

Secular Franciscan Order

FRANCISCAN MIRROR

SUMMER-
FALL 2010

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

ANNUAL REGIONAL GATHERING AT A GLANCE



Profession Sacred

Profession in Secular Franciscan Order is “of equal importance to” profession made by religious, Fr. Richard Trezza tells opening session. Page 5.



Twice Honored

Buffalo area resident Ed Czapla, SFO, receives the regional Franciscan Peace Award, and he and his wife are named Family of the Year. Page 8.

CHAPTER ELECTS REGIONAL LEADERS FOR 2010-2013



MaryFrances Charsky, SFO
Regional Minister



Kim Marks, SFO
Vice Minister



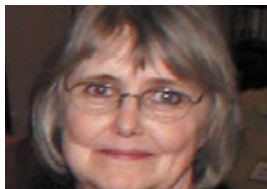
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John Sanborn, SFO
Treasurer



Katie Koscinski, SFO
Eastern Area Councilor



Cathy Feheley, SFO
Central Area Councilor



Marie Meyer, SFO
Western Area Councilor



Donna Roberti, SFO
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**Justice, Peace & Integrity
of Creation Commission.*

FRANCISCAN MIRROR

SUMMER/FALL 2010

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



Regional Minister's Message

By MARY FRANCES CHARSKY, SFO

Greetings to all Secular Franciscans and Spiritual Assistants! Peace be with you.

We have opportunities to gather as Secular Franciscans over the next few months. Please check our regional website and ask your Minister for details. These events are designed so that Secular Franciscans can gather with brothers and sisters for prayer, formation and fellowship. There is no fee; just bring your own lunch. SFO Days are scheduled in each of the three areas.

WESTERN AREA

July 24 in Athol Springs, NY
September 19 in Allegany, NY

CENTRAL AREA

October 3 in Sackets Harbor
October 23 in Vernon, NY

EASTERN AREA

August 15 in Fonda, NY
November 6 in Catskill, NY

We are in the process of arranging for Visitations, both Fraternal and Pastoral. Please contact your Area Councilor to schedule a Visitation.

May God give us peaceful hearts and fill our souls with joy.

4 PROFESSED IN SYRACUSE

Four candidates were professed into the Secular Franciscan Order at Sts. Elizabeth-Bonaventure Fraternity in Syracuse on April 25.

Minister Rosemary Costa, SFO, said the newly professed are: Suzanna Beaupre, Gloria Byrnes, James Byrnes and Rhona Prescott.

Following Mass and Rite of Profession in the Franciscan Church of the Assumption, fraternity members, family and friends gathered for brunch in the parish center.

4 PROFESSED IN CATSKILL

St. Anthony Fraternity in Catskill welcomed four new professed Secular Franciscans during a Mass and Rite of Profession May 16.

The newly professed are: Margaret Cag-



Syracuse's newly professed (from left): Suzanna Beaupre, SFO; Rhona Prescott, SFO; Gloria Byrnes, SFO, and James Byrnes, SFO.

gianelli, SFO, of Hudson; Patricia Dushane, SFO, of Catskill; Stephanie Ossendorf, SFO, of Hudson, and Jean Robbiani, SFO, of Catskill.

Fr. Philip M. Pacheco, OFM, was celebrant, and Marie Bitter, SFO, presided as minister.

"All of our candidates brought guests and we had refreshments following the ceremony..." reports Formation Assistant and Treasurer Carol Miller, SFO. "All active fraternity members were present, and all brought food for the reception, so it was a nice community gathering."

LONG HOUSE DEDICATED TO FR. KEVIN

FONDA -- With Native Americans singing, drumming and performing a smudge ceremony, the Long House at the Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine was dedicated May 23 in memory of shrine director Fr. Kevin Kenny, OFM Conv., who embraced Sister Death last Oc-

tober.

Fr. Mark Steed, OFM Conv., came from Canada to celebrate the dedication mass, along with Fr. Pat Gallagher, OFM Conv., of Fonda.

