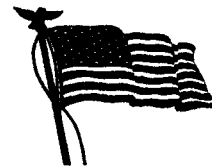


Issue Number 34

# TAU-USA

The Newsletter of the National Fraternity of the  
Secular Franciscan Order in the United States



Spring 2002

## 16<sup>TH</sup> QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS



**SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER  
IN THE UNITED STATES**

**NEW ORLEANS JULY 2-7, 2002**

# TAU-USA

Spring 2002, Issue 34

The National Fraternity  
of the Secular Franciscan Order - USA

Mr. and Mrs. Antony Outhwaite, SFO, Editors

[www.nafra-sfo.org](http://www.nafra-sfo.org)

TAU-USA (USPS number applied for) is published quarterly by the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order - USA, 1615 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45210. Application to mail at Periodicals Postage Rates is pending at: Cincinnati, OH 45203 and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: send address changes to TAU-USA, Box 189, Lindsborg, KS 67456-0189

## Purpose and Audience

TAU-USA is a vehicle of communication within the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States. Our mission is to provide an effective, appealing forum for presenting information in the areas of Ongoing Formation, Regional and National Fraternity news events, and the sharing and promotion of the Franciscan vision and spirituality in an uplifting, Franciscan manner. This publication is intended to allow the National Fraternity to disseminate information to the regional and local levels of fraternity, and also to allow members throughout the country to communicate with one another, fostering a sense of community nationwide.

## Next TAU-USA Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue of TAU-USA is April 15, 2002. Please submit articles to:

TAU-USA  
c/o Mr. and Mrs. Antony Outhwaite, SFO  
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Mountaintop, PA 18707-9415  
e-mail: [tauusa@netzero.net](mailto:tauusa@netzero.net)

## Subscription Information

For subscription information or change of address, contact the Subscriptions Coordinator:

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RD 1, Box 155  
Anita, PA 15711

e-mail: [deesmelko@penn.com](mailto:deesmelko@penn.com)

For more information, please see the back cover.

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## Guidelines for Submission of Articles

We welcome your submissions to the newsletter. To increase the likelihood of your submission being printed, we offer the following guidelines:

- Please ensure that articles do not exceed 500 words;
- Please understand that articles may be edited for length and clarity;
- Submissions received after the deadline for a particular issue will be given consideration for the *following* issue.
- In the Franciscan interest in ecology, please try to send submissions in electronic format (e-mail or floppy disc), instead of on paper.

## Letters to the Editors

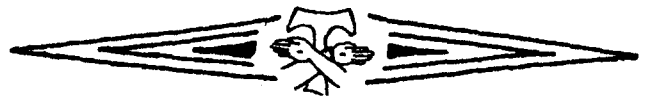
All correspondence sent to the editors becomes the property of the editors, and may be published in TAU-USA. Please state in all correspondence whether you wish to have your name withheld.

## Instruments of Peace Prayer Network

The Instruments of Peace Prayer Network is an effort to ensure round-the-clock prayers for peace during the current international crisis. Participants are asked to pledge fifteen minutes (or more) of prayer each week at a specific time. Anyone is welcome to sign up, and no specific prayer is required. For more information, contact Rock De Spain (909-766-1308; [sforockandjan@msn.com](mailto:sforockandjan@msn.com)), or Jim and Lois Flickinger, SFO (616-453-9104; [flickingersfo@prodigy.net](mailto:flickingersfo@prodigy.net)), or Georgeann Campbell, SFO (718-479-1703; [georgeannc@peoplepc.com](mailto:georgeannc@peoplepc.com)), or see [www.nafra-sfo.org](http://www.nafra-sfo.org).

As of March 30, 2002, there are 75,970 quarter hours filled by SFOs (an average of 113 SFOs praying for peace every quarter hour, 24 hours a day, and 7 days per week). The totals include pledges from SFOs in Korea as well as the United States.

There actually are more people than this praying. Many indicate that they pray daily, but at no specific time, so they are not included in these totals.



## TAU-USA Announces Poetry Contest

Attention all poets (and would-be poets)! Judging by your regional newsletters, our family has quite a lot of poetic talent. We would like to encourage this, and so we will conduct a poetry contest this year. All Secular Franciscans in the United States will be eligible, and prizes will be awarded.

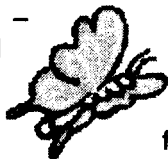
Look for details in the next issue of TAU-USA, and sharpen your pencils!

## TransFOrMation: Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ

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As we begin another year of following Jesus in the footsteps of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi, we wish all of our sisters and brothers the Lord's peace and every blessing!

From July 2 to 7 of this year, the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States will gather in New Orleans, Louisiana, to celebrate a very important event in its life – the Sixteenth National Quinquennial Congress. As part of our effort to help sisters and brothers of the National Fraternity to participate fruitfully in this Congress, the National Commission Chairs have determined that the theme of the Congress will also serve as the theme of the articles we will write for the ongoing formation section of TAU-USA in 2002. The sub-themes of the Congress (Transformation, Apostleship, Unity) will be addressed in the first three issues of TAU-USA; the general theme (Called to Build a More Fraternal and Evangelical World) in the fourth issue.



*All of Sacred Scripture conveys to us the unfolding story of God's transforming love...*

A quick look at dictionary definitions for the word "transform" reveals the following understandings: "1. To change markedly the appearance or form of; 2. to change the nature, function, or condition of; convert." Transformation, then, is defined as "A marked change, as in appearance or character, usually for the better." When applied to the realm of Christian

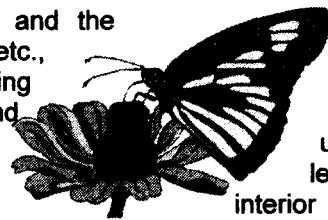
spiritual experience, genuine transformation of the human person in Christ becomes the reason, the purpose, and the goal of all our religious and spiritual activities, yearnings, and strivings.

All of Sacred Scripture conveys to us the unfolding story of God's transforming love, present and operative in the whole of creation, especially in the lives of the creatures made in God's own image and likeness. Saint Paul tells us that "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now all is new!... For our sakes God made Him who did not know sin to be sin, so that in Him we might become the very holiness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:17, 21). Elsewhere, Paul just simply, - and profoundly, encourages us to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14), making no provision for anything not of Him. Without doubt, each of us has our own favorite and personally meaningful Scriptural stories that serve to instruct and remind us of our need to be part of this process of transformation.

The sacred liturgy continuously reminds us of this challenge to allow ourselves to be made new in Christ. The penitential rite at the very beginning of Mass invites us to acknowledge our sinfulness (i.e., the ways we have not made ourselves available to God's transforming love in our lives) and to accept the gift of God's mercy and forgiveness, the essential conditions without which genuine transformation cannot occur. Later in the Mass, when the deacon (or in his absence, the priest) prepares the chalice, he says in a quiet voice, "By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ Who humbled Himself to share in our humanity." This language presents an image of the transformation which God intends to happen in the life of every believer. Just as simple bread and common wine are transformed into the very Body and Blood of the Lord, so we, His people who partake of these transformed gifts, are meant to be ourselves transformed into that which we receive, the Body and Blood of the glorified Christ! The Bread from Heaven is the only food which transforms the recipient into itself, rather than being assimilated by its recipient.

Our Seraphic Father Saint Francis surely grasped something of the depth of this mystery, to which his incomparable love of the Holy Eucharist gave testimony. We see and appreciate, in the unfolding of his life, this process of transformation taking place, so much so that he became the perfect mirror image of Christ even before his physical death and entry into the life of everlasting glory. Francis' love of the Eucharist continues to be one of the defining characteristics of authentic Franciscan spirituality, even to our own day.

No more and no less than Francis, our call as Franciscans of the 21st century is to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ", to surrender ourselves more and more completely to the transforming power of His Gospel of life and love. This transformation is the goal of all our formation efforts. Yes, we need information; we need to know about Jesus Christ and Francis of Assisi and our Rule of Life and the history of our Order, etc., etc., etc. But simply knowing about these persons and things is meaningless unless this knowledge leads to "that radical interior change which the gospel itself calls 'conversion'" (SFO Rule, Article 7). Recall that the notion of conversion is essential to understanding the real meaning of transformation. While this process of transformation affects our entire being, making us holier and more Christ-like, we must remember that it is a gift entrusted to us for the sake of



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## Transforming Your Life

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*We are not converted only once in our lives, but many times; and this endless series of large and small conversions, inner revolutions lead us to our transformation in Christ.*

Thomas Merton

Rosemary Haughton, in her book *The Transformation of Man: a Study of Conversion and Community*, gave an insight on transformation. She said that transformation, rather than formation, provides the key to Christian existence, that in transformation and in community, we discover who we are – we go through a Christian self-discovery. Transformation is a total personal revolution that begins with repentance, a *turning away* from sin, and, through God's loving friendship, draws us *inward* into the transformation we need, changing us, molding us, and forming us.

