



## HOLY FAMILY FRATERNITY

Secular Franciscan Order  
PO Box 4652  
Manassas, VA 20101

FAITH - HOPE - CHARITY

Next Meeting:  
Saturday, February 10th  
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
Meeting Room #1

### ALMOST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2018

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & EVENTS – Updated

*Keep this handy so that each month you will know  
where to go and what we're doing! See you there!*

Saturday, February 10 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Meeting: Formation Ltr of St. Clare to Blessed Agnes
Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Meeting: Formation St. Clare writings

#### Days to Remember:

##### **Valentines Day**

Wednesday, February 14

##### **Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, February 14

##### **Lent**

Thursday, February 15 - March 24

##### **St. Patricks Day**

Saturday, March 17

##### **Holy Week** – March 25 to March 31

**Palm Sunday**, March 25

**Maunday Thursday**, March 29

**Good Friday**, March 30

**Holy Saturday**, March 31

**EASTER, APRIL 1**



This is an excerpt from [Thomas of Celano](#), *The Life of [Saint Francis](#)*, it expresses the Franciscan idea of ongoing conversion.

Of Francis, Thomas of Celano wrote:

"Francis burned with a great desire to return to his earliest steps toward humility; rejoicing in hope because of his boundless love, he planned to call his body back to its original servitude, although it had now reached its limit. He cut away completely the obstacle of all cares and silenced the noise of all concerns. When he had to relax this rigor because of illness, he used to say: "Let us begin, brothers, to servethe Lord God, for up until now we have done little or nothing." He did not consider that he had already attained his goal, but tireless in pursuit of holy newness, he constantly hoped to begin again."





## A FRANCISCAN PRAYER FOR LENT

God of Mercy, we are your new creation, made in your image and destined for eternal life with you,  
so we pray:

Give us hearts to praise you and voices to proclaim you  
**that your glory may be known throughout all the earth.**

Give us the courage to work for a world of justice, love, and peace  
**that your Spirit may be alive in the hearts of all people.**

Give us the true spirit of prayer and contemplation  
**that we may give you due thanks and praise for your holy presence at work in the world around us.**

Turn our minds and wills completely to you  
**that we may choose always what is good and pleasing to you and witness to your loving kindness.**

"Gracious God, nourish us with your words and challenge us with your grace. In this holy season of Lent, may we open our hearts and minds to you and receive your holy will without reserve. Thus may we follow faithfully in the footprints of Jesus, our brother, who goes before us to our eternal home. We ask this in his name. Amen."

### Prayer for those in our fraternity:

- ♥ For the intentions of the Holy Father and for religious vocations.
- ♥ For three friends with cancer.
- ♥ For conversion for two relatives.
- ♥ Joe: for the conversion of family members.
- ♥ Mary Lynn: Special intentions for peaceful work situation. For Norman J. Takac.
- ♥ For healing of grandson.
- ♥ For healing of daughter-in-law and sister-in-law.
- ♥ For cure of cancer for Chris Baker.
- ♥ For Joseph Gregory and family.
- ♥ For the poor, sick and helpless.



Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. *Daniel 9:18*