

LA TILMA

NEWSLETTER OF OUR LADY OF GUADLUPE EMPRESS OF THE AMERICAS
REGION OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER #75

Vol 4: Issue 7 SPRING 2015



Annual Regional Meeting and Elections



**Elaine Hedtke, OFS
National Vice-Minister**

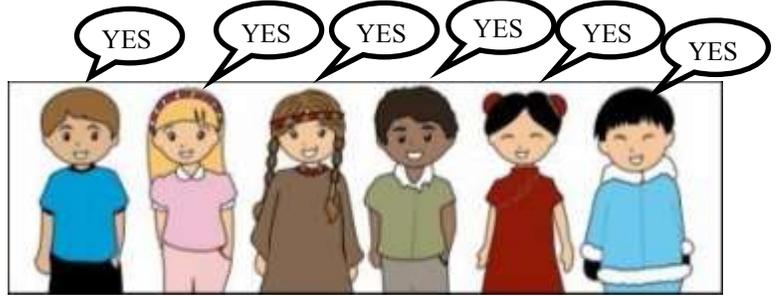
The region was blessed to have once again the National Vice-Minister, Elaine Hedtke, OFS, oversee the elections and share her wisdom with everyone present.

Saturday was a busy active day at the Annual Regional Meeting which was held at the location where the Region began 20 years ago, Roger Bacon Seminary, El Paso, TX. There was a lot of business to discuss and elections to be conducted. The proposed budget was balanced when the ministers put their heads together and came up with a solution to the \$216 deficit. Each fraternity will contribute an extra \$12 to the region. Once again the Holy Spirit blessed the ministers with wisdom to balance the budget without raising the Fair Share. Afterwards, the business of electing a new Regional Executive Council was conducted.

On Sunday as the Annual Meeting/Elections came to a close, those present gathered together for a group picture. *(above)*



REGIONAL ELECTIONS



REGIONAL MINISTER:
DONNA HOLLIS, OFS
Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity
Las Cruces, New Mexico



REGIONAL VICE-MINISTER:
CATHY PIERCE, OFS
St. Anthony Fraternity
Albuquerque, New Mexico



REGIONAL SECRETARY:
BONNIE FRANCO, OFS
Mary Immaculate Fraternity
El Paso, Texas



REGIONAL TREASURER:
KAREN FELLNER, OFS
St. Anthony Fraternity
Albuquerque, New Mexico



REGIONAL FORMATION DIRECTOR:
BONNIE HARDWICK, OFS
St. Francis Fraternity
Santa Fe, New Mexico



REGIONAL COUNCILOR #1:
VICKIE ORTIZ, OFS
St. Francis Fraternity
Santa Fe, New Mexico



REGIONAL COUNCILOR #2:
PEDRO ALVAREZ, OFS
Mary Immaculate Fraternity
El Paso, Texas

Regional Executive Council



Our newly elected Regional Executive Council.

L to R: Karen Fellner, OFS, Vickie Ortiz, OFS, Bonnie Hardwick, OFS, Cathy Pierce, OFS, Donna Hollis, OFS, Brother Gordon, OFM, Bonnie Franco, OFS, and Pedro Alvarez, OFS.



REGIONAL JPIC ANIMATOR
NANA DeLANOY, OFS
 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FRATERNITY,
 LAS CRUCES, NM

Who SAID “YES” to serve on the
Regional Executive Council of Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Empress of the Americas?

2015

Brother Gordon, OFM
 Regional Spiritual Assistant



Regional Prayerline Coordinator
 Virginia Gregory, OFS - “Gigi”
 Mary Immaculate Fraternity
 El Paso, Texas



Regional Newsletter Editor
 Vickie Earl, OFS - “Vicka”
 Mary Immaculate Fraternity
 El Paso, Texas



Sofia Villarreal, OFS, from St Patrick Fraternity in El Paso, Texas, poses with Barbara O'Connor, OFS, of St. Francis Fraternity in Santa Fe., New Mexico

Few realize that even after suffering the loss of her beloved daughter, Sofia stepped up to help with the budget for the Region after our former Treasurer stepped down. Sofia spent many hours preparing the budget for the Annual Regional Meeting. Her humble service to our region has been an inspiration to those who have known her throughout the years. Thank you Sofia for all that you do. You and your family are in our hearts and prayers always.