Isaiah states plainly that repentance means changing the way we think. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). Isaiah pinpoints two things we must forsake to receive God's pardon: our sinful ways, and our sinful thoughts.

But, what about us do we need to change? A change in the way we think is the most important aspect of real repentance. We must see the need for a new heart, a different way of thinking, a right spirit and attitude – a transformed mind. For us Secular Franciscans, this is the essence of ongoing formation. Our profession is the starting point of being transformed into a new man. It is God's will to transform us, to enable us to repent and be converted. After we receive the Holy Spirit, we are better able to sustain right behavior as the first of our new ways of thinking. Our lives changed when we made that permanent commitment to follow Francis in imitating Jesus Christ. Actions begin as thoughts. Our thinking is a deeply ingrained part of who and what we are. Like David, we should cry out to God for help in cleansing us from the inside out. "Create in me a pure heart, O God" (Psalm 51:10). Saint Paul, in his writing to the Christians of Rome, said "Do not be conformed to this world; but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

So many opportunities abound for us to do the good that we know we ought to do. We can start in our immediate families, by working to make them strong, affectionate, understanding to one another; by giving them moral and



*A change in the way we think is the most important aspect of real repentance.*

spiritual support, making them warm and loving to one another. Between husbands and wives, transformation occurs in the moment of self-surrender to love. Marriage relationships are transforming relationships. When two people are in love and move beyond merely sharing experiences to sharing a single life together, they are involved in a transforming relationship. They cannot stay the same. They reshape each other in their relationship. Physically, they find themselves transformed. When couples show their concern for each other in terms of basic needs, for example, nutrition and shelter, and these needs are met, transformation happens.

We also have opportunities beyond our families. God's word tells us in James 1:27 that pure religion is to "look after orphans and widows and their distress, and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world". God wants us to become more compassionate, to love people, to reflect His way of life. He wants us to become more like Jesus of Nazareth, Who gave His life as a sacrifice for all mankind. Many opportunities exist for us to encourage, strengthen, and show love to those in need. When we do these things – we are doing good works. We are sacrificing our time and energy for the well-being and benefit of others. As Secular Franciscans, our mission is to help each other to grow more aware of our relationship with others. Father Peter Sheridan, OFM stated that through "growth in personal holiness and in service to others, especially in need, you will experience a transformation of your lives after the example of Saint Francis of Assisi."

### Questions for Discussion:

1. How have you been transformed since you were professed? In your relationship with your family? With your fraternity? With your community?
2. If we say that conversion is simply putting on the Lord Jesus, what necessary changes do you have to make in order to conform your thoughts and deeds to those of Christ?
3. How can you overcome your old ways of living and replace them with God's ways? How do you put off the old by putting on the new, to complete the process of conversion?



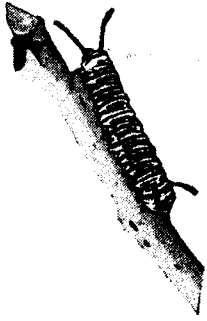
*Redemption is always greater than man's sin and the "sin of the world". The power of the Redemption is infinitely superior to the whole range of evil in man and the world.*

Pope John Paul II, May 13, 1982



# Transformation

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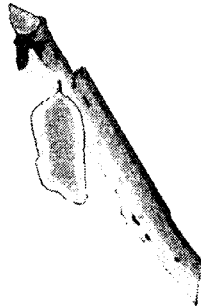
As we all still struggle to understand the terrible events of September 11, 2001, Pope John Paul II speaks to us of hope, and reminds us of the power of God to transform our world. In his Message for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2002 he says:

This is the hope which sustains the Church at the beginning of 2002: that, by the grace of God, a world in which the power of evil

seems once again to have taken the upper hand will in fact be transformed into a world in which the noblest aspirations of the human heart will triumph, a world in which true peace will prevail.

We ask, what is our human role in this transformation? It is a hard message to hear, but the Holy Father goes on to say:

I have often paused to reflect on the persistent question: *how do we restore the moral and social order subjected to such horrific violence?* My reasoned conviction, confirmed in turn by biblical revelation, is that the shattered order cannot be fully restored except by a response that combines justice with forgiveness. *The pillars of true peace are justice and that form of love, which is forgiveness.*



The tricky part here is *forgiveness*. We believe that Pope John Paul is calling us to a "big picture" sort of forgiveness, in which individuals and societies at all levels forgive, not (he is quick to state) these dreadful and violent acts, but forgive as God forgives through tolerance, understanding, and, above all, love. Again we are called, as Francis calls us, to recognize the sacredness of life in creation that violence and hatred and terrorism destroy.

He continues:

*[S]ociety too is absolutely in need of forgiveness. Families, groups, societies, states and the international community itself need forgiveness in order to renew ties that have been sundered, go beyond sterile situations of mutual condemnation and overcome the temptation to discriminate against others without appeal. The ability to forgive lies at the very basis of the idea of a future society marked by justice and solidarity.*

Again we ask, how? And again we are given an answer that brings us back around to where we started:

Prayer for peace is not an afterthought to the work of peace. It is of the very essence of building the peace of order, justice, and freedom. To pray for peace is to open the human heart to the inroads of God's power to renew all things. With the life-

giving force of his grace, God can create openings for peace where only obstacles and closures are apparent; he can strengthen and enlarge the solidarity of the human family in spite of our endless history of division and conflict.



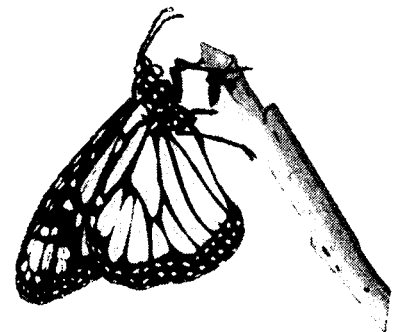
To pray for peace is to pray for justice, for a right-ordering of relations within and among nations and peoples. It is to pray for freedom, especially for the religious freedom that is a basic human and civil right of every individual. To pray for peace is to seek God's forgiveness, and to implore the courage to forgive those who have trespassed against us.

In considering the topic of transformation, National Peace and Justice Commission member, Terri Leone, SFO, reminds us:

How often do we Secular Franciscans complain that we are "doing" or are "expected to do" too much, and that we don't have time to "be" with God, i.e. to pray? Perhaps it is time to *transform* this idea, which many of us have - that "being" and "doing" are two separate and opposing entities. We need to see that being and doing are the yin and yang of being a Secular Franciscan Catholic Christian, or perhaps, the "head" and "tail" of the coin called spirituality. It is not hard to accept prayer as "being" with God and necessary for our spiritual growth. However, sometimes it is harder to see action as prayer.

But it is, if we bring God into it. If we are people of, with, and in God, God is with us every microsecond of our lives. He is not "up in His Heaven" somewhere out there. If we are of, with, and in God, we are an extension of God - His eyes, heart, hands, and feet, etc. With His eyes, we see that the world He created is not so "good" as when He created it. With His heart, we love as He does, and long to make all creation (animate and inanimate) as "good" as when He created it. With His mind, we understand how to accomplish this work, and develop plans to do so. With His hands and feet, we carry out these plans."

We actually help in the grand transformation that God wants for His people! We begin to understand that



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# How One Person's Openness to the Work of Transformation Has Made a World of Difference

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As you can see from the information above, I am now settled in Saint Paul. I am renting the first floor of a home. It is affordable and close to things I need for the next twelve months. It is amazing what we get used to in the United States, with all our comforts. I find myself missing a dishwasher, laundry facilities in a nice clean room instead of an old basement, and a fireplace. These were things that I really enjoyed in my home in Texas. These things are luxuries, even though in 2002 we expect at least some of them in any "modern" place we live. The place I live now would be considered palatial to so many people in the world who do not have a home, or have a roof over their head but no reliable protection from the elements, no potable running water, no indoor toilet facilities, and no "automatic" anything. Sometimes, we have material things and have to let them go. Part of the spiritual transformation process is letting go – the clearing out of things from the past to make way for new. This is our spiritual work.

Picture this: You are growing up in a family that, for its time, is very wealthy. Your home has all the modern conveniences of the day. Work is something for the household help to do. The washing, ironing, cooking, cleaning are not your responsibility. You have more food available to you than the family ever needs at each meal. You are free to concentrate on the lessons taught in your home. You and your siblings spend many hours learning math, reading, writing, listening to historic tales, and learning about the Catholic Church, and what being a Catholic really means. You

attend society balls dressed in the latest fashions, share meals with friends, and live a life free from problems. But somehow, somewhere, deep inside, you want something different. You speak about this only with your best friend. Your parents expect you to marry. A relative even introduces you to someone he thinks would be perfect for you. You are courteous to this person, but you are not interested in marriage. That still, small voice, the Holy Spirit perhaps, keeps urging you to a different life. You've seen a man, some years older than yourself, preaching in the streets. You have listened to his message about Christ, and it makes a lot of sense to you. You have given him bread and other food from your table.