Deacon Ron Boyer, a Native American and the vice postulator for Kateri's canonization cause, also came from Canada for the dedication.

Father Kevin was spiritual assistant to St. Joseph Fraternity in Utica and St. Michael Fraternity in Amsterdam. Secular Franciscans from the Utica, Fonda and Amsterdam areas attended the mass and dedication. Friar Kevin's sister, Pat Kenny, and friends from the surrounding communities



Father Kevin's sister, Pat, poses with sign to be placed on the Long House at Kateri Shrine in Fonda.

Photo by Anna Pereira

also participated.

With the mass and dedication taking place in the outdoor pavilion, a reception followed in Grassman Hall.

"We expected 75 people," noted Helen Carpenter, SFO. "It was closer to 200. It was fantastic."

The Long House was built several years ago by Mike Zilka, a member of the shrine board, and was designed as a hostel for youth groups on pilgrimage, explained Helen Carpenter. It can sleep 24 in 12 bulk beds, and is divided into two sections to accommodate

Wall of Honor
In Memory Of
Fr. Owen P. Angeloni, OFM
spiritual assistant
by St. Anthony Fraternity, Catskill, NY
In Honor Of
Mary Frances Charsky, SFO
in appreciation of her
Franciscan generosity and service to others
by Mary Smith, SFO

mixed gender groups.

Three Native American board members helped lead the ceremony. Teresa Steele, an Algonquin, served as emcee, and Mohawks Bernice Lazure and Sara Hossenplug did readings, including a poem written by an English instructor after Father Kevin's death.

On shrine grounds is an archeological dig of the fortified Mohawk village where Kateri lived her teenage years before fleeing to Canada to be with other Christian Indians. Kateri was born in 1656, daughter of an Algonquin mother and Mohawk chief.

\$405 DONATED FOR AIDS WALK

Regional Treasurer John Sanborn writes his "thank you" for taking up a collection at the Regional Chapter for Buffalo Aids Walk.

"Your donations, which totaled \$175, when added to donations from St Patrick Fraternity in Buffalo, came to a grand total of \$405. That is the largest amount we have collected in the many years we have been doing the Aids Walk." They did the walk May 22, "in a driving rain, but with Franciscan joy."

FRATERNITY HOLDS DAY OF REFLECTION

St. Elizabeth-St. Bonaventure Fraternity had a Day of Reflection at the Sisters of St. Francis Motherhouse in Syracuse on May 22, "celebrating the life and accomplishments of Blessed Mother Marianne Cope," reported Minister Rosemary Costa, SFO.

The day began with mass, and included a talk and slide presentation on Blessed Marianne's life. There were also a tour of the museum, free time to roam the grounds and gift shop, and prayerful time in the chapel shrine that houses Mother Marianne's remains.

"Our day was concluded with reflections and prayer," she said.

She encouraged others to visit the shrine and Motherhouse. A website about the cause for canonization is at www.blessedmariannecope.org.



Algonquin Terry Steele was emcee for the dedication.

Photo by Anna Pereira

SFO PROFESSION ON PAR WITH RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

Profession in the Secular Franciscan Order is “on par with” and “of equal importance to” profession made by friars or any religious.

That was the opening statement made by Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, regional and national spiritual assistant, during a workshop on the importance and sacredness of profession. The talk kicked off the regional chapter, held April 16-18 at Stella Maris Retreat Center in Skaneateles.

He quoted Br. Felice Cangelosi, vicar general of Capuchin Franciscans, who declared at the SFO international gathering that the Church recognizes Secular Franciscans as belonging to a real Order, and that profession in the Order is of the same importance as religious profession -- different, but of equal import.

“It is seen by the universal church as the



Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM

same thing, as giving ourselves over to God,” Father Richard said.

Profession has a number of awesome elements:

- It is Holy Spirit-driven: An invitation to vocation. Furthermore, the minister invokes the Holy Spirit and calls the Holy Spirit down on the people being professed.