No wonder Donna looks so tired. She had been in El Paso for a whole week preparing and making sure things went well for everyone at the Annual Minister's gathering. Great job, Donna!



To the right we see the various posters representing each fraternity that were taken by Donna, our Regional Minister, to the NAFRA Meeting last October.

Each fraternity adopted another and each took back the adopted fraternity's poster to remember them and pray for them throughout the year. The goal is to get to know each other better as brothers and sisters in St. Francis.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, EMPRESS OF THE AMERICAS

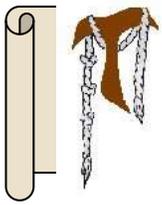
Our region celebrates 20 YEARS AS A REGION this year in October, from 1995 to 2015. Ms. Donna, on top of all her other duties managed to put together a wonderful poster depicting some of the events in our Region's history.



(Top) Ministers voting on nominees.

(Above) Election representatives hard at work tallying the results of the elections.

(Left) **Fr. John Curran, OFM Conv.**, Spiritual Assistant for Mary Immaculate Fraternity, El Paso, Texas, celebrates the Installation Mass for the new Regional Executive Council on Saturday evening.



FROM THE REGIONAL MINISTER'S DESK



I am humbled and grateful in being Re Elected for a Second Term as your Regional Minister. Thank you for your trust and faith in me to follow the Spirit's lead. We have much to do as a Region and we have accomplished much together already. May we continue to grow in faith and follow the guidance of the Spirit. I have learned so much through each of you and feel the support and prayers.

With listening hearts and open minds, the Holy Spirit can use all of us right where we are at and continue to guide us as we move forward together as a Region into the Vision/task He has set before us. It is a Fraternal effort that will make it happen. I Corinthians 12:4-7 "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit. There are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." **We are all in this together!**

I am thankful for our New Council and excited about what He will do through each of us as we continue the journey with open hearts and minds. I encourage us to listen to the Spirit within and follow it; we are all servants to each other.

This is our 20th Anniversary year as a Region, let us all think about ways in celebrating in our Fraternities this special event!

John 14: 26-27 – "The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name; he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give it to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do Not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

So let us get up and go forward together with the understanding that the Father loves us and asks us to Remain in His love. Reaching out to one another with that same love and encourage one another along the way." Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." I John 3:18 Let us find our 'Perfect Joy'! Let us all find ways of being joyful and in so doing bring the love and acceptance and light of Christ to all those around us.

In conclusion I repeat the theme from National for this year:

"Be the Joyful Face of Christ to all"

"I hope to visit you and to speak face to face so that our joy may be complete"(II John 1:12)

CHUCKLES

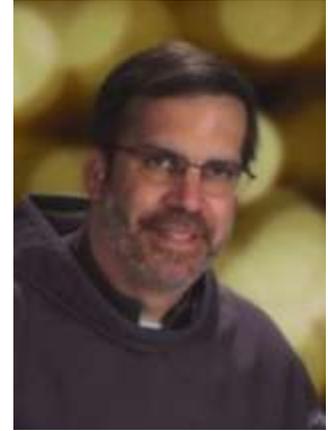


CLEAN
AIR
SMELLS
FUNNY



Fr. John Stowe, OFM Conv.

NAMED LEXINGTON, KY
BISHOP



Fr. John Stowe, OFM Conv., has been named Bishop of Lexington, Kentucky, by Pope Francis. Mass of installation for Bishop-elect Stowe is scheduled for May 5, 2015.

The fraternities of Mary Immaculate and St. Patrick in El Paso, Texas, were blessed to have Fr. John as their Spiritual Assistant for 15 years! (1995 to 2010).

In 2001, members of Mary Immaculate Fraternity made a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi with Fr. John. In Rome, the members visited various sites and attended the Wednesday audience with the pope where Bonnie Franco and I were graced to personally greet Pope John Paul II. In Assisi, Fr. John celebrated Mass and arranged for the members to renew their Profession at the tomb of St Francis. Fr. John also celebrated Mass with the members at Mount La Verna in the small chapel of St. Bonaventure next to the rock where Francis received the stigmata. As the members sang during Mass, Fr. John was pleasantly surprised. Usually they would sound like a disharmonious group of brothers and sisters, but on that day their voices seemed to echo with the angels. They had never sounded so good. All were surprised at just how good it sounded. Rosaries for those unable to attend were placed on the rock and prayers were said for them. At Greccio, where the first midnight Mass was celebrated and where St. Francis created the first nativity scene, members sang Christmas carols. There were so many special celebrations and wonders to speak of, Fr. John made it a very, very special pilgrimage. Our Lady of Guadalupe Region rejoices with him in his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Lexington, KY. Those who have had the pleasure of knowing Fr. John, know he lives his vows. He is someone in whom we can all rejoice, with his watchful eye keeping watch over us, gently guiding us in the manner of Francis toward Christ and His Church, not losing any of us along the way. He was a true “Shepherd of His flock”. The El Paso Catholic Community was blessed to have him here for 15 years. Thank God he has been called to be a true Shepherd of Souls in our Church.

