



OF SPECIAL
INTEREST:

- 2025 Tau Annual
Retreat
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- Pope Francis and
the Conclave
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- Event: "Protecting
Democracy: The
Role of Faith"
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<https://tauofs.org/>

MAY 2025

Minister's Message

Brothers and Sisters,

As the Easter season unfolds, we celebrate not only Christ's victory over the tomb, but His rising within each of us. The Resurrection is not just a past event — it is a present and ongoing call to awaken.

This awakening is not a one-time occurrence. Like those who encountered the Risen Lord — Mary Magdalene mistaking Him for the gardener, Thomas needing to touch His wounds — we too often fail to recognize resurrection when it stands right before us. We fall back. We react. The ego reasserts itself. The pain-body stirs. But this is natural. It's part of even deeper conversion.

For Secular Franciscans, our Profession deepens the grace of baptism, marking our justification. But the daily journey of Gospel living is ongoing. And in moments of surrender and grace, we begin to glimpse glorification: our transformation into the image of Christ.

As we remain in this Easter light, we are also called to live in readiness, "You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come" (Matthew 24:44).

So, let us stay awake and welcome the Risen Christ into our hearts. Even our setbacks are invitations to grace.

Christ is risen — alleluia! May He rise in us, again and again.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual retreat in **Priestfield, May 16–18**, where **Fr. Vince** will guide us in reflection on the **Canticle of the Creatures**. May our hearts be as open as Brother Francis's — ready to praise God through all things, and in all creation.

Peace and all good,

Josh





Jubilee 2025

GENERAL CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024

24 December

Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica



Photo Vatican Media

JANUARY 2025

24-26 January

Jubilee of the World of Communications

FEBRUARY 2025

8-9 February

Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel

16-18 February

Jubilee of Artists

21-23 February

Jubilee of Deacons

MARCH 2025

8-9 March

Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

28 March

24 Hours for the Lord

28-30 March

Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy

APRIL 2025

5-6 April

Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers

25-27 April

Jubilee of Teenagers

28-30 April

Jubilee of People with Disabilities

MAY 2025

1-4 May

Jubilee of Workers

4-5 May

Jubilee of Entrepreneurs

10-11 May

Jubilee of Musical Bands

16-18 May

Jubilee of Confraternities

24-25 May

Jubilee of Children

30 May - 1 June

Jubilee of Families, Grandparents and the Elderly



JUNE 2025

7-8 June

Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

9 June

Jubilee of the Holy See

14-15 June

Jubilee of Sport

20-22 June

Jubilee of Governments

23-24 June

Jubilee of Seminarians

25 June

Jubilee of Bishops

25-27 June

Jubilee of Priests

28 June

Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

JULY 2025

28 July - 3 August

Jubilee of Youth

SEPTEMBER 2025

15 September

Jubilee of Consolation

20 September

Jubilee of Justice

26-28 September

Jubilee of Catechists

OCTOBER 2025

5 October

Jubilee of Migrants

8-9 October

Jubilee of Consecrated Life

11-12 October

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality

18-19 October

Jubilee of the Missions

30 October - 2 November

Jubilee of the World of Education



NOVEMBER 2025

16 November

Jubilee of the Poor

22-23 November

Jubilee of Choirs

DECEMBER 2025

14 December

Jubilee of Prisoners



VISIT THE WEBSITE

www.iubilaeum2025.va



[@iubilaeum25.va](https://www.instagram.com/iubilaeum25.va)



Organization

Tau Fraternity
St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St.
Herndon, VA 20170

Meetings every 1st Sunday
of the month at:
St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St., Room 205

PACE
& E
BENE

The Tau Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order was canonically established on June 21, 1992. The Fraternity is affiliated with the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Tau Fraternity is in the St. Margaret of Cortona Region of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Tau Fraternity Council currently includes the following officers:

- Minister—Josh Goldberg, OFS
- Vice Minister—Liz Wellborn, OFS
- Formation Director—Bill Richey, OFS
- Secretary—Barbara Slivers, OFS
- Treasurer—Joe Boyle, OFS



Monthly Tau Contemplative Prayer & Franciscan Spirituality Zoom Discussion led by Gil Donahue, OFS



The Tau Contemplative Prayer
& Franciscan Spirituality
discussion group will take place
Monday, May 12
from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The theme will be
“Franciscan Joy.”

