

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity  
**NEWSletter**

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity of  
Lower Michigan and Toledo Ohio



## Executive Council

### Minister

Mary Bittner, SFO

### Vice Minister

Roger Ensign, SFO

### Secretary

Jean Martin, SFO

### Treasurer

Rosemary Hannaford, SFO

### Councilors

Robert Brundage, SFO

Pat Carsley, SFO

Marie Criste, SFO

Lois Flickinger, SFO

### Formation Minister

Marie Amore, SFO

### Spiritual Assistant

Friar Tod Laverty, OFM

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## Messengers of peace moving forward with Francis



*The winners of the 2009 Leadership Scholarships were chosen at the April 18 meeting of the Regional Fraternity. They were Sylvia Jagielski, SFO; Mike Jacobs, SFO; Sheri Hafeli, SFO; Arlene Shepherd, SFO and Anne Marie Burns, SFO. Mike and Sheri were chosen as alternates in case any of the others cannot attend the conference in Loretto in June.*

## Fraternity Stimulus Package a hit

The Regional Fraternity Gathering was held in Lansing on April 18, 2009. The theme for this year's gathering was *Sharing Experiences: A Fraternity Stimulus Package*, and the fraternity tried out a somewhat different format. Participants were assigned to three separate discussion groups to explore a number of different subjects. Before registration members were asked questions like:

- Have you ever
  - ...been frustrated that your fraternity members were not participating regularly?
  - ...longed for ways to improve your fraternity gatherings?
  - ...worried because your fraternity can't seem to attract new members?
  - ...wanted to improve your formation program but weren't sure how to go about it?

At the end of the day's sessions participants seemed to be pleased and energized by the process. One participant commented:

"I thought the format worked exceptionally well. It gave us a chance to work with 15 different people, and they had a lot of great ideas and suggestions that we can take back to our members. I think the topics were very appropriate for discussion also."

May, 2009

## Mark your calendar

**May 10, 2009**

Nominations for Regional Executive Council close.

**June 14, 2009**

Day of Recollection at Cross in the Woods Shrine. Mass at 10:30 a.m., potluck lunch, speaker Fr. Wayne Dziekan at 1 p.m. For more information contact Marcia DePauw, SFO [mdepauw@northcountryhomescorp.com](mailto:mdepauw@northcountryhomescorp.com) 231-238-979.

**June 15, 2009**

Regional candidate acceptance and résumés due.

**July 17-26, 2009**

Ste. Anne de Detroit Novena to Ste. Anne honoring the Holy Spirit and Detroit's ethnic diversity

**August 14 - 16, 2009**

Chapter of Elections and Annual Regional Ministers Meeting at St. Johns in Plymouth.

**September 19, 2009**

Conference for inquirers, candidates and formation ministers and teams.



## NAFRA asking for Peace Award nominees

Your NAFRA Peace Award Committee is making three requests of the members of our local fraternities.

First they would like each fraternity in the United States, locally, regionally and nationally, to pray and work with renewed Spirit from our Risen Lord Jesus Christ for Peace: Peace in our hearts, Peace in our families, Peace in our Church, Peace in our fraternities, Peace in our world, all for the glory of God.

Second, they would like each fraternity in the United States, locally and regionally, to **consider awarding a Peace Award to a worthy recipient of its own choosing.**

Third, they would like each fraternity in the United States, locally and regionally, to consider making a nomination to us, the NAFRA Peace Award Committee for a recipient to receive the 2009 NAFRA Peace Award at the NAFRA Gathering in October, 2009.

The Committee would prefer that fraternities make these nominations, but nominations by individual Secular Franciscans will not be ignored.

Here are the Guidelines:

"A nominee should have made significant efforts in the generally defined area of Peace. Current activities would carry more weight than past activity; that is, a nominee exhibiting current Peace activity will have more weight over a nominee who displayed activity a few years ago. In order to prevent any scandal, the nominee should be of known good moral character.

"As this is a National award, nominees who reside in the United States or U.S. Territories would have more weight than nominees from other parts of the world. Nominees need not be Franciscan or Catholic. Nominees should not be political, nor carry an agenda."

Nominations may be submitted in hard copy or email to any of the members of the Committee:

La Verna Regional Minister and former Chair of the Peace Award Committee Ken Beattie (beatiesfo@aol.com); St. Clare Regional Minister Jan Parker (jansfo@yahoo.com); Mother Cabrini Regional Minister Stephanie Sormane (stefsfo@sbcglobal.net); or to me directly (Tom Bello, SFO/ 1710 Chesterbrook Vale Ct./McLean, VA 22101-3244 or (tbelloso@gmail.com ).

