



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

BONAVENTURE AND HIS LESSONS ON ST. FRANCIS:

Some of the miracles which took place after St. Francis' death

I. The Power of the Stigmata

3. A friar of the Order who was a preacher and well known for his virtuous life was convinced of the truth of the stigmata. However, he began to wonder in a purely human fashion how such a miracle could be possible, with the result that doubt crept into his heart. The struggle went on in his mind for a long time and his inquisitive nature began to get the better of him. Then St. Francis appeared to him in his sleep one night. His feet were covered with mud and he seemed at once humble and reproachful, patient and angry. "What is all this struggle about in your mind?" he asked. "What doubt has defiled you? Look at my hands and my feet." The friar could see the stigmata on his hands, but he could not see them on his mud-covered feet. "Wipe off the mud from my feet," said the saint, "and you will see where the nails are." The friar took his feet devoutly and seemed to wipe off the mud and feel the wounds with his hands. The moment he woke up, he burst into tears and purified the ideas he had entertained by publicly confessing his doubts with a flood of tears.



4. There was a married woman in Rome who was known for her good life and her noble ancestry who

had chosen St. Francis as her advocate and kept a painting of him in her room where she prayed to God in secret. One day when she was praying, she looked closely at the picture: there was no sign of the stigmata, and she was surprised and upset. In reality there was nothing to be surprised at—the artist had left them out. For a number of days she thought hard what the reason for the omission might be. Then one day the stigmata suddenly appeared in the painting, just as they can be seen in other paintings of the saint. The woman was frightened and she immediately called her daughter who was also a very religious person, and asked her if the stigmata had really been missing from the picture previously. Her daughter replied that they had; and she swore that the stigmata had been omitted and that now they were there. However, it often happens that the human heart lays a trap for itself and calls the truth into doubt, and so the woman began to doubt once more, thinking that perhaps the stigmata had been there from the first. In order to prevent the miracle which had been performed from being treated lightly, God in his omnipotence now worked another; the marks immediately disappeared and the picture was left shorn of its privileges so that this second miracle proved the first one.

Bonaventure—Major Life of St. Francis (1263)





VISITOR'S MESSAGE

Homily by Fr. Robert Altier...

Reading (2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1, 3-6) Gospel (St. Matthew 5:20-26)

In the Gospel reading today, Our Lord tells us that our holiness must surpass that of the scribes and the Pharisees. And He goes on to give us some examples;

for instance, not only are we not to kill but He is talking even about being angry with somebody, He is talking about being at odds with another person. But we can understand why the Lord would say this when we look at Saint Paul. Saint Paul tells us that we are being transformed from glory to glory as we behold the face of God.

If that is the case, we cannot continue to live in a worldly manner. We cannot continue to live just like anybody else. If we are being transformed from one degree of glory into the next, that means we have to continue to grow in holiness. And as we continue to grow in holiness, what should happen is that there will be a deeper peace within our hearts and the virtues that are going to be present within us are going to be more evident. So it is not just a matter of following the letter of the law, nor is it a matter of following the way that it was in the Old Testament times; but rather, in Christ, that glory into which we are being transformed is the glory of Christ Himself, to become Christ. That is the way we have to live our lives.

This idea that Saint Paul is talking about is something which is very, very important for us to be able to understand, that, as in the Old Testament when Moses would cover his face so the people would not see the glory, the problem was not so much the face of Moses but rather that when the people of the Old Testament heard the Word of God their hearts were veiled. They did not understand what it was that God was telling them, how it was that He would send His Son into the world, how He would be both God and man, how He would be born of the Virgin, and so on, all of the things that the Gospel presents. Even still, and most evidently in our own day, there are many who will not accept. And so

Saint Paul says that the Gospel is veiled only from those for whom the god of the present age has veiled their minds. If we give in to the worldliness, we cannot understand the Gospel or at least we will reject it. If we give in to be like everyone else, then we cannot be transformed into Christ. It is not possible.

