



Minister's Report

The **June Conference 2003** was held at St. Francis Centre in Mono Mills from June 13th - 15th. There were three topics welded into the three day weekend: Feast of St. Anthony, Celebration of the 750th anniversary of St. Clare's death and of the 25th Anniversary of the Rule. 41 participants enjoyed all or part of the conference. Sister Bernadette Ward, fmm, and Sister Jacque Keefe, CSSF, each gave very good talks on St. Clare. Fr. Peter helped us to appreciate this anniversary of the Rule, and to celebrate the gift it has brought to our lives as Secular Franciscans. The Regional Council presented "Council Roles". Participants actively shared their thoughts on the spiritual and personal qualities needed for a person to fill the role of a council member.

We all experienced an enriching weekend of fraternal prayer, eucharist, sharing, good food, and meeting new people. The young people who attended added a new energy to the gatherings. They were especially helpful in setting up and helping others.

Many thanks to them and to the members of the Regional Council for all of their hard work and prayers!

It was a great privilege to attend **The Blessings of Penance Seminar** with Father Peter at St. Bonaventure University in New York. Since Fr. Peter has reported on this I will just note one thing that particularly struck me. Anne Mulqueen, ofs, said, "The Blessing of Penance is to have the Holy Spirit of God at work in us. *It is a love relationship initiated by God.*"

On Saturday, August 9th, we attended Franciscan Fest at St. Bonaventure Church in Don Mills. Two high school chaplains and myself helped with the small group sessions with youth. Events included upbeat music, crafts, a petting zoo, a nature/prayer walk through Edward Gardens, interesting speakers, Mass, reconciliation, information booths, and many people to meet. We hope to do it again next year.

In August I visited St. John Vianney Fraternity and was there for the profession of 12 candidates into the order at the closing Mass presided over by Dr. Pio Kim. The spirituality of these Korean people truly reflects Franciscan humility and hospitality. Their music is beautiful, as is their language. I enjoyed meeting and praying with them.

It is with regret that I announce that Irene Paterson has resigned as Secretary of the TRF Council due to ill health. Irene MacIvers has graciously accepted to help us in the role of Secretary at the September 13th meeting. The TRF Council would like to thank Irene Paterson for her dedication and work in her short term as secretary, and to assure her of our prayers.

Sister Daria Mitchell has confirmed her participation in the **Fall Retreat** at St. Francis Centre. Friday night is not available for overnight, so we will begin the retreat on Saturday morning, and stay overnight until Sunday evening.

Debbie Tessier, ofs Minister.



Message from our Spiritual Advisor, Father Peter Knaapen, O.F.M.

During the summer Debbie Tessier, our Regional Minister, and I were fortunate to be able to attend the Fr. Bob Stewart Memorial Seminar at St. Bonaventure University. The Seminar was entitled "The Blessing of Penance, Our Past, Our Future". The Seminar was a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Pauline Rule. Fr. Bob died of cancer a few years ago. His doctoral dissertation was on the development of the present Rule. He develop it into a Book: The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order: Origins, Development, Interpretation. It is available from the Franciscan Institute.

All the speakers were terrific. Half the presenters were Secular Franciscans. Fr. Michael Cusato, OFM, gave a great presentation on *Facere penitentium*. This Latin phrase comes from the Gospel passage of Jesus "repent, (*facere penitentium*) for the kingdom of God is at hand." He pointed out this phrase was not meant by either Jesus or Francis as a passive command. It is not just an 'I'm sorry for my sins' and will make up for them. Rather it is a very positive and active command. Do penance. Do change. Do whatever you need to become more like the Lord. In order words to do penance is the daily challenge to change, to become more like Christ and to do alone can to make the kingdom of God truly present in ones words and deeds. That is truly the blessing of penance.

Sr. Margaret Carney in her presentation encouraged us to reflect on the prologue to our Rule. It is St. Francis exhortation to us on how 'do penance.' The first part of it is entitled 'concerning those who do penance. Francis in the second paragraph says: "oh, how happy and blessed are those men and women when they do these things and persevere in doing them."

As we continue to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rule and as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis let us read and reflect on the prologue to the Rule. Let it be for us the 'blessing of penance' and the source of our daily conversion.

