



The Cord

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



Upcoming Gathering MAY 6, 2020!

10:00 AM Mass in the Serra Center at
11:30 AM-Lunch in the O'Keefe Lounge from
12:30 PM-Community Prayer in the St. Clare Chapel
12:45 PM-Adoration, St. Clare Chapel Annex,
1:00-3:00 PM General Gathering
Council Meeting follows at appx 3:15-Finish

Future Meetings:

May 3, 2020. June 7, 2020, July 5, 2020, August 2, 2020
These are regular monthly gatherings, All dates subject to change

**This is NOT a mistake, there will be no
Franciscan Gathering
in April 2020,
See you on MAY 3, 2020**

Franciscan thought for the Month:

Stay Healthy, so that we can proclaim the Holy Gospel through our actions... Get your spiritual food through OMSLR's web site, EWTN, Catholic TV, Relevant Radio, Immaculate Heart Radio, and other Catholic Sources. Remember, that being at home doesn't mean that your witness as a Secular Franciscan stops, for it doesn't, as you can still Pray, Fast, and give Alms.

From our National Minister

Dear Sisters and Brothers,
May the Lord give you peace.

We have just received a letter from our Minister General regarding the Coronavirus (*This mailing is the 'attachment'*). Please read it and distribute widely. We will also share this letter via our website. I am thankful for Tibor's approach which calls us to both prayer and action, and sets the proper tone for us as Secular Franciscans facing these unusual times.

At the national level we have received questions about whether to cancel or postpone Regional gatherings. We have no set policy at the national level but beg all to be properly informed and make wise decisions as a Council. Check local health directives and look at what the CDC says, and evaluate from there. None of us want to cancel things we have planned, but we need to carefully consider if we are putting folks at risk or contributing to the spread of this virus.

Are we safe if it is a smaller gathering? Or if everyone commits to exercising the recommended disciplines? I don't have the answer to these, or to other questions. We might need to consider the facility where we might be meeting, and consider who has traveled somewhere recently who might be a carrier. We should not be driven by fear, but we do need good common sense and caution, given the current environment. There are alternatives such as rescheduling, or meeting by webinar or conference call.

The National Executive Council joins you in prayer during this time. Let us remember who we are, and be guided by the Holy Spirit in our prayers and actions. Living our theme for this year, let us continue to journey together in love and compassion.

Peace and all good,
Jan

*Jan Parker OFS
National Minister
Secular Franciscan Order - USA*

Journey Together in Love and Compassion
2019-2020 OFS-USA Theme

Minister's Note for April

With the implications of the Coronavirus in our midst, words from the book of Ecclesiastes echo across the millennia, *'a time to embrace, a time to refrain from embracing...'* Although our **April gathering has been cancelled** we are still connected through the '[Cord](#),' our [website](#), and through our connections to each other. Please read all of this 'Minister's Note' – as I have a special request for each of us.



Bishop McElroy

Sunday Mass & the Bishop of San Diego. In a 'new normal' unlike anything we've seen in our lifetimes, Mass will not be held publicly. The Diocese of San Diego will be providing video streaming for Sunday Masses at www.sdcatholic.org. Mission San Luis Rey will also livestream Mass on Sundays at **10am (English)**, and at **12:00pm (Spanish)** www.sanluisreyparish.org. A letter from Bishop McElroy is attached to this Cord's email.



Tibor Kauser,
OFS

Tibor Kauser and a Call to Prayer. Our Minister General of the Secular Franciscan Order, [Tibor Kauser](#), says, *'Solidarity and fraternal life becomes a new meaning'* in times such as these. He asks us to pray for all those impacted by the virus. We have a Franciscan '[Blessing of the Sick](#)' prayer that is dear to our Fraternity. You can find it on our website [here](#); it is also attached to this email. The letter from Tibor is also attached.

Social Distancing

Please listen to requests by health authorities to practice '**Social Distancing.**' Please take this *very* seriously. Staying isolated even if you feel well is an act of altruism* for others. If at all possible, for anything other than medical emergencies, you may want to **stay home**. If you must go out, maintain physical distance from others. And of course, *we need to wash our hands, exceptionally well.* ...I just checked my email and found that tonight, on March 15, Governor Newsom announced home isolation for seniors 65+. Which leads me to the next topic...

*the belief in or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others.

How are you on groceries & other necessities? Please reach out to grown kids or grandkids, or friends to help with groceries; they can drop them at the door without you even needing to open it. Wave and blow them a kiss through the window. Another option is online delivery for your groceries ([Aldi](#), [Von's](#), [Albertson's](#), [Stater Brother's](#), etc.) and medicines ([CVS](#), [Walgreen's](#)). Reach out to your kids, grandkids, or friends if you need help setting up your account. They can do that for you online with you on the phone even if they live far away. Or if needed, call *me* (my cell phone is in our roster) and I will help you set up an account for online delivery and help you with your order. Our Fraternity roster is attached to this Cord's email.



