



the Franciscan Times

Lord, Make Me an Instrument of thy Peace

A quarterly newsletter, whose purpose is helping members of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis share a common journey through news from fellowships and individuals, reviews of books and tapes, poetry, and whatever the Holy Spirit might blow our way.

Lent, 1993

from the editor:

For those of you who regularly read The Living Church, the weekly publication "serving Episcopalians since 1878," you may have noticed a classified ad (under "Organizations") for The Third Order, Society of St. Francis (American Province). The ad was to be running throughout Lent of this year.

The decision to place this ad was made at Chapter this past fall and was not intended to move into a heavy "recruiting" phase, but to make our TSSF light more visible in the region we serve, especially to those who are seeking that light.

Fellowships have also been encouraged to use their Diocesan newspapers to make light of their local Franciscan activity and contact person, so that potential aspirants might visit, meet, and discuss the possibility of a Franciscan vocation with those already on the path. Inside this issue can be found a sample press release and other suggestions along this line.

Anyone evoking a serious interest in the Third Order should be encouraged to take the first step by writing Bob Teudesman TSSF, P.O. Box 399, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

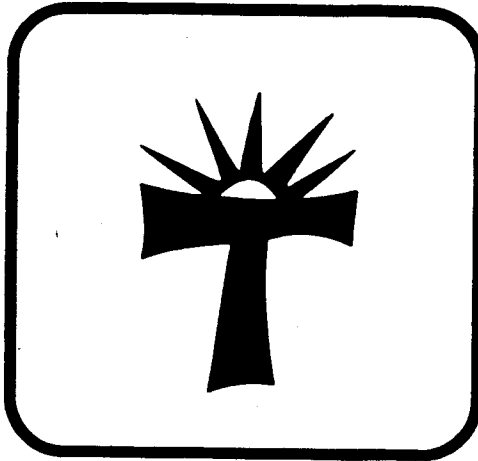
Interested non-Episcopalians or Anglicans should make their first inquiry to the Order of Ecumenical Franciscans, c/o the Rev. Dale Trana, 724 N. 8th St., Wahpeton, ND 58075.

CHANGES OF NOTE

In order to be closer to work, worship, and Franciscan fellowship, your editor has made a move from the beach to the mountain on the Hawaiian Island of Maui.

Please take note, fellowship and convocation conveners especially, of the new address where all contributions and communications for The Franciscan Times should be sent from now on:

Robert Durand TSSF
The Franciscan Times
R.R. #1, Box 513
Kula, HI 96790



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A BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE . . .

This year of 1993 is being celebrated as the 800th birthday of St. Clare, and it would be appropriate for the next issue of The Franciscan Times to pay homage to her. Stories, news, reviews, poems, and other contributions about her life and spirituality would be welcome.

The deadline will be May 15, 1993.

In the meantime, may each of you, your families and communities, enjoy a meaningful and holy Lent, followed by a joyous resurrection in Christ and a renewal of the Holy Spirit in your lives.

Pax et Bonum,
Robert Durand TSSF

The Chaplain's Journal

A RETROSPECTIVE

Forty years ago, on February 14, 1953, I made my profession in the Third Order of St. Francis at the pro-cathedral in Regina, Saskatchewan. Dean Noel received my vow and pledge on behalf of the Order. I don't remember anyone else being there. My firstborn, Mary, was kicking lustily in the womb - but she would not be born for another six weeks.

It was a lonely business being a Franciscan back then.

I had started my postulancy and novitiate in Washington, D.C. where the only tertiary I knew was the rector of St. James' Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill. Father Planck was an Anglo-Catholic of the old school; I never had any doubt that his life was prayer.

“It was a lonely business being a Franciscan back then.”

I met my first friar when Brother Charles SSF visited the Diocese of Qu'Appelle (southern Saskatchewan). He stayed with us at the vicarage and was enchanted with Mary, who even at the age of two years delighted in fun and laughter. She was equally at home with a Franciscan friar, the Bishop of Durham (who happened to grace the vicarage living room for an hour one day), the farmers, and the mechanics. Inside the womb or out, she had caught something of the Franciscan spirit. So eventually did her younger brother and sister.

In the 1960s, when I lived in Washington, D.C., I started making yearly retreats with the Poor Clares. From the beginning, I always felt welcome and at home with them. By that time, I had three children and no husband. Retreats were a foretaste of heaven. A silent breakfast was a far greater privilege than a banquet could possibly have been.

On my very first retreat, Sister Mary Catherine arranged for me to meet Father Joseph OSF, the founder of the American Franciscan orders. I climbed the hill to the friary somewhat nervously and was ushered into the little parlor to the right of the main entrance. Fr. Joseph was cordial and obviously relieved to find I was not going to be tearful or hysterical. I recognized and enjoyed his relief. It was true that my husband had left me and that I had suddenly become a single parent, but hysterical I was not. We walked a bit on the grounds and talked about my husband. Fr. Joseph was the only person I knew who took for granted my continuing concern for my husband. I loved him for that.

Once when I was staying at the Poor Clares' guesthouse, three brothers walked by on the road while a group of us were playing croquet. They were invited to join us but responded (very seriously), "We are not allowed to play games with young ladies."

The Chaplain's Journal (continued)

In the meanwhile, Brother Robert SSF had stormed Franciscan Washington with characteristic energy and charm to get a fellowship started there. I met local tertiaries for the first time – Helen Webb was among them – but I was the only professed in the group and automatically became convener. Much the same thing happened again in Arizona in the 1970s. It was real delight to have regular fellowship with brothers and sisters in the Franciscan family.

