



Clarion

NEWSLETTER

SAINT CLARE REGION

Unexpected Blessing & Joy

A few weeks ago I attended our 20th Quinquennial Congress OFS-USA in Phoenix, AZ. When I had first registered for the Q, the hotel was completely booked. This meant I had to find somewhere else to stay.

So I called a good friend of mine who lives in the Phoenix area. I explained to her the situation and she enthusiastically said, "Yes, you can stay with me!" Such generosity.

So I booked the Q, rented a car, bought the plane tickets and was all set. Later I found out that some rooms did open up at the hotel, and I thought about switching my plans, but decided to keep my 'reservation' with my friend.

Though staying with her meant I had a 35-minute drive both ways each day, my time with her was an unexpected blessing & joy! We talked about everything, including the Secular Franciscan Order. At one point, she asked me, "What exactly is the Q again?" I quickly replied, "Well, it's a Franciscan Convention & Pep Rally." She smiled and said that she'd love to come to the closing Mass with me. And she did! ... All Are Welcome.

God is good, always!

Peace, Chris Blood, OFS



*Entrance sign at St. Mary's Basilica in downtown Phoenix.
'A Franciscan Community
All are welcome!'*

Summer 2022

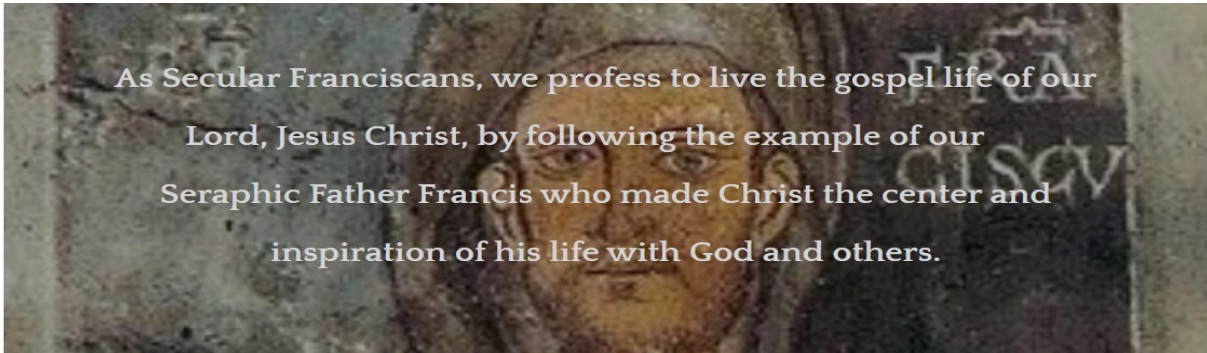
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The Secular Franciscan Order was established by St. Francis of Assisi more than 800 years ago. Our purpose is to bring the Gospel to life where we live and where we work. We look for ways to embrace the Gospel in our lives and try to help others to do likewise.

ST CLARE REGION SECULAR
FRANCISCAN ORDER USA

WELCOME OUR FRATERNITIES FORMATION CLARION NEWSLETTERS



As Secular Franciscans, we profess to live the gospel life of our Lord, Jesus Christ, by following the example of our Seraphic Father Francis who made Christ the center and inspiration of his life with God and others.

Welcome to the
St. Clare Region
of the Secular
Franciscan Order USA!

St Clare Region Website: www.stclareregionofs.org

Our Region's Website!

On our website we have information on all of our fraternities, our regional formation workshops and resources, our archived newsletters, and more!

As we continue to add and build the site, please email us to add more information on your fraternity, your formation suggestions, your newsletters...

The website is designed to be a repository for ALL of our fraternities. Let's build this together!

Followers of Francis Fraternity

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Joyful Servants Fraternity

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Monte La Verna Fraternity

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St. Joan of Arc Fraternity

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horselover.2050@yahoo.com

St. Padre Pio Emerging Fraternity

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shawnasmus@hotmail.com

St. Peter Fraternity

Minister: Roger Mueller OFS
1830 Raab Avenue
Belleville, IL 62226
618-277-5147
dmrlmueller@sbcglobal.net

SAVE THE DATE

Our Region's Annual Ministers' Gathering and National Visitation

Saturday, October 29, 2022

9am-3pm

8am Mass @ St. Peter Catholic Church in Kirwood

All are welcome!



