

POSSIBILITIES FOR SELF-DENIAL

From England via the June 1975 "Third Order Chronicle," Br. Edward, SSV, Chaplain, wrote: "As I go around many Area Meetings and talk to Tertiaries, and also in letters which I receive, the question has been raised time and time again about what we mean today by the section of the Rule of a Tertiary called Self Denial. A great many have expressed the feeling that the old rules of the Church on fasting are no longer really serving their purpose. So may I make a few suggestions which you might like to think about and share with your Director and alter your Rule:-

1. For those who are too withdrawn, a definite undertaking to visit a sick or lonely person regularly.
2. For a very busy or over-active person, a rest rule, either for an earlier bedtime or for a rest after lunch: not as a self indulgence but as a time to recharge.
3. An extra five minutes of prayer in church once a week.
4. Regular letter-writing either to a neglected family or to a lonely person.
5. Ten minutes meditation each Friday on some part of the Manual.
6. Taking the daily paper, pick out one item for concern, study this paragraph or column carefully and make it a special subject for intercession during the following 24 hours. This might be especially useful for Tertiaries who find study and reading a great labour.
7. Those who have a tendency to over-indulgence might make a resolution to refrain from the offered second helping."

BR. MARK FRANCIS, S.S.F., CHAPLAIN T.S.F.

Address: Little Portion Friary, P.O. Box 399, Mt. Sinai, New York 11766  
Please note that Br. Mark Francis has moved from New York City.

Letter After his long summer visit cross country, Br. Mark Francis wrote a four-page letter mentioning the people and places he visited. He said the opportunity of visiting the many tertiaries helped very much in getting to know our family. He spent much time preaching, celebrating Votives of St. Francis, going out to lunch, gathering with people for pot luck suppers and Fellowship meetings, and riding buses constantly. The largest Fellowship, with 28 in the current listing, not including supporting spouses, is in Fayetteville, Arkansas, with Carolyn Banks as Convenor. Areas showing possibilities for new fellowships are Oklahoma City, Portland, Victoria B.C., and Spokane.

During the tour, he told many people he would like to visit each Fellowship for in-depth work, but that would have to be up to each one. Because of his duties at Little Portion, the planning would be important. But he thought he

could plan to be away somewhere around 3 - not more than 4 weeks - out of 8 if possible not overlap months, because of his bookkeeping duties for S.S.F. Seattle and Montana and Chicago have already begun their plans; and first come first served. He sends God's blessings and love to all in Christ and Francis. If you would like a copy of the complete letter, you may send to Helen Webb for one.

Mark Francis was here. Glowing reports have come in following our Chaplain's tour around the country, beginning in Florida. Nadine Gauronskas said in San Francisco several people came quite a distance, and that "he is a remarkable person". Carolyn Banks mentions his visit in her Fellowship report. Ken Cox of San Bernardino says "we had a real good visit," and remarked that during the morning office "se remembered, among other things, Poodles, Afghans, trees, grass, flowers, rain, good cooks, etc." Kale King said Brother Mark came when his refreshing kind of personality was really needed; and he proved to be a "proper" member of that "wonderful bunch of nuts," the S.S.F. "Fools for Christ," but oh, so wise! He spent better than 24 hours with the senior high camp. The kids seemed to receive him well - most had not seen a Religious, much less hear or visit with one.

#### MEETINGS

There will be a Third Order Chapter meeting (for officers and elected members) on Friday and Saturday, November 7 and 8, 1975, at Little Portion Friary

The Standing Committee met in June. Those attending were Guardian John Scott, Provincial Brother Luke, Novice Director Peter Funk, Secretary Helen Webb, and Chapter Representative Warren Tanghe. Br. Mark Francis had already left for his summer travels. Marie Hayes was unable to attend.

Since Warren is resigning from Standing Committee and Chapter, the Rev. Robert Samuelson was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Chapter. The proposed Book of Roots was presented, as well as the Devotional Booklet, and a suggested Third Order brochure. The Franciscan Herald Press Tau Cross was chosen to be used as a profession cross, and a small supply is to be ordered for use by Br. Mark Francis for those to be professed. Procedures for inquirers, postulants and novices were reviewed, with suggestions made to smooth out snags.

In response to a request that a tertiary office be included in our literature, a note will be published to the effect that -

"Brothers and sisters of the Third Order in the American Province are expected to say the Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer according to the authorized liturgies of the Church, daily. The propers for the Feast of St. Francis may be substituted for those of the day when the office is recited at a Fellowship meeting or other gathering of tertiaries."

One of our tertiaries has become an active Roman Catholic; and requested a commendation to the Roman tertiaries, and approval by our Bishop Protector of her membership in T.S.F. as a communicant member of another Church.

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Have you sent in your pledge for 1976? We are approaching the close of 1975 - could you send along a little extra for this year? Make checks payable to "Third Order, Society of St. Francis" and mail to the Rev. Hendrik Koning, 405 Country Lane, Narberth, PA 19072.

