

FRANCISCAN MIRROR

FALL
2011

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Region
covering most of Upstate New York & Northwestern Pennsylvania

OCT. WORKSHOP TO UNVEIL FORMATION MANUAL

Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region will hold a Formation Workshop Oct. 14-16 at Christ the King Retreat Center in Syracuse to introduce a national formation manual.

"Alma Kraus Memorial Regional Formation Workshop" is for formation directors and teams, ministers, spiritual assistants and council members. The Alma Kraus

Memorial Endowment is helping to defray lodging/meal costs and pay for manual, CD/DVD, and handouts. As a result, cost to attend is only \$100.

The manual is called:

"For Up to Now: Foundational Topics for Initial Formation."

To register, contact Regional Vice Minister Kim Marks, SFO, at (716) 668-3830 or marks@bktr.org.

ANNUAL CHAPTER MORPHS INTO SPIRITUAL RETREAT



The Annual Regional Chapter turned into a weekend retreat, with a series of on-going formation presentations, thanks to executive council members who stepped up when flight delays kept the featured speaker away.

Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, helped to set the spiritual pace of the chapter.

See Page 5.

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**Justice, Peace & Integrity
of Creation Commission.*

FRANCISCAN MIRROR

FALL 2011

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DEADLINES: FEB. 15,
MAY 15, AUG. 15, NOV. 15.



Regional Minister's Message

By MARY FRANCES CHARSKY, SFO

OCT. WORKSHOP IS FOR YOU!

"May you always be with God wherever you may be and may God be with you always."

The blessing of St. Clare is my wish for you.

All Formation Directors are expected to participate in the October 14-16 "Alma Kraus Memorial Formation Workshop 2011." The new National Manual for Initial Formation will be distributed and demonstrated at the workshop. This is an international Secular Franciscan initiative that the Regional Formation Team is enthusiastically ready to present.

The Regional Chapter is scheduled at Stella Maris Retreat Center April 27-29, 2012. National SFO representatives will be with us for the weekend for a formal visitation. Let's pray for a gathering of as many Secular Franciscans in the region as possible.

Thank you to all of you who joined and participated in many ways in the SFO Days. The goal is for each Secular Franciscan to have access to attend one SFO Day per year, in your area of the region.

God gave St. Francis the heart of compassion. Let us pray that God will give us such hearts that we may be for our times what Francis was for his.



Fr. Brad Milunski

FRATERNITY INSTALLS SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT

Fr. Brad Milunski, OFM Conv, was installed as the spiritual assistant to St. Elizabeth-St. Bonaventure Fraternity on May 22 in a ceremony at the Franciscan Church of the Assumption, Syracuse, reports Fraternity Minister Rosemary Costa, SFO.

Wall of Honor

In Memory Of

Anna Z. Moore

remembered by

St. Thomas More Fraternity, Fonda

Myrtle "Mickey" Ault

remembered by

St. Thomas More Fraternity, Fonda

Fr. Kevin Kenny, OFM Conv

remembered by

St. Joseph Fraternity, Utica

In Honor Of

Margaret Mannoni, SFO

on her 50th Profession Anniversary

by Immaculate Heart of Mary Fraternity, Hilton

Marsha Kistner, SFO

whose quilt won 2nd place at NY State Fair

by St. Joseph Fraternity, Utica

How to participate in the Wall of Honor – Page 11.

Friar Brad is rector at the church and has been vicar provincial for the Conventual Franciscan Friars' Immaculate Conception Province Syracuse University Chaplain Linus DeSantis, OFM Conv., presided at the Mass of Installation.

'FRANCISCAN EXPERIENCE' IS MARCH 10

The annual *Central New York Franciscan Experience* takes place Saturday, March 10, 2012 at Sisters of St. Francis Motherhouse, on Court Street in Syracuse, NY. Presenter is Sr. Anne Amati, OSF, retreat director at Franciscan Spirituality Center, Aston, PA.



Fr. Brad (front, 3rd from left) poses with St. Elizabeth-St. Bonaventure Fraternity.

