



HOLY FAMILY FRATERNITY

Secular Franciscan Order
PO Box 4652
Manassas, VA 20101

FAITH - HOPE - CHARITY



ALMOST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY 2018

Saturday, August 11 th	Pilgrimage to Holy Land Monastery D.C. 10:00 am
Saturday, September 8 th	Regular Meeting 9:30 am

Advice From Franciscan Friars of the Holy Name Province

This article was written April 2013 from the Franciscan Friars from the Holy Name Province. It's wisdom and advice continues to hold for today as we find a turbulent world.

As Christians, especially within the Catholic Tradition, we have a responsibility to address the reality of war and it's devastation with a movement for peace and reconciliation among the nations. This movement is our priority. Our priority begins for us with prayer.

We gather to pray not for the political victory of one over another, nor to canonize political ideologies or manners of governance. We gather not to recognize the righteous from the unrighteous. We gather trusting in God that conflict may cease, life may be preserved, and that reconciliation among the nations may be the victor.

We pray as well that tyranny may not triumph. But at the same time we beg for forgiveness for the evil that emerges from the depths of human heart. We ask forgiveness from God for the ludicrousness of having to enter military confrontation in order to re-attain order. We beg forgiveness from God for global or nationalistic systems that dehumanize and demoralize and that beget a rift between peoples which is fostered by material inequalities.

continued

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, August 11th

Pilgrimage to Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in DC
Carpooling from All Saints info to follow

Wednesday, October 3rd

TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS
7:00 pm in the Chapel
at All Saints Catholic Church

Saturday, November 10th

Annual Holy Family Fraternity Open House
9:30 am to noon

A Laugh a Day!

Three priests — a Jesuit, an Augustinian, and a Franciscan – happen upon a time machine and travel back to the time of Christ.

There, they find the Holy Family outside their home, and a 14-year-old Jesus.

The Augustinian goes to Mary and says, "Mary, let us go celebrate Mass and pray together."

The Franciscan goes to Jesus and says, "Jesus, let us go and play together."

The Jesuit goes straight to Joseph's side, puts his arm around him, and says, "So where are you thinking of sending Jesus to college?"



Fear not, I am with you always...
Isaiah 41:10

Continued from front page

- ✠ Joseph Gregory
- ✠ Special Intention: Mary Lynn Norman J Takac
- ✠ Our homebound members: Peter, Barbara, Carol
- ✠ For the conversions in my family and for spiritual and physical healing of relatives and friends (Joe)
- ✠ Erin Shea Bourassas and Baby Genevieve Faustina Bourassas (Shea's grandchild) born June 3rd
- ✠ Mike Hudak and Deacon O'Connell on their anniversaries
- ✠ The health and care of Rita's elderly father
- ✠ For Rita's family the God continues to draw them close
- ✠ For the newly ordained priests of Arlington Diocese
- ✠ For the Holy Father's intentions

The emotional, spiritual, psychological and physical costs of war are so insurmountable, and their effects so indelible. Thus, we pray for all those who are effected by war, both military and civilian populations. We pray for those who are injured in battle or in collateral mishaps. We pray for those who have died: those who met their demise because of misguided agendas that took advantage of the ideological zeal of youth; those whose lives were offered because they understood the importance of defending the integrity of a just world.

We pray for no other greater reason than to say to God: "Your Will Be Done" and not ours. According to our belief God's will is rooted in Peace, as the psalmist says: "I will hear what the Lord has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people and his friends." (Ps. 84:9 Grail Translation).

<https://hnp.org/communications/articles-and-speeches/>



Lay Franciscans Around the World

St. Francis welcomed a married couple, Luchesio and Buonadonna, into the Franciscan movement and wrote a rule from which they could draw inspiration and order for the Franciscan life. They were called Brothers and Sisters of Penance and lay Catholics for nearly 800 years have made a life commitment and become members of what is called the Secular Franciscan Order ('secular' meaning that we are embedded in world'). There are some 15,000 Catholic Secular Franciscans in the US, and about 400,000 around the world. Episcopalians formed the Third Order Society of St. Francis in 1950, and other Christians have joined the Franciscan movement since then.

The ecumenical lay Franciscan family:

Catholic: www.nafra-sfo.org

Episcopal: www.tssf.org

Lutheran: www.lutheranfranciscans.org

Ecumenical: www.franciscans.com

Lay Franciscans have made a mark on history for social justice along with many amazing sisters and friars. Anyone interested in learning more can call 1.800.FRANCIS to be directed to the nearest fraternity. Our Lay Franciscan Champions of Justice Series currently features Matt Talbot among a list of lay Franciscan women and men that include Dante, St. Thomas More, St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Elizabeth of Portugal.



Loving Each Other More Deeply. . .

We are brothers and sisters in St. Francis; yet many of us have met later in life and know little about the lives we have led. From time to time our newsletter will share the stories of our members. One by one, let's get to know and love each other more deeply.

