



OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MESSENGER

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FROM our REGIONAL MINISTER

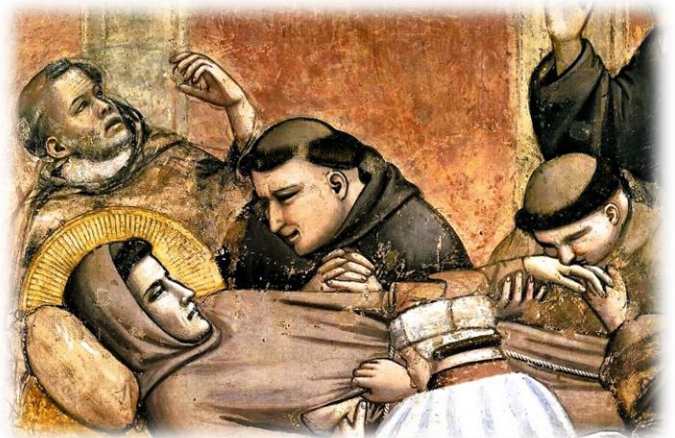
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope to see many of you at the celebration of the *Canticle of Creatures* on Nov 1, 2026 at 10am PT / 11am MT / 12pm CT. If you haven't, please register through Colleen Finlon by email to receive the zoom link at cmariefinlon@gmail.com. The regional council has begun preparations for the 2026 Chapter of Election. Please save the date July 2-5, 2026. Initial deposit for accommodation at UBC Kelowna has been paid. The location is Corpus Christi Parish in Kelowna, BC. The nomination and resolution committees have been formed. Preliminary agenda has been drafted. As we approach the last few months of 2025, many of us often think of our families. Among family members, including family of each fraternity, we often face conflicts because of our brokenness. With that, we are called to bear the face of Christ: to love others as the Father loves us. Some of the common forms of love are presence, gentleness, listening, words, service, touch, and material things. We surrender ourselves totally to the Holy Spirit and ask the Holy Spirit, which of these forms of love is required. We make ourselves be available (unconditionally, if possible) to be the eyes, voice, hands, and feet of Jesus. We also need to have the grace of courage: not be fearful of rejection and becoming "the garbage can" of someone else's unnecessary "baggage". Do not hesitate to be the first one to say "I am sorry!" or "I apologize" immediately when someone notice mistakes in us. Complaints may signal lack of spiritual nourishments and/or hurts and "I apologize" may open the gate of reconciliation, openness for spiritual growth/nourishments. Despite our sinfulness, it is truly a blessing to offer our gifts for others' healing. Many thanks for your prayers! Happy Hallow Tide Triduum! (All Hallows' Eve, All Saints' Day, and All Souls' Day).

Your servant, Lanny

The Transitus: October 3rd

That very moment one of the friars, a disciple of the saint who was well known for his sanctity, saw his soul being borne on a white cloud over many waters straight to heaven, under the appearance of a radiant star. It shone with the beauty of a pure conscience, clad in the glory of his outstanding merits; the abundance of grace he had received and the Christ-like virtues he had practiced bore it aloft so surely that nothing could delay its entry into the vision of eternal light and glory. BONAVENTURE





St John of Capistrano
Feast Day Oct 23

St John of Capistrano was born at Capistrano, [Italy](#) in 1385, the son of a former German knight in that city. He studied [law](#) at the University of [Perugia](#) and practiced as a lawyer in the courts of Naples. King Ladislas of [Naples](#) appointed him governor of Perugia. During a [war](#) with a neighboring town he was betrayed and imprisoned. Upon his release he entered the Franciscan community at [Perugia](#) in 1416. He and St. [James](#) of the March were fellow students under St. Bernardine of Siena, who inspired him to institute the devotion to the Holy Name of [Jesus](#) and His Mother. [John](#) began his brilliant preaching apostolate with a deacon in 1420. After his ordination he traveled throughout Italy, Germany, Bohemia, Austria, Hungary, Poland, and [Russia](#) preaching [penance](#) and establishing numerous communities of Franciscan renewal. When Mohammed II was threatening [Vienna](#) and Rome, St. John, at the age of seventy, was commissioned by Pope [Callistus III](#) to preach and lead a crusade against the invading Turks. Marching at the head of seventy thousand Christians, he gained victory in the great battle of Belgrade against the Turks in 1456. Three months later he died at Illok, Hungary. His [feast day](#) is October 23. He is the patron of jurists.

