

Regular Meeting: Sun., Jan. 14th at 2 pm - South Rm., St. Helen's Christian Living Ctr.

**Council meeting:** Sat., Jan. 20th at 9:15 am.- Arby's on west side of Rte. #1 at 16<sup>th</sup> Pl. in Vero.

**Agenda and Schedule for meeting:**

2:00 - Meeting called to order, then turned over to Fr. Thomas K. Murphy and Council Members from the Regional Fraternity who will conduct and monitor our Chapter of Elections.

There will be an opportunity for additional nominations before the actual voting occurs.

Note: Refreshments will be available during the meeting. Liturgy of the Hours for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time will take place in the Chapel following the meeting.

4:00 - Closing Prayer and Dismissal (If you have time, please assist us in straightening out the South Room before leaving for home. Thanks!)

**Refreshment Committee for this meeting:**

**Snacks:** Marie Fee and Sarah Hardy

**Beverages:** Donna Haro

**Remember in your prayers:** Please pray for Julia McHugh who suffered a mild (she says) stroke shortly after the Nov. meeting and continue to pray for Jennie, George Thomas, Jerry Carey, Donna Haro, John Matthews, Fred and all professed Franciscans in our Florida region who are ill as well for the members of our fraternity who cannot attend our meetings regularly.

**Upcoming Dates to mark on your calendar:**

Saturday, Feb 10, 2007 - "Miracles of the Eucharist, an all-day Retreat and Luncheon hosted by St. Andrew Fraternity at the Cross Creek Country Club in Ft. Myers. Guest speakers will be Bob and Penny Lord of EWTN. \$30.00  
Call for reservations: Lori (239)768-2919 or Elizabeth (239)574-4289.

**Minister:** Helen Caldarone, SFO  
**Vice-Minister:** Fred Schaeffer, SFO  
**Secretary:** Elizabeth Smith, SFO  
**Treasurer:** Sarah Hardy, SFO  
**Formation Director:** Gene Caldarone, SFO  
**Councillors-at-Large**  
George Thomas, SFO; Marguerite Rysdyke, SFO  
**Spiritual Assisitant**  
Fr. Richard P. LaCorte, SFO

**Commissioners**

**Work:** Jack Solloway, SFO

**Family:** Susan Solloway, SFO

**Peace and Justice:** Sarah Hardy, SFO

**Youth:** (*vacant*)

**Ecology:** Fred Schaeffer, SFO

**Formation**

**Assistant Director:** Donna M. Haro, SFO

**Formation Team:** Caroline DiGennaro, SFO;  
Marguerite Rysdyke, SFO; Andrea Cardoza, SFO.

**Webmaster/Editor:** Fred Schaeffer, SFO

**From the Minister's Desk:** A dear friend sent me a copy of the "Litany of Consolation" composed by Fr. Peter J. Cameron, OP and printed in a recent issue of the monthly "Magnificat". I am going to paraphrase parts of it here because it is so beautiful and so very helpful for those moments we all have in our lives - moments when we cry out "Who am I?", "What does it all mean?" "What can I do?" "Why me?" or even when we are unable to say anything at all.

In times of darkness and depression - "I am the Light of the world"

When we must live with our fragility and limitations - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, the kingdom of heaven is theirs"

When overcome by sadness and grief - "Blessed are the sorrowing, they shall be consoled"

When I suffer from shame and guilt - "I have come to call, not the self-righteous, but sinners"

When I have lost hope - "For God, all things are possible"

When I feel empty because of the stressed out - "Come to an out-of-the-way place and rest a little"

When I feel worthless and a disappointment to my family - "You are worth more than an entire flock of sparrows"

When I am tempted to give up - "By patient endurance you will save your lives"

When I am so alone and alienated, belonging to no one - "I am the vine, you are the branches"

When I become aware of my self-absorption, self-indulgence - "Apart from me, you can do nothing"

When I wonder if anyone could truly love me - "It was not you who chose me, it was I who chose you"

When overwhelmed by the cruelty and violence of the world - "Take courage, I have overcome the world" "Live on in my love"

God bless you all - and thank you for making my tenure as Minister such a joy!!

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### ***A SFO Statement of Commitment***

We realize the importance of glorifying God,  
of striving for personal holiness,  
and of working for the spiritual and temporal welfare of others.  
We recognize the great value of the Secular Franciscan Way of Life  
in seeking to achieve these important goals.  
Therefore, we resolve to observe the teaching of Jesus Christ,  
by following in his footsteps,  
according to the spirit and Rule of St. Francis of Assisi.

With the help of the grace of God,  
we will try to participate as fully and as often as possible  
in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass,  
in the other Sacraments of the Church,  
especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation,  
and in the celebration of the Divine Office,  
the official prayer of the Church.

We will try to spend a portion of time each day  
in personal prayer and service to others.  
We will involve ourselves in the life of our fraternity each month,  
in an effort to build a stronger community and as an act of worship.

We will contribute according to our means, time, talent, and possessions  
to the charities of the Church and the Franciscan Family,  
especially to the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering.  
We will uphold the dignity of every person and the worth of all creation.

We will demonstrate our loyalty to the Commandments of God  
and to the teachings of the Catholic Church.  
We will continually try to turn closer to the Lord  
and make daily conversion of heart our intention.  
We will use the material and spiritual gifts that we have received  
in a spirit of justice, moderation, and generosity.

We will wear the Tau Cross daily as the official symbol of our membership  
in the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States of America.  
By our actions and our speech  
we will show others that we are followers of the Gospel,  
by setting a good example and striving to be peacemakers  
in our society and within our own families.

This we resolve through the help of the Virgin Mary and St. Francis,  
by the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
and in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*(From: Five Franciscan Martyrs Region)*