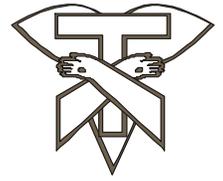


# Good News Report



## Secular Franciscan Order Trillium Regional Fraternity

Number 55

Summer 2010

### Minister's Letter Michel Guilmette, ofs



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As I write this we are well into summer and all its glory. The good God has blessed us with perfect weather this year; our gardens have never done so well. It has been a wonderful season so far for growth. There has been enough rain and sunshine to greatly help our efforts gardening. All the plants that make up our gardens are growing well and the vegetables we have harvested are quickly being renewed.

Our fraternities are like our gardens, to live and prosper they need to grow and renew themselves. Not to do so will lead to stagnation and eventually death. The good God supplies our fraternities with the light of the Holy Spirit and showers us with blessings to help us grow and renew ourselves. We are not however without our own tasks. We must work with Our Lord to help our fraternities to grow and renew themselves. Not to do so will eventually lead to the demise of our fraternities.

The past few years our fraternities have shown me many things and richly blessed me. Our fraternities have been rich channels of the Lord's Peace and Goodness. We have so much to offer this world we live in today. The Franciscan movement is perhaps more relevant today than it has ever been. Our world is in great need of loving stewardship and we have many of the answers the world needs. If we are true to our Franciscan roots we will not hide this lamp under a bushel but we will set it in the highest place so that everyone can benefit from its light. We must be visible so all will see the Light the Lord has entrusted to our Order. We are only visible when we become the hands, the mouth and the feet of Our Lord. We must do the work of the Lord and follow the Franciscan command to rebuild the Church. If we do this Our Lord will give us the Brothers and Sisters we need to do the work He wills us to do. We are an active

Order; and not a contemplative one. If we are to grow we must be true to ourselves.

This September we will have a one-day retreat/conference to help us understand part of our work. I have noticed over the years that those fraternities that are prospering are those fraternities that are active in the life of the Church. In the morning we will pray with and look at Franciscan spirituality surrounding social justice and peace. In the afternoon we will have members of some of our growing and thriving fraternities tell us how they have become visible and active in their world. It is my hope that we will end the day with new ideas and a renewed sense of who we are and what we need to do in order to live and grow in our Franciscan Life.

God's Blessing to all,

*Michel Guilmette ofs*

**Note:** The retreat will be at the Franciscan Centre, Orangeville, on Sat. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

### Spiritual Assistant's Letter. Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv.



Summer is here. A time when we can relax and enjoy the beautiful weather. For some that may include sitting in the garden at home or at the cottage reading those books you just hadn't had time to get to. Recently I went to the SFO International website and was pleasantly surprised to find a new section on their web page: Ongoing Formation Project. This Project has a monthly theme that one can use for personal reading and reflection or for the ongoing formation at the monthly meeting of the fraternity. This year the Project is focusing on a central and important theme for Secular Franciscans: "profession in the SFO".

The monthly ongoing formation is divided into three sections. Section one is a taken from Fr. Felice Cangelose' keynote address to the 2008 General Chapter entitled *Profession in the SFO: Gift and Commitment.*

Each month a segment of his talk is presented with two or three reflection questions. Section two is a spiritual section that deals with a topic relating to the liturgical season and has some questions to reflect on. The Third section deals with the social doctrine of the Church. Each month this section looks at a segment of Pope Benedict's Message for World Day of Peace 2010 entitled "If you want to cultivate peace, protect creation". This section also provides some reflection questions for the reader.

The Ongoing Formation Project has some very good material for reading during the summer months or for ongoing formation throughout the year. The material can be found at the International website, [www.ciofs.com](http://www.ciofs.com)

I would like to end with a poem that is part of the first month's reflections. Perhaps this poem will inspire you to look up the Ongoing Formation Project.