Peter Askin, OFS

Profession: October 4, 2003



Faith, love, compassion, humility are words that describe virtues that we in OFS aspire to live. These words truly describe our brother, Peter Askin. He was professed as OFS fifteen years ago, but in truth has lived in Franciscan way throughout his life.

Peter and Gloria (his wife) have recently celebrated 64 years of marriage. Peter's May birthday brought him to see his 89th birthday! Together, they have accomplished so many incredible things in this life and have been faithful to our Lord through their Catholic faith.

Peter is a humble man and has lived life with trials and joys as we all do. He was born in South Dakota near an Indian Reservation to a strict Irish Catholic, rancher father and loving mother. Along the way, his father changed his career to running livestock auctions, and his mother was his right hand in keeping the books and helping to manage the business. Sadly, his father passed away at a young age, leaving his wife (age 40) with two young sons. Peter was 11 and his brother was 9 years old. Being a faithful and strong woman and good at her job; she was asked to help with livestock auction in Miles City, Montana, where they moved. Sometimes it was difficult, yet through the grace of God, all got along well.



Peter had always had an affinity for the name Francis – his dad's middle name, and for Franciscans because of humility and had even aspired to become a friar. He chose not to because of his devotion to his mother and did not want to leave her. Eventually he went away to college where he majored in international relations. Following he entered the Army and served in the anti-aircraft artillery. He was assigned to guard the Canadian/US border in Upper Michigan. While stationed there he met a lovely Italian Yooper girl, Gloria Colli. Yooper is the term for locals of the upper peninsula of Michigan. With his usual humor, Peter says "she was a challenge!" Eventually they married in 1954 at Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.



After the military, Peter began a career as a civil servant. Beginning in the early 1960s, he spent many years working in the foreign service with the Agency for International Development (AID). He didn't know it then, but in this service his Franciscan spirituality was lived through his occupation helping the poor in many ways both as a whole and individually in these impoverished countries. He

remembers, "In El Salvador there were many humble, peasant people who were exploited by the rich and a corrupt government."



Together they traveled for his work in Latin America – including Guatemala, El Salvador, and Paraguay, to name a few. They both speak fluent Spanish. Titles Peter held through these years include Mission Director, and Head of the Central America desk. Finally, Peter worked as a consultant on these matters for many years.



Early on Gloria became ill in Central American. Together they made the difficult decision that Gloria would stay in the US while Peter went overseas for his work. They began their family in 1956 with the birth of their son Mark, then Daniel in 1957, Marie in 1958, Patrick in 1959, and Kevin in 1965. Gloria had her hands full. "I learned to become independent and take care of things by myself," Gloria says. In humor, Peter responds, "My time away made her independent. Now I have no control."



L to R: Mark, Patrick, Kevin, Gloria, Peter, Marie, and Daniel

the church for many years. Gloria was involved in the Legion of Mary. It was in Florida at St. Helen's Parish that Peter was professed to the OFS. Following they moved back to Virginia, when Peter transferred to our Holy Family Fraternity.

We all love Peter and have enjoyed his witty sense of humor. Knowing them now, I see that they both share a lively sense of humor, which keeps us all smiling. Recently in fraternity we were discussing marriage. Peter recalls, "I asked my wife if she'd like to renew our wedding vows? She replied, "Why, we've hardly used our old ones!"

Peter is a treasure to our Franciscan family. We will pray for Peter's well being as he is ailing a bit due to aging. *Our dear Lord Jesus, your grace in extra measure for brother Peter and his family. Amen*

While Peter was away, Gloria would go to Michigan with the children, and maintain their home in Arlington. During the Vietnam war, she and the children went to Italy for an extended stay with her grandmother. She worked as a seamstress and made clothes in a fabric store. All this and raising five children, kept life busy and fruitful. Even now, Gloria is grateful that her children are well mannered, and speaking to each other. "I enjoyed Mother's Day so much seeing them all. They are a joy to see as they get along so well."

Retired in 1998, the couple lived in Alexandria, then 12 years in Florida. Peter was a lecturer in

ANNIVERSARY
Family set to recreate wedding for 60th anniversary



THEN and NOW: Peter and Gloria Askin were married on April 20, 1954 in Sault Ste. Marie. This year they will celebrate 60 years together on August 16.

Peter and Gloria (Collia) Askin will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary at the place it all happened in Sault Ste Marie on August 16. The Askin and Collia families will be properly gathering to recreate the rehearsal dinner, nuptials and reception that occurred back on April 20, 1954. Gloria is a native of Sault Ste. Marie and Peter is originally from Stugis, S.D. They currently live in Haymarket, Va. The couple has five children, 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild. Peter is a retired US Foreign Service Officer. Gloria is considered the world's greatest wife and mother.

60th Wedding anniversary notice for the Askins.