



## *the Cord*

San Luis Rey Fraternity of the  
Secular Franciscan Order  
Mission San Luis Rey,  
Oceanside, CA.  
[www.slr-ofs.org](http://www.slr-ofs.org)



**Next Meeting October 6, 2019**

**Mass in the Serra Center at 5:00PM**

**Celebration with “hor d’oeuvres” to follow.**

**Future Meetings:**

Nov. 3, 2019, Dec. 1, 2019, Jan. 5, 2020, Feb. 2, 2020,  
These are regular monthly gatherings, All dates subject to change

**Profession, Oct 6, 2019  
Peter, Linda, and Pam  
Will be pronouncing their desire to be  
Accepted by the San Luis Rey Fraternity  
Of the Secular Franciscan Order  
To be accepted  
For  
HOLY PROFESSION  
Of our HOLY RULE  
in the SERRA CENTER  
at the 5:00 PM Mass**

**Celebration with “Hor D’Oeuvres” to follow.**

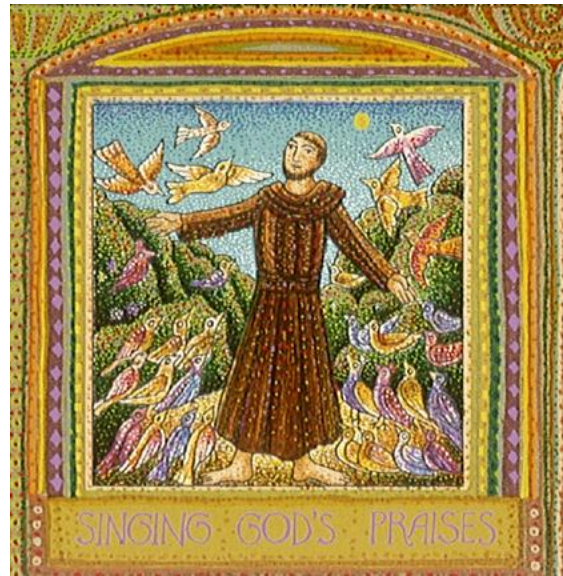
## Minister's Note:

My Sisters and Brothers,

It seems to me that the Transitus is a celebration of *Love*. When we remember loved ones that have passed from this life to the next, what often resonates is the Love that was shared. Patricia Jordan, FSM in her book, 'An Affair of the Heart' says that *Love was the heartbeat of Francis' life. Love was the energy and life-force of his heart's journey and his legacy to his followers*. At this time of the Transitus, in a world where our evening news is full of stories of conflict, shootings, poverty, addiction – let us take Francis as our example of living a life of Love for those on the margins and all of God's creatures.

Francis' own words from the Earlier Rule resound through the centuries:

With our whole heart,  
our whole soul,  
our whole mind,  
with our whole strength and fortitude,  
with our whole understanding  
with all our powers  
with every effort,  
every affection,  
every feeling,  
every desire and wish  
let us all love the Lord God.



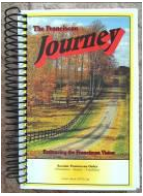
We have several special opportunities to come together to remember Francis' joyous call that we love God with our whole heart, soul, and mind – please mark your calendars for:

- Thursday, **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Commemoration of the Transitus at 6:30pm in the Old Mission San Luis Rey, with hosted dessert reception to follow
- Friday, **October 4<sup>th</sup>** – Mass celebrating the Solemnity of St. Francis at 6:30pm in the Serra Center (with potluck to follow – please bring finger-foods to share)
- Saturday, **October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Blessing of the Animals at the Old Mission (10am – 3pm, with Blessing of the Animals to occur at 10:30am and 1:30pm)
- Sunday, **October 6<sup>th</sup>** – Professions of Peter, Linda, & Pam at the **5pm** Mass in the Serra Center (with potluck to follow – please bring finger-foods to share)

May you be blessed (and share those blessing with others) and especially so during this most Franciscan time of the year!

Peace & All Good -  
Laura, OFS  
Minister

## Formation reminders from Janice D., OFS Formation Director



Classes are held the Saturday before the meeting, Please call our Formation Director for more information

God Bless,  
Janice D., OFS  
Director of Formation

Addresses, Telephone #... can  
be found on your Fraternity  
Membership Roster

Will be sent in a separate email



### Anniversaries of Profession

October 1, 2017 Kelly F.  
October 1, 2017 Liz M.  
October 1, 2017 Sam D.  
October 4, 2015 Laura C.



### Memorials

October 3, 2014	Dorothy K. Johnson
October 5, 1995	Richard Boerger
October 9, 2003	Margaret Nelson
October 9, 2015	Freeda Perrotto
October 13, 2005	Michelle Sagnimeni
October 19, 2014	Robert Porfirio



### Birthdays in October

10 Marianne G.

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



- For the safety of Laura our Minister in her journeys during this busy time of year.
- 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.

## Holy Gospel for 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time, cycle C

### ***Gospel*** [LK 17:5-10](#)

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The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."  
The Lord replied,  
"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed,  
you would say to this mulberry tree,  
'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant  
who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field,  
'Come here immediately and take your place at table'?  
Would he not rather say to him,  
'Prepare something for me to eat.  
Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink.  
You may eat and drink when I am finished'?  
Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded?  
So should it be with you.  
When you have done all you have been commanded,  
say, 'We are unprofitable servants;  
we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Like the apostles, all Christians must pray often that God may increase their faith. Either your faith in God grows or it withers! Since children are baptized into the faith of their parents, father and mother must help them grow in the faith. This is a serious duty.