7 PROFESSED AT ROCHESTER FRATERNITIES

Two Rochester area fraternities -- Immaculate Heart of Mary and Glory of the Most High -- jointly professed seven people into the Secular Franciscan Order July 9.

Immaculate Heart:

- Robert Bouvy, SFO
- Suzanne Bouvy, SFO
- Ronald Gostomski, SFO
- William McGrath, SFO
- AJ Monacelli, SFO
- Constance Nauratil, SFO



Rochester area's newly professed: (Front, from left) **Suzanne Bouvy, AJ Monacelli, Constance Nauratil, Ronald Gostomski.** (Rear, from left) **Robert Bouvy, William McGrath, Lee Strong.** (Photo by Kim Marks, SFO)

Glory of the Most High: The mass and rite of profession were conducted at St. Leo the Great Church in Hilton.

- Lee Strong, SFO.

BINGHAMTON FRATERNITY PROFESSES 5 MEMBERS

Five people were professed into the Secular Franciscan Order on Aug. 5 at St. Francis Fraternity in Bingham-

ton, Fraternity Minister Cathy Feheley, SFO, announced.

The newly professed are:

- Kay Corcoran, SFO.
 - Ed Corcoran, SFO.
 - Roberta Cushing, SFO.
 - Mary Lou Gresham, SFO.
 - Linda Spring, SFO.
- The mass and profession rite took place at Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Binghamton..



Binghamton's newly professed (from left): **Kay Corcoran, Ed Corcoran, Mary Lou Gresham, Linda Spring, and Roberta Cushing.** (Photo by Cathy Feheley, SFO)

2012 DATES TO CIRCLE

March 10: *Central NY Franciscan Experience*, Syracuse, at the Sisters of St. Francis Mother House on Court Street. Presenter is Sr. Anne Amati, OSF, retreat director at the Franciscan Spirituality Center in Aston, PA.

April 26-29: *Annual Regional Chapter, Visitation by NAFRA.* ALL Ministers required to attend at Stella Maris Retreat Center, Skaneateles, NY.

...

May 28-June 6: BKT Regional *Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome*, with Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, as chaplain (re-



Pilgrimage: Visit St. Francis Basilica in Assisi.

scheduled from September 2011). the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs, Auriesville, NY, sponsored by St. Bernardine of Siena Fraternity.

...

June 10: *SFO Day* at

PLEASE REMEMBER...

As brothers and sisters in the Franciscan family, Secular Franciscans are asked to remember in their wills -- their local fraternity, Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region and the Alma Kraus Endowment (which helps fund formation education in the region).

The region is also seeking donations for its Development Fund as well as for the Alma Kraus Endowment.

If you are interested in making a donation, or a bequest, please fill out the form and send to:

John Sanborn, SFO
Regional Treasurer
1611 West River Rd.
Grand Island, NY 14072.

John may also be contacted via email at sanborn@bktr.org.

Yes, I wish to make a donation to my Franciscan family:

_ Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region Development Fund.
\$ _____.

_ Alma Kraus Endowment (formation education).
\$ _____.

Enclosed is check/money order in the amount of:
\$ _____.

In my will I am remembering:

_ My fraternity _____.
Bequest amount/value: \$ _____.

_ Bl. Kateri Tekakwith Region.
Bequest amount/value: \$ _____.

_ Alma Kraus Endowment.
Bequest amount/value: \$ _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (incl. area code) _____

Cell (incl. area code) _____

Email _____

ANNUAL CHAPTER CANDIDS



Marie Bitter



Carolyn Barth



Nanci Nolan



Anne Thomas



August Titi



Linda Quaranto & John Christofaro



Bob & Rosemary Costa



Marie Meyer



Kathleen Grodini



John Dutcher

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ANNUAL CHAPTER MORPHS INTO SPIRITUAL RETREAT

The Annual Regional Chapter turned into a weekend retreat, with several on-going formation presentations, thanks to regional executive council members who stepped up when the featured speaker couldn't make it to Stella Maris Retreat Center in Skaneateles, NY.