*A Poem by Annie Johnston Flint*

*Christ has no hands but our hands to do His  
work today  
He has no feet but our feet to lead men in the  
way  
He has no tongue but our tongue to tell men  
how He died  
He has no help but our help to bring them to  
His side.*

*We are the only Bible the careless world will  
read,  
We are the sinner's gospel; we are the  
scoffer's creed;  
We are the Lord's last message, given in word  
and deed;  
What if the type is crooked? What if the print  
is blurred?*

*What if our hands are busy with other work  
than His?  
What if our feet are walking where sin's  
allurement is?  
What if our tongue is speaking of things His  
lips would spurn?  
How can we hope to help Him or welcome His  
return?*

*Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv.*

**Trillium Certificates**

For Trillium Certificates to mark professions, anniversaries of profession & Service Recognition for Spiritual Assistants, (usually 5 year milestones) please contact:

**Cathy Kruger, ofs** Phone# 905-732-7479  
782 Cope Road or  
Welland, ON L3B 5N7 [ckruger@iaw.com](mailto:ckruger@iaw.com)

Please apply in good time if you wish to have them on the profession day or anniversary date.



**New Initiative:  
Justice and Peace**

by Louise Arruda, TRF Treasurer

**Justice, Peace and Human  
Trafficking: July 2010**

*Secular Franciscans work for freedom from all  
forms human trafficking.*

**What is Human Trafficking?**

**Human trafficking is a term that reflects modern day slavery in many forms. The UN defines Human Trafficking as follows:**

*"The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth [above] shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth [above] have been used."*

On a global scale, the victims of human trafficking are used in a variety of situations, including forced labour, child labour (for purposes which include labor, military, adoptions, and commercialized sexual exploitation of children), sexual slavery, commercialized sexual exploitation, and other forms of involuntary servitude. Organized crime is directly involved in supporting, encouraging, and engaging this evil in all its forms.

As Secular Franciscans, we are called to seek peace and justice in the world. Like St. Francis, we are called to both a life of prayer and a life of serving the poor in the world. Our way of life, according to the Rule, reflects this particularly in the following sections.

**"Rule10.** United themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed his will into the Father's hands, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstances of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to him even in difficulties and persecutions." and

**"Rule15.** Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith."

The ongoing question for each of us remains, HOW can we work effectively against Human Trafficking and the poverty that makes it possible?

Fortunately, as Secular Franciscans, we are part of a very large Franciscan Family that includes all Catholic Franciscans. We both learn from and teach each other as the Holy Spirit leads us.

Franciscans International is working at the UN and in specific regions and countries. On June 10 2010, FI co-hosted a side event at the UN Human Rights Council. This focused on how to ensure that victim-centered human trafficking responses are rights based in practice. See the FI web-site for details.

**([www.franciscansinternational.org](http://www.franciscansinternational.org))**

Our International, National and Regional councils also work to provide forums for exchange of ideas and sharing of practices so that we, in Fraternity, may see and serve Christ in the world.

Therefore, in this, my first article in the Justice and Peace section of our newsletter, I would like to ask all fraternities to consider seriously how

we, as Secular Franciscans can and do support the work against Human Trafficking.

How do we act in the world to reduce its main underlying cause, poverty?

Many Fraternities in the Trillium Region are doing wonderful work in support of the poor.

Let us share these practical initiatives. Let us share ideas about what our fraternities may be eager to embrace in support of justice and peace and particularly against human trafficking. Please forward your Fraternities' ideas and experiences to me. [larruda1@sympatico.ca](mailto:larruda1@sympatico.ca)

Your responses will hopefully form a basis for using this section of the Newsletter to share our experiences of being the Face of Christ in the world just as Francis was.

