



PACE E BENE

TAU FRATERNITY

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

<https://tauofs.org/>

April 2020

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Peace and all Good!

Easter is on April 12. What can I say to you about the Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection — the most hopeful day on the Church's liturgical calendar — that you haven't already heard?

Probably not much. But I can re-emphasize our uniquely Franciscan perspective on the reason for it.

Consider this excerpt from *Discovering the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition: A Life-Giving Vision* (by John V. Kruse, Ph.D. - Franciscan Institute Publications, 2017):

“The Tradition places more emphasis on the belief that God became human in the person of Jesus Christ as a natural and free outpouring of God's love and goodness rather than on the belief that God became human just to settle some horrible debt resulting from human sin. While definitely recognizing the sinfulness of humanity, the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition emphasizes humanity's goodness as creatures whom God lovingly created in God's own image and to whom God wishes to draw near in the person of Jesus. Again, The Franciscan Intellectual Tradition emphasizes that God became human because of **who God is**, not because of **what humankind did**.”

In the strictest theological terms, this also makes perfect sense. Jesus, the Ultimate Pre-Existent Divine Good (John 1:1-3), cannot be contingent upon the free-will actions of a transient, mortal humanity. He is not an “afterthought antidote” to sin — rather, He is the highest expression of God's unquenchable desire to be in loving union with humankind.

Absent the Incarnation, we could always say, “God just doesn't understand.” But He does — precisely because He became one of us, and came among us. He knows what it is to be misunderstood. To be tired and hungry. To suffer, and yes, to die.

This is an Alleluia-worthy thing to ponder — the Incarnation is an abundant expression of mercy and hope that should ennoble and energize us, who realize through it the limitless and profound love that God has for us. Let us take that with us during the Easter season, and beyond.

Holding you all in prayer,

Kimberley

RECAP OF LAST GATHERING

OPENING PRAYER

Anima Christi

Read by Pat B., OFS

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ,
Wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Permit me not to be separated
from You.
From the wicked foe, defend me.
At the hour of my death, call me
and bid me come to You.
That with your saints I may praise
You.
For ever and ever. Amen.

ONGOING FORMATION

Walter Gawlak, OFS began ongoing formation with a recap of the last session. The discussion pertaining to care for creation was meant to move us from contemplation to action. Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* is intrinsically bound with care for creation, what we call Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC).

After the recap, The group discussed the six chapters from *Laudato Si*:

1. What is Happening to our Common Home?
2. The Gospel of Creation
3. The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis
4. Integral Ecology
5. Lines of Approach and Action
6. Ecological, Education, and Spirituality.

Next month, read Rule 15 and Rule 19. We will discuss.

PRAYER

In memoriam of Brandt Heatherington and in support of our sister Kimberley, we prayed a Hail Mary.

PRESENTATION

Bill Bouffard, OFS gave a presentation on another viewpoint of sin. Bill noted that there are a lot of documents that provide us with spiritual guidance, but the difficulty is in implementing them. The culture in our country opposes our Franciscan charism with its desire for profit and consumerism. The biggest sin of our culture is self-absorption; it is a social sin. We, too, participate in social sin. When we see poverty and social injustice, we are called to solidarity in suffering. In our daily lives, we must remember our kinship of creation.

PRAYER SUBMISSIONS

Please keep the following members, relatives, and friends in your prayers:

For physical and spiritual healing of Sally White; Richard & Carole Clarke and their grandsons Liam and Rory; Helen Broxmeyer; William Brewster; Irene Naveau; Kay Flynn; and Catherine Williams. For the patients and Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House. For the repose of the soul of Brandt Heatherington. For the Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic and its patients. For all peoples who suffer persecution. For the victims of natural disasters. For all those who are in need of our prayers who have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Please forward prayer requests to Vera Stewart, OFS by the 14th of the month, so that they may be included in the newsletter.

APOSTOLATES

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Help to feed the hungry. Food donations for the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry will be collected during each monthly gathering. Thank you to Terry Rinker, OFS who has graciously delivered food to the food pantry at St. Leo the Great. Terry is moving out of the area. This month, Cyndy Filan-Kim, OFS volunteered to deliver food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter at her parish. Please note that in the spirit of *Laudato Si*, we will have two bins available for the food collection (in lieu of plastic bags).