We, as Saint Paul says, are looking at God with unveiled faces because the glory of God shines within us. God dwells within, so we do not have to put a veil on, not only to look at Moses, but even to look at God. We can come before the Lord in

adoration, and there in our humanity we can behold Him. We do not behold Him in the fullness of His glory (that is, the way we will see Him in heaven), but nonetheless, the fact is that we can even come before Him and kneel before Him and pray, the fact is that we can be united with Him, the fact is that we can receive Him in Holy Communion – this is the point Saint Paul is getting at. The people of the Old Testament could not even look at Moses' face! Moses was the servant of God. They could not even look at Moses, let alone

God. And we receive God into ourselves. We can behold Him face to face as we kneel before Him in adoration.

As we do this, we have to be transformed into the One Whom we receive, into the One before Whom we kneel, into the One Whose face we behold. That is what he is getting at, and that is the kind of holiness the Lord is looking for. Not merely an external holiness of following the letter of the law – that was the Pharisaical way of being holy – but the Lord is looking for an interior transformation, to become like Him, to be transformed into Christ. So as we receive Him and as we pray, we should be watching and noticing the change that happens inside of our own selves as we are transformed from one degree of glory to the next, as we behold God with unveiled faces.

"And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit."
-2 Corinthians 3:18

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





ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE... Father's Day... Abba, Father!

This month we celebrate Father's Day in the U.S.A., and it affects many of us in the BSP. Many of us will be blessed at Mass on Father's Day, and will be admonished to go forth and be good fathers, husbands, and

parents. There is much to the role of being a father, and we all benefit from it, and have hope in it, in the spiritual sense. For we all have God as our Father.

Abba, Father, Scripture says. Call the Father that way. That is to call God the Father, Daddy! Like a child calls their father Daddy! There is a wonderful message here for us. Just as we are called to be loving, caring, and hard-working fathers who give their love to their families and children so also we are to believe that God, Our Father, holds these same values in our regard. He is Daddy! And we know He will be loving, gentle, concerned about us, and attentive to our needs. In other words that he will be a good daddy. And, of course, there could be none better.

We were told by Our Savior that God, the Father, is our Father, who is in heaven, and hallowed be His Name. So, we know that we are to reverence our Father in heaven, and go to him for what we need. We are not told in the Our Father prayer what or who God the Father is. We are told simply to accept him as children accept their fathers and go to Him to obtain from him what we need for our life

What we need for our life. Food, shelter, clothing, transportation, and recreation, and, of course, salvation, our spiritual life here, and our life in heaven. These things are 'our daily bread', and are

the things we request of this Father who we can never perfectly know, as he is beyond our comprehension. We can be like little children to him though, and we were told that unless we become like little children, trusting and loving as they are, we will not enter in to the kingdom of heaven.

So, we must be. We must be trusting, and loving, and concerned about what God the Father, our Daddy, is concerned about. We know what he is concerned about and what he wants because his Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, came to us to teach us. So, in Jesus, God our Father loses a bit of his mystery. The fullness of what he wants of us and what he provides for us is shown to us in the life, and the death, of his Son. In the Father's love and care his Son is brought back to life and in that life he forever shows us the love of His Father in and through His Church, and its sacraments, which were given to us from the Son with the Father's blessing.

We need to be forever like children before God. We will come to know forever of his care for us in heaven, His Divine Providence, which will provide for all of us for all eternity. His love will be transparent, and his concern, infinite and eternal, and we will rejoice in Him forever. We cannot fully comprehend the fullness of His Divinity, even though we will experience it. In heaven we will be content to just accept God as our Father, just as our children are content to accept us as their fathers.

So, happy Father's Day to all fathers in the BSP, and to our Fathers whether with us or in heaven. May we live this month in wonderment and love of our Father in heaven, and trust always in his care and love even as we give our care, and our love, to our families. Abba, Father!

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The Administrator email address, the official email address of the BSP has changed from minncc@aol.com to minncc03@gmail.com. Please update your contacts list.





