



Pace e Bene

Peace and Good

Volume 6 Issue 8

August, 2015

Hearing God's Voice: TURN THE STUFF OFF!

Immaculate Conception
Fraternity
PO Box 132
Mishawaka,
Indiana 46546

[http://
immaculateconception.sfousa.org](http://immaculateconception.sfousa.org)

Fraternity Council

Cyndi Pilot, OFS
Minister
574-210-1224

Tim Martin, OFS
Vice Minister
574-532-8916

Timothy Short, OFS
Formation Director
574-298-8981

Monica
Higginbotham OFS
Treasurer
574-262-3923

Ruthi Carrillo, OFS
Secretary
574-703-5633

Tim Martin, OFS
Infirmarian
574-532-8916

Mary Andrews, OFS
Communications Councilor
574-288-0888

Dan Kreager
Apostolic Coordinator
574-231-8823

Agnes Marie Regan, OSF
Spiritual Assistant
574-259-5427

The Basilica of St. Francis and the Basilica of St. Clare lie just about on opposite sides of the Commune of Assisi. All day long one can observe hundreds if not thousands of pilgrims from all over the globe processing up the hill and into the silent crypt where the human remains of St. Francis lie. There they pay their homage to that beloved Saint who is respected by all peoples and all cultures. Frequently, pilgrims are reminded "silenzio" to maintain the silence needed for prayerful reflection as they file in and out hoping for an encounter with the Holy.

It is no less so up the hill and across town at the Basilica of St. Clare where the remains of St. Clare rest eternally, and pilgrims pray before the San Damiano Crucifix, meditate in the beautifully frescoed chapel and walk in and out of the silent nooks and crannies of that beautiful monument dedicated to Clare. And, yes, pilgrims are often in need of the "silenzio" reminder there as well. Yet, I'm sure the same aura of silence fills all the shrines, churches, chapels, and sites of holiness encounter with God in this loveliest of cities: the Carceri, San Damiano, St. Mary of the Angels, San Stefano, San Rufino, and all the other places where God encountered St. Francis and all those across 800 years who have visited them seeking an encounter with the Holy One.

Indeed, the places where one stands — the city of Assisi IS holy ground, but unless both the ears and the heart are silent — one hears only more of soul-numbing noises and can never hear the "sounds of silence" spoken by God to Francis, Clare, and their holy companions.

After our traditional silent walk in the woods of the Carceri on Mount Subasio, one lovely pilgrim lady sidled up to my ear and whispered, "That was the first time in my life I ever heard my own heart". Better late than never, but why wait so long to hear His voice?

One might ask, why is silence such an important topic for reflection? Just think of it: our daily lives are filled to overflowing with canned music, telephones ringing endless jingles in every conceivable place, elevator music, commercials blasting to get our attention to buy, buy, buy, and endless mindless shallow chatter that drones on and on in our everyday lives, human voices clamoring ever louder and louder hoping to be heard, radios in neighboring cars thumping so loud your own vehicle shakes. You all know what I'm talking about.

Noise even pursues us in our churches with endless verses of hymns, "travel music", homilies and readings, and a host of other "holy noises". Or as one person observed recently, "I wish everyone would be quiet so we can pray". A significant observation that makes one wonder that, if we make enough noise, "holy" or other-

wise, can we avoid hearing God's voicing trying to get our attention? Some folks think they're not praying unless they're doing the talking and God is doing the listening. Seriously, folks????

Perhaps we all need to spend some prayerful, thoughtful time reflecting on the awesome words we read in I Kings 19: 11-12: "Then [Elijah] was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before Yahweh.' For at that moment Yahweh was going by. A mighty hurricane split the mountains and shattered the rocks before Yahweh. But Yahweh was not in the hurricane. And after the hurricane, an earthquake. But Yahweh was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake, fire. But Yahweh was not in the fire. And after the fire, a light murmuring sound. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak . . ."

I'd like to suggest that each of us spend some quality time finding a HOLY place somewhere in our noise-ridden environs to enter WITHOUT cell phones, think pads, ear pods, laptops, etc. A place to FAST from noise. A place where it's possible to hear birds chirp, distant dogs barking, the wind rustling through the trees and most importantly, God trying to speak to us in the depths of our hearts. He has a message for each of us and He wishes to speak. Are you listening? Is your heart?