- It is a fundamental moment in one's life.

- It is a unique moment, an intense moment with God.

- It's a ritual done in a public arena, in the presence of the fraternity, and a platform to give a response to God.

- It's dedicating oneself to service of God's kingdom, and it's

grace-filled, because “we couldn't do that without a big dose of God's grace.”

- It's a consecration, a dedication to God's exclusive service while living in the world as a single or married person... to be at God's total disposal.

- It's not a part-time commitment. The professed person becomes God's property, and God is working in that person's life, prodding the transformation. It's starting the day thinking one is a vessel waiting to be filled with God's grace. It's praying daily. It's daily conversion... living the Gospel.

- It glorifies God. Because of the im-

portance and sacredness of profession, it is vital to have a discernment process during formation of candidates.

Profession should take place during Mass, with a friar or priest present to be the witness for the church and Order, he said. He encouraged fraternities to postpone profession until a friar or priest can be scheduled to participate.

“You are Franciscan men and Franciscan women in your own right,” he said, and, quoting Brother Felice, he added: “The SFO profession has the dignity of solemn and religious profession and cannot be considered lesser than that of a religious profession.”

“You are Secular Franciscans. You live in the world and are for the world... You can't use the pious line, ‘I'm in the world but not of the world’ (the world has been saved). To wish anything else would be a betrayal to your profession.”

MINISTERS, DELEGATES ELECT REGIONAL LEADERS

Mary Frances Charsky, SFO, of Binghamton was elected regional minister for a second three-year term at the Annual Chapter, held April 16-18 at Stella Maris Retreat Center in Skaneateles.

A retired school principal, she has been a member of St. Francis Fraternity, Binghamton, for 28 years.

Also elected:

• Vice Minister **Kim Marks**, SFO, of Cheektowaga, NY. This is her second term. She was a founding member of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Fraternity, Buffalo. She is a



National Treasurer Dennis Ross, SFO, presided over the elections, with Richard Trezza, OFM, as ecclesial witness.

client services rep for Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation.

• Secretary **Joanne Lockwood**, SFO, of Barneveld, NY. A member of St. Joseph Fraternity, Utica, she is on the board of coordinators for Mother Marianne's West Side Kitchen.

• Treasurer **John Sanborn**, SFO, of Grand Island, NY. A retired accountant and past minister of Buffalo's St. Patrick Fraternity, John served nationally as treasurer and vice minister. He chaired the 2007 Quinquennial and co-edited, "Essential Documents of the Secular

Franciscan Order." • Formation Director **Donna Roberti**, SFO, of Warren, PA. Active in St. Bonaventure Fraternity, Allegany, NY, Donna was regional treasurer for six years. She is a retired CPA.

• Eastern Area Councilor **Catherine (Katie) Koscinski**, SFO, of Utica, NY. She is minister of St. Joseph Fraternity, Utica. A retired mental health worker, she is on the board of coordinators for Mother Marianne's West Side Kitchen.

• Central Area Councilor **Cathy Feheley**, SFO, of

Binghamton, NY. She is minister of St. Francis Fraternity, Binghamton, and has been professed for 28 years. Feheley is a retired nursing assistant/unit secretary for United Health.

• Western Area Councilor **Marie Meyer**, SFO, of Buffalo. She was previously regional secretary and minister of St. Patrick, Buffalo. She works with Hospice and is retired from Kaleida Health.

• On the regional leadership team as spiritual assistant is Fr. **Richard Trezza**, OFM, a friar with Holy Name Province.

FACES OF THE CHAPTER



Al Picogna
St. Anthony, Lockport



Angela Nelligan
St. Bernardine



Anne Thomas
St. Joseph Cupertino



Carol Samuelson
St. Bonaventure



Betty Mayerhauser
St. Agnes of Assisi

CHAPTER HEARS STATE OF REGION, REPORTS

The region now has 28 fraternities, down from 32 last year, Regional Minister Mary Frances Charsky, SFO, said in her State of the Region report April 17.