The Tau Center

335 S. Kirkwood, MO 63122

www.fsolph.org

Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

We are thrilled that the Franciscan Sisters of our Lady of Perpetual Help will be hosting our upcoming Ministers' Gathering & National Visitation at The Tau Center. In the middle of September, the Regional Council will be sending out invitations to the minister of each fraternity. All are welcome to this meeting as this will also be a Visitation by a National Council representative.

Details to come—please mark your calendars now!

The Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be our hosts!

Visit their website and learn more about them: www.fsolph.org.

(from their website):

In fidelity we strive to be prayerful women of faith, vision and courage as we dedicate our lives to renewing all things in Christ. We have a particular focus of caring for earth, our common home. We abide by the words of Clare of Assisi, first Franciscan woman:

"What you hold, may you always hold, what you do, may you always do and never abandon. But with swift pace, light step, unswerving feet so that even your steps stir up no dust, may you go forward securely, joyfully, and swiftly on the path of prudent happiness... so that you may offer your vows to the Most High in the pursuit of that love to which the Spirit of the Lord has called you."

— St. Clare of Assisi

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN SERVICE

Election, Visitation and a Rite of Admission

Followers of Francis Fraternity

June 25, 2022



The new council for Followers of Francis Fraternity in Springfield, MO was elected on Saturday, June 25th—followed by the Rite of Admission for Neil Adams, which took place in the small chapel adjacent to St. Joseph Church in Springfield.

Pictured is the entire fraternity. Such a joyful time with such a joyful group of Franciscans! All smiles! We're looking forward to more visits in the future.

Connie Shanks (councilor) & Chris Blood (minister)



The newest Candidate, Neil Adams, (center) along with Maureen Gray (Formation Director) and Ken Livingston (Minister)

Congratulations to the 2022-2025 Council:

Minister: Ken Livingston

Vice-Minister: Mike DePue

Secretary: Barb DePue

Treasurer: Irene Livingston

Councilor: Robert Prior

Councilor: Peggy Wissmueller

Maureen Gray was reappointed by the council and continues to serve as the Director of Formation.

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN PROFESSION

Profession

St. Anthony
Of Padua
Fraternity
July 7, 2022



Charlene Muralles, OFS, was professed to our Secular Franciscan Order on July 7, 2022 at St. Anthony of Padua Church in St. Louis.

She now follows Jesus in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare.

She was all smiles and those smiles filled all present with JOY and PEACE.

Peace & All Good, Always, to you, Charlene!!!



FORMATION

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REGIONAL FORMATION WORKSHOP #3 VIA ZOOM

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022
9:30AM—12PM noon**

Theme: Gospel to Life & Life to Gospel:

Formation of the Formators: Initial Formation

Please join us for our 3rd Regional Formation Workshop on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 9:30am to 12pm noon. Our Regional Formation Director, Annapoorna Mary, along with members from the St. Joan of Arc Fraternity in Memphis, TN, will be our hosts. (34 Secular Franciscans from around the region attended our last Formation Workshop).

The Zoom Link for this is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5704848514>

And all information for this workshop can be found on our website:

www.stclareregionofs.org under the *Formation* tab.

REGIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT TRAINING

Mary Wainscott, OFS, Spiritual Assistant for St. Francis of Assisi & St. Anthony of Padua Fraternities is offering to assist anyone who feels called to learn more about or even becoming a Spiritual Assistant for your fraternity.

Please contact her at:
marywainscottofs@gmail.com
314-420-7475

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL AT THE 'Q'

The 20th Quinquennial Congress

August 3-7, 2022

Phoenix, AZ

Ten of us from the St. Clare Region were able to attend the Q this year. We were not disappointed! And as mentioned on page 9, you can go to the national website and see all the photos and videos along with the full Q program and more information.