In the late 1960s, OSF and SSF, and Anglican Franciscans throughout the world became the Society of St. Francis. It was after this merger that Third Order Chapter convened for the first time, and there I met John Scott, Peter Funk, and Robert Goode (Gooch). I owe much to each of them.

We were privileged to be in on all the "firsts" in terms of statutes, formation program, and fellowship guidelines. Much has changed for the better over the years – but oh! it was exhilarating to lay the first bricks in the Third Order structure.

In 1971, I moved to Tucson, Arizona. At first, I was teaching at Tuller School, where Fr. Joseph was staying in a cottage on the grounds. It was a privilege to visit with him but an even greater privilege to conspire with Mary Ann Jackman and Brother Luke to get him back to the Order he had founded. The last time I saw Fr. Joseph was at Little Portion, where he died in the heart of community.

I started counseling novices under Peter Funk's direction. I also served as an area chaplain, fellowship coordinator, and assistant chaplain. In the meanwhile, I had a career in publishing, which will end in August when I retire as managing editor of the University of Arizona Press. In 1989, I was ordained to the Diaconate.

Would I have aspired to the diaconate without the encouragement of Gooch, whose replies to my reports offered counsel, humor, and support? I doubt it. Probably, Gooch does not realize his contribution. So much goes on routinely in the life of our community that has results we never realize. And that's how it should be among our brothers and sisters. Ordination opened new ministries to me, both in pastoral care and in preaching. I am grateful for these opportunities to serve.

In 1983, I had the joy of receiving the profession vow of my daughter Clare. Her life has changed radically since then, and she now lives miles away from Franciscan community and from an Episcopal church. Even if she decides that she cannot maintain a vocation in these circumstances, I rejoice in what she has given us and in what we have given her.

**“Much
has changed
for the better
over the
years”**

The Chaplain's Journal (continued)

I have skimmed the surface of my Franciscan life here. The deeper and more significant life lies buried in prayer and personal relationships where there have been both ecstasies and disappointments. I could not have known joy without also knowing pain, and I am grateful for the journey.

I cannot begin to mention all my brothers and sisters who have enriched my life, but I give special thanks to Dee Dobson and Alden Witney, the Ministers Provincial under whom I have served as Third Order Chaplain and with whom I have shared so much, to Sam Hale, assistant chaplain, whose concern and support are a constant joy; and to all the area chaplains who have served so faithfully and whose examples are inspiration.

I want to say to all of you, my sisters and brothers, how much I admire your vigor and commitment. Persevere with joy in the life you have chosen. Perseverance is a bumpy road, but perseverance becomes joy. I've been around for a long time. Take my word for it.

Our God is a consuming fire. Consumed by the love of God, we can, together, become a bonfire which will bring the Light of Christ to a world so desperately in need. May it be so.

Marie, TSSF

Deacon Marie L. Webner
Chaplain, American Province



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we can, together, become
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May it be so."**

**ST. FRANCIS:
A New Perspective**

Artist Rik Fitch TSSF has completed this commissioned mural for St. Francis Hospital in Honolulu. St. Francis is shown in an ephemeral embrace of Mother Marianne and other nuns from the Third Franciscan Order, who carried on the work at the Leper Colony on the Island of Molokai after Father Damien died in 1889. Then Hawai'ian King Kalakaua and Queen Kapiolani are at the left. The mural will be dedicated in May.



Gentle Lover
by Dixie Anne Mosier-Green TSSF

Come, gentle lover.

Look upon me with your terrible eyes:
Understand me to my very depths.
No one else can.

Cast down and trample my willful pride
As wheat upon the threshing floor
Of your presence.

Purge me of my own restlessness
With your acid of self-knowledge:
My sinfulness.

Shelter me in the ferocity of your arms
Against the torrent of temptations:
My own desires.

Speak to me your tender demands
Of Consummation jealously guarded:
No other gods.

Grant me surety of our passions:
A covenant-sign binding true.
We share a cross.

Condemn not my yesterdays without you,
But offer me your endless tomorrows
So I may live.

Compel me to accompany you.
Never abandon me to my foolishness
For I would die.

Feed me with the honey of your words.
Let your flesh become one with me.
And your blood mine.

Born alone, weeping along, despairing.
Gentle lover, be at my death
Eternally.

I ask not a little: your all
For me, now and forever — unstinting
Totality.

This consuming love, burning refining,
Freely given — freely taken.
It is my all.

My Lord and my God.

(Editor's Note: Dixie Anne is a wife, mother, grandmother, college-level philosophy teacher, church worker, tertiary, and poet, living in Stillwater, Oklahoma.)

Inter-regional Convocation Possibility

Hopes for an inter-regional Convocation, to be held every five years and to include all tertiaries from the American Province, were discussed at the provincial Chapter meeting this past October.

Pre-requisites discussed were a central location, affordable lodging, and airport accessibility. Other suggestions came in the form of possible themes, speakers, and retreat leaders of note. Estimates of possible attendance ranged from 300 to 500 tertiaries.

Ideas, suggestions, and comments on any or all of these areas are solicited and encouraged. Please send them to Anita Catron, TSSF Fellowship Coordinator, 3280 Bernada Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84124.