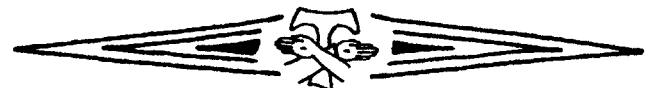
One night, after speaking with the preacher about your intuitive feelings, and making arrangements, you do some of the hardest work you have ever done. You clear away all of the clutter from in front of a door that is

never used in your home, you tug and pull at the bolts with all your strength, finally getting the door open, and you run to where you are met by the preacher's followers, who welcome you as the first woman in their midst.

Your beautiful tresses are shorn. Your elegant soft clothing removed, and you don a simple brown habit and veil. Later you wear a pig's hair shirt with the scratchy side next to your delicate skin. You live with other like-minded people. The only way the community has food is through the goodness of God and donations. If there is only a little food you let the others have the small pieces and you fast. You and your community live a very austere life to outward appearances, but actually are growing closer and closer to Christ through the letting go of the things of this world, and the taking in of the graces and goodness of God. You have no idea that your little community will continue its growth throughout the ages, and how the "Poor Clares" will touch the lives of so many others with their gifts of prayer and spiritual nourishment.

## Questions for Discussion:

1. What changes have taken place in the lives of the fraternity members on their transformation journey during formation, or after profession?
2. How does the work of making ourselves available, putting ourselves at God's disposal to do his work here, relate to each member's vocational path?



## Transformation

...continued from page five

everything is prayer (communion with God). And we see that prayer has the power to transform. When we work to make ourselves non-violent and just; we work to bring peace and justice to our families, our neighborhoods, and our world at large. We add our hearts, our hands, and our energy to that joyous vision, that hope that sustains:

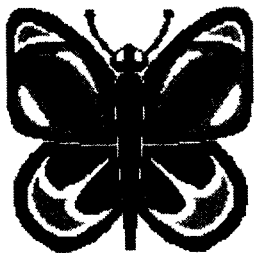
... that, by the grace of God, a world in which the power of evil seems once again to have taken the upper hand will in fact be transformed into a world in which the noblest aspirations of the human heart will triumph, a world in which true peace will prevail.

## Questions for Discussion:

1. Do we tend to see justice as being independent of forgiveness? Can we see their interconnectedness?
2. Do we have family members we have never quite forgiven? Do we sometimes act unjustly with them?
3. How can our fraternity help bring about a spirit of forgiveness in the pain of last year's tragedy?



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# Witnessing Transformation: Toddler to Youth/Young Adult

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"How to build a more fraternal and evangelical world" is, for some, like Saint Francis, the theme of a lifetime. Considering how to approach such a daunting task, I began to wonder if evangelism would even be required in a truly fraternal world. If we all lived together in peace and harmony, what further explanation would be needed? This is, of course, when I considered the children, not only the very youngest members of our society, but all the children of God. As humans, we need constant formation and evangelization to truly appreciate the mystery of faith, and, in our case, the wondrous form it takes in Catholicism.

Formation and evangelization are, in many ways, acts of transformation. As young students learn the meaning of the sacraments, they are also transformed into members of a living community. Working with youth, as a parent or grandparent, or as a friend or catechist, we have a chance to witness that transformation. For some students, it starts on the day they come to class and begin to really listen. For others, it is the enormity of being part of a Catholic ceremony, and for still others, it is years later, after the classes and white suits and dresses are forgotten, when they go to church and really realize, for the first time, that they are being offered the Body of Christ.

As Secular Franciscans, we are especially called to witness these transformations. Speaking to the brothers so many years ago, Saint Francis said, "Father, I have made Your Name known", and, quoting Saint John, he added, "The words You gave to me I have given to them" (John 17:6). Thinking, this past year, about how we could share the words that were given to us with the youth of our community, my fraternity came up with a few ideas worth sharing:

One of the easiest, is to volunteer to help catechists, or become a catechist in your parish. And then, as a Secular Franciscan, bring all the love, fraternity, and evangelism of the Order to the classroom. I recently had a class of four year-olds plan and present a memorable version of "The Wolf of Gubbio". Gubbio is a fun word, children love wolves and stories about them, but, best of all, was the moment in the skit when the little boy playing the wild wolf transformed himself into the peaceful friend of Saint Francis, played skillfully by another boy wrapped in burlap. They learned that love is not easy, that fear

should not guide decisions, and that those who follow God gain great strength from doing so. What more could I wish to share with them?

Another project, which we sponsored with older



children, helped to build a bridge from Michigan to Palestine. With the youth group at our parish, we arranged to sell gifts made in the Holy Land to benefit the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation. We made well over \$1000, and answered many questions not covered in the news. The children learned about peers on the other side of the world, struggling with their families to eat, and to attend work and school. The people who purchased the gifts were reminded that, two thousand years later, Christians still walk where Christ walked.

A third idea was to go, as Francis did, to be present as Catholics among other religions. Our fraternity, along with several children, went to a celebration at a local mosque. In the wake of September 11, it seemed important to begin to heal the wound that had been opened between Muslim and Christian culture.

Once you start thinking about it, there are many ways to be the spark of transformation among the youth in our lives and communities. Do all the children in our lives, communities, and families know the story of Gubbio? There is no time like the present, or place like your own life, to start witnessing to transformation.

## Questions for Discussion:

1. In what positive ways have the children or youth you know witnessed Christian action after the terror of September 11?
2. As Franciscan parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends of children and youth, how are you a spark of transformation among them?



## TransFOrmation: Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ

...continued from page three

others. Our very God-given vocation as Franciscan women and men of the Gospel is intended not so much for our own personal growth in holiness as for the sanctification and transformation of the world in Christ. Like Jesus, Francis, and Clare before us, we are called to bring the transforming power of the Gospel, its light and its truth, to the world of which we are a part.

Notice that the letters SFO are at the heart of the word *transFOrmation*. As we anticipate this year's Quinquennial Congress, may each of us prayerfully reflect upon the way in which this process of transformation is happening in our lives. How are we actually "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ"? What part(s) of ourselves do we still need to turn over (i.e., convert) to the Lord so that his transforming grace can mold us more perfectly into His image? May the world come to see and love Christ in us and through us!

May God give us peace!

# Quinquennial Congress Prayer



Lord, as our Sixteenth Quinquennial Celebration draws near,  
we turn to You for guidance.



We know that all events planned in Your name have a spiritual purpose.

So, with attentive hearts we ask this question,

"What would You have us learn from our gathering in New Orleans?"

Is it that we grow into Your image and likeness  
when we become vulnerable to one another?

Is it to experience the common heartbeat of fraternity life  
and that we need one another to be complete?

Is it to remind us of just who we are, what we profess,  
and what You have called us to do?

Why have You called us to this particular encounter with You?

Is it to give us courage to welcome discipleship;

to make us one body in our ministry to a broken world?

Why do we journey to New Orleans?

Perhaps to appreciate the call to Secular Franciscan discipleship,  
from both the mountaintops of joy to the valleys of sorrow.

As for us Lord,

we gather in New Orleans to see the glory of Your face  
in the faces of our sisters and brothers;

to hear Your Word spoken to us through countless vessels;

to feel Your presence moving among us;

to taste Your goodness and know we are loved;

and to experience that peace that exceeds all understanding.

Then, refreshed and with renewed vigor ,  
we will embrace Your plan for our lives, Lord Jesus,  
wherever that may lead.

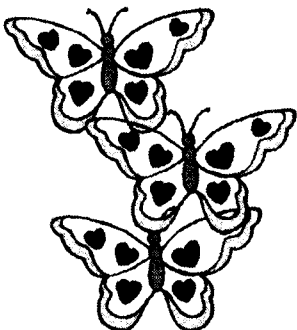
We gather in New Orleans because we know that  
worship and mission go hand in hand.

We know that we will be changed.

And we thank You Lord

for calling us and allowing us to participate in Your divine plan.