"Great and glorious God, bring light into the darkness of my heart and grant us a correct faith, firm hope and perfect charity. O Lord grant us the wisdom to know and do your holy will."

Special Announcement!

Sockee Mendiola, ofs, has opened a Christian Bookstore in Mississauga.

St. Joseph's Workshop

259 Traders Blvd. E. Unit #12
Mississauga, ON
L4Z 2E5

Phone: 905-568-8777

Fax: 905-568-2676

E-mail: stjowksp@sympatico.ca

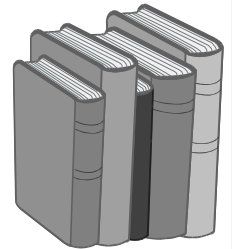
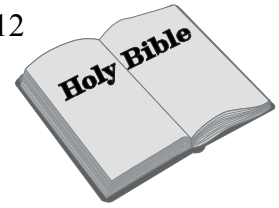
Office hours are:

Mondays: 1p.m. - 6 p.m.

Tuesdays: Noon - 6 p.m.

Wed. Thu. & Fri: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturdays: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.



Sockee will be stocking Franciscan books such as *Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ*.

Prayer Network

Rita Siekjerko, ofs, who works part time at **St. Joseph's Workshop**, has started a prayer network. People who come to the store may write their prayer intentions in a book. Usually when a page is full Rita will e-mail them out to those on her list. The TRF suggests that anyone who has e-mail and is interested may contact Rita at RSiekherko@aol.com

FORMATION

The Trillium Regional Council, at the Conference in June 2003, presented the new book by Lester Bach, OFM Cap. and Teresa Baker, SFO, *Come and See*, as a valuable resource for orientation and inquiry formation. More on this will be addressed in the coming months.

If you would like more information, or if you have any concerns of questions regarding formation, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kay Craig

Trillium Regional Formation Director,

Ph. 905-354-8451

E-mail kcraig70@cogeco.ca

Certificates

For Trillium Certificates to mark professions and anniversaries of profession, please contact:

Cathy Kruger
782 Cope Phone# 905-732-7479
Welland, ON or
L3B 5N7
ckruger@hotmail.com

Since certificates are signed by both the Minister and Spiritual Assistant please apply in good time if you wish to have them on the profession day or anniversary date.

Ongoing Formation

#1 The Franciscan family, as one among many spiritual families raised up by the Holy Spirit in the Church, unites all members of the people of God - laity, religious, and priests - who recognize that they are called to follow Christ in the footsteps of Saint Francis of Assisi.

In various ways and forms but in life-giving union with each other, they intend to make present the charism of their common Seraphic Father in the life and mission of the Church.

Reflection thoughts:

How does St. Francis help me follow Christ?

The different Franciscan orders seem to need various ways to follow St. Francis. What are they? Why?

Am I answering the call to “*Rebuild My Church*”?



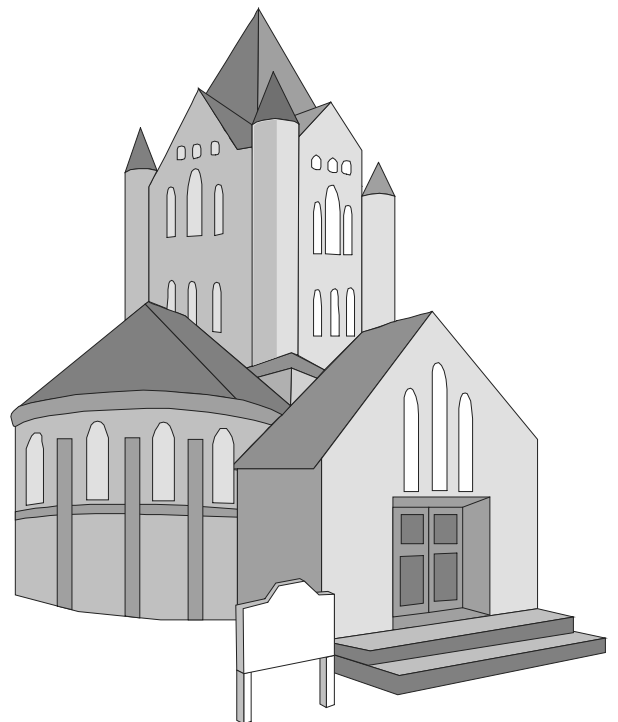
Fall Retreat



The Trillium Regional Council will be holding a retreat at St. Francis Centre at Mono Mills from Saturday, Nov. 1st to Sunday Nov. 2nd. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Registration forms have been mailed to all Fraternity Ministers. Depending on your registration choice, cost will range from \$50.00 to \$150.00. There is also a \$10.00 late fee after October 12th. For more information please contact your Minister or any Trillium Council member.