TSSF BASICS

available from
JOHN DOTSON
TSSF Secretary
4036 Lakota Place
Kingsport, TN 37664

suggested prices are:

Devotional Companion (\$4)
(New edition currently in work.)

Way of St. Francis (\$2.50)

Source Book (\$2.50)

Directory (\$3)

Statutes (\$1)

**The Rule of the Third Order
For Daily Reading (\$2.50)**

Order of Admission (\$1)

(.....) **Let Our Light So Shine!** (.....)

In response to queries from local fellowships and to make the Third Order Franciscan experience more available to those who might be searching for it, some suggestions and a sample press release for local diocesan (or even parish) newsletters is included.

Some fellowships have already let their "light so shine before others" (Matthew 5:16) by manning a Third Order information booth at Diocesan conventions and other church gatherings.

A display of Franciscan materials, including an inquirer's brochure (available from Dee Dobson, 4001 S.W. 5th Terrace, Miami, FL 33134), makes for appropriate evangelism opportunities.

Tertiaries may also have opportunities to talk about their Franciscan experience on local radio stations or be interviewed by a local newspaper.

Probably the most efficient method of reaching potential seekers would be through the diocesan or parish newspapers. As most of these are usually compiled and edited by very busy staff with other responsibilities or by part time volunteers, a ready-to-print press release is an effective publicity tool.

A press release should always include the name of the organization (or fellowship), the name and telephone number of a contact person, and the date it was prepared. A sample release might read as follows:

The Third Order, Society of Saint Francis, is a recognized, wide-spread community of Episcopalian (Anglican) men and women throughout the world.

Members, or tertiaries as they are called, might be ordained clergy or lay persons, married or single, young or old. Their common thread, offered by St. Francis during his lifetime, is a desire to follow Christ in a life of radical simplicity, prayer, study, and service.

In the American Province of the Society, comprising the U.S.A., Canada, Trinidad-Tobago, and Latin America, there are 42 fellowships or gatherings of tertiaries who meet regularly to build community and share their common journey.

In the Diocese of _____, a Third Order Fellowship can be found in _____, meeting every _____. For more information about this Fellowship, please contact _____ at _____.

Anyone interested in inquiring about membership in the Third Order may write Bob Teudesman TSSF, P.O. Box 399, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

Fellowships, Convocations 'Strengthen Community'

by ANITA CATRON
Fellowship Coordinator

Third Order fellowships and convocations in the American Province are healthy and actively involved, as of the 1992 Chapter. Consensus is that those attending these gatherings strengthen their sense of Franciscan community and foster personal relationships as well.

FELLOWSHIPS

Each of the 42 fellowships in the province—comprising Canada, the USA, Trinidad-Tobago, and Latin America—meets at least several times a year to build community. Styles will vary, but fellowship, study, and prayer form the core of each meeting. Retreat weekends and/or quiet days will often highlight a year's calendar.

The newest fellowship is located in Oregon, and rumors are afoot that even newer ones may be forming this year in other areas of the Province.

If you are part of a group of three or more tertiaries who gather or would like to gather as a Third Order Fellowship, but are not recognized as such, please write to Minister Provincial Alden Whitney or to myself and state your intentions and the number of professed or noviced tertiaries in your area.

If you are an isolated tertiary and wish to receive a newsletter or meeting notice of a fellowship meeting closest to you, please write to the convener listed in the latest TSSF directory or, again, to myself.

CONVOCATIONS

During the course of 1992, six regional convocations were organized, each with full study programs and eager tertiaries. Some of the largest (Southeast, Northeast, and Western) drew 50 to 70 tertiaries, in addition to invited guests. Other convocations will be held during 1993 in Trinidad-Tobago, the Southwest, Midwest, and South Central areas.

Convocations have proven to be an excellent time for renewal of both vows and Franciscan acquaintances, in addition to making new friends. Retreat, study, community worship, and fellowship are four other important by-products. Visitors from the First Order (both SSF and CSF) add still another dimension.

NOTE: For more information about Franciscan fellowships and convocations, please contact Anita Catron, 3280 Bernada Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84124, telephone (801) 277-2614

'NOWHERE ELSE ...'

Other opportunities for Franciscan fellowship lie with the Order of Ecumenical Franciscans (OEF) which meets once a year in a combined fellowship-chapter environment. According to TSSF Fellowship Coordinator Anita Catron, "nowhere else can one meet so many Franciscans from different faiths."

Anita was the TSSF visitor at the 1992 gathering, and she reports that the OEF received her with "great warmth and friendship." The Rev. Dale Trana, Minister Provincial who led the Chapter gathering, closed the session with "an extraordinary Sunday service filled with laughter, joy, and liturgical dance."

Fellowships and convocations are encouraged to invite and welcome OEF members to their gatherings. "They are eager to attend!" enthuses Anita.

All tertiaries are reminded that they are invited to any Convocation which might suit their plans, whether it be holiday, business, or merely a desire to expand one's Franciscan network.

For isolated tertiaries, a convocation might be the only opportunity during the year to convene and share with other Franciscans.

Both the "Information Sheet" and *The Franciscan Times* carry the dates and locations of convocations, generally with plenty of advance notice for making reservations and travel arrangements.

During this coming year of 1993, why not give yourself the gift of sharing your Franciscan journey, as well as that of your sisters and brothers, by attending one of the regional convocations.