Thank you!

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY HOSPICE APOSTOLATE

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 11, our next visit to the Gift of Peace House, a hospice run by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters in Washington, DC. (That's right, it's the day before Easter, a time when our volunteering will be especially helpful to the Sisters.) **At this point in time, we still plan to volunteer on April 11, despite the virus outbreak, of course taking precautions to protect both the hospice patients and Sisters, and also Fraternity volunteers. Pat remains in contact with the Sisters and will let you know if that changes, or how our regular visit to the hospice needs to be modified.** As always, we will meet at St. Joseph Church parking lot at 7 am, the same lot where we park for Fraternity gatherings. We plan to return by 1 pm. If you will attend, please call or text Pat or Joe, so we are able to plan transportation logistics.

Whether or not you are able to attend, please keep the hospice patients and the work of the Sisters in your prayers.

To learn more about this apostolate and how to volunteer, please contact Pat B., OFS or Joe M., OFS. All are welcome!

INDIVIDUAL APOSTOLATES

Blankets for the Homeless

Many thanks to Fraternity members' overwhelming response to our call for blankets, which were brought to our February Fraternity gathering. Pat reports that they have since been distributed to area homeless men and women who were comforted by these gifts. Words are insufficient in expressing to all of those who donated blankets how meaningful it was to the recipients, for whom your simple acts remind them of the warmth of our Lord's love for them. Please continue to keep our homeless brothers and sisters in our daily prayers.

LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Lenten H2O Project is an international project to promote Christian solidarity, advocacy and financial support for poor communities in developing and under-developed nations that have no access to clean drinking water. You can participate by abstaining from drinking any beverage except water – preferably tap water for two weeks and setting aside any money normally spent on sodas and Starbucks. In solidarity with our brothers and sisters who do not even have clean water to drink, we increase our

connections, awareness and responsibility to poor communities and God's Creation. Please send all contributions to the H2O Lenten Project 2020, c/o Claudia Kauzlarich, 2007 Maverick Trail Harrisonville, MO 64701-1545. Make the check payable to OFS-USA; with H2O Project in the memo line. And thank you for your generous contributions.

REFLECTION FROM 2020 TAU FRATERNITY LENTEN RETREAT

Submitted by Gil Donahue, OFS

At the Tau Fraternity February 29 Day of Reflection, Fr. Alberto provided a thoughtful explanation of how St. Francis set up the First, Second and Third Orders. Father reviewed the historical and cultural context of 13th century Italy, and the complex process of developing rules for the orders. He explained how the three orders are related to each other. He noted the particular closeness of members of the Third Order, which includes the TOR priests as well as us Seculars.

Fr. Alberto was asked: How are the TOR priests at St. Joseph's different from their diocesan priest counterparts at other parishes? He explained that diocesan priests do not take an oath of poverty, do not expect to "live in community" with their fellow priests (that is, they are autonomous even if living in the same building), and operate under the rules and guidance of the bishop and canon law.

Of course, TOR priests also come under the authority of the bishop and canon law. However, they also are subject to the provincial of their order. TOR priests, like all Franciscans, take an oath of poverty (in addition to chastity and obedience), and they expect to live in community. Fr. Alberto explained that, given the normal work schedule in a busy parish such as St. Joseph's, the friars have to make a special effort to have opportunities for common worship and sharing. Those occasions are essential for them to maintain, and deepen, their Franciscan approach to the priesthood.

When asked specifically how the TOR friars perform their jobs differently from the diocesan priests, Father commented that the difference is in how the friars approach the sacraments. He noted that when celebrating the mass, the friars seek to bring forward the depth of their Franciscan spirituality. Similarly, they approach the sacrament of reconciliation from the standpoint of being on the side of the penitent and helping that person progress in the spiritual life. The fraternity members attending this event agreed that Fr. Alberto put his finger on much that is special about St. Joseph's.

It occurs to me that we should ask ourselves the question posed to Fr. Alberto: What makes us Secular Franciscans different from other Catholics? Like all Catholics, we are subject to the precepts of the Church. Like all Christians, we should be following the teachings of Jesus Christ. As Franciscans, however, we should strive for more. For example, we should seek to be peacemakers, live the Gospel life, champion the poor and marginalized, and bring hope and joy to others. It is a tall order, and we approach it one day at a time.

