

Pentecost

May 28, 2023



A 1472 [map of Jerusalem](#) notes the place of the [pentecost](#), "*Ubi apostoli acceperunt spiritum sanctum*", at the location of the cenacle (top left).



Attributions: Photo [Cenacle](#) (upper Room) on [Mount Zion](#)

The Cord

May, 2023

Newsletter of the San Luis Rey
Secular Franciscan Fraternity

Monthly Gatherings: 2nd Sundays

May Gathering Only on Zoom: 2 -3 pm
Due to Mothers' Day Celebration

May 14:

2:00 to 3:00 pm General Monthly Gathering:

on Zoom, link [here](#)

No Vespers in May

Next Month General Gathering:

2nd Sunday

June 11, 2023

Login for All Zooms:

www.zoom.us Click on: **Join a Meeting**

Meeting ID: 760 726 2486 Password: 1798

Contact us via our website [Contact Page](#)

Mission San Luis Rey
4050 Mission Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92057



Minister's Note for May

I write this in the early morning, in Assisi. I hear the doves cooing outside my window with my laptop on my diminutive desk. The days being immersed in the stories of Francis and Clare here in Assisi have been a treat. I'm looking forward to an early morning walk to the St. Clare's – and looking out over the valley. There's such a sense of peace in the early morning stillness. Just breathing it all in is a glimpse of a 'mountain top' experience.



This time in Assisi is one of Pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey, one where we're open to being touched or transformed. As Christians, it's a way for us to follow Christ more closely and for us as Secular Franciscans, learning from the life and experiences of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. Pilgrimage is a spirituality of not only of the inspirational stories, and not only of the places we encounter, but of the *people* along the way... all those we meet on our journey and in a very significant way, of those with *whom we journey* – our fellow pilgrims.



While walking in Assisi, I was delighted to find a little street named 'Via of the Third Order.' I love a road as a metaphor. We are called to move down from the mountain top and out into the world. As Secular Franciscans, we have chosen to answer this call to be fellow pilgrims along the way. We journey together. Not as 'tourists' looking for the next best thing, but open to encounter, to being touched by the experience, to being transformed. To be on a journey with a great sense of mutuality – we are in this together. I invite you to consider your Secular Franciscan vocation as a Pilgrimage. And each of us as fellow pilgrims on the way.

Laura Chun, OFS, Minister,
San Luis Rey Fraternity



Our “Care of Creation” Teams Deploy!

In our quest to become better stewards of the Planet, it is easy to be overwhelmed by all the information on how to help the Planet. What do we need to know? What actions can we take? How can we be better stewards of God’s Creation – for our own peace of mind, for the well-being of our children, and that of the wonderful plants and animals all around us?

To answer these questions, we’ve divided ourselves into teams. Each team is focused on one aspect of the pollution problem and its possible solutions. For instance, the team looking at “EVs – Electric Vehicles” – will address the promise and impacts of autos without emissions.

Please check the list of our current teams at the bottom of this page to find your name.

Logistics

Each member of each team was emailed the Project definition on Monday, April 16th. For teams with members don’t live nearby, Laura has offered to set up a Zoom meeting. Alternatively, Apple FaceTime is now able to handle groups of up to 32 people for both video and audio calls. Any type of Smart phone works – it’s not only for iPhone users.

Our Teams

Since we are “Zoom only” at the May gathering, we will start in June when the Orange Team reports on “PLASTIC”.

JUNE

“PLASTIC” (Orange Team)

Liz Mavis, Pam McArthur, Corinne Helena,

JULY

“SOLAR” (Yellow Team)

Sam DeSantis, Heidi Madden, Pawel Koza

AUGUST

“VEGGIES” (Green Team)

Connie Collins, Linda Gossett, Carol Imhoff, Linda Ochwat

SEPTEMBER

EV’s (Salmon Pink Team)

Carolyn Brock, Marianne Grisez, Prudy Hrisanthopoulos, Dorothy Mann

OCTOBER

“BIRDS AND BEES” (Light Pink Team)

Laura Chun, Jan DeSpain, Gina Quinn

I am delighted that my amazing Franciscan brothers and sisters grow in knowledge and expertise about the Care of Creation. We hear the message of Laudato Si, and our call to action as an Order,

Bless you!

