



OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MESSENGER

Issue Number 60

August 2025

From Our Regional Minister

Dear Franciscans,

I hope all of you have had a good summer. I have been blessed that I was able to see some of you face-to-face. The most recent events are the regional council meeting, mass and barbecue at Mt. St. Francis, organized by the friars and cooks and the fraternity members of St. Mary's (many thanks!). There were skits presented by the some fraternities and Eritrean Franciscans with the theme of the Canticle of Creatures. The event was fun and heartwarming.

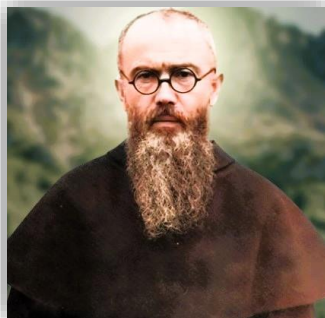
Before the event, there was a regional council gathering. The regional council proposed that the OLOTA Chapter of Election be held on July 2-5 in Kelowna. Your minister should have more detail about the proposal. Upcoming events are Franciscan Bookclub, Monthly Crown Rosary, Fraternity Minister Conference,



THE ASSUMPTION of
the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15th

[DOGMA](#)



ST MAXIMILIAN KOLBE,
OFMConv

'Saint & martyr of the Immaculate'

Feast day August 14th

[HIS LIFE](#)

the Novena to St. Francis (September 24 - October 2, to allow members attend the transitus on October 3), and the Spiritual Assistant Course by Br. Gerry Clyne (please consider taking the course, if you have not sign up). Seasons of Creation will take place between September 1 and October 4. [Special prayer resource is available at OLOTA website.](#) I would encourage you to use it because today, the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are getting louder - prayers are needed for the change of heart of those who can potentially make a difference: from policy-makers to local residents.

*Your servant,
Lanny*

*Place your mind before the
mirror of eternity! Place your
soul in the brilliance of glory!
And transform your entire
being into the image of the
Godhead Itself through
contemplation.
St Clare of Assisi*

By Tibor Kauser of

Formation should help us to

- live our spirituality
- deepen our relationship with God
- be a community of love
- bring us back to our Franciscan roots
- clearly understand our identity

Family life in all their senses

- Family life is the essence of our human life
- We are called to live the love of God in family
- We have the privilege of the sacrament of marriage and of having children
- It is our special way of collaborating with God in creation and spreading his love
- We must strive to preserve the family nucleus
- We belong to the Franciscan Family
- It enriches us in our spirituality, our vocation and our apostolic mission
- We must strengthen our sense of belonging

Vocational promotion

- It is a duty of all brothers and sisters
- It is a sign of the vitality of the fraternities
- Everyone must be a true witness
- Promotion must be bold and creative
- Everyone must be convinced of the validity of the OFS vocation

The opposite of priority is optionality. So

- formation
 - life in the family in all its senses
 - vocational promotion
- are optional or unimportant

Similarly, we need to pay attention to

- financial matters
- communication

Financial management

- We should be more aware
- It has to include budgeting
- It must provide resources for apostolic activities and the life of the fraternities themselves
- It has to promote transparency in the management of material assets

Communication

- It is a key to fostering fraternal life at all levels
- It involves respectful and attentive listening
- Honest communication recognizes the divine seed in each one

These are the key elements of our vocation in the Secular Franciscan Order and our secular identity. Without them we cannot

- live as children of God
- live our fraternal life
- develop our fraternities and
- fulfill our apostolic mission

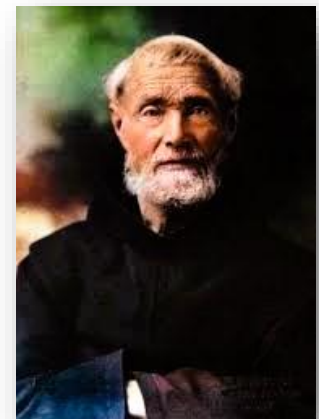


ST CLARE OF ASSISI
Feast day August 11th
[HER LIFE](#)

