



the Cord

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



Next Meeting July 7, 2019

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 - 1250PM
General Gathering 1:00 - 2:50 PM
Council Meeting follows at appx 3:15PM

Future Meetings:

Aug. 4, 2019 **ELECTIONS**, Sep. 1, 2019, Oct. 6, 2019, Nov. 3, 2019
These are regular monthly gathering; Dates subject to change

Coming Gathering on July 7th: Special Guest Speaker, Fr. Tom Herbst OFM

Fr. Tom Herbst, OFM has a BA in History, and a M.Div. and MA in Theology. He obtained a D. Phil. In Theology from the University of Oxford in 2001. Fields of Interest: Historical Theologies, Christian Iconography, exegesis with special reference to the Gospel of John, and Systematic Theology with Particular emphasis in Christology and the Theology of Nature. He is also interested in various fields of Franciscan Studies, especially Franciscan Christology and the writings of Francis and Clare.

***** ADMONITION *****

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

Please remember to send in your Nominations for Council! Corinne and Barbara have heard from just a very few of us up to now.

Some of us are Nominating candidates, and voting in the Fraternity election, for the first time this year. Others are familiar with the process. Regardless of its familiarity, the Council election gives each one of us an opportunity to choose – or become – the leaders of a new Council.

Now is your time to nominate the eligible members who can move the fraternity forward.

The ideal person for each spot on the Council can't be elected if they aren't nominated. So please act now.

Email Barbara Kaylor or Corinne Helena.

Karron Esmonde

From our acting-Minister

As your Acting Minister, I want to thank you all for your understanding and indulgence. In June, we announced we'd be showing a film on St. Francis – though what actually happened was a celebration bidding farewell to our Minister Donna Foley, who is moving to Philadelphia.

This past May, our usual meeting format was devoted to a Mass and Profession for our five new fraternity members, followed by a beautiful reception.

So that was two for two. Those less well-acquainted with us could be taken aback, asking “Why all the frivolity, the socializing, the food? Have these Seculars no gravitas?”

So, we explain how we thank God for His generosity by celebrating those newly called to our Franciscan life. And in Donna's case, we deeply grateful for her outstanding service, dedication and example.

However, I can promise the July meeting will not involve cake!

In closing, I want to remind you all to send in your Nominations for Council Offices to either Corinne Helena or Barbara Kaylor – our Nominations Team -- as soon as you possibly can. They must then contact all our Nominees to get acceptances before compiling a Slate of Candidates in time for the August election.

Thank you all.
Acting Minister
Karron Esmonde OFS
Acting Minister



Why I Am Grateful I've Served on Fraternity Council

On the face of it, a Franciscan Council is a little like a corporation. We pay the rent, publish a newsletter and website, run the monthly meeting, and form the members. And like any organization, the Council employs some of the practical tools and skills used in business.

Yet our real purpose and calling has little to do with mere practicalities.

With our Spiritual Assistant, the Council's charter is to work as a team to nurture the fraternity's life in Christ. Our mission is to communicate our Franciscan spirituality with a view to inspire, empower and bless each fraternity member.

As servant leaders, Council members are tuned to the needs of members, whether it be for spiritual formation, religious education, companionship, encouragement, recreation or prayer.

As a Council member, I've had a voice in decision making, and over the years had charters to teach, coordinate, design, manage, write, research, budget, confer and travel – along with the obligation to pray for the fraternity collectively and for individual members.

Being on Council allowed me to help shape the life of our community and to become intimately acquainted with the hearts and minds, gifts and blessings of its members. I've seen the many graces God lavishes on each one, and through them, on the fraternity.

For me, the satisfaction of putting a successful program in place is tops. Typically, programs take lots of time and effort to plan and execute, and often require cooperation from the Council, Retreat Center staff, and members themselves.

For example, last June I asked members' help putting on a Regional picnic in August. I could never have pulled off such a big event without the assistance and hard work of our wonderful members, who helped plan, organize and staff a really memorable event. In the process, I was infected with their enthusiasm and sense of fun, and made great friends among our candidates and recently professed.

My experience on *this* Council has been fantastic. With a group so well coordinated, we can anticipate problems and work to prevent them. Should a well laid plan go awry, we improvise on the spot, and adjust the plan for next time. This group learns from one another, helps each other, and thinks and acts as a team. This Council is fast-moving, hard-working, and a total rush, praise God!

I am thankful: God has blessed me. He blessed me through the Franciscans, who allowed me to serve on their Councils. In every Council I was inspired by good Franciscans called to serve their brothers and sisters, and they become my spiritual family.

Karron, OFS, Acting Minister



"In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

A protestant chaplain friend once emphatically told me 'we Protestants don't have Saints' I paused, smiled, and responded, 'you may not *call* them 'saints' - but you definitely *have* them.' Soon afterwards, I gifted her my book of the story of [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](#).