Calendar of Events for August, September, October 2015

August 11, 2015:	Feast of St. Clare, Virgin
August 15, 2015:	Monthly Fraternity Meeting in the Auditorium
August 16, 2015:	Picnic with St. Mary of the Angels, Dyer, Indiana; 11:30 a.m. departure from convent
August 23, 2015:	Serve Breakfast at Catholic Worker House: 7:15a.m.—10:30 a.m.
September 3, 2015:	Meeting of the Council at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Louis Parlor
September 6, 2015:	Franciscan Enrichment: Auditorium: 1:30—3:00 p.m.: Deacon Bill Gallagher, OFS, "The Church's Teaching on Homosexuality and Pastoral Suggestions
September 12, 2015:	Meeting for Formation Team Members in Kokomo, St. Joan of Arc:
September 17, 2015:	Feast of the Stigmata of Our Holy Father Francis
September 19, 2015:	Monthly Gathering in the Auditorium
September 27, 2015:	Serve Breakfast at Catholic Worker House: 7:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
October 1, 2015:	Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Louis Parlor
October 3, 2015:	Celebration of the Transitus of St. Francis: 7:00 p.m. in the Convent Chapel <i>This is a very important celebration for the entire Franciscan family. Please put it on your calendar and plan to join the sisters, friars, and all Franciscans of the northern part of Indiana for this celebration. Refreshments and fraternal sharing follow in the Auditorium. This is a Saturday night so there are very, very few excuses.</i>
October 4, 2015:	Feast of Our Holy Father Francis of Assisi, Deacon, Founder of the Three Franciscan Orders: For all Franciscans this is a Solemnity and it replaces the Sunday Cycle in all Franciscans chapels, churches, and oratories.
October 10, 2015:	Regional Executive Council Meeting at St. John of Arc. Kokomo
October 11, 2015:	Franciscan Enrichment: Pilgrimage to Shrine of the Passion of Christ, St. John Indiana
October 17, 2015:	Monthly Gathering of the Fraternity
October 24, 2015:	Regional Study Day IV at St. John of Arc in Kokomo for all in the Spiritual Assistants Formation program and those joining us for Enrichment
October 25, 2015:	Serve Breakfast at Catholic Worker House 7:15am-10:30am

Orientation: Meeting day and time to be determined
Inquiry: Presently no class
Candidacy I: Meet 3rd Friday at 4:00pm— St. Louis Room in Convent
Candidacy II: Meet 3rd Saturday at 8:30am— Auditorium
Candidacy III: Meet 3rd Saturday at 8:30am —Auditorium

Franciscan Enrichment

Sunday September 6, 2015 in the Auditorium

Deacon Bill Gallagher, OFS, "The Church's Teaching on Homosexuality and Pastoral Suggestions

Regional Study Day IV

October 24, 2015 St. Joan of Arc— Kokomo

These days are for those studying to become a Spiritual Assistant and for those just yearning for Franciscan Enrichment. Contact Sr. Agnes Marie for more info.

Franciscan Enrichment

Sunday, October 11, 2015

Pilgrimage to the
 Shrine of the Passion of Christ
 St. John, Indiana

Visit the Immaculate Conception fraternity website at: <http://immaculateconception.sfousa.org>

*My dear Brothers and Sisters,
As best as possible, I'm writing to share my experience of Profession.
First, a huge thank you to Sister Agnes Marie and to everyone for the
awesome journey of formation and for the love that allowed God's grace
filled Profession.*

*The Mass was so beautiful. At times it was like being lifted to Heaven.
The smile on Sister Agnes Marie's face during Fr. Bob's homily was
delightful. Was the music performed by people or angels? Or both? The
words of the professional promise penetrated deep into my soul. Some-
thing actually occurred with the expression of those words.*

*Sunday morning, to my surprise, I knew throughout my being of the
mark of Profession on my soul. Now I belong to God in a new way -
more fully. Or to possibly be more accurate, I now more fully grasp my
belonging to Him. This fullness has always been my destiny. Gazing
back, pieces of my life's journey clicked together, making sense in this
Franciscan wholeness.*

*A woman on an EWTN spot took her husband's hand and said, "It is
amazing, knowing that when people look at marriage, they see Jesus."
WOW! So when people see our Franciscan vocations, they see Jesus.
Vocation is a living, breathing embodiment of Jesus. More than "hav-
ing a vocation", we ARE our vocations. Vocation is FIAT. More than
saying yes, we Are Fiat. In community, we all "con-spire", breathe to-
gether -FIAT - all in God's grace and our song brings Him to the world.*

*It is true, Profession does further ignite our Baptism. The Holy Trinity is
our identity.*

Peg Salkay, OFS



Forwarded from Sr. Agnes Marie, OSF for
your laughing pleasure!