St. Clare Expels the Saracens

In 1240 St. Clare, founder of the Poor Clares, is said to have frightened away attacking Saracen mercenaries by holding aloft the Blessed Sacrament. Weak and ill, she was roused by her sisters as the soldiers were attempting to breach their convent at San Damiano. This event is often depicted in art, with St. Clare holding a monstrance. She held the Eucharist aloft, praying for protection for her sisters and the city of Assisi. The Saracens, upon seeing the consecrated Host, were reportedly struck with fear and retreated. This event is considered a Eucharistic miracle, highlighting the power of the Eucharist and St. Clare's faith.

BL FREDERIC JANSOONE , OFM
'A tireless apostle'
Feast day August 4th
[HIS LIFE](#)



Prayer Intentions for Vocations in OFS 2025 (from CIOFS)

AUGUST: For all the candidates who are preparing to make their professions in the Secular Franciscan Order.

SEPTEMBER: For new true vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order through the intercession of all the Franciscan Saints.

The Salutation of the Virtues

Hail, Queen Wisdom, may the Lord protect you
with your sister, holy pure Simplicity.
Lady, holy Poverty, may the Lord protect you
with your sister, holy Humility.
Lady, holy Charity, may the Lord protect you
with your sister, holy Obedience.
O most holy Virtues, may the Lord protect all of
you,
from Whom you come and proceed.
There is surely no one in the entire world
who can possess any one of you
unless he dies first.
Whoever possesses one of you
and does not offend the others,
possesses all.
And each one destroys vices and sins.
Holy Wisdom destroys
Satan and all his subtlety.
Pure holy Simplicity destroys
all the wisdom of this world
and the wisdom of the body.
Holy Poverty destroys
the desire of riches
and avarice
and the cares of this world.
Holy Humility destroys
pride
and all the people who are in the world
and all the things that belong to the world.
Holy Charity destroys
every temptation of the devil and of the flesh
and every carnal fear.
Holy Obedience destroys
every wish of the body and of the flesh
and binds its mortified body
to obedience of the Spirit
and to obedience of one's brother
and the person who possesses her is subject
and submissive
to all persons in the world
and not to man only
but even to all beasts and wild animals
so that they may do whatever they want
with him
inasmuch as it has been given to them
from above by the Lord.

By Saint Francis of Assisi

The Franciscan Crown Rosary... also known as the *Seraphic Rosary*, traces its origins back to the early 15th century. The devotion began with a Franciscan novice named James, who had a deep love for the Blessed Virgin Mary. He would weave garlands of flowers to place at her statue, a tradition he held dearly. However, upon entering the Franciscan Order, James was instructed that this practice was no longer appropriate for his new way of life. Heartbroken, he decided to leave the order. * Tradition holds that the Blessed Virgin appeared to him, urging him to remain in the order and instead weave a spiritual crown of prayers. She guided him to recite seven decades of the Hail Mary in honor of the seven joys she experienced during her life. This event marked the beginning of the *Franciscan Crown Rosary*. * The Franciscan Order soon embraced this new form of devotion. By 1422, the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* had been officially recognized and promoted by the order, particularly by the Observant branch of the Franciscans. The seven joys of Mary, which form the core of the Crown Rosary, were a natural fit for the Franciscan spirituality, which has always emphasized the joy and humility of the Virgin Mary. The seven decades of the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* each commemorate one of these joyful events, including **the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, the Adoration of the Magi, the Finding in the Temple, the Resurrection, and the Assumption of Mary**. * As devotion to the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* spread, it became an important aspect of Franciscan life and prayer. The Franciscan Crown not only served as a way to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary but also as a means of deepening one's spiritual life through meditation on the Joyful Mysteries. Over time, the practice of reciting the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* extended beyond the order and became popular among the laity as well. * The unique structure of the rosary, with its seven decades, set it apart from the traditional Dominican Rosary, while still maintaining the same focus on meditation and prayer. Today, the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* remains a cherished devotion within the Franciscan Order and beyond. It is often recited on Saturdays, a day traditionally dedicated to Mary, and is associated with a [plenary indulgence](#) under specific conditions. * The simplicity and joy at the heart of the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* continue to inspire devotion among those who seek to honor Mary and meditate on the Joyful Mysteries of her life. Whether prayed with beads or simply recited in one's heart, the *Franciscan Crown Rosary* offers a rich and deeply spiritual way to connect with the Blessed Virgin and reflect on her role in the story of salvation.