A nomination needs to be of three parts: one, the name of the possible recipient; two, reasons why this person should be considered; three, the name of the person or group making the nomination. The firm deadline is July 1, 2009.

Past nominees include:

1951 - John Foster Dulles

1954 - Ralph Bunche

1957 - Most Rev. Richard J. Cushing



1965 - Pope Paul VI

1968 - Robert F. Kennedy (post)

1974 - Mother Teresa of Calcutta

1980 - Anwar Sadat

Since 2000, the NAFRA Peace Award has gone to an SFO residing in the United States including our own Jim Flickinger, SFO in 2000 and Ona Harris, SFO in 2002.



*Each local fraternity may consider awarding a Peace Award to a worthy recipient of its own choosing*

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## New Ministers welcomed



The Regional Fraternity welcomed five new local Ministers at their meeting held on April 18, 2009. They are Patricia Giangrande, SFO of St. Louis the King Fraternity in White Lake; Sheryl Hafeli, SFO of St. Elizabeth Fraternity in Southfield; Joan Copenhaver, SFO of St. Joseph Fraternity in Ann Arbor; Theresa Wilson, SFO of St. Francis Fraternity in Sterling Heights and Chet Collins, SFO of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Fraternity in Lewiston.

### 2009 Lenten H2O Project wrap up

It is time to complete the 2009 Lenten H2O Project. Remember that our own Canticle Café will benefit from this year's collection.

To finish the project or to make a donation to the project please mail checks to

Kathy Taormina, SFO  
920 Whitney Drive  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

You should note on the check memo the **name of the Fraternity and the name of the Region**. Money collected through Kathy will be credited to the endeavor, and it will then be donated by sending one check in the name of the Franciscan Youth of the USA. The Region who collects the most will be recognized at the NAFRA meeting.

For more information go to [www.canticlecafe.org](http://www.canticlecafe.org) to see the Center and the Café.  
<http://www.franciscanyouthusa.com/h2o/main.html>

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*Most of the members of Divine Providence Fraternity in Kalamazoo gathered recently for a group photo.*

*Shown here are:*

*Front - Mary Chihan, Rosa Tarafa, Marie Nicholas, Barbara Bueter, Marijo Forrester, Jennifer Steele*

*Back - John Steele, Jim Goethals, Larry Forrester*



## NAFRA accepting nominations

The NAFRA Triennial Election is scheduled for October 24, 2009 at Albuquerque, New Mexico. All Secular Franciscans are eligible to nominate someone for the NAFRA Executive Council. Nominations close in June.

For the office of Minister, Vice Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Councilor, and/or International Councilor, email (preferred) or mail the name, address, and email address to both Kathleen White, SFO kdwsfo@verizon.net 612 Front St - Logansport IN 46947 and Linda Grady, SFO lgradysfo@sbcglobal.net 6001 Harvard Drive - Kokomo IN 46902

## Candidates professed at Lumen Christi

Two Candidates, Marco Fortuna and Greg Montminy, of Lumen Christi Newly Forming Group were professed on February 26, 2009 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish in Wyandotte. Minister June McRae, SFO of the sponsoring fraternity, St. Anthony of Padua in Dearborn, received the profession with Father Tod Laverty, OFM present as friar witness.

Lumen Christi is a Newly Forming Group having seven professed members, 9 candidates, 1 inquirer, and 2 in orientation. The fraternity gathers on the second (Formation) and fourth (General/Business and Scripture/Franciscan Spirituality) Thursday of each month.

Divine Mercy NEWSletter is a bi-monthly publication of Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity of Lower Michigan and Toledo, Ohio.

Local fraternities are encouraged to send their news and upcoming events to the editor.

**The deadline for the July issue is June 15.**

dmercy@charter.net  
www.divinemercuryregion.org

Editor  
622 W. Oldfield  
Alpena, MI 49707

## Nominations now being accepted

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity will hold a Chapter of Elections during the Annual Meeting August 14 -16, 2009 at St. Johns in Plymouth. Nominations are being accepted now through early May.

Positions to be filled are Regional Fraternity Minister, Regional Fraternity Vice-Minister, Regional Fraternity Secretary, Regional Fraternity Treasurer and four Regional Fraternity Councilors.

Any professed Secular Franciscan in the Region is eligible to submit a nomination. Please nominate well-qualified permanently professed Secular Franciscans. Your nomination should include the name, address, phone number and fraternity affiliation of the nominee. Please be sure to include your own information too.

Nominees will be asked for written acceptance of the nomination and their SFO résumé. These should be returned by June 15, 2009.

Please submit nominations to both  
Marie Criste SFO  
15275 S Dixie Highway, #419  
Monroe MI 48161

Jean Martin, SFO  
622 W. Oldfield  
Alpena MI 49707