Amen





# Quinquennial Congress Schedule

Tuesday, July 2

*Arrival and Registration (1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.)*

*Inaugural Mass (High Mass) - We Are TAU - Michael Higgins, TOR presiding  
General Spiritual Assistant./TOR Vicar General*

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Wednesday, July 3

## TRANSFORMATION

*"Who Are We as Franciscans –The Challenge" - Richard Rohr, OFM*

*"Who Are You as Secular Franciscans" - Elizabeth Dryer, PhD*

*Holy Mass - We Are Secular Franciscans - Lester Bach, OFM Cap presiding*

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Thursday, July 4

## APOSTLESHIP

*"What Do we Do as Secular Franciscans" - Carol Gentile, SFO  
Apostolic Commission Break-out Sessions*

*Workshops*

*Holy Mass - We Proclaim The Gospel - Steve Gross, OFM Conv presiding  
Deacon David Ream, SFO homilist*

*Independence Day Celebration - True Colors Song Fest*

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Friday, July 5

## UNITY

*"United Together as Franciscans" - Margaret Carney, OSF*

*Tours of New Orleans*

*Holy Mass - We Live As Brothers and Sisters - Loren Connell, OFM presiding*

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Saturday, July 6

*"Celebrate Diversity in Mission" - Multicultural Expression  
Multicultural Committee*

*Holy Mass - We Are Simple People of the Spirit  
Patrick Seelman, TOR presiding*

*Banquet*

*New Orleans Style Celebration*

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Sunday, July 7

*"Send Off - Celebration of Unity" (9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.)*

# Quinquennial Congress Activities

## Liturgies and Prayers

Inaugural Liturgy    Daily Mass    Daily Office    Meditation Chapel

## Keynote Speakers

Richard Rohr, OFM                      Elizabeth Dreyer, PhD  
Carol Gentile, SFO                      Margaret Carney, OSF

## Workshops

Formation	Formation Commission
Youth/Young Adults	Youth/Young Adults Commission
Multicultural	Multicultural Committee
Ecumenism	Ecumenical Committee
Christian/Islamic Spirituality	Masud Syedullah, TSSF
My Story/Our Story/The Story	Richard Rohr, OFM
Christian Mystics	Elizabeth Dreyer, PhD
Franciscans International	Michelle Balek, OSF
Clown Ministry	Jean D'Onofrio, SFO
Secular Spirituality	Vinal Van Benthem, SFO
Prison Ministry	Pat Mulligan, SFO/George Nolan, SFO

## Exhibits

Exhibit Tables Will Be Present

## Vendors

Books, Religious Articles, Tapes Will Be Offered For Purchase

## July 4<sup>th</sup>

Independence Day Celebration  
True Colors Sing-along

## Tours

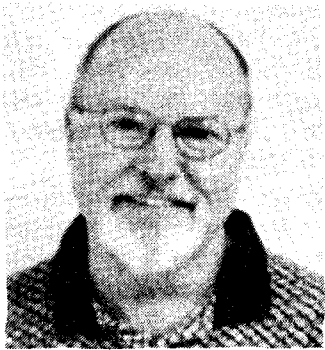
New Orleans City Tour  
Plantation Tour

## Saturday Evening Celebration

New Orleans Style Party  
With New Orleans Music and Good Food

## Quinquennial Congress Keynote Speakers

The Planning Committee is proud to announce the Keynote Speakers for the 16<sup>th</sup> Quinquennial Congress. A brief biography is given here.



**Richard Rohr, OFM** is the Founding Director of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was born in Kansas, entered the Franciscan Order in 1961 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1970. He holds an MA degree in Theology from University of Dayton, and

has enjoyed further studies in Scripture from the University of Notre Dame and University of San Francisco. He divides his time between local work, the county jail, writing, preaching and teaching on all continents. He considers proclaiming the Gospel to be his primary call and uses many platforms to communicate that message. His latest book is *Hope Against Darkness* published by St. Anthony Messenger Press. Other books by Fr. Richard are: *Radical Grace*, *Simplicity*, *The Wild Man's Journey*, *Quest for the Grail*, *Everything Belongs* and *The Mystery of Suffering*. Fr. Richard is also known for his excellent video and audio tapes available through St. Anthony Messenger Press, Credence Cassettes, and through the Center's newsletter, *Radical Grace*.



**Elizabeth Dreyer, PhD**, is a well known lay theologian, author and lecturer. Her writings have examined the theology of grace, medieval women mystics, lay spirituality, images of the Holy Spirit in the Middle Ages and numerous themes from the Christian tradition. She holds a doctorate from Marquette University and

has served on the faculty of several institutions, including Catholic University of America and the Washington Theological Union. Published books include *Passionate Women: Two Medieval Mystics* (Paulist, 1994), *Manifestation of Grace* (Liturgical Press, 1990); *Earth Crammed With Heaven: A Spirituality of Everyday Life* (Paulist, 1994); *A Retreat With Catherine of Siena* (St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1998) and she edited of *The Cross Tradition: From Paul to Bonaventure* (Paulist, 2000). Cassettes are available on "*Hildegard von Bingen*" (Credence Communications) and "*Bonding Faith and Life*" (St. Anthony Messenger Press). Elizabeth is Professor of Religious Studies at Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT.



**Carol Gentile, SFO**, is a Secular Franciscan member of Portiuncula Fraternity in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. She serves the National Fraternity as Coordinator for the Apostolic Commissions. Carol works as Director of Prevention Project, Community College of Beaver County. She has a

Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, a Masters of Education in Health Education and is a Certified Prevention and Intervention Specialist. In 1996, Carol received "The Woman of Distinction in the World of People Award." She is Founder and Director of the Church Assistance Program (CHAPS), a twelve-hour video seminar with manual for church audiences and families to teach clergy, and laity, to seek appropriate help in crisis situations. Carol is a seasoned presenter. Noteworthy among her speaking engagements are the 1996 World Food Summit in Rome, 1997 Quinquennial Congress in Delaware, the First World Conference on Family Violence in Singapore, the 1999 Franciscan Federation Conference in Columbus, Ohio and the 1999 All Commissions Conference at St. Bonaventure University. Carol is married and is the mother of three children. She and her husband reside in Monaca, Pennsylvania.



**Margaret Carney OSF, STD** is presently Dean of the School of Franciscan Studies and Director of the Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University. She is a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God of Whitehall, Pa. A native of Pittsburgh, Sr. Margaret was educated at St.

Francis Academy and received her bachelor's degree in education and an MA in theology from Duquesne University. In 1985, she received her MA in Franciscan Studies at the Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University. In 1988 she received her doctorate in theology at the Pontifical Athenaeum "Antonianum" (Franciscan University in Rome) *summa cum laude*. *The First Franciscan Woman: Clare of Assisi and Her Form of Life* is the published form of her doctoral research on Clare's Rule. Margaret participated in the commission responsible for the revision of the Rule of Life of the Third Order Regular, which was pontifically approved in 1982. Since 1997 she has been an associate professor of the School of Franciscan Studies where her specialization includes the history of Franciscan women, the history and spirituality of the Third Order Regular and contemporary dynamics of Franciscan evangelical life.

## Quinquennial Congress Workshops

Eleven workshops are offered. Attendees will sign up for three of the eleven at registration time. You may wish to pick your workshop now so as to be prepared at registration time. The workshop subjects and presenters are listed below.

### **“Formation and MEI: Preparing Secular Franciscans to “Build a More Fraternal and Evangelical World.”**

Interactive discussion concerning each Secular Franciscan's role in formation. The reason why each person is responsible for formation and what that commitment entails. Every sister and brother is a vital member of the fraternity responsible for being formed and forming others. Discover how Secular Franciscans from around the United States bring vitality to their fraternities through formation. Presenters: Formation Commission: Deacon David & Therese Ream, SFO, Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, Teresa Baker, SFO, Loris Morrissey, SFO, Anne Mulqueen, SFO and Dorothy Palzinski, SFO.

### **“Experience the Franciscan Youth Adventure - Broadening Our Vision”**

In this workshop we will explore some of the methods of initiating dialogue with, and hopefully starting formation of, youths and young adults. We will examine some of the ways to present the Franciscan charism to the youth within our Order, and with the youth of the Dioceses, without fear or prior experience. The objective of this workshop is to give the participants some hands-on advice and ways to reach the youth and young adults of today in a truly Franciscan way. Presenters: Youth/Young Adult Commission: Mary and Anthony Mazotti, SFO, Fr. Rusty Shaughnessy, OFM, Jeanie McLees, SFO, Eileen Costa, SFO, and Kathy Taormina, SFO

### **“Many Faces in the Secular Franciscan Order”**

Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God. Each of us is a gift from God to the world, and each of us is unique. I am the color, the race, and the ethnicity that I am, and yet, I am more. This workshop's objective is to renew the sense of hospitality and welcome in the fraternity through prayer, sharing our experiences, reflecting on our faith tradition, putting our faith into action, gathering our experiences and celebrating faith as a fraternity. Presenters: Multicultural Committee: Georgeann Campbell, SFO, Kevin Corbett, SFO, Barbara Smith, SFO, Aida McKeen, SFO, Deacon Oscar Perez, SFO, and Rosa Youm, SFO

### **“Franciscan Call to Christian Unity in SFO Life”**

The ministry of reconciliation is central to the ministry of the Church and the witness of Franciscans to a divided Church and world. This workshop will explore the SFO mission to Christian unity in the constitutions, the status of relationships with Franciscans from other traditions, and how local fraternities can be a part of the reconciliation of the Church. Presenters: Ecumenical Committee: Fr. Paul Ojibway, SA, Rev. Masud Syedullah, TSSF, and Marcella Bina, SFO

**“My Story, Our Story, The Story”** “If we are going to be the rebuilders of society, we need to be ‘rebuilt’

ourselves. A healthy psyche lives within at least three containers of meaning. The first is called ‘My Story’; the second is ‘Our Story’ and the third ‘The Story.’...Much of the weakness of the deconstructed society is that it usually honors only one level at best, and thus treats that level very poorly. Most postmodern people are trapped inside one container if they are secular individualists, the second container if they are merely cultural conservatives, and a false version a third container if they are fundamentalist in any form. The saint/whole/whole person lives happily inside all three.” From “Hope Against Darkness”, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Presenter: Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

**“The Christian Call to Mysticism”** In this workshop we will examine some of the past and present understandings of Christian mysticism and explore elements of a contemporary “mysticism of everyday life” based on baptism and the universal call to holiness. Presenter: Elizabeth Dreyer, Ph.D.