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F E L L O W S H I P N E W S

ATTENTION CONVENER:

If news about your Fellowship -- be it something to share from a past or current gathering, or information about an upcoming meeting, retreat, or quiet day -- should be on these pages, please send it to: Robert Durand TSSF, R.R. #1, Box 513, Kula, Maui, Hawaii 96790.

Deadline for the Pentecost issue is May 15, 1993.

LONG ISLAND FELLOWSHIP

Convener JANE ELLEN TRAUGOTT reports that planning has begun for the fellowship to be the convener/host for the 1993 Northeast Convocation at Graymoor in August. A theme under consideration is "Building Community in Love." Chairperson ALISON TRENHOLME and others will be working with the retreat team from the community at Graymoor. For information about upcoming Fellowship meetings and plans, please call Jane Ellen at (516) 928-0484.

NEW YORK FELLOWSHIP

An Advent letter from VIVIAN MORRELL brought news that the new convener for the fellowship is JAN SYEDULLAH. For information about meetings, she can be reached at (718) 625-7983.

LAND OF THE SKY FELLOWSHIP (North Carolina)

According to "Fruits of the Loom" newsletters, the highlight of the November meeting was a presentation by JANET CHAUDRUC on her European pilgrimage which focused around Julian of Norwich and Hildegard of Bingen and included a visit to the Taizè Community. She gifted the fellowship with a pottery chalice and paten made by the Taizè brothers.

The spring retreat is all set for April 30 through May 2 at the Snail's Pace in Saluda, NC. The leader will be Sr. Helen Godfrey from the Poor Clares of Greenville, SC. Her meditations will be based upon the writings of Clare, in celebration of the 8th centenary of Clare's birth. For more information about the retreat or other fellowship activities, please call Convener ALICE WRIGHT at (704) 689-9768.

Regular fellowship meetings have been changed to the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the library of St. John-in-the-Wilderness Church.

SAN DAMIANO FELLOWSHIP (central Florida)

Word from co-conveners CLIFF and ELSIE AMOS tells about the profession of BILL FITE at St. Luke's Cathedral in Orlando, in a beautiful service sung by the Cathedral Choir as a gift for Bill. The annual Lenten retreat was held Feb. 26-28 at Holy Name Priory, led by Sr. Catherine Joy CSF, who became the first female priest to celebrate the Eucharist on this occasion.

The fellowship has been invited to hold regular meetings at the Community of the Sisters of Lazarus in Mulberry, FL. For more information, please contact Cliff or Elsie at (407) 676-0873.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

For information about gatherings and activities, please contact convener PETER PATRICK at St. Andrew's Rectory, Scarborough, Tobago, telephone 639-2485.

LA VERNA FELLOWSHIP (Cincinnati)

According to Convener DAN COOKSEY, the January fellowship meeting was highlighted by the profession of RUTHANNE SANFORD and a sharing of what it means to be a Franciscan. A Spring Retreat is scheduled for May 5 to 7 at the Convent of the Transfiguration. For more information about fellowship activities, please contact Dan at (513) 683-9450.

F E L L O W S H I P N E W S

(continued)

LITTLE SPARROW FELLOWSHIP (Toronto)

For information about regular fellowship meetings and activities, please contact convener SYBIL YEARWOOD at 78 Yardley Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4B 2B1, telephone (416) 759-2600.

CHI RHO FELLOWSHIP (Chicago)

Secretary LINDA J. KING wrote to tell of the fellowship "ringing in the new year with the profession of YVONNE KOYZIS on Jan. 2 at Church of the Ascension."

A Quiet Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, to be conducted by Br. John-Charles FODC. At this time also, five members will be noviced.

Regular Chi Rho meetings take place on the third Saturday at the Church of the Ascension. For more information about fellowship activities, please contact Linda at (312) 665-1482 or convener MARK DRISH at (312) 539-3057.

MINNESOTA FELLOWSHIP

A Spring retreat is scheduled for May 7-8-9 at Colleeville, Minnesota. The retreat director will be Patricia Schuth. For more information about fellowship activities and the retreat, please contact JULIA BERGSTROM at 749 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105, telephone (612) 221-0277.

BROTHER WIND FELLOWSHIP (Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri)

A fellowship meeting was held Feb. 27 at St. Anselm's Student Center on the University of Oklahoma campus. The Mid-South Convocation is scheduled April 30, May 1 and 2 at FlowerMound, TX, and a June 12 gathering will take place in Tulsa, OK.

Area Franciscans should mark their calendars now for the annual Francistide Retreat, to be held this year on Oct. 1-3 at St. Francis-of-the-Woods Center in Coyle, OK.

For more information, please contact convener SUE HEINSOHN at P.O. Box 453, Arnett, OK 73832, telephone (405) 885-7916.

LILIES OF THE FIELD FELLOWSHIP (Colorado, Wyoming)

For information about meetings, please contact Convener MARY LOU HALL at 4006 West 13th St., Greeley, CO 80634.

SACRAMENTO-DAVIS FELLOWSHIP (California)

January's program was "an open discussion on Simplicity, which seemed very appropriate right after Christmas." The new co-conveners are ROSIE McFERRAN and HILARY BURWELL. For more information on upcoming meetings, please call Rosie at (916) 756-3487.

NEW UMBRIAN FELLOWSHIP (San Francisco Bay Area)

Fellowship notes in the January newsletter indicate that the ongoing program of discussion will be the Third Order Rule. The Family retreat will take place April 16-18 at St. Michael's Wagontree Ranch in Cazadero, CA. For additional information about meetings and the retreat, please contact convener LINDA BELL at (415) 849-0130.

