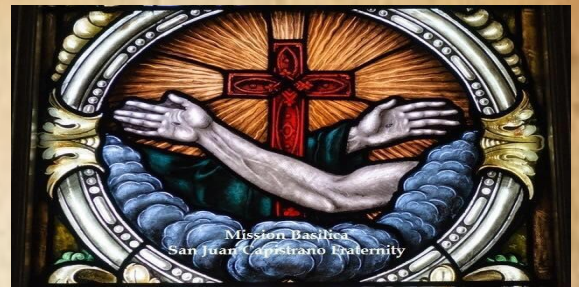


The Dove

San Juan Capistrano - S.F.O.



February 2025

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Fraternity Meeting - February 8, 2025



Blessed Anthony of Stroncone - February 8th

Spend some time in prayer at the Tomb of Saint Francis

[Click Here](#)

What's in this edition:

2. Speaker Information - Homework
3. Birthdays
4. Emeritus Spotlight; Founding Member, Marie O'Donnell, OFS
6. Blessed Anthony of Stroncone - Feb 8th
8. Meeting calendar

Read More on Our Website

Prayer for Vocations
 Oh, Good and Gracious God,
 God of mercy, compassion,
 generosity, and love,
 As we live our lives today
 in the model of St. Francis,
 choosing daily to live the Gospel life,
 Help us to help others hear Your call.
 Help us to help others to recognize
 their vocation as a Secular Franciscan
 that You have already planted
 in their heart.
 Help us, so that together we all may
 work
 to bring the Gospel to life.



Meeting News ~ February 2025

Orientation: "Franciscan Movement I/ Life of St. Francis (Spirituality of Francis) (FUN, Franciscan Journey pg 8) ~ Kim

Fraternity: Admonition 24 - Al

Homework - Admonition 24

Blessed (is) the servant, who would love (dilectio) his own brother as much, when he is infirm to the point that he cannot repay him, as when he is a healthy (brother), who can repay him. Blessed (is) the servant, who would so love and fear his own brother, when he is far from him, as when for example he is with him, and would not say anything behind him, which he cannot, with charity, say before him.

2025														
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
		11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13	
Saturdays 8-9:30 a.m. Serra Rm. or as designated otherwise	CANDIDATES							Pastoral Visit						
Saturdays 9:30 - Noon Room A	INQUIRY	1-7	1-8	1-9	1-10	1-11	Interview	Pastoral Visit	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	C-5	
		Marilyn	Kim	David	Joe	Christine	All and SA		Cyndie	Al	David	Marilyn	Joe	
		Ritual of the SFO & SFO Organizational Structure (Franciscan Journey pg 8)	Franciscan Movement I/ Life of St. Francis (Spirituality of Francis) (FUN, Franciscan Journey pg 8)	Franciscan Movement II - Your Own Journey (FUN)	"Charism of Founder & Mission in the Church & Discernment and Lay Spirituality as a Franciscan (Franciscan Journey Ch. 5,8,19, pg 133)"	"Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order Our Identity as a Secular Franciscan"	Interviews Rite of Admission		Sacred Scripture - especially the Gospels	The Volterra Letter - Prologue to the Rule and Our Rule	SFO History and its Rule	Conversion - Penitential Movement	St. Francis & His Approach to Divinity	
Saturdays 9:30 - Noon Room A	FRATERNITY	11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13	
		ECUMENICAL EVENT	Admonitions											Christmas Party
			Al	Christine	Cyndie	David			Joe	David	Marilyn	Kim		
Thursdays 6pm - 8pm Room G	COUNCIL	Admonition 24	Admonition 25	Admonition 26	Admonition 27									
		Council Topic - Bonaventure - The Soul's Journey into God - The Tree of Life - The Life of St. Francis												
		Al	David	Cyndie	Marilyn	Christine	Joe	Kim	David	Al	Joe	Christine	Cyndie	
	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg24-35)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg36-45)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg46-56)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg52-63)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg64-75)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg76-86)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg87-99)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg99-112)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg112-127)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg128-135)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg136-145)	"Jesus of Nazareth The Transfiguration (pg146-157)		



A Happy Birthday goes out to...

*Patrick Ibanez
John Scruggs, OFS*

*Wishing you a Birthday
Rich in Blessings.....*

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
17 Dolly Rett, OFS	17 Patrick Ibanez 24 John Scruggs, OFS	14 Deacon Halka, ofs 14 Marylyn Spomer, OFS 27 Maureen Fitzpatrick
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
1 Marilyn DiNicola, OFS 1 Warren Kato, OFS 2 Cyndie Williams OFS 11 Tom Cooney, OFS 11 Norman Diaz	7 Dan, Abalos, OFS 18 Kady Dunleavey, OFS 24 Ryan Williams, OFS	1 Rosa Lim, OFS 12 Kim Cota, OFS 19 Jim Iacometti
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
9 Deacon Sire, OFS 19 Paul Kelly, OFS	12 Bob Murray, OFS	1 Joan Fessenden, OFS 8 Trudy Weigel, OFS 27 Surya Anesi, OFS
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
5 Christina Huben, OFS 11 Gloria Abalos, OFS 27 Christine Riley, OFS	10 Michael Carranza, OFS 24 Al DiNicola, OFS	18 Theresa Cimino-Diaz 20 Patsy Lopez, ofs

MARIE O'DONNELL, OFS

November 21, 1921 ~ October 20, 2022



Memory from Deacon Joe Halka, OFS.....