Avoiding the gym this weekend (social distancing), I spent a lot of time out on nature walks with my little dog, Odie. When anyone approached, I'd get off the trail into the brush to keep a nice 15ft+ distance between us. One family, mistaking my distance for fear of their big dog, assured me their dog was friendly. I replied that I was 'social distancing.' Seeing their confused looks, I called over, saying, 'Out of love and respect for you and your family, I'm keeping a safe social distance.' Their incredulous expressions betrayed that they really just wanted to avoid the crazy lady in the tall wet weeds with legs splattered in mud as they hurried on... but then paused... Dad's expression lit up with sudden understanding. With a big, appreciative smile and a wave, yelled back, '**Hey!!! THANKS!!!!**'

While praying on my eight mile walk Sunday morning, [Sr. Marianne Cope](#), a Franciscan sister who ministered to the lepers in Hawaii, came to mind. As a hospital administrator in New York, She met with resistance when she insisted that doctors **wash their hands** between patients. When she and six of her sisters left New York for Hawaii, so great was her faith in God, that she promised her sisters that none would contract leprosy if they joined her. She insisted in abject cleanliness and thorough **handwashing** frequently and throughout the day, with every patient. Mother Marianne's promise held true as none of her sisters ever contracted the disease. Let us all ask Sr. Marianne to pray for us – as we emulate her example... in trusting God, in prayer, in caring for others – and in washing our hands.

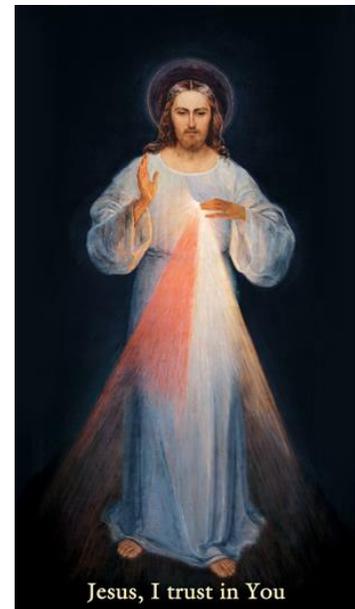


St. Marianne Cope

Social Connection is important, too

The fraternity is a conduit of God's grace, and it's important that *we* stay connected. I ask that until we meet again, let's stay in touch with each other. Please look for **YOUR NAME** on our Fraternity Roster, *then the 3 people beneath you*. Those three people are *yours*. Yours to pray for... yours to reach out to. If you're at the bottom of the list, your three people are the ones at the top. **Each week**... please send a text message, an email, a card, or a phone call... *to those three people*. Some folks are Emeritus and may not be able to reciprocate. And that's ok. Reach out to them, let them know they are loved. Pray for each other. Check up on each other. Just say hello. We are all in this together. The Fraternity Roster with everyone's name is attached to this Cord's email.

This would be an awesome time for you to take a few minutes to check your entry for accuracy. (Editor)



Jesus, I trust in You



[St. Clare of Assisi](#)

Weeks ago, our Fraternity Council was prayerfully considering our theme for April, we thought of that long-ago Palm Sunday in 1212, present in the congregation at the Cathedral of San Rufino in Assisi, a young [Clare embraced her lifelong vocation](#) as a Franciscan. Clare had been touched by the charismatic Francis and his brothers who were enthusiastically preaching about Jesus and caring for the poor. On Palm Sunday, Bishop Guido left the sanctuary to give her a palm branch, a sign that she was accepting God's call to follow Jesus in the footsteps of Francis. Being from such a wealthy family, what a huge leap of faith it must have been for her! I see Clare in this image, with that could be a palm in her hand; I wonder what she must have felt in that moment. I pray that we are all so brave to live a life with such faith in God, love of Jesus, inspired by the example of St. Francis

Pace e Bene,
Laura, OFS
Minister

Vice-Minister's Note –



The beauty of St. Clare of Assisi and her deep love to live the gospel life is shown as a follower of her love of our Lord Jesus Christ and St. Francis. St Clare was a formidable force and resolute in her determination of her goal for all of us to see Christ in others and in ourselves. St. Clare's love of Christ mirrors what we should be doing in our own lives as we seek to live the Gospel. Loving each other as we look to God, "Going from Gospel to Life and Life to the Gospel." Attached to this Cord's email is a poem titled, '[Clare's Flight From Home](#),' which shows such trust in our Lord.

Sandy Baden, OFS
Vice-Minister

**Attached you will find ten (10) attachments, all are important.
Please read them all.**

There is a book, yes a Book on the "24 hours of the Passion of the Lord" that is best taken as presented, in small bites. I just happened to think that now that we may not have Good Friday, or Holy Week, that we could put ourselves into the attitude of prayer by meditating on a page or 2 every so often, especially during "Passion Week."
Carol OFS, Editor.