NO GREATER LOVE by Paul Beery, BSP

"I solemnly assure you, the man who has faith in me will do the works I do, and greater far than these... I am the vine, you are the branches. He who lives in Me, and I in him, will produce fruit in abundance, for apart from Me you can do nothing." (John 14:12 & 15:5)

Donna and I traveled to Tiffin, Ohio, to attend a wedding of her cousin's grand-daughter. While there we attended Mass at St. Mary's Church and heard a wonderful homily on Trinity Sunday by the Associate Pastor, Fr. Anthony. I would like to share his thoughts.

Father began by saying his mother was a very creative individual. She did crafts, liked to paint, liked to change the furniture every six months. One day she convinced her husband to knock down a wall to expand the living space, so there was more room for the family to gather. His Mom liked to push the boundaries in which they lived.

He compared that with the Trinity pushing our interior space a little further. St. John Paul II said:

"In communion with the Trinity man's living area is broadened and raised up to the supernatural level of divine living. Man lives in God and by God. Man's dwelling place becomes a little bigger with God. God dwells in us, and he wants us to realize that reality for our lives."

"That awakens in us a deeper meaning in our lives. We don't just live here in our earthly living room, but there is also an eternal living space that we can start to realize now on this side of eternity. What does it mean to live in an eternal dwelling place? It means not to be shallow, to live superficially in the perpetual pursuit of money, fame, material possessions. Rather pursue things that are lasting, for we are made for lasting things, especially love.

Love is relational, just like the Trinity. It has three parts: the lover who is the subject; the beloved, the direct object, and the loving that goes on between them. We are all created with this Image. Baptism brings it alive, brings the Trinity alive within us, dwelling within our hearts. We are all lovers. We are all looking for our beloved. And when our beloved loves us in return, and reciprocates that love, there is mutual loving."

This was an especially significant part of the homily. "The love of the indwelling of the Trinity longs for union with others who have a similar indwelling. My Image (of God) is longing for union with other Images to be complete in my heart."

I thought of those of us who have joined the Brothers

and Sisters of Penance of St. Francis. These two sentences perfectly encapsulate the reason we are united in love for God, joining together to follow the example of our holy father Francis. This spiritual bond is frequently far more powerful than that of blood. In like manner, many other groups of faithful followers of Jesus form, as they seek to be with those of similar beliefs, faithful Images of God shining brightly and attracting others to them.

Father continues, as he delves into our common vocation: "It's beautiful, and that's what marriage is. Every single person is called to the vocation of marriage. Not just an earthly marriage, but an eternal marriage. The soul longs to be married with God. It longs to return—back to the place it came from. It's beautiful. God is the Lover, and we are His beloved children, longing to reciprocate that love back to Him.

There are three parts. It's a communion of love. That's also the beauty of the priesthood. The priest is in love with God. The man who loves God unites himself to the Bride, the Mystical Church. There is a reciprocal relationship there. Both the vocation of marriage and the priesthood carry that union of the Trinity.

The idea of love and being in love expands our interior life. In comparison with earthly love, interior expansion is to discover the indwelling of the Trinity. The indwelling of the living God in our hearts. It constantly expands us, and that is our mission in life: to know that God lives inside of us. Then we know our mission in life, how to truly love another human being."

Father completed his homily by quoting a familiar phrase at the close of Mass: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." He finished with a few words on the promise of Jesus, that He has come that we may have life, life to the fullest.

"We are meant to be fully alive, and that's through the realization of God in our hearts, the Trinity. What prevents us from loving fully? From knowing where we are going? From glorifying God fully with our lives? Perhaps we need to lay it all on the altar today, for we need to love Him with all our heart, and He is there to help us." (Especially during this month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus)

I thought that was a fabulous homily, given not to people far advanced in their spiritual life, but to his parish congregation. Hopefully they realize how fortunate they are to have this priest, ordained only one year, for they are receiving the call to universal holiness. I liked the common vocation of the People of God, and the link between marriage and the priesthood. There needs to be a close bond between priests and their people, a bond that can bring great harm when it is broken.