*Karron Esmonde OFS,
JPIC Animator*



Our Lady Around the World

During the month of May, as Catholics, we specifically honor the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Mary is known by many different titles such as Blessed Mother, Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Mater Dei, Holy Virgin, but also as Star of the Sea, Queen of Heaven, Cause of Our Joy, Mother of Mercy, and God-bearer Theotokos. Further titles have been derived from dogmas and doctrines, such as The Assumption of Mary, Dormition of the Mother of God and Immaculate Conception. Mary is also depicted in many ways in prayers, art and iconography.

Mary's intercession is sought after as she leads us to her son Jesus. As recorded in John 2: 1-12, this began at the Wedding in Cana where Jesus turned water into wine. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." Jesus told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

As shown in the photo, St Francis of Assisi Church in Vista has a unique prayer space located in the Sanctuary of the church to honor Mary. Depicted are statues of Our Lady representing the various cultures of the parishioners who belong to the parish.

Upper left: Our Lady of Knock-Ireland

Lower left: Our Lady of the Stone-Philippines

Center: Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas-Mexico

Upper Right: Our Lady of the Assumption-Italy

Lower right: Our lady of La Vang-Vietnam



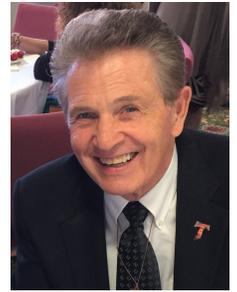
Here is a partial list of additional "Our Ladies:" Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Our Lady Ark of the Covenant, Our Lady of Akita, Our Lady of Assuit, Our Lady of Laus, Our Lady of the Roses, Mary Help of Mothers, Our Lady of Good Help in Wisconsin the only apparition in the United States has most recently been renamed The Solemnity of Our Lady of Champion to be celebrated on October 6th of each year.

"Throughout the ages, there have been so-called "private" revelations, some of which have been recognized by the authority of the Church. They do not belong, however, to the deposit of faith. It is not their role to improve or complete Christ's definitive Revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history. Guided by the Magisterium of the Church, the *sensus fidelium* knows how to discern and welcome in these revelations whatever constitutes an authentic call of Christ or his saints to the Church.

"Christian faith cannot accept "revelations" that claim to surpass or correct the Revelation of which Christ is the fulfillment, as is the case in certain non-Christian religions and also in certain recent sects which base themselves on such "revelations." (CCC #65-67)

Note: some of this information is courtesy of Catholic Online

Sam DeSantis, OFS
Vice Minister, SLR Fraternity



Water in the desert

It was hot and dusty. I was grouchy. A question continually bounced around in my head as my hands worked the rake through the piles of dead leaves. *What good was this doing anyway?*

In our visit to Casa Franciscana in Guaymas, Mexico, we were witness to the lives of so many living in abject poverty. Skinny dogs scampered in the streets. Piles of plastic trash collected in drifts within derelict buildings, left crumbling and vacant by the economic and societal void left in the collapse of the local fishing industry.

As pilgrims, Fr. Martin Ibarra, OFM, invited us to visit the small home of Don Armando and Doña Margarita on the far margins of town. The little home was hand-built in the hills from found and re-purposed items. Don Armando was standing proudly in front of it, despite his exceedingly frail health. His slender extremities supported a belly bulging with an untreated hernia, hidden in an oversized jacket. Doña Margarita was seated inside, unable to stand, but with bright eyes and a warm smile for her guests. I glanced at them returning their smiles but feeling awkward - not wanting to intrude into their lives.



