



Fraternity Reflections



Minister: Carol Lieser, OFS

Master of Formation: Teresa Stadelman, OFS

Treasurer: Charles "Chuck" Lieser, 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 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

June, 2019

VOL X ISSUE VI



An Offering of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary

O Jesus, only Son of God, only Son of Mary,
I offer Thee the most loving Heart of Thy divine Mother
which is more precious and pleasing to Thee than all hearts.

O Mary, Mother of Jesus,
I offer Thee the most adorable Heart of Thy well-beloved Son,
who is the life and love and joy of Thy Heart.

Blessed be the Most Loving Heart
and Sweet Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ
and the most glorious
Virgin Mary, His Mother,
in eternity and forever.

Amen.

---St. John Eudes

Immaculata  **Fraternity** **OFS**

1000 Tinker Rd
Colleyville, Texas 76034

FRATERNITY NEWS

At our May Meeting...

Sunday, May 5, the Regular Meeting of Immaculata Fraternity was called to order by our minister, Carol Lieser, who welcomed the members and visitors. She invited everyone present to linger afterwards and take part in the wonderful snacks provided and then reminded everyone present that fellowship was the heart of building community. Her message was eagerly agreed upon by everyone. Our June meeting promises to be a big hug fest!

Following the business portion of the meeting, Teresa, the Fraternity's Formation Director, continued with ongoing Formation, leading the discussion from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) on the second commandment: "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain."⁷² You have heard that it was said to the men of old, "You shall not swear falsely..But I say to you, Do not swear at all."⁷³ We listened to a short reflection on the commandment by Teresa who asked, "Should Franciscans use course language?" Those present then broke into small groups and discussed more challenging questions from the Study Guide to the Catechism.

On a more personal note, our discussion reminded me of a poem I learned many years ago. I hope you don't mind as I share:

Little girl, be careful what you say when you make talk with words, words— for words are made of syllables and syllables, child, are made of air— and air is so thin—air is the breath of God— air is finer than fire or mist, finer than water or moonlight, finer than spider-webs in the moon, finer than water-flowers in the morning: and words are strong, too, stronger than rocks or steel ... So, little girl, when you speak greetings, when you tell jokes, make wishes or prayers, be careful, be careless, be careful, be what you wish to be. —Carl Sandburg, Wind Song

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

June 2

July 7

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



Close to the Heart of the Son is the Heart of the Mother

By

Rev. Luciano Alimandi, Agenzia Fides 13/6/2007

The Church, in this month of June, giving us the solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, wishes us to understand the consequential devotion to Our Lady traditionally lived in the Marian month par excellence: the month of May. The Heart of Jesus is the See and Throne of Divine Mercy, revealed to the world in the passion, death and resurrection of Christ.

The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI speaking of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus two years ago (2005) said: "In biblical language, "heart" indicates the centre of the person where his sentiments and intentions dwell. In the Heart of the Redeemer we adore God's love for humanity, his will for universal salvation, his infinite mercy. Practicing devotion to the Sacred Heart of Christ therefore means adoring that Heart which, after having loved us to the end, was pierced by a spear and from high on the Cross poured out blood and water, an inexhaustible source of new life" (Benedict XVI, Angelus 5 June 2005).

The call which comes from this important feast day is first of all a call to Eucharistic adoration, because in the Sacred Host the Lord Jesus is truly present and He offers each of us His Heart, His Merciful Love. To spend time in the Presence of the Eucharistic Lord, to adore Him, is the best expression of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus which, as we know, spread all over the world thanks to Jesus' revelations to Saint Margherita M. Alacoque in the 17th century: "Behold the Heart which so loved mankind"!

As a prolongation and accomplishment of this message, the Lord appeared to another Sister in the 20th century revealing the abyss of His unfathomable mercy; she was Saint Faustina Kowalska who wrote in her Diary, now world famous, these words of Jesus: "I have opened my Heart as a living source of Mercy, from it all souls draw life, all approach with deep confidence this sea of Mercy. Sinners will obtain justification and the just will be strengthened in goodness. I will fill the souls of those who put their trust in My Mercy with My divine peace at the hour of their death. My daughter, continue to spread devotion to My Mercy, in doing so you will refresh My Heart which burns with the fire of compassion for sinners. Tell my priests that hardened sinners will be softened by their words if they speak of my boundless Mercy and of the compassion which My Heart feels for them. I will give priests who proclaim and exalt My Mercy wondrous power, unction to their words and I will move all the hearts to which they speak" (Book 5, 21 January 1938).