**“Franciscans International: The UN and St. Francis – a Winning Combination”** This workshop will briefly cover the history of Franciscans International and move into how this

Non-Governmental Organization interfaces with the UN in the 3 project areas of Care of Creation, Concern for the Poor and Peacemaking. Some time will be spent on the importance of grass roots participation and how the local and global levels are interconnected and on specific issues, time-permitting. Presenter: Sr. Shell Balek, OSF, FI-NA Regional Coordinator

### **“The Clown Apostle: Becoming God's Fool”**

Following a brief background of clowning, the participants of this workshop will be led into the discovery of the God-given gifts they possess amidst their human weakness. Experience the JOY (Jesus, Others, and You) of the Good News as shared by a clown apostle. Presenter: Jean D'Onofrio, SFO

### **“Work and the Franciscan Life”**

The Church, the Body of Christ, gathers on Sunday to tell stories and to break bread, but most of us spend Monday through Saturday working. What does it mean to be a Secular Franciscan in the Workplace? Do we work differently because of what we profess to believe? What do we believe about “Work”? This workshop will look at our Work and the Franciscan Life. Presenter: Vinal Van Benthem, SFO.

### **“A Change of Heart”**

People of faith believe that God can use any circumstance for good...even prison. This workshop will look at several programs for prisoners led by outside volunteers. How capital punishment fits the life equation and other life issues. Presenters: C. Patricia Mulligan, SFO and George Nolan, SFO

### **“Christian/Islamic Spirituality”**

September 11 has awakened us to the presence of Islam in the world today. The questions, “What are the teachings of Islam and how does it relate to Christianity?”, and visa versa, are explored. Presenter: Rev. Masud Syedullah, TSSF

**16<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL SFO QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS  
REGISTRATION FORM**

(Please type or print clearly)

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Fraternity \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone # \_\_\_\_\_ State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**COST OPTIONS** - Note: Option #1 and #2 below include Congress registration, room and meals, as follows:

Room: 5 nights at Loyola University dormitories (linens provided; including a full service health club facility with an indoor pool! Two rooms share an adjoining bathroom)

Meals: Tuesday dinner through Sunday lunch (15 meals total)

		<u>Per Person</u>	<u>Married Couples</u>
OPTION # 1	One bedroom, one person	\$475	not applicable
OPTION # 2	One bedroom, two persons	\$400	\$750
OPTION # 3	Congress registration only (no room or meals)	\$100	\$185

Circle one of the above numbers and enter the appropriate amount here > > > > > > > \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate any special diet or accessibility needs here: \_\_\_\_\_

Print the name of the person you wish to room with, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

MINIMUM DEPOSIT (\$100) due by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002 \$ 100.00  
(Non-refundable after May 15, 2002)

Please pay by check payable to "NAFRA" or indicate charge information below.

BALANCE DUE (total cost minus deposit): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
This balance due must be paid by May 15, 2002

Later registration fee (after June 1, 2002) \$ 25.00

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TO PAY BY DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD, please enter the following information.

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Charge Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount to be charged \$ \_\_\_\_\_

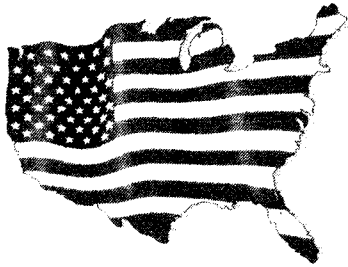
Check one:  Master Card  Visa  Discover Card  American Express

Note: Please return this form with your payment and keep a copy for your records.  
You will receive an information packet with a registration confirmation and a request for your detailed travel plans.

Please mail this form with payment to:

**NAFRA  
2002 QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS  
P O BOX 113592  
METAIRIE LA 70011-3592**

## Regional Roundup



*Please be sure to add us to the mailing list for your regional newsletter:*

*Mr. and Mrs. Antony Outhwaite, SFO, Editors, TAU-USA  
6 Light Street, Mountaintop, PA 18707-9415*

### **Father Solanus Casey Region**

The Region will hold its annual Chapter Saturday, April 20, 2002 at Saint Pius X Church in Middletown, CT.

### **Holy Trinity Region**

The Region's full council meeting was held March 2, 2002 at Saint Helen Church in Dayton, OH.

The annual SFO retreat will be held at Friarhurst, in Cincinnati, OH, April 26 – 28, 2002. Father Paul Juniet, OFM will be the Retreat Master.

The Franciscan Family Gathering will be held August 3, 2002. Local Franciscans of the First, Second, and Third Orders will join together to share each other's company, to reflect, and to worship as a family at Good Shepherd Parish in Montgomery, OH.

### **Lady Poverty Region**

The Region will have their annual meeting and a National Fraternal Visit during the weekend of May 3 – 5, 2002.

Saint Bonaventure Fraternity will sponsor a retreat May 18 – 20, 2002.

Secular Franciscans in Lady Poverty Region are part of a committee to help the Franciscan Family of the Pittsburgh area celebrate the Transitus this year. The celebration will take place October 3, 2002 at Saint Matthew Parish in Carnegie, PA. Auxiliary Bishop David Zubik, Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy, and an Islamic representative will be among the guest speakers for the evening.

Holy Spirit Fraternity, Sharon, PA, presented the Franciscan Peace Award to four eighth grade students during Catholic Schools Week. Patricia Mulligan, SFO is the Minister of Holy Spirit Fraternity.

Saint Anthony Fraternity, Belle Vernon, PA, has been erecting 400 white crosses in areas around the Pittsburgh area. The crosses are put up, and then moved every two weeks by the fraternity members, with the hope that the crosses will "help to change hearts, and save babies lives", said Rita Sukel, SFO, Minister of the Fraternity.

A few members of Saint Alphonsus Fraternity, Wheeling, WV have opened a Catholic bookstore, called Little Portion Treasures, Inc. Find them on the Internet at <http://www.littleportion.com>

### **La Verna Region**

The Spring Chapter Meeting will be held June 6 – 9, 2002, at the Schoenstatt Center in Waukesha, WI. The focus of the Formation sessions will be "Leaving the Upper Room", a follow-up from the Spirit and Life Team Presentations.

The Region will sponsor a Secular Franciscan Retreat, June 14 – 16, 2002 at Saint Francis Retreat Center, Burlington, WI. The Retreat Director will be Father Colman Majchrzak, OFM, and the theme will be "Francis and the Eucharist".

### **Los Tres Compañeros Region**

The Regional Fraternity's Spring Chapter was held March 23, 2002 at Cedarbrake Renewal Center, in Belton, TX. The guest speaker was Father John Sullivan, OFM.

The Region will sponsor a mini Chapter of Mats May 17 – 19, 2002 at Cedarbrake Renewal Center. The guest speaker will be Father Chuck Gunti, OFM, from San Jose Mission in San Antonio.

### **Mother Cabrini Region**

There will be a Candidates retreat on April 6, 2002.

On May 18, 2002, the Region will have a Fraternal visit from National Minister Bill Wicks, SFO, and a Pastoral Visit from National Spiritual Assistant Father Lester Bach, OFM Cap.

A workshop for Ministers and Formation Directors will be held on June 8, 2002.

### **'Ohana 'O Ke Anuenue Region**

Father Gordon Combs, OFM Cap, has recently been appointed as the Region's newest Spiritual Assistant.

### **Queen of Peace Region**

The Region's Spring Retreat will be held on April 6, 2002, at the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, MN. It will be hosted by Saint Cloud Fraternity.

The Regional Meeting will be held April 26 – 28, 2002 at the Tau Center in Winona, MN. The Regional Chapter of Elections will be held.

Pater Noster Fraternity will assist at the Special Olympics May 22 – 26, 2002.

There will be a Franciscan Retreat June 21 – 23, 2002 at the Franciscan Retreat House in Prior Lake, MN.

The annual Chapter of Mats will be held July 21, 2002 at Saint Gerald's in Ralston, NE.

The Region's Fall gathering will be held September 21, 2002 at Sacred Heart Church in Robinsdale, MN. The presenter will be Mary Anne Kuharski, founding member and President of Pro-Life Minnesota.

Queen of Peace Region will host the annual National Fraternity meeting, October 13 – 20, 2002, at Assisi Heights in Rochester, MN.

