



...IN THE WORLD, BUT NOT OF IT, FOR CHRIST!

BONAVENTURE AND HIS LESSONS ON ST. FRANCIS:

Chapter XIII—The Stigmata of St. Francis

3. The fervor of his seraphic longing raised Francis up to God and, in an ecstasy of compassion, made him like Christ who allowed himself to be crucified in the excess of his love. Then one morning about the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, while he was praying on the mountainside, Francis saw a Seraph with six fiery wings coming down from the highest point in the heavens. The vision descended swiftly and came to rest in the air near him. Then he saw the image of a Man crucified in the midst of the wings, with his hands and feet stretched out and nailed to a cross. Two of the wings were raised above his head and two were stretched out in flight, while the remaining two shielded his body. Francis was dumbfounded at the sight and his heart was flooded with a mixture of joy and sorrow. He was overjoyed at the way Christ regarded him so graciously under the appearance of a Seraph, but the fact that he was nailed to a cross pierced his soul with a sword of compassionate sorrow.

He was lost in wonder at the sight of this mysterious vision; he knew that the agony of

Christ's passion was not in keeping with the state of a seraphic spirit which is immortal. Eventually he realized by divine inspiration that God had shown him this vision in his providence, in order to let him see that, as

Christ's lover, he would resemble Christ crucified perfectly not by physical martyrdom, but by the fervor of his spirit. As the vision disappeared, it left his heart ablaze with eagerness and impressed upon his body a miraculous likeness. There and then the marks of nails began to appear in his hands and feet, just as he had seen them in his vision of the Man nailed to the Cross. His hands

and feet appeared pierced through the center with nails, the heads of which were in the palms of his hands and on the instep of each foot, while the points stuck out on the opposite side. The heads were black and round, but the points were long and bent back, as if they had been struck with a hammer; they rose above the surrounding flesh and stood out from it. His right side seemed as if it had been pierced with a lance and was marked with a livid scar which often bled, so that his habit and trousers were stained.



Bonaventure—Major Life of St. Francis (1263)





VISITOR'S MESSAGE

Homily by Fr. Robert Altier...

Reading (Numbers 21:4-9) Gospel (St. John 8:21-30)

Our Lord in the Gospel reading says to the Pharisees, When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I AM. "I AM", of course, is the Holy Name of God – Yahweh. So He is telling them, "It is only at that point that you are going to understand it." And He says, Unless you come to believe that I AM, you will die in your sins. When we look at that, we realize that what He is telling us is that it is only in such an act as the Crucifixion that any of us are truly going to believe in Who He is. His apostles, on one level, believed. Saint Peter, for instance, inspired by God, professed Who Jesus was, but then fell away from some of that in his human weakness. Jesus had told His disciples Who He was, and they still did not understand. It was not until He proved His love completely that we would be able to see and to believe.

It is in that perfect act of love on the Cross that our sins are forgiven, and unless we are willing to look at that Cross and recognize Who He is we have no means of forgiveness. This, again, does not imply just a "head" knowledge. We know all of these things, but just think about how many Catholics have been educated in the Faith over the centuries and how many have fallen away. They knew what the truth was, but they did not believe it. So, first of all, how grateful we have to be that God has given us the ability to accept the truth. Now it is a matter of really letting it sink in, of making sure that what we know in our heads we are also living in our lives, so that it really is in our hearts, so that it is not just to say "I believe" with our minds but to say "I believe" with our whole being.

We cannot be like the Israelites out in the desert who grumble and complain against God and then come along and say, "Okay, we blew it. Now do something to take this away." It is selfish. It was a true realization that they had sinned against God and Moses. But it was not because they were sorry they had sinned against God and Moses that they wanted to

repent; it was because the snakes were biting them and they were dying. It was purely selfish. If we are not focused solely on Christ in the depth of our being, then what is going to happen is that as things continue to get worse we are going to be just like the Israelites. We are going to grumble and we are going to complain against God. The problem is that at that point there is not going to be any way out. The only way out is the Cross, and unless we are on it we do not have life. We have to be willing to unite ourselves with Christ. If we are not willing to unite ourselves with Christ, then we are going to walk away from Him, because when things get really, really difficult we are going to be like the people who looked at Our Lord with the Eucharist and said, "This is hard to listen to, who can endure it?" When we see what is going around us, we are going to say the same thing: Who can endure it? Only if we are looking at the Cross and only if we are willing to be on the Cross with Jesus are we going to be willing to endure it. Otherwise, we are going to be saying things like, "We're disgusted!" Not so much with the wretched food like the Israelites said about the manna in the desert, but with the circumstances of our lives, with the things going on. We are going to doubt, we are going to complain, we are going to whine, we are going to get selfish, and we are going to walk away from the Lord if that is the way it is going to work.

