

A NEW POPE! LEO XIV!  
MAY THE LORD GOD SUSTAIN AND GUIDE HIM!



*Most High,  
all-powerful, good Lord,  
Yours are the praises, the glory,  
and the honour and all blessing.  
To You alone, Most High,  
do they belong  
and no human  
is worthy to mention Your name.*



지극히 높으시고,  
전능하시며 선하신 주님,  
찬양과 영광과 존귀와 모든 축복이  
오로지 주님께 속하나이다.  
지극히 높으신 주님,  
이 모든 것이 오직 주님께 속하며,  
어느 인간도  
감히 주님의 이름을 입에 올릴  
자격이 없나이다.

Najwyższy, wszechmocny i dobry Panie,  
Twoje są uwielbienie, chwata, cześć i  
wszelkie btogostawieństwo.

Tylko Tobie, o Najwyższy, one  
przynależą,  
I żaden śmiertelnik nie jest godzien  
wymieniać Twojego imienia.

\*\*\*\*\*

CANTICLE OF THE  
CREATURES

Très haut, tout-  
puissant, bon  
Seigneur, à toi sont  
les louanges, la  
gloire, l'honneur, et  
toute bénédiction.  
A toi seul, Très-Haut,  
ils conviennent, et nul  
homme n'est digne  
de te nommer.

Altissimo, onnipotente,  
eccellente Signore Dio,  
sono tue le lodi,  
la gloria e  
l'onore ed ogni  
benedizione,  
A Te solo, Altissimo, si  
addicono,  
e nessun uomo è degno di  
nominarTi.



## Minister's Letter

### Coming to the End of the Term!

Debbie Tessier, ofs, Regional Minister

These last three years, 2022-2025 have been full and fulfilling, by the grace of God, in this term of servant leadership as Regional Minister of the Trillium Regional OFS Fraternity! There has been so much support and help, cooperation and work done by the regional council members! Our local fraternity Ministers and Formation Directors, have come online to meet fairly regularly each year to discuss fraternity needs and to encourage one another, and it has been so good to meet with the brothers and sisters across the region! As we complete preparations for this next Chapter on May 24<sup>th</sup>, there is much gratitude for all of these blessings! I would like to include this prayer for our regional leadership selection once again in this edition of the Good News:

### **ELECTION PRAYER FOR OFS LEADERSHIP**

*Give us, O God, leaders whose hearts are large enough to match  
the breadth of our own souls and give us souls strong enough  
to follow leaders of vision and wisdom.*

*In seeking a leader, let us seek more than our own enhancement  
—though enhancement we hope for*

*-more than security for our own plans and vision-though security we need*

*-more than satisfaction for our own selfish wants-though many things we desire.*

*Give us the hearts to choose and follow the leader who will work with other leaders  
to bring Your will to the agenda and help us to fulfill it.*

*Give us leaders who will lead us to virtue  
without seeking to impose their own version of virtue on others.  
Give us leaders who will provide for the advancement of our order  
without dictating to others to achieve it.*

*Give us insight enough ourselves to choose as leaders,  
those who can tell strength from power,  
growth from greed, leadership from dominance,  
and real greatness from the trappings of grandiosity.*

*We trust You, Great God, to open our hearts to learn from those to whom You speak  
in different tongues and to respect the life and words of those to whom You entrusted  
the good of other parts of this globe.*

*We beg you, Great God, give us the vision as Secular Franciscans  
to know where holy leadership truly lies, to pursue it diligently,  
and to ask it to respect the integrity of every person in the entire Order.*

*We ask these things, Great God, with minds open to Your word  
and hearts that trust in Your eternal care. Amen.*

*Adapted by Anne Mulqueen, SFO and Fr. Kevin Queally from "Prayer for Leadership"  
Published by Pax Christi, USA*

### **Regional Council Roles:**

Minister; Vice Minister 1; Vice Minister 2; Vice Minister 3; Secretary; Treasurer; Formation Director; there will be elections for two delegates to attend the National Chapter at the end of June this year.