### **Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Region**

The Region will celebrate its fifth anniversary of establishment on April 14, 2002 at the Franciscan Center in North Andover, MA.

## Franciscan Reflections on the Past Few Months

Loren T. Connell, OFM

President, Conference of National Spiritual Assistants  
Saint Francis Friary, 1615 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45210  
513-241-5615 x124; e-mail: brolocon@americancatholic.org

*When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. Then He began to speak and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matthew 5:1-12)*

On the first Sunday of February, we heard those words from the Gospel according to Matthew. They seem particularly relevant, in view of the recent terrorist activities in our country, and our nation's subsequent response. Each beatitude is but one facet of a beautiful gem. None exists alone in the heart of the believer, but all exist together. At any given time, one may be more polished than another, but all are present. The believer cannot be selective in the following of Christ. We cannot choose to be pure of heart, without also being merciful. The meek and the poor in spirit mourn, peacemakers thirst for righteousness, and all are persecuted on Christ's account.

The early Christians experienced persecution, first from the synagogue, and then from the Roman state. They knew that they were outside of what the dominant culture considered acceptable society. Their baptism into the death and resurrection of the Lord made them different, and they knew that. Yes, they were sinners just like us, and many of them tried to compromise one way or another with the dominant culture. Ultimately, however, they drew strength from God's presence amongst them, and they lived full Christian lives without social approval or advancement.

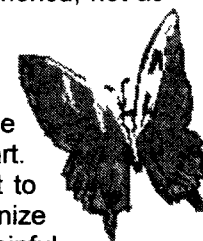
Those early Christians thought of pacifism not as an option, but as an essential part of living in Christ. Indeed, many martyrs were ex-soldiers, who converted to Christ and gave up their military careers for the sake of the kingdom. They considered themselves loyal subjects of the emperor, but they also heard Jesus calling them to a new and more authentic life. That early Christian mentality changed in the fourth century, when Christianity became the religion of the state, and bishops became officials of the empire. Within a generation, Church membership was chic; and the Sermon on the

Mount came to be seen as an option, not the foundation for the Christian life.

Nine centuries later, the good citizens of Assisi saw no contradiction between worshipping at San Rufino on Sunday, and fighting the people of Perugia on weekdays. One such citizen was Francesco Bernardone... until he became a prisoner of war, and began the life-long process of conversion. Francis' conversion into Christ led him to see all creation as his sisters and brothers. It led him to Egypt to encounter Sultan Melek-al-Khamil. It led him to effect reconciliation between the bishop and mayor of Assisi. It led countless thousands of once-nominal Christians to follow him in a new and dynamic experience of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

Today, you and I profess to live in Jesus after the manner of Francis of Assisi. Such a life is countercultural. We deplore the events of September 11 just as much as our fellow citizens, and we do not deny our government's responsibility to protect our people. But we likewise deplore the demonization of those who planned and perpetrated those events, and we recognize that we have much more in common with both President Bush and Osama Bin Laden than we might ever care to admit. As it was for our Christian forbears nineteen centuries ago, such a stance can be unpopular in a society which sings *God Bless America*, not as a humble request for mercy or justice, but as a self-aggrandizing claim to moral and military superiority

If I am honest, I must acknowledge the thirst for vengeance in my own heart. To follow Christ as Francis did is not to be naïve and unrealistic; it is to recognize my own sin, my solidarity with sinful brothers and sisters throughout the world, and Christ's redeeming love for all of us in the very midst of that sin. I am a sinner – in no position to self-righteously point out the speck either in the eye of my fellow citizen, or in that of a terrorist halfway around the globe. To follow Christ as Francis did is not only a challenge; if that were all it was, I suspect that I would have given up long ago. To follow Christ as Francis did is also to allow myself to be converted, and to experience the transforming power of God's love in my heart. Then I can let the Lord Jesus live in me; then I can sing with Francis:



*Praised be you, my Lord,  
through those who  
give pardon for your love  
and bear infirmity and tribulation.  
Blessed are those who endure in peace,  
for by you, Most High,  
shall they be crowned.*

Canticle vv 10-11

## National Ecology Commission Chair Needed

The National Executive Council invites Secular Franciscans to submit resumés for the positions of National Ecology Commission Chair. Applicants must:

- have active Secular Franciscan status (must provide copy of Certificate of Profession);
- be familiar with the Mission Statement and goals of the National Ecology Commission;
- be willing to communicate your passion and desire to promote the Ecology Commission to others;
- provide on-going Formation articles for TAU-USA;
- provide a summary of some of your ideas to promote the Commission; and
- be able to attend at least two four-day national meetings yearly.

Interested Secular Franciscans should mail resumés by February 1, 2001 to:

Carol Gentile, SFO  
National Commissions Coordinator  
136 Woods Avenue  
Monaca, PA 15061  
Phone 724-775-4248  
E-mail: gentcsfo@icubed.com



## Vermont Secular Franciscan Honored

Ken Spaulding, SFO, Formation Director of Saint Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity, Fair Haven, VT in Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Region, was honored for his volunteer work. He received the "State of Vermont Governor's Award for Outstanding Community Service". Ken was also invited to attend a hearing held in Dallas, TX, by the Housing and Urban Development Department to discuss changes in public housing policies.

Ken makes and repairs rosaries for the missions and for friends. He visits three area nursing homes and prays the Rosary with the residents. Ken has also given his time to the local Mission Kitchen. He paints and repairs statues for local churches and nursing homes.

Ken is married to Linda Spaulding, also a member of "Saint Max", and they have one son.



**THE LORD JESUS WAS TAKEN UP  
INTO HEAVEN AND TOOK HIS SEAT AT  
GOD'S RIGHT HAND.**

Mark 16:19

## † Requiescat in Pacem †



Kay Ulrickson, SFO, former Minister of Our Lady of the Rockies regional fraternity, passed away on January 17, 2002. I remember Kay as a good Franciscan woman – Montana version. She was the type of woman that you visualize a the reins of a covered wagon crossing the plains of Montana; a hardy woman who kept up her spirits no matter what. I recall her driving Brother James Boyle and me across Montana from one fraternity to another until we visited each of them. The speed limit had not too long ago been reinstated in Montana, but somehow that had slipped Kay's mind. Here is what her obituary said about her, and those of us who knew her can agree:

Kay was a humble woman with a happy disposition, a hearty laugh and a very generous heart. She lived her faith every day, offering a warm smile, an open heart and home, and lots of prayers to those in need. Through her strength and compassion, she taught us how to be good parents, teachers and friends. She had a gift for making people feel welcome, wanted and loved unconditionally. Ever thankful for help she received, she ended each conversation with "God Bless You."

Well, God is blessing you now, Kay. May you rest with our loving God in the "really" big sky country.



## LOST IN SAN ANTONIO

**DURING THE FIESTA AT THE NAFRA  
MEETING, WAS A CHAPLET  
BRACELET.**

**MADE FROM SILVER LINKS, GRAY  
HEMATITE BEADS, AND WITH A SMALL  
CRUCIFIX ATTACHED.**

**IT MAY HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN FOR A  
PRIZE FROM THE PIÑATA!**

**ANY PIECES RECOVERED WOULD BE  
APPRECIATED. IT WAS VERY  
SENTIMENTAL.**

**PLEASE CONTACT  
KATHY TAORMINA, SFO  
KLTSFO@FRONTIERNET.NET**



## Wanchena Family Selected as Queen of Peace Region's Family of the Year

Jim Hein, SFO  
Regional Minister

The Queen of Peace Regional Council has selected the Wanchena family as their Family of the Year.

The Wanchena family are members of the Pacem in Terris Fraternity in Isanti, MN. In a letter from their fraternity Formation Director, Julia Taube, SFO, she explained that Shirley Wanchena, SFO and her extended family are a star example of how families can live their faith and successfully pass it on from one generation to the next. While each member has a different calling in life and in the Church, each approaches it from a faith standpoint, and faith is integral to carrying out their call.

In living out her call as a Secular Franciscan, Shirley has founded a Franciscan Retreat Center to help others in their spiritual journey. She has taken Saint Francis' calling to "rebuild My Church" literally. Julia describes Shirley's calling: "When she talked with a spiritual advisor, he noted that what she envisioned was a model of Franciscan Spirituality. Ever wanting to be faithful to the Church, and under Her authority, she sought and received the local Bishop's blessing to establish Pacem in Terris Retreat Center. Several years later, she and her son Jeffrey went to Rome and obtained the personal blessing of Pope John Paul II for Pacem in Terris and for themselves and their families.

Her personal journey influenced the formation of her own family's life: love of God, trust in God, love of the Church and all the people of God.



### Secular Experience of Living Franciscanism

S.E.L.F. #19, sponsored by Our Lady of the Angels Region, Father Solanus Casey Region, and the Tau Cross Region, will be held at Mount Alvernia Retreat Center, Wappinger Falls, NY, August 12 – 16, 2002.