It was a time to celebrate and renew our Franciscan calling in the spirit of conversion. St. Thomas More Region did a wonderful job welcoming and hosting all of us and the full Q Committee did an outstanding job planning and coordinating everything!

Below is the full-page ad our region had in the program.

"Because the vision of Christ is the splendor of eternal glory, the radiance of eternal light and the mirror without stain, look upon that mirror each day, O queen and spouse of Jesus Christ, and continually study your countenance within it, so that you may clothe yourself inside and out with beautiful robes and cover yourself with the flowers and garments of all the virtues, as becomes the daughter and most chaste bride of the Most High King. Indeed blessed poverty, holy humility, and ineffable charity are reflected in that mirror, and, with the grace of God, you can contemplate them throughout the entire mirror."

Written by St. Clare of Assisi to Bl. Agnes of Prague



St. Clare Region OFS USA

Belleville and Granite City, Illinois
Memphis, Tennessee
Cape Girardeau, O'Fallon, Jefferson City, Springfield and St. Louis, Missouri

www.stclareregionofs.org 2022 Franciscan Jubilee 20th Quinquennial Congress

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL AT THE 'Q'

The 20th Quinquennial Congress

Continued...

August 3-7, 2022



Members of the St. Clare Region at the Q
Front Row: Chris Blood, Jan Parker, Becky Fouts, Mary Ann Puglis
Second Row: Hugh Protzel, Bob Janota, Gloria Smith, Pat Smith, Sally Bartholomew and Deacon Joe Puglis



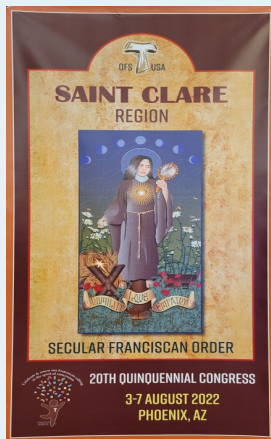
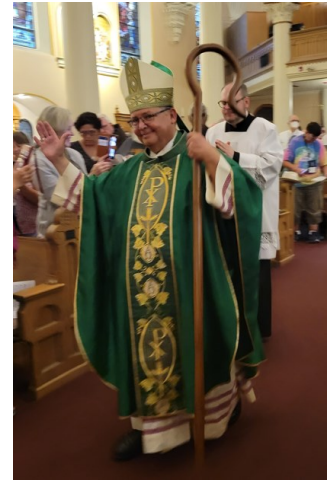
THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL AT THE 'Q'

The 20th Quinquennial Congress

Continued...

August 3-7, 2022

Phoenix, AZ



Every Region was given a banner to commemorate the 20th Quinquennial Congress. A big thanks to Howard Schroeder, OFS (from St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity in Oakville, MO) for helping to put all of these together! We'll have this banner on display at our October 29th gathering.



**COMPLETE PHOTO GALLERY & VIDEOS OF
THE 20TH QUINQUENNIAL
CONGRESS ARE ON THE NATIONAL
WEBSITE.**

[https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/
updates-from-the-q-august-3rd-through-7th-
2022/](https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/updates-from-the-q-august-3rd-through-7th-2022/)

THE Q PROGRAM

[https://
www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-
content/uploads/Q-
Program7_8_22.pdf](https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/Q-Program7_8_22.pdf)

AROUND THE REGION

The San Damiano fraternity held a mini retreat at The Old Shrine of St. Ferdinand.

The day of reflection began with a Mass said by Fr. Bob Sieg, OFM.

The theme of the Mass readings was Joy and Hope.

The formation group led us in activities that focused on joy and happiness.

It was a great day for us and we joyfully enjoyed fraternal love and prayer together.