This is why we need to be deep in prayer. Not saying prayers, but taking the time to be silent in our heart and to go into the depths of our being and to unite ourself with Jesus Christ. That is the only means by which we are going to remain faithful. It is in that that Jesus showed the depth of His love, and it is in that that we will show the depth of our love for Him. This is an incredible privilege that God is giving to us. Now the question is: Do we want it? The privilege that the Israelite people had is what the prophets would call the "honeymoon period" of going out into the desert, and they grumbled and complained against God because they did

not like it. Unless we are praying and unless we are united with Jesus in His Passion and on His Cross, we too are going to grumble and complain. Unless we truly believe (not meaning in our heads, but by the way that we live, in the depths of our being, in our prayer) in Who Jesus Christ is – that He is the great I AM – we will die in our sins, because unless we really, truly live it, we are not going to turn to Him, we are not going to repent. It is only when He is lifted up that we will come to believe, and we will only understand when we are lifted up with Him, when we are united with Him on His Cross, the

greatest privilege that a Christian person can be granted – but not a pleasant one.

And so the question each one of us has to ask is: Are we willing to do it? Are we willing to unite ourselves with Christ on the Cross? Are we willing to say “yes” to Him, that we believe all the way to the end? He said “yes” to the end and He will ask the same of us. Otherwise, if we are not willing we will grumble and complain against God, and unless we put into practice what we profess we will die in our sins.

This text was transcribed from the audio recording of a homily by Father Robert Altier with minimal editing.



ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE...

Ourselves

Somewhere I have heard that in human things the greatest enemy we have is ourselves. What we are to be. What we will get done or not get done. Who

we are to others. All of these things, and more, rely totally on ourselves. We can destroy ourselves or build ourselves up. We can love ourselves and if we do that to a fault we are narcissistic, or we can love ourselves as we should as the Lord says when he tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves. He doesn't say don't love yourself. He says love others as you love yourself, and our whole life goes from there, in our families and among our friends and neighbors. Everything depends on our vision of ourselves.

Our self-confidence is definitely a product of these feelings we have about ourselves. What will you get done if you lack confidence? If you feel that you are worthless as a person, and no one has need of you? Think about it. The fullness of who we are is in Christ. If we don't have Christ we start out at a real loss. We need Christ to see who we are, for He came to save us only because we are loveable, only because we can be good. We can be worthy of His Kingdom and He knows it and so He came to call us to Himself and in that simple fact we see our self-worth, and it is tremendous.



Others don't see their self-worth, even those around us, and we should build them up. Christ always built people up. Not falsely, but he would say things like, “Your sins are forgiven.” Or, “Go, and sin no more.” Positive things that carried with them His power and love. He launched people into life. He never told us to be afraid. Quite the contrary he often said ‘be not afraid’. What can we fear if Christ is with us? As St. Paul said in his Epistle to the Romans, what can separate us from the love of Christ? It is important that we all remember this. It is life-changing.

As Father Altier said in the October newsletter of this Association, there is only one being in the entire universe who can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ—and that is ourselves. We are the only ones who have the power to separate ourselves from Christ. The devil will tempt us, all of these external things will befall us, but the reality is that we either adhere ourselves to Christ by our will or we separate ourselves from Christ by our will. It is a choice that we have to make. (Father Altier: October newsletter 2016)

St. Paul says: “Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Trial, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or the sword?” (Rom. 8:35) He goes on to say that no one will. The only one who can separate us from

the Lord is ourselves as Father Altier says. We need to remember this, and go from there. What a powerful force for life we can be if we are positive about ourselves and confident in Jesus Christ. Jesus is all things to all people but all people do not know Him. We know Him. So, we need to bring Him to others.