There is so much material here to ponder in our hearts. Let me add to it by transitioning to a quote by Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan from his book: "The Road of Hope." It concerns the words of Jesus the Vine, our becoming productive branches, and doing the works that He did through the indwelling of the Trinity. Becoming a faithful Image and Likeness of our Creator, living a full life, brings us to the last stage. The Cardinal explains this well:

"One night in the depths of my heart I heard a voice say to me, 'Why are you distressed? You must distinguish between God and God's work –

all that you intend doing, such as pastoral visits, the formation of seminarians and monks, the building of schools and evangelization. All that is wonderful work, God's work, but it is not God! If God wants you to be done with all this and to leave this work in His hands, do so and trust in Him. God will carry out this work incomparably better than you. He will entrust this work to others who are more gifted than you. You only need to choose between God and His work."

This is a lesson here very similar to what our holy father Francis went through the last two years of his life, when control of his greatest work, the Franciscan Order, was taken away from him, so he could concentrate totally on God, and not his work.

We can become so engrossed in our work, even wonderful work for and of God, but that is still not God! At some point there will be a detachment from the things of earth, and a longing to enter into God's House, to greet the Lord, to enter into the place Jesus has prepared for us, heaven beginning on earth. Sacred Heart of Jesus, live in us forever!

Paul Beery BSP, Morning Star Chapter, Minnesota



God is good...all the time... by Janet Klasson, BSP

From the Psalm, Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:

**Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.** (Isaiah 12: 3-4)

Dear friends, as I contemplated this Scripture passage on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, I was reminded yet again of the graces that God has showered upon me as I mourn the death of Jim, my dear husband of 42 years on May 11. I often tell people in formation that the graces to live the BSP lifestyle come as you need them—and not before. The same principal was at work during my husband's illness and death; God's graces were so apparent and came just when I needed them. So many dear friends and family prayed for him during his illness and throughout his life. I am eternally grateful to God for the following...

+ That my daughter was visiting at the time, so I was not alone. She and her family were in the process of moving from Vancouver (a plane ride away) to Edmonton (2 hours away), something I

never thought would happen. That week, she and her children were spending time with me as they waited for the moving van to arrive at their new home.

+ That Jim got to spend time with his grandchildren for a few days before he died.

+ That he only spent a few hours in hospital and passed quietly in his sleep.

+ That I had time to pray a Divine Mercy chaplet in his presence at the hospital unaware that he would not be coming home the next day.

+ That even though he was not Catholic, in the months leading up to his death, we prayed almost daily together the prayer to St. Joseph and anointed our foreheads with St. Joseph oil from the Oratory in Montreal.



+ That I woke early that morning and, as I often do when I wake early, repeated this prayer several times: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, spread the effect of grace of Thy Flame of Love over Jim and over all of humanity, now and at the hour of our death. Amen." As it turned out I was praying this prayer in the final hour of his life.

+ That so many people offered Masses and prayers for him. He is one lucky Lutheran! ☺

+ That I had a dream about him a few days after he died. He looked great and had no lines on his face. In the dream he told me he was celebrating! I took it as a good sign. God's mercy is glorious!

There have been many, many more graces and gifts, big and small. Our beloved Father is so worthy of our trust! To paraphrase Job, He gives even as he takes away. Blessed be the name of the Lord forever! Fiat!

Janet Klasson BSP, Divine Mercy Chapter, Canada



FROM THE 'SPARROW' The Long Flight

Peace my dear sparrows! Yes, today is yet another bird analogy (what does one expect from a sparrow?) story. This comes about from a National Geographic story

on TV and thus the facts of it may be assured. Let us then explore the depths of the great albatross!

