

Regional Roundup

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Blessed Juniper Serra Region



Baby Clare

Announcing the birth of

Clare Olivia Tippet
Born at home on July 8, 2008
8 pounds, 10 ounces
The proud parents are
Michael & Jennie Lou Tippet, SFO

Jennie Lou belongs to Blessed Giles Forming Group in Twain Harte, CA (in the foothills near Yosemite). She will be professed on Oct. 12 with three other candidates.

St Thomas More Region

+ VIRGINIA MORENO, SFO +
1925 – 2008

(Excerpts from Obituary by Thecla McCarthy, SFO)

Virginia Moreno, SFO, professed for 67 years and founding member of St. Anthony Fraternity in Tucson, AZ (1941), went to her heavenly reward in July on the feast of St. Mary Magdalene. Up until last year, Virginia would regularly attend the monthly fraternity meetings, driving herself. Br. David Buer, OFM, Regional SA, states, "Although I only knew Virginia since coming to Tucson three years ago, I was able to come to appreciate the sacred treasure of her life, her prayer and fellowship. As far as we can tell, she was professed an SFO longer than anyone else in our Region. Are there SFOs in the country who have been Professed longer than 67 years?" Virginia served as Secretary of her Fraternity many years. She was very thoughtful; she sent birthday cards

to the members of her fraternity. Her spirituality was contemplative, and her service to others was active.

Her Wake service and funeral Mass were joyous in the Franciscan tradition with family and fraternity members present. There were three vocations in the Moreno family: Virginia's twin sister, Sister Gloria of the Eucharistic Missionaries of St. Dominic, in the religious life, her brother Charles and his wife, Lydia, in the married state, and Virginia in the single as a Secular Franciscan. Virginia and her twin, Sr. Gloria was born on January 1, 1925, the first babies born on that New Year's Day in Tucson.

"Virginia had a wonderful sense of humor," states friend and fraternity member Thecla McCarthy, SFO. "She never failed to have us laughing at one time or another during the monthly meetings." Thecla also remembers that when Virginia took her turn to report to the members how she became a Secular Franciscan, it was during a presidential election year and she began with, "I'm Virginia Moreno and I approve this message." Now Thecla says, "Well, Virginia, we're in another presidential election year and I hope you're saying: "I'm Virginia Moreno and I approve this message."

St. Margaret of Cortona Region

On Saturday, August 2, 2008, Feast of the Portiuncula, Holy Family fraternity was canonically established during Mass at All Saints Church in Manassas, VA. The main celebrant was Fr. Matthew Palkowski, OFM Cap. Vicar General Rev. Mark Mealey, of the Diocese of Arlington, VA and pastor Fr. Bob Cilenski concelebrated the Mass. Deacon Richard O'Connell, SFO, Fraternity SA delivered an uplifting and motivational homily and assisted at the Mass.



Holy Family Fraternity

The entire Mass was punctuated by the incredible vocal talent of the fraternity's Formation Director, Margaret Gregory, SFO.

During the Rite of Canonical Establishment, Fr. Matthew signed the Document of Establishment as Provincial Spiritual Assistant. It was witnessed by Ann Corro, SFO, Secretary of St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity and by Diane Bigos, SFO, Minister of Holy Family Fraternity. About 100 guests were present for the Mass and for the bountiful reception that followed in All Saints' Fr. Kelley Hall.

Franciscan Peace Award

The recipient of this year's Peace Award is **MARIE DENNIS, SFO**. Marie was nominated by Teri Egan, Peace and Justice Chair for St. Margaret of Cortona Region. Teri writes, "I would like to submit Marie Dennis' name again for the Peace award. While she seems to have devoted her whole life to the efforts for peace, the Maryknoll magazine wrote about her, as her new book, *Diversity of Vocations*, is out, "She has lived more vocations (and more than one at a time) than anyone we know...Dennis is a mother with six children, a Maryknoll employee who lives in a Franciscan community in the inner city of Washington, D.C., and directs the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. She also finds time to serve as co-president of Pax Christi in the cause of world peace and to write books. Her life hasn't always been easy, but she makes it look easy and encourages us not to be afraid when our hearts point to places our brain can't yet conceive. Dennis has learned that there are many ways to be true to ourselves and to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ."

Father Solanus Casey Region

Three Seculars celebrated their Golden Anniversaries of Profession. They are Alice Fitzpatrick, SFO and Iolanda and Jerry O'Loughlin. See *Classic Franciscans* on page 30 in this issue.

Los Tres Companeros Region

The Annual San Jose Mission Walk for Vocations, October 12, 2008. For more information, contact David Basile, SFO, Minister of San Jose Fraternity, 210-495-6213.

Annual SFO Retreat sponsored by St. Francis Fraternity at the Catholic Formation center in Dallas. It will take place on Oct. 31-Nov. 2. The theme will be "Living in Today's Times."

Queen of Peace Region



R-L: Sr. Lois Erpelding, OSF, Sr. Rosemary Vaske, OSF, Lori Taormina, SFO and Sr. Marie Therese Kalb, OSF.

The "2008 Lenten H2O Project" provided water to those in need thanks to your help and prayers.

At the recent Queen of Peace Annual Gathering, on behalf of the National FYYA Commission, Lori Taormina, SFO, Regional FYYA Chair, presented a check for \$12,491.97 to "The Sister Water Project" of the Franciscan Sisters of Dubuque, Iowa.

Juan de Padilla Region

A retreat was given by Fr. Angelus Shaugnessy, OFM Cap, on love and eternity at the Spiritual Life Center on June 20-22 in Wichita, KS. Father is from Pittsburg, PA. He is a form-er missionary to Papua, New Guinea and now serves as the National Executive director of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers.

St. John the Baptist Province

Two Silver Jubilees are coming up in October 2008, for Cynthia Duet, SFO, and Barbara Holscher, SFO. Both Seculars are members of St Teresa of Avila Fraternity.

The Liturgy for the Jubilees will be concelebrated by Father Billy, SFO, and Father Joe Benson, SFO, at 2:00 PM on October 19, 2008, in the Chapel of the Monastery of the Poor Clares at 720 Henry Clay, New Orleans, LA. Cynthia Duet was Liturgist for the Quinquennial held in New Orleans in 2002, with Sr. Charlene Troups, OSC.

National Fraternity Meeting

OCTOBER 14-19, 2008 - Nashville, Tennessee.