S.E.L.F. is not a retreat, but a week of secular experience of living Franciscanism, where private prayer, quiet time, Liturgy of the Hours, Mass, Rosary and the special evening social are very much the heart of the week. Talks that open our intellects to grow in knowledge, love, and service will also be included. The talks will be given by Secular Franciscan speakers. Small sharing groups will discuss the topic.

If you wish to attend the upcoming S.E.L.F. #19, make your reservations as soon as possible. The number of single rooms is limited. A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required. For further information and reservations, please contact Al Rocco, SFO, S/EL/F treasurer, 55 Meredith Lane, Oakdale, NY 11769-1007; telephone 631-218-6829.

## National Formation Commission Meets



The National Formation Commission met January 26 – 30, 2002 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. Pictured (first row, left to right) are Loris Morrissey, SFO, Father Richard Trezza, OFM, and Teresa Baker, SFO; (second row, left to right) Dorothy Palzinski, SFO, Anne Mulqueen, SFO, Thérèse Ream, SFO, and Deacon David Ream, SFO.



### Transformation

Marta Kassai, SFO  
Sacred Heart Fraternity, Blessed Junipero Serra Region  
November 19, 2001

Nature will surrender  
Her beauty in November.  
Awake she could not keep.  
She will remain asleep  
Until the kiss of Spring  
Her redemption will bring.

What goes on beneath snow,  
No one will ever know.  
The veil that covers all  
Can penetrate no soul.  
The Creator's at work,  
And cannot be disturbed.

God puts forward His best  
While Nature seams at rest.  
As she opens her eyes,  
Nobody this denies:  
Beneath Winter's disguise,  
Still so much beauty lies.

Copyright © 2001 Marta Kassai, All rights reserved

## Mx In Thx Markxt Placx: Arx You A Kxy Pxrson?

Dr. Vincent A. Cristiani, SFO  
Minister, Saint John of God Fraternity  
Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Region

Xvxn though my typxwrttr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll, xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys. I havx wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxrfxctly, but it doxs not. It is trux that thxrx arx 46 kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs a big diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that cxrtain mxmbxrs of thx Sxcular Franciscan Ordxx arx somxwhat likx my typxwrttr: not all rxalizx that thxy arx kxy pxoplx, hxncx, many arx not working propxry or xfxctivly in xach fratrnrity or in thx markxt placx of thxir livxs. You may say to yoursxlf, "wxll, I am only onx pxrson. I won't makx or brxak thx fratrnrity, and I can't changx thx world. I'm rxally not that important." But, it doxs makx a diffxrxncx bxcasux wx arx all instrumxnts of thx Lord.

"Mx" in thx markxt placx, mxans God has dxignxd for mx to bx thxrx. Hx nxxds thx activx participation of vxxy pxrson and vxxy Sxcular Franciscan mxmbxr. Thxrx is only onx mx. Thxrx nxvxx was anothxx mx bxforx, and thxrx will nxvxx bx anothxx mx again. Yxs, I am nxxdxd. I am spxcial and unqux. God grantxd mx thx gift of lifx and I havx an obligation to livx that lifx rxspnsibly and to usx my talxnts for His honor and glory and likx our sxraphic Saint Francis, to bx an instrumxnt of his lovx. So, thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson, and that your xfforts arxn't important or nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr my typxwrttr and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson. I am unqux in thx Sxcular Franciscan Ordxx and in thx markxt placx. I am vxxy much nxxdxd. God crxatxd mx through his lovx, and I bxloug in my pxrsonal markxt placx for a rxason, to not only bx an objxt of His lovx, but also to bx a spxcial, unqux, and activx instrumxnt of His pxacx and lovx."



The first principle of the Church's social teaching, from which all others derive: the center of the social order is man, considered in his inalienable dignity as a creature made "in the image of God". The value of society comes from the value of man, and not vice versa.

Pope John Paul II, September 9, 1993

## Applications Sought for National Peace and Justice Commission Chair

The National Executive Council invites qualified Secular Franciscans to submit resumes for the position of Chair of the National Peace and Justice Commission. An applicant is expected to:

- be an active professed Secular Franciscan (a copy of Profession Certificate is required);
- be familiar with the Mission Statement and Goals of the National Peace and Justice Commission;
- possess a broad-based understanding of Catholic social teaching as outlined in church documents, as well as experience with and an appreciation of the Franciscan approach to peace and justice;
- possess an understanding of and familiarity with the Rule and General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order;
- have excellent written and oral communication skills;
- be available and willing to travel to required meetings and workshops; and
- be committed to working collaboratively with the National Executive Council, the National Fraternity Council, the chairpersons and coordinator of the other National Commissions, the Conference of National Spiritual Assistants, the members of the National Peace and Justice Commission and the Regional Peace and Justice Commission chairs.

An applicant wishing to obtain a complete job description of this position should feel free to contact Carol Gentile, SFO, the National Commissions Coordinator.

The current plan calls for the appointment of a Chair-Elect for the Peace and Justice Commission by October 2002, to work with the current Chairs until October 2003 when the appointment as Chair becomes effective. Interested Secular Franciscan should submit resumes by July 15, 2002 to:

Carol Gentile, SFO  
National Commissions Coordinator  
136 Woods Avenue  
Monaca, PA 15061  
Phone: 724-775-4248  
E-mail: gentcsfo@icubed.com



**We are God's minstrels,  
and ask you to repay us  
for our songs by living  
in true penitence.**

Mirror of Perfection, 100

# National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order - USA

## Quarterly Financial Report for Calendar Year 2001

### GENERAL FUND REPORT

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+

TOTAL      BUDGET

Quarter Ended: 03/31/01    06/30/01    09/30/01    12/31/01

Acct #	INCOME					TOTAL	BUDGET
						YEAR	
6110	PER CAPITA	29,597	31,307	44,949	16,923	122,776	126,000
6120	INTEREST	1,791	1,913	1,197	935	5,837	3,000
6200&06	FORMATION SALES	8,786	7,474	6,637	8,648	31,545	20,000
6210	NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS	747	929	1,297	1,288	4,261	
6140	MISCELLANEOUS	1,019		6	6	1,030	1,000
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>41,940</b>	<b>41,623</b>	<b>54,085</b>	<b>27,800</b>	<b>165,449</b>	<b>150,000</b>

### EXPENSES

7110	CIOFS PER CAPITA	8,683				8,683	9,000
7120	NEWSLETTER	4,090	200	3,021	5,181	12,493	25,000
7130	ANNUAL MEETING	7,939		4,104	19,812	31,855	26,000
7140	COUNCIL OFFICERS	2,965	5,176	4,048	4,572	16,761	14,000
7150	COUNCIL MEETINGS	6,475	12,352	111	100	19,037	14,000
7160	CIOFS VISITATION						3,000
7180	FORMATION-PRINTING	1,430	14,839	1,806	6,616	24,690	18,000
7135	QUINQUENNIAL	692	357		14,570	15,619	5,000
	COMMISSIONS:						
7181	FORMATION	3,173	270	406	3,964	7,812	7,000
7182	PEACE & JUSTICE		2,119	117	1,764	4,001	4,000
7183	FAMILY	29	642	54	4,344	5,069	4,000
7184	WORK	700	420	139	2,995	4,254	4,000
7185	ECOLOGY			1,253	500	1,753	4,000
7187	YOUTH	2,352	154	369	1,290	4,165	4,000
	MISCELLANEOUS:						
7188	ECUMENICAL COMMITTEE		455	1,081	1,389	2,925	3,000
7199	CONFERENCE NATIONAL SP ASST			1,000		1,000	1,000
7171	MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE			500	3,708	4,208	4,500
7172	PEACE AWARD COMMITTEE				191	191	500
7197	OTHER						
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>38,528</b>	<b>36,982</b>	<b>18,008</b>	<b>70,996</b>	<b>164,514</b>	<b>150,000</b>

<b>NET INCOME (EXPENSE)</b>	<b>3,412</b>	<b>4,641</b>	<b>36,078</b>	<b>(43,196)</b>	<b>935</b>	
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#### Bank Balances:

<b>Beginning:</b> CHECKING - HSBC	34,048	31,976	8,566	29,297	
SAVINGS - HSBC	83,963	84,447	112,497	127,844	
FI SOLIDARITY CREDIT UNION	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
<b>TOTAL - Beginning Balance</b>	<b>128,011</b>	<b>131,423</b>	<b>136,064</b>	<b>172,141</b>	
<b>Ending:</b> CHECKING - HSBC	31,976	8,566	29,297	7,046	
SAVINGS - HSBC	84,447	112,497	127,844	105,900	
FI SOLIDARITY CREDIT UNION	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
Merchant Account				1,000	
<b>TOTAL - Ending Balance</b>	<b>131,423</b>	<b>136,064</b>	<b>172,141</b>	<b>128,945</b>	

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED  
John K. Sanborn, sfo, National Treasurer

