



Secular Franciscan Order

# Juan de Padilla

Regional Newsletter

K A N S A S T M I S S O U R I T O K L A H O M A

## Minister's Message

- Minister's Message
- Formation—Year of Consecrated Life

Inside this issue:

- Minister's Message 1-2
- S.A Training
- Formation Corner 3

My dearest Franciscan brothers and sisters:

So—has this been a fruitful Lent for you? As part of my Lenten prayers and sacrifices, I have been praying that each of you is having (or has had, depending on when you read this!) the best Lent ever!! If you have been following the Dynamic Catholic's Best Lent Ever series, you have had much to think and pray about. The Holy Spirit has been with us all the way!

As part of your Holy Week prayers, I am asking each of you to pray for a very special intention. And that intention is that the Holy Spirit inspires MANY of you to consider taking training to become a

Secular Spiritual Assistant.

If you have been professed for 5 years or more, **you are eligible**. If your local minister or spiritual assistant or personal spiritual director thinks you are qualified, **you are eligible**. If the Holy Spirit has been nudging you toward following this spiritual path, **you are eligible**.

Where are all of the spiritual assistants? We have around 200 members in our region; most certainly, the Holy Spirit is calling some of you. WHERE ARE YOU???? ARE YOU LISTENING??

Ask Father Scully and he will tell you how hard it is for him as ONE PERSON to attend all the elections and visitations

throughout the region. If he cannot go because of his priestly duties, he has to delegate someone else. But his hands are tied if one spiritual assistant cannot travel long distances any more; another has duties to fulfill as part of her job; another (or several others) cannot do so because they fulfill some type of spiritual assistant function in the visited fraternity already.

At this very moment we have elections scheduled for an Oklahoma fraternity in April—and we do not have a spiritual assistant to conduct the duties of the pastoral visitor! Believe me, I'm praying! And I hope you are too!

(continued on Page 2)



### Regional Executive Council

- Extraordinary Jubilee Year –Declared by Pope Francis 4
- Sister Death 5
- Fraternity News
- Visitations, Elections & More 6
- JDP Regional Retreat 7-9

<b>Spiritual Assistant</b>	Fr. Michael Scully OFM Cap	913-856-2277	frmikescully@yahoo.com
<b>Minister</b>	Alice Crews	816-872-5123	alicerose_sfo@att.net
<b>Vice Minister</b>	Sherry McAuliffe	913-681-6824	sherryt7@hotmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Dona Gibbons	816-224-3826	palau001@aol.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Claudia Kauzlarich	816-258-0793	claudiakauz.sfo@gmail.com
<b>Formation Director</b>	Janice Keeley	918-456-9334	catholics2@hotmail.com
<b>Councilor—Kansas</b>	Mary Ackerly	785-691-7134	mackerlysfo@gmail.com
<b>Councilor — Missouri</b>	Greg King	913-226-2353	gregking@gmail.com
<b>Councilor— Oklahoma</b>	Deacon Mark Keeley	918-456-9334	catholics2@hotmail.com

(Continued from page 1)

**WE NEED MORE SPIRITUAL ASSISTANTS!!!!**  
**I CANNOT EMPHASIZE THIS ENOUGH!!!**  
**PLEASE THINK AND PRAY ABOUT IT!!!**

You may ask: What are the spiritual assistant's duties?

- First of all, the SA cannot serve his/her own fraternity.
- The SA is above all NOT a secretary or record keeper.
- The SA must know and understand the Constitution and NAFRA statutes (as should every Secular Franciscan) and must be able to interpret them correctly or at least know whom he/she can contact if there is a question.
- The potential SA needs to go through a training period, which will probably take 2 to 3 years of study and internship.
- The SA, together with members of the local council, determines if an applicant has the proper qualifications to become a member of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Fortunately, as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, our region is getting some help in the form of a very qualified Secular Franciscan from southern California, Sylvia Paoli. For three full days in May (14-15-16) in Broken Arrow, OK, she will work together with the three secular spiritual assistants from Oklahoma, Father Scully, myself, and Sister Doris Engemann OSF, to form a plan on how to do the necessary training. This training will more than likely NOT be done online, but rather face-to-face all-day workshops three to four times a year. It also will most likely include a period of required internship.

Sure, it does sound like a lot of hard work and a lot of time, but what good, worthwhile project doesn't take a lot of work and time???

My dream is to have a spiritual assistant in each of our fraternities throughout the region! Please don't laugh—I mean it! With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can (AND WILL) do it!