Congratulations Fr. John!

I would like to share that shortly after Fr. John began as Spiritual Assistant for Mary Immaculate Fraternity, I mentioned to him that the fraternity would go to Assisi on a pilgrimage one day. He just chuckled. Ten years later, I smiled at him as we prepared to board the plane to go to Assisi. He just grinned back a beautiful smile and said, “I remember.” Those who attended that pilgrimage with Fr. John had a very blessed time, one that we will treasure in our hearts forever. — Vicka Earl

Those who know him say: “God has truly called a wonderful Shepherd to watch over His flock”

***Fr. John at a press conference laughed and said,
“A Jesuit Pope by the name of Francis sends you a Franciscan Bishop trained by Jesuits.”***

Regional Formation Director, steps down—Chrystal Holley, OFS

It is with a heavy heart that I post this last Regional Letter from our outgoing Formation Director, Chrystal Holley. The Regional Executive Council learned that Chrystal had to step down due to health reasons. She has been a strong leader in our Region. As our Regional Formation Director, she tirelessly gave to build a Formation Team for our region. She also spent endless hours helping to organize regional Formation workshops and meetings. She has always used her time and talent to help this region have a strong secular Franciscan presence. We wish her well and are hoping for a speedy recovery and a return to good health. We will miss her.

GOD LOVES YOU CHRYSTAL, AND SO DO WE.
GET WELL,
RETURN SOON.



Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis,

We are in the fourth year of implementation of the FUN Manual in our Region. (It has been much longer than that for the development and implementation around the world.) Perhaps it is time to review how things are going in our Region and in our local fraternity. Here is a checklist for you and your fraternity to use to evaluate your progress in joining in the renewal of our order in a way that keeps us closer to our charism.

- Has every person on our fraternity's council received FUN Training I and received a manual? (If not, speak to your Formation Team Representative on how to achieve this.)
- Has our formation director attended FUN Training II?
- Is our council ready to attend FUN Training II when it is offered in the coming year in various areas?
- Has our fraternity used any of the lessons in the FUN manual for ongoing formation?
- Has our fraternity used any of the lessons in the FUN manual for formation with our inquirers or candidates?
- Has our council completed the discussion of Orientation and mailed the plan of our fraternity to the Region Formation Director? (Your formation director or your Formation Team Representative can explain this to you.)

We live in such an exciting time to be involved in this renewal. However, it depends on each one of us to share in the learning and the implementation. Remember, we are priest, prophet, and royalty! God is counting on YOU.

For Up to Now, We have done Nothing

Chrystal Holley, OFS

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas de San Francisco,

Estamos en el cuarto año de aplicación del Manual FUN en nuestra Región. (Ha sido mucho más que eso para el desarrollo y la aplicación en todo el mundo.) Tal vez es hora de revisar cómo van las cosas en nuestra región y en nuestra Fraternidad local. Aquí está una lista de comprobación para usted y su fraternidad utilizar para evaluar su progreso en unirse en la renovación de nuestro pedido de una manera que nos mantiene más cerca de nuestro carisma.

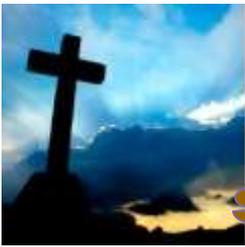
- _____ ¿Ha cada persona en el consejo de nuestra fraternidad recibido FUN Formación I y recibió un manual? (Si no, hable con su Representante del equipo de Formación sobre cómo lograr esto.)
- _____ ¿Nuestro director de formación asistieron FUN Training II?
- _____ ¿Esta nuestro consejo listo para asistir a FUN Training II cuando se ofrece en el próximo año en diversas áreas?
- _____ ¿Nuestra fraternidad ha usado alguna de las lecciones en el FUN manual para la formación permanente?
- _____ ¿Nuestra fraternidad ha utilizado algunas de las lecciones del manual FUN para la formación de nuestros investigadores o candidatos?
- _____ ¿Nuestro consejo terminó la discusión de Orientación y enviado el plan de nuestra fraternidad a la Directora de Formación Regional? (El director de su formación o su Equipo de Formación Representante pueden explicar esto a usted.)