Save the Date

- Pray the Franciscan CROWN ROSARY together!

On the first Saturday of each month.

Next.. **2025 Sept 6th** @ 7pm PST/8pm MST/9pm CST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86486098310?pwd=R1VOZ3EvbWMraG1PTTYxb1p1WllvQT09>

Meeting ID: 864 8609 8310 Passcode: 741246

- Franciscan Book Club

The Franciscan Book Club will resume meetings on Sunday **September 7, 2025** with discussions of the book *A Franciscan View of Creation* by Ilia Delio (OSF). Those wishing to join the book club or obtain additional information may contact Miriam Liem at ofsmiriam@gmail.com or Marlene Welch at Patmarlocel@gmail.com



Celebrating National Indigenous History Month

St Clare of Assisi Fraternity of Coquitlam, BC invited Solange Legal (far right) as a special guest to their June gathering to celebrate *National Indigenous History Month*. Solange has French ancestry as well as being Métis and gave an insightful presentation on Indigenous History citing that *indigenous* means 'from the earth'. Solange works for the Archdiocese of Vancouver Truth & Reconciliation.

Laudato Si 146: *In this sense, it is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. They are not merely one minority among others, but should be the principal dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their land are proposed. For them, land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God and from their ancestors who rest there, a sacred space with which they need to interact if they are to maintain their identity and values. When they remain on their land, they themselves care for it best. Nevertheless, in various parts of the world, pressure is being put on them to abandon their homelands to make room for agricultural or mining projects which are undertaken without regard for the degradation of nature and culture.*

---<<<+SOCIAL+CORNER+>>>---



St Anthony of Padua Fraternity of Richmond, BC gathered to welcome new pastor Fr Dan Gurnick, OFM & happy travels to Fr Manoj Xaxlo, OFM who left for a visit to India...



...they also went on pilgrimage to one of the Jubilee Pilgrim Sites, the Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver...



...and they went on pilgrimage with Fr Joseph Nguyen, OFM to another Jubilee Pilgrimage Site, the Shrine of Sto Nino de Cebu at St Anthony of Padua Parish in Agassi.



On Sunday, August 10, Mary Queen of Peace Fraternity of Pincher Creek, AB, served at the 12:30 pm Mass in the mission church of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* with Fr Marino Infante as celebrant at Waterton Lakes National Park. The Church holds Mass during the summer months when the park is open & welcomes different groups to serve. Mary Queen of Peace Fraternity has been serving at Mass there for a number of years.

OLOTA Council held the yearly *in person* meeting at Mt St Francis Retreat Centre in Cochrane, AB Aug 8-10. Those who could not attend in person *streamed in on zoom!!*



St Mary's Fraternity of Calgary, AB held their annual summer Mass & Barbecue on Sunday, August 10th at Mt St Francis Retreat Centre with Fr Guylain Prince, OFM as celebrant. It was also an opportunity to welcome members of the Eritrean Secular Franciscan community from Eastern Africa.



St. Elizabeth of Hungary Fraternity of Saskatoon, SK celebrated the permanent profession of Yvonne & Lorna.



Members of St. Francis of Assisi Korean Fraternity of Surrey, BC gathered for a workshop at Carmel Hill Retreat Center in Duroche, BC from July 18 to July 20, 2025. The theme was *A Journey Together In Hope & Love*.

Our Lady of the Angels Messenger, Secular Franciscan Order of Western Canada Region
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