TAU COMMITTEES

If you are interested in participating actively in one of our Committees, take a moment to chat with the chair:

Hospitality Committee – Veronica O'Donnell, OFS
Interfaith/Ecumenical Committee – Kimberley Heatherington, OFS
Infirmarian Committee – Sally White, OFS
Recruitment Committee – Vacant
Technology Committee – John Ata, OFS

INTERFAITH/ECUMENICAL COMMITTEE

MLK Multi-faith Program 2020

[by Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington](#)

Sunday, April 19, 2020
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EDT

Metropolitan AME Church
1518 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

The Annual MLK Multi-faith Program will appeal to people of all religions and ethnicities who respect the work of Dr. King to “uphold the worth and dignity of all people.”

Highlights of the Program Include:

- Emcee: Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook; Former Ambassador for International Religious Freedom
- Reflection by Representative John Lewis
- Spoken Word Performance
- Youth Humanitarian Award Presentation: Naomi Wadler, Honoree
- Acknowledgement of SNCC Civil Rights Elders
- Hundred Voice Choir

And Much More . . .

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mlk-multifaith-program-2020-tickets-9801519508>

Casualty of Coronavirus: Ecumenism

BY [AGNES HOWARD](#)

Something important got lost this past Leap Year Day. February 29, 2020 was supposed to have been a big day—in church history.

Geneva, Switzerland, the international city reformed by John Calvin himself, was to welcome Roman Catholics back into the Cathedral of Saint-Pierre where, since the city adopted religious reform, no Mass had been taken place since the 1530s. Taking cue from another Swiss city, Lausanne, the church was to hold a Catholic Mass in a space long hostile to Roman Catholicism.

Intent not to take this concession in a “triumphalist” spirit, Catholic leaders in Geneva planned to worship together with Protestants. Some controversy spun out over who could receive communion. But the whole was planned, and was to be experienced, irenically as a “beautiful spiritual event,” in the words of Fr. Pascal Desthieux, slated to celebrate the Mass.

The Protestant reform of Geneva—its services, its government, and its manners, in addition to the central church itself—is a story oft told. Arriving in Geneva first in 1536, Calvin agreed to help Guillaume Farel reform the church there, but changes were rebuffed. He fled the city in 1538 and returned in 1541 when residents proved more amenable to his changes. Geneva became the epicenter of a brand of Christianity that took hold in many other places, including early American colonies.

Some Catholics were expelled from Geneva, including a house of Poor Clares, whose chronicler Jeanne de Jussie recorded the sorry spectacle as her fellow sisters trooped out beyond their beloved home to take refuge in a convent outside the city: “even though mother vicarress had given them all good shoes to keep them from hurting their feet, most of them did not how to travel by foot, but carried them attached to their belts.” Calvin and colleagues swept stained glass and art out of the Cathedral, a concerted civic iconoclasm, to reclaim space they considered idolatrous. St. Peter’s, Geneva, came to stand in opposition to the like-named church in Rome. In the church where Calvin preached, instead of the bishop’s throne now sat the reformer’s straight-backed chair with triangular seat.

Though Calvinism gets rendered too often as shorthand for predestination, the thought of the French reformer can be judged not only beautiful but influential. Calvin built institutions that shaped the way Reformed Protestants persisted and spread, not least because he hosted Protestants endangered or expelled in other places. English, Scottish, Dutch, and American Protestants learned from Geneva and carried its lessons far beyond.

To press the point of its Protestant character, in 1909 Geneva installed a monument to the Reformation in its old city wall to mark the four hundredth anniversary of Calvin’s birth. Team Reformation—Calvin, Theodore Beza, John Knox, and Guillaume Farel—stand shoulder to shoulder, hulking and modern, with other Protestant

worthies lining up along the flanks, a narrative of religious reform including New England's own Roger Williams.

The city's past makes the ecumenical present moment even more significant. No Mass has been celebrated in the cathedral for almost 500 years. The timing of this joint worship was to be noteworthy, not only falling on the peculiarity of a February 29 but at the start of the Lent, the season before Easter calling for personal and communal penance. The diocese even requested that other Catholic churches in the area not hold their usual Saturday evening services, which some believers attend rather than Sunday observance, in order to concentrate prayer on the "beautiful" event to be held at the Cathedral.