For me, my time on our [Council](#) has been a time of hearing stories, getting to know incredible people, and yes, *even recognizing saints*. I see so many holy people quietly listening for God's call and desiring to do God's will. I see people making a difference in the Kingdom of God in myriad ways big and small, feeding the hungry, helping the homeless, lecturing at Mass, singing in the choir, quieting listening – and just being present to each other. I have been stunned by stories of our brothers and sisters who have gone before us and featured on our Fraternity '[Sister Death](#)' webpage. I have seen fraternity friendships that cross the decades – and people bringing the richness of decades of experiences in their friendships with God and others to our [Fraternity](#). I look at our Fraternity past and present, and indeed, I see so many people that give so much of themselves. I see people that are immersed with gratitude toward their God. I see stories of such incredible richness. I see *saints*. – Laura OFS

For my three years of service to the Fraternity as Councilor, I thank you. Conducting formation classes has been especially gratifying for me. As "brothers and sisters" of St. Francis, we will continue to support each other in our on-going spiritual journey. - **Dorothy OFS**

I'll try to keep this thank you for allowing me to serve as Secretary to a minimum. I learned lots being secretary, and I believe the most is that the secretary is the one that keeps all of the Fraternities ecclesial records straight, simply I was the one that entered the name of each person that was professed in the order into our beloved 50+year old brown REGISTER book. This book is our heritage as a religious family, and it is the awesome responsibility of the secretary, and a great honor.

Don't worry, the position of Editor **is not attached** to secretary. It is a job that I love, and will continue to do as long as my fingers allow me to spread the news of what has happened, is happening, and will happen in the SLR Fraternity of the OFS.

Carol OFS

A thank you to the entire Fraternity for allowing me to be your Director of Formation for the last seven years. The experience has been enlightening and taught me to see the love of St. Francis and our Fraternity in following Christ and His Church. For all those who went through the journey in the Formation classes with me, I leave you with my love, "Going from Gospel to Life and Life to the Gospel." May the entire Fraternity grow with our continuing Formation and follow, "Rule 4," always.



Sandy, OFS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in St. Francis: I'm sending you a note to thank you for allowing me to serve you and the Fraternity as your Treasurer. These tasks have given me the opportunity to understand the workings of our Fraternity in relation to the Regional, National, and International Fraternities. Working with the Council has been a privilege as this Council worked together as a team with each new month providing a new understanding of our Franciscan rule and life lived in modern society. Sister Madeline's Spiritual guidance provided a deeper understanding of our goals as lay Franciscans.

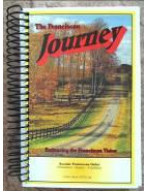
I invite you to consider your vocation within our order. Is The Holy Spirit calling you to serve? And learn a deeper Franciscan Walk? - Eileen

Prayer for our Coming Fraternity Elections

I thank you, Lord for making me a Secular Franciscan. **Pardon** my shortcomings, weaknesses and failures as I seek to lead a Gospel life according to our Holy Rule. Please make me the Franciscan you want me to be **Jesus**, just as I have a body, and my body has several parts, and each part has a separate function, so all of us in this fraternity, in union with you, Lord, from one body. As parts of that body, we belong to each other. Each of us has gifts that you have given us. **If** my gift is administration, let me use it for administration; if teaching, let me use it for teaching. If I be a preacher, let me deliver sermons, if an alms giver, let me give freely, if an officer let me be diligent, and if I am to do works of mercy, let me do them cheerfully. Whatever my gifts, Lord let me use them to serve you as you see fit. **Do not** let my love be a pretense, but let me love others as brother or sister should, and give me a profound respect for each of them. **Let me** work for you and with you, Lord. **Let me** recognize in myself and others the gifts we need to enliven and guide the group. **Let us** encourage and assist one another in your work.

Lord, we give thanks for all your gifts, especially wisdom, knowledge, strength, discernment, kindness and generosity of spirit. **Lord, give me** right faith, firm hope and perfect charity, and give me the wisdom and perseverance to accomplish your will. I trust in you and ask for your light. **Jesus, grant** that your Gospel in the spirit of St. Francis be alive in our community. **Jesus, grant** that we know what you want us to do, that we want what pleases you and will to do what you want for your sake alone. We ask this through Christ our Lord - Amen.

Formation reminders from Sandy, Formation Director, and Vice minister Karron.



Classes are held the Saturday before the meeting, Please call for more information
God Bless,
Sandy Baden, OFS
Director of Formation

SUMMER FORMATION COURSES from F.S.T.

To further our Franciscan formation, the Mission offers some great opportunities this summer. The School of Theology is featuring four week-long Continuing Education courses in July taught by prestigious members of the faculty. For details and course descriptions, see www.fst.edu.