The great albatross, a large sea bird with a wingspan exceeding eleven feet (a sparrow whistle on that), spends the majority of its life out of sight of land. Skimming the surface of the ocean in search of food, this beautiful bird has been documented as soaring over 600 miles without once alighting or flapping its wings! One reason for such an incredible feat is the bird's shoulder lock, a sheet of tendons that locks the fully extended wings and eliminates the need to expend energy in the wing muscles. Thus the sovereign Creator, the Lord our God, has endowed the great albatross with otherwise impossible powers of endurance.



By contrast after two meals provided by God's angel, Elijah "went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God" (1 Kings 19:8)—a feat that far exceeds normal human endurance. Daily victory over the forces of evil and unrest in this world requires endurance that also not humanly possible. The enemy of our soul is far more powerful than we sparrows and is well experienced

in wearing down the saints of the Militant Church—the Church still engaged in spiritual combat here on earth as opposed to the Triumphant Church already in heaven. But regardless of the number or severity of our tests and trials, Jesus promised, "My grace is sufficient for thee." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Sparrow insight enlightens us with the logic that the One who designed the albatross and met Elijah's needs has provided all the resources necessary for you and me not to just endure the trials and temptations of life, but to be "more than conquerors" over them. This is possible "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6). Furthermore, as Aaron and Hur assisted Moses in holding the hands aloft during the battle against the Amalekites (Exodus 17:10-13), let us also be ready and willing as Franciscans to help others endure in the warfare against the powers of darkness. In this quest we are often urged and prompted by St. Francis' quote, "Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary use words."

Remember, dear sparrows, that the Word is Jesus!

"In realizing that I could do nothing of myself, my task [as mistress of novices] became simplified. I strove only to unite myself more and more to God, knowing that the rest will be added to me."

--St. Therese, the Little Flower

The Word--He Is!

Peace my sparrow friends! A devotional writing stirred my imagination (that's easy to do) and it tried to focus on a couple of things at one time (pretty trying for a single-minded sparrow) and so we follow where that leads. The first thought was about "the word" or if you will "the word of God." Coupling the second thought to that is "He is" which is back dropped with the Biblical concept found in Exodus of "I AM." The two are the same but arrived at by different directions and interpretations. Let's delve into the matter with sparrow-like candor!

St. Paul mentions "a word" that can "give you the inheritance," but he doesn't divulge what that word is (Acts 20:32). Then we find that this word resounds throughout the universe and bestows strength on God's people (Psalm 68:33-35). And in the Gospel, we hear that this word is able to save us from sin (John 17:12).

What is this word? Ultimately, it's the name of Jesus himself. In the first chapter of his Gospel, St. John identifies Jesus as the Word of God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that his name "contains all: God and man and the whole economy of creation and salvation" (2666). Jesus Christ, Son of God, is the Word that gives access to unlimited grace. Simply, Jesus reveals God's love for us. Jesus reveals God's grace for us. Ah, love and grace...these are the true diet of the sparrow!

Now, turning to our second thought I was mildly surprised in the writing of an unknown author who rather neatly described who "He is" in each of the Books of the New Testament and perhaps they'll give you a sparrow insight that is described with such minimal words and keen insight:

In Matthew, He is king of the Jews.

In Mark, He is the servant.

In Luke, He is the Son of Man, feeling what you feel.

In John, He is the Son of God.

In Acts, He is Savior of the world.

In Romans, He is the righteousness of God.

In 1 Corinthians, He is the rock that followed Israel.

In 2 Corinthians, He is the triumphant one giving freedom.

In Galatians, He is your liberty, He sets you free.

In Ephesians, He is head of the Church.

In Philippians, He is your joy.

In Colossians, He is your completeness.

In 1 Thessalonians, He is your hope.

In 2 Thessalonians, He is your stability.

In Titus, He is the truth.

In Philemon, He is your benefactor.

In Hebrews, He is your perfection.

In James, He is the power behind your faith.

In 1 Peter, He is your example.

In 2 Peter, He is your purity.

In 1 John, He is your life.

In 2 John, He is your pattern.

In 3 John, He is your motivation.

In Jude, He is the foundation of your faith.

In the Revelation, He is your King.