Desthieux looked for "a penitential approach to all that has divided the Church," the priest encouraging believers to seek "forgiveness for our sins against unity." Saint-Pierre Protestant pastor Emmanuel Fuchs insisted, "We cannot remain prisoners of history. History has to elevate us, not keep us in a straitjacket." From Catholic and Protestants both, the service was to be an occasion of common worship, a recognition of harms meted out on religious grounds from each to the other, and a gesture in an ecumenical direction. History can be powerful. And relevant. Awareness of that power was, regrettably, no match for the microbe. The city canceled the service abruptly, for fear of Coronavirus contagion.

We still may rejoice that the service was planned at all, that Saint-Pierre was willing to host Catholics, that Catholics were willing to hold vigil with Protestants. The very idea elevates, even absent the thing itself. But Christianity is grounded in things themselves, and there is no substitute for physical presence together gathered in a physical place. The very idea does not suffice. This is a fact Christians should keep in mind when it is not only religious differences but many others that are suffered to remain, or to flare in hostility, because of a microscopic interloper wearing a crown.

COMING UP IN APRIL

April is the Month of the Holy Face and the Redemption *

ANNOUNCEMENT: *The April Tau Gathering that was moved to MARCH 29th has been canceled. Formation assignments for April will be done virtually.*

Apr 3 – St. Benedict the Moor Feast Day
Apr 4 – Frank Bowen's birthday
Day of Reflection for Inquirers and Candidates
Apr 9 – Maundy Thursday
Apr 10 – Good Friday
Apr 11 – Holy Saturday
Joe Boyle's birthday
Mission of Charities Hospice Apostolate Visit
Apr 12 – Easter
Apr 22 – Heber Garcia's profession
Apr 24 – Walter Gawlak's & Erik Larin's profession
Apr 25 – Gil Donahue's birthday



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Begin Anew!

OFS Gathering & Retreat

Who: All are welcome, including spouses and friends

When: April 25, 2020, 9am – 4pm

Where: St. Benedict Monastery, Bristow, VA

Fee: \$45 per person, due by April 15

Send to Holy Family Fraternity, c/o Rita Colleran
OFS, 12534 Chippenham Ct., Bristow, VA 20136

Annual Tau Retreat

When: May 15 – 17, 2020

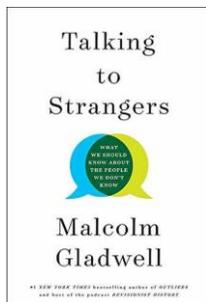
Where: Priestfield Pastoral Center
4030 Middleway Pike
Kearneysville, WV

Fee: Single room \$231.50,
Double \$211.50

BOOK REVIEWS

Reviewed by Gil Donahue, OFS, JPIC Coordinator for St. Margaret of Cortona Region

Three Recent Books with JPIC Themes
Many of us occasionally read secular literature for fun or relaxation. Even from such sources we can glean useful insights and perhaps be inspired to rethink our practices and approaches to life situations. Three recently released books struck me as having much to add to help us recognize areas in our society that need to be addressed. While each of the authors is secular, not religious, each one is very concerned about justice, peace, and building a compassionate, non-discriminatory society. Here is a brief description of nuggets I found in each book.



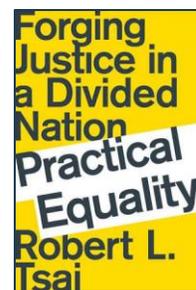
Talking to Strangers, Malcolm Gladwell, ISBN-13: 9780316478526, Little-Brown. This is a best-seller from a prolific, popular author. Gladwell reviews many academic studies examining how we determine honesty in others. Counterintuitively, we do less well when we know or have met

the person. In dealing with bias, Gladwell discovers that people tend to “default to truth.” That is, we often prefer to assume the best, rather than the worst. He examines the impact of bias in several recent high profile cases—catching a spy, an American wrongly convicted abroad, and municipal police practices. In each case, preconceived notions on the part of the authorities all too readily led to judgement that was faulty. The bottom line is that we should not always trust our “instincts,” but rather give careful consideration in our judgement to other factors that could be operative.



