world, but they have the promise of the Holy Spirit who will defend the followers of Jesus.

Reflect: In this gospel disciples are called not to love their enemies but to love each other, to love the members of the community. How can you possibly love or care for those who are outside your community unless you first love those who share your beliefs?

Pray: Pay attention in your prayers to those who share your beliefs. Pray for the ability to be sensitive to those members of your community who need your help.

Act: Perform some act of kindness for a member of your community of faith. Become a volunteer for some ministry in your church

Gospel Jn 15:9-17 (6th Sunday or Easter)

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also **love** you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my **love**, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his **love**."

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: **love one another as I love you**. No one has greater **love** than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing."

"I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that **whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you**. This I command you: **love one another**."

(Gospel passage from the USCCB [website](#).)



The Franciscan Love of Creation & Earth Day –

Francis believed that he was called by Christ and the Gospel to be one with all people and all creation. We recognize Francis as a man of peace and, as Franciscans, we are called to live in kinship with creation, promoting peace and justice. Learn more on our Fraternity [JPIC](#) webpage.

Please also see the Reflection on the environment from the April 22nd Mission San Luis Rey Parish [Bulletin](#) (reprinted below).



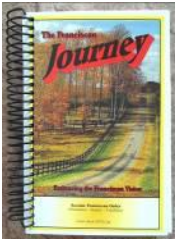
STEWARDSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENT: STOPPING PLASTIC POLLUTION

A springtime walk on a lovely April day brings you into contact with the ubiquitous presence of plastic in our lives. From the crushed soda bottle lying at the side of the road to the plastic bags floating through the air like kites, plastic pollution is everywhere. It is not possible to be plastic free. But there are steps we can take to reduce consumption of plastic. Earth Day 2018 asks us to consider the Five Rs: Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle and Remove plastic in our everyday lives. Here are five suggestions you can incorporate into your life immediately:

- Keep reusable canvas bags in your car for shopping trips and commit to refusing plastic shopping and grocery bags.
- Many stores have containers to recycle plastic bags, even newspaper wraps. Utilize them.
- Carry a small set of simple utensils and a reusable straw so that you never have to use throwaway plastic utensils.
- Store left-overs in reusable containers.

Need more inspiration? Read the Holy Father, Pope Francis' ground-breaking encyclical, *Laudato Si* ("Praise be to You"). Pope Francis urges humankind to exercise better stewardship of the earth and "Care for Our Common Home." You can also visit www.earthday.org for more ideas and inspiration!

Reminders from our Formation Director



Classes are held the Saturday before the meeting. Please call Sandy for more information or the latest Formation Newsletter, see our [Formation](#) webpage.

God Bless,
Sandy Baden, OFS
Director of Formation

Anniversaries of Profession



May 4, 2003 - Jack S, Frances T.
May 16, 1999 - Connie H, Scott H.

A Reflection on the Theological and Liturgical foundations of the Secular Franciscan Profession is [here](#).

Birthdays



May 4	Penny J.
May 7	Patricia D.
May 18	Edward U.

Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially:

- ❖ For the safety of Donna our Minister in her travels on our busy freeways.
- ❖ For [Pope Francis](#), Bishop Robert McElroy, and all Diocesan Bishops for all of our pastors, priests, deacons and consecrated religious, including those in lay orders and institutes.
- ❖ For the victims of war and terrorism throughout the world.
- ❖ For all of our brothers and sisters served by our fraternity's outreach program.
- ❖ All of our Fraternity members, especially: our council, 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.



A Reflection on the Franciscan Crown Rosary

I have included this information on the “Franciscan Crown, or The Rosary of the Seven Joys of the Blessed Virgin Mary,” as the legend/story of the young Novice, (a person in the last stage of formation) always is a joy to read and meditate on. Also some of our Candidates may not have yet learned about our beautiful [‘Franciscan Crown Rosary’](#) This card, believe it or not, came in a book that I ordered from Amazon.com, I have one that I got years ago, but it is yet older than this one. It is from 1952, same year our fraternity was founded, and has all the indulgences that Pope Saint Pius the X had granted, but since then were removed by Vatican II. As you can read here, it is still a beautiful devotion, and carries the same indulgences as saying a five decade chaplet of the ‘Dominican’ Rosary. – Carol I, OFS

If those who use the seven-decade rosary make a slight change in the mysteries they recall in each of the decades, they can gain the same indulgences which have been granted for the so-called Dominican Rosary of fifteen decades. All one has to do is to make the first five of the seven mysteries coincide with the five Joyful Mysteries, and then add two of the Glorious Mysteries for the two additional decades, as follows: (1) The Annunciation. (2) The Visitation. (3) The Birth of Our Lord, including the Adoration of the Magi. (4) The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin. (5) The Finding of Jesus in the Temple. (6) The Resurrection of Our Lord. (7) The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven.

Praying the Franciscan Crown in this way, we can gain the following indulgences: (a) a plenary indulgence for praying a third part (five decades) of the Rosary continuously, either in a church or public oratory, or in the family, a religious community, or a pious association; (b) a partial indulgence for the same in other places or at other times (Enchiridion, no. 48).