I was there to participate in a small service project, in my case, raking piles of leaves around Don Armando's house. I began my task, but it immediately felt futile. What good was raking leaves in the midst of so much poverty? *I raked anyway* – as this was what I was asked to do, I might as well do it well. I became lost in my thoughts, but as my work progressed and the detritus cleared, I discovered that in the dirt dug around the base of each tree was beautifully formed irrigation ring. Recognizing the expertise of the gardener, I looked up at Don Armando in appreciation of his effective water utilization. He smiled and handed me his small bucket asking if I could water his prized and now-cleared trees. Back and forth, I carried water from the cistern and carefully watered each of the trees, the water flowing into the rings and disappearing into the earth. In a small way felt like I was bringing 'water to the desert.' It occurred to me that I was finally doing something *useful*.



Don Armando looked on and he glowed with pride as he shared with about each of the trees: guava, orange, mango... These trees were a treasure. When each had been watered and discussed, he graciously invited me into his home. He built this place. I could see the joy he had showing me the different rooms: a kitchen, bath, a storage area, living room, bedroom. All on a concrete floor and under a tin roof. He welcomed me as an honored guest.

Doña Margarita sat in the bedroom and motioned for me to sit next to her. 'Is it ok? On your bed?' I asked as she motioned to the place next to her. The words and emotions tumbled out. They graced me with their stories: his time in the Navy, her photos of special times with grandchildren. They invited me in. Into their home, into their stories. Into their lives. This was not about raking up the dusty leaves or even watering the fruit trees. It was about this conversation. It was about being a witness to their lives. It was about being heard. It was about being seen.



Casa Franciscana helps the marginalized people of Guaymas through its free medical & dental clinic, Mesón de Jesus (dining room), food packages for the home-bound, migrant shelter support and a youth center, and more. Casa Franciscana's services are open to all, but primarily serve four of the poorest Guaymas neighborhoods.



Laura Chun, OFS, Minister,
San Luis Rey Fraternity

[News from the Fraternity Council](#)

Please note: **The May General Monthly Gathering will be only on Zoom on Sunday, May 14, 2023, 2 PM to 3 PM. It will last only 1 hour due to Mother Day celebrations. **Zoom access will start at 2 pm** for those **who can attend via zoom.****

The San Luis Rey Fraternity Council



Laura Chun, OFS
Minister



Sam DeSantis, OFS
Vice-Minister & Formator



Jan DeSpain, OFS
Formation Director



Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC
Spiritual Assistant



Connie Collins, OFS
Secretary



Corinne Helena, OFS
Treasurer



Pam Pert, OFS
Councilor



Marta Kassai, OFS
Councilor & Newsletter Editor

From our Treasurer



You can mail your OFS fraternity contributions to:

Corinne Helena, OFS
1048 Turnstone Way
Oceanside, CA 92057



Formation News - May 2023

We are so blessed to have been called by the Holy Spirit to the vocation of membership in the OFS. All our journeys to this family have been different, just as we are all different in our gifts and backgrounds.

Now we have some new possible aspirants to begin a Orientation to see if the Holy Spirit is also knocking on the door of their hearts. Many of you are familiar with them. I would like to introduce you to them here.

Varya has been visiting us for a few months. She moved from San Diego to Temecula recently. She had been attending the Spanish speaking fraternity in San Diego but the drive there is now too far. She is originally from Argentina but has lived in the United States most of her life. She told me she is very happy here at San Luis Rey. We will not see her in May or June as she is traveling to Europe to visit friends and Assisi.

Mark and Mary Jo were invited by Heidi as they live in the same area near her. They have also been attending for a few meetings but Mary Jo had some recent health issues so she is on the mend and looking forward to coming again. Thanks to Heidi for her openness to asking them if they would like to visit. We are glad they said yes.