Sr. Mary Beth Ing-ham, CSJ, chair of the Philosophy Department at Loyola Marymount Univeristy in Los Angeles, Calif., and author of books on Franciscan Philosopher-Theologian John Duns Scotus, was to lead a day-long formation workshop, but weather-related flight cancellations kept her from making her con-



Regional Spiritual Assistant Richard Trezza, OFM.

nection to Syracuse.

Regional Spiritual Assistant Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, kicked off Saturday morning with mass and a talk on the Lenten Gospels and the insights they provide for the Secular Franciscan way of life.

That was followed up with a second talk on keys to a better prayer life (with the observation that praying can occur anywhere, anytime, and involve one's experiences in life).

The afternoon continued the prayerful theme



Joanne Lockwood, SFO, and Mary Stronach, SFO, below, shared St. Clare's practice of praying with chapter attendees.



with a presentation by Regional Secretary Joanne Lockwood, SFO, and Formation Director Mary Stronach, SFO, on St. Clare's approach to gazing at a religious image, considering what's in the image, contemplating on



Betty Frank



Dave Green



Martin Lynch



John Cristofaro and Marie Titi

something that stands out, and then looking at ways to immitate Christ from the contemplation and prayer. The images they chose for reflection were pictures of several stations of the cross.

Then Mary Stronach wrapped up the afternoon with a presentation entitled, "Highway to Heaven." While Italy has a "Valley of Saints," she said, New York has its own corridor of saints, blesseds, venerables and servants of God -- along the New York State Thruway. She focused on the corridor starting just south of Albany and heading west to Auriesville, Fonda, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

On the previous day,



Regional Minister Mary Frances Charsky, SFO, addresses the chapter.

the chapter took care of regional business, including reports from the regional council and unanimously approving a 2012 budget of \$35,000. Treasurer John Sanborn, SFO, provided an update to the 2011 budget before submitting the 2012 budget -- with the biggest change being the Formation Workshop scheduled for

October to introduce the new National Formation Manual (which was being unveiled at a national workshop for regional formation teams in May).

In her "State of the Region," Minister Mary Frances Charsky, SFO, offered some regional statistics showing a little growth over the previous year. There

are 28 fraternities in the region, with plans to reactivate a fraternity in the Eastern area to work with youth and young adults. As of December 2010, the region boasted 440 professed members, 37 candidates and 29 inquirers. Those numbers are up from the previous year's tally of



Angela Nelligan



Anita Dutcher



Bill Heinz



Bill Geary



John Sanborn presented a \$35,000 budget.



Katie Koscinski



Linda Robinson



Kevin O'Neill



Kim Marks



Mary Walker

438 professed members, 33 candidates and 26 inquirers. The growth is in spite of 15 professed members embracing Sister Death in 2010.

Mary Frances reported that another Secular Franciscan has joined the ranks of regional lay spiritual assistants delegated by Father Richard to conduct pastoral visitations. Mary Smith, SFO, joins Bill Geary, SFO, Karen Szczesniak, SFO, and Anne Thomas, SFO, in that capacity. Nineteen of 28 fraternities, she noted,

have spiritual assistants. They include 11 friars (one serves two fraternities), three sisters, three diocesan priests (one of whom is a Secular Franciscan) and one Secular Franciscan. That leaves nine fraternities without a spiritual assistant, an increase of two from the previous year -- which points up a need for fraternities to encourage qualified Secular Franciscans to train as spiritual assistants in order to meet the need, she said.

Mary Frances an-

nounced that she would like to see fraternities and members put a particular focus on Chapter 1 of the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order this year. Chapter 1 zeroes in on the Order's special role and secular character within the Franciscan family and church.

The chapter wrapped up Sunday morning with a roundtable discussion and an update by Youth/Young Adult Chair Rob Breen on his efforts to build Franciscan youth, or YouFra,

groups. A YouFra group is growing at Siena College, where he teaches, and they are in the process of launching a high school YouFra group in the Eastern area. Both groups will have a focus on Franciscan ecology.



Rob Breen spoke on efforts to build Franciscan youth groups.



