

LIST OF FRANCISCAN SAINTS

October

04 - Our Holy Father St. Francis Feast Day

06 - St. Mary Francis of the Five Wounds 3rd

Order

10 - St. Daniel and Companions 1st Order

12 - St. Seraphin of Montenegranaro 1st Order

20 - Blessed James of Strepar 1st Order

20 - Blessed Contardo Ferrini 3rd Order

21 - Blessed Josephine Leroux 2nd Order

22 - St. Peter of Alcantara 1st Order

23 - St. John of Capistrano 1st Order

26 - Blessed Bonaventure of Potenza 1st Order

**Happy
Birthday!**

October Celebrants:

Oct. 19 - Josephine Fedele

Oct. 24 - Alila Rafaelita

Quebec - Ontario Area Activities 2019

Oct 4 : Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Francis of Assisi Church

Oct 5: Monthly Meeting

Oct 6: Blessing of Pets

Oct 19: Area Fraternity Reps' Meeting, Rosemont Friary

Nov 2: Monthly Meeting / All Souls' Day

Nov 30: Advent Day of Recollection, Rosemont Friary

Dec 7: Monthly Meeting

Prayer Requests



For healing and good health:

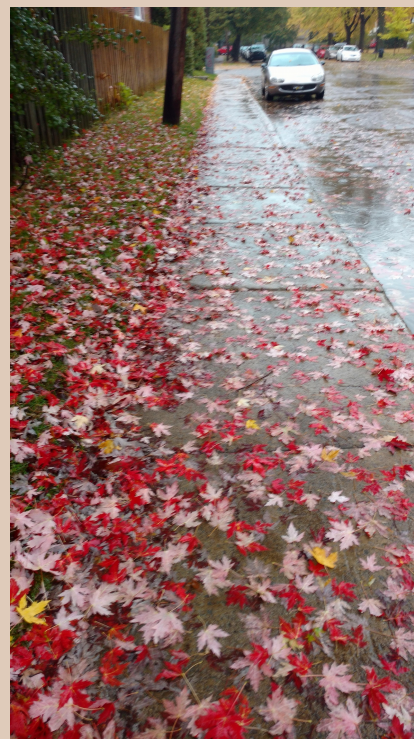
Marcecita Malaban, Rosalia Tran, John Megley, James, Sofia & Conrado Lucban, Edwin Dolorosa, Meleanor Hugo, Benedicto Pestilos, Boyet Guiang, Yolanda Manzanal, Rose & Laurie Alforque, Josefina Bangalan, Perla Castillo, Hans & Pepe Canier, Ma. Lourdes Chin, Tarcehia Ching, Esperanza Espiritu, Lourdes Gimongala, Elmer Manila, Yolanda Manzanal, Lucy Salazar, Edwin Doloroso, Ike Delfin

For the repose of the soul of:

Francisco Laurente, Roland Manlulu, Luisita Botelho, Teofila Castro, Maria Culala, D. Francisco & Rosa D'apice, Corazon & Francisco Garcia, Gregorio Castillo, Solidad Angeles, Hugo Mileanor

Benedict Labre House

Coordinator - Emily Espiritu (514)- 932-8945



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Beginning Again

“Let us begin to do good, for as yet we have done little”

Francis spoke these words at a time when most people already considered him a saint. In his mind, there was no plateau in life where he could feel he had “made it” and could coast into heaven from then on. He did not compare his love with that of other men but with that of Christ; hence, he always saw an infinite expanse into which he could still go, becoming more and more like his Lord.

God has already blessed you with his life and given you the gift of faith and faithfulness. Each time we begin anew, we enter a new phase of life intent on enriching our relationship with God. You are not entering upon something different from the Christian life or something better than the life of other Christians. You are looking, like Francis and with Francis, into that vast expanse of Christ’s love, and you desire to share it more deeply. The only thing different about your new life is that your Christian life will now be given a particular coloring and direction by Francis and the traditions that have grown from his life and words. You’re beginning again, and you will continue to begin again for the rest of your life.

We often think that God’s call comes to us when we have achieved a level of spiritual perfection, when we are worthy of so great a calling. But the reality for most of us is that we get hints and suggestions of a new direction for our lives at the most unexpected (and occasionally inopportune) times. It was this way for Jesus’ first apostles. And it was this way for Francis and many of the saints.

In your spiritual life, you must be satisfied to progress gradually. Usually you will not notice your growth. Sometimes it may even seem you are growing backward as you discover your weaknesses and failings. But trust in God. Allow God to lead you through your spiritual companions, through your own study and prayer.

Week by week you will turn your attention from one aspect of the spiritual life to another. It’s like painting a picture: a touch here, a dab there, and gradually the masterpiece emerges.

No deep understanding of Jesus, Francis, and Clare can be reached without God’s direction through prayer. Make each action part of your prayer life. Invite the Holy Spirit to lead you not just to mental knowledge but to a deep spiritual understanding that will result in your conversion. Conversion is the ongoing process of learning to live the gospel way of life given to us by Jesus and revealed to us Francis and Clare.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- In what ways do you hope to deepen your love of God?
- What mistakes have you made in the past that have kept you from God?
- What attitude in you has been the greatest hindrance to deepening your love of God?
- Do you feel you can have a better spirit formed in you?

CONNECTING WITH SCRIPTURES: Luke 5: 1-11

CONNECTING WITH FRANCISCAN WRITINGS

Francis lifted his head from the stone floor and looked searchingly into the eyes of the crucifix that seemed now to have depth, like real eyes. Suddenly, the whole face of the Christ seemed to move, and Francis was afraid. Then as from some faraway place and yet coming surely from the crucifix, a voice clear and resonant pierced Francis’ soul.

“Francis, go now and repair my church which, as you see, is falling down.”

Francis was jubilant. He waited for more, and he searched and searched the face of the crucifix, but there was no movement, no sign that more would come. Francis remained transfixed for a long time, and thanked Jesus over and over again for this clear request He had made of him. He would start rebuilding the church immediately.

It never occurred to Francis that Christ was asking anything other than the actual repairing of churches that were failing into ruin. So he ran from San Damiano and set about collecting stones to rebuild crumbling churches. He would start with San Damiano itself. His whole mind and energy were now focused almost fanatically on this one project.

This single-minded obedience to his dreams and voices was to become a bold pattern in Francis’ life that would lead to his total and radical service of the gospel of Christ.

■ Murray Bodo, *Francis: The Journey and the Dream*

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER BEFORE THE CRUCIFIX:

Most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart. Give me right faith, sure hope and perfect charity. Fill me with understanding and knowledge that I may fulfill your command. Amen