

FRANCISCAN CROWN

NEWSLETTER OF
ST. FRANCIS FRATERNITY, PHOENIX, AZ
Secular Franciscan Order



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Welcome to our Newsletter

Council's Column

“Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?” (Luke 24:32)

The words of the two disciples after they recognized Jesus after having traveled with him from Jerusalem to Emmaus after the resurrection. Rejoicing, the two disciples immediately made the seven-mile return trip back to Jerusalem to report the good news to the Apostles that Jesus was alive!

The image of fire and burning within the heart is used to convey the overwhelming and incomprehensible love that God has for all of His creatures. Take the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, shown with flames, but not consumed. Fire is a symbol of God, especially in the Old Testament. Recall the presence of God to Moses in the burning bush, which was not consumed, and the pillar of fire which preceded the Israelites as they left Egypt, giving them light and protection as they journeyed during the night.

The burning fire of Christ's love for us is used to purify and refine our souls to prepare them to experience eternity with him. St. Peter writes: “In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for the praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of

Jesus Christ.” (In 1 Peter 1:6-7)

Fire gives light and warmth to us. St. Francis proclaims his love to our Lord in his Cantic of the Creatures, “Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom you light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.” Jesus is the true light of the world (cf Jn 8:12). Remember, that during the crucifixion, darkness descended upon the land (Mark 15:33). In the darkest hour, the Sacred Heart burned bright with hope.

May the light and the joy of this Easter season burn bright in your hearts!

-Paul





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Upcoming Events

Second Year Candidate Retreat

Sat, May 19, 2018 (Optional Mass 8:00)
8:30-3:00 (Retreat) St. Theresa Convent
5045 E Thomas Rd., Phoenix

Profession—June 10, 2018

Steubenville in Tucson—July 2018

***Memorial/Feast Days for the month of
April***

3—Benedict the Black, religious, I Order

21—Conrad of Parzham, religious, I Order

23—Blessed Giles of Assisi, religious, I Order

24—Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr, I Order

28—Blessed Luchesius, III Order

Profession Anniversaries

No Profession Anniversaries this month



April Birthdays

Victoria Stevens (9th)



*"While you are proclaiming peace with
your lips, be careful to have it even more
fully in your heart."*

- St. Francis of Assisi

Please pray for...

Leo & Harumi Hintz



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