So, what does all this mean? It means if we don't have good feelings about who we are we need to reassess that. We need to sit down with someone who can help us understand our mission in life, like our parish priest, and discuss what it means to be a Christian in this modern age and a follower of Jesus Christ. We need to ponder the gospel more deeply—the words Jesus gave us—for those words do not call us to be weak and wimpy. They call us to be strong in His love and in knowledge of all that God wants of us, to be His followers and carry the gospel message forward in confidence and love. Our Rule of life is a positive tool to do this.

Most people do not live by a Rule of life. This Rule we follow calls us first and foremost, before we read a line of it, to be followers of Jesus Christ after the manner of Saint Francis of Assisi, who gave us the Rule. St. Francis was a holy man. Close to the Lord. He spoke to Jesus man to man. He lived His life in the way He was called to do that and he took the time to write a way of life for other men, many of whom became priests, for women who became nuns, and for the laity of his age, who wanted to be holy. So, before we even begin to live this life we come to it because we are those laity. We are seeking to be holy, and we believe that this Rule that this great Saint gave us has the power to do that. Then we open its pages.

It calls us to pray, to deny ourselves, and to lead simple lives, for Christ. We fast and abstain, we dress simply and conservatively if for no other reason than to remind ourselves that we do not belong to this world, and we pray with the whole Church every day. We enter into a different life for the love of God. We become servants of the Lord in a deeper way, and this Rule is the key. In time, we become the Rule and so we live it without thinking. We live it in the fullness of who we are, and it draws us closer to Christ. It does not separate us from Christ but becomes one of the special tools in our life that allow us to become more like Christ, after the manner and according to the example and wishes of Saint Francis of Assisi.

So, be confident in God. Be confident in your ability to love and serve the Lord and live a holy life, for if you seek to live this life you seek to live a holy life, for the love of God. Find joy in that. Do not be despondent. Be confident, and happy, and this confidence and happiness will overflow to those around you. You will become the Rule. You will know it because you will live it without paying attention to it any more. It will be who you are. Others will simply marvel at how you live. They will not know you are living the Rule unless on some occasion they pursue some deeper discussion of your life with you and you feel you can tell them of the Rule. That will be to share the gospel in a deeper way and you will become an evangelist among those around you.

Go forth in confidence and joy. Go and live your life for Christ, and rejoice that you have been called to follow the Lord.

May the Lord bless and lead us all.

Bruce and Shelley Fahey BSP, Administrators, Morning Star Chapter, Minnesota

“Emptiness as regards the self, is balanced by compassion for others. The less stress on the ego, the more care there is for neighbor. At the moment St. Francis emptied himself of his possessions, he made himself free for compassion.”

—Archbishop Fulton Sheen (Those Mysterious Priests)



NO GREATER LOVE by Paul Beery, BSP

"My heart is ready, O God; I will sing, sing your praise. Awake, my soul; awake, lyre and harp. I will awake the dawn. I will thank you, Lord, among the peoples, among the nations I will praise you..."

(Psalm 108:1-3)

Lord, our hearts are ready to sing your praise, and awake the dawn! That was the theme at this year's March for Life rallies all across America. For the first time in over forty years, there is a realistic possibility that Roe vs. Wade will be overturned. This year's March was, therefore, more of a celebration by the Pro-Life Community than a day of mourning for the modern holocaust of abortion. Our hearts are so ready, Lord, for the Gospel of Life to begin turning the tide against the Culture of Death, to restore some semblance of our Christian heritage to Western Civilization!

Critics are beginning to realize that a new day has dawned in the only war that really matters in the eyes of God, good vs. evil. Here in America, it has taken a "Wrecking Ball of Political Correctness" to energize the good guys. A new Pro-Life President has kept his promises. A new "Mexico City" policy is already in effect, where the United States will no longer promote abortion around the world as part of its foreign policy. The Hyde Amendment will become permanent if it gets through the Senate, so that federal (taxpayer) funds will never again be used for abortion.

A key component in producing a culture of life is the transformation of the federal judiciary, responsible for this mess in the first place. A great pick has already been made for the Supreme Court, the most important part of the federal judiciary, and we can expect more of them in the future. The whole climate has changed as people see real leadership coming from the top. A grassroots movement is great, but it frequently takes someone in authority to carry out its goals. That's why there is so much excitement in Pro-Life circles, and desperation on the other side, easily seen in the "Resistance" movement, as though its days of imposing its God-less policies were numbered.