Four fraternities completed the process of deactivation basically due to decreased size, she said, and members have transferred to five other fraternities.

The number of professed members stands at 438, down from 464. Plus, there are 33 candidates and 26 inquirers. Sixteen Secular Franciscans have died in the past year, along with two active spiritual assistants and a retired regional spiritual assistant.

Twenty one fraternities

currently have spiritual assistants, and seven are seeking to replace or acquire spiritual assistants.

The spiritual assistants include 12 friars, three sisters, three diocesan priests, one Secular Franciscan, one deacon/Secular Franciscan. (One friar serves two fraternities.)

She said she has received annual reports from all 28 fraternities, which makes her job easier in compiling and submitting a regional report to the national fraternity.

The outgoing council recommends that the new council conduct visitations over the next two years so that the third year could

devoted solely to elections, she reported.

Mary Frances was greeted by applause as she proposed a series of workshops, rotating around the region, every spring and fall. The region would conduct the workshops at no charge, with local fraternities hosting and providing refreshments.

...

An International Café of rotating workshops took place Saturday afternoon. Presenters were Mary Stronach discussing public relations, Donna Roberti discussing fundraising, and Mary Frances Charsky discussing the role of minister.

...

Rob Breen gave a presentation on the Ad Hoc Panel's 11-point vision and strategy for the region for the new ministers. Frank Guglielmo suggested the region go ahead with implementing since the ministers previously voted to approve.

...

Rob also discussed Youth and Young Adult. "He gave some great insight as to what our fraternities will look like in 10-20 years," noted outgoing Secretary Marie Meyer. "We must get youth involved."

...

The chapter unanimously approved a \$29,700 operating budget for 2011.

FACES OF THE CHAPTER



Donald Montero
St. Thomas More



John Christofaro
St. Pius X



Kathy Schmidt
Immaculate Heart of Mary



Daniel Kenny
St. Joseph, Buffalo



David Green
St. Peter, Erie, PA

FAMILY, PEACE AWARDS GO TO CZAPLA

Ed and Rosemary Czapla of the Buffalo suburb of Lancaster have been named Family of the Year by Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region. At the same time, Ed was presented with 2010 Franciscan Peace Award.

Regional Minister Mary Frances Charzky made the presentations at the annual Regional Chapter.

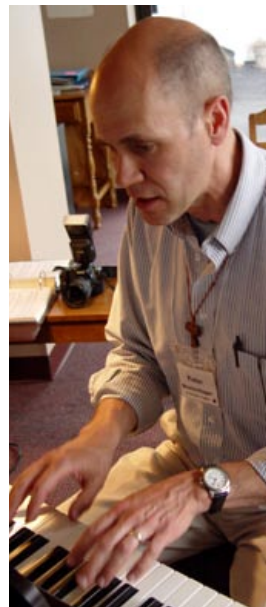
A Secular Franciscan for 42 years, Ed was recognized for

his “Franciscan spirit of peace in working with the Local Fraternity as servant leader and the Regional Fraternity as founding minister and advisor,” Mary Frances said. She also cited his “untold hours of selfless service facilitating, guiding, supporting the region through his presence and as author of ‘Smoke Signals’, ‘Annals of the Council’ and ‘In the Footsteps of

Francis and Clare: An Historical Perspective of the SFO and the Region’.”

She went on to praise the couple’s “selfless volunteering in both church and community, from Nocturnal Adoration to Holy Name Society to Ladies of Charities to Heart Association and Cancer Society.”

She also cited “their affirmation of the sacredness of life and the raising of seven children.”



Peter Wooschlager of St. Peter Fraternity in Crogan provided music for the annual chapter liturgies.

