



Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis

www.immaculatasfo.org

email: secularfranciscans@gscs.net

Fraternity Reflections



Minister: Carol Leiser, OFS

Master of Formation: Teresa Stadelman, OFS

Treasurer: Charles "Chuck" Leiser, OFS

Vice Minister: Brad Toups, OFS

Secretary: Mary Dang, OFS

Spiritual Assistant: Fr. John Mark Klaus, T.O.R.

Fraternity meets first Sunday of the Month, 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Good Shepherd, 1000 Tinker Rd., Colleyville, Texas 76034
Inquirer/Candidate Formation class meets first Sunday, just before Fraternity meeting, 12:00pm to 1:30pm, at Good Shepherd

Immaculata Fraternity is a local fraternity of the Three Companions Region – www.lostrescompaneros.org

IMMACULATA FRATERNITY, OFS

September, 2018

VOL IX ISSUE IX

*Ephphatha!!!
Be Open!!!*



Immaculata
Fraternity **OFS**

1000 Tinker Rd
Colleyville, Texas 76034

FRATERNITY NEWS

At our August Meeting...



The first Sunday in August the Fraternity gathered at Good Shepherd in Colleyville for the monthly meeting, opening with prayer and followed by a brief business meeting. We received a surprise visit from our Seminarian, David Lapointe who informed us of his upcoming studies at the Theological College in Washington D.C. If you would like to send David a note of encouragement, you can reach him at: 401 W. Michigan Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20017



David Lapointe starts 6th year as seminarian this Fall

Brad Touns, Vice Minister, led us in formation with a lecture on the Saint Michael's Lent Novena which began at the feast of the Assumption, August 15 and ends with the Feast of Saint Michael the Arc Angel, September 29. It has been said that this was a special devotion of Saint Francis of Assisi who often went to Mary and Saint Michael in prayer during times of difficulty.

Would you like to learn more about St. Francis?

Come and see!

Secular Franciscan The way of Life



Immaculata Fraternity meets the [First Sunday](#) of every month at 2:00pm in the Saint Francis/Saint Clare room at Good Shepherd in Colleyville. We welcome you to come and join us for [prayer, formation and fellowship!](#)

Immaculata Fraternity

Come and see!

Every first Sunday, 2:00PM

August 5
Sept 2
Oct. 7

Good Shepherd Catholic Community
1000 Tinker Rd.
Colleyville, TX 76034



“Openness”

33 The *human person*: with his openness to truth and beauty, his sense of moral goodness, his freedom and the voice of his conscience, with his longings for the infinite and for happiness, man questions himself about God's existence. In all this he discerns signs of his spiritual soul. The soul, the “seed of eternity we bear in ourselves, irreducible to the merely material”,⁹ can have its origin only in God.

Pope in Ireland asks forgiveness for a litany of abuses



By: By Vatican News – Posted 26 August 2018, 16:53

In an unprecedented gesture during the closing Mass for the World Meeting of Families in Dublin’s Phoenix Park, Pope Francis asks pardon for a litany of abuses committed by the Church against men, women, and children in Ireland.

The Pope’s gesture was both unprecedented and unexpected. It came during the Penitential Rite, the moment within Mass when the celebrant and faithful acknowledge their sins, repent, and ask for mercy and forgiveness.

Speaking in Spanish, Pope Francis asked pardon for a list of abuses committed by the Church in Ireland. He began by referencing his meeting on Saturday evening with eight abuse survivors and, on the basis of what they told him, said he wanted to “place before the mercy of the Lord these crimes, and ask forgiveness for them.”

The Pope’s prayer was translated simultaneously by his interpreter, Msgr. Mark Miles.

Below please find a transcript of that translation.

Yesterday, I met with eight survivors who have suffered abuse of power, conscience, and also sexual abuse. Taking up on what they said to me, I want to place before the mercy of the Lord these crimes, and ask forgiveness for them.