Don't forget to pray for more Secular Spiritual Assistants in our region during Holy Week! Thank you!

Your sister servant,  
Alice Crews OFS

Sylvia Paoli OFS will Fly into Oklahoma to conduct Spiritual Assistants Training



Sylvia Paoli OFS

Secular Franciscans are facing a challenge of finding and keeping spiritual assistants due to the lack of religious vocations in the Franciscan first order. NAFRA has asked lay members to accept formation and training in the role of the spiritual assistant to fulfill the needs of fraternities.

The JDP REC recently agreed to sponsor a national secular trainer, Sylvia Paoli OFS who will fly her own plane to come to work with our current secular spiritual assistants: Dee Hrankaj, Mary Mead and Ann Marie Neuok, all of Oklahoma.



Dee Hrankaj OFS



Mary Mead OFS



Ann Marie Neuok OFS

Paoli was professed in 1964 and brings with her a lifetime of service to the order. She is a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity in La Habra, CA where she has been a minister, vice-minister and treasurer and has worked on their formation team. On the regional level, she has served as minister, vice-minister, secretary, district liaison and chairman of the family commission.

From 1977 to 2005 Sylvia served as an attorney and a certified Appellate Specialist. Since 1994 she has also worked as a law school professor. From 1951 to 2000 Paoli was music director at various parishes. Part of that time she also taught piano, organ, and music theory. She was a concert pianist from 1955 to 1975.

Among Paoli's community activities are: The Ninety-Nines, Inc, a non-profit international organization of women pilots; chairman of the Orange County Bar Appellate section; chairman of the Orange County Bar Aviation Section; chairman of the Appellate Advisory Committee to the State Bar of California; a pilot with the Civil Air Patrol in search and rescue. As a church member, she has been involved in CCD, the Christian Family Movement, Cursillo, and the Catholic Worker.





## THE FORMATION CORNER



Janice Keeley  
Formation Director  
In the Sea of Galilee

### Consecrated Life

**The Year** of Consecrated Life began in Advent of 2014, because of a decree by Pope Francis. Many of you know of this, but maybe you do not know that Secular Franciscans are consecrated persons. According to the Code of Canon Law, #573, “Life consecrated through profession of the evangelical counsels (chastity, poverty and obedience) is a stable form of living, in which the faithful follow Christ more closely under the action of the Holy Spirit and are totally dedicated to God, who is supremely loved. By a new and special title they are dedicated to seek the perfection of charity in the service of God's Kingdom, for the honor of God, the building up of the Church and the salvation of the world.” You see how this applies to Secular Franciscans.

To correspond with this special year, Pope Francis also authored a new apostolic exhortation entitled *Evangelii Gaudium*, or *The Joy of the Gospel*. Some fraternities and your Regional Executive Council (R.E.C.), at the suggestion of Fr. Mike Scully, our regional spiritual assistant, are using this Exhortation for Ongoing Formation this year. *Evangelii Gaudium* published by Word Among Us Press, can be acquired from them directly or from [www. Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com). This particular book includes a very good study guide.

A phrase frequently quoted from Pope Francis is this: “I want to say one word to you and that word is **JOY**. Wherever consecrated people are, there is joy.” He adds, “--our technological society has succeeded in multiplying occasions of pleasure, yet has found it very difficult to engender joy.”

Pope Francis writes about a wide variety of issues, including the need for a *personal encounter* with Jesus: “I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, ---” I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. ---” “No one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord.” “God never tires of forgiving us. We are the ones who tire of seeking His mercy.”

Francis presents guidelines to guide and encourage the whole Church in a new phase of *evangelization*, “one marked by enthusiasm and vitality.” “An evangelizing community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative, he has loved us first, and therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, and go out to others.” “Such a community has an endless desire to show mercy. It knows that the joy of the Gospel is for all people. ”An evangelizing community “is in contact with the lives of its people and does not become a useless structure out of touch or self absorbed, or made up of a chosen few.” We should always speak “more about grace than about law, more about Christ than about the Church and more about God's word than about the Pope.”

“Rapid cultural changes,” says Francis, “demand that we constantly seek ways of expressing unchanging truths in a language which brings out their abiding newness.” “The confessional must be an encounter with the Lord's mercy.” “The Eucharist,---is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.”

Have I “whetted” your interest in this book yet??  
I wish you all peace and all good during this year of your consecrated life.

*Janice OFS*



# EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."  
-POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis surprised the world when he announced an Extraordinary Jubilee Year that has God's Mercy at its center.