FACES OF THE CHAPTER



Carol Slater
Immaculate Conception



Cindy Snyder
St. Pius X



Mary Walker
Holy Family



Francis Kennedy
St. John the Baptist



Martin Lynch
Glory of Most High



Anita Dutcher
St. Irenaeus



Margaret Mannon
Immaculate Heart



Marie Bitter
St. Anthony, Catskill



Rosemary Costa
St. Elizabeth-St. Bonaventure



Walt Chura
St. Bernardine of Siena

UTICA FRATERNITY CELEBRATES 150 YEARS

St. Joseph Fraternity celebrated 150 years in Utica on June 6, and marked the occasion by honoring two agencies that serve the poor and marginalized – Mother Marianne’s West Side Kitchen and the Rescue Mission of Utica. Minister Katie Koscinski, SFO, presented them with the fraternity’s inaugural Mother Marianne Cope Award.

“This is bittersweet,” said Rev. Deacon Gil Nadeau, director of West Side Kitchen, because “we just lost one of our volunteers,” Tony Weber, 87, who died May 28. Tony came to the soup kitchen Wednesday nights, making “thousands of sandwiches.”

“So we dedicate this award to Tony Weber and all the volunteers who never ask for recognition.”



Minister Katie Koscinski presents Mother Marianne Cope Award to Deacon Gil Nadeau (left) and Fr. Richard Dellos for West Side Kitchen.



Keynote speaker
Fr. Adam Keltos, OFM Conv. Franciscan Place, Syracuse

Rev. Bill Dodge, Rescue Mission executive director, said he was “awed and humbled” to be accepting an award from Franciscans that is named after Blessed Mother Marianne. He mentioned how Mother Marianne went out of her way to provide amenities to leprosy patients and treated them with dignity.

The day began with recognition for the 150th anniversary during mass at St. Joseph-St. Patrick’s Church. Fr. Adam Keltos, OFM



2nd award recipient
Rev. Bill Dodge Rescue Mission of Utica

Conv., the banquet speaker, concelebrated mass with Fr. Richard Dellos, pastor, who praised the fraternity’s service and made note of special guests that included secular Franciscans from around the state.

During the banquet at Radisson Hotel, Koscinski noted that the award’s namesake grew up in Utica and was active in what today is St. Joseph-St. Patrick Church before becoming a Franciscan sister and reaching out

to the marginalized of her day.

Just over two years ago, she noted, Deacon Nadeau and Father Dellos challenged parishioners to “come down off the mountain.” In less than two months, parishioners and secular Franciscans had come together and opened West Side Kitchen, serving lunch six days a week to the jobless, the working poor and the homeless.

Founded in 1891, the Rescue Mission, she said, serves the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill and those struggling with substance abuse.

Father Keltos, the keynote speaker, encouraged secular Franciscans to study and live their Franciscan Rule of Life.

“It’s not long,” he said. “It’s just hard...” because “it means living the Gospel.”

Founded in 1859, St. Joseph held the celebration at the conclusion of the 150th year.



Some 30 to 40 Secular Franciscans attended the "Franciscan Experience" on March 20 in Syracuse, reports Regional Minister Mary Frances Charsky. Many of them got together to pose for a photo. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis, the seminar

featured Sr. Mary Beth Ingham, CSJ, a Duns Scotus scholar. The SFOs were from Buffalo, Rochester, Hilton, Syracuse, Binghamton, Vernon and Utica. "Many of us visited" the Blessed Mother Marianne Shrine, located in the chapel, Mary Frances said.

SFO DAYS AROUND THE REGION

A series of SFO Days are scheduled in each area of the region, allowing Secular Franciscans to gather for prayer, spiritual development or formation, and fellowship. There is no fee; just bring your own lunch for most events. Please check the regional website for updates (Kateri-Region.org) and ask your Minister for details.

EASTERN AREA

August 15: Fonda, NY, hosted by Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine and local SFO Fraternities (St. Thomas More and St. Michael). Event: *Secular Franciscan Pilgrimage Day* at Shrine. Registration/coffee hour at 9 a.m. and Mass at 10:30, followed by dramatic monologue on "St. Francis." Hosting fraternities will provide lunch basics; feel free to bring something to share. After lunch, *Regional Ad Hoc Panel Update*.