Reflections on Uncertainty

Over the last days and weeks our world has undergone a lot. At this moment, we have been asked to “self-isolate.” For many this term brings visions of loneliness and fear. Many have likened our current situation to that of the Jews entering the desert, uncertain, fearful of the future. As Viktor Frankl demonstrates in his book, *Man’s Search for Meaning*, it seems that we can endure almost anything if it has, or more importantly, if we *find* meaning. As Secular Franciscans, we seem to have an advantage, in that we do seek and find meaning. Still, the unknown can be anxiety-provoking.

How do we manage the anxiety of the unknown? First, it’s important to acknowledge that the current situation can be disconcerting, and that feeling the stress of the situation is normal and not an indication of emotional weakness or lack of faith. We are “wired” to respond to emergency situations with increased energy and focus. With so much unknown, it can be difficult to find the focus, and we are left with the unfocused energy of anxiety. Once we recognize that, we can take steps to address the stress and reduce the associated anxiety.

Here are some useful ways to manage anxiety and increase focus:

1. Notice the anxiety. Recognize it for what it is, and let it move on.
2. Center yourself. Become mindful. Pray. Meditate. Contemplate.
3. Recreate. Allow yourself to play and pursue your hobbies.
4. Connect. Call friends and family - and remember that they need you as much as you need them.

It can be beneficial to seek outside support, and sometimes just a listening ear helps. The San Diego Diocese has established the Mental Health Ministry <https://www.sdatholic.org/office-for/family-life-and-spirituality/mental-health-ministry/> with corresponding ministry groups in several parishes. Members of this ministry offer spiritual companionship, mindful presence, education, and referrals to resources. **To reach the Mental Health Ministry at the Mission San Luis Rey Parish, call 760-547-0751.** The Mental Health Ministry is open to everyone - you do not need to be a Mission parishioner to access this ministry.

Peace and all good.
Connie OFS, Secretary

OUTREACH
In The World For The World
Brother Benno's
Oceanside

This establishment, my dear brothers and sisters, is our local gem, the heart of Harold and Kay Kutler, who left it to us for the care of our homeless brothers and sisters during their time(s) of need.

The second Thursday of the month breakfast line has opened up for our Fraternity to be a regular presence serving alongside those in their addiction recovery program by providing hot breakfasts and sack lunches plus lots of donated foodstuffs to sustain our dear residents throughout their difficult days.

This past week we got our collective foot in the door of this essential social service organization which is in our own backyard.

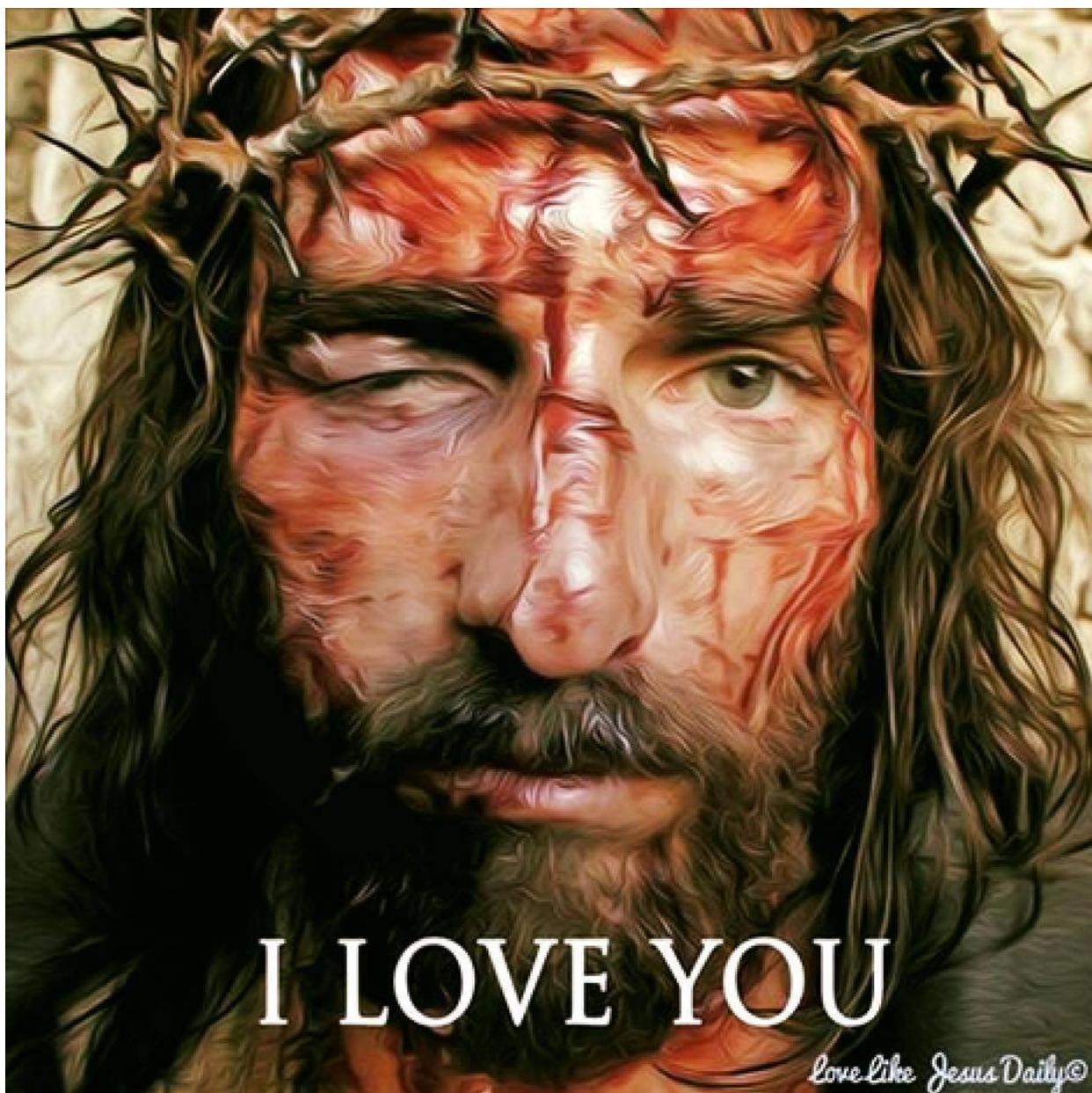
Eileen Costa, Joe Cannon, and others have been involved as individuals in various ways yet this is our opportunity as a group to extend our loving smiles and our helping hands to who could be seen as modern day 'lepers', those displaced and with mental or emotional challenges. Let's do all we can to fully staff this valuable breakfast slot by involving ourselves as we are able and being a living prayer to our brothers and sisters on the streets.