The Guardians, John Grisham, ISBN 9780385544184, Doubleday. This novel by popular author John Grisham, tells the story of a lawyer in the American south who attempts to exonerate people, mostly African-American, who have been sentenced to the death penalty for crimes the lawyer

believes they did not commit. The novel demonstrates how readily many aspects of our legal system conspire to rush to judgement and all too conveniently “put away” people assumed to be criminals, even when there is scant evidence against them. Although the book is fiction, several of the cases are similar to ones we read about in the news. The process of freeing these prisoners is much more complex and lengthy than the original process to convict them. This should give us pause about the death sentence and get us to rethink the operation of our criminal-justice system.



Practical Equality: Forging Justice in a Divided Nation, Robert L. Tsai, ISBN13: 978-0393652024, W.W. Norton and Company. To that end, I recommend this short book by a professor of constitutional law at American University, Robert L. Tsai. Even for non-lawyers, the book is very readable. It reviews several historical and important supreme court decisions. Some, like *Brown v. The Board of Education*, furthered the cause of justice, while others, such

as Plessy v. Ferguson, set it back. Tsai discusses the difference between “fair play” and “equality” in the court’s reasoning; in some cases, it is easier (politically) to seek a fair play solution than a “pure” equality one, which may have wider impact than the court believes society can handle at the time. Tsai also notes the court’s use of various articles in the Bill of Rights to base their decisions on, including the important First Amendment guarantee of free speech. Tsai draws lessons from the oppression of emancipated slaves after the Civil War and the

internment of Japanese Americans during World War II to suggest how the court could handle pressing contemporary issues, such as the rights of sexual minorities and the homeless, racism in the criminal justice system, police brutality, voting restrictions, and oppressive measures against migrants. This book underscores the real-world and continuous effort needed to move forward on justice issues impacting the vulnerable and marginalized in our society. Reviewed by Gil Donahue, OFS, JPIC Coordinator for St. Margaret of Cortona Region

HELLO FROM SISTER KAREN!



Pam Brooks, O visited with Sister Karen Stapleton, OSC at the Monastery of Saint Clare in Chesterfield, NJ. They had a great visit! Sister Karen is doing well and says hello!

LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER GENERAL

Prot. n. 3233

Rome, March 12, 2020

Dear sisters and brothers all over the world,

May the Lord give you his peace! FS

We are living extraordinary days, weeks, that needs extraordinary decisions and extraordinary attitude. We do not know so far, what is in God's plans that we can use from this grave situation, but I am sure that God is preparing a great surprise for us.

We hear the news from all the corners of the world about the coronavirus epidemic that is spreading very quickly. In some parts of the world the situation is really grave and makes us concern, while other parts are still free of it or less affected.

Being Secular Franciscans, living in the world, we have to faithfully fulfil the duties to our various circumstances of life (Cf. OFS Rule 10). This is more demanding today, as we have to leave many of our comfortable habits and attentively adopt to new circumstances. Solidarity and fraternal life becomes a new meaning.

First of all I invite you all to join my prayers for those who are affected by the epidemic, particularly for the people of Italy, China, South Korea, which are the most impacted country for now, but this is changing day by day and others are affected seriously. Let us pray for those, who suffer from this illness, for those who are caring for those being sick, and for all to have the wisdom and patience to behave properly, both physically and spiritually, and to be able to bear this material and mental burden.

Living in the world calls us to be attentive to all those who have more difficulties in this situation, or are facing more risks. There are many elderly sisters and brothers in our fraternities, who need more fraternal care and more attention. I ask you to pay special attention to those in need. We have to be more

disciplined as each one of us has an even greater personal responsibility for our brothers, for our neighbours. I am sure that God gives us an opportunity to strengthen fraternal life, even if sometimes there are less of the personal encounters.

The measures of the official authorities declare the situation day by day more critical. Some of the measures and calls from both secular and ecclesiastic authorities may surprise us, or can even be shocking. However, we have to believe that all these are for the common good, and since there is no authority except from God (Rm. 13:1), we shall respect them also if sometimes it is not so simple to understand them. God is always providing for our spiritual and material good.

Let us open our hearts to hear what does the Lord intend to tell us with letting this situation happen. May God help us all to know what is our duty also today.

Your minister and your minor brother,

Tibor Kauser
Minister General

PRAYERS

Easter Season Prayer

Halleluia! Lord, Jesus, You have risen from the dead and are gloriously triumphant!

