



The Tau Signature

Tau Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order – Herndon, Virginia
St. Margaret of Cortona Region

August 2016



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Minister's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I want to thank you for reelecting me to serve another term as the minister of Tau Fraternity. I am humbled by your support and confidence in me. As always, if anyone needs anything to me, I am here for you. Please know that I pray for our fraternity members daily, and I ask for your continued prayers for me. The new Council met on August 18, and I am very excited to work with Bill Richey, Walter, Terry and Vera. I am so grateful to Bob Calderon, Clari, Bill Brewster and Terry for making the past three years on council so enjoyable - it was a true blessing to serve with you! As all of you are aware, our annual Open House is coming up on October 2. Please give any assistance you can to Bill Bouffard and Gail in getting the word out to prospective aspirants. Look around at the people with whom you interact - I suspect that you know at least one person who may have a vocation. Please invite him/her to our Open House. Please obtain copies of the brochure and pass them out. Please make sure notices are placed in your parish bulletins. We are so blessed to have our Franciscan spirituality! Let's share our blessings with others and invite them to "Come and See".

Peace and blessings,
Pamela Brooks, OFS

Recap of Last 8/7/16 Meeting

Tau Fraternity Council Election:

In lieu of the regular meeting format, we held the election for the next council, which will serve Tau Fraternity for the next three years. The election began at 1:30pm. Victoria Shanholtz, OFS served as the Secretary of Elections. From the St. Margaret of Cortona Region, Robert Longo, OFS presided and Brother Michael Meza, OFM served as Friar Witness. Cynthia Filan-Kim and Joseph Messina served as tellers for the election. Twenty-two Tau Fraternity members voted.

The newly elected council members are:

Pamela Brooks OFS, Minister
William Richey OFS, Vice Minister
Vera Stewart OFS, Secretary
Terry Rinker OFS, Treasurer
Walter Gawlak OFS, Formation Director



L – R Vice Minister - Bill Richey, OFS, Secretary – Vera Stewart, OFS, Minister – Pamela Brooks, OFS – Treasurer – Terry Rinker, OFS, Director of Formation – Walter Gawlak, OFS

St. Vincent de Paul

Keep up the good work in food donations – they are greatly appreciated. Note that I attempt to load up my vehicle with your donations before and after the opening prayer. I do check during breaks and after the meetings for late arrivals. If you have something that you cannot bring in yourself, let me know and I will give you a hand.
Thanks!

Terry Rinker, OFS

Prayer Submissions

Please forward prayer requests to Vera Stewart by the 14th of the month, so that they may be included in the newsletter. Please keep the following members, relatives, and friends in your prayers:

For the repose of the soul of our sister Mary McCarthy. For physical and spiritual healing of Sally White and Sally's sister; Richard & Carole Clarke and their grandsons Liam and Rory; William Brewster; Helen Broxmeyer's daughter Susan; Fr. Alberto's father; Irene Naveau; Ron Kauffman; Kimberley Heatherington's father; Ed Geiger;

and Pam Brook's foster sister Kelly. Thanksgiving for the birth of Kelly's son. For the safety of the citizens of Aleppo, Syria during the civil war. For the people of Italy who suffer loss from the earthquake. For all those who are in need of our prayers who have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Something to Consider

Submitted by Sally White, OFS

Psalm 23 (For the Work Place)
Pauline Cahalan, SFO
Chair, National Work Commission

From an issue of ONLINE WITH FAITH, an electronic newsletter, which is a ministry of Faith Lutheran Church, Springfield, IL, Glen VanderKloot – Pastor.

The Lord is my real Boss, and I shall not want.

He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.

He gently reminds me to pray before I speak and to do all things without murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that He, not my job, is my Source.

He restores my sanity every day and guides my decisions that I might honor Him in everything I do.

Even though I may face absurd amounts of e-mails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget outbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors, and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I will not stop for He is with me!

His presence, His peace, and His power will see me through.

He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me.

He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go.

His faithfulness and love are better than any bonus check.

His retirement plan beats every 401K there is!

When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, I bless His Name.

May God bless each of you with an inspirational year in which all those you encounter experience Christ's love radiating through you and that you grow in your understanding that everything you do in life to further God's kingdom is the work you were put here to do and gives God honor and glory.

Questions for Discussion:

1. As a Catholic and a Secular Franciscan, how do I define the word "work"?
2. Which line(s) in the psalm above mean(s) the most to me? Why?
3. Do I have a proper perspective of work in my life or do I need an attitude adjustment about it?

Coming up in September

September is the Month of the Holy Cross! *

Sept. 4 – Canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta **

Sept. 8 – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sept. 9 – John Ata's birthday

Sept. 10 – Profession Anniversary (16 years!) for Kay Flynn and Irene Naveau

Sept. 14 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sept. 17 – Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi

* See the Franciscan Calendar for more dates: <http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/traditional-franciscan-calendar.html>

**See the EWTN Special Programs listing for viewing times:

<http://www.ewtn.com/multimedia/advances.asp?sat=DOME&weeknum=5&date=09/04/2016>



Tau Fraternity: Next Meeting Date

Tau Fraternity General Meeting:

Sunday, September 4 at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church

12:30 - 1:30 Inquirer/Candidate Formation

1:30 - Opening Prayer

1:35 - 2:10 Social time with meal

2:10 - 3:00 On-going formation

3:00 - 3:10 Break

3:10 - 3:30 Saint presentation or other

3:30 - 4:00 Liturgy of Hours, business meeting, and closing prayer

Initial Formation discussion: Chapter 9 of The Franciscan Journey

Ongoing Formation discussion: Chapter 13 of Catching Fire, Becoming Flame, by Albert Haase, OFM.

Liturgy of the Hours:

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Hymn: #182 – O God, Our Help in Ages Past: pg. 1704

Gospel Canticle and Prayer: Evening Prayer II: pgs. 629

Everything else: Sunday, Week III Evening Prayer II: pg. 861

For the next newsletter, please send your prayer requests and submissions to Vera Stewart at thevastewarts@gmail.com, or call or text (703) 459-6958.