HAWAII FELLOWSHIP

The annual Easter Retreat will be held this year at the St. Anthony's Retreat Center, located in the peaceful and cool Kalihi Valley above Honolulu. The dates are April 15-16-17, and the leader will be Deacon MARIE WEBNER, Third Order Chaplain of the North American Province.

Any tertiaries visiting the Islands and interested in the retreat or in meeting with the Hawaii fellowship, usually on the second Friday of each month, should contact convener EDEAN IWANAGA at 3348 Campbell Ave., Honolulu, HI 96815, telephone (808) 737-8716.

C o n v o c a t i o n N o t e s

ATTENTION CONVENERS:

The Franciscan Times will reach interested and/or isolated tertiaries in your region (and elsewhere) who might plan to attend your gathering. Advance notice and a name of a person to contact will be helpful to them.

Please send the details to

Robert Durand TSSF, R.R. 1, Box 513, Kula, Maui, HI 96790.

Deadline for the Pentecost issue is May 15, 1993.

NORTHEAST CONVOCATION

• The Long Island Fellowship will convene the 1993 Northeast Convocation, again on the beautiful grounds of Graymoor, north of New York City, with dates set for August 26-27-28. For more information, please contact JANE ELLEN TRAUGOTT at 803 Main St., Port Jefferson, NY 11777, telephone (516) 928-0484, or ALISON TRENHOLME at 18 Stratford Avenue, Greenlawn, NY 11740, telephone (516) 368-8751.

SOUTHEAST CONVOCATION

• The 1993 Convocation will be September 17-18-19 at Ignatius House, Atlanta. The convening fellowship will be Land of the Sky, and the program leader will be Br. Robert Hugh SSF. To register or to obtain more information, please contact ALICE WRIGHT at 702 White Oak Road, Mars Hill, NC 28754, telephone (704) 689-9768.

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO CONVOCATION

• This year's convocation was scheduled for March 12-13-14 at St. Andrew's Church in Scarborough. American Province Formation Director Ann Harris was scheduled to speak. Co-conveners were PETER PATRICK (telephone 639-2485) and GLORIA WALDRON (telephone 637-9661).

MIDWEST CONVOCATION

• The Chi Rho Fellowship will convene the 1993 Convocation on June 18-19-20 at the Carmelite Retreat Center in Darien, Illinois. A full program of prayer, meditation, and fellowship is planned. For information, reservations, and travel arrangements, please contact LINDA KING at 521 W. Brompton, #117, Chicago IL 60657, phone (312) 665-1482.

MID-SOUTH CONVOCATION

• The 1993 dates are April 30, May 1 and 2, and the location is the Bishop Mason Center in FlowerMound, Texas. The themes will be "Personal Prayer & Meditation & Padre Pio". For information and reservations, contact convener KAY SEVICK at 1706 Enchanted Lane, Lancaster, TX 75146, or registrar SUE HEINSOHN, Box 453, Arnett, OK 73832, telephone (405) 885-7916.

SOUTHWEST CONVOCATION

• The dates for 1993 are June 4-5-6 at Picture Rocks Retreat in Tucson, Arizona, described as "a lovely desert setting on the outskirts of town." No update on the theme had been received as of this writing, but for more information, please contact convener PAT SHELTON at 1643 East. Edison St., Tucson, AZ 85719, telephone (602) 326-5719.

WESTERN CONVOCATION

• The 1993 Convocation, hosted by the New Umbrian Fellowship, will return to the Bishop's Ranch in California, with dates set for July 23-24-25. A flyer received states, "New memories and joys, as well as greater understandings of who and what we are, will come from this convocation." For more information and reservations, please contact JOAN KIDD at 433 Granelli Ave., Half Moon Bay, CA 94019, telephone (415) 726-2056.

News from Abroad

SOUTH AFRICA

Gleaned from Convener's reports received from Chapter, held at St. Dominic's-on-the-Bluff in Durban, South Africa, 30 October to 1 November, 1992:

"Our Natal Group, although far-flung, has much to commend it in its enthusiasm and particularly in its diversity. In this time of so much blood-shed, sorrow, and fear that is part of the everyday life here in Natal, I feel that the love and concern amongst us is a great comfort and a sure reflection of what should be amongst Franciscans." — Mimi Roach

"Lesotho, like most parts of Southern Africa, has been in the grip of severe drought. Retrenchment of thousands and thousands of Basotho workers makes the problem of unemployment, famine, and hunger worse. Our Group was sad when the Franciscan Aid stopped last year. All the same, the Diocese continues to give very limited financial help to about 60 students whose parents cannot afford to pay school fees for them. About 40 destitute people receive the amount of R.50 each every month from the same Social Service Fund.

This fund is administered by a committee consisting of the Tertiary members. The Tertiaries' main contribution in this regard is a collection of second-hand clothing and distributing them amongst the needy. The Lesotho Group is grateful to all Franciscan brothers and sisters for their unflinching support and prayers." — Jane Phakela

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SPAIN

Gleaned from "Brother Minor" (Hermano Meñor), the bulletin of the Third Order of the Franciscan Ecumenical Fraternity (FEF), based in Seville, Spain:

"With our Lord's help, we inaugurated, on the first of January, 1993, our planned Ecumenical Home for the Elderly, to be known as the 'House of Peace.' In it, our ecumenical stance will be followed because there will be no distinctions based on race or beliefs, and it will be a place where we will receive humble senior citizens who are alone in the world. This home, in the very heart of Seville, does not receive aid from any formal source, but only donations from some of the 28 members who comprise the Franciscan Ecumenical Fraternity, who in so far as possible will work and give warmth to those received in the home."