11-Jan-02

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**NAFRA**

**REGION SUMMARY REPORT**

#	Name of Region	Report for Year	Prof	Cand	Inqu	Regular		Emerg		Youth		Per Capita Balance Due Paid (\$) for 2001 (\$)	Prior Year Paid Now (\$)
						Frats	Frats	Frats	Frats	Frats	Frats		
50	OHANA O KE ANUENUE	2001	37	3	9	4	0	0	0	0	259		
51	FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS	2001	658	69	35	35	0	0	0	0	4606		
52	ST FRANCIS	2001	925	126	127	29	5	0	0	0	6475		
53	BL JUNIPERO SERRA	2001	683	58	51	29	4	0	0	0	4781		
54	TROUBADOURS OF PEACE	2001	322	18	7	14	2	0	0	0	2254		
55	QUEEN OF PEACE	2001	566	34	18	33	5	2	2	2	3962		
56	DIVINE MERCY	2001	943	75	57	27	1	0	0	0	6601		
57	ST MARGARET OF CORTONA	2001	772	64	60	33	0	0	0	0	5404		
58	ST THOMAS MORE	2001	238	23	14	8	1	3	3	3	1666		
59	MOTHER CABRINI	2001	925	57	61	34	4	0	0	0	6475	100	
60	ST JOAN OF ARC	2001	350	54	24	18	1	0	0	0	2450	1400	
61	BRO & SIS OF ST FRANCIS	NR	331	58	70	22	8	0	0	0	2317	295	
62	BRO & SIS OF ST FRANCIS	NR	100	3	2	3	1	0	0	0	700		
63	EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS		332	0	0	10	1	0	0	0	2324		
64	FRANCISCANS OF THE PRAIRIE		345	26	24	20	1	0	0	0	2415		
65	HOLY TRINITY		705	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	4935		
66	LA VERNA		361	25	39	21	2	0	0	0	2527		
67	OUR LADY OF INDIANA	NR	366	61	34	23	11	0	0	0	2562		
68	LOS TRES COMPANEROS		674	65	41	34	3	0	0	0	4718		
69	LADY POVERTY		1034	82	47	40	0	1	1	1	7238		
70	ST KATHARINE DREXEL		717	24	46	22	2	1	1	1	5019		
71	ST MAXIMILIAN KOLBE		597	41	55	33	5	0	0	0	4179		
72	BL KATERI TEKAKWITHA		173	17	7	13	2	1	1	1	1211		
73	SANTA MARIA DE LAS MONTANAS		91	6	2	7	2	0	0	0	637		
74	OUR LADY OF THE ROCKIES		327	20	11	8	4	0	0	0	2289		
75	ST CLARE		378	23	19	27	3	0	0	0	2646		
76	OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE		1044	53	40	38	2	0	0	0	7308		
77	FR SOLANUS CASEY		1131	88	60	60	5	0	0	0	7917		
78	OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS		1019	55	38	47	2	0	0	0	7133		
79	ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY		999	43	31	40	3	0	0	0	6993		
80	THE TAU CROSS		140	20	10	12	2	0	0	0	980		
<b>Totals</b>			<b>17283</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>1039</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$120,981</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,795</b>

# NATIONAL FRATERNTIY OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER - USA

BUDGET FOR 2002

AS APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL FRATERNITY COUNCIL ON 10/27/2001.

----- INCOME -----		ACCOUNT #
PER CAPITA @ \$7 (18,000 members)	126,000	6110
INTEREST	5,000	6120
FORMATION BOOK SALES	26,000	6200+6206
MISCELLANEOUS	1,000	6140
<hr/>		
TOTAL INCOME	158,000	
<hr/>		
----- EXPENSES -----		
CIOFS MEETING	6,000	7145
CIOFS PER CAPITA	9,000	7110
NEWSLETTER	25,000	7120
ANNUAL MEETING	26,000	7130
COUNCIL OFFICERS	14,000	7140
COUNCIL MEETINGS	15,000	7150
FORMATION - PRINTING	18,000	7180
QUINQUENNIAL	2,000	7135
COMMISSIONS:		
FORMATION	7,000	7181
PEACE & JUSTICE	4,000	7182
FAMILY	4,000	7183
WORK	4,000	7184
ECOLOGY	4,000	7185
YOUTH	5,000	7187
MISCELLANEOUS:		
NATIONAL ARCHIVES	5,000	7173
ECUMINICAL COMMITTEE	5,000	7188
MULTI-CULTURAL COMMITTEE	4,500	7171
CONFERENCE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSISTANTS	1,000	7199
PEACE AWARD COMMITTEE	500	7172
<hr/>		
TOTAL EXPENSES	159,000	
<hr/>		
NET INCOME (DEFICIT)	(1,000)	
<hr/>		

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John K Sanborn, sfo  
National Treasurer

14-Nov-01

# Franciscan Formation Materials

## Made Available by the National Formation Commission

	Number of Copies	Price
<u>English/Spanish Color Printed SFO Promotional Brochures.</u> Glossy color tri-fold brochure – English on one side, Spanish on the other. 50¢ each; minimum order is 50 brochures for \$25.00 (includes P&H).	_____	_____
<u>Catch Me A Rainbow Too!</u> Ideal for Initial and Ongoing Formation! Spiral-bound format! Bach, Lester, OFM Cap. (1999). \$16.00 per copy, plus \$4.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.50 for 2, \$7.00 for 3. 10 or more copies is \$12.80 per copy, plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>Gospel Living Every Day of Our Lives: A Formation Guide To The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.</u> Baker, Teresa V., SFO. (1994). 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 131 pages. \$10.00 per copy, plus \$4.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.50 for 2, \$7.00 for 3; 10 or more copies is \$8.00 per copy plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>Elements of Formation: A Reflection on the Formation Process.</u> (1995). 8 1/2" x 11", 38 pages. \$5.00 per copy, plus \$3.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.00 for 2, and \$6.50 for 3; 25 or more copies is \$4.00 per copy plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>1998/1999/2000 Supplement for Formation Resource List.</u> 8 1/2"x 11", 3 hole drilled, 20 pages. \$5.00 per copy, includes P&H.	_____	_____
<u>Formation Resource List</u> (includes 1998/1999/2000 Supplement). 8 1/2"x 11", 3 hole drilled, 86 pages. \$10.00 per copy, plus \$4.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.50 for 2.	_____	_____
<u>Guia Para la Formación Inicial en la Orden Franciscana Seglar de Los Estados Unidos.</u> (1987). 8 1/2" x 11", 41 pages. \$5.00 per copy, plus \$3.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.00 for 2, and \$6.50 for 3; 25 or more copies is \$4.00 per copy plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>A Guide For Franciscan Youth / Young Adult Ministry.</u> (1998). 8 1/2" x 11", 84 pages. \$8.50 per copy, plus \$3.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.00 for 2, \$6.50 for 3; 10 or more copies is \$6.80 per copy, plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>Guidelines for Initial Formation in the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States.</u> (1986). 8 1/2"x 11", 38 pages. \$5.00 per copy, plus \$3.50 P&H; P&H is \$5.00 for 2, and \$6.50 for 3; 25 or more copies is \$4.00 per copy, plus P&H.	_____	_____
<u>Handbook For Secular Franciscan Servant Leadership.</u> (1998). 8 1/2" X 11", 3 hole drilled, 137 pages plus Formation Resource List as a 58 page appendix, plus 20 page 1998/1999/2000 Supplement. \$25.00 per copy, plus \$5.00 P&H; P&H is \$6.00 for 2, \$7.00 for 3.	_____	_____
<u>The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.</u> (1997). 5" x 3" red presentation edition, 40 pages. 10 books for only \$18.40 (includes P&H).	_____	_____
<b>NEW!</b> <u>Come and See: Orientation and Inquiry</u> Bach, Lester, OFM Cap and Baker, Teresa V., SFO. An invitation to explore Secular Franciscan Life. 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 223 sheets, 115 printed page. \$13.00 per copy + P&H; 10 or more copies \$10.40 each + P&H; CD ROM disc \$6.50 + P&H.	_____	_____
<b>NEW!</b> <u>2002 Calendars</u> , prepared by the National Family Commission. 11" x 17", includes artwork by Jaime Bernardo, SFO. \$2.75 each, includes P&H.	_____	_____
<b>NEW!</b> <u>Formation Digests.</u> #101 "Francis of Assisi"; #121 "Clare of Assisi"; #131 "Franciscan Prayer"; #141 "Franciscan View of Christ"; #151 "Franciscan View of Mary"; #161 "Peace and Justice"; #171 "Care of Creation"; #181 "Spirituality"; #191 "Vision of Youth". Each is 4 pages, 8 1/2" x 11". Complete set of nine, \$5.00. Additional sets are \$2.00 each. Mix or match 50 – 100, 35 cents each; 101-250 30 cents each. Includes P&H.	_____	_____

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Anita, PA 15711

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