Vivimos en un momento tan emocionante estar involucrado en esta renovación. Sin embargo, depende de cada uno de nosotros para compartir el aprendizaje y la aplicación. Recuerde, estamos sacerdote, profeta y la realeza! Dios cuenta contigo.

Para Hasta ahora, no hemos hecho nada!

Chrystal Holley, OFS

Thank you for all that you have done for our Region Chrystal, you are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless you.



Spiritual Assistant of Mary Immaculate Fraternity in El Paso Entered into Eternal Rest on January 13, 2015

Larry Mattingly, O.F.M. Conv. was the Spiritual Assistant of Mary Immaculate Fraternity in El Paso, Texas. Previously he was a pastor of Cristo Rey Catholic Church in East Austin. A native of Lebanon, Kentucky, Fr. Mattingly joined the Conventual Franciscan Friars at age 18. Those who knew and loved him were planning a celebration with him for his 50 year anniversary of ordination.

He studied philosophy in Carey, Ohio, and theological studies in Rome, Italy, and Doctoral studies in Ecclesiology at the University of Toronto in Ontario. He taught high school and undergraduate theology for a time and then served as the superior of the Midwestern Conventual Franciscan Province for ten years.

In 1982, he left the United States to work in the missions of Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador for thirteen years. There, he was also elected to serve as the superior of the Conventual Franciscan Friars of Central America.



In January, 1995, Fr. Mattingly was appointed pastor of the Cristo Rey community in East Austin, where he advocated for educational programs for youth and adults in the parish and community. He served on the board of directors of the Political Asylum Project of Austin before moving to El Paso and serving at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He was also the pastor at Our Lady of the Valley and Spiritual Assistant for the Secular Franciscans of Mary Immaculate Fraternity. He entered into eternal life on January 13, 2015.



Profesión: 24 Enero, 2015

Fraternidad Sagrado Corazon de Maria

El Paso, Texas



Above: Newly professed Rosalva Castañeda, OFS, Margarita Sigala, OFS, with Regional Minister Donna Hollis, OFS, Fraternity Minister Ester Elixavide, OFS, and also newly professed Jose Aguilar, OFS.

Below: Members of Sagrado Corazon de Maria Fraternity with newly professed.

Professed are Rosalva Castañeda, Margarita Sigala, and Jose Aguilar.



Profession to the
Secular Franciscan
Order

Yes! This is what I want.



Professions

“When the Holy Spirit is called down upon those being Professed in the ceremony, it is similar to the type of invocation prayed at Mass upon the gifts of bread and wine so that they are transformed into the **body and blood of Christ.”**

FUN Manual

Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity Professions, February 8, 2015

Four new members were professed on Sunday, February 8, 2015, at the new chapel at Holy Cross Retreat Center in Mesilla Park, New Mexico. Deanna Gibbs, Mary Diane Solper, JoAnn Burns and Nana DeLanoy, made their Profession and were received into Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity among family and friends during a Mass with Father Tom Smith, OFM Conv. It was a joyous occasion after years of studying and completing the requirements needed to be part of the Secular Franciscan Order. Then the celebration continued with a reception in the dining hall.



Deanna Gibbs, OFS, Mary Diane Solper, OFS, JoAnn Burns, OFS, and Nana DeLanoy, OFS,

Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity, Professions, February 8, 2015, continued





Newly Professed Dolores Martinez, OFS, with Formation Director, Bonnie Hardwick, OFS

Profession



Saint Francis Fraternity
 Santa Fe, New Mexico
 March 21, 2015

YES!

This is what I want.



Saint Francis Fraternity, Santa Fe, New Mexico



Dolores Martinez, OFS, Profession



Dolores Martinez, OFS, Profession, March 21st continued -
 Santa Fe, New Mexico, Saint Francis Fraternity



Brother Gordon, OFM, left, stands with Minister, Rosalina Velasquez, OFS, of St Francis Fraternity, as Angela Lovato, Michella Marusa and Teresa Reckard, are received as candidates. Formation Director, Bonnie Hardwick, OFS, far right, introduces the Candidates.