*For more information about the duties of the regional council members, please visit our website:*

*[www.trilliumregionalofs.ca](http://www.trilliumregionalofs.ca) under the menu item Servant Leadership.*



It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Pope Francis on Easter Monday. The day before he gave his blessing from the balcony window and then rode in the popemobile through the square of St. Peter as if giving his final goodbye to those gathered there and to all of us.

Pope Francis was a Jesuit, with a Franciscan heart. When he was elected Pope, the Cardinal sitting next to him said “do not forget the poor”. This inspired him to choose the name Francis. Pope Francis was an example to all of us of simple living, mercy and love of the poor and marginalized.

His Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, The Joy of the Gospel, still challenges us to be missionary disciples filled with the joy of the Gospel. The opening words of this document are so Franciscan. “The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew.” This year we celebrate the eighth Centenary of St. Francis’ great hymn **The Canticle of the Creatures** also known as the **Canticle of Brother Sun**. Pope Francis used the opening line of this Canticle to introduce his landmark Encyclical *Laudato si*, Praise be to you, which calls every person to care for our common home. He challenges us to an ‘ecological conversion’ inviting us to change directions by taking on the beauty and responsibility of ‘caring for our common home’. Pope Francis in his Encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, quotes St Francis: blessed are all who love their brother “as much when he is far away from him as when he is with him.” St Francis expressed the essence of a fraternal openness that allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person regardless of physical proximity, regardless of where he or she was born or lives” (2) In chapter 2, **A stranger on the road**, Pope Francis draws us to the parable of the Good Samaritan. He said, “as we look upon the Stranger there are two attitudes we can take: we can pass by on the other side, or we can stop and be moved by compassion and mercy.” These words describe his whole life. He challenges us to love all, especially the stranger, the foreigner, the outcast, the hurting and the unloved. May he rest in peace. May we honor his memory by being missionary disciples filled with mercy, love and the joy of the Gospel.

*St Francis expressed the essence of a fraternal openness that allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person regardless of physical proximity, regardless of where he or she was born or lives”*



**The Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word offer this prayer for the Holy Father:**

*Lord Jesus, you have called Pope Francis to yourself. Thank you for the gift of his papacy. When he was with us, he tirelessly showed the Church your constant mercy toward sinners. Grant him now your mercy and let him rest eternally with you in your Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



# Spirituality, Formation, Fraternity, Apostolate

Franciscan foundation: the four pillars

## Formation News

*Maria Ferrera, ofs, Regional Formation Director*

**“The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.”**

Congratulations to Jo-Ann Burton from St. Anne's Fraternity, Dhol Mariano from St. Bonaventure Fraternity and Gaetane Orsztynowicz from St. Joseph the Worker Fraternity for successfully completing the National Formators' Course. Much appreciation to our three sisters for their commitment and the hard work they put into each and every module. I have learned so much from the three of you and for that I am so grateful. Happy Easter! Happy Spring! Happy May, one of my favourite months of the year for so many reasons. Firstly, it is the month of our heavenly Mother. Mary's yes to become the mother of God was also her yes to become the mother of all the children of God, us. “The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.” Through her example and guidance, Secular Franciscans are called to say “yes” to God and bring His love to others through evangelization and humble service. Our love for Mary is part of our daily lives but May is that special time of year where we feel the devotion and honour for the Blessed Virgin Mary amplified. May also seems to be the month where nature begins to wake up. We see the buds on the trees, the flowers and dandelions are popping up, the grass is getting greener and the birds are singing, the days are longer

and the longing to be outside gets stronger. As we know, this year our Franciscan family is called to reflect and contemplate on the Canticle of the Creatures. We are always called to recognize and show gratitude for the gifts God has given us in all creation. How will this year be special in this call? How will we, along with all creation, continue to praise the Creator?

