



Holy Family Fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order
PO Box 4652
Manassas, VA 20101



Faith - Hope - Charity

ALMOST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018

Saturday, August 11 th	Pilgrimage to Holy Land Monastery D.C. Details below
Saturday, September 8 th	9:00 am Chapel Holy Hour 10:00 – 1:30 Regular Meeting/Formations
Wednesday, October 3 rd	7:00 pm Transitus - Chapel 8:00 pm Reception - Narthex
Saturday, October 20 th	9:30 – Noon Regular Meeting/Formations

Our Pilgrimage this Saturday!

From our Minister,
Peggy Gregory OFS

Our pilgrimage is Saturday (8/11)! We are most grateful to Father Kevin for the privilege of having a Mass in the chapel, as well as his company and guidance during our visit to the Monastery.

Thank you to all who have responded to let me know who can attend. We will:

- meet at All Saints at 8:00 AM in front of the PAC (*except those driving separately*)
- celebrate Holy Mass at 10:00 with Father Kevin in the Portiuncula replica chapel located to the left of the church.
- tour the monastery and the grounds
- enjoy lunch in the monastery dining room after the tour, thanks to Father Kevin's generosity. (*Be sure to bring your own lunch, beverages are available in the dining room*).

The head count thus far is 15: (Names in **orange** would like to ride with someone.)

Jeanne Davis
Deacon Brian, Susan, and Brian Majewski
Dave Scoffone
Maryellen and Jerry Shea
Mary Lynn and Veronica Pitts
Tim and Mary Jo Smith
Elizabeth Starr
Mary and Joe Harkins
Myself

And if you are able to offer a ride, please let me know. If you are coming, but your name isn't on the list, please let me know at Margaret.a.gregory@gmail.com or call her at 703-963-0506



INTERRUPTIONS

A reflection from Bro. Bob, OFM- Conventual

Many of us have experiences like that. We know what it is like to be interrupted, life just refuses to unfold the way we had planned. Mothers of small children may know better than most of us with wide-awake nights and sleepy mornings, and children who always seem to want attention at the most inconvenient moment.

It would seem that interruptions are part of what it means to be human. They come to all of us. Some are minor while others are far more serious; like when all your plans for the future are blown away when you are told that, after 20 years with the company, they are going out of business- interruption! Or after years of married life, your spouse says I want a divorce, and you have to rethink the rest of your life – interruption!

No one is exempt from this: it seems to come to all of us at some time or another. Jesus had to deal with interruption, it happened over and over again.

Jesus invited His disciples to an isolated place for some R and R, but an unexpected crowd spoiled the plan. What was supposed to be a day of rest and recuperation turned into a day of hard work, and that twist of fate gave us a demonstration of how Jesus dealt with interruption.

Unlike many of us, He did not resent and resist it. Mark tells us that when He saw the crowd, His first reaction was pity. These people were imposing on His time, it was supposed to be time off, He deserved a rest and He tried to take one, but the throng beat Him and His disciples to the retreat site. An insensitive crowd took over His day so Jesus surveyed the situation, accepted the way it was, and went to work.

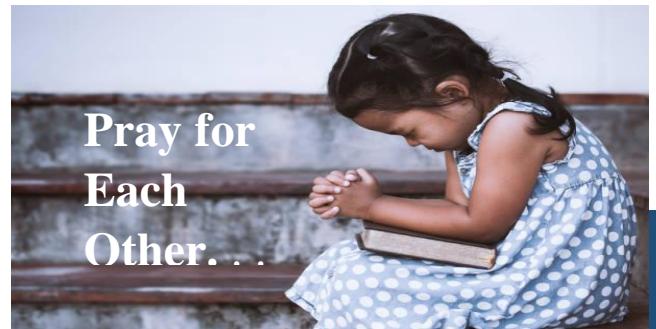
The crowd reminded Him of sheep without a shepherd, they did not know where to go or what to do. His pity quickly turned to action. Mark tells us He began to teach them at great length. We do not know the content of that day's lesson, but seeing the situation and given what we know of Jesus, I think we can make an educated guess. My guess is that He taught these people who they were and how important they were to God. That no matter what they had done or how they had lived, God cared for them and wanted to be their shepherd.

Jesus was people-conscious, but He did make enemies. Enemies of the powerful because he put compassion above tradition, love above law, and people above things and institutions.

How do we deal with interruptions, especially from people we hardly know or do not even like? People who may need only a smile or a touch? Everywhere we go we see people like sheep without a shepherd: some will be lost in hatred, some in cynicism, some in fear.

In spite of our own shortcomings, our own weakness, will we allow ourselves to be used? Will we interrupt our busy lives long enough to let them know that no matter what, God cares just by showing them that we care? Can we be extensions of Christ? When dealing with others, can your motto be the words of consecration of the mass: this is My body, given for you.

Pray for
Each
Other...



For Peggy's son, Joe, going for treatment for ALS. Also, for his wife, Mel, who has a large ovarian cyst. Please pray that it is not cancer; please pray for the extended family during this time.

For Jeanne's health.

For family. A "praise God" report.

For the successful sale of our son and daughter-in law's house.

Joe – Safe travels for children and grandchildren this summer, and for family conversions.

For Brian and Leslie Shea, for a quick sale of their house.

Majewskis – for our safe travel to St. Louis; for our son, James, in Poland; for complete and speedy healing of our son Brian's hand/wrist.

Rita – A praise report to our Lord. Continued prayers that family draws nearer to Jesus

Together we pray for the poor, sick and needy in the world.

We pray for all in our fraternity family who can not be with us now; that all is well with them and their families, and that they will be back soon.