Some will say that such an emphasis on a "single issue" is detrimental to the "big picture,"

but it's easy to see that the opposition to all that is good and holy centers on abortion, where Satan's hatred of mankind is easily seen. The Woman who is Satan's main adversary is at work again. Anything could happen this year, the hundredth anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady at Fatima. Her message is filled with incredible prophecies. Our Blessed Mother appeared in 1917 when the Bolshevik Revolution was in its infancy, and predicted Russia would spread the errors of Marxist Communism throughout the world. One hundred years later we see the results. How fitting then, that Russia should play a role in correcting those errors, for she said Russia would be converted and there would be a time of peace.

Everyone is trying to figure out if that time is near. There is a strong connection between Russia, the Fatima apparitions, and Medjugorje. St. John Paul II said, "Medjugorje is the continuation of Fatima. The Madonna appears for the first time in Communist countries because of the problems that come from Russia."

It's hard for older folks who lived through the Cold War to think of Russia in amicable terms. All those years, atheistic Communism spread by the Soviet Union, Russia and its "provinces," was the greatest evil in the world, to be combatted by the Christian West with all necessary vigor. The Soviet Union was on the march, and seemed to be invincible, when it suddenly collapsed in 1989. Generally, credit is given to St. John Paul II, Mikhail Gorbachev, Ronald Reagan, and Margaret Thatcher for the various roles they played. What is not public knowledge is the part played by our Blessed Mother. She was given credit by Pope John Paul II for saving his life in an assassination attempt May 13, 1981, ordered by the Soviet Union on the Anniversary of Mary's first appearance at Fatima in 1917. One month later, our Blessed Mother began her appearances at Medjugorje. A few months after that, Mary said to the

visionaries: "Russia will come to glorify God the most. The West has made civilization progress, but without God, and acts as if they are their own creator."

This prediction was made eight years before the Soviet Union collapsed. Unknown to the world was a spiritual awakening in the Russian people, mostly Russian Orthodox. "Seventy-two years on the road to nowhere," was a sign held by a man happily demonstrating in the streets after his nation's liberation in 1989. The people's faith outlasted over seventy years of atheistic Communist persecution, a horrific attempt to blot out from people's minds all thoughts of God their Creator. "Russia will come to glorify God the most." People of faith triumphed after all those years of adversity. A prophesy fulfilled.

I was not aware of the Medjugorje Connection a few years ago when we all heard President Putin lecturing America on sexual morality. I thought, are you kidding me? The head of a former Communist nation, and head of the dreaded KGB, lecturing anyone on morality! Well, of course he was right. The West has made civilization progress, but without God, and acts as if they are their own creator." America too has abandoned traditional Christian morality. But the point is, look who is now commanding the moral high ground – Russia! And it didn't happen overnight. Our Blessed Mother has been working for a long time behind the scenes...

To sum up, in the words of Stephen Ryan: "Russia will come to glorify God the most." Is

this 'The Great Prophecy?' It is incredible to think that in 1981 the Virgin Mary would speak about a time in the future when the Soviet Union would disappear and return to its roots as the country of 'Russia' and that Russia would experience a spiritual revival unforeseen by the entire world. It is very critical to understand these precise words – this prophecy. The return of religious life today in Russia is undeniable. We now see Vladimir Putin attending church regularly.

Putin lectures America about its rejection of faith and its immorality. Putin, by all **outward** appearance, is a devout Russian Orthodox Christian who is often seen in public venerating the Virgin Mary and kissing blessed Icons of the Madonna. The surprising spiritual revival in Russia is taking place at a time when a deep crisis of faith is occurring in Europe and the United States."

Russia and the West. Heaven only knows what will happen with Russia. But the deep crisis of faith in the West is cause for optimism, that it will give birth to a return to its Christian heritage. Secular Europe is shaken by Brexit, which may lead to fundamental cultural changes. In America, a Pro-Life President and Congress is in place. Pro-Life forces are energized. A new round in the war between good and evil is engaged. There are great expectations, and that's good. History in the making. Lord, our hearts are ready! Help us fulfill Your Will in our daily life so we can sing your praise!

