

THE CORD

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

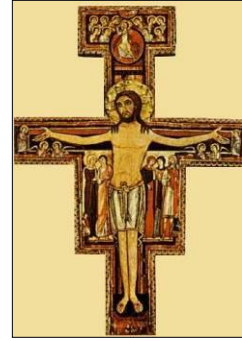
April 1, 2012

Next Meeting: May 6, 2012

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Inquirers and Candidates Classes

March 25, 2012 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Sandy's Home



General Meeting – Peyri Hall
Council Meeting

9:00 AM, April 24 at St Francis Church Vista CA

Saints for April

2 Bl. Elisabetta Vendramini, III Order
3 St. Benedict the Moor, religious of I Order.
6 St. Crescentia Höss, III Order
16 St. Bernadette Soubirous, cord-bearer of
St. Francis.
17 St. Benedict Joseph Labre, cord-bearer
of St. Francis.
21 St. Conrad of Parzham, religious, I

Order.
23 Bl. Giles of Assisi, religious of I Order.
24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest &
martyr of I Order.
25 Bl. Pedro de San Jose Betancur, III O.
27 St. Zitta of Lucca. III Order
28 Bl. Luchesius, layman of III Order. *
30 Bl. Benedict of Urbino (priest)

*Blessed Luchesio, first tertiary of OFS



Lord God, You made blessed Luchesio, whom You called to repentance, illustrious in performing works of piety and charity. Through his prayers and example may we bring forth worthy fruits of penance and always abound in good works.

Blessed Luchesio (Luchesius; Lucius), who died in 1242, was the first to accept the invitation of Saint Francis of Assisi to live the Rule of 1221; today we call the people living this Rule the Secular Franciscan Order, or sometimes the Third Order of St. Francis. Luchesio was a husband, a businessman, a penitent who was dedicated to prayer, penance and works of charity. But Luchesio was not always the most pious Christian man in his time. He had a reputation for being greedy and ambitious until hearing St. Francis, whom he had known before Francis's conversion, speak on penance. He asked Francis about a way of life

for lay people. Francis told Luchesio that he already had plans to create one, and soon after, Luchesio and his wife were received into this new order as the first members.

After Luchesio had put on the gray garment of a Tertiary, he rapidly advanced toward perfect holiness. He practiced penitential austerities, often fasted on bread and water, slept on the hard floor, and at his work bore God constantly in his heart. His generosity to the poor knew no bounds, so that one day there was not even a loaf of bread for his own household. When still another poor man came, he asked his wife to

look whether there was not something they could find for him. That vexed her and she scolded him severely; his mortifications, she said, had well nigh crazed him, he would keep giving so long that they themselves would have to suffer hunger. Luchasio asked her gently to please look in the pantry, for he trusted in Him who had multiplied a few loaves for the benefit of thousands. She did so, and the marvel of it! The whole pantry was filled with the best kind of bread. From that time on Buonadonna vied with her husband in doing good.

Once he carried a sick cripple, whom he had found on the way, to his home on his shoulders. A frivolous young man met him, and asked him mockingly, "What poor devil is that you are carrying there on your back?" Luchasio replied calmly. "I am carrying my Lord Jesus Christ." At once the young man's face became distorted, he cried out fearfully, and was dumb. Contritely he cast himself on his knees before Luchasio, who restored his speech to him by means of the Sign of the Cross.

May Blessed Luchasio look kindly upon the Secular Franciscan Order by asking the Lord for the gifts of faith, hope and charity and a life of humility.

Message from Tim our Minister



NOTES FROM OUR MINISTER

Brothers and Sisters in Christ and St. Francis, Pope Paul VI approved and confirmed The Rule of the Secular Franciscans on June 24, 1978. Truly, a joyous event.

Section 8. Of the Pauline Rule states:

"As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all that Secular Franciscans are and do.

Let them participate in the sacramental life of the Church, above all the Eucharist. Let them join in liturgical prayer in one of the forms proposed by the Church, reliving the mysteries of the life of Christ."

The Secular Franciscan, then, communicates and unites with the Lord through the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Hours, and other prayers.

We have a rich treasure of prayers in our Church and Franciscan tradition: the Liturgy of the Hours, the rosary, the Franciscan Crown Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Chaplet of St. Anthony of Padua, to list a few.

At the April Gathering, we will have a period of discussion about the various ministries that we engage in at our Parishes.

Tim C, OFS
Minister

Formation



Change has come for our Inquirers and Candidate. The next class will be held at Sandy B.'s Home. We are hoping this will bring a more intimate response to foster an appropriate means for growth in our Franciscan Community. The Inquirers and Candidate are expected to also attend the General Meeting on April 1, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., Peyri Hall.

The Inquirers should be reading Chapter four of "The Franciscan Journey." The chapter helps the inquirer recognize the calling of the Holy Spirit in following the call to an SFO vocation. The study of this chapter also indicates how to live in harmony within Franciscan spirituality and our relationship with Jesus in the Catholic Church.