"On October 3, our (Cape Town Group) commemoration of St. Francis Day was held at Bishopscourt, thanks to Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his chaplain Mervyn Castle. We celebrated in song, prayer, and praise for God's love, for St. Francis' life, and for each other. We also discussed the benefits of knowing more about each other and caring more actively, especially in times of trouble."

— Ann Snaddon

"Members of the Johannesburg Group continue to exercise their Franciscan vocations through their day-to-day work. Those who are ordained have ministries including counselling, care of the aged, caring for people with Aids, ministering to the Gay community, spiritual direction, and feeding and caring for the homeless. Others are lay ministers and worship leaders, marriage counselors, and parents trying to be Franciscan through their witness to their children and their parishes." — Andrew Dotchin

Third Order Library News

HOW TO USE THE LIBRARY

Books in the Third Order Library may be borrowed by writing to: Rosemond McFerran, TSSF Library, 1518 Tulane Drive, Davis, CA 95616.

Books are charged out for a period of two months and sent to you by fourth-class mail (Library Rate). When you have finished with the book, please return it to Rosie, also by fourth-class mail (Library Rate). A book may be renewed for another two-month period if no one is waiting on it, by notifying Rosie.

If you have no particular title in mind, but need a book on a particular subject, let Rosie know for what you are looking. If it is in the library, she will find it for you!

The Pennywhistle Chaplain

(Written on the occasion of having dreamed a particular dream and then being asked to lead one day's prayers for the students of the Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) class at Medical Center of Vermont. I opened with everyone saying responsively the Peace Prayer of Francis . . . and then I read them this poem.)

Make us an instrument . . .
 Make us an instrument . . .
 Make me your instrument.

I dreamed last week
 That Jesus really did make me his instrument,
 and the instrument was a pennywhistle.

The pennywhistle is the least in God's universe of instruments;
 Made of tin
 Not gold, silver, or brass;
 Just a tube with holes, not fantastic moving parts
 or electric amplification;
 No ornamentation or scrollwork — just tin and a plastic mouthpiece;
 Not particularly old, but uniquely cheap;
 Alone it's nothing . . . it can't play itself.

But with breath breathed through skillfully,
 And with knowledgeable fingers fingering the holes,
 It's joyful music can offer a jig or a lament.

Lord, in helping your children here in this hospital
 overcome pain, awful fear, and the emptiness of death, I am
 The least knowledgeable — doctors and nurses tower above me;
 The least psychologically skilled — social workers and psychiatrists tower above me;
 The least theologically aware — most others in my class are ordained.

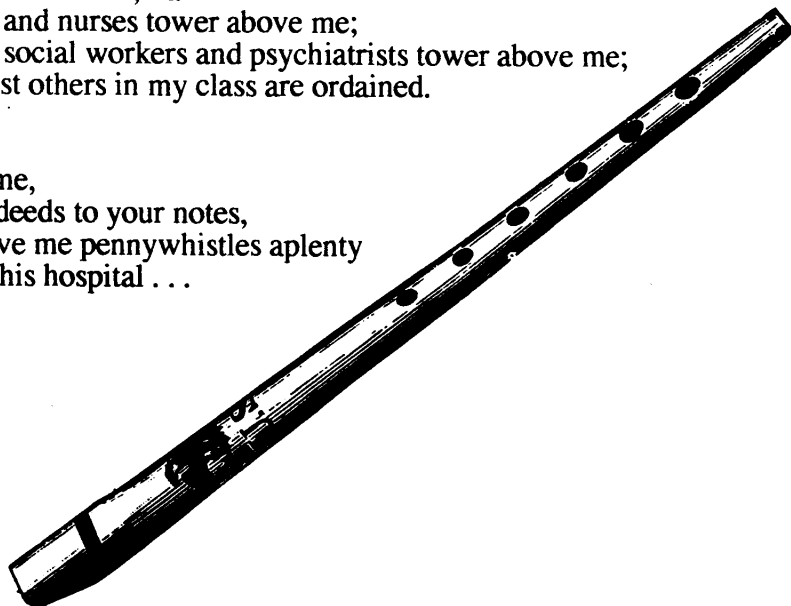
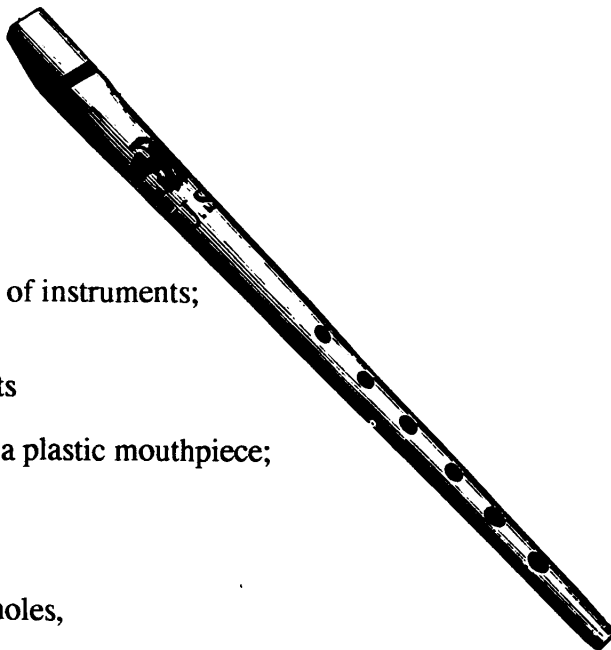
No, I'm the pennywhistle.
 But Lord, if you blow your breath through me,
 And if you finger my thoughts, words, and deeds to your notes,
 Then, in my dream, I dreamt you gave me pennywhistles aplenty
 To give to all your children here in this hospital . . .
 and they all could play.