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Sarah Belisle**
Date: Thu, Jul 16, 2015 at 8:55 AM
Subject: Debugged



"The Orkin man was here on Monday. Any hope of keeping our bug woes from our neighbors went down the tubes. They said Orkin heat treatment for bugs, four HUGE propane tanks in front of the house and an industrial size fan, heavy blankets over front door and poor sweaty man coming out of the house periodically. (the house is heated to 130 degrees and has to stay at that temp for an hour) We spent the night at a very nice, comfortable, bug free motel. When we returned to the house in the morning it was still 90 degrees in the house.

We are now in the process of moving back in. Literally ALL of our belongings minus furniture is in heavy duty black plastic bags in the garage. Jen said it looked like we were moving out, Duane said it looked more like we were being evicted. Orkin left little bug traps around the baseboards of the house. They look like open squares (walk in don't walk out---that'll teach the little buggers.) The dog happened to sit down next to one and it stuck to her butt. She was walking around with it stuck to her for a little while before Duane noticed it.

Right now every day is an adventure as we bring in bags to put away due to the act that someone (me) did not label them. Duane is still looking for the bag with his underwear!!!!

Take care friends. We appreciate the prayers especially Duane since he is still alive (I didn't have to kill him). May you all stay bug-ree. Love you all."

Our Lady of the Road Outreach

The next serving date is **Sunday August 23rd**. All are invited. Please note that cooks should arrive at **7:15am** and everyone else at 8:30am. Cooks should be ready to leave at 9:30am. We want to finish up by 10:30am so people can make it to 11:00am Mass at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

At all Fraternity meetings we will be accepting monetary donations in the Red Box that will be going around the room when the Brown Bag is circulating. If you are unable to participate please feel free to make a donation toward the food. See you Sunday August 23rd at Our Lady of the Road at Bronson and Main Street!

Thank-you, Dan K

Dan Kreager- 574-231-8823 or 574-265-4857 dnkreager@gmail.com





Immaculate
Conception
Fraternity
POBox 132
Mishawaka,
Indiana
46546

[http://
immaculate-
conception.
sfousa.org](http://immaculate-conception.sfousa.org)

St. Francis
Convent,
1515
Dragoon Trail,
Mishawaka,
Indiana
(across from
Marian High
School)

For more
information please
contact any
council member.

**Our Regional Prayer
a Gift from St. Francis**

Holy Virgin Mary, among all women born into the world, there is none like you. Daughter and Handmaid of the Most High, sovereign King, the heavenly Father, Mother of our most holy Lord Jesus Christ, Spouse of the Holy Spirit. Pray for us with St. Michael the archangel and with all the powers of the heavens and with all the saints together with your most holy beloved Son, Lord and teacher.



August Birthdays, Profession Anniversaries, Death Anniversaries

Aug 5 Chantal Tate
Aug 6 Tim Short
Aug 13 Liz Dettmer
Aug 19 Jeff Shafier
Aug 29 Marcy Salkay
Aug 29 Harry Verhiley

Professions:
August 11 1961 Sr. Agnes Marie Regan OSF
August 25,1990 Sandy Waggoner

Remember in Prayer: Please pray for the mothers of Diego Delgado and Lillian Leap whose precious souls were returned to our heavenly Father in the arms of Sister Death. Continued prayers for all those who are sick and suffering. Let us remember our elderly fraternity members that aren't able to participate in person but are with us in spirit. Let us pray for all the fraternity members that couldn't be with us this month and for those members that have asked for our prayers.



Unfortunately, the January Birthdays were omitted in the January 2015 issue– The editor would like to apologize and to recognize those fraternity members now. Hope you had a joy-filled birthday and a year full of happiness ahead.

Jan 9- Neal Wozniak
Jan 17- Sarah Beiting
Jan 18- Maryann Pajot
Jan 25- Diego Delgado
Jan 28- Sr. Agnes Marie Regan OSF
Jan 30- Marge Hunkler
Jan 31- Charlie Maichen