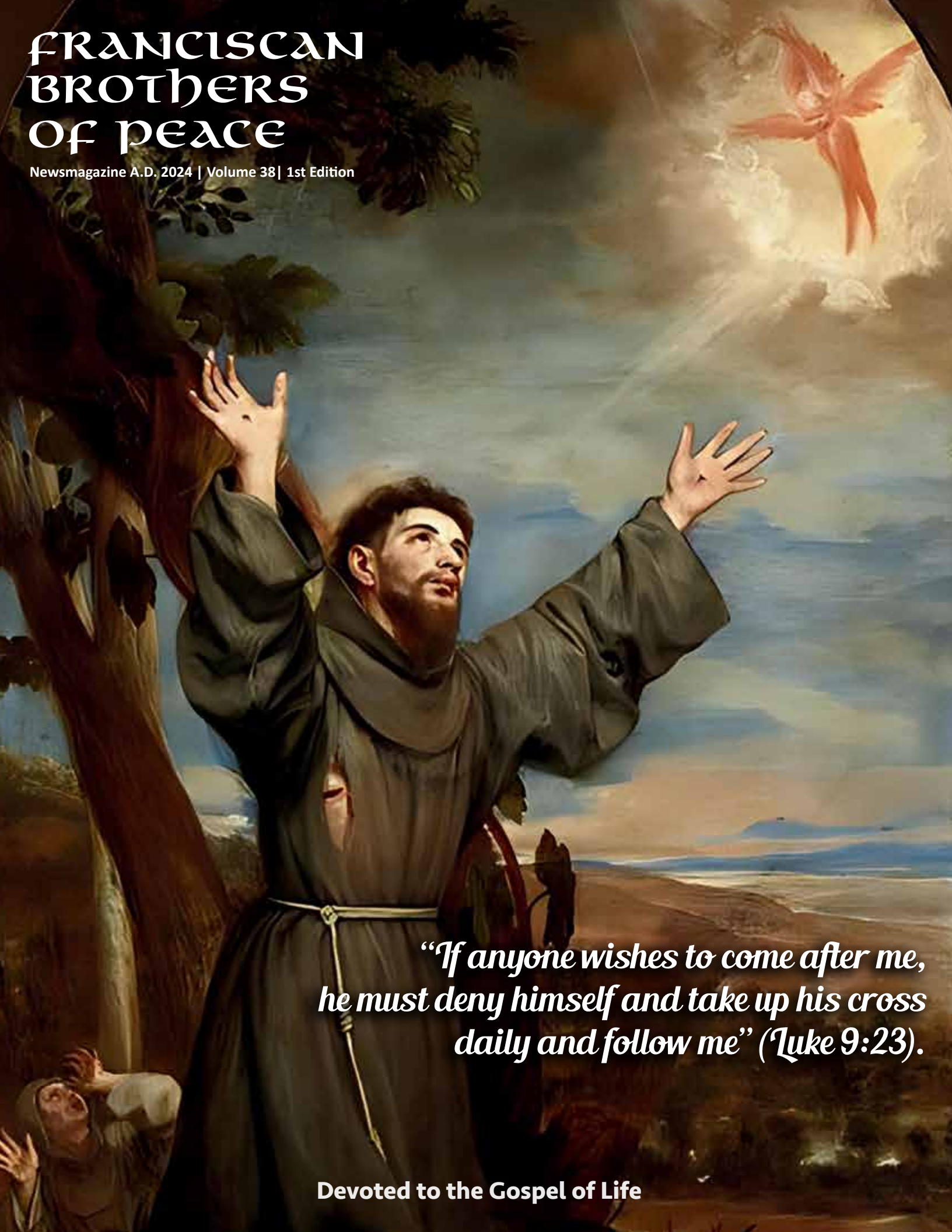


FRANCISCAN BROTHERS OF PEACE

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A religious painting depicting a Franciscan brother in a dark brown habit with his arms raised in prayer, looking upwards. In the upper right corner, a white dove with a red flame-like body is shown flying in a bright, cloudy sky. The background features a landscape with a large tree on the left and a distant horizon under a blue and white sky. In the bottom left corner, another figure is partially visible, also in prayer.

*“If anyone wishes to come after me,
he must deny himself and take up his cross
daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23).*

Devoted to the Gospel of Life



Brotherhood Update

By Father Seraphim Wirth, fbp
Community Servant

This year, the Franciscan family throughout the world is celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Stigmata of St. Francis.

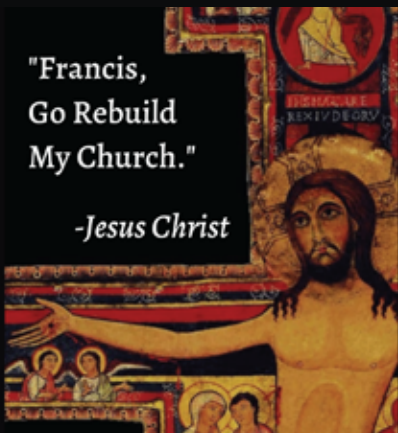
The Church celebrates the Feast of the Stigmata on September 17th, when St. Francis received the wounds of Christ in the flesh. This event was most notably recorded in the writings of St. Bonaventure.

When St. Francis received the wounds of Christ, he fully embraced the Cross of Christ, yet through the wounds he also experienced great joy in that he was united more closely with Jesus.

St. Bonaventure wrote, "The sight of it amazed Francis and his soul experienced joy mingled with pain. He was delighted with the sight of Christ appearing to him so graciously and intimately and yet the awe-inspiring vision of Christ nailed to the cross aroused in his soul a joy of compassionate love."

I think St. Francis can teach us that despite all the difficulties and crosses we carry each day, we can find in our suffering, moments of joy and compassionate love for ourselves and for others.

We have just come through Lent and have entered the Easter season. We have many reasons to be filled with joy and hope. Please enjoy this newsmagazine that shares some of the Brothers' joys with you all.



"Francis,
Go Rebuild
My Church."

-Jesus Christ

Franciscan Brothers of Peace

*Zealous for Jesus Christ + Zealous for their Dignity:
the Unborn, the Poor, the Veteran, the Refugee...*

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Discern Religious Brotherhood / Priesthood
Br. Paschal, Vocations Director
651-340-2552 (landline)

NEW
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“And the Lord gave me some Brothers”

(Testament of St. Francis of Assisi)



Brothers John Mary and Seraphim had the opportunity to visit Santa Cruz Franciscan Mission while on retreat in California. It was good to reconnect with our Franciscan heritage in the USA. We learned a lot about the joys and struggles of some of the first missionaries to California.



Brother Didacus received the Ministry of Lector in St. Mary's Chapel at the St. Paul Seminary. The event was a wonderful time for fraternity with each other and the local church.



Easter morning 2024, The Brothers can finally say, ALLELUIA!



The Brothers have breakfast before the start of our Thanksgiving food distribution. Thank you to all the people who donated food and monetary donations. Also, thank you to the various organizations that donated the new winter coats in the background. It was a welcomed gift for many on a cold day.



Br. James and Br. Paschal enjoying a game of pool after a busy Thanksgiving distribution program.

"It is no use walking anywhere to preach



While at St. Francis mission in Myanmar, this young girl made a bracelet for me and was trying to put it on my wrist.

She dropped it three times and the beads fell everywhere. Each time the beads fell to the ground she would pick them up and put them back together and try again. What was surprising was that she never complained or gave. She just kept trying until she put the bracelet safely on my wrist.

Lesson: Sometimes in life you will fall and feel like you are broken over and over again. But with God's grace you will be put back together and be restored and placed securely where you are supposed to be.



Brothers Conrad and John Mary were present wearing red in solidarity with those standing against the advancement of Physician Assisted Suicide in Minnesota. Shown here at one of several hearings that brothers have attended and submitted testimony for at the State Office Building, this one before the Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee. Bill HF1930, if passed, would make Minnesota the eleventh State in the country to legalize Physician Assisted Suicide.



On Easter Sunday 2024, sixteen youth from the Karen Community at St. Casimir Church and St. Jerome's school received their First Holy Communion.

unless our walking is our preaching."

St. Francis of Assisi



Father Seraphim was in Myanmar in October 2023 at Sacred Heart mission. Sixteen children received their First Holy Communion during that time.



Brother Dominic Michael worked on several new rosary projects this year. He has been creating new chaplets that encourage people to pray to Jesus through the intercession of the saints.



Br. Dominic Michael and Br. Pio recently made a mission trip to St. Francis Solanus Indian Mission located on the Lac Courte Oreilles Indian reservation in Wisconsin. Br. Dominic taught and showed the students how to make a Rosary. They enjoyed their time getting to know the Brothers. May Blessed Virgin Mary watch over and protect these students and all the Native American Catholics.



Brothers join St. Jerome School in Maplewood in praying the living Rosary

Dear Friends,

During this glorious Easter Season the Franciscan Brothers of Peace want you to know that you are always in our communal prayers as we thank God for all of our dear friends and benefactors.

Without your support and donations, we would not be able to be as effective in our outreach ministries to people in need. **Thank you for all you do for us in word and deed.**

We would also like to humbly request that you continue to remember us and our outreach ministries in your prayers and charitable financial giving. We promise to be good stewards of all God's gifts to us, and we promise you our ongoing prayers.

Please Remember the Franciscan Brothers Of Peace in your Estate Planning

Remembering a favorite charity in a Will or Trust is a very effective way to ensure that an organization's work - work you valued and supported in your lifetime - will be continued into the future.

Please contact Fr. Seraphim for further questions:
seraphimbrothersofpeace@gmail.com | 651-368-6416



Br. Pascal and Fr. Seraphim accompanying a group of students from St. Jerome to the Prayer Service for Life that took place on January 22 at the Cathedral of St. Paul.



Some Brothers attended the annual Serra Club Banquet in appreciation of the religious and priests of the Archdiocese. Brother James is pictured with Al Egging who is Treasurer for the Serra Club. Many thanks to all the Serrans for their support in fostering religious vocations.



Vocation visitors venerating the relic of Blessed Solanus Casey during a come and see weekend. Thank you for praying for vocations.



char · ism (noun)

/ˈker,izəm/

1. supernatural grace for mission
2. a missionary gift from the Holy Spirit at the founding of a religious community

5 Central Charisms of the Franciscan Brothers of Peace

1. Radical love and zeal for Jesus Christ and the service of His Kingdom
2. Ambassadors & missionaries of Christ's peace & mercy
3. Prayer, & the cultivation of prayer among all people
4. Franciscan simplicity through a life of poverty, chastity, & obedience to the Lord & the Roman Catholic Church
5. Called to be prophetic witnesses, whether it is popular or not

www.brothersofpeace.org
vocation@brothersofpeace.org



Please Join Us via LiveStream on YouTube or Facebook!

FRANCISCAN holy hour

Every First Friday at 7:00 P.M. | Church of St. Columba, St. Paul, MN

Adoration + Franciscan Crown Rosary + Chanted Compline + Benediction

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