We ask forgiveness for the abuses in Ireland, abuses of power, conscience, and sexual abuse perpetrated by members with roles of responsibility in the Church. In a special way we ask pardon for all the abuses committed in various types of institutions

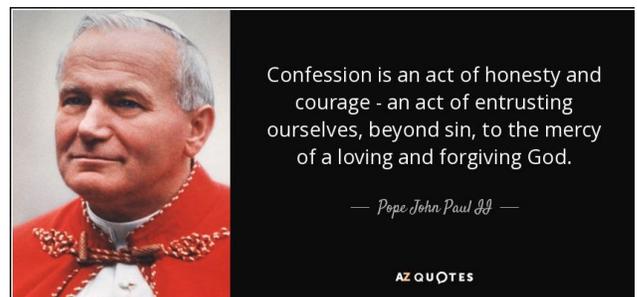
run by male or female religious and by other members of the Church, and we ask forgiveness for those cases of exploitation through manual work that so many women and men were subjected to. We ask forgiveness.

We ask forgiveness for the times that as a Church we did not show survivors of whatever kind of abuse, compassion, and seeking of justice and truth through concrete actions. We ask forgiveness.

We ask forgiveness for some members of the Church’s hierarchy who did not take charge of these painful situations and kept quiet. We ask forgiveness.

We ask forgiveness for all those times when many single mothers were told that to seek their children who had been separated from them, and the same being said to daughters and sons themselves, that this was a mortal sin. This is not a mortal sin. We ask forgiveness.

Lord, sustain and increase this state of shame, and give us the strength to work for justice. Amen.



— Pope John Paul II —

AZ QUOTES

Immaculata Fraternity: Minister's letter for Sept 2018

By: Carol Lieser

September, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to comfort and assure each of you that God is present in our world and knows of the current trials in Our Church. Christ is ever ready and present with us as we navigate this terrible crisis of abuse within our Church. Those seminarians, priests, and young people who have carried this horrible crime for decades deserve efforts of reparation. Our Church does indeed need a thorough cleansing.

I am so grateful that our fraternity is praying the Lent of St. Michael at this pivotal point. So much of the media is filled with information about Cardinal McCarrick and the terrible sexual abuse in Pennsylvania. Through the actions of priests and the cover up bishops, even allegedly of our Pope, a true mess has occurred. Unfortunately, it seems almost daily more reports of such abuse is being opened up and revealed in other dioceses across the US. We certainly might feel angry and saddened at this information. We may even feel doubtful and hopeless about our Church and its hierarchy at such a time.

Let me address the two emotions of anger and sadness. It is good to recognize what you are feeling; our emotions are automatic; we do not plan them, they just are. We know that Christ expressed anger and sadness. We also know that St Francis discussed periods of anger and sadness. There is nothing wrong with either emotion. We feel what we feel. Acknowledge that you feel one way or another and know that feeling is like gasoline for a car. Like gasoline, our emotions propel us into some form of action. How we respond to the emotion is key. Our moral views, our life experiences, and our personality sometimes contribute to our response. In this sad and angry time, be gentle with yourselves. We Secular Franciscans know that saying we are sorry for this violation of vulnerable individuals is not sufficient. These words may be a starting point but more is needed. Our fraternity has determined one way we will act is in prayer. Prayer that calls on the power of Christ, the love of Mary and the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel. Our Church and our world need our prayers. We KNOW that our prayers are heard and will be answered.

Now, let us talk about doubt and even perhaps feelings of despair over what is being written, discussed and released to the public. I, for one, am pleased that we finally do have some acknowledgement of the wrongs that have been done and that transparency regarding who has done what is being revealed. It is never a good idea to keep such things a secret. Yet, somehow that is exactly what has happened for decades.

Finally, the truth is being presented to us and indeed it is terrible to know. Yet, the light has been shined on this travesty and changes will occur. It is perhaps difficult for us, when people who know we are Catholic, are judgmental of the scandal and may even unload on us in verbal attacks. Often these attacks are not considering that such scandal occurs on many arenas in today's world and not just in the Catholic Church. This is not to say any of this is right. I try to remind myself the Church, like all areas of existence, is made of humans. Humans do sin and fall short of perfect behaviors. Again, this is not to reduce the responsibility and accountability for such actions but to put it into perspective. Padre Pio, one of my favorite saints said: "Never forget, the devil is real." Since the beginning of time in the Garden, Satan has been busy tempting and getting people to commit terrible sins. Here we see an example of Satan's success. But, rest assured Satan will not have the final word. Even he must bow to the commands of Christ.