- Stan Kiger, Minister

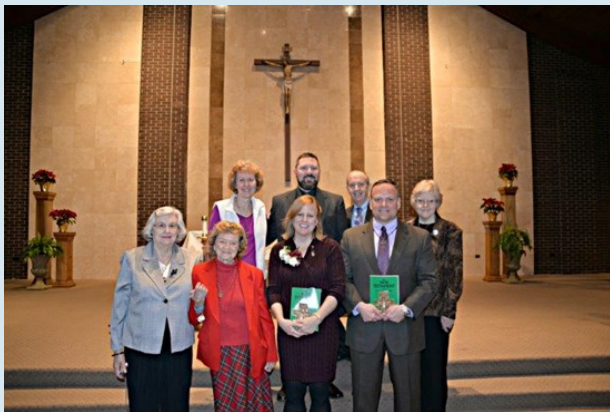


Members of the San Damiano Fraternity

AROUND THE REGION

St. Padre Pio Emerging Fraternity first began gathering in 2007. Initially, the sponsoring fraternity was San Damiano, but currently, the St. Francis of Assisi fraternity is its sponsor. Celeste Obermiller, OFS was the founding member of the Padre Pio Newly Forming Group. As the only professed OFS in the Cape Girardeau area, prompted by the Holy Spirit, she set about promoting the Order. The fraternity grew.

By 2009, the fraternity roster included: Celeste Obermiller, Dorothy Arnzen, Shawn Asmus, Marvin Glueck, Mary Joseph, and Anita Tygett. Four previous members of the group withdrew over the past year for various reasons. And then in October 2010, Shawn, Dorothy and Anita were professed. Marvin professed in 2011.



Fast forward to February 7, 2016 @ 10:30am Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Cape Girardeau to the The Rite of Profession for Julie & Tony!

Pictured— Front: Vice-Minister Anita Tygett OFS, founding member Celeste Obermiller OFS, newly professed Julie Schuchardt OFS and Tony Peters OFS. Back row from left: National Minister Jan Parker OFS, Fraternity Minister Shawn Asmus OFS, Formation Director Marvin Glueck OFS and Spiritual Assistant Sr. Maureen Elfrink FSM.



Anita Tygett helping with desserts at the fraternity's apostolate—Vincent's Vittles

Deceased members are:

Dorothy Arnzen, OFS
December 25, 1930 - December 18, 2012

Mary Joseph, OFS
April 23, 1956 - May 30, 2013

Celeste Obermiller, OFS
October 10, 1928 - August 28, 2018



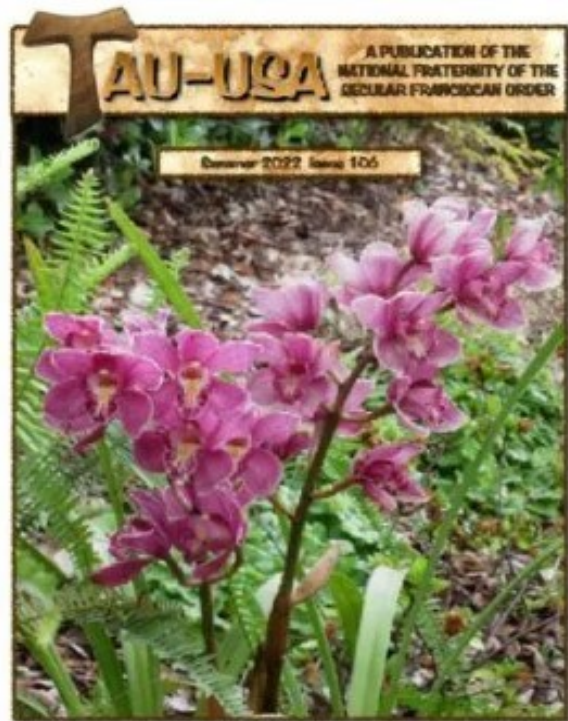
Candidates Bob & Hugh

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL FRATERNITY

The National Fraternity for the USA will be having its annual chapter meeting and elections in
Detroit, Michigan
October 11-16, 2022.
Please keep all who will be called to serve us in your prayers.
Pace e Bene!

Mission to Share the Vision

The TAU-USA, a publication of the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order of the United States, is a vital communication link between the NAFRA leadership and all candidates and professed Secular Franciscans throughout the United States. The articles within the publication, while sharing the Secular Franciscan charism and vision, are intended to inform, inspire, and challenge.



TAU-USA Summer 2022 Edition:

https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/TAU_USA_106_sum_22.pdf

National Fraternity Website:
www.secularfranciscansusa.org

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