

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity  
**NEWSletter**

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity of Lower Michigan and Toledo OH

May, 2010



### Executive Council

#### Minister

Roger Ensign, SFO

#### Vice Minister

Sheri Hafeli, SFO

#### Secretary

Jean Martin, SFO

#### Treasurer

Rosemary Hannaford, SFO

#### Councilors

Ray Boisvenue, SFO

Marcia DePauw, SFO

Jim Howard, SFO

Nancy Maioho, SFO

#### Formation Minister

Patti Reynolds, SFO

#### Spiritual Assistant

Friar Tod Laverty, OFM



*As he prepares for his presentation of Franciscan Musings, Regional Executive Councilor Ray Boisvenue, SFO talks with Marge Krystiniak, SFO and others during the April 24 gathering in Lansing.*

### Mark your calendar

#### June 13, 2010

Day of Recollection in Conway with St. Anthony Fraternity in Indian River. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$15, lunch included.

#### August 20-23, 2010

Annual Regional Ministers Meeting at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, Detroit.

### Ministers and Formation Ministers meet in Lansing

Local Fraternity Ministers and Formation Ministers met in Lansing on April 24 for community and to conduct routine Regional Fraternity business. Attendees also had the opportunity to get a glimpse of new formation materials Patti Reynolds, SFO had to offer.

Vice Minister Sheri Hafeli, SFO led the gathering in the absence of the Regional Minister, Roger Ensign, SFO who was attending the funeral for his grandmother.

Regional Formation Team member Jim Howard, SFO gave the first presentation. Using scripture he spoke of commitment, resurrection and the all encompassing love that God the Father has for each one of us. In her presentation Patti Reynolds introduced the Formation Plan for the Initial Formation Manual. Later she spoke about the CIOFS Ongoing Formation Monthly Dossiers and how they can be used.

During the business meeting Treasurer Rosemary Hannaford, SFO presented the proposed 2011 budget and asked the local Ministers and their delegates to approve a \$2.50 per member rise in that year's Fair Share contributions. She pointed out that the Executive Council had kept the Fair Share assessment at an artificially low level for several years while NAFRA's Fair Share requests had continued to rise. Now, she said, the Regional Fraternity would need an increase. A motion to raise the Fair Share to \$32 was approved.

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*Jim Graczyk, SFO*

## Buy One, Get One Free

Contributed by James Graczyk, SFO

Some days you wake up early, bursting with excitement and ready for the day to begin. Tuesday March 16, 2010 was one of those days.

It all began when our Spiritual Assistant, Father Dan Fox, OFM suggested a one-day retreat at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. Father Dan had been the Director at the Center, so he knew the possibilities of what we could arrange. He suggested that Father James Hast, OFM host the retreat. Father Jim had been our Spiritual Assistant up until six months earlier. He was now the Assistant Director of the Solanus Casey Center.

This retreat would provide us with a Lenten retreat and a chance to visit with Father Jim. For our fraternity it was like buy one, get one free at the store.

Fortunately we had a great organizer in Jackie Krzewinski, SFO who volunteered to arrange our outing. The job of getting twenty-three people from the Saginaw Valley to Detroit could have had its problems. Jackie, along with the help of others, pulled this off flawlessly.

Then we started watching the weather report. In March the weather can be anything. Fortunately the weather was beautiful, sunny and in the mid fifties. Everything was falling into place.

On this retreat we had the opportunity to join together two great fraternities. Queen of Angels in Saginaw and Our Lady Queen of Peace in Sanford provided us with another buy one, get one free opportunity. It was a chance for us to visit with each other while we were on the retreat. It had been years since some of us had the opportunity to visit, and this was a great benefit.

During our sessions, Father Jim gave us some reflections on our Lenten journey. His insight on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving from a Franciscan point of view was inspiring. During the afternoon session Father Jim gave us a personal behind the scenes tour of the Center. We finished by truly celebrating mass. It was a great day.



*Continued from p. 1*

Jean Martin, SFO and Fran Walker, SFO introduced the new Fraternity Leadership Handbooks, and members of the Executive Council distributed them. Each local fraternity received enough copies for the use of their entire council, and individual copies were available for purchase for other fraternity members. The handbook packets also included a folder containing all of the new forms needed by local councils.

In the afternoon Formation Team member Marie Amore, SFO presented the chapter she had written for the NAFRA's Initial Formation Manual on the subject of Vocation.



## Introducing the new Fraternity Leadership Handbook

This year's semi-annual gathering of local ministers saw the roll-out of the new Fraternity Leadership Handbook. The Handbook has been several years in the making and focuses on the needs of the local fraternity. In producing this booklet the Executive Council chose to target not only local ministers and councils but, indeed, the whole membership of the local fraternity. Leadership, they reasoned, comes not only from the elected council but from the individual members as they share their talents and insights with the larger fraternity.

The Handbook and its companion volume geared towards the needs of the Executive Council are the direct descendants of and owe much of their content to the long-standing Procedures Manual. In pouring over this exhaustive look at the Secular Franciscan family the editors, Jean Martin, SFO and Fran Walker, SFO determined that some of its content, while crucial to the inner workings of the Order, were not really applicable to the everyday running of the local fraternity.

Thus was born the idea of a two-manual system. The local Handbook is aimed at the day-to-day concerns of anyone involved in leading and contributing to the inner workings of the local fraternity. Topics include:

- How is a Council Meeting conducted?
- Who may Vote?
- What is expected of the local Minister, Vice Minister etc.
- What do Councilors need to know?
- What are the obligations of professed members?
- What does the Fraternity Gathering include?

The whole section on Formation with its accompanying forms needed to be tweaked and updated from the original manual because of changes and directives coming from the National and International Fraternities.

The Handbook deals with a wide range of other fraternity questions including:

- What services are provided by the Regional Fraternity?
- Why and how are Fraternal and Pastoral Visitations scheduled?
- How are transfers to and from fraternities handled?
- How do fraternity members stay in touch between regular gatherings?
- How can members promote new vocations?

The Handbook addresses how to handle those concerns local fraternities encounter less frequently by referring the Fraternity to the Regional Executive Council for advice. These include such items as:

- What if someone in the fraternity wants to start a new fraternity?
- How is a Minister removed if it should become necessary?

Ministers and delegates to the April 24 meeting in Lansing were given copies of the Handbook for each member of their local Councils. Many also ordered copies for every member of the fraternity.

Copies of the Handbook will be offered for sale again in the July NEWSletter, and they will be available at the August gathering in Detroit.



*The Handbook is aimed at the day-to-day concerns of anyone involved in leading . . . the local fraternity.*



### Day of Recollection

**June 13, 2010**

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

\$15, lunch included.

2798 US 31 N  
Augustine Center, Conway MI

## Join us for a Day of Recollection

St. Anthony Fraternity in Indian River would like to invite everyone to their upcoming Day of Recollection on June 13, 2010 at the Sacramentine Monastery in Conway, MI.

The speaker for the day will be the Formation Minister for the Regional Fraternity, Patti Reynolds, SFO. The day will begin with registration at 9 a.m. and will close with Mass celebrated by Fr. Harry Spackman, OFM. Lunch is included in the \$15 registration fee.

Franciscan Taus and religious articles will be available for purchase throughout the day courtesy of FranciscansEtc.

For more information contact:

Minister **Bob Bowersox**, SFO

231-384-0462

Yukon\_bob2000@yahoo.com

or

Secretary **Muriel Pekrul** SFO

231-238-7298

mhpekrul@sbcglobal.net



## New Regional Fraternity project suggested

Piquette Square is a new 150-unit apartment project in Detroit to house and care for homeless veterans. Piquette Square will offer comprehensive support services to help the veterans develop self-sufficiency and reintegrate into the community. South-west Housing Solutions developed Piquette Square and will own and manage it.

Local fraternities are encouraged to contribute bed linens to the project. Organizers estimate that they will need 300 each of twin fitted and cover sheets, pillowcases, blankets and pillows.

If your fraternity can help or for more information, please contact Sheri Hafeli, SFO, 586-758-5769, shafeli1@hotmail.com or visit <http://www.swsol.org/>

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encouraged to send their  
news and upcoming  
events to the editor.

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[www.divinemercregion.org](http://www.divinemercregion.org)  
[dmercy@charter.net](mailto:dmercy@charter.net)

Editor  
622 W. Oldfield  
Alpena, MI



