



Minister: Robert Pekar
Vice Minister: Janet Eidem
Secretary: Jeanne Sachs
Treasurer: Gisela Schwab
Director of Formation: Jadwiga Piasecki
Councilor at Large: Kathleen Ahern
Councilor at Large: Roy Eidem
Spiritual Assistant: Deacon Bob Kronyak
Editor: Doris Kowalski

E-mail: doriskowalski@aol.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers,



One of the things that I love about being a Franciscan is celebrating the graces that are rained down upon us from our Heavenly Father with the many Franciscan Feast Days we observe! I need all the supernatural help I can get and the examples that our Franciscan Brethren provide us are great guideposts to follow on our journey to our heavenly reward. On Feb. 15th we honored the transfer of St. Anthony's body to his final resting place. When they opened the tomb in 1261 some 30 years after he had died, they found that his tongue was incorrupt. St. Bonaventure holding it in his hands exclaimed "O blessed tongue, which has always blessed God and caused others to bless Him, now it appears evident how great were your merits before God!" The tongue of St. Anthony was placed in a special reliquary, and can still be seen today in a separate chapel on the epistle side of the basilica, which is pictured above. The entire scene is crowned by celebrating angels who must have rejoiced at the many times Anthony used the gift of his eloquent preaching to convert sinners. We are indeed blessed with such a wide diversity of saints within our Franciscan family. From our founder Francis who asked us to preach the Gospel at all times and use words only when necessary to Anthony who by his gift of preaching wrought many miracles of converting hearts. **Con't**



The Clarion Newsletter Of St. Clare Fraternity, OFS

Meeting every 4th Sunday @ 12:15PM
St. William's Ministry Center
Naples, Florida
February 2012 Issue #107

Upcoming Franciscan Feast Days

Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday
Feb. 23 – St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Mar. 2 – St. Agnes of Prague, Virgin
Mar. 19 – St. Joseph –Husband of Mary

The ill of our Fraternity need our prayers: Ed Duff; Bill Acini;
Isabel, Frances, Roy; Elizabeth Marie, Carol

February Birthdays:

Feb. 6 – Michael Stuart
Feb. 25 – William Roche'
Feb. 26 – In Memory of Deacon Len Kruk

February Anniversary of Profession:

No February Anniversaries

Upcoming OFS Events

Tue. Feb. 14 – Council Meeting
Sat. Feb. 25 – Lenten Retreat – Ave Maria University,
Fr. Francis Paola, OFM
Sun. Feb. 26 – 12:15 Regular Monthly Gathering at St.
William
Sat. Mar. 24 – Leaven XVIII Conference at San Pedro
Parish, North Port
Sun. Mar. 25 – 12:15 Regular Monthly Gathering at St.
William
July 3-8 – Quinquennial in Chicago

Minister Musing Con't.

Even Maximilian Kolbe, who in his lifetime, witnessed firsthand the Masonic attacks against the Catholic Church in 1917, as a young seminarian in Rome. We are experiencing another attack against the Church and our constitutional right of freedom of religion with the "HHS" (Health and Human Services) mandate to have all health care insurance policies include sterilization, contraceptive and abortion inducing drugs free to all. I suggest one action to take for us all is to pray for wisdom to act courageously. We can all pray this prayer that Maximilian offered each day:

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, (name), a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet, humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you. If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: "She will crush your heart," and "You alone have destroyed all heresies in the whole world." Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever you enter you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. .

V. Allow me to praise you, O Sacred Virgin

R. Give me strength against your enemies

Amen.

I pray that each of us unite with that same steadfast determination that Maximilian Kolbe did when he offered the gift of his life, with the same missionary zeal of Anthony when he converted heretics and with the same love of Christ crucified when Francis approached the Muslims in the Holy Land!

May God Bless your Spirit with Peace and all Good!

BOB

Janet Eidem - Gleaning

When the heart rebels and says, "I will reach out for love wherever it may be found," and the mind echoes, "Yes, and I will not see," and the conscience says, "I don't care anymore," then memory rises like a bright and redeeming sun and says, "Yes, but you have been here before and the Lord saved you in the nick of time. The Lord comes himself if you ask just one more time. Remember?" And again it is memory that cries aloud, "The Lord is faithful and he will not abandon those who trust in him," And the past is made present through memory's alchemy. This saves us time and again, and we praise and thank God who gives us the past to make the present a wise and redemptive future.

Murray Bodo, from Song of the Sparrow

Spiritual Reading for the February Gathering:

Gospel – Mark 1:12-15

Crisis Pregnancy Center of Naples

Don't forget the mothers and babies at The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Naples, they appreciate our generosity.

ROSARY DONATIONS

Please donate Rosary beads that are not being used (even those in need of repair). Bring them to the next meeting. Georges will get them to the Rosary makers for distribution.

Hope for Haiti

Hope for Haiti will accept unused prescription drugs for treatment of the poor which are non-expired ones only! Please keep them in mind before flushing or tossing, neither of which are good solutions.