Sister Daria Mitchell will give four conferences on the ***Spirituality of St. Clare***. Sr. Daria comes highly recommended by her former teacher and the author of ***The First Franciscan Woman: Clare of Assisi and Her form of Life***, Margaret Carney, OSF.

Sr. Daria will give four spiritual conferences on St. Clare. There will be opportunities for a prayer walk, reconciliation, and honouring All Saints and All Souls on their feast days.



Local Fraternity Bulletin Board

Congratulations!

Congratulations go out to St. Charles Borromeo Fraternity for the celebration of Profession for seven new members on December 1st, 2002. They are:

Les Alberti

Margit Alberti

Veronica Francis

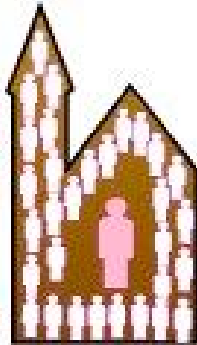
Myma Hutchison

Mary Ngui Chin Taite

Agnes Passee

Teresita Marcarayan

"You, the
living
stones, are
being built
into a
spiritual
house."
1 Peter 2:5



Editor's note:

Sincere apologies for the delay in printing this notice.

More Congratulations!

On August 24th, 2003, twelve Franciscans made their Profession into the Secular Franciscan Order, in the St. John Vianney Fraternity. This celebration took place at the Queen of Apostles Renewal Center in Mississauga. Father Pio Kim said the Mass and Catherina Kim was Formator.

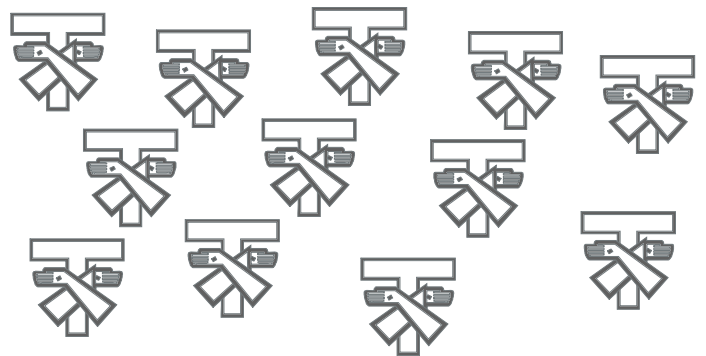
Welcome and blessings to:

Lucas Un Kyung Paik, Maria So Ja Park

Martin Yong Bum Park, Thersa In Sook Wang

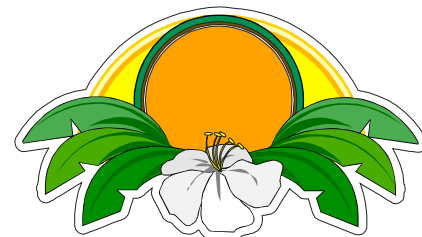
Francisco Hyun Soo Shin, Angela Jong Sook Kang

Dominico Hee Baeg Kang, Lucilla Hye Ja Kang



Joke Corner

An elderly man took his grandson for a walk around the local cemetery. Pausing before one gravestone he said, "There lies a very honest man. He died owing me 50 dollars, but he struggled to the end to pay off his debts, and if anyone has gone to heaven, he has." They walked a bit further and then came to another grave. The old man pointed to the gravestone and said, "Now there's a different type of man. He owed me 60 dollars and he died without ever trying to pay me back. If anyone has gone the other way, he has." The little boy thought for a while and then said, "you know, Grandpa, you are very lucky because whichever place you go too, you'll have some money to draw on."



Editor's Note

If you have any questions, concerns or submissions please send them to Cathy Kruger, 782 Cope Rd. Welland, ON L3B 5 N7