

Regional Roundup

Please send Regional news to
Frances Wicks, SFO, Editor
sfofrances7@earthlink.net



Brothers and Sisters of Saint Francis Region

On October 8, 2008 two candidates, Robert and Joanne Dorsey, SFO made their profession, during Mass in the Porziuncula celebrated by Fr. Linus DeSantis, OFM Conv. The Fraternity was on pilgrimage for ten days, following the steps of Francis and Clare. The St. Elizabeth of Hungary Fraternity from Elizabeth City, NC, celebrated in front of St. Mary of the Angels in Assisi, Italy.

Blessed Junipero Serra Region

This year, Secular Fraternity members of the Blessed Junipero Serra Region gathered together at the Justin Herman Plaza on Market Street in San Francisco to march together in the Walk for Life event, which took place on Saturday, Jan 24. Members of Our Lady of Angels Fraternity of Burlingame brought a banner identifying their Secular Franciscan group.

The purpose of the Walk for Life West Coast was to establish a new West Coast tradition of celebrating life by calling for solidarity among women and all people of good will in affirming human life.

Preceding the Walk was Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral. Guest speakers were: Diana Nagy, Singer, (crisis pregnancy at 15 ended in adoption); Kerri Caviezel, (adopted two disabled children); Rev. Clenard Childress, Director of LEARN; Karen Shablin, Feminists for Life; And Fr. Frank Pavone from Priests for Life. There was an Info Faire at the end of the Walk at the Marina Greens. The Walk for Life was attended by Seculars and other Catholics from many parts of CA.

St. Thomas More Region

Preparing Saint John's Convent Project

By Margie Cavolina, SFO
St Clare Fraternity, Phoenix, AZ

In August 2008, Fr. Dale Jamison, OFM, Director of Native American Ministries, asked the St. Clare Fraternity to prepare the Native American Spirituality Center at St. John's Mission for the arrival of Sr. Dorothy and Sr. Geraldine of the Blessed Sacrament Order. This was about mid August and Father told us the sisters would be moving in on the first of September.

It is necessary to mention that the Spirituality Center had 20 years worth of desert dirt and ancient critters that inhabited the place. That didn't stop us (all things are possible with God), but we did send out an SOS call to other Franciscan fraternities and Catholic lay organizations in the area. Very quickly the Troops assembled and started work on the twelve bedroom Center, (soon to be), Convent. It took two weekends to sweep, scrub, dust, mop, and spit shine the place.

By the time the nuns moved in, the place had been painted and made to look like home. The fraternity visited to have a get acquainted meal with nuns and to do some finishing touches. It was at this time that we encountered a giant desert scorpion. It was so big and rubbery looking that it almost looked fake. However, Deacon Phil, came to the rescue and in true Franciscan style captured it and released it back into the desert.

When we had finally finished this sometimes overwhelming task, we were able to smile and say...this is perfect joy!



St. Clare Fraternity members with the Sisters on each end.