Peace and All Good

*Louise Arruda, ofs*

**Good News Report** is the official newsletter of the Secular Franciscan Order, Trillium Region. We aim to publish it in the middle to the end of **September, December, March & June.**

Any items you wish to include are warmly welcomed and will be published space permitting. Articles may be sent by the **8<sup>th</sup> of the month of publishing, to Newsletter Editor, Cathy Kruger, ofs at 782 Cope Road, Welland, ON L3B 5N7 905-732-7479 or [ckruger@iaw.com](mailto:ckruger@iaw.com) E-mail is preferred.**

**Note:** If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please let us know as above.

**Contact your TRF members at:**

**(Mandate 2008-2011)**

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**(Please note Colleen's corrected e-mail above).**

# Local Fraternity Bulletin Board

## About This Page

Local fraternities, please send us notice of events, (past or upcoming). This is your page.

### St Anthony of Padua fraternity gets help:

On Sat. March 27, 2010, a 20 ft container was loaded with 11 tons food and clothing for the John Paul orphanage in Peru. The fraternity was assisted by twenty confirmation students from St. Bonaventure church in Toronto and four students from the breakfast club at St. Clemens in Etobicoke. The student's enthusiasm and hard work made it fun for us all. After the work was done we had a lunch that of course included that famous young adult food called pizza.

*Jim and Mary Reid, ofs*

### Notice of Formation Directors meeting:

The GTA Formation Directors' meeting is scheduled for October 2nd at St. Philip Neri rectory meeting room from 9:00 am till 4:00 pm with mass following at 5:00 pm.; further details at a later date.

*Les Alberti, ofs,*

TRF Formation Director,

### The Transitus Celebration:

The Capuchins at St Philip Neri Church will host the Transitus at 7:00 pm, Sunday October 3rd, 2010 for our various communities. The church is at Jane St, and hwy 401 in the west end of Toronto. **All are welcome.** (Last year we went to the OFM church of St Peter's in Woodbridge.)

*David Mitchell, ofs*

### St. Joseph the Worker Fraternity:



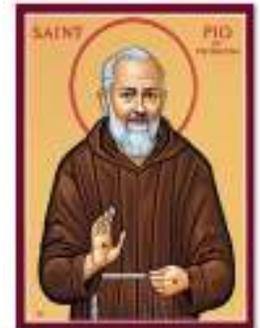
In April, Br. Allan R. Gaebel, OFM, Capuchin Friar, Theologian, Historian & past Animator of 'St. Francis Table', Toronto, brought first class relics of St. Francis and St. Pio of Pietrelcina to our Fraternity and to our Parish of St. Joseph. Br. Allan stayed with us from Friday

afternoon to Sunday afternoon. The Franciscan luncheon was beef barley soup, fresh buns, almond cookies, (St. Francis' favorite), tea, coffee and water. He also spent time with just our Fraternity and was a very interesting and informative speaker.

Br. Allan is open to traveling with the relics and is especially pleased to reach out to Franciscan fraternities.

Perhaps some other Fraternities will consider this spiritual and beautiful presentation made to us this past weekend.

*Pat Langford, ofs,*  
Past Minister of St. Joseph the Worker Fraternity.



### Profession

Congratulations go out to Mary Trent, ofs, of Sacred Heart Fraternity in Guelph who was professed into the Secular Franciscan Order on May 25, 2010.



### Obituary



**Mary Queen of Peace/Mary Mother of God Fraternity** is mourning the death of their founding member, their sister Maria Lammers, ofs, on July 4, 2010. She was born July 26, 1930, received into the Order on November 24, 1974 at Christ the King Chapel (Drop in Centre), Toronto, and Professed on July 18, 1976 at Mount Alverno, with Fr. Joe MacDonald, OFM Cap., officiating.

Maria was responsible for the founding of Mary Queen of Peace Fraternity in Carlsruhe which was canonically established by Bishop J.F. Reading on November 2, 1981. Eventually two new fraternities were formed, one in Walkerton and one in Port Elgin.

We, at our fraternity will miss Maria as she was a sound rock to lean on; she truly lived a life that was in keeping with the teaching of Francis.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maria, and for our fraternity, as we try to carry on with out her.

*Gary Agombar, ofs, Minister.*