The deepest longing of Christ's Heart is that we

The Heart of the Incarnate Word

478 Jesus knew and loved us each and all during his life, his agony and his Passion, and gave himself up for each one of us: "The Son of God. . . loved me and gave himself for me."¹¹⁶ He has loved us all with a human heart. For this reason, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, pierced by our sins and for our salvation,¹¹⁷ "is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that. . . love with which the divine Redeemer continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings" without exception.¹¹⁸

discover how much he loves us, the extent of his tender love for creatures who, cooled by their selfishness, look only inwards at themselves, as if they were afraid to let themselves be loved unconditionally by their Creator, who asks nothing and gives all!

How society, culture, economy, politics today need this Heart! It is really true, the more man distances himself from God-Love the more he becomes 'heartless', agitated about a thousand things because he has mislaid the principal one: to let oneself be loved by Christ and to respond to this Love with our love.

Many times during history the Supreme Pontiffs have reminded humanity that without the Lord Jesus life has no real meaning, man gropes in the dark to find himself! The Servant of God John Paul II introduced the Church into the Third Millennium with a mandate to become "Apostles of Divine Mercy". The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI picked up where his Predecessor left off and never tires to remind us of the necessity to rediscover the merciful Heart, this infinite Love of God, who reveals Himself in our lives if we open to Him. "Open, open wide the doors to Christ" the voice of the Holy Spirit continues to say. By means of Eucharistic adoration we are "opened" from within by His invisible working in us. The Most Holy Eucharist, celebrated and adored, as the Church teaches us, is the greatest and most effective treasure of our salvation, an infinite treasure which must be safeguarded with profound respect and deepest devotion.

Close to the Heart of the Son is the Heart of the Mother whom the Church celebrates the day after the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let it again be the Holy Father who illuminates us with regard to this mystery: "The heart that resembles that of Christ more than any other is without a doubt the Heart of Mary, his Immaculate Mother, and for this very reason the liturgy holds them up together for our veneration. Responding to the Virgin's invitation at Fatima, let us entrust the whole world to her Immaculate Heart, which we contemplated yesterday in a special way, so that it may experience the merciful love of God and know true peace" (Benedict XVI, Angelus 5 June 2005). †

The Two Hearts: Love Leads the Way

*O Sacred Heart of Jesus and
Immaculate Heart of Mary,
help me to accept the Gospel*

*in my heart and to live it in
faith, hope and love,
that Jesus Christ will, through
his cross and resurrection,
become the way, the truth and
the life for me.*

Some days, our world feels like it is on a downward spiral. Violence, divisiveness, immorality, the culture of death, and the lack of presence to one another can seem overwhelming. Our mission as Secular Franciscans is to spread the good news of faith and the gospel truths of love, hope and joy in our world. We need nourishment from Above to be able to do that: for certainly we cannot do this alone. In spite of all these challenges, we know, we believe, and we trust that God is ever present and attentive to our needs and those of this entire world. In this month of June, we remember the Two Hearts: the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. These Two Hearts are perfect resources for us as we seek to instill faith, hope, love and joy in others. Together, the Two Hearts teach us how Franciscans can live and share the gospel life. We are always aimed toward Christ and our goal is to live the way of Christ and to share faith, hope and love in our world. In Catholic teachings, the object of the devotion to the Heart of Mary is her physical Heart that burned so intensely with love for God. Because of the close relationship of Mary and Jesus in the Catholic teachings on salvation, the Heart of Mary is associated with the Heart of Jesus. The Sacred Heart is viewed as the source of God's boundless love and charity, while the devotion to the Immaculate Heart stresses the nature of Mary's love and concern for all who call upon her.

Pope [John Paul II](#) explained the theme of unity of Mary's Immaculate Heart with the Sacred Heart:

"We can say that the mystery of the Redemption took shape beneath the heart of the Virgin of Nazareth when she pronounced her "fiat". From then on, under the special influence of the Holy Spirit, this heart, the heart of both a virgin and a mother, has always followed the work of her Son and has gone out to all those whom Christ has embraced and continues to embrace with inexhaustible love" (JP II, *Redemptor Hominis*, papal encyclical, 1979).