Newly elected Regional Councilor, Vickie Ortiz, OFS, with National Councilor Arturo Villarreal, OFS, at the Annual Meeting in El Paso, TX.

Vickie Ortiz, OFM.



Ed Dzienis, OFS, (Area Representative) and Vickie take time out afterwards to visit with one another.



What has been happening at "your" Fraternity lately?

Queen of Angels Fraternity—El Paso, Texas

BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH
QUEEN OF ANGELS SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY #107

January 10, 2015

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

On December 2nd, 2014 as is customary, Blessed Sacrament Church, home of Queen of Angels Fraternity, began Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration. The festivities included: Las Mañanitas, sung by Mariachis; Matachines; a beautiful Mass, and of course the Novena. Queen of Angels Fraternity sponsored the Novena on Friday, December 12th, 6:30 p.m. and offered plenty of beautiful roses at the end of each decade. Traditionally, the Rosary is bilingual; however, Queen of Angels Fraternity added a new twist by reciting the Rosary in five different languages:

English – Fernando 8yrs old and Alex 10yrs old

Spanish – (Cookie) Maria Rodriguez

Tagalog - Baltazar Catarroja, Candidate. (He made a striking figure in his U.S. Army uniform)

German - Elizabeth Brinkley, OFS

Vietnamese - Kymy Griffin, OFS

Introductory prayer Spanish –Dolores Catarroja, Candidate.

The congregation was extremely receptive, which revealed a deep sense of unity among the Lord's people. Happiness was everywhere and the love of the Holy Spirit was felt by everyone.



Top (L-R):

Dolores Catarroja, Candidate; Cookie Rodriguez; Esther Marek, OFS; Dee Perrins, OFS; Kymy Griffin, OFS; Yvonne Chacon, OFS; and Elizabeth Brinkley, OFS.

Bottom (L-R):

Suzanne Yebra, OFS; Baltazar Catarroja, Candidate; and Victor Yebra, OFS.

Mary Immaculate Fraternity, El Paso, TX



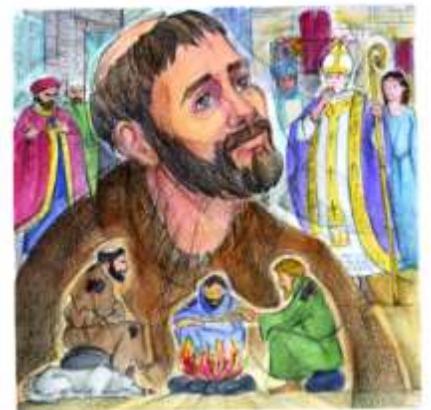
Mary Immaculate welcomes new Inquirers.

Left to Right: Vice-Minister, Vicka Earl, OFS, Formation Director, Bonnie Franco, OFS, Inquirers: Catalina Chacon, Ceci Serna, Mark Serna, Sponsors: Pam Akers, OFS, Tim Akers, OFS



Antonio Eres, Olga Carrillo, Ysela Sanchez, Marcella Abeyta, Viola Marquez, Bonnie Franco, Gigi Gregory, Pedro Alvarez

Members of Mary Immaculate and Santa Isabel de Hungria fraternities pose for a snapshot at the Annual Ministers Meeting. The fraternities adopted each other for this year.





Dedication and Blessing of the Holy Cross Chapel

The formal dedication of the Chapel by Bishops Cantú and Ramírez from the Las Cruces Diocese and Bishop Seitz from the El Paso Diocese was celebrated on Sunday, February 22, 2015. There were many in attendance with a reception afterwards.



The Church expects from the Secular Franciscan Order,

one and only, a great service in the cause of the Kingdom of God in the world today ... the Church expects from you, Secular Franciscans, a courageous and consistent testimony of Christian and Franciscan life, leaning towards the construction of a more fraternal and Gospel world for the realization of the Kingdom of God."

St. Pope John Paul II





St Anthony Fraternity, Albuquerque, NM

Saint Anthony fraternity has been meeting once a month on Sunday for Mass and rotating going to different parishes. Above, they met at Our Lady of Fatima and Archbishop Sheehan was there.