Francis will dedicate the Jubilee to the virtue of mercy, to which he has referred on multiple occasions and which is the basis of the episcopal motto that he chose when he became a bishop: "Miserando atque eligendo" (He looked at him with mercy and He chose him).

Pope Francis entrusted the organization of this Jubilee to the Pontifical Council for Promotion of the New Evangelization, so that [the dicastery] might animate it as a new stage in the journey of the Church on its mission to bring to every person the Gospel of mercy.

Pope Francis said that he was convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time. Pope Francis entrusted the Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey.

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy will begin on Dec. 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and will come to an end on Nov. 20, 2016, the date when the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, is celebrated.



During the 2013 JDP regional retreat in Wichita we gave a presentation on the meaning of various coats of arms. Pope Francis' coat of arms is a visual of his powerful philosophy and leadership. His mercy and love shown to the forgotten and exiled has been in secular headlines and has drawn the non-Catholic to take a new look at the Catholic Church.

If we look at Pope Francis' coat of arms, we can see its simplicity and focus upon Mary (the star), St. Joseph (the spike-nard) and Jesus (radiant sun, IHS and the 3 nails— symbol of the Jesuit Order).

The motto of Pope Francis is taken from a passage from the venerable Bede, *Homily 21* (CCL 122, 149-151), on the Feast of Matthew, which reads: *Vidit ergo Jesus publicanum, et quia miserando atque eligendo vidit, ait illi, 'Sequere me'.* [Jesus therefore sees the tax collector, and since he sees by having **mercy** and by choosing, he says to him, 'follow me'.]

This homily is a tribute to Divine Mercy and is read during the **Liturgy of the Hours** on the Feast of St Matthew. This has particular significance in the life and spirituality of the Pope. In fact, on the Feast of St Matthew in 1953, the young Jorge Bergoglio experienced, at the age of 17, in a very special way, the loving presence of God in his life. Following confession, he felt his heart touched and he sensed the descent of the Mercy of God, who with a gaze of tender love, called him to religious life. We are called in a special way as Secular Franciscans to demonstrate God's mercy to the poor and forgotten, like St. Francis and Pope Francis.

## A Glimpse into the Juan de Padilla REC



REC members discuss challenges facing the region. Pictured are (l-r) Janice Keeley, Regional Formation Director, Father Mike Scully, Regional Spiritual Assistant, Alice Crews, Regional Minister, Sherry McAuliffe, Regional Vice Minister.

### C A L E N D A R o f E V E N T S 2 0 1 5

May 9	Juan de Padilla Regional Council	Lawrence, KS
June 26-28	Juan de Padilla Regional Retreat, Franciscan Prayer Center	Independence, MO
September 19	Regional Council Meeting	Wichita, KS



## Pope Francis—Mercy Quotes

I think we too are the people who, on the one hand, want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, at times, like to find a stick to beat others with, to condemn others. And Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think — and I say it with humility — that this is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy.

— Homily on March 17, 2013

Jesus' attitude is striking: we do not hear the words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversation. "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again." Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God's face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience He has with each one of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, He understands us, He waits for us, He does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to Him with a contrite heart.

"Great is God's mercy," says the Psalm.

— Angelus on March 17, 2013



## Sister Death

NAME	FRATERNITY	CITY, STATE	DATE
Shirley McGhee OFS	Holy Eucharist	Independence, MO	Feb. 4, 2014
Lynda McCray OFS	Holy Eucharist	Independence, MO	Mar.19, 2014
Gene Rowe OFS	St. Stanislaus-St. Adalbert	Broken Arrow, OK	August 22, 2014
Paul Breitenstein	St. Elizabeth	Leawood, KS	October 21, 2014

(Please let Alice know of any deaths in your respective fraternities.)

## Regional Visitations, Elections & More

(dates subject to change)

Date	Fraternity	Purpose
4- 18	Little Portion Tahlequah, OK	Visitation
4- 19	St Stanislaus & St Adalbert Broken Arrow, OK	Elections
5-2	Queen of the Angels Buckner, MO	Establishment
5 (14-16)	JDP Region – Spiritual Assistants, Broken Arrow, OK	Spiritual Assis- tants Training with Sylvia Paoli
5-17	Servants of Divine Mercy, Stillwater, OK	Visitation
5-30	St. Frances Cabrini Liberal, KS @ Hays, KS	Visitation
5-31	St. Joseph, Hays, KS	Elections
7-26	St. Elizabeth's, Leawood, KS	Elections
8-8	Our Lady of Sorrows Olathe, KS	Visitation
8 (27-30)	National Formation Workshop, Independence, MO	NAFRA Work- shop
10-11	Holy Eucharist, Independence, MO	Visitation
10 (13-18)	NAFRA Chapter New Jersey	Chapter of Elections
11-8	Sacred Heart Emporia, KS	Visitation

Don't forget to provide a stipend to your regional visitators.