FROM our REGIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT

Let us begin, brothers, to serve the Lord God, for up until now we have done less or nothing.

St Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that every day is an opportunity to start fresh and to renew our response to the call of the Lord. St. Francis never felt that he had attained or completed his goal. He always looked for holiness in his life and newness in his living. Each day was his new beginning. Therefore, I believe we should begin each day with this thought and spirit; let us begin again. The spirit to learn, relearn and unlearn is very critical in order to serve the fast-changing world. The signs of the time are such that we must be on our feet to counter witness the changes.

Brothers and Sisters of the Secular Franciscan family, your vocation and service to the world makes a difference. Your evangelical way of life and witness in this present world is immense and extraordinary. Just a reminder, in order to be true to our vocation, to serve the world and to go forward in our mission, we need to go back to our roots (origin). That, for sure, will provide energy, spirit and guidance to face the challenges this fast-changing world places before us. Going back to our roots enables us to prophetically grasp the signs and words that God is addressing to us today, in this world of ours, without contenting ourselves with wearily repeating the past. Reality changes but the Gospel always remains the same. The Gospel invites us to conversion and penance, which we so badly need, asking for the grace of practical choices that will transform and renew whatever in us, in our fraternities and our environments, allows itself to be dominated by the "spirit of the flesh".

Let us be rooted in the Gospel and passionately spread the Good News of Jesus in our world, wounded by war, injustice and division. The Gospel invites us to embrace our future, the one the Lord is giving us, not the one we desire, in the certainty that God's dreams are better than ours. His plans bring full life and peace, that peace which Francis proclaimed and which sometimes, by grace, we also experience in our lives. St. Francis of Assisi sends us forth as brothers and sisters to the whole world, to bear witness to Jesus in word and deed, so as to draw everyone to the love of God. ***Brothers and Sisters, let us begin again.***

Br. Manoj Xalxo, OFM

FROM our REGIONAL DIRECTOR of FORMATION

Saint Francis and the *Canticle of the Creatures* - The Gift of Creation

On Saturday, November 1st., 2025 the National Formation Commission are leading a One Hour Prayer Service to share the Eighth Hundred Anniversary of Saint Francis and his *Canticle of the Creatures* across Canada. This celebration starts at 10 AM in BC, 11 AM in Alberta and 12 Noon in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The *Canticle of the Creatures* is a beautiful glimpse into the heart of Saint Francis. It is a poetic vision, rich in theology and one of the earliest poems written in the vernacular or “voice” of the people. When Francis writes the prayer, he wants the people to sing the verses - his radical theological version of creation.

At this time, near the end of his life Francis is seriously ill with an eye infection. He knows that sunlight will cause intense pain in his eyes yet he praises the inherent goodness of sunlight and all of creation. His interdependence with creation and its relationship with the Creator gives him such joy that it soothes the pain and suffering. He comes to recognize the intrinsic goodness of God’s community of which we are already a part.

Saint Francis believes that what he calls “heart sight” or a sixth sense as “the eyes of the spirit” - the sun, the moon and the stars, the wind, the earth and fire and water - are already within him. By this insight he begins to see the loveliness of the created world. This unity and interdependence lead Francis to call each element of the created world his “Brother and Sister.” He now understands in a mystical way the truth of kinship and sees himself not as a steward, but as a family member of creation.

Saint Francis of Assisi and his *Canticle of the Creatures* is a celebration of the “chorus” of creation expressed by the whole cosmos, as it gives praise to God.