Minister, Arturo Olivas, OFS wrote:

"We had a huge turn out today at our lady of Fatima for our second group Mass. Archbishop Sheehan was the celebrant. After Mass we posed with his eminence and then a meal outing as organized. It did my soul a great deal of good to see all of you and to celebrate holy Mass with you!"

*thank
you!*

Arturo"



QUEEN OF ANGELS FRATERNITY RETREAT

Queen of Angels Secular Franciscan Fraternity #107 enjoyed a tranquil and peaceful weekend at Holy Cross Retreat Center in Mesilla Park, New Mexico, March 6-8, 2015. The retreat was attended by Suzanne Yebra, OFS, Minister; Yvonne Chacon, OFS, Formation Director/Regional Area Representative; Ester Merak, OFS, Secretary; Enoe Praytor, OFS; Dolores and Baltazar Catarroja, Candidates, and Delia Perrins, OFS, Vice-Minister.

The beautiful Center's surroundings lent itself most adequately for the retreat's theme "Franciscan Spirituality of Creation". The morning sunlight and sunsets on the mountains, chirping birds, budding fruit trees, rosebushes and various other plants gave a wistful aura of spring in the air and a mellow good-bye to the chilly winter breezes. It was beautiful to observe God's gifts of nature.



The retreat began Friday, at 6:30 in the quaint atrium of the center. Wisteria plants in the early blooming stages were obvious. Evening prayer and welcome by Father Tom, Retreat Master, was followed by a presentation on Biblical references to creation and Franciscan images.

Saturday was full of activity beginning with an amazing breakfast followed by a morning session entitled, “Canticle of Creatures”, which led us into taking a closer look at our own spiritual Garden, sensing God in creation and in gardening. Members gifted with a green thumb planted a variance of flower plants around the center’s garden while others took nature walks or cheered on the gardeners as they worked. It was a very special time for all of us.

Eucharist was celebrated on Saturday before lunch. The day’s activities included a session on “Care for Creation in Daily Life” which focused on practical application of our Franciscan spirituality.

Sunday after a lovely breakfast the group was situated in an awesome spot where the beautiful morning sun and the mountains met making a picturesque landscape of nature’s beauty: One of God’s gifts to behold. We then prayed in thanksgiving for the opportunity to experience this wondrous sight as a group.

The last session of the weekend was entitled, “Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis” at which time we viewed a video of Francis’ courageous struggles in establishing the Franciscan movement.

Dolores Catarroja, Candidate, was so inspired with the activities of the weekend that the Holy Spirit led her to write this poem:



Glorify the Lord Oh Mountains

*Mountains of El Paso how you attract me.
You keep my focus on the beauty of El Paso.
You are strong, drawing my eyes toward you.
When I look at your majesty out the patio door,
or the balcony or the kitchen
I feel good. I feel strong. I feel positive.
For you have endured eons of rain, snow and fog,
yet you come out from it as
an enduring reminder to me of God's strength,
God's endurance, God's love.
How awesome you are. How AWESOME YOU ARE GOD!*

The fraternity brothers and sisters left the center with a strong sense of closeness with nature and especially with one another.

Dee Perrins, OFS, Vice-Minister
Queen of Angels Fraternity

Let Us Pray:



Frances Cassino, OFS passed on to eternal life on January 6, 2015. She was 93 and a member of Jesus, Morning Star Fraternity.



Natalie Luz Villarreal-Romero passed on to eternal life on January 1, 2015. She was the beloved daughter of Arturo (National Councilor) and Sofia (Minister) Villarreal, OFS, both are members of St Patrick Fraternity in El Paso, Texas.



Regional Prayer Line



Our Prayer Line is alive and well. More Brothers and Sisters are using the Prayer Line for prayer requests for illnesses, upcoming surgeries, deaths, life difficulties, etc. Again, prayers were requested not only for our Sisters and Brothers but family members. Prayers also go out for Fraternity's Elections and Visitations.

Regional Prayer Line Coordinator
Virginia Gregory - "Gigi"
gggregory@sbcglobal.net



Our prayer line is very strong and as always "with prayers all things are possible". Again, I am requesting that new member's emails be submitted to me so I may add them to our praying emailing list. If at any time, you or any of your Fraternity members wish to be taken off the prayer list, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
Gigi Gregory (gggregory@sbcglobal.net)
Regional Prayer Coordinator

A Letter From The Editor



Pax et Bonum My Brothers and Sisters in Christ and Francis!