Jesus, never let me forget
 That it's only as your pennywhistle,
 My badge, my shield,
 That I can do your work.

Make us an instrument . . .
 Make us an instrument . . .
 Make me your Pennywhistle Chaplain.

— John Brockmann TSSF

(Editor's Note: John is a faculty member at the University of Delaware and a resident of Vermont, from where he commutes to his teaching duties.)



FRANCISCAN MARKETPLACE

(Editor's Note: With hopes and good intentions to be of service to tertiaries who have requested this information, and with some trepidations about becoming too "commercial," this page is offered. Your feedback, in the form of comments and suggestions, is solicited.)

ALISON'S SHIRTS

In response to queries she has received, Alison Trenholme TSSF has made up some new tee shirts and sweatshirts, with a design showing Francis and four flying birds.

"I am very pleased with the way they turned out," says Alison, "and I would like to tell the rest of the Third Order about them. The tee shirts sell for \$12 and the sweatshirts for \$20. I can — and will — fill orders for anyone who is interested." Pax et Bonum.

Alison Trenholm TSSF
18 Stratford Avenue
Greenlawn, NY 11740
 + + +

FRANCISCAN RESOURCES

P.O. Box 466
Park Rapids, MN 56470

This source offers a large variety of Franciscan medals, jewelry, shrines, clothing, books, and tapes. Of special interest this year are book and tape offerings on the life and spirituality of St. Clare. Write for a catalog or call (218) 732-5847.

+ + +

Franciscan Vocation Office
St. John the Baptist Province
10290 Mill Road
Cincinnati, OH 45231

"Still the only supplier of (Franciscan) bumper stickers" The cost of each bumper sticker is \$.50 prepaid. Requests sent without payment will be charged additionally for postage and handling.

+ + +

Kellmark Corporation
53465 Ada Drive
Elkhart, IN 46514
(219) 264-9695

This source offers Franciscan Art Calendars, Wallet Calendars, and Christmas cards. Write or call for brochures and samples.

+ + +

RINGS AND CROSSES

From Ken Norian TSSF: Some of you may have seen others wearing Franciscan "TAU" rings — either on members of the various orders of the Society of Saint Francis or on members of the Roman Catholic Secular Franciscans. These sterling silver rings may be found with some difficulty at certain Christian book stores for around \$75 to \$80.

I am now able to offer them in both men's and women's styles, for \$33 and \$26 respectively, with a \$3 charge per order for mailing costs.

Gold rings are also available, in the range of \$200 to \$250. Please contact me if you are interested in a gold ring.

I've found these rings an opportunity to share my Franciscan vocation with others when they ask about what the symbol is. It is also a reminder to me of my calling as a Franciscan at times when I am not wearing a profession cross or any other Christian symbol.

There are three styles of crosses: The costs are \$37 for the Tau cross (N-21), \$24 for the San Damiano cross (N-17), and \$39 for the *Pace e Bene* cross, showing the hands of Christ and Francis (N-22). As with the rings, there will be a \$3 charge per order for mailing costs.

To place an order, please send a check or money order to:

Ken Norian
2995 Alder Avenue
East Meadow, NY 11554.

• Since this jewelry is custom made, please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.

• On ring orders, please be sure to indicate whether men's or women's and the ring size.

• On cross orders, please identify the crosses by number.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to write me or call me at (516) 679-0037.

Pax et Bonum.

The Way of Holiness. A Guide to Living with Spiritual Discipline

by Robert Van de Weyer

(London: Fount Paperbacks, 1992. ISBN 0-00-627605-9)

The most recent book in the excellent series produced by the Society of Christ the Sower at Little Gidding in England is Robert Van de Weyer's The Way of Holiness. The author is a prolific writer and editor of works on English spirituality; he is also the priest for several rural villages and a member of the Little Gidding Community.

This book at first reminded me of Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline in that the author applies the classic Christian spiritual disciplines to modern life.

The book consists of 30 short chapters that can be read daily over a month, or they can serve as excellent meditations for a retreat or discussion in a fellowship group. They are organized under the three monastic vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Each chapter begins with a quote from a spiritual master, followed by a brief reflection of how monks and nuns dealt with a particular aspect of human life, and then explains how these principles are still valid for us today. Each section ends with a suggested task to apply this discipline in our daily lives.

The topics are wide-ranging, from money, clothing, and gardening to sex, children, and holidays. The author's style is clear, readable, engaging, and very practical. It is the kind of book you will treasure and want to lend to friends.

— Lester Pittman TSSF

Reviewer's Note: Years ago, I lived a few miles from Little Gidding, where there is a Christian community. Some may recognize Little Gidding because of its association with Nicholas Ferrar (BCP calendar, Dec. 1). Ferrar founded a community there in 1626, and it became the precursor of the revival of religious orders in the Church of England.