How can we *not* offer our sincere devotions to Mary's love, as we recognize and receive Christ's enduring love for us? This inexhaustible love is contagious. United in purpose, these hearts together teach us of perfect love. Accepting this truth, as we pray to receive this love and to imitate such love, we, too, are filled with such great love that we are graced from above and propelled into sharing holy, Christ-like love with one another. What a difference love makes in our world. How much hope and joy come with knowing this love is present and is available to each individual as well as to our community and world as a whole. No matter what presents in our daily life, we always have this sustaining love with us.

Our desire to live with Christ as our guide seeking His truth and love, following in His Way, and linking Mary's intercessions for us to be able to see Her Son as She did is the pathway for us Franciscans. This pathway provides us a great treasury of resources to fulfill our life's goal. We Franciscans are servants; we desire to share what we have been given with the entire world. What better gift to share than the Sacred and Immaculate love from the Two Hearts.

*Beloved Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I offer to
You all that I am and all that I may
do this day, praying it may be worthy of Your
love and pleasing to You. May
my words be only sincere and wise, my work
honest and true, and my thoughts
ever kind and merciful.*

Peace and All Good, Brothers and Sisters!

Carol Lieser OFS

Minister, Immaculata Fraternity.





Pope Francis'

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

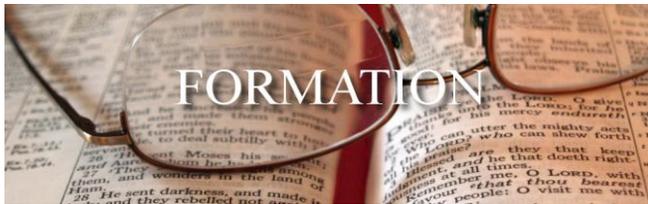
June

The Mode of Life of Priests

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.

We also pray for

Adele McGookin, Ann Falgout, OFS; Mary Jo McCoy, OFS; Judy Bonifort, Anthony Becan, Margaret Handy, Fr. Joe Janiszewski, T.O.R.; Catherine Khaled, OFS; Joseph, Joycelyn Rose Molidor, and for all special intentions.



FORMATION

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it ¹⁰³

Initial Formation

Ch. 27 - Bearers of Peace (p. 287)

Inquirers

Ch. 6 – Writings and Stories of St. Francis / St. Clare (p. 59)

Orientation

Ch. 3 – Francis...Clare...Catholic Doctrine (p. 21)

Ongoing Formation

Catholic Catechism §§2168-2195 The Third Commandment Study Guide (p. 74-75)

Fraternity Happenings

Down the Road!

June 2 Fraternity Meeting

July 7 Fraternity Meeting

August 4 Fraternity Meeting

June Feast Days

2. Saint Felix of Nicosia, religious, I Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

8. Blessed Nicholas of Gésturi, religious, I Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

12. Blessed Jolenta, religious, II Order

II Order: Optional Memorial

Blessed Florida Cévoli, religious, II Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

Blessed Antoine Bajewski, priest, and companions, martyrs of Nazi persecution in Poland, I Order

OFM Conv: Optional Memorial

13. SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA, priest, doctor of the Church, I Order

All Families

16. Blessed John of Parma, priest, I Order

OFM: Optional Memorial

Blessed Anicet Kopliński, priest, and companions,

martyrs of the Nazi persecution in Poland I Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

19. Blessed Mary Rose Fleisch, virgin, forunder, III Order

III Order: Optional Memorial

20. Blessed Patrick O'Healy, bishop, and companions, martyrs in Ireland, I Order

OFM: Optional Memorial

26. Blessed Andrew Hyacinth Longhin, bishop, I Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

Blessed Jacob El-Haddad of Ghazir, priest, I

Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

30. Blessed Raymond Lull, martyr, III Order

OFM Cap: Optional Memorial

III Order: Memorial

For those of you reading this edition of *Fraternity Reflections* on our webpage or through Facebook, and feel called to the Franciscan way, please contact us at: carol.lieser@gmail.com 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!