Carol Miller



Carol Slater



Kathy Schmidt



Carol Samuelson



Cathy Feheley

SFO DAYS HELD ACROSS THE REGION



Rob Breen, SFO



Mary Stronach, SFO



Brad Milunski, OFM Conv



Kathy Taormina, SFO

Three region-sponsored SFO Days were held over the summer.

They kicked off in the Eastern Area at Siena College in Loudonville on July 9, where Mary Stronach, SFO, spoke on, *"Formed...Are You Sure? The Rule, the Life,"* and Rob Breen, Ph.D., SFO, presented on the topic, *"CAC: Care for Creation."* The day was hosted by St. Joseph Fraternity, a youth/young adult fraternity that meets at the college.

They repeated their presentations on July 30 in the Central Area at St. Joseph-St. Patrick Parish Center, Utica, hosted by Utica's St. Joseph Fraternity. And then Rob handled both presentations on Aug.



Joanne Lockwood (Utica), and JoAnn Coursen and Margaret White (Watertown) were among those at the Utica SFO Day as well as (below) Bill McMyler (Utica), Duff Geary (Vernon) and Mary Frances Charsky (Binghamton).



6 in the Western Area at St. Anthony Church Social Center, Buffalo. It was hosted by St. Patrick Fraternity.

There also was an SFO Day sponsored

in Syracuse by St. Elizabeth-St. Bonventure Fraternity, which featured presentations by former National Youth/Young Adult Chair Kathy Taormina and Fr. Brad Milunski, vicar provincial for the Conventual Franciscans' Immaculate Conception Province. Mary Stronach also gave her formation presentation at that event.

Mary is regional formation director. Rob is regional youth/young adult chair.



Some of the attendees at the Syracuse SFO Day.

'Q' BRINGS FRANCISCAN FAMILY TOGETHER

The 18th Quinquennial Congress, sponsored by the U.S. Secular Franciscan Order, takes place July 3-7, 2012 in Chicago, Illinois. The theme for the Q is: *"Why Francis? Claim the Gift!"*

The opening liturgy is the evening of Tuesday, July 3, and the closing liturgy is the evening of Saturday, July 7.

"We are encouraging every fraternity that is able, and every region, to send at least one rep-

resentative," notes Clare McCluggage, SFO, who is co-chairing the Q with former National Minister Patrick Mendes, SFO. "This is not meant just to be a 'come and feel good' or even 'come and be edified/educated' event (although those things will happen), but a Chapter of Mats -- a time of discerning together!"

Programming will be centered around a series of questions that are meant to help Secular

Franciscans revisit the vision and to claim the gift that Francis left us.

Keynote speaker is Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF. Other featured speakers are: Br. William Short, OFM; Pat Brandwein-Ball, SFO, and Ed Shirley, SFO.

Chicago was the site of the first Quinquennial in 1921. That year, 4300 Secular Franciscans attended. In 2012, some 400 to 600 are expected to converge for the celebration.

SPONSOR THE MIRROR

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- 6"x1" ads
- \$100: inside page.
- \$150: inside cover.
- \$200: back cover.

Mail your message/ad, with check made out to BKTR, c/o Franciscan Mirror, PO Box 232, Marcy, NY; or contact Mary Stronach at 315-796-9284, or at stronach@bktr.org.

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE IN THE WALL OF HONOR

A Wall of Honor page offers a way to remember, honor or thank Franciscans, family members, friends, business associates. Fill out and mail form along with a \$10 donation. Funds will be used to help pay for publications aimed at benefiting the region's fraternities (such as The Mirror and formation materials).

WALL OF HONOR FORM	
Name of Person Submitting Form _____	
Name of Person/Group Doing the Honoring (if different from above) _____	
Contact info: Phone _____	Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
Name of honoree _____	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of	
List reason/occasion _____ (e.g., profession anniversary, gratitude for service, etc.)	
Donation: \$10 per name. <i>Please make checks payable to Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region (BKTR).</i>	
Send completed form with check (payable to BKTR) to: The Franciscan Mirror, P.O. Box 232, Marcy, NY 13403	

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