"My beloved mother, Ethel O'Neal, died on Jan. 31, 1972 at the age of 90. My deepest apologies for not writing you sooner. She was a wonderful, intelligent, understanding woman, and we miss her very much." Mary Ethel O'Neal Coons, May 1975.

Mrs. Stephen (Sarah) Chamberlin died September 18, 1975 in Washington, D.C. She was widely known, appreciated and loved, in the Society of St. Francis and beyond.

The Secretary has received word of the profession of several tertiaries, some recently, and some for whom the dates were not listed in our directory. If there are others, please send them in.

Bowdish, Lynn 9/16/75  
Clinton, Mary 10/10/75  
Hardy, Larry 5/17/75  
Holz, Linda 7/26/75  
Lausch, Ron 6/13/74

Layo, Judith 10/7/73  
McCoy, Joseph 6/26/65  
Pratt, Leonard 1/25/75  
Shelton, Joan 5/17/75  
Walker, John 10/4/75

The Rev. Robert Goode and the Rev. Lawrence Hardy have been appointed Novicemasters, to assist Peter Funk, Novice Director. Muriel Adey has become a Novice Counselor.

Bill Smith of Florida graduated in April from St. Leo College with a B.A. in Sociology, and he is interested in youth counseling. On Pentecost, Camilla Roswall married John Dirks, an Episcopal priest, serving two small missions in the State of Washington. The Rev. Charles David Burt was instituted as Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Clinton, Massachusetts, the morning of Sep. 21, 1975. Later that day the parish celebrated its 100th year with a festal service of Evensong and Solemn Te Deum.

The Rev. Warren Tanghe writes: "I left my curacy at St. Michael's Church in Bristol, Rhode Island, on 23 August. After a visit with my mother in El Paso, Texas, I will sail from New York for England, on 18 September, where I will begin studies for the doctorate in historical theology at Oxford University in early October. I will be working in the 9th century, a period of intellectual renaissance when I believe the theology characteristic of the Western Church began to take shape, and my thesis will deal with one incident in this renaissance, the Eucharistic controversy between Ratramnus and Radbertus at the Monastery of Corbie. Since I anticipate that I will be out of the country for three years, I have resigned from Chapter, Standing Committee, and the Third Order Corporation, after completing work on the final bit of our Provincial Manual, the devotional section. I will remain part of our Province, however, and hope that while in Oxford I will be able to share some of our ideas and perspectives on our vocations with our English brothers and sisters; when I return, perhaps I can bring this Province some of their insights. Should any of our brothers and sisters want to write, I can be addressed at Keble College, Oxford OX1 3PG, United Kingdom." 6 September 1975.

Some time ago, Br. Mark Francis asked if any tertiaries might like to hear from others by mail. Mrs. Judith Layo would. Her address is 7 Urban Drive, Massena, New York 13662. She would also be pleased to write to a shut-in.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

A little tidbit from Message #19 from Hat Rock Valley Retreat Center. "Little did I think when I was called into Father Joseph's office at Little Portion Friary, Mount Sinai, New York, and told that I was being assigned to help Father Liebler complete the building of St. Christopher's Mission at Bluff, Utah, for at least a year, that the year would stretch into thirty-two! Father never stopped building, even after he moved from Bluff in 1966 to Monument Valley. It was first a house, then a church, and now a residence for a young priest and his family." (from Brother Juniper) "If the work of years is not to be for naught, our dear friends in Christ will have to come to our rescue. Our mailing list is small; you can perhaps help by enlarging it - telling us of persons who would be interested, or organizations in or beside the Church, or, better still, telling them yourselves!" (from Father Liebler) P.O. Box 5, Monument Valley, Utah 84536.

BISHOP'S RANCH VACATION

"In July I spent two weeks at the Bishop's Ranch on the Franciscan Vacation organized by Sr. Cecilia, C.S.F. The Ranch is located about 80 miles north of San Francisco. There were three others in the group (Kay, Donna, Jan) as well as Sr. Lucia and Sr. Suzanne - seven altogether. We stayed in the house and joined in the ongoing life of the Brothers. There were daily offices, meditation, discussion sessions, swimming, days-out, helping out where needed, and just communicating on a different level from everyday work-talk at home. It was like being part of a family, a real family you could talk with and share with and be accepted for yourself.

Almost every day we had a session: (1) history of daily offices - Fr. Adrian, (2) Franciscans in the Anglican Church - First and Second Orders, (3) Third Order and Associates - Fr. Robert, (4) Prayer and Meditation - Fr. Joel, (5) Life of St. Francis - Sr. Lucia, (6) Vocation and Vows, (7) Slides of C.S.F., (8) A trip to San Francisco to visit St. Francis House and some local sights. There were other activities, such as the day Fr. Isaac was our tour guide to Ft. Ross and the redwoods, or the day five of us wedged into a car and visited Sonoma Mission, General Vallejo's home, and Christian Brothers Winery, or the evening we were invited to a ranch for a wild pig roast, or the afternoon at the theater where "Jesus Christ Superstar" was playing. But all good things must come to an end, and this vacation was no exception.