**“All creation is an extravagant gift,  
a love song, a work of poetry  
from a God madly in love with us”.**

*A Rushing wind: A Novena With The Holy Spirit*

# A Reflection from a Little Fraternity submitted by Colleen MacAlister of, Queen of Peace Fraternity, Madoc

Our Fraternity is what some would say “struggling”. Our numbers are few right now. Why? Hmmm good question.

A Fraternity is like a seed. *A “canonically” planted seed. A seed of love that changes but never ceases to exist.* Plants and people are subject to “seasons”.

There are a variety of seeds and plants.

For example, picture a dandelion!

Dandelions grow everywhere! Even where you least expect them! Hard rocky places don’t kill them in fact they become stronger. Healthy vibrant and life giving! They have deep roots that never leave, and they spring up anywhere the seed flies to! *It is God who gives the life and carries the seed!* Sometimes plants have bulbs that produce beautiful lilies in the garden! Looking perfect and beautiful and healthy and numerous!

We all know that those lilies and dandelions and other flowers and plants are not always growing and blooming. We accept that. **They are not always growing, but they are not dead.** Sometimes they appear dead, gone forever! Then given some time, they surface again! The Creator says it is time and they break through the dark earth beautiful, and gloriously reflect God’s creation and we marvel.



Yes, there are a variety of seeds and plants.

Like the personalities reflecting the charisms of our Franciscan faith and our fraternities. Some of us are in a rocky place and some of us are in a lovely garden plot. **It is the life that is the common ground.**

Francis could be penitential, and he could be joyful! Sometimes weeping sometimes laughing! Sometimes receiving and sometimes giving but constantly kind with a love that softened even the hardest of hearts. Francis was gentle and humble yet as solid and strong as the rock he built his faith on. He loved Mary our pure and perfect mother, while embracing lepers. Most importantly, I think, he recognized that true peace brings the only true joy! (the story of perfect joy) That peace comes from Jesus who was and is and always will be the author of everything! Including our lives and our peace and the number of friends who come into our fraternities.

*It is God who gives the life and carries the seed!*

This is how we have joy! It is a permanent joy when we have that permanent peace!! ***Don’t let anything steal your peace because then you will have lost the joy!*** The joy that draws and attracts people to Jesus through us! We cannot share what we do not have. **It is the life that is the common ground. Joy gives life! The joy of the Lord is our strength!**

**Peace and joy! Contagious and recognizable even without words!**

Today I happened to be at the bank and there leaving was someone I had just noticed at Mass. After commenting about the Mass, they said, we will have to get together sometime. I said I meet with Franciscans once a month, the first Saturday, after Mass, if you would like to come you would be welcome. With a surprised look and a big smile, the answer was “yes, I would love to! Remind me.” I will.

Yes, God’s creation is His and plants and people have many things in common, we are all subject to “seasons”. Do not worry if your fraternity is little right now, worry steals peace, instead keep that peace St. Francis found in Jesus that gives perfect joy and then in God’s time “He will send you brothers”



*"A pilgrimage is a journey to a holy place, which can lead to a personal transformation, after which the pilgrim returns to their daily life."*

**Come! Join us on a Franciscan Pilgrimage to the Tomb of Blessed Solanus Casey, ofm, cap.**



**SOLANUS CASEY CENTRE AND ST BONAVENTURE MONASTERY**

1780 Mt Elliott St, Detroit, MI 48207

**Friday, 13 June, 2025 ~ Sunday, 15 June, 2025**

#### ITINERARY

##### FRIDAY

Depart: 9:00 am from St Alphonsus Parish, Peterborough ON  
Arrival : 4:45 pm Capuchin Retreat Center

##### SATURDAY

Depart: 9:00 am to Solanus Casey Center, Arrive: 10:00 am  
Guided tour, Lunch, Mass, Reflection time  
Depart: 3:20 pm to Capuchin Retreat Center, Arrive 4:20 pm  
Dinner, Social & Movie:  
Solanus Casey, Priest-Porter- Prophet