Brother Benno's serves the community in other capacities as well. Please prayerfully take in their website,

brotherbenno.org.

BIG LOVE

Kelly Farnum OFS



I saw this picture in "Bing" images, and every Lent when I look at it, it seems that Jesus is saying, "I love You so much that I did this for You, don't worry about everybody else, as I did it for them as well.

Just remember, I went through my Sacred Passion for YOU." To which I respond, thank you Jesus, I love you Jesus.

I have no idea who painted it, but this is what He looked like, not like the 'sanitized' crucifixes in our churches. We have to remember that His Passion was not glamorous and painless as so many artists make it appear.

I'm sorry if this grosses you out, but this is what we remember on Good Friday. See following excerpt from "The 24 Hours of the Passion Of Our Lord Jesus Christ," by Luisa Piccarreta,

Seventeenth Hour

From 9 to 10 AM

Jesus is crowned with thorns. Presented to the people: “Ecce Homo!”

Jesus is condemned to death

My Jesus, infinite Love, the more I look at You, the more I understand how much You suffer. You are already completely lacerated – there is not one point left whole in You. The executioners, enraged in seeing that, in so many pains, You look at them with so much love; and in seeing that your loving gaze, forming a sweet enchantment, almost like many voices, prays and supplicates for more pains and new pains - though inhuman, yet forced by your love, make You stand on your feet. Unable to stand Yourself, You fall again into your own Blood, and, irritated, with kicks and shoves, they make You reach the place where they will crown You with thorns.

My Love, if You do not sustain me with your gaze of love, I cannot go on seeing You suffer. I feel a shiver in my bones, my heart throbs, I feel I am dying. Jesus, Jesus – help me!

And my lovable Jesus says to me: **“My child, courage, do not miss anything of what I suffered. Be attentive to my teachings. I have to redo man in everything. Sin has removed the crown from him, and has crowned him with opprobrium and with confusion; so he cannot stand before my Majesty. Sin has dishonored him, making him lose any right to honors and to glory. This is why I want to be crowned with thorns – to place the crown on man’s forehead, and to return to him all rights to every honor and glory. Before my Father, my thorns will be reparations and voices of defense for many sins of thought, especially pride; and for each created mind they will be voices of light and supplication, that they may not offend Me. Therefore, unite yourself to Me, and pray and repair together with Me.”**

Crowned Jesus, your cruel enemies make You sit; they place a rag of purple on You, they take the crown of thorns, and with infernal fury, they put it on your adorable head. Then, by blow of rod, they make the thorns penetrate into your forehead, and some of them reach into your eyes, into your ears, into your skull, and even behind your neck. My Love, what torment, what unspeakable pains! How many cruel deaths You suffer!