Nov. 6: Catskill, NY hosted by St. Anthony Fraternity. Presenters: Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM, and Mary Stronach, SFO. Topics: *Spiritual Renewal of the SFO Members and Growth of Member*, and *Regional Ad Hoc Panel Update*. St. Anthony Friary, 24 Harrison Street, Catskill, NY.

CENTRAL AREA

Oct. 3: Sackets Harbor, NY, hosted by St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity. Event: *Transitus Service* at 6 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 110 E. Main Street, Sackets Harbor.

Oct. 23: Vernon, NY, hosted by Holy Family Fraternity. Presenter: Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, and Mary Stronach, SFO. Topics: *SFO Profession* and *Regional Ad Hoc Panel Update*. Holy Family Church, 4343 Peterboro Street, Vernon.

WESTERN AREA

July 24: Athol Springs, NY, hosted by St. Francis Fraternity. Presenter: Mary Stronach, SFO. Topic: *Justice Peace & Integrity of Creation*, and *Ad Hoc Panel Update*. St. Francis Church Social Center, 4263 St. Francis Drive, Athol Springs.

Sept. 19: Allegany, NY, hosted by St. Bonaventure Fraternity. Presenter: Sr. Suzanne Kush, instructor at St. Bonaventure University. Topic: *Franciscan Spirituality and Renewal*. St. Bonaventure Parish, 95 E. Main St., Allegany.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A SECULAR FRANCISCAN WHEN...

- you notice an unmistakable lack in desire to acquire more stuff.
- peacemaking becomes incredibly attractive to you.
- you want to dress (and LIVE) more and more simply.
- you take off work on October 4.
- you laugh loudly and often when you are with other Franciscans.
- you hug people a lot, especially other Franciscans.
- your gatherings are noted for having too much, wonderful food.
- the term "fair share" not only means something to you, you try to give more than your fair share to the common fund.
- you read the TAU-USA from cover to cover.
- you've read several books by Lester Bach, OFM Cap.
- "Little Red Book" means "Holy Rule," not something by Mao.
- you don't have to dust off your Tau every month to wear it to the gathering because you wear it every day.
- your rosaries have seven decades.
- you sing "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" without the hymnal.
- you hear a Francis or Clare story & think, "This would be good for ongoing formation."

Compiled by Fr. Kevin Queally, TOR, Nat'l Spiritual Assistant

SPONSOR THE MIRROR

We need sponsors to help defray printing cost so that the Regional Fraternity can continue to improve your *Franciscan Mirror*.

- 6"x1" ads
- \$100: inside page.
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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).

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Name of Person Submitting Form _____	
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Contact info: Phone _____	Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
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Select one: ___ in memory of ___ in honor of	
List reason/occasion _____ (e.g., profession anniversary, gratitude for service, etc.)	
Donation: \$10 per name. Please make checks payable to Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Region (BKTR).	
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TERESA BAKER TO LEAD FORMATION WORKSHOP

Teresa Baker, SFO, author and past chair of the National Formation Commission, will lead a workshop for formation directors Oct. 8-10 at Stella Maris Retreat Center, Skaneateles, NY.

The workshop will run all day Friday and Saturday, with dismissal at 11:30 a.m. Sunday. It is geared to the local fraternity's formation team, but is open to any interested Secular Franciscan on a space-available basis.

The tentative cost for the

DON'T MISS SFO DAYS IN WESTERN, CENTRAL AND EASTERN AREAS.

PAGE 10.

weekend is \$100, covering materials, room and meals.

"Every fraternity council should consider sending someone to this important workshop," noted Mary Frances Charsky, SFO, regional minister. "It's not often we have someone of this caliber to guide and inspire us and be



Teresa Baker, SFO

available to answer questions."

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