Contact Gil to receive a Zoom link.



PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

**O God, faithful rewarder of souls,
grant that your departed servant Pope Francis,
whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd
of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in
your presence in heaven the mysteries of your
grace and compassion, which he faithfully
ministered on earth.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

- The Roman Missal, Prayers for the Dead. For A Pope -



-catholicsstrivingforholiness.org -



Franciscus

PRAYER FOR THE PAPAL CONCLAVE AND THE ELECTION OF THE POPE

Father Most Holy,
Our God and King,
Protect Your Church in this time of transition.
Guide the Cardinals in their sacred duty.
Grant them Wisdom and Courage,
Hope and Charity,
and the Faith they need to discern Your Holy Will.



Creator of all that was, is, and is to come—
You alone know the heart of the one You have chosen
as the next successor to Saint Peter.
Reveal Your will to the College of Cardinals.
Open their hearts to Your inspirations.
Open our hearts to receive, with faith and obedience,
the one whom You will raise up to sit on the Chair of Saint Peter.

May he be a man of deepest compassion,
a man of profound faith and hope,
a man whose charity shines forth,
permeating the darkness of this world with the light of Christ.

You are God Most High,
the God of the living and the dead,
the Great I AM,
the Alpha and the Omega,
Eternal Being and Source of all that is.

May Your holy will be done,
now and forever. Amen. Alleluia.



RECAP OF APRIL 6 GATHERING

PRESENTATION

Jen Raimo, Candidate, offered a presentation on the Spiritual State of the Union after providing a handout via an April 6 e-mail, as well as hard copies during the gathering.

- The topic came to Jen's attention while attending law school.
- Churches were full after 9/11/01 terrorist attack.
- Religion is Jen's way of life; therefore, she became active on this front after the Obama Administration tried to change "Freedom of Religion" to "Freedom of Worship".
- The 2016 election highlighted polarized platforms.
- Concerning Luigi Mangione, suspect in the December 4, 2024, murder of Brian Thompson, CEO of UnitedHealthcare in NYC:
 - Jen heard radio reports: The GOP wants to kill him; the DNC wants to date him
 - GoFundMe has raised nearly one million dollars for his defense
 - Luigi has asked public to stop sending fan mail to the jail
- We need to maintain our prayer life and sense of humor.
- Pray like it all depends on God, and work like it all depends on you.
- Resources to help us take action:

USCCB Action Center

www.usccb.org/take-action

Virginia Catholic Conference

<https://vacatholic.org/actioncenter>

Catholic League

www.catholicleague.org

Intercessors for America

<https://ifapray.org/pray-for-america>

RECAP OF APRIL 6 GATHERING

ONGOING FORMATION

Bill Richey, OFS, began his presentation with our viewing Fr. Chris' homily for the 5th Sunday in Lent from the section "The Gospel Through a Franciscan Lens" on secular franciscanusa.org.

Bill offered a few reflections on Fr. Chris' earlier Lenten homilies.

For the 1st Sunday in Lent, it was notable that Fr. Chris concluded with a passage from the Prologue to our OFS Rule, that we are spouses, brothers, and mothers to Jesus.

For the 2nd Sunday the various images of light from the Transfiguration illuminate Article 17 of our Rule, that we are to "respect all creatures, animate and inanimate, which 'bear the imprint of the Most High.'"

The 4th Sunday Parable of the Prodigal Son evoked a lively discussion about fathers and sons, sibling rivalry, inheritance conflicts, and how Francis might have felt about this parable, given his break with his father.



APOSTOLATES

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY HOSPICE

Thanks to our Brothers and Sisters who support the apostolate at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House.

To help with the next cooking session and/or delivery — or for questions — please contact Joe Boyle, OFS.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Help to feed the hungry. Joe Boyle, OFS, volunteered to shop and deliver food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter at St. Timothy Catholic Church. Food donations may be dropped off prior to the Tau Gathering in the stairwell on the right at St. Joseph School. You can also provide a monetary donation to Joe, who is Tau Treasurer. Thank you!