##### SUNDAY

Depart: 11.30 am to Peterborough, Arrive: 7:00 pm



**CAPUCHIN RETREAT CENTER**

62460 Mt Vernon Rd,  
Washington, MI, 48094

**\$585.00 per person**

**Double Occupancy**

add \$65.00 for Single Supplement/Occupancy

(We have space for 45 pilgrims)

For complete details and booklet  
including a registration form  
please contact

*La Verna*



Please contact *La Verna* Ministries

820 Frank Street

Peterborough ON K9J 4N4

... a Capuchin place of Franciscan Spirituality

(1) 705.243.9131 [laverna@capuchins.ca](mailto:laverna@capuchins.ca)



# **Following the Beatitudes: A blueprint for Franciscan life**



## **Franciscan Workshop Saturday - May 31, 2025**

**2 hrs Canada wide in English & French on zoom  
9am PT/ 10am MT/ 11am CT/ 12pm ET/ 1pm AT**

Registration: name, email, fraternity, city,  
French or English to [cmariiefinlon@gmail.com](mailto:cmariiefinlon@gmail.com)



## Br. Leo Fraternity, Etobicoke: Chapter of Elections, Sat. May 3, 2025



*The newly elected council: Formation Director, Catherine Hye-Ryung Lee, ofs; Secretary, Cecilia Soon Durk Do, ofs; Minister, Joon Ho Ye, ofs; Vice Minister, Triphonina Kwang Soo Hong, ofs; Treasurer: Severus Young Jin Lee, ofs*

## St. Maximillian Kolbe Fraternity, Mississauga



*A great visit with the members of this lovely fraternity on May 10th!  
Great food, beautiful smiles and fraternal spirit!*



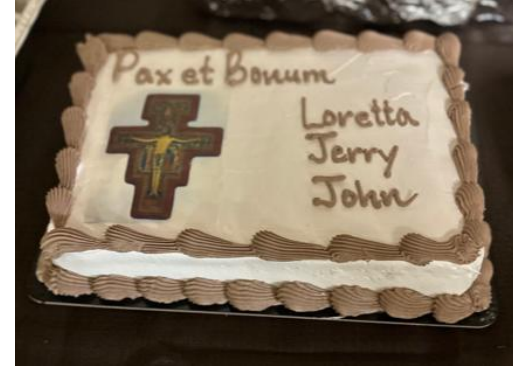
## St. Anne's Fraternity, Tecumseh/Blenheim-Professions



*It was with great joy that St. Anne's fraternity celebrated the Rite of Profession of 3 new members to the Secular Franciscan Order. Loretta Fawcett ofs, Deacon Jerry Lozon ofs and John Sawchuk ofs made their profession April 26, 2025 at St. Mary's Church in Blenheim. Fr. Paul Duplessie ofm Cap was the celebrant for the profession and Holy Mass.*

*A combined St. Mary's choir of 11 members sang "Blessed Francis, Holy Father" as the prelude to the profession and "You Came to the Sea Shore" as the entrance hymn. It was a glorious celebration. There were 65 people who came to the Profession, Holy Mass with a reception after in the church hall. It was a very special day for our fraternity.*

*Congratulations to our 3 newest ofs'.*



**Peace  
&  
Blessings**

## Trillium Lenten Retreat

The Virtual Lenten Retreat on April 5th well attended! Thank you to all who participated and shared! To share Fr. Peter's presentation with your fraternity, please contact Debbie at [deborahdessier57@gmail.com](mailto:deborahdessier57@gmail.com).