Your Blood pours down upon your Face, in such a way that one can see nothing but blood. But under those thorns and that Blood, your most holy Face appears, radiant with sweetness, with peace, and with love. And the executioners, wanting to complete the tragedy, blindfold You, place a reed in your hand as scepter, and begin their mockeries. They hail You King of the Jews, they beat You on the crown, they slap You, and say to You: “Guess who hit You!”

And You remain silent – You answer by repairing for the ambition of those who aspire to kingdoms, to dignities, to honors, and for those who, finding themselves in positions of authority and behaving incorrectly, cause the ruin of the peoples and of their souls, which had been entrusted to them; and their evil examples push others toward evil and cause the loss of souls.

With this reed You hold in your hand, You repair for so many works - good, but empty of interior spirit and also done with evil intentions. In the insults and the blindfold, You repair for those who ridicule the holiest things, discrediting them and profaning them; You also repair for those who blindfold the sight of their intelligence in order not to see the light of Truth. With this blindfold, You impetrate that the blindfolds of passions, of riches and of pleasures may be removed from us.

My King Jesus, your enemies continue with their insults. The Blood which flows from your most holy head is so much, that reaching your mouth, It prevents You from letting me hear clearly your most sweet voice, so I cannot do what You do. Therefore I come into your arms; I want to sustain your pierced and suffering head, and I want to place my head under those thorns in order to feel their pricks.

But as I say this, my Jesus calls me with His loving gaze, and quickly I embrace His Heart, and I try to sustain His head. Oh, how beautiful it is to be with Jesus, even in the midst of a thousand torments! And He says to me: "My child, these thorns say that I want to be constituted King of each heart; to Me belongs every dominion. Take these thorns and prick your heart; let everything that does not belong to Me come out, and then leave one thorn inside, as the seal that I am your King, and to prevent any other thing from entering into you. Then, go through every heart, and pricking them, let all the fumes of pride and the rottenness which they contain come out, and constitute Me King of all."

My Love, my heart breaks in leaving You; therefore I pray You to deafen my ears with your thorns, that I may hear only your voice; cover my eyes with your thorns, that I may look at You alone; fill my mouth with your thorns, that my tongue be mute to everything that may offend You, and be free to praise You and bless You in everything. O my King Jesus, surround me with thorns, that they may hold me in custody, defend me, and keep me all intent on You. And now I want to dry your Blood and kiss You, because I see that your enemies take You to Pilate, who will condemn You to death. My Love, help me to follow your Sorrowful Way, and bless me.

Pages 71-72 of the book, "*The 24 Hours of the Passion Of Our Lord Jesus Christ*," by Luisa Piccarreta, easily found on the www. Those who have computer access, will find a PDF copy of the entire book, (186 8.5 X 11 pages, (approx. 100 2 sided pages of printer paper)), attached. Or you can purchase a copy of the book on Amazon, when they get them back in stock...

Sister Death

Retired Bishop Gilberto Chávez dies

Aida Bustos



National pioneer in Hispanic ministry was revered leader in San Diego region

SAN DIEGO – The Most Rev. Robert McElroy, Roman Catholic bishop of San Diego, announced the death today of retired Auxiliary Bishop Gilberto Chávez, at age 87, a revered spiritual leader of Catholics across the region, particularly Latinos. He died Sunday (*March 15*) at a local retirement home after months of hospice care due to failing health.

Bishop Chávez served the San Diego Diocese for 60 years, 46 of them as auxiliary bishop. During this era, the San Diego region's population grew rapidly, particularly among Hispanics. Bishop Chávez championed initiatives both at the diocese and in the broader U.S. Catholic Church to serve Latinos, particularly with Spanish-language ministry.

He tirelessly encouraged parishioners to develop their spiritual formation and their leadership skills. He inspired generations of Latino Catholics to take leadership roles in their parishes, in their communities and in public life.

“The extraordinary gifts Bishop Chávez blessed us with during his lifetime profoundly shaped our faithful, our clergy, our diocese and our Church itself,” Bishop McElroy said.

Bishop Chávez launched pioneering programs to represent Latino Catholics in San Diego and Imperial counties, including training in Spanish. He headed the diocese’s first commission to serve Hispanic Catholics, an organization that continues its work today, when Latinos comprise nearly two-thirds of the 1.3 million Catholics at the diocese.

He served in nine parishes, including his first assignment at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Riverside in 1960, his first of two assignments in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel in San Ysidro in 1971, and as rector for 24 years at St. Joseph’s Cathedral.

Though Bishop Chávez retired in June of 2007 at age 75, he continued to be active until recently. He offered friendship and counsel to priests, particularly newly ordained ones. And he attended major events, including the ordination in 2017 of Auxiliary Bishop John Dolan, who as an eighth-grader was confirmed by Bishop Chávez.

Bishop Chavéz always attended celebrations of the faithful. In December of 2017, he attended the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at the Community Concourse, where he received a standing ovation to the chants of “¡Que Viva el Obispo Chávez!”

“I want to congratulate you for being faithful to the Catholic Church,” he told the several thousand who gathered that day, “for choosing the path toward good, truth, humility, and love. You are all important to the Church and to society as a whole.”

He was born Gilberto Espinoza Chávez on May 9, 1932, in Ontario, Calif., one of six children in a devoutly Catholic family that had emigrated from Mexico.

After high school, he entered the seminary in San Diego and was ordained in 1960 by Bishop Charles F. Buddy. He served in various assignments across Southern California, including a four-year stint as chaplain at a state drug and rehabilitation center in Norco.

While working in the prison system, he decided to pursue a college degree from UC Riverside to better prepare him for challenges to come.

Pope Paul VI named him auxiliary bishop in 1974, only the second Hispanic bishop at the time in the nation. He served first with Bishop Leo T. Maher and later with Bishop Robert H. Brom, a total of 33 years.

Beyond the diocese, Bishop Chávez actively supported community causes from Oceanside to El Centro, particularly those that advocated for social justice for the poor and disenfranchised. He once marched alongside César Chávez from the border to San Diego to support rights for farmworkers. The bishop inspired a generation of young activists who would go on to lead organizations in the private and public sectors.

In 1983, he became rector of St. Joseph’s Cathedral, where he served for 24 years until he retired as bishop in 2007.

He had requested a public fiesta be held in San Ysidro to celebrate his life. That celebration will be held after the COVID-19 crisis has ended. Courtesy “*The Southern Cross*” Diocesan Newspaper.

Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

Chapter I - The Secular Franciscan Order (Three paragraphs)

(who/what are we)

1. The Secular Franciscan Order as an expression of the charism of St. Francis in the Church.
2. Definition of the Secular Franciscan Order as a family of Catholic fraternities living the Gospel in the style of St. Francis.
3. Brief note about the legislative history of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Chapter II - The Way of Life of Secular Franciscans, (16 paragraphs)

(Daily Life) (what we do to follow Jesus in the footsteps of St. Francis)

4. **The life of the Gospel.**
5. **Christ present in the Brothers and Sisters, in Scriptures, in the Church, and in the Liturgy. The grace of Baptism.**
6. **Union with the pastors of the Church. Creative apostolic vocation.**
7. **Penitential dimension of the Franciscan life. Conversion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**
8. **Life of prayer, in the Sacraments, the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Hours.**
9. **Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
10. **The evangelical counsel of obedience.**
11. **The evangelical counsel of poverty and humility. Itinerant nature of the Franciscan life.**
12. **The evangelical counsel of chastity in the secular state.**
13. **Spirit of fraternal love and respect towards all persons.**
14. **Social commitment to the world in a spirit of evangelical service.**
15. **Promotion of justice, in the sphere of social life.**
16. **Value of work as a service to the community.**
17. **Peace and respect of life. Witness of genuine love between married Secular Franciscans.**
18. **Love and respect for all creatures.**
19. **Commitment to work for peace, through dialogue and forgiveness. Encounter with "sister death" in a true spirit of faith.**

Chapter III - The Life of the Fraternity (6 paragraphs)

(Admin.) (How we do it)

20. Local, regional, national and international fraternities. Way of life contained in the Rule and General Constitutions.
21. The fraternity council and the Minister of the fraternity.
22. Canonical establishment of the local fraternity.
23. Process of acceptance of new members in the Secular Franciscan Order. Rite of initiation, initial formation, profession of the Rule.
24. Meetings with other Franciscan groups, especially with young people. Prayers for deceased members of the Secular Franciscan Order.
25. Economic administration of the fraternity.
26. The role of the Spiritual Assistant of the fraternity, who preferably is a member of the First Order of St. Francis. The pastoral visitation and the fraternal visitation.

Amen.

The above is based on a post by, **Kathleen White** kdwofs@gmail.com on her [TAU-Daily] internet site: tau-daily-noreply@yahogroups.com It was posted during January of 2020 when she was presenting our Holy Rule.



Now, we can thank the Lord for all the awesome and much needed rain.
“Thank you Lord God for all this beautiful rain, you have watered all the flowers, trees, and crops, filled all the lakes and reservoirs so that we’ll have plenty to drink, and wash this nasty virus away with...

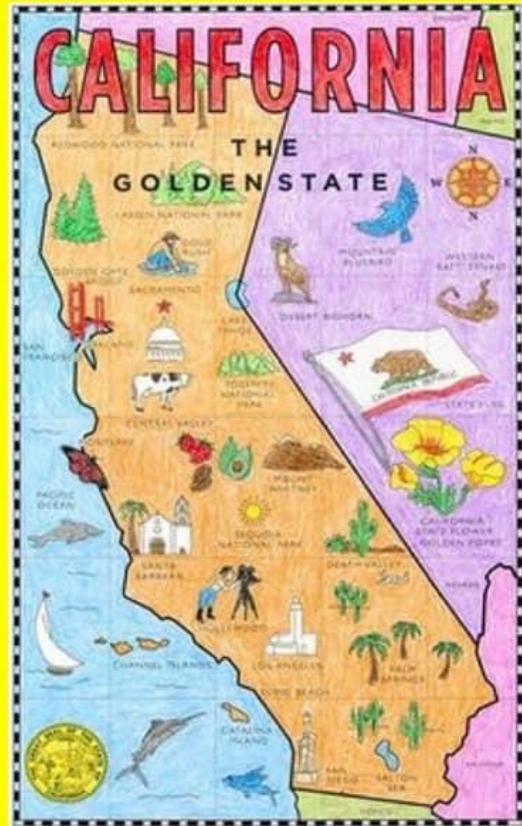
THANK YOU, GOD, FOR THE RAIN.

Courtesy of an unknown photographer.

Our State Governor asks...

Latest from California #COVID19
Governor Gavin Newsom's Press Conference
Sunday Afternoon, March 15 2020

- Everyone 65 and over asked to stay home
- Everyone with compromised immunity asked to stay home
- California's estimated 108,000 unsheltered homeless will be sheltered in hotels, motels, trailers
- All bars, nightclubs, wineries, brewpubs are to close immediately
- Restaurants can stay open, tables six feet apart. We need them to prepare hot food for us and to remain productive.
- Nursing homes, hospice and hospitals are allowing end of life visitation only
- 85% schools, colleges and universities are shutdown as of Monday
- All non-essential events cancelled
- Public testing will continue to ramp up (but this remains a huge challenge)
- Looking to increase bed capacity in our hospitals
- California organising our logistics teams and protocols
- and will continue to do so.

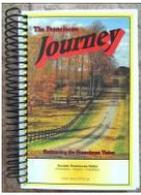


Be Aware!!!

SCAM ALERT

Red Cross has advised that there are thieves going to old people's houses saying they belong to Red Cross and offering to do the test for the virus and they charge them for the test or they just rob them. Red Cross is not doing any testing. Pls try To share this msg so that we can stop these despicable people!!!

Reminders Page



Classes are held the Saturday before the meeting, Please call Janice at (951)288-6037, or email sfojan@gmail.com for more information.

God Bless,
Janice (Jan) DeSpain, OFS
Director of Formation

Anniversaries of Profession



Apr. 10, 2005 Winnie
Apr. 22, 1961 Sr. Madeline, OSC
Apr. 24, 1994 Marta

Memorials



April 2, 1999 Cornelia Sussman
April 2, 2012 Elane Smith
April 6, 2018 Mary Behinke
April 17, 2003 Nicholas Furticella
April 28, 2009 Mary Gregush

Birthdays



01 Corrine
09 Brenda
10 Sandy
14 Irene

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, his assistant Bishops, and all our Diocesan Bishops; for all of our pastors, priests, deacons and consecrated religious, including those in lay orders and institutes.
- For the victims of war, violence, and terrorism throughout the world.
- For all who have asked for our prayers.
- For our families and friends.
- 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.
- Please remember those affected by the Coronavirus in your prayers.
- Please remember all the medical personal helping the victims of this pandemic.

Formation News

Orientation Class: We are beginning a new Orientation class with four new sisters; Linda, Carolyn, Pam and Mirna on Saturday, April 4th at 9AM. The facilitators for this class will be Kelly and Joe. Thank you both for being a part of the formation team.

Candidacy Class: Heidi and Dottie will be studying Chapter 16 in The Journey. It covers Article 8 of our Rule and is focused on prayer. Thanks to Connie for being our council participant. During Candidacy our council members rotate visiting to get to know our Candidates more intimately.

Professed Members: You are an important part of initial formation. Invite new people to sit with you and get to know them better at our gatherings. Also pray for their discernment. Thanks!
Jan DeSpain OFS Formation Director

Canceled along with our Gathering due to Coronavirus.

Holy Gospel for Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020

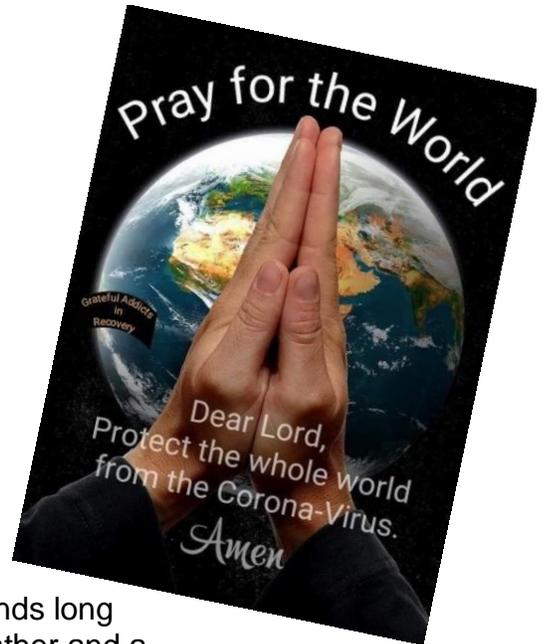
Sorry, but today I am not going to type out our Holy Gospel, You can pick up the “Big Black Book” on your coffee table and open it to Matthew 26:14 – 27:66, and ponder the sacred narration of Jesus’ sacred Passion and saving Death.

Here is a list of the events covered in this Holy Gospel from the RSVCE Bible.

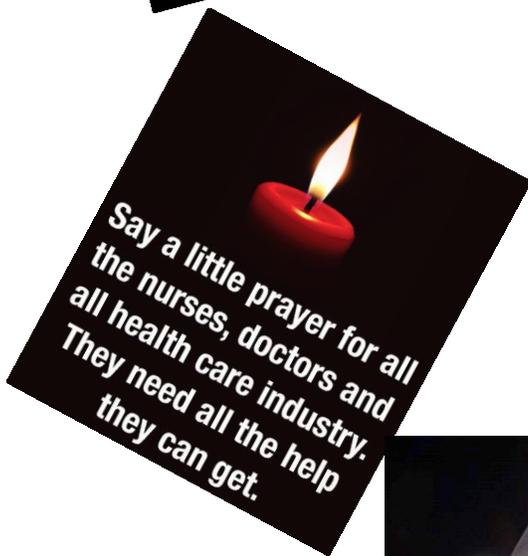
1. Jesus is betrayer, Judas, (Matt. 26:14)
2. Passover with the Apostles, (Matt. 26:17)
3. Institution of the Eucharistic Meal, 1st Holy Mass, (Matt 26:26)
4. Peter’s Denial foretold, “Cock crows’ (Matt. 26:30)
5. Jesus ‘Agony in the Garden,’ (Matt. 26:36)
6. Jesus is Betrayed and Arrested (Matt. 26:47)
7. Jesus before the Sanhedrin, (Matt. 26:57)
8. Peter denies Jesus, (Matt. 26:69)
9. Jesus before Pilate, (Matt. 27:1)
10. Judas hangs himself, (Matt. 27:3)
11. Pilate Questions Jesus, (Matt. 27:11)
12. Barabbas or Jesus? (Matt. 27:15)
13. Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified (Matt. 27:24)
14. Jesus crowned with thorns, (Matt. 27:27)
15. The Crucifixion of Jesus, (Matt. 27:32)
16. Jesus dies on the Cross, (Matt. 27:45)
17. Jesus is laid in the tomb, (Matt. 27:57)
18. The guard is assigned to Jesus’ tomb, (Matt. 27:62)
19. He is Risen, Jesus triumphs over death, (Matt. 28:1)
20. The report of the guard, (Matt. 28:11)

You could use this for several visits to the Blessed Sacrament during a “quiet day” at OMSLR, or just several visits to your own parish church/Adoration Chapel for adoration. Please don’t forget to Thank Jesus for dying for your sins. Jesus loves each one of us to the point that he gave his life for each one of us. Considering the current situation, you could do this in your “Prayer Corner” with your chair pointed towards the nearest tabernacle, for as it was St. John Vianney that said, “Walls don’t separate us from Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.”

Cheer me ups and Prayers from social media....!



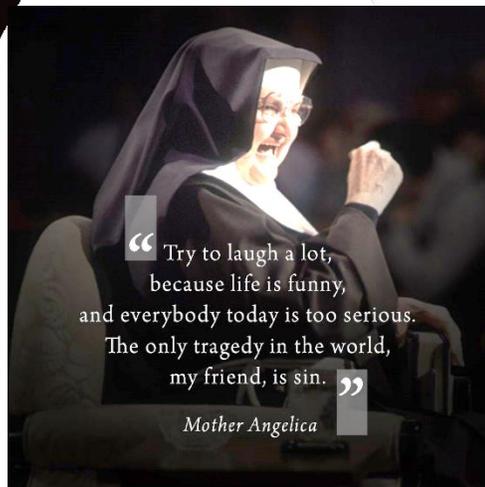
Have I scrubbed my hands long enough, pray an Our Father and a Hail Mary, while sudsing hands with soap. While praying these prayers should take about 20 seconds, the recommended time needed to wash your hands. Fr. Vince Homily March 15, 2020



Corona Virus Prayer

Dear God,
I pray for healing to all affected by this deadly virus. Only You can move in a mighty way and do the impossible for them. We pray for all negative outcomes be resolved by Your healing hands. Bless and cover each and every single person and bring whole healing to their bodies, from the top of their head to the soles of their feet.

Amen.





Oh, last but definitely not least, remember your donation envelope for the Common Fund. The box will be waiting for you, or you can mail your contribution to Luis, OFS our Treasurer.

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