My dear sparrows we should be able to assimilate an understanding of who He is from the above list but in case one of you was frolicking in the bird bath, as I am wont to do, let us add: From the beginning of the world to its end, there is no place you can look and not see Jesus. He is everywhere. He is everything. "He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." (Colossians 1:17).

The light of God surrounds me.

The love of God enfolds me.

The power of God protects me,

The presence of God watches over me.

Wherever I am, God is.

—James Dillet Freeman

.pax et bonum, Bro. Sparrow

Bob Hall BSP, Little Flower Chapter, N. Carolina



The Admonitions continued...



VIII AVOIDING SIN OF ENVY

The apostle says: No one can say: Jesus is Lord, except in the Holy Spirit, and there is not one who does good, not even one. Therefore, whoever envies his brother the good that the Lord says or does in him incurs a sin of blasphemy because he envies the

Most High Himself Who says and does every good thing.

IX LOVE

The Lord says: Love your enemies (do good to those who hate you and pray for those who persecute and slander you.) For that person truly loves his enemy who is not hurt by an injury done to him, but, because of love of God, is stung by the sin of his soul. Let him show him love by his deeds.

X CASTIGATING THE BODY

There are many people who, when they sin or are injured, frequently blame the enemy or their neighbor. But it is not so, because each one has the enemy in his power, that is his body through which he sins. BLESSED IS THE SERVANT the who always holds captive the enemy delivered into his power and wisely safeguards himself from him, because when he does this, no other enemy visible or invisible will be able to harm him.

XI LET NO ONE BE CORRUPTED BY THE EVIL OF ANOTHER

Nothing should displease a servant of God except sin. And no matter how another person may sin, if a servant of God becomes disturbed and angry

because of this and not because of charity, he is storing up guilt for himself. That servant of God who does not become angry or disturbed at anyone lives correctly without anything of his own. BLESSED IS THE ONE for whom nothing remains except for him to return to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.

XII KNOWING THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

A servant of God can be known to have the Spirit of the Lord in this way if, when the Lord performs some good through hm, his flesh does not therefore exalt itself, because it is always opposed to every good. Instead he regards himself the more worthless and esteems himself less than all others.

XIII PATIENCE

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, for they will be called children of God. A servant of God cannot know how much patience and humility he has within himself if he is content. When the time comes, however, when those who should make him content do the opposite, he has as much patience and humility as he has at that time and no more.

XIV POVERTY OF SPIRIT

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. There are many who, while insisting on prayers and obligations, inflict many abstinences and punishments upon their bodies. But they are immediately offended and disturbed about a single word which seems to be harmful to their bodies or about something which might be taken away from them. These people are not poor in spirit, for someone who is truly poor in spirit hates himself and loves those who strike him on the cheek..

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI THE SAINT EARLY DOCUMENTS VOL 1

Continued in September

Submitted by: Penitent





From the Desert Fathers

*"A man may seem to be silent,
but if his heart is condemning others,
he is babbling ceaselessly.
But there may be another who talks
from morning 'till night and yet he is truly silent,
that is he says nothing that is not profitable." Amen.
Abba Pimmenbba*

MORNING STAR: NEWS ON THE ASSOCIATION...

NO BSP NEWSLETTER IN JULY OR AUGUST

The BSP newsletter will take a summer break. Let us keep one another, the association, the chapters and all the intentions of all BSP members in prayer, as well as the Church, the Holy Father, and all the clergy. May God grant all a time of rest, refreshment, and safety in our holy Mother's arms.

STAY CONNECTED...PLEASE!

If you wish to connect with your Brothers and Sisters in the BSP, please remember that the **BSP Forums** on our website are set up specifically for that purpose. Remember too that there is also a prayer forum. Don't underestimate the prayers of a few poor penitents under the patronage of Father Francis and St. Clare!

Hope to see you on the Forums! <http://bspenance.org/forum/>

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.



*St. Raphael,
help of travellers,
pray for us.*

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, Administrators



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

65774 County Road 31
Northome MN 566 61