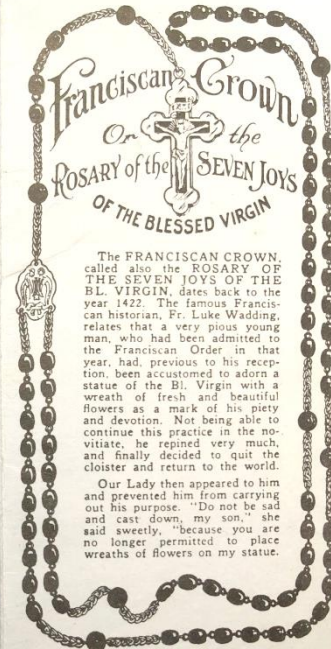
To gain these indulgences, it is required that we meditate or reflect on the mystery of each decade (that is, five decades). When the decades are recited publicly, these mys-

teries must be announced according to approved local custom. In the private praying of the decades, this is not necessary as long as meditation on the mysteries is added to the vocal prayer. Although the beads are helpful, they are not required for gaining the indulgence.

Besides the Rosary (five decades), there are three other pious exercises for which one can gain a plenary indulgence on any day: (1) a half-hour Visit to the Blessed Sacrament; (2) Reading the Bible for a half hour; (3) the Stations of the Way of the Cross. Only one plenary indulgence can be gained on any single day. Do not forget the Our Father and Hail Mary for the intentions of the Holy Father.



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"I shall teach you to change this pious practice into one that will be far more pleasing to me and far more meritorious to your soul. In place of the flowers that soon wither and can not always be found, you can weave for me a crown from the flowers of your prayers that will always remain fresh and can always be had.

"Recite one Our Father and ten Hail Marys in honor of the joy I experienced when the angel announced to me the Incarnation of the Son of God. Repeat these same prayers in honor of the joy I felt on visiting my Cousin Elizabeth. Say them again in honor of the supreme happiness that filled my heart on giving birth to Christ the Savior, without pain and without the loss of my virginity. Recite the same prayers a fourth time in honor of the joy I felt when presenting my Divine Son to the adoration of the Magi. Repeat them for the fifth time in honor of the joy that thrilled my soul when, after seeking Jesus with deep sorrow for three days, I found Him at last among the doctors in the Temple. Sixthly, recite the one Our Father and then ten Hail Marys in honor of the joy I experienced on beholding my Divine Son gloriously risen from the grave on Easter Sunday. Finally, for the seventh time, repeat these prayers in honor of my own most glorious and joyful Assump-

tion into heaven, when I was crowned Queen of heaven and earth. If you recite these prayers as I have directed, rest assured, dear son, you will weave for me a most beautiful and acceptable crown and will merit for yourself innumerable graces."

When Our Lady had disappeared, the overjoyed novice at once began to recite the prayers in honor of her Seven Joys, as she had directed. While he was deeply engrossed in this devotion, the novice master happened to pass by and, behold! he saw an angel weaving a marvelous wreath of roses and after every tenth rose he inserted a golden lily. When the wreath was finished, the angel placed it on the head of the praying novice. The master then demanded under holy obedience that the youth tell him the meaning of the vision. Joyfully, yet fearfully, the novice complied. The good priest was so impressed with what he had seen and heard, that he immediately made it known to his brethren. Thus the practice of reciting the Crown of the Seven Joys of the Bl. Virgin soon spread over the entire Franciscan Order and became one of the favorite devotions of the friars.

Later, it became customary to add two Hail Marys in honor of the seventy-two years that Our Lady is said to have lived on earth, and one Our Father and Hail Mary for the intention of the Pope to gain the indulgences.

LIST OF INDULGENCES

ON JUNE 15, 1968, Pope Paul VI abrogated the indulgences previously granted by the Church and approved a new and reduced collection of indulgences for the universal Church (Enchiridion Indulgentiarum, Vatican, 1968). A limited number of new indulgences were also granted to the members of the Orders of St. Francis, but among these there are none for the praying of the Franciscan Crown. This does not mean that this form of prayer must be given up or that the seven-decade beads should be discarded. The Crown is still a prayer that is pleasing to God and to our Heavenly Mother.

If the seven decade rosary is blessed, it is one of those blessed objects (crucifixes, crosses, rosaries, scapulars, medals) for which the Church has granted new indulgences, if they are used in a pious manner. If the Crown is blessed by a priest, the faithful can gain a partial indulgence by using it piously; and if it is blessed by the pope or a bishop they can gain a plenary indulgence on the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul (June 29), under the usual conditions (confession, Communion, and at least one Our Father and Hail Mary for the intentions of the pope), provided that they add a profession of faith, using any correct formula, for instance the Apostles' Creed (Enchiridion, no. 35).



Please also remember your donation envelope for the Common Fund. The box will be waiting for you.

NOTE: "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." (OFS rule article 25)

Or mail to: Eileen Costa

San Luis Rey - Fraternity Council



Minister
Donna Foley, OFS



**Secretary
Newsletter Editor,**
Carol Imhoff, OFS



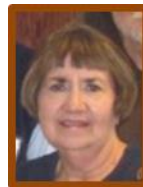
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