At the Retreat Center, Fr. Tom Herbst OFM will teach a new 6-week series titled “Spirituality of the Incarnation” starting Thursday, July 25th. Classes are half price for Franciscans. For more information, go to <https://www.sanluisrey.org/retreats-events/retreat-event-calendar/fr.-tom-herbst-summer-series-spirituality-of-the-incarnation>

Karron
Vice Minister

Anniversaries of Profession



Jul. 7, 2013 Dorothia
Jul. 11, 2004 Irene
Jul. 13, 2014 Mary
Jul. 21, 1996 Denise
Jul. 10, 2016 Brinda
Jul. 10, 2016 Karen
Jul. 10, 2016 Luis

Memorials



July 1, 2013 Dcn. Dustin Miller
July 19, 2017 Anna Day
July 21, 1995 Roberta Reynolds Steiner
July 23, 1990 George Wagner

Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially:



- For the safety of Karron our acting Minister in her journeys during this busy time of year. Carol who is flying to AR to witness her sister's, Sr. M. Therese O.S.B.'s renewal of vows..., and all else who are on the road, or in the air.
- 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. Especially Prudy who isn't feeling well...
- Members of all three Orders of the Franciscan Family who need our prayers.

Coming Events"

1) Immaculate Conception Fraternity has invited our fraternity to join them in a Day of Recollection on Sunday, July 14th, from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m. Topic: "Franciscan Reading of Scripture" with Fr. Tom Herbst OFM.

Lunch will be served, so please confirm in advance if you are coming for lunch (Noon). Contact: Patricia Grace at patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com or 442-300-4652. The meeting is at Our Lady of Confidence Catholic Church, 3131 Governor Drive, San Diego 92122.

2) A New Seminar Series, "Spirituality of the Incarnation" is being offered by Fr. Tom Herbst OFM at the Retreat Center on Thursdays from July 25th to August 29th at 9:30--1130am, and 7:00—9:00pm. Both presentations contain the same material. Admission for Seculars is half price (We are family!).

3) The Regional Picnic on Saturday, August 10th. Our fraternity will be offering Prayer at this event. (see the flyer sent with this edition of **THE CORD**)

4) Our Regional Minister, Judith Mussatto, forwarded an invitation to the Franciscans throughout the Region to attend the 9th Annual Votive Mass on the Feast of Our Lady of the Angels - at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on Saturday, August 24th. Mass at 3:00 pm, with a procession to follow.

Holy Gospel for 14th Sunday in Ordinary time, cycle B

At that time the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.

Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves.

Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way.

Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.' If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you.

Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you, for the laborer deserves his payment.

Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand for you.'

Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you, go out into the streets and say, 'The dust of your town that clings to our feet, even that we shake off against you.'

Yet know this: the kingdom of God is at hand.

I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom on that day than for that town."

The seventy-two returned rejoicing, and said, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name." Jesus said, "I have observed Satan fall like lightning from the sky. Behold, I have given you the power to 'tread upon serpents' and scorpions and upon the full force of the enemy and nothing will harm you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Commentary from the July *Magnificat* magazine

It seems that the seventy-two are somewhat skeptical about the ability Christ gives them to bestow peace, to cure the sick, and to survive among "wolves" like "lambs." Yet, from ages past the Prophet Isaiah has promised that "the Lord's power shall be known to his servants." The jubilant report of the seventy-two upon returning to Jesus reveals just how surprised they are at their own actions: "Even the demons are subject to us because of your name." "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ" is the power by which God in his mercy makes the previously unimaginable come to be in our life. That is what the seventy-two experience. When we see such witnesses—when we become witnesses ourselves—our hearts rejoice and our "bodies flourish like the grass." This commentary can be found just before the Mass of the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. I can't give a page #, as my *Magnificat* is digital.

**May the mercy of Jesus continue to descend upon those in need.
Lord Jesus have mercy on me a sinner. Amen.**

Donna's Fairwell Party

We all feel as empty as this chair, and now the job of filling it will be that much harder, knowing she has gone East to be with her parents who need her near them in these, their 'Golden years.'



Donna with the awesome cake we had made for her.

Donna we all loved working with you. Thankfully our term is nearly over, and the flow of the life in the fraternity will barely notice. But we will greatly miss your vibrant loving personality, along with your beautiful white 'halo,' along with the special touch that your loving presence and Franciscan leadership brought to our fraternity...



Your Council Sisters, Eileen, Karron, Sister, Donna, Carol, Sandy, and Dorothy



Oh, last but definitely not least, remember your donation envelope for the Common Fund. The box will be waiting for you.

Or mail to: Eileen Costa

Fraternity Council



Minister
Donna Foley, OFS



Secretary
Newsletter Editor,
Carol Imhoff, OFS



Vice Minister
Karron Esmonde, OFS



Treasurer
Eileen Costa, OFS



Formation Director
Sandy Baden, OFS



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Spiritual Assistant
Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald,
OSC



Councilor
Dorothy Mann, OFS