But we are warned to keep commercialism out of faith, just as we must keep it out of love. Faith and the service of God that it entails cannot *earn* the reward of heaven. God does not owe us anything. When gratefully we have done our duty, we are still useless servants who hope for God's graciousness. (St Joseph's Sunday Missal, © 2011)

Remember, don't be a 'minimalist' in your practice of your faith, but go over and beyond the minimum. Think of an artist that likes to create 'minimalist' art. When they paint a picture of a person, maybe they concentrate on one facial feature, say an ear, but don't include eyes, nose, or mouth, how do we know if the subject is happy, sad, delighted..., as we need the entire face to determine the mood and attitude of the subject. We have to look at this Gospel in the same way, don't just do the minimum, but do all that is needed to attain an eternity in Heaven with Christ our Lord ... (Editor.)

**May the mercy of Jesus continue to descend upon those in need.**

## Lord Jesus have mercy on me a sinner. Amen.

### Regional Gathering – The Heart of Francis, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019



Franciscans are blessed with a special understanding of the concept '[God is Love](#)'. That love is so very present in our relationships with each other. Our Regional gathering which began at [St. Matthew's Church](#) Corona was an unabashed celebration of those loving relationships! The air seemed to crackle with anticipation; although the day began in the warm embrace of a familiar church and our beloved Faith, it was not to end there. Like Francis on his journey to visit the [Sultan Malek al-Kamil](#) 800 years ago this month, we were all anticipating our own pilgrimage to visit a mosque, the [Islamic Center](#) in Corona.

As Caroline Yardell of the [Immaculate Conception Fraternity](#) introduced and welcomed Fraternities from across southern California to the [Regional gathering](#), there was delight, expressed in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese – in the recognition that together, we are all a part of the Body of Christ.

[Margaret McCahill, MD, MTS, OFS](#) spoke on the Franciscan heart – presenting first the physical heart and its importance, the spiritual heart, the emotional heart, and the Franciscan heart. She presented the 'heart' as referenced over and over in Scripture, the heart as the center of who we are. In my experience of Margaret as a fellow student at the Franciscan School of Theology, she exudes such warmth and love - and truly an open heart. This came across so eloquently in her talk.

A few months ago, [Judith Mussatto](#), our Regional Minister, and Randy Rohrer, Regional Councilor, visited the [Islamic Center of Corona-Norco](#). Judith developed a personal relationship with Zinath Khan, responsible for Interfaith outreach at the Islamic Center. Seeing them together, you can see that their relationship sparkles with joy. It's months later, and Judith and Randy are back at the Islamic Center, this time accompanied by one hundred and sixteen fellow Secular Franciscans.



[Judith Mussatto, OFS and Zinath Khan](#)



[Iman Jameel Besada & Sister Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC](#)

The drive from St. Matthew's over to the Islamic Center was a short one, but bridged such a tremendous distance. There was a nervous energy in the air, a joyful anticipation, perhaps even a little trepidation around our visit to the mosque. It was a time for open minds and open hearts.

As we filed into the conference room, we were greeted so very warmly by the Iman, Jameel Besada, and Zinath Khan, responsible for Women's Affairs at the Mosque and Interfaith Outreach. Iman Besada emphasized the great many similarities between our Faiths. He presented on the tenants of the Islam faith as well as the shared

experience of Muslim people. Hands in the audience flew up with questions, even the 'juicy' ones Iman Besada joyfully encouraged.

We were then invited to witness (and photograph) the [Islamic Call to Prayer](#) in the sanctuary. As the men were gathering in our space (the women in another room for privacy and respect given the prayer postures), one elder gentleman began quiet, personal prayer. His focus, presence, and peace were palpable. Just as within our Catholic tradition, Islamic [prayer postures](#) are immensely relevant. While prostrate, the prayer '*Glory be to God, the Most High*' is repeated 3 times. Iman Jameel shared that the head touching the floor is a sign of humility before God.



After witnessing prayer in the mosque, we were treated to a very gracious lunch followed by a robust round of questions and answers about the prayer we had just witnessed. The entire day was a beautiful experience in building relationships based on mutual appreciation of our Muslim brothers and sisters - and a greater appreciation of what 'God is Love' really means.



**Sr. Madeline and Patricia  
Grace**



**Sam DeSantis and Eileen Costa**



**Joe Cannon and Laura Chun**



**Judith Mussatto, Zinath Khan, Laura Chun, Iman Jameel, Bill Mussatto, Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, Martin & Francisca Contreras**



[Click here for a recording](#) of Iman Jameel Besada's welcome talk on September 9/21/2019 to visiting Secular Franciscans; the recording is shared with Iman Jameel's permission & blessing. The recording is 38 minutes long and provided by Joe Cannon.

*Article and photos, by Laura Chun, OFS*



**Our delegation, Laura C., Sam D., Sr. Madeline, Eileen C., Margret M., Jan D., Joe**

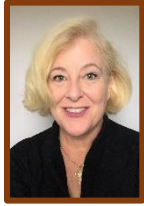


**Sam D., Jan D., Joe C., Carol Y., Friar, Sr. Madeline, Eileen C., Laura C., and ?.**

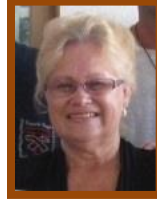


Oh, last but definitely not least, remember your donation envelope for the Common Fund. The box will be waiting for you.

## *Fraternity Council*



Minister  
Laura Chun, OFS



Vice Minister  
Sandy Baden, OFS



Director of Formation,  
Jan DeSpain, OFS



Secretary  
Connie Collins, OFS



Treasurer  
Luis Guzman, OFS



Spiritual Assistant  
Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC



Joe Cannon, OFS  
Councilor



Kelly Farnum, OFS  
Councilor

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Member Outreach  
Karron Esmonde, OFS



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Carol Imhoff, OFS