Maria is our newest visitor. She is also from Temecula, so was excited to be introduced to Varya. She also knew Linda who also lives in Temecula and knew Gina and Eileen from FST. I think she felt immediately at home.

So we have four aspirants to start an Orientation class. If you know of anyone else, now would be the time to invite them as we will be starting Orientation this summer on Zoom.

*Jan DeSpain OFS
Director of Formation*



District Picnic

This is a loving hello and reminder to save the date for our fraternities to gather at the reserved space of San Dieguito Park on June 24th 2023 from 10:00-2:00 for our annual District picnic. More information, on a flyer to be developed, will be available soon. Peace and love as we begin this beautiful Lenten Season. *Peggy Botte, OFS*



SAVE THE DATE

MAY 20, 2023

9:00 TO 10:30 A.M.

**SISTER AND BROTHER FRANCISCANS,
LET US GATHER BY ZOOM
TO CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING
OF LAUDATO SI' WEEK.**

A presentation and discussion on

**CREATING AN ECO-FRIENDLY LIFESTYLE:
A SEVEN PART PROGRAM**

Prayers and Songs

Plastics in Everyday Life

Taking Care of Home and Self

The Poor and the Climate

Food Choices and Handling

Gardening as a Spiritual Practice

Let Us Teach Our Children

RSVP patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com



To join by Computer, Laptop, Tablet, SmartPhone App:

- Click or Go to this [link](#) (full link is below):
- If prompted use: Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Then use Password: 1798

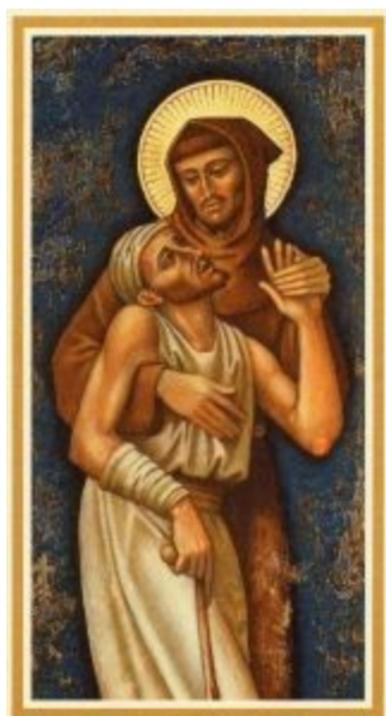
To join by landline or audio-only Phone (no video):

- Dial this number (it's in San Jose): 1-669-900-6833
- Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Then use Password: 1798

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7607262486?pwd=dmRBNVU5WFUxMTdzaUxGcy9ibGtwdz09>



Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially: :



❖ For those who died in the month of May ~~~✝

- No death in May

❖ For those who were professed in the month of May:

- May 4, 2003 **Roger Alves, OFS**
- May 4, 2003 **Jack Shuk, OFS**
- May 5, 2019 **Corinne Helena, OFS**
- May 6, 2018 **Connie Collins, OFS**

❖ For Rosemary, Sam DeSantis, OFS wife, who has Aorta valve replacement surgery May 23. Let us pray for a successful procedure.

❖ For Tim Pert, husband of Pam Pert, OFS, who is terminally ill and is in hospice care that he may be comforted by Christ and receive His blessings.

❖ For Linda Ochwat, OFS who was hospitalized and awaiting possible surgery on hip depending on test results.

❖ For Carol Imhoff, OFS who had surgery on 5/5 that she may have a speedy recovery. Also pray for her son Fred who was hurt in a motorcycle accident end of April.

From the Editor: Thank you all for your contributions to this month issue of The Cord. Due to change in our monthly general gathering date to second Sundays, please submit your articles, reports or adds by the 25th of the month to publish in next month issue. Send your Word or Pages files (font Arial 12 pt, if possible) and any photos (jpg or png) via email to: mksfo@me.com

Marta
Dr. Marta M. Kassai, OFS, Editor