Marie was born in Montreal, Canada. When she was a little girl of seven or so she was afflicted with an infection known as strep throat. In the days before antibiotics were known a complication of this disease can be an infection of the mitral valve of the heart. Which ultimately led to heart disease and death. As a young adult, Marie was taken by her mother to (St) Brother Andre Bessette, CSC who had the gift of healing, indeed, after the visit from Brother Andre she was cured of her disease.

When Brother Andre was beatified in Montreal, I asked her whether she planned to attend the beatification ceremony which was held at the oratory of St. Joseph founded by Brother Andre in Montreal. Marie replies, no she had always known that he was a saint. When I visited the oratory I would always bring a memento, usually blessed oil dedicated to St. Joseph of a mass for Marie.

MARIE O'DONNELL, OFS

November 21, 1921 ~ October 20, 2022



Memory from Cyndie and Ryan Williams, OFS.....

I have so many memories of Marie that started with my introduction to her through Tom Cooney, OFS. Actually, Tom visited her often and would have so many memories - far more than us.

For me, she was very special. She was one of the founders of our Fraternity in 1983 and was very lively in her Franciscan life. I was blessed to have brought her Holy Communion often and she would share her prayer life; showing her Rosary beads. She shared that she prayed for each member of the fraternity on each bead; often showing me the beads for Tom, Ryan and myself. She was very pious and was so in love with Jesus!

She deeply loved St. Francis, and much like him, on the night she returned to the Lord, I was told by her daughter that she pulled her mattress to the floor, laid down, took off her oxygen, and went home to the Lord.

BLESSED ANTHONY OF STRONCONE - FEBRUARY 8TH

Blessed Anthony of Stroncone, scion of the ancient and noble family of the Vici, was born in the year 1381 at Stroncone, a small town in the province of Umbria. He was blessed with very devout parents, who provided their son with an excellent education. Both parents were members of the Third Order and great benefactors of the Franciscan convent at Stroncone; the Franciscan Friar John of Stroncone was the youth's uncle.

From his earliest years, Blessed Anthony of Stroncone cherished great love for St Francis, and under the guidance of his devout parents he emulated him in his love of prayer, retirement, and mortification. Soon after his twelfth birthday, Anthony begged the superior of the Franciscan convent in his native town for admission into the order. But the superior thought it fit to defer his reception to a later time, because of the boy's youth and delicate constitution.

Blessed Anthony of Stroncone was not to be discouraged. He repeated his pleas until the superior, who had refused him on three different occasions, relented at his tears, and gave him a postulant's garb.

Because the boy possessed great talents, it was the intention of the superiors to educate him for the priesthood. But Anthony's inclinations were toward a hidden life; he humbly begged to be received among the lay brothers.

When his year of probation was completed, he was sent to Fiesole, where he was thoroughly initiated in the spiritual life under the excellent guidance of his uncle John, at that time guardian of the convent there.

Later on, Father Thomas of Florence, and eminent director of souls, whom the Church has beatified, was appointed as his second master of perfection. Under his direction Anthony made such progress in virtue that the superiors assigned him, though only a lay brother, as assistant to Blessed Thomas in the education of the novices. He filled this position for three years. Because he himself was a model of all the virtues and was likewise especially inspired by God, he trained a great number of excellent religious in this time.

BLESSED ANTHONY OF STRONCONE - FEBRUARY 8TH

In the year 1428 he was sent by his superiors to the island of Corsica to assist in the establishment of new convents there. Here, too, he won the hearts of the rugged island folk by his meekness and humility, and he was highly venerated by them. After two years he was sent back to his native country to a quiet convent near Assisi. There he spent the remaining thirty years of his life in prayer, work, vigils, and fasts, a source of edification and admiration to all the brethren.

With the greatest humility and reserve he went out daily to gather alms for the convent; he was extremely happy whenever he could serve the priest at Holy Mass.

Blessed Anthony of Stroncone died on February 7, 1471, in the eightieth year of his life and his sixty-eighth as a religious. He was buried in a common grave beneath the floor of the church sanctuary at San Damiano. A year after his death, however, a flame burst forth, burning brightly on the floor, which [Saint James of the March](#) recognized as a sign from heaven. He had the floor lifted, which revealed the incorrupt body of Blessed Anthony which was exhaling a sweet perfume. His body was removed from the common vault in order to bury it in a separate tomb.

"This is a sign from God," St James had exclaimed, but this was only the first of such signs; many others followed by way of remarkable answers to prayer, the restoration of health to the sick, and numerous other graces.

The body was examined again in 1599, and then placed in a crystal urn. After that time a new marvel was noted, as distinct knocking could be heard coming from the urn shortly before the death of a member of the community. This was heard by many people.

In 1649 a woman possessed by the devil was brought before the shrine. Blessed Anthony's body, which was reclining, sat up somewhat, with one hand raised above the other. The body, although flexible, remains in this position today.

The veneration of Blessed Anthony, which continually increased, was approved for all time by Pope Innocent XI in the year 1687. On August 21, 1809, the body of Anthony was transferred from the convent of St Damian near Assisi to its native town of Stroncone. It is still incorrupt, and the confidence of the faithful in Anthony's powerful intercession has in no way decreased.

*from: The Franciscan Book of Saints, ed. by Marion Habig, ofm

2025

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