**National Formation Workshop to be held in Independence this August**

From August 27 through August 30, the National Formation Commission is conducting a workshop for all Regional Formation Directors throughout the United States. This is scheduled to take place at the Franciscan Prayer Center, Independence, MO. Janice Keeley, JDP Regional Formation Director, is invited to attend.



Our Lady of Sorrows Fraternity members Nick Novello, Sherry McAuliffe and Mike Crevoiserat (partially shown) lead members in the Rite of Candidacy for Carol Ridder (pictured left). The Rite took place in 2014 in the Chapel of Prince of Peace Church, Olathe, Kansas and was followed by a reception for all members.



### Holy Eucharist Welcomes 13 new Inquirers

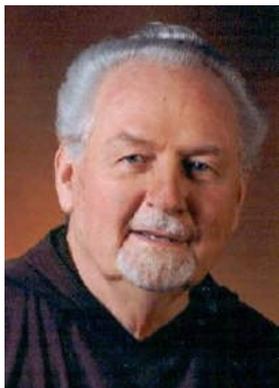
The Holy Eucharist Fraternity in Independence, Mo announces the beginning of another group of Inquirers. The first class took place January 11, 2015. The class precedes the Professed Members Gathering which all the class members also attend.

This class is comprised of 13 members who come from many backgrounds and many life experiences. Some travel a long distance to join us. Each has a never ending love for Christ, His Church, and His people! They express a deep desire to learn about the treasure that Secular Franciscan membership offers.

The Inquirers as well as the whole formation team ask for your prayers, and that the Holy Spirit will guide them with all graces as they progress through this journey.

Peace, Joy and all good,  
Secular Franciscans of the Holy Eucharist  
Formation Team

## Father Angelus Shaughnessy Annual Regional Retreat Director June 26-28, 2015



Father Shaughnessy OFM Cap. will be the retreat director for the Juan de Padilla annual retreat held for the first time in Independence, MO. Father Shaughnessy has given retreats all over the United States for both lay and religious groups.

Father grew up in a large Catholic family. He was quite an athlete in his youth and turned

down an offer to play professional baseball as a left-handed pitcher for the Cleveland Indians to enter the Capuchins where he professed his perpetual vows as a Capuchin Friar. He became a priest in 1955.

From 1956 until 1966, Father Angelus served as the Director of the Secular Franciscan Order (S.F.O.) in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. During that same period, he was Commissary Provincial for the St. Augustine Province.

Father has had numerous experiences in his life from being a missionary in Papua, New Guinea to serving as the Minister General to the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word. At the present time, Father is the National Executive Director of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers, in Pittsburgh, PA.

Please plan on attending the first ever regional retreat in Independence, MO, the location of the Franciscan Prayer Center and the home of one of our two regional apostolates, the **Franciscan Mission Warehouse**.



Fr. Shaughnessy's parents were both Secular Franciscans. The Franciscan Coat of Arms stands out prominently on their unique tombstone in Saint Cecilia's Cemetery, Rochester, Pennsylvania.



### Newly Emerging St. Frances Cabrini Fraternity

by Eva Hickman

St. Frances Cabrini, a newly forming fraternity in Liberal, Kansas, added three Inquirers last fall— Matilda

Scheurer, Martha Brown, and Stanley Cordova. They were welcomed to the fraternity by the St. Joseph fraternity, Hays, Kansas council members. They were Fr. Felix Petrovsky, OFM Cap., Minister Geri Rupp, Formation Director Jorge Vazquez, and Counselor at Large Brenda Lager. Also attending from Liberal were candidates Fr. Jim Dieker, Eva Hickman, and professed member Chris Hickman, OFS.

They participated in the Ceremony of Welcome at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Cathedral in Dodge City, Kansas. A lesson on the San Damiano cross was given by Jorge, and a Mass was celebrated by Fr. Jim. All shared lunch after at Montana Mikes restaurant.

St. Frances Cabrini and St. Joseph fraternities are planning a retreat, and to celebrate the Rite of Admission with these new members. This will be in May at the Capuchin Spiritual Life Center in Victoria, Kansas. St. Frances Cabrini fraternity will also be receiving their first regional visitation from Alice Crews and Father Scully at that same time to determine their readiness for emerging.