# YOUTH IN ACTION IN MISSISSAUGA

## ↓St. Vincent de Paul Collections→



## ↓Canadian Food for Children→

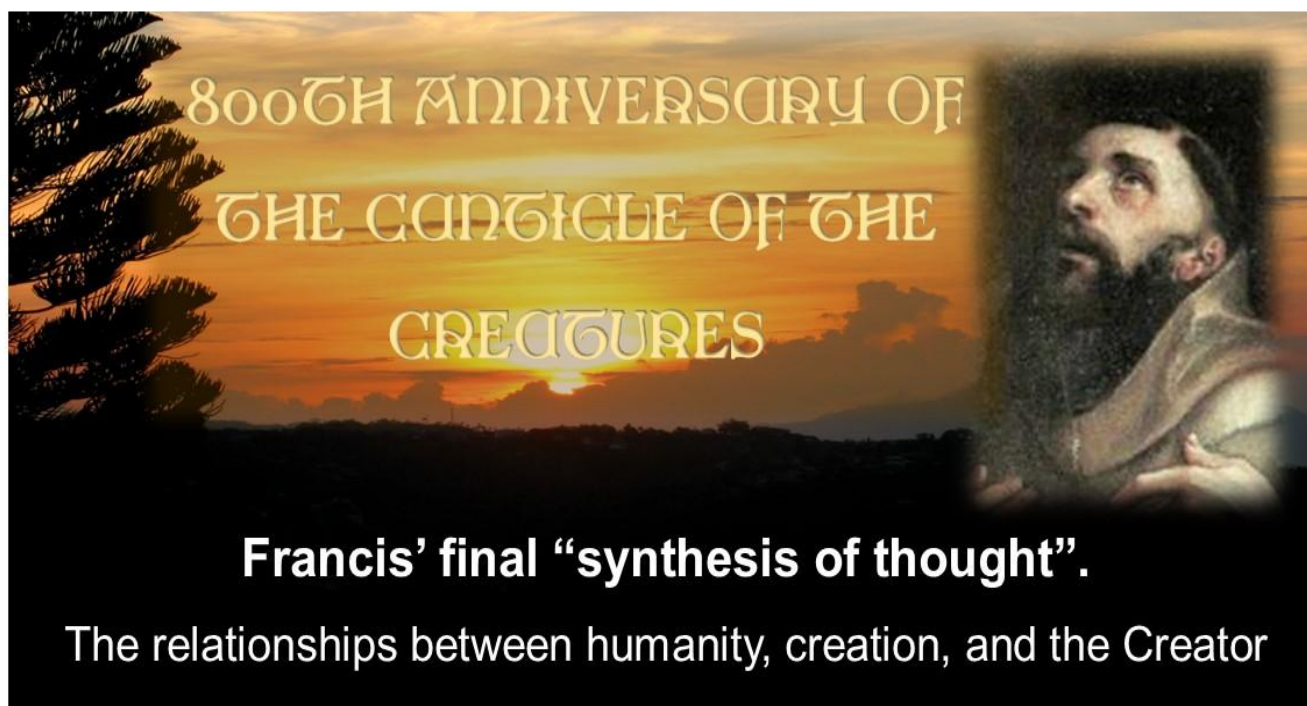


## ↓Elisa House Women's Shelter→



Mark Gueco's family is involved in serving church and community activities in the spirit of St. Francis. They also take part in Parish Events such as Life Chain, Processions, Pilgrimages and in-house parish events such as movies and food.





Join us as we celebrate, explore, contemplate and pray with the first poem composed in the Umbrian dialect and authored by St Francis of Assisi during the last year of his life. (1225-1226)

We'll explore St Francis' worldview in terms of the relationship between humanity, cosmos / creation and our Creator God.

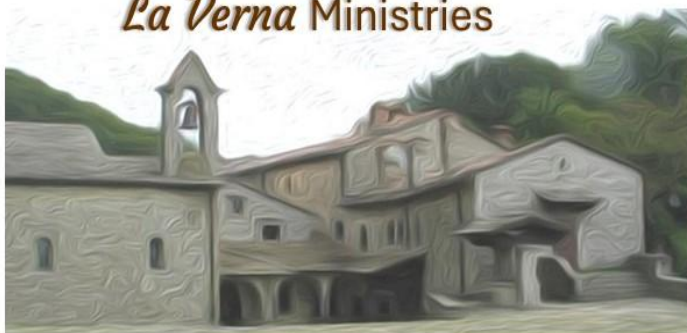
**HOLY FAMILY PARISH**  
60 Allan Dr, Bolton, ON L7E 1P7