Lord, I offer You profound thanksgiving that I may join in the celebration of Your Resurrection! I thank You for loving me so much that I have been invited to participate in the new life won by You.

Dear Lord, the path to the Resurrection was one of exceptional pain and suffering. It required of You the total sacrifice of Your life. You held nothing back but poured out Your life to the last drop of blood.

Risen Lord, the joyful message is that suffering and death were not the end. You rose triumphantly in a new and glorified body, opening the door for all who believe in You to do the same. Draw me in, dear Lord, to Your suffering and death so that I may also be drawn into the glory of Your Resurrection. Give me the courage You had as You endured so much. Help me to face the crosses in my life with Your strength. As I do, fill me with hope as I anticipate the new life You will bring from all sufferings united to You.

Halleluia! Lord, Jesus, You have risen from the dead and are gloriously triumphant!

Halleluia! All glory and praise to You, dear Lord, for Your Resurrection!

Halleluia! May the glory of Your Resurrection be loved, embraced and proclaimed until the end of time and forever more!

<https://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/triduum-and-easter-prayers/easter-prayer>

Prayer to Jesus for Healing and Guidance

Jesus, Son of God,
you were sent by the Father
to bear our weakness;
be with us in this time of crisis.

Merciful Savior,
heal and comfort the sick,
so that, with health restored,
they may give you praise.

Divine Physician,
accompany our caregivers
so that, serving with patience,
they may heal wisely.

Eternal Wisdom,
guide our leaders
so that, seeking remedies,
they may follow your light.

Christ, the Anointed,
protect us in body and spirit,
so that, freed from harm,
we may be delivered from all affliction.

Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Posted by Diane F. Menditto, OFS
Chair, National Formation Commission
Minister, Our Lady of the Angels Region

Characteristics of Prayer for a Franciscan:

- 1-Awareness- being with God at all times
- 2-Praise and Thanksgiving- gratitude
- 3-Listening- message of God in everything and everyone
- 4-Openness- standing before God with open hands
- 5-Confidence- God will continue to take care of us
- 6-Perseverance- in good times and bad

Refer to: Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ by Benet
Fonck, OFM P. 10-5

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in
the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I
desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally, come
at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite myself
wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated
from You.

Amen.

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/how-to-make-a-spiritual-communion-when-mass-is->

Prayer in Time of Coronavirus

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and heal through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare.

In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

NEXT TAU FRATERNITY GATHERING

Date: Sunday, **May 3, 2020**
Location: St. Joseph Catholic Church
Schedule: 12:30 - 1:30 Inquirer/Candidate Formation
1:30 Opening Prayer – **Cyndy Filan-Kim, OFS**
1:35 – 2:05 Social time with meal *
2:05 - 2:50 On-going formation
2:50 – 3:00 Break
3:00 - 3:30 Program – **Valerye Milleson**
3:30 - 4:00 The Angelus, Liturgy of Hours, business meeting, and closing prayer

* BYOB - Please bring your own beverage, plate, cup, and utensils to the meetings. Please bring finger foods to share. If your last name begins with A-H bring savorys; if your last name begins with I-Z bring sweets.

INITIAL FORMATION:

Senior Candidates: Chapter 29 in The Franciscan Journey

Candidates: Chapter 17 in The Franciscan Journey

Aspirants: Chapter 5 in the Franciscan Journey

ON-GOING FORMATION:

A book will be chosen, and a reading assignment will be provided for the next newsletter.

THE ANGELUS

During Easter we will precede the Liturgy of the Hours with the Regina Coeli in English

V Queen of heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.

R For He whom thou didst deserve to bear, Alleluia

V Hath risen as He said, Alleluia.

R Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.

R. Because Our Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

LET US PRAY

O God, who by the resurrection of Thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, hast vouchsafed to make glad the whole world, great, we beseech Thee, that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ Our Lord. AMEN

LITURGY OF THE HOURS:

Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Hymn: #112 – Alleluia! The Strife is O'er : pg. 1627

Psalms and Canticle: Sunday, Week IV Evening Prayer II: pg. 931

Everything Else: Fourth Sunday of Easter: Evening Prayer II: pg. 500

Reader: **TBD**

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. If you call and do not get an answer, please leave a voicemail message.