T. S. Eliot wrote of Little Gidding in his "Four Quartets" as a place "where prayer has been valid." While the original community did not survive the English Civil War, the spirit of Ferrar's vision was revived there in the 1970s with the founding of the ecumenical Community (now, Society) of Christ the Sower.

Today's community operates a farm, offers hospitality, and produces a series of excellent books on English spirituality. When in England, Little Gidding is well worth the visit, and the community would be glad to welcome you. The location is about 70 miles north of London, near Huntingdon.

Those wishing more information about Little Gidding, or their books, can write to:

The Community
Little Gidding
Huntingdon PE17 5RJ
United Kingdom.

A FRANCISCAN THOUGHT:

"We believe that all persons in the body of Christ have gifts to offer, and that a central task of the church is to release those gifts so God's kingdom may be extended and the Gospel of Christ may be experienced in its reconciling power through the gifts we share. We are called to stretch out our hands to one another."

The church will also be challenged by "the variety of households of divorced and single parents, blended families, sexual minorities, persons with different values than the ones with which we were raised, but fidelity to the Gospel requires us to stretch out our hands and to recognize that often we need to go where we do not wish to go."

— The Rt. Rev. Peter J. Lee

Episcopal Bishop, Diocese of Virginia, January 29, 1993 (Annual Council)

r e a d e r ' s f o r u m

AN ISOLATED TERTIARY RESPONDS

Dear Friends,

I read with interest the comment (by Donna Fuller TSSF in the Advent issue) about contacting TSSFers in isolated areas. What a beautiful idea! I have spent seven years in Casper, Wyoming, with the nearest tertiary over 100 miles away. I have never gotten a TSSF traveler to call, but once an old friend from the "Bill Wilson Fellowship" was passing through, and he came by. That visit was very welcome.

I was also interested in the article on the TSSF library. All books TO and FROM should be sent by "Library Rate" and addressed to "TSSF Library" at 1518 Tulane Drive, Davis, CA 95616. The parcel should also be endorsed, "Library Rate" (and not "Book Rate"), because Library Rate is cheaper. This will work for any address within the United States Postal Service, but not for any foreign mail.

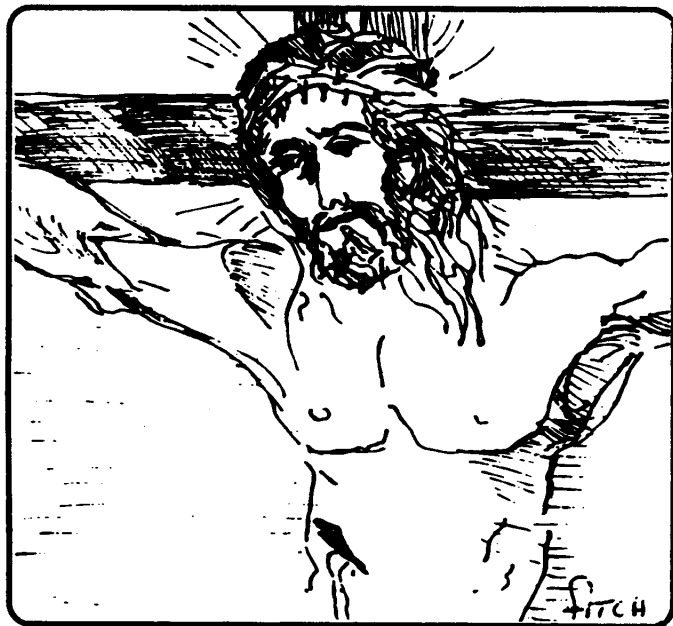
Please note that many post offices will hassle you because they are ignorant of this service. Refer them to Section 725.3 of the Domestic Mail Manual which states that Library Rate works for items To or From a Library.

Keep up your good work! Pax et Bonum,
(the Rev.) Walter J.

Griesmeyer n/TSSF

Worker-Priest

P.S. I'm a letter carrier for the U.S.
Postal Service!



CORRECTION POSTSCRIPT

A letter from Deanna Gursky TSSF in the Easter 1992 issue of The Franciscan Times corrected the source of a writing ("Be At Peace" by St. Francis de Sales) which was incorrectly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi in the Summer 1991 issue.

Betty Swinehart TSSF, who submitted the writing, contacted The Anglican Digest, from whence she had "TAD-dled" it. The Rev. C. Frederick Barbee, editor of "TAD," subsequently wrote Betty, admitting the error and sending her a certificate, recognizing her full membership in the "Ancient & Honorable Company of Amateur Proofreaders."

Betty, with total Franciscan modesty, wrote that "The Anglican Digest's Proofreader's Certificate rightfully is Deanna's," and sent her a copy.

Congratulations to both Betty and Deanna! — Ed.

+++

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4036 Lakota Place
Kingsport, TN 37664

Where there is Love and Wisdom,
there is neither Fear nor Ignorance.
Where there is Patience and Humility,
there is neither Anger nor Annoyance.
Where there is Poverty and Joy,
there is neither Cupidity nor Avarice.
Where there is Peace and Contemplation,
there is neither Care nor Restlessness.
Where there is the Fear of God to guard the dwelling,
there no enemy can enter.
Where there is Mercy and Prudence,
there is neither Excess nor Harshness.

— from *The Admonitions XXVII*, written by St. Francis (*Omnibus*, p.86)