



# The Tau Signature

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

November 2016



Purchase this inspirational plaque at [www.monasteryicons.com](http://www.monasteryicons.com)

## Minister's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Like many of you, I have been praying for an increase in vocations to our Tau fraternity. I have always believed that this is God's fraternity, and if someone has a calling, God will lead them to us. I know many of us were disappointed with the turnout at our Open House on October 2. However, rather than get discouraged, I have continued to pray about this issue. Well, today I received a reminder from God that it is indeed His fraternity. I received e-mails from two people today from different parishes asking if they could attend our November meeting and both indicating that they feel a calling to the Secular Franciscan Order. Of course I invited them to join us. So I ask two things of each of you. First, please continue to pray for vocations, not only to our fraternity, but to the priesthood and the religious life. Second, please help me welcome our visitors at our November meeting (and pray that they are able to join us). Peace and blessings, Pam

Pamela Brooks, OFS

## Recap of Last Meeting 10/2/16

Father Alberto joined us for the early part of the meeting! The meeting began with an opening prayer read by Walter Gawlak. We held our open house, beginning with a greeting from Father Alberto, and a video about the Secular Franciscan Order. Two guests were in attendance. After the video, Bill Bouffard gave a short presentation on the Secular Franciscan Order and the Tau Fraternity. After a short break, we continued our ongoing formation book Catching Fire Becoming Flame with small group discussion on Chapter 13 "Meditation and Contemplation". Then Walter Gawlak lead us through Chapter 14 "Lectio Divina," noting the steps read, meditate, pray, contemplate, and act. He pointed out how we can use religious artwork in our prayer.

## 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

## Breakfast with Tau

Please join us for the next breakfast on Saturday, November 19th at Virginia Kitchen, immediately following the 8am Mass at St. Joseph Parish. Please RSVP to Clari if you plan to attend.

## Prayer Submissions

Please forward prayer requests to Vera Stewart by the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month, so that they may be included in the newsletter. Please keep the following members, relatives, and friends in your prayers:  
For physical and spiritual healing of Sally White and her sister; Mary Wood, daughter of one of the Tau Fraternity Founders Martha Ureke, OFS; Richard & Carole Clarke and their grandsons Liam and Rory; William Brewster; Helen Broxmeyer and her daughter Susan; Fr. Alberto's father; Irene Naveau; Ron Kauffman; and Ed Geiger;  
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.

## Coming up in November

November is the Month of Holy Souls in Purgatory \*

- Nov. 1 – Feast of All Saints (Holy day of obligation)
- Nov. 2 – Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed (All Souls Day)
- Nov. 6 – Tau Fraternity monthly meeting at St. Joseph
- Nov. 10 – Kay Flynn's birthday
- Nov. 19 – Breakfast with Tau at Virginia Kitchen
- Nov. 23 – Erik Larin's birthday

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

## Our Individual Apostolates

One of Sally White's apostolates is the support she provides to the Military Mamas Network. This non-profit organization aids the welfare of our troops by sending cards, letters, and care packages to veterans or their families. To learn more about this organization, go to <http://militarymamanetwork.org/>



## Tau Fraternity: Next Meeting Date

### **Tau Fraternity General Meeting: Sunday, November 6 at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church**

- 12:30 - 1:30 Inquirer/Candidate Formation
- 1:30 - Opening Prayer – Cynthia Filan-Kim
- 1:35 – 2:05 Social time with meal
- 2:05 - 2:50 On-going formation
- 2:50 – 3:00 Break
- 3:00 - 3:30 Presentation - Bill Richey, OFS
- 3:30 - 4:00 Liturgy of Hours, business meeting, and closing prayer

**Initial Formation discussion:** Chapter 11 of The Franciscan Journey

**Ongoing Formation discussion:** Chapter 15 of Catching Fire, Becoming Flame, by Albert Haase, OFM.

**Presentation:** Japanese Catholic novelist Shusaku Endo's novel "Silence," about Jesuit missionaries in Japan. To be released in January as film directed by Martin Scorsese, with Liam Neeson in lead role.

#### **Liturgy of the Hours:**

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Reader: Kimberley Heatherington, OFS (Substitute – Irene Naveau, OFS)

Hymn: #40 – *Love Divine All Love Excelling*: pg. 1548

Gospel Canticle and Prayer: Evening Prayer II: pg. 639

Everything else: Sunday, Week III Evening Prayer II: pg. 931

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

