



The Marian

A Newsletter Published
By St. Anthony's Guild

Dear Friends of Our Blessed Mother,

February 11th marks the Marian Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. While we are still living through this challenging time with limits on social gatherings, The Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province will be holding a virtual Mass to celebrate The Blessed Mother. This Mass will be in observance of the apparitions where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 over a period of 5 months. We can discover over and over the mysteries of Mary's universal Motherhood so she may accompany us all through life's journey, especially during this unusual time.

We continue to pray for all of our St. Anthony Guild members whose lives have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. We pray for all who are sick, isolated, unemployed, lonely in their grief, and for those working on the front line, whether they be in hospitals, hospitality, farms, grocery stores, or other food service industries. Let us also keep in mind all those in science and healthcare working tirelessly to combat this disease. May Our Lady watch over us all.

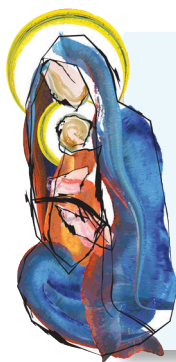
In Good Health,

Fr. David Convertino, OFM

Executive Director, St. Anthony's Guild

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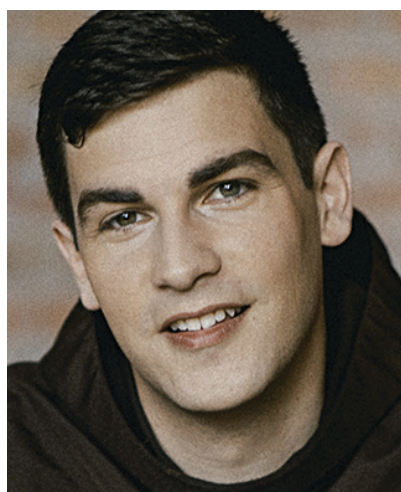


A Marian Fact

In paintings the Virgin Mary will usually have either a blue mantle over a red robe or a red mantle over a blue robe. There may be a star on the shoulder, especially in examples earlier than the 14th century. Sometimes she may be pictured barefoot and in simple clothes or seated on the floor or the bare ground, in a subtype known as the Madonna of Humility. In the case of sculptures she is usually represented standing.

"Through The Lens of a Friar"

Casey Cole, OFM, Macon, Georgia



At the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, Casey Cole, OFM, devoted a good deal of time to producing video reflections and talks that provided pastoral comfort and reassurance. Not long into the pandemic, he pivoted – using his voice not to comfort but rather to challenge others to embrace pain to revolutionize hearts. “People seemed to be getting enough reassurance from other places. With several controversial social issues arising, I felt a stronger need to encourage people to embrace the discomfort they were feeling,” Casey explained. “With racial injustice, I challenged people to recognize that each of us carries subtle forms of bias and racism that need to be addressed. As protests and riots grew stronger, I told people not to look away but rather to let the pain wash over them and inspire them to action. With regards to people opposing facemask requirements and the shutdown of the economy, I talked about the nature of freedom and challenged people to greater responsibility.”

His role as campus minister of the Catholic Center at the University of Georgia in Athens ended abruptly when students were sent home. Education went from classroom to remote learning. He completely shifted efforts to his already established online ministry by producing more content than ever – including three videos a week for two-and-a-half-months – for his social media platforms that include a blog, podcast, and YouTube channel called “Breaking in the Habit.”

While he had the advantage of a successful virtual presence, Internet ministry was not the comfort zone for most friars. However, Casey has been encouraged by the many friars who ventured into this virtual universe and saw firsthand why he devotes much of his ministerial life to it. “Several friars have told me they were shocked at how effective it is and how they never expected to reach so many people,” he said.

Despite his success at virtual ministry, Casey noted that using social media as a vehicle for evangelization is always an extension of the in-person work of the Gospel.

“During the pandemic, without that daily personal interaction with the world, at times, I found it difficult to know what to say. My finger was no longer on the pulse of the people, and preaching online became a tough task,” said Casey, who professed his first vows in 2013.

“It’s a reminder to me that teaching is never a one-way street. It is from my in-person interactions with the people of God – hearing their struggles, sharing in their joys, listening to their questions – that I find inspiration to preach and teach online,” he said.

More recently, Casey was preoccupied with moving from the Catholic Center to his new ministry home at St. Peter Claver Parish in Macon, Georgia. He is now spending his time constructing a new studio for his podcast and YouTube channel, in which he offers reflections on his experience living as a Franciscan Friar in the 21st century and uses social media to evangelize and catechize through blog posts, videos and podcasts – many of which will continue to challenge viewers and readers to face issues, no matter how unpleasant or uncomfortable.

A little over a year ago, we relaunched our online Franciscan shopping destination, “The Franciscan Store.” Items from exquisite hand-made rosaries and bracelets to Franciscan medals and religious articles, we have it all.

With 2021 underway, we will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. You can honor Our Lady with a special rosary, a beautiful pendant, or a statue from our store to hold, adore, wear, or treasure in your home. Some of our bestsellers include:



This 7mm silver linked blue and pink Italian beaded glass would be an excellent rosary to honor Our Lady.

Item#: RB79
\$11.90



Our Lady of Guadalupe Wall Mountable Plaque Statue standing 8” High can make a beautiful addition to your home where Mary can pray and watch over you.

Item#: GF82
\$19.90



Sterling Silver double sided Blessed Mother Mary pendant with rays coming out of her extended hands, crushing a serpent under her feet.

Item#: MD80
\$57.00



Our beautiful boxed set of 12 “Francis Love of Nature” All Occasion Cards. These 12 cards combine writing and art to express our connection with all of creation.

Item#: BS00
\$10.00

You will feel good about your purchases because the money spent at our store goes toward supporting the ministries of the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province. We provide services to the poor through our ministries, including food, clothing, shelter, and medical care as needed. We help move people out of poverty by providing opportunities for education, counseling, drug rehabilitation services, job coaching, and more. We serve over 2 million people throughout the year.

So please, come and honor Our Lady and shop with the Franciscans at “The Franciscan Store.” Help us continue to spread the word about our fantastic Franciscan shopping destination. You can find us online at thefranciscanstore.org.

Our Lady of Lourdes Chicken Soup and Dumplings Recipe

In honor of Our Lady, we can celebrate the Feast day with a comforting “white soup.” Happy cooking!

Ingredients

- 10 cups Water
- 2 Large Chicken Breasts (cooked and cut up for soup)
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon Salt
- 3/4 teaspoon Pepper
- 1 Bay Leaf
- 1 1/2 cup Carrots, sliced
- 1 cup Celery, chopped (I used the inner w/leaves)
- 3/4 tablespoon garlic salt
- 2 tablespoons Chicken Bouillon

Instructions: Put all in a pot and cook these for about an hour. Then add dumplings.

Dumpling Ingredients

- 2 cups Flour
- 3 tsp Baking Powder
- 1/2 teaspoon Salt
- 4 tablespoons Cold Butter
- 1 cup Milk
- 3 tablespoons dried Parsley



Instructions:

1. Stir together the flour, baking powder, salt, and parsley. Cut in cold butter until crumbly.
2. Mix in milk with a fork. Drop in by rounded Tablespoonfuls (or teaspoonfuls, depending on how big you want your dumplings) into the soup—cover and cook for 10 minutes. Remove cover and carefully flip dumplings. Continue cooking uncovered for 10 minutes.