Ministers, the posting of the La Tilma newsletter will now also be on our new Regional Web Site:

www.olgregion.sfousa.org

I will also continue to email a copy to each minister as in the past. We will also have past La Tilma editions to view as well.

Thanks be to God for the wisdom He has given to those members of the Regional Executive Council in setting up this website. May the blessings of our Lord continue to shine on us through all who are using their talents and gifts from the Lord to guide us more closely to Him who is our "ALL", our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Once again I would like to thank all of you who throughout the past have taken the time to send in articles for our La Tilma Newsletter. **Truly, there would be no newsletter without your input.** I look forward to receiving information and articles from everyone on what has been happening in your fraternity. Remember everyone is welcome to send in articles and information about your fraternity. Don't worry about the spelling or how it looks, we can polish it up. It is the information about your fraternities that shines and we would like to share with the other fraternities in the Region. Articles in Spanish are also welcome. We are a bilingual region and we would love to hear from all. We hope in the future to be able to share more articles in both languages.

Regional Database Administrator

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

An important reminder regarding the TAU-USA Newsletter. Now that Fair Share is being paid for Candidates, they will receive the TAU along with the Professed members. In order for Candidates to be mailed their own copy they need to be properly listed in the NAFRA Database.

Whenever your fraternity has Inquirers enter into Candidacy, please send me their name, address, phone number, email address, and Rite of Admission date, so I can enter their information into the NAFRA database. Thank you very much for your assistance in keeping the database up to date. Paz y bien.

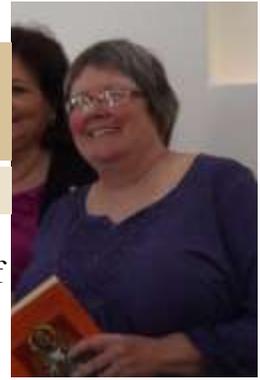
Bonnie Franco, OFS
Regional Database Administrator
yfranco@aim.com





Justice, Peace and Intregrity of Creation (JPIC)

REGIONAL JPIC ANIMATOR, NANA DeLANOY, OFS



Hello, I am Nana DeLanoy, OFS and a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe fraternity in Las Cruces. I have had a deep interest and commitment to peace and justice for many years. I am very pleased to be able to serve the OFS as a Regional JPIC Animator. I look forward to sharing information and events that will bring to mind opportunities to live the Gospel.

April 26, 2015

World Day of Prayer for Vocations Jornada Mundial de Oración por Vocaciones

The purpose of the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the *ordained ministries* (priesthood and diaconate), to the *Religious life* in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to *societies of apostolic life*, to *secular institutes* in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of *mission "ad gentes"*.

This year marks the **51st Anniversary** of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations
USCCB.ORG

Father, look upon Your Church with love and bless Your people with generous single men and women, with loving husbands and wives, with understanding parents, with trusting children with dedicated priests, sisters, deacons and brothers.

Help us to see our vocations as a journey toward You.

You have called us, not to set us apart, but to bring us together with others who need our love.

Make us faithful signs of Your presence in their midst.

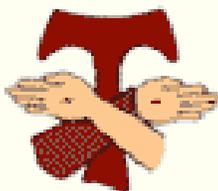
We ask You through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

God, our Father,
in Baptism You called us by name making us members of Your people, the Church.
We praise You for Your goodness,
We thank You for Your gifts.
We ask You to strengthen us to live in love and service to others after the example of Your Son, Jesus.

Pray for Vocations





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LA TILMA

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Empress of the Americas Region Quarterly Newsletter



***Local Ministers** remember you are responsible for making copies or for emailing a copy of this newsletter to all your local fraternity members.*

Call For Articles 2015

Articles for future newsletters must be received by:

Spring 2015 - 03/15/2015
Summer 2015 - 06/15/2015

Fall 2015 - 09/15/2015
Winter 2015 - 12/15/2015

Submissions may be mailed, faxed, or emailed. ALL fraternity members are invited and encouraged to participate and contribute fraternity news of events—past or present, election results, professions, activities, as well as articles, poetry, etc. Don't forget to state fraternity name and location, as well as your own name and address when making a submission. All hard copy photos, disks and original art will be returned upon publication completion.

Local Ministers are responsible for making copies for all their local fraternity members.

Mail articles to: Vickie Earl, SFO, Editor, *La Tilma*,
404 Wayne Way, El Paso, TX 79915

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