We must continue to have Hope! Every time we partake in the celebration of the mass and see the Eucharist elevated before us, we are reminded of eternal hope and love and mercy. Our Church will not fall due to this scandal. Of that we can be assured. God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and many, many Saints attest to that. Some things will never change. We KNOW that Christ is ever present, guiding and assisting in even this abhorrent turn of events.

Please Brothers and Sisters, allow your faith and your hope and even your charity to sustain you. Those virtues given to you at your baptism will ever be present in you and for you. Something amazing is happening in our Church at this time. We are seeing only the middle of this entire issue. Time will reveal God's plan for how it will be resolved. Trust in His perfect plan. I firmly believe the time is now for these types of atrocities to be discussed and controlled. I firmly believe that good will overcome evil.

Finally, let us continue to fervently pray for one another, for Our Church and especially for Bishops, priests, seminarians and those who may be perpetrators and those who are vulnerable to such attacks. Let us pray for those who have suffered terribly as a result of such actions and may have had their lives turned upside down by this abuse. Let us pray and let us trust that God is ever present and ever active in Our world.

Mary Our Mother, pray for us
St Francis of Assisi, pray for us
St Michael the Archangel, pray for us.

Peace and All Good,

Carol Lieser, OFS
Minister, Immaculata Fraternity





Pope Francis'

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

SEPTEMBER

Universal – Young People in Africa

That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.



We also pray for

Fr. Joe Janiszski, T.O.R., Catherine Khaled, OFS,
Mary Jo McCoy, OFS, Joe McGookin, OFS

O Mother of Sorrows, accept this consecration. Strengthen our hopeful hearts, that as partakers of Christ's sufferings, we may also share in his comfort now and for evermore.

Amen



Franciscan Quote of the Day

RULE 6

Called to work together in building up the Church as the sacrament of salvation for all and, through their baptism and profession, made “witnesses and instruments of her mission,” Secular Franciscans proclaim Christ by their life and words. Their preferred apostolate is personal witness in the environment in which they live and service for building up the Kingdom of God within the situations of this world.

Fraternity Happenings

Down the Road!

Sept. 2 Fraternity Meeting

Oct. 7 Fraternity Meeting

Nov. 3 San Angelo Portion Retreat

September Feast Days

2. FRATERNITY MEETING
3. St. Pius X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1914
4. St. Rose of Viterbo, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1252 Plenary Indulgence for cordbearers
8. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
12. Feast of the Name of Holy Mary
14. Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15. Feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows
17. Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi
18. St. Joseph de Cupertino, Priest, Conventual, d. 1664
20. St. Francis Mary of Camporosso, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1866
22. St. Ignatius of Santhia, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1773
23. St. Pio of Peitrelcina, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1968
24. St. Pacific of San Severino, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1721
25. St. Nicholas de Flue, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1487
27. St. Elzear of Sabran, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1323
28. Bl Bernadin of Feltre, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1494
29. Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel

For those of you reading this addition of *Fraternity Reflections* on our webpage or through Facebook, and feel called to the Franciscan way, please contact us at: secularfranciscans@gsc.net and we'll be glad to direct you in the best possible way, rather it be in the Order of Secular Franciscans or in a Franciscan Religious Vocation. We'd also invite you to come to the Immaculata Fraternity meetings *Please Note: In discerning a life with us, you must be a member of the Catholic Church in good standing and in a spirit of unity.*

We look forward to meeting you!

Angelo Portion Annual Retreat, Los Tres Companeros Region

Saturday, November 3, 2018

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

1000 Tinker Road, Colleyville Texas 76034

Schedule: 8:00 am – Gathering/ Morning Prayer/Refreshments/Introduction

9:00 am - Talk and Discussions

12:00 noon – Lunch/Fellowships

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Talk and Discussions

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Raffles

5:00 pm – Mass

Retreat Master: FR. LESTER BACH, OFM, Cap

Name:

Fraternity:

Home Address:

Phone Nos:

Email:

Emergency Contact:

Relationship:

Tel# :

Registration Fee (Lunch Included) \$30.00

One Registration for each participant. Mail Form & Check to: Senor Santo Nino Fraternity

CIVICO GRANADO, OFS – Treasurer

2212 Golden Gate Circle

Bedford, TX 76021

Email: bingsfo@yahoo.com Phone #: 817-996-1629

Or Email / call-in your intention and/or Registration Form and pay on the day of the Retreat.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: OCTOBER 19, 2018