Paul Beery BSP, Morning Star Chapter, Minnesota



The Triumph... by Janet Klasson, BSP

A From the Second Reading on the Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:9-11)

In her Fatima apparitions, Our Lady told the little visionaries: "In the end, my Immaculate



Heart will triumph." This was to follow a great chastisement in the world, including wars, sufferings, martyrdom. Our Lady also asked for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart. There is an ongoing debate as to whether or not the requested consecration of Russia was done to Our Lady's satisfaction. I personally try not to get drawn into such debates, feeling the issue is best left with the Holy Father and the Bishops. For my part, I have to examine whether or not I have done my part in fulfilling Our Lady's Fatima requests.

The main requests of Our Lady of Fatima for those who would hear her messages was for an increase in prayer, penance, and devotion to her Immaculate Heart. Certainly it makes sense that in the light of these requests our Lord has called souls to live the Rule of 1221. If we have discerned our call to live this rule, let us live it with holy joy, knowing that our small efforts, magnified in the Immaculate Heart, will bear the fruit of peace. What a gift it is to make our daily consecration to Our Lady, not just for ourselves, but for the BSP as a whole. It is a gift, not just for ourselves but for the whole world.

Perhaps someone reading this is still discerning whether they are called to a life of penance. The very word "penance" can be off-putting. But Sister Lucia herself once said, "Many persons, feeling that the word penance implies great austerities, and not feeling that they have the strength for great sacrifices, become discouraged and continue a life of lukewarmness and sin." She went on to say that Our Lord told her: "The sacrifice required of every person is the fulfillment of his duties in life and the observance of My law. This is the penance that I now seek and require."

As a prelude to the apparitions of Our Lady, an angel appeared to the children. One of the messages he gave them was: "Offer up everything in your power as a sacrifice to the Lord in reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of sinners . . . More than all else, accept and bear with resignation the sufferings that God may send you."

In addition to penance, Our Lady requested

prayer, most especially the rosary. Now in our days she has added the Flame of Love prayer to the rosary to increase its effectiveness against the enemy of our souls. It seems Our Lady has taken out "the big guns"! The power of the rosary is in the "Woman clothed with the sun" whom the Lord has appointed as the general in the battle. We are little, like David, but we need have no fear against the "giant", for the power of God is with us in his most holy and humble Mother.

I love the triumphant prayer of David before he slays Goliath against all earthly odds: **"You come against me with sword and spear and scimitar, but I come against you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have insulted. Today the LORD shall deliver you into my hand; I will strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will feed your dead body and the dead bodies of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field; thus the whole land shall learn that Israel has a God. All this multitude, too, shall learn that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves. For the battle belongs to the LORD, who shall deliver you into our hands."** (1 Sam 17:45-47)

Today, we have the rosary instead of the slingshot, but the power is the same, and greater because we have Our Lord and Our Lady fighting with us in the Flame of Love.

I long for the day when the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady, the Flame of Love, will rule over all the earth, when the evil one will once again be chained and our temptations will be all but gone. The Triumph of the Immaculate Heart will bring us a much-needed rest from the struggle against evil, most importantly the constant struggle that goes on in our own hearts. Let us not let up on our efforts at prayer and penance, praying for the grace to do more than is asked, so that, like the little children of Fatima, we may be instruments of the Lord in bringing about the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of His Mother.

May your Kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven!

(Reprinted from an earlier newsletter.)

From www.pelianitoblog.wordpress.com

Judges 6:16 The Lord said to (Gideon), 'But I will be with you and you shall strike down the Midianites, every one of them.'

"My children, are the promises of the Lord to be taken lightly? Second-guessed? Why do you doubt? I have sent my Mother to earth to deliver my warnings. Has the world heeded? Do you think I take it lightly when my Mother is spurned? Yet even now I am ready with even more gifts for the remnant I have chosen to fight alongside my Mother. The battle rages and the enemy knows his defeat is certain. He is pulling out all stops. But my warriors have nothing to fear for I am with them. Enter into our Mother's fiat so that you will be acting in the Divine Will and not your own. In the Divine Will all things are possible. Shed your will and do not cling to it. You have no idea what is at stake. If you did, you would not hesitate. Pick up your torches, my children. The triumph of the Immaculate Heart is near!"