For more information, see

<https://sttimothyparish.org/outreach-and-ministries/st-vincent-de-paul/>

POOR CLARES OF NEW JERSEY

Tau Fraternity supports the Monastery of St. Clare in Chesterfield, NJ, with a biannual monetary donation. The monastery is home to Sister Karen Stapleton, OSC, who began her Franciscan journey with Tau Fraternity. The main work of the Poor Clares of NJ is to provide Altar Bread to parishes in the diocese of Trenton.

For more information, or to submit a prayer intention to the Poor Clares, see [The Poor Clares of New Jersey — Joyfully Embracing the Gospel Way of Life .\(poorclaresnewjersey.com\)](http://www.poorclaresnewjersey.com)

Watch their YouTube video [A Quiet Joy: New Jersey's Monastery of Saint Clare](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE

Tau Fraternity provides a biannual monetary donation to Franciscan Mission Service. The organization prepares and supports lay Catholics for mission service opportunities around the globe.

For more information, see [Home | Franciscan Mission](#)

PRAYER SHAWL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity provides handmade prayer shawls to individuals in the Diocese of Arlington. Currently, shawls are being provided to pregnant women participating in the Gabriel Project. For more information, please contact Sharon Goldberg, OFS.

ECUMENICAL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity partners with the First Baptist Church of Herndon to provide English lessons to students. Tau members volunteer time and talent to teach at Introductory, Intermediate, and Advanced levels. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Bill Bouffard, OFS.

Many thanks!



James 2:17

MAY 2025 RETREAT PRICE INFORMATION



TAU Fraternity 2025 Annual Retreat * Priest Field Pastoral Center, WV May 16 - 18, 2025

Retreat Master: Father Vince Yeager, TOR

Topic for the Retreat: The 800th Anniversary of Canticle of the Creatures (1225)

Pricing: Single: **\$294.00** Double: **\$528.00**

Payments**: Checks made out to: TAU Fraternity, memo line = "Retreat 2025"

* We shall be joined by brothers & sisters from Portiuncula Fraternity

** Request checks be received no later than Sunday, May 4th; delivery options:
(1) Sunday Gatherings or (2) TAU Fraternity, 750 Peachtree Street, Herndon, VA



MAY 2025 RETREAT THEME

2025 TAU ANNUAL RETREAT THEME: 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. FRANCIS' *CANTICLE OF THE CREATURES*!

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,
Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing.
To You alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no human is worthy to mention Your name.
Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day and through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;
and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,
through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night,
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains and governs us,
and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.
Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your
love, and bear infirmity and tribulation.
Blessed are those who endure in peace
for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no one living can escape.
Woe to those who die in mortal sin.
Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks
and serve Him with great humility.

MAY 2025 RETREAT MASTER

Fr. Vincent Yeager, TOR

**Hometown:**

Patton, PA

Year professed/ordained:

- Entered the Franciscan Community: 2011
- Professed Vows: 2013
- Ordained: 2018

What did you do or consider doing before entering the community?

I completed my degree in electro-mechanical engineering and turned down two jobs in the field.

What drew you to the TOR friars?

I got to know a number of the friars who were in formation and serving at Saint Francis University, close to where I grew up. While I was attending a neighboring college, I kept coming back to these men and finally realized I wanted to be one of them, to be a brother with them.

What are some hobbies you enjoy?

I enjoy most things that get me outside: hiking, camping, exercise. My more leisurely pursuits are reading and leatherworking.

Favorite saint and why:

Aside from Saint Francis of Assisi, I find Saint Benedict of Nursia to be compelling. His devotion, diligence, and practicality align well with my personality, and I find him a good example for me.

Favorite Bible verse:

"Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." - Luke 24:45-47

Current Ministry:

Provincial Councilor, Director of Formation, Post Novitiate Director

TAU COMMITTEES

If you are interested in participating actively in a Tau Committee, take a moment to chat with the chair:

Cultural Diversity Committee (ESL) — Bill Bouffard, OFS
Hospitality Committee — Cyndy Filan-Kim, OFS
Interfaith/Ecumenical Committee — Kimberley Heatherington, OFS
Infirmarian Committee — Sharon Goldberg, OFS
Recruitment Committee — Vacant
Technology Committee — John Ata, OFS



TAU COMMITTEES: INTERFAITH/ECUMENICAL



Religions for Peace 
USA



Please join **Religions for Peace USA** and **Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Congregation** for an in-person panel discussion on what role faith can and should play in protecting democracy in the United States.