The Candidate will explore Chapter ten to encounter Jesus. We will see the Kingdom of God in embracing a loving response to the gospel.

Let us pray for our inquirers and candidate to find the love of Christ in our SFO Community, after the example of St. Francis and St. Clare, that we all strive to achieve through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Formation cont.

Experience on Sunday Morning

Lord Jesus, I saw you today and thank you for the greeting. I was going to Mass, as I climbed out of my car, when you approached. Today, you were tall and thin, dressed in rags, and seemed you needed a shower and a rest. You spoke in a gentle voice and asked if I had a few dollars to spare, as you said, you wanted something to eat. I felt bad, because I did not have one dollar in my purse. It was so easy to use my debit card, which always saved the day.

I saw the disappointment on your face when I said, "I had none to give." Then, I remembered, the two places in my Toyota where quarters were kept. I told you to wait! I was able to find twelve. "Not much to give," I thought. What touched me the most was when you said, "Thank you for your smile," and you left. I did not even realize I had. Then I thought to myself, "So this is what it means to be a Secular Franciscan." What joy I felt when I walked into the Church.

Sandy B., SFO



Our formation group, with some professed observers, on Sunday, March 4, 2012.

Ongoing Formation, Jack S. gave an amazing talk on possessions, and sharing with others. Basically, everything that we have, material possessions included, are gifts of God, the only thing(s) that belong to us, are our sins and failings.



Remember his "Elephant and the Dime?" It was about not buying an inexpensive item just because it is cheap, as when we get it home we may find that we have no use for it, or even more significant, room to store it.

Remember, our "Spirit of Poverty," is to free us from enslavement to money and material goods, not to make us poor/homeless.

Prayer is an unbelievable power tool; use it to make yourself holy.

Remember the 3 "T," (editor's) "Time, Talent, and Treasure", and share them for the betterment of others.

Thank you Jack!

Anniversaries of Profession



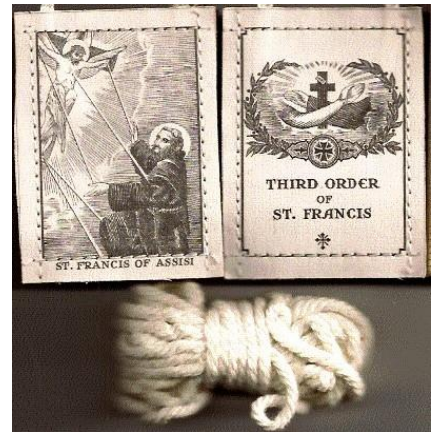
- April 10, 2005 Winnie B.
- April 10, 2005 Thomas S.
- April 14, 1963 Alice P.
- April 22, 1961 Sr. Madeline F., OSC

Memorials

Please Remember: Thomas Siersma who “Went home to God.” on the 11th of March 2012
He was professed on April 10, 2005.



April 2, 1999 Cornelia S.
April 17, 2003 Nicholas F.
April 28, 2009 Mary G.



Old scapular and cord, do you
Remember these?

Birthdays



April 9 Bob G.
April 14 Irene E.
April 25 Timothy C.

Prayer Requests:



Dorothy J. that her legs will continue to heal,
Our home-bound brothers and sisters in our fraternity,
Our brothers and sisters who are in formation.
All of our Fraternity members, especially the elderly and homebound.



After much work, and lots
of sorting our library is up
and running again.
We are going to keep the
books in the library to
“Franciscan Spirituality,”
so we offered our non
Franciscan volumes to
our members.



The Lay Franciscan's Monthly Pledge (individual) page 396 Terteries Companion (1961)

Realizing the importance of saving my immortal soul together with working for the spiritual and temporal welfare of others and the great value of the Third Order Rule to achieve these all important goals in life, I hereby resolve to observe this sanctifying Rule not only in part but as fully as human frailty will allow.

With God's grace, I will participate in Holy Mass and Communion on week-days, whenever possible, recite my Seraphic Office faithfully, never omit grace before meals, and examine my conscience each night.

I will gratefully receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) at least once a month, attend the fraternity meetings regularly, and contribute according to my means for the charities of our Franciscan Family.

I will always carefully observe the Commandments of God and the Church, wear my holy emblem (Tau) of membership, avoid extravagance in dress and manner of living, shun dangerous amusements, be temperate in food and drink, set a good example by witnessing Christ to my family and fellow-men, pursue wholesome reading, be at peace with all, avoid vulgar and improper speech, and practice charity towards all with special solicitude toward sick and deceased members.

May St. Francis, so wonderful in penance and love of Jesus Crucified, grant me the necessary spirit of prayer, penance, love and sacrifice so that I may faithfully observe his rule until death. Amen.