**SATURDAY, 28 JUNE 2025**  
**10:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM**

**Hosted by: Mount Alverno**  
**Secular Franciscan Fraternity**

**Presented by:**

***La Verna* Ministries**



**Registration \$40.00 / participant**  
**includes Lunch, Beverages & Snacks**

**Cheque (payable to Mt Alverno SFO)**  
**and mailed to *La Verna* Ministries**

**E-transfer: [laverna@capuchins.ca](mailto:laverna@capuchins.ca)**  
**(auto-deposit, please include**  
**'Mt Alverno' in comments)**

**RSVP Deadline: Saturday, 14 June 2025**

***La Verna* Ministries**  
**a Capuchin place of Franciscan**  
**Spirituality and Prayer**  
**820 Frank Street, Peterborough ON**  
**K9J 4N4 705.243.9131**

## Invitation to all OFS Fraternities

St. Anne's OFS fraternity in Tecumseh will be having a Day of Recollection at St. Patrick's church/ Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine **Saturday June 14.**

### Program:

10-11 AM Sign In - Confessions with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

11AM Mass with Fr. Paul Duplessie ofm Cap

12-1 PM Lunch Break (Bring you own lunch) - Picnic tables in the back of the church yard or in the hall downstairs. You can visit the shrine trails and grounds during the lunch break.

1:15 PM There will will be Reflection given by Fr. Paul.

1:30PM - 2:30 PM 3 reflections given by SFO's with group discussions.

2:30 PM Liturgy of Hours - Evening prayers.

3:00PM Chaplets to Divine Mercy.

3:15 PM Departure

We would like to invite everyone to come and share the day with the members of St. Anne's fraternity. All are welcome! If you need further information contact John Vajdik, ofs, St. Anne's fraternity, Ph: 519-352-7596 or Email: [jvajdik@sympatico.ca](mailto:jvajdik@sympatico.ca)

Shrine website : <https://olrshrine.ca/shrine/>

St. Patrick's church website: <https://olrshrine.ca/church/>

St. Patrick's Church, 5773 10 Line, Merlin, ON, N0P 1W0

## TRILLIUM REMINDERS

### **The Good News Report of the Secular Franciscan Order Trillium Regional Fraternity**

is the official newsletter of the Secular Franciscan Order, Trillium Regional Fraternity.  
We aim to publish it in the middle to the end of **September, December, March & June.**  
Photos and articles are warmly welcomed and will be published.  
Articles of no more than 250 words, may be sent by the **8<sup>th</sup> of the month** for publishing,  
to *Newsletter Editor, Debbie Tessier, ofs, [deborahatessier57@gmail.com](mailto:deborahatessier57@gmail.com)*

### **Regional Chapter**

**The Regional Chapter of Elections is confirmed for May 24, 2025, at St. Bonaventure Church, 1300 Leslie St., Toronto, ON**

**Delegates and participants will be asked to bring a bagged lunch.**

**Beverages and snacks will be provided.**

**National Visitors: Jewel Jasmins, ofs, National Minister, and Fr. Alix Poulin, OFM Cap, National Spiritual Assistant.**

### **Trillium Certificates**

For Trillium Certificates to mark professions, anniversaries of profession & Service Recognition for Spiritual Assistants, (usually 5-year milestones) please contact: **Clelia Malerba, ofs, 905-851-8220 or [malerbac@yahoo.com](mailto:malerbac@yahoo.com).** Please make your requests well in advance if you wish to have them on the profession day or anniversary date.

### **National Chapter**

**The National Chapter of Elections is confirmed for June 26-29, 2025, at Centre de Spiritualité, Loretteville, QC.**  
**The Fraternal Visitor will be our General Minister, Tibor Kauser, ofs.**