P.S. The most disappointing thing about this vacation was to learn of the number of readers of "The Little Chronicle" who knew nothing about its even being held." Suki Miller

FROM MEXICO

"I came to Mexico last May to be interim Rector of St. Michael's and All Angels Church here in Cuernavaca. I also came with my Bishop's approval to see what could be done about establishing a companionate relationship between my Diocese, Dallas, and the Diocese here, Central and South Mexico; also to offer my services to Bishop Saucedo to be used in whatever way he saw fit. Since August when my work at St. Michael's was over, I've been doing various things. I've been helping out at the Internado San Miguel, an orphanage for boys here in Cuernavaca. I've been doing some fund raising for them, and also furnishing material and pictures for the Mite Box offering for the Diocese of Dallas, which this year was designated for this orphanage. I also am celebrating the Eucharist here at the Internado Chapel (San Pablo) and for another little congregation, which

"just became an organized mission at the last Diocesan Convention. I enjoy the work, but sometimes feel I'm not really doing as much as the Lord would have me do. I still have a language limitation, although I've been taking intensive Spanish. I'm convinced now that the older one gets, the harder it is to learn a new language." Robert (Sam) Samuelson

#### FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

"I am moved to respond to a subject discussed at the Convocation: the matter of wearing a distinctive cross. When one first sees the film, "Brother Sun, Sister Moon", one is struck by the ostentatiousness of the papal court: elaborate robes, huge pectoral crosses. It is all seen in the light of Francis' great simplicity. As one who normally has worn a pectoral cross presented by his seminary upon graduation twenty-five years ago, it has become apparent that the profusion of crosses worn these days can lead all too easily to a new form of "outdoing the Joneses".

The need to be recognized as a Franciscan - an Anglican Catholic Franciscan - is no doubt real; but that can be done by a distinctive lapel pin (and I still see nothing wrong with the one available from our Claresses); but there is still much to be said for wearing one's cross beneath one's clothing, a reminder that it is the Christ who must be seen in our Francis-styled lives, not the Lord's Cross, in whatever shape, worn as an ornament amid so many others who see it largely as just that - an ornament, and hardly more.

The Cross, tradition says, was worn in the shape of Francis' habit and, the world knows, in the shape of his life. It may be we need to regain his simplicity in this matter of cross-wearing and be more concerned for our manner of Cross-bearing in our daily lives." Kale (King), Priest

#### FELLOWSHIPS

Bay Area New Umbrian Fellowship (San Francisco) sent notices of meetings and events each month, right on through the summer. As a special project, they are sending \$10 each month to the Orphanage Ste. Madeleine in Haiti for their milk fund. In June, they joined the Sacramento Fellowship in spending an afternoon with the Brothers at the San Damiano Friary.

The Long Island Fellowship also met monthly. A write-up of the July meeting was a bit unusual. "The Third Order Fellowship was held Saturday, 12 July in Saint Cornelius the Centurian Chapel at Coast Guard Base, Governors Island. This is a Chapel of Trinity Parish, and is an interesting extension of Trinity Church. The Vicar, Fr. John Walker, is a Navy Chaplain and activer Tertiary. One of the many unique artifacts in the Chapel is a small stone credence table made from stones of the dungeon in which St. Joan of Arc (Third Order Franciscan) was imprisoned at Rouen, France in the year 1431."

David Burt reported in June that it had been a good year for the Boston Area Fellowship and there was a strong group developing in the Providence area. The retreat at Rye Beach was well attended and a beautiful experience. They planned a joyful and festive gathering on June 29th, and invited a group of Roman Catholic Tertiaries, who meet regularly in Concord, to join them. Since then, David Burt moved, but still within Massachusetts.

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The Philadelphia Fellowship met in July in Bethlehem, and also planned a weekend retreat in October in Philadelphia.

Fayetteville, AR. Carolyn Banks wrote August 30th - the Fellowship has 25 members, of which 7 are tertiaries (professed, novices, postulants and aspirants). She said Br. Mark Francis' visit served to enlighten and encourage them all.

The September meeting was to be a training session, including individuals' reports on progress and problems. She said they try to have a systematic arrangement for inquirers' training, training of aspirants, counseling of members and aspirants.

Two Roman Catholic Sisters who are regular attendants with the Fellowship have suggested a joint training program with their parish to get the R.C. Third Order started there.

The Fellowship has some small groups within it expressing individual interests such as Friday night prayer and charismatic experience, another emphasizes an Encounter Group approach. In addition, the Fellowship stresses service to St. Paul's Parish.