Catherine McNiff, ofs

Message for Formators

I AM A NEW DIRECTOR OF FORMATION IN MY FRATERNITY AND WONDER, “HOW DO I ORDER FRANCISCAN JOURNEY TEXTBOOKS FOR THE INQUIRERS?”

If you need Franciscan Journey textbooks for Inquirers in your Fraternity I can help!! You can email me: catherineofs@gmail.com or catherineregionalofs@gmail.com or phone/text me at: 403-358-4530 and I will mail the books to you using a prorated shipping box from Canada Post within a day or two after receiving your order. The box will usually arrive in your mail box within two to three days. *Franciscan Journey* text books and *Little Red Rule Books* are \$30 CAD for the two books. Two years ago, I placed a large order with Smokey Valley Printing, USA to receive the bulk discount. The shipping boxes from Canada Post start at about \$20 for the small box which will fit three books. There are bigger book boxes available for larger orders.

HOW DO I PAY FOR THE BOOKS?

When I send a book order to you: I will email a copy of your order to Clemence Jung, OLOTA Treasurer. I will let you know the total cost of the textbooks plus the Canada Post shipping box. You will then email Clemence about the method of payment you will be using. Clemence’s email address: clemencejung54@gmail.com

WHAT ABOUT PROFESSION CROSSES?

Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity - OLOTA - sends Profession Crosses to fraternities on request. Profession Crosses ARE FREE from OLOTA and so is the cost of mailing the crosses. God bless you and the work you do in your fraternities. Peace and joy!

Catherine McNiff, ofs

Prayer Intentions for Vocations in OFS 2025 (from CIOFS)

OCTOBER: *For a fruitful and close collaboration between the OFS fraternities and the spiritual assistants to promote vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order.*

NOVEMBER: *For the elderly, sick and the retired OFS brothers and sisters.*

Save the Date

- *Pray the Franciscan **CROWN ROSARY** together!*

On the first Saturday of each month.

Next... 2025 Nov 1st @ 7pm PST/8pm MST/9pm CST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86486098310?pwd=R1VOZ3EvdWMraG1PTTYxb1p1WllvQT09>

Meeting ID: 864 8609 8310 Passcode: 741246

- OLOTA Franciscan Book Club

Next... 2025 Nov 2nd with discussions of the book *A Franciscan View of Creation* by Ilia Delio (OSF)

Contact Miriam Liem at ofsmiriam@gmail.com or Marlene Welch at Patmarlocel@gmail.com

-Coming up soon **National Formation Course** six months beginning January 12, 2026

[Click here for more info & Application Form](#)

-Celebrate the **Canticle of Creatures** on zoom!



CELEBRATE the 8th Centenary of
THE CANTICLE OF CREATURES
with Franciscans all across Canada

How St Francis saw the Word of God
written on all of creation!

November 1, 2025 on zoom in English & French
10 am PT/11 am MT/12 pm CT/1 pm ET/2 pm AT

A One Hour Liturgical Celebration

Registration: deborahdessiers7@gmail.ca

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



St Bedard Fraternity of Sherwood Park, AB
celebrated a blessing of the pets on Sept
27th including cats, dogs & a snake!



St Clare of Assisi Fraternity of Coquitlam, BC celebrated the permanent profession of Patricia (Trish) Soler on Oct 4, 2025. Fr Maciej was the Celebrant with Sponsor Catherine Payne, Minister Carmen Moorehouse & Regional Minister Lanny Hui. Trish's two children were present with her for the profession.



St Anthony of Padua Fraternity of Richmond, BC join together (l to r) with Korean fraternity members for celebration of the Transitus on Oct 3; on the Feast of St Francis on Oct 4 with Br Manoj & Br Brian; and for Renewal of Professions with Br Manoj on Oct 19.

Below: The altar of St Joseph the Worker Church of Richmond, BC prepared for the celebration of the Transitus by St Anthony of Padua Fraternity.



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