Protecting Democracy: The Role of Faith

Monday, May 5, 2025

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

In-person: Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Congregation
9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland, 2081

Online: <https://youtube.com/live/UmxG6u912Vo>

Panelists:

Jeanné Lewis, Chief Executive
Officer, Faith in Public Life



Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush,
President & CEO, Interfaith
Alliance

Dr. Sousan Abadian,
Executive Director, Interfaith
Council of Metropolitan
Washington DC



Imam Naeem Baig, Former
Moderator of Religions for Peace
USA

Moderator: Rev. Abhi Prakash Janamanchi,
Senior Minister of Cedar Lane Unitarian
Universalist Congregation



Learn more about the work of RFPUSA and our faith
and interfaith partners at www.rfpusa.org

WATCH IT HERE:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/UmxG6u912Vo>

PRAYER INTENTIONS

HEAR US, LORD!

Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:

For the Cardinals in the Conclave who will elect the next pope.

For the successor to Pope Francis.

For the physical and spiritual healing of Sylvia Capurso; Cynthia Filan-Kim's sister; Sally White; Sally's husband Gary; Richard & Carole Clarke; their grandsons Liam and Rory.

For peace in the Middle East.

For the patients and Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House.

For the people affected by Coronavirus and their caregivers.

For the Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic and its patients.

For all peoples who suffer persecution.

For the country of Myanmar and its citizens.

For the victims of natural disasters and terror attacks.

For refugees and migrant workers.

For Russians opposing the war in Ukraine.

For all those who have lost their jobs, and are in need of employment.

For all those who are in need of our prayers who have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Please send prayer requests to Josh Goldberg, OFS.

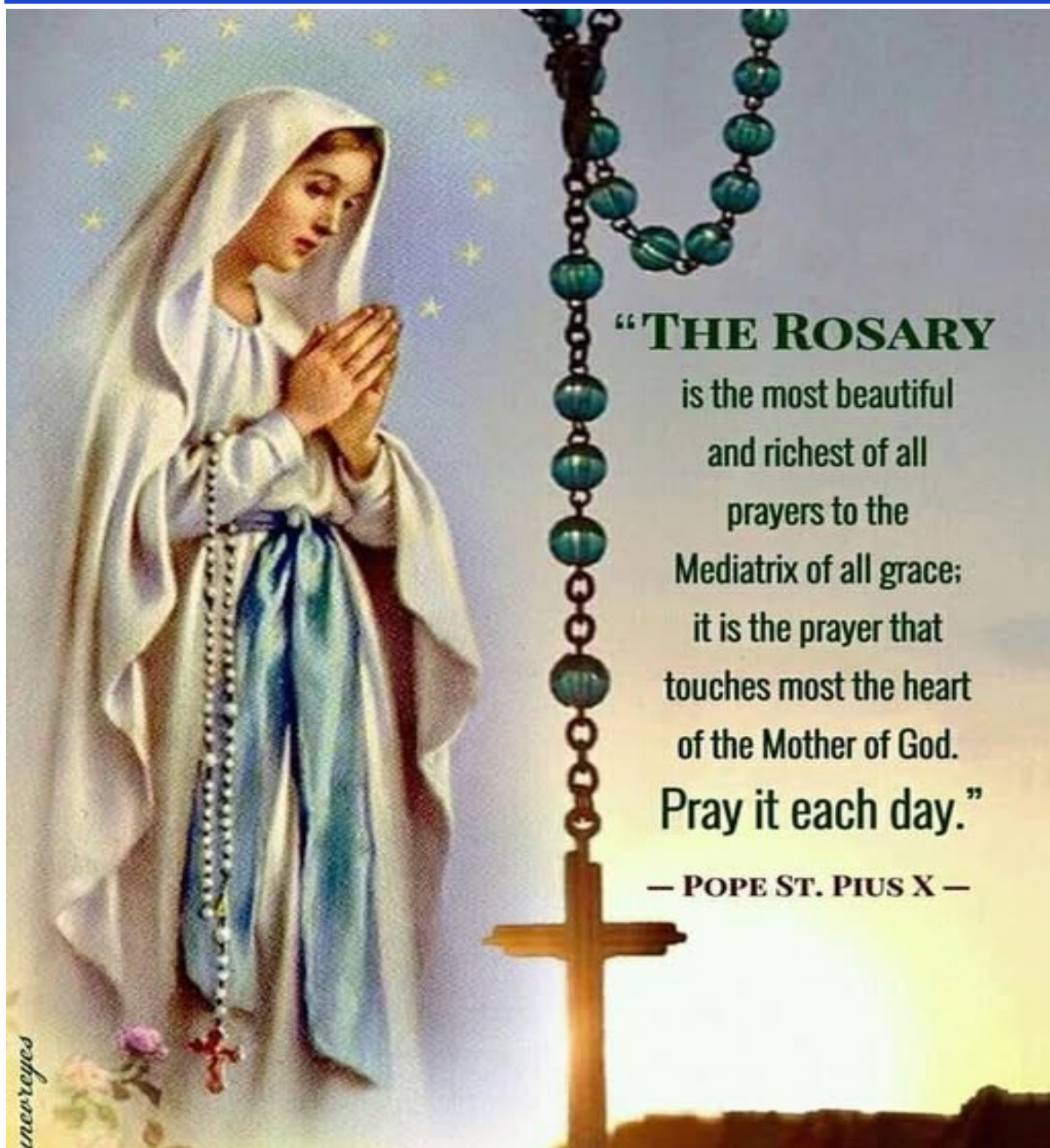
***Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything, by prayer and
petition, with thanksgiving, present
your request to God.***

Philippians 4:6-7



REFLECTIONS: MONTH OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY

POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER



“THE ROSARY

is the most beautiful
and richest of all
prayers to the
Mediatrice of all grace;
it is the prayer that
touches most the heart
of the Mother of God.
Pray it each day.”

— POPE ST. PIUS X —



CALENDAR: ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

May is the Month of the Holy Virgin Mary *

- May 3 Feast of Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
- May 4 Tau Fraternity Gathering
- May 14 Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle
- May 20 Feast of St. Bernardine of Siena
- May 22 National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea
- May 25 Dedication of the Basilica in Assisi
- May 29 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
- May 30 Feast day of St. Joan of Arc
- May 31 Feast of the Queenship of Mary/Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*See the Franciscan Calendar for more dates:
<http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/traditional-franciscan-calendar.html>

May 2025

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Archdiocese for the Military Services 31st Annual Memorial Mass May 18 @ 4:30 PM



Basilica of the National Shrine
www.milarch.org/memorialmass

It's Time to Discern! Tau Council Elections in September



Are you called? Please pray on it!

ADORATION **&** **PRAISE**

Eucharistic Adoration, Procession &
Benediction with praise and worship music
led by Annie Paquette

May 4, 2025

7:00PM - 8:00PM



Annie Paquette

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH



NEXT TAU GATHERING

MAY 4, 2025

SCHEDULE

- 1:30 PM** Opening Prayer
Social Time
- 2:00 PM** Presentation
- 2:45 PM** Break
- 3:00 PM** Ongoing Formation: Bill Richey, OFS
- 3:30 PM** Regina caeli & Liturgy of the Hours
- 3:45 PM** Business Meeting
- 4:00 pm** Closing Prayer

St. Joseph
Church
Room 205

During Eastertide, we will precede the
Liturgy of the Hours with the Regina caeli

Regina caeli

O Queen of Heaven

(Prayed in place of the *Angelus* during Eastertide)

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

INITIAL FORMATION

Aspirants:

Ch. 5 in *The Franciscan Journey*

Candidate:

Ch. 29 in *The Franciscan Journey*

ONGOING FORMATION

Discussion of St. Francis' *Canticle of the Creatures* and the legacy of Pope Francis

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

3rd Sunday of Easter

Midday Prayer: See [here](#) or

<https://divineoffice.org/easter-w03-sun-dp2-current/?date=20250504>

Evening Prayer

Psalms and Canticle - Sunday Week III:

Evening Prayer II: pg. 86

Everything Else - