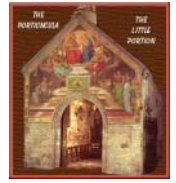




# Good News Report

Secular Franciscan Order  
Trillium Regional Fraternity



Number 70

Summer 2014

## A MOMENT WITH THE MNISTER

We were blessed in the Trillium Region to have a most successful Chapter of Elections at Mount Mary Retreat Center in Ancaster, Ontario on the weekend of May 23- 25, 2014.

New and old friends were reunited and we were honoured to have as our National Representatives, Mr. Tom Wilkinson and Brother Gerry Clyne in attendance. Tom's warm, friendly and gentle nature set the tone for the Chapter. Les Alberti, gave us a wonderful talk on the Promotion of Vocations and the support for the elderly. It was so heart-warming to hear what various fraternities are doing around the Region. Father Peter Knaapen fed us spiritually with Masses and his wonderful homilies as did Deacon Maurice Prindiville and Brother Alan Gaebel with their talks on Perfect Joy and Creation. We were treated by the wonderful music ministry provided by Debbie Tessier, Colleen MacAlister, Dan St. Pierre and Brother Gerry.



this way we are able to keep up with our commitment to the National Fraternity and the rise in postage that we incurred this past spring.

Your new Trillium Regional Council looks forward to meeting with your fraternities very soon. We want to continue the visibility that was well established by our former Council members. Your Trillium Regional Council is here to share in your joys and sorrows and all that you need of us.

My name is Catherine Payne and I humbly accepted my new position as Minister of the Trillium Region. I belong to the Sacred Heart Fraternity in Guelph and was the former Treasurer for the Region. I have had the pleasure to meet many of you over the past three years as my term as an Area Councillor. I



(Continued on page 2)

## SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT

On May 5, 2014 my Province of Immaculate Conception joined with St Anthony of Padua Province to form the new Province of Our Lady of the Angels. The territory of this new province includes the East Coast of the United States, Ontario Canada and Costa Rica, as well as friars living and serving in several other countries.



The friars look at this new beginning as an opportunity to reenergize our Franciscan spirit and more effectively serve parishes and other ministries across this vast region. Our feast day is August 2nd, the feast of our Lady of the Angels also known as the feast of St Mary of the Angels.

As you may know the little church of Our Lady of the Angels, the "Little Portiuncula" (aka Portiuncula) was very important in the life of St. Francis. As his early biographer, Thomas of Celano stated. "This place the holy man loved more than other places in the world; for here he began humbly, here he progressed virtuously, here he ended happily"



(The following is an excerpt from the Major Life of St. Francis by St. Bonaventure.)

*" The Portiuncula was an old church dedicated to the Virgin Mother of God which was abandoned . Francis had great devotion to the Queen of the world and*

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sincerely hope to be able to keep up my visitations and to share in your fraternal gatherings. I hope you will find me approachable and willing to be of service in whatever way I can. I will do my best to keep you informed of what is happening in the Region.

I have the good fortune of living in "farm country." It never ceases to amaze me how diligent the farmers are with their land. From the moment the snows melt, they are out in the fields tilling, fertilizing, digging irrigation trenches and always repairing broken fences and fallen limbs. Then the planting begins and the seeds are spread throughout the acreage. The Lord provides the right amount of sunshine and rain to ensure a hearty harvest. When I drive by, I can almost see the corn grow! There are fields of yellow canola, soy beans, corn and of course hay for their livestock. Not a square inch of land is wasted. That got me thinking about ourselves. Does the Lord not work diligently in our hearts? He tills and digs and repairs our lives. He then plants the seeds in our hearts that God hopes will one day grow into wonderful plants of His love. As the summer moves along please give some thought to how St. Francis blossomed into a wonderful disciple of the Lord with a little seeding and repair!!! Can we do the same?

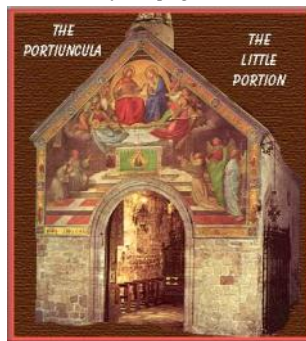
She is happy who clings  
wholeheartedly to Him;  
Whose tender touch and kindness;  
Whose ever fresh remembrance and fragrance;  
Whose radiant visage and clarity;  
continually shares  
Heavenly joy with her and all the citizens  
Of the heavenly city.  
She is happy who clings  
wholeheartedly to Him!

St. Clare - pray for us. Feast Day August 11.



Deus meus et omnia;  
Catherine Payne

(Continued from page 1)



when he saw that the church was deserted, he began to live there constantly in order to repair it. He heard that the Angels often visited it, so that it was called Saint Mary of the Angels, and he decided to stay there permanently out of reverence for the angels and love for the Mother of Christ.

He loved this spot more than any other in the world. It was here he began his religious life in a very small way; it is here he came to a happy end. When he was dying, he commended this spot above all others to the friars, because it was most dear to the Blessed Virgin. He often said to the friars, 'See to it my sons, that you never abandon this place. If you are thrown out of one door, go back through another, for this is truly a holy place, and the dwelling place of Christ and His Virgin Mother'.

As he was living there by the church of Our Lady, Francis prayed to her who had conceived the Word, full of grace and truth, begging her insistently and with tears to become his advocate. Then he was granted the true spirit of the Gospel by the intercession of the Mother of mercy and he brought it to fruition.

He embraced the Mother of Our Lord Jesus with indescribable love because, as he said, it was she who made the Lord of majesty our brother, and through her we found mercy. After Christ, he put all his trust in her and took her as his patroness for himself and his friars."

I ask you to please pray to our Lady of the Angels for the friars of my new province and for all the secular Franciscans.

### Prayer for the Intercession of Our Lady of the Angels

Heavenly Father, you filled the heart of St. Francis with a special love for the Mother of Your Son, Jesus, and for the Portiuncula. In this hallowed place you nourished his spiritual life and inspired him to found the Franciscan Order. Through the intercession of Our Lady of the Angels may we be steadfast in our faith and remain true to You.

Grant us the faith and grace always to do Your will.  
Grant this through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

AMEN

Fr. Peter Knaapen ofm conv.

## FROM THE FORMATION CORNER



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I sincerely hope all of you are having a peaceful and joyous summer with your families. This is a good time to “get together,” as fraternities for picnics and sharing, and to visit our Franciscan brothers and sisters who are home-bound or in nursing homes.

Don't miss out on spending time with the Lord in prayer, adoration, and evangelizing.

This coming year, I would like to have Formation Seminars, but would like your input as to what topics you, as formation directors and ministers, would like to discuss and look further into. Do you wish to discuss initial formation (now covered in the book entitled “The Franciscan Journey”), on-going formation, or the FUN manual that you have all received during the past year? Please contact me with your preferences, concerns, etc. so that we can plan our next three years together following in the footsteps of Francis toward our ultimate goal – to be closer, and more intimate with our Divine Saviour. My e-mail address is [donnadooling@gmail.com](mailto:donnadooling@gmail.com)

**This year, our International Fraternity asks us to reflect on the life of Saint Louis of France.**

Ongoing formation materials on St. Louis will be available monthly on the CIOFS web-site: [www.ciofs.org](http://www.ciofs.org). When you go on to the CIOFS site, click “main page” – you will then see the on-going formation dossiers on St. Louis of France. The National Fraternity will be producing a pamphlet regarding St. Louis of France with information for sharing with fraternity members. You will be advised when these pamphlets are available.

Remember the Franciscan feast days during summer: St. Bonaventure, July 15; The Portiuncula, Aug. 2; St. Clare, Aug. 11 - Louis IX, Patron of the Secular Franciscans - Aug.25; The Stigmata Sept.17.

And remember to prepare for the celebration of the Transitus and the Feast of St. Francis: Oct. 3 and 4. All of these Feast Days can be opportunities to get together for mass and sharing.

I pray that all of you enjoy a peaceful, joyous, and Spirit-Filled summer, and until September – Peace and ALL Good!!!!

God Bless you and your families.

Donna Dooling ofs

## THE JUBILEE YEAR OF ST. LOUIS

Let us use this Jubilee Year to go deeper into how our baptism is connected to our profession to the Secular Franciscan Order.

Louis was born on April 25, 1214 and was baptized on the same day. Louis was not born a saint ...he was a person like us... he struggled all his life against his flaws. With the help of God's grace, he controlled and overcome himself in various circumstances until his death. In his heart he nourished the desire to be conformed to the Gospel. He lived his entire life being aware of his dignity as child of God called to holiness; which gave him a contagious holiness expressed in his life and his teachings.

We commemorate the eight-hundredth anniversary of birth of St. Louis of France: the co-patron of the OFS. We want to learn from him how to develop the grace of our baptism in our lives, and reach its fullness, which is perfection of charity.

**A baptism to live** Baptism cannot be just an event that occurred in our past. It has to irrigate our whole life, enlighten our choices, and guide our sacrifices. The reality of our baptism must be embodied in the reality of our life. (Rule 6, GG.CC. 14,3a; GG.CC. 17-27)

Saint Louis accomplished that. His baptism

was an act with repercussions: he tried to live as a Christian, to seek justice as a Christian, to assume his duty as a king and as a



Christian. He did all this in his time, and according to the culture of his time, even faced with opposition. Following his example, today we are to be faithful to our baptism, to live as Christians, to think as Christians, to act as Christians in our time and in our culture, even when our surroundings present opposition.

**Everyone can become saint!** St. Louis' entire life contributed to making him a "saint."

Holiness is the condition of a life lived with Christ, who is "the Way, the Truth and the Life." (Jn 14,6) In this Jubilee Year, we want to renew the promises of our Baptism and of our profession in the OFS, thus moving forward on the path of sanctity, along with our brothers and sisters.

## VICE-MINISTER'S LETTER

Growing in Christ

Wow! What an exciting and beautiful Chapter of Elections we had in May! Great Speakers, Deacon Maurice and Friar Allan, provoked wonderful ideas on which to meditate! Their talks challenged us understand and bring to life Francis' "Perfect Joy" and understanding of "Justice".

To spend a full week-end with our Franciscan Family was also such a joy. Yet, like in all families, there was some sadness too. Some of our brothers and sisters were suffering physical pain, or carrying the burden of sharing in the serious suffering of their family members. Such brothers and sisters have been and are such blessings to all of us. They demonstrate how we are all called to "walk the talk," and really share in Christ's passion.

As Franciscans, we know that there is a season for all things. So, we remain joyful in the love of Christ both in season and out of season. Our time together was one of joy and growing in Christ.

The Chapter of elections elected a new council. I am so happy and privileged to serve with yet another wonderful and committed team.

This is the third time I have been called to serve on our Regional Council. I've been both secretary and treasurer of past councils. Those job titles came with very specific duties and responsibilities; as second Vice Minister, my role is yet to be carved out.

Currently, I am researching potential retreat centres that offer great locations, prices and facilities for future conferences, meetings, etc. If any of you know of any that we should consider, please let me know. I can be reached at [larruda@live.ca](mailto:larruda@live.ca).

I also plan to visit some fraternities in the eastern part of our Region with Cathy Payne, our new minister. I also look forward to helping in the preparation for and smooth functioning of Regional gatherings over the coming three years. These events are essential to our personal growth in Christ, and to our growth as an Order of the Church and as part of the family of Franciscans in our Region and in the world.

Now is the time us to renew our commitment of our profession, and to renew our energy and especially our prayer life, as a community of Fraternities, Region, Families, neighbourhoods, work-places and apostolate activities. May we all pray for, and work for peace and love in the world!

Peace and all good!!

Louise Arruda, ofs



## VICE MINISTER'S ARTICLE

This spring the Chapter of Elections was held for the Trillium Region. It was a wonderfully joyful event, primarily because so many Franciscans were gathered in one place, even though for so short a period of time. The presence of the Holy Spirit was most discernible, a comfort to all whether we were sharing experiences in our local fraternities or praying for guidance.

Indeed guidance was sought and received by the electors and those whose names were put forward for the Chapter of Elections. I was one of those candidates. We were asked to describe ourselves to those who would be voting. Those who have never been to a Chapter of Elections should know this is nothing like a political election. Helping voters to make an informed decision is a laudable and necessary thing to do, yet at the same time it seemed somewhat un-Franciscan to get up before your brothers and sisters and speak about yourself...it caused me to ponder the point.

As Secular Franciscans are we not called to strive to be the least and the last, for the sake of Jesus Christ? Do we really work to be 'in this world' but not 'of it?' Yes, indeed. All we are and all that we think we may do is merely dust; any good which may come of our efforts is truly the effect of the Holy Spirit working through us. And that can be a source of joy for all! Dear Brother Juniper, whose stories can be found in the Lit-



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the Flowers of St. Francis, can be source of inspiration for us. He was humble because he knew the truth about God, himself and others. He was patient because he was willing to suffer and serve others in his following of Jesus. *“It is said that St. Francis once described the perfect friar by citing the ‘patience of Brother Juniper, who attained the state of perfect patience because he kept the truth of his low estate constantly in mind, whose supreme desire was to follow Christ on the way of the cross’”* (Mirror of Perfection,#85)

Thus I encourage those who could not attend the Chapter of Elections this year, to do so in three years time. Join us in prayer and patiently allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in your voting - or even more, allow the Holy Spirit to move you to allow your name to be put forward to serve fraternities in Trillium.

Pace e Bene  
Marzio ofs

## TRILLIUM REGIONAL CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS

May 23, 24, 25 - 2014

Mary Mount  
Retreat Center,  
Ancaster



### NEWLY ELECTED REGIONAL COUNCIL

**Minister** - Catherine Payne ofs  
**First Vice Minister** – Marzio Apolloni ofs  
**Second Vice Minister** – Louise Arruda of  
**Secretary** – Debbie Tessier ofs  
**Treasurer** – Danuta Juchniewicz ofs  
**Formation Director** – Donna Dooling ofs  
**Spiritual Assistant** – Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv.



We would also welcome to our team:

**Youth Animator** - Lisa Theriault ofs  
**Certificates** – Clelia Malerba ofs  
**Electronic Newsletter** – Deacon Maurice Prindiville ofs  
**Hard Copy Newsletters** - Gus and Doris Legere ofs  
**Regional Website** - Virginia Mees ofs  
**Area Councillors** - Barb LeFort ofs, Michel Guilmette ofs,  
Dan St. Pierre ofs, and David Mitchell ofs



## FROM THE TREASURER

### Saint John XXIII – the Pope of Peace and...a member of Secular Franciscan Order



Recently the Church gave us two more Saints to intercede for us in Heaven. One of the - my bellowed countryman, Saint Pope John Paul II, is already much loved and known to us all, so today I bring to you our Franciscan Brother - Saint John XXIII, who by the way was elected Pope on my 5th birthday.

John XXIII – Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born on 25 of November, 1881 in Sotto Il Monte in the province of Bergamo. He was the fourth in a family of 14. When he was twelve, he entered the Lower Seminary in Bergamo. Here he began the practice of writing spiritual notes, which he continued in one form or another until his death, and which have been gathered together in the Journal a Soul. Here he also began the deeply cherished practice of regular spiritual direction. During his seminary times he was admitted to the Secular Franciscan Order. Many years later, He said during his Lateran Speech

*“Dear Brethren, please allow me to address with special affection all those present here who belong to the “peaceful army” of the Franciscan Third Order. I am Joseph, your brother. I am speaking to you with tenderness. I was just a 14 years young adolescent when on March 1, in 1896 I was enlisted as Franciscan by Canon Luigi Isacchi, our spiritual father, the director of our seminary in Bergamo. I praise the Lord for this grace.”*

On another occasion, Saint Pope John the XXIII wrote to his relative, Enrico Marchesi, *“Befriend the Bothers Minor. They have the spirit of Saint Francis, who is pure love, humility, meekness, simplicity, and peace.”*

Earlier, as cardinal, in his letter to all Franciscans he said *“I love Saint Francis and his sons. From childhood I am a Franciscan Tertiary since I was fourteen (...) I entered my priesthood as diocesan priest, but St. Francis was my closest of all saints, along with the company of other saints who were his friends (...) May the love of Christ and the love of Saint Francis burn in your hearts. Oh, what a sweetness, what a joy”*.

John XXIII was declared Blessed by Pope John Paul II on September 3, 2000 in Saint Peter's

Square, during the celebration of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000.

Following his beatification, his body was moved on June 3, 2001 from its original place to the altar of Saint Jerome where it could be seen by the faithful. He was canonized on April 27, 2014. John XXIII today is affectionately known as the "Good Pope" and in Italian, "il Papa buono".

His feast day is not celebrated on the date of his death as is usual, but it is on October 11, the day of the first session of the Second Vatican Council.

During my 2011 pilgrimage to Rome we were privileged to have the Holy Mass celebrated at this very altar where the “Good Pope” is laid to rest.

Pax et Bonum

Danuta Juchniewicz o.f.s.



#### Prayer to St. John XXIII

*Dear Pope John,  
Your simplicity and meekness carried the scent of God and sparked in people's hearts the desire for goodness. You spoke often of the beauty of the family gathered around the table to share bread and faith: pray for us that once again true families would live in our homes.*

*With outstretched hands you sowed hope, and you taught us to listen for God's footsteps as he prepares a new humanity: help us have a healthy optimism of defeating evil with good.*

*You loved the world with its light and darkness, and you believed that peace is possible: help us be instruments of peace at home and in our communities.*

*With paternal gentleness you gave all children a caress: you moved the world and reminded us that hands have been given to us not for striking, but for embracing and drying tears.*

*Pray for us so that we do not limit ourselves to cursing the darkness but that we bring the light, bringing Jesus everywhere and always praying to Mary. Amen.*

## YOUTH ANIMATOR'S LETTER



I am writing to you from the Valley of the Angels Orphanage in Guatemala. I have been blessed to be able to bring youth to this very blessed space for a second time: to say that it feels like home is an understatement. It is a blessing to see our Canadian youth bond with their Guatemala brothers and sisters once again.

My name is Lisa Theriault, and I have been a professed Secular Franciscan for almost six years and recently have been appointed as Youth Animator for the next three years. In all honesty, I can not think of a better way to serve our Lord. I have been a high school Theology teacher for 16 years and Chairperson of the Theology Department for nine. I was the Program Director for the Knights of Columbus Ontario Catholic Youth Leadership Camp the past five summers, have led Mission trips to various countries, slept outside with students to raise awareness for homelessness, and continue to run the Non Profit program at my high school. You could say I have a passion to serve the youth.

My vision for the next three years is based on Matthew 19:14: *"But Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.'"* There are a variety of activities I would love to initiate but first and foremost, I would like to meet with Fraternities to hear what you have done and what is working for you - and to discuss future projects. I look forward to your invitations.

Recently I have formed a Facebook page to share information regarding activities around the area. You can access this group by searching for 'Youth Followers of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi' and asking to join. Through this Facebook group I hope to bring the youth of our region together with a variety of activities.

The first major event that I will be actively working towards as Youth Animator will be to bring the youth (ages 18-30) to Italy through the *Giovani Verso Assisi, 2015 Experience*. I was fortunate to attend this event in 2009 and cannot wait to return! From August 2-9, 2015, the youth of the world will descend upon Rome and Assisi to walk the paths of St. Francis and St. Clare. This event was life changing for the students I brought in 2009, and I look forward to bringing many more from all around our region. My goal would be to have 15 youth attend this faith filled experience. I would also like it if individual Fraternities could help fundraise, or each sponsor one young person to go. Money can be an issue for many of them as some are paying for school and other expenses; I would hate to see someone unable to go due to financial reasons.

I look forward to meeting all of you and hearing your ideas to engage our youth and to let them know that our Lord loves them unconditionally. You can email me at: [ltheraiu@gmail.com](mailto:ltheraiu@gmail.com)  
*"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."* Francis of Assisi

Peace and all good, Lisa



# Local Fraternity Bulletin Board

## OBITUARIES

### St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity - Toronto

Joseph Cassar offs suddenly passed away on Holy Saturday, April 19, 2014. His funeral Mass was celebrated on April 25 in St. Brigid's Parish

### St Anthony of Padua Fraternity - Sarnia

Katherine Elizabeth Hall offs died peacefully on May 7, 2014. Her funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Michael Parish, Bright's Grove on Tuesday, May 13, 2014

### St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity, Welland

Kay Craig offs passed away peacefully on July 24, 2014. Franciscan prayers were held on July 28, at the funeral home, and were followed immediately by Kay's funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church, Guelph.

## CHAPTER OF ELECTION

**St. Damian Fraternity in London,**  
February 8, 2014.

Thanks to Marzio Apolloni and Stephen Huh for their invaluable help with the election proceedings.

Minister: Min Jin Hong offs

Vice Minister: Won Myung Ok offs

Secretary: Soon Yeong Park offs

Treasurer: Theresa Ham offs

Director of Formation: Park Kyung Woo offs  
Father Andrew Cho gave the new Council a wonderful blessing.



## ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary of the Angels Fraternity - Welland celebrated its 35th anniversary on May 4, 2014 at St. Kevin's Church in Welland.



## The Good News Report

is the official newsletter of the Secular Franciscan Order, Trillium Region. We aim to publish it between the middle and end of: July, September, December, and April.

Any items you wish to include are warmly welcomed and will be published space permitting. Articles may be sent by the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month of publishing, to *Deacon Maurice Prindiville, offs, [mprindiville@golden.net](mailto:mprindiville@golden.net)* Note: If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please let us know as above.

## Trillium Certificates

For Trillium Certificates to mark Professions, Anniversaries of Profession & Service Recognition for Spiritual Assistants, (usually 5 year milestones) please contact: **Clelia Malerba, offs; [malerbac@yahoo.com](mailto:malerbac@yahoo.com)** Please apply in good time if you wish to have them on the profession day or anniversary date.