Jesus, Beloved, help me to shed my will and to live in your holy will. All I can offer you is my weakness. Here it is Lord, please give me your strength in exchange. Mother most pure, help me so that all Jesus wants will be accomplished in me and through me. Mother of God, spread the effect of grace of Thy Flame of Love over all of humanity, now and at the hour of our death.

Janet Klasson BSP, Divine Mercy Chapter, Canada

(The messages on the Pelianito Journal blog are the fruit of Janet's lectio divina. She submits all messages to her spiritual director, a Catholic priest. You may read his remarks here: <https://pelianitoblog.wordpress.com/about-2/on-private-revelation/>.)



THOSE WHO DO PENANCE

In the name of the Lord!

All those who love the Lord "with their whole heart, with their whole soul and mind, with their whole strength" and love their neighbor as themselves, who hate their bodies with their vices and sins, who receive the Body

and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and who produce worthy fruits of PENANCE –

O how happy and blessed are these men and women while they do such things and persevere in doing them, because the "spirit of the Lord will rest upon them", and they are children of the Heavenly Father whose works they do, and they are spouses, brothers, mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are spouses when the faithful soul is joined by the Holy Spirit to our Lord Jesus Christ. We

are Brothers to Him when we carry Him in our heart and Body through a divine love and a pure and sincere conscience and give birth to Him through a holy activity which must shine as an example before others.

O how glorious it is to have a holy and great Father in Heaven! O how holy and consoling to have such a beautiful and wonderful spouse! O how holy and how loving, gratifying, humbling, peace-giving, sweet, worthy of love and above all things, desirable: to have such a Brother and such a Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who laid down His life for His sheep and prayed to His Father saying: "Holy Father, in your name, save those whom you have given me in the world; they were yours and you give them to me. The words that you give to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and have believed in Truth that I have come from You and they have known that you sent me.

I pray for them and not the world. Bless and sanctify them. I sanctify myself for them. I pray not only for them, but for those who believe in me through their word that they might be sanctified in being one as we are.

I wish Father, that where I am, they also may be with me that they see my glory and Your Kingdom. Amen." (Excerpted from: *Francis of Assisi - The Saint: Early Documents, Vol 1*)

Submitted by "Penitent"

MORNING STAR: NEWS ON THE ASSOCIATION...

HANDBOOK OF THE ASSOCIATION...



The BSP Handbook, titled *Stella Matutina: Handbook of The Brothers and Sisters of Penance of St. Francis* is now available for order.

There is a link to the ordering page on our BSP homepage. You will need a credit card or a Paypal account to order. Cost is \$10.00 plus shipping.

BSP MEMBER WEBSITES

- † [Brothers and Sisters of Penance of St. Francis](#) facebook page by Lisa Drago, BSP
- † **The Joy of Penance** by Janet Klasson www.joyofpenance.wordpress.com
- † **Francis 1221** <https://francis1221.wordpress.com>



'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

(Luke 2:29-32)

The BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF PENANCE OF ST. FRANCIS

A.k.a. BSP, is a non-profit Private Association of the Faithful, which is dedicated to renewing the ancient way of penance as contained in the First Rule of the Third Order of St. Francis of 1221 for lay people in our modern world. We have the blessing of the Catholic Church to do this through several of its Archbishops, Bishops, and priests. If you are bound by another Rule of life in another profession of the way of St. Francis that does not permit you to enter other religious families you are nonetheless invited to add the elements of this beautiful way of life that Saint Francis of Assisi gave us to the lifestyle of your profession.

All members, and Franciscans, are welcome to submit articles for consideration for inclusion in this newsletter if they are directed towards the spiritual formation of members or are the outgrowth of the lifestyle of the Association. Just send them to the BSP at minncc@aol.com. Feel free to share this newsletter with your friends or neighbors. It is intended to be the primary monthly communication of the Association, and ongoing formation for all members and friends. And if you can find it in your heart and in your budget remember that donations to the BSP are used strictly to promote the lifestyle and are tax deductible.

We remain, always, sincerely yours in the love of Jesus Christ!

Bruce and Shelley Fahey BSP, Editors



Welcome to the Brothers and Sisters of Penance!

In the world, but not of it, for Christ!

[Website: www.bspenance.org](http://www.bspenance.org)



The BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF
PENANCE



of St. Francis

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