



# The Marian

A Newsletter Published  
By St. Anthony's Guild

Dear Friends of Our Blessed Mother,

Here we are in the middle of summer of 2021, and we find ourselves still adapting to the many changes that have occurred nearly 18 months ago and which have impacted how we go about our daily doings. But there is light at the long end of this tunnel.

If I didn't have my Franciscan spirituality and vocation, I might not see the overarching picture before me as I still spend some quiet time trying to process all that has happened in the world and what we are supposed to do. How do we handle and process all of the current situations that have affected each of us? How do we respond to the ongoing stress of the pandemic, social isolation, division, and injustices that have permeated our society?

The answer is quite simple: Love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Our Lord Jesus taught us what St. Francis chose for his daily creed of living and passed it on to all of his followers. I pray that each of us can be enlightened and guided by the Holy Spirit as we continue moving forward and upward in 2021 and restore relationships in our families, fraternities, neighborhoods, and wherever there is brokenness.

We welcome God's help this summer to reset and reconnect. He will be waiting for you with open arms.

To Brighter Days,

Fr. David Convertino, OFM

Executive Director, St. Anthony's Guild

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**Our Lady of Grace  
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## *A Marian Fact*

Did you know that The Assumption of Mary is a public holiday in 43 different countries? They are: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Colombia, Cyprus, East Timor, France, Gabon, Greece, Georgia (Eurasia), Republic of Guinea, Haiti, Italy, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Macedonia, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro (Albanian Catholics), Paraguay, Poland (Polish Army Day), Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tahiti, Togo, and Vanuatu.

## *Through The Lens of a Friar*



### *Fr. John Anglin, OFM*

Fr. John Anglin, OFM shares glimpses of his views from the window of his heart and soul.

As many of you know I am now "retired." I don't like that word. I don't believe that it fits my reality. I am a Franciscan friar and a priest. One does not cease to be either. Retirement in my context means that I no longer have an obligation to engage in a full-time amount of ministerial activity or to earn a certain amount of money to support my order. I can do as much or as little as I like and contribute what I can to the order. It is a time really to intensify my life of prayer and to deepen my relationship with the Lord. As part of this I am finding enjoyment in simply taking in the beauty of Tampa Bay and the many beautiful creatures that are part of this wonderful area.

Last Sunday I was able for the first time since the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic began to celebrate Mass outside the confines of St. Anthony Friary. What a joy that was as I went over to St. Paul's church here in St. Pete. In the months ahead I will do some other Masses in local parishes and begin again to occasionally preach for Unbound. (If you are not familiar go to [unbound.org](http://unbound.org) to learn more) I am going to limit the preaching of parish missions to Lent and Advent with few exceptions.

For the past fourteen months my Franciscan fraternal life has sustained me. The schedule of community meals, prayer and plain old good times has been a blessing. Another blessing is the fact that though restricted in many ways, I have been able to go for walks and to visit some local places safely. The biggest blessing is that all of us here at the friary avoided contracting the corona virus and all of us are now fully vaccinated.

I invite you to visit my online blog. My blog entries (you can follow me at <http://frjohnsblog.blogspot.com/>) will reflect on what 50 years as a Franciscan Friar has meant to me. God Bless!

## Celebrating Mary in August

If asked to list Marian feast days in August, most Catholics would respond with only “The Assumption.” However, there are other feast days throughout the month that you don’t want to overlook. Taking some time to reflect on their history and meaning can help you better to understand Mary’s vital role in our salvation. Let’s take a look at these August feast days:

### August 2, Our Lady of the Angels

August 2, we observe the Feast of Our Lady of the Angels. During St. Francis’ life, a small ancient church stood at this place that dated back to the sixth century. St. Francis loved this Church because it was there that he this place that dated back to the sixth century. St. Francis loved this Church because it was there that he recognized his vocation. In 1211, St. Francis acquired the Church from the Benedictines, repaired it, and made it the first Church of the Franciscan Order. Since angelic voices frequently were heard there, it was called Our Lady of the Angels. Five years later, St. Francis received the Portiuncula Indulgence from Pope Honorius as a gift for the chapel’s dedication. On his deathbed, St. Francis placed the Church into the special care of his fellow Franciscans, and in the 16th century, the little chapel became known as the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels. In 1921, Pope Benedict XV gave the privilege of indulgence to all visitors for one year. Later, legislation granted an indulgence to all the faithful on August 2 each year with the local bishop’s permission.

### August 5, Our Lady of the Snows

This feast day marks the Dedication of St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome, also known as Our Lady of the Snows. The memorial commemorates the dedication of the basilica initially erected on Esquiline Hill in Rome by Pope Liberius in the fourth century. The title Our Lady of the Snows dates back to a legend of the Middle Ages that tells us of a wealthy, childless couple who wanted to make Mary the heiress of their fortune, and they prayed continuously to Mary to grant them their wish. Finally, on the night of August 4, Mary made her wish known to both the couple and Pope Liberius — she wanted a shrine built on the spot on the Esquiline Hill that they would see covered with snow the following day. Accompanied by clergy and laity, the Pope walked in procession to the place and found a site covered with snow despite the intense heat of August in Rome. Pope Liberius immediately ordered the building of the Marian church on that spot. Pope St. Sixtus III had the original Church replaced by a newer, larger one in 432, and observation of the feast of Our Lady of the Snows began in that Church in 435.

### August 13, Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners

This feast dates back to the time of St. Germanus of Constantinople in the eighth century. Mary’s position as Jesus’ mother gives her special intercessory abilities, particularly in interceding for his mercy for sinners.

### August 22, Queenship of Mary

Pope Pius XII decreed and instituted the feast of the Queenship of Mary on October 11, 1954, in his encyclical, *Ad Caeli Reginam* (“To the Queen of Heaven”). Initially, the feast was celebrated on May 31, but later was changed to August 22 in the revised Roman Calendar of 1969.

## Silverglade Spinach Salad

### Ingredients

- 6 cups spinach, rinsed and stemmed
- 6 ounces cheese, shredded or cut into small strips (cheddar or Jack combo)
- 2 cups seedless red grapes, halved

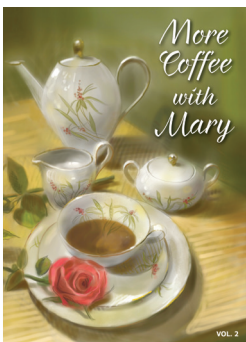
### Dressing

- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 2 green onions, sliced thin
- 4 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled



**Directions:** To prepare dressing, whisk together vinegar, oil, mustard, and brown sugar. Stir in bacon pieces and onion. Refrigerate. In a large bowl combine spinach, cheeses, and grapes. Toss with dressing.

## More Coffee With Mary Volume 2



**One cup is not enough when you are having a heartfelt conversation with the Blessed Mother!** This second book in our series invites you to have another cup of coffee with our Blessed Mother, and to spend more time with her as you share and discuss the many challenges and blessings, ups and downs, joys and sorrows that make up our daily lives. Complete with beautiful illustrations and reflections, this book makes a wonderful “thinking of you” gift for someone special or as a great gift to yourself.

**More Coffee With Mary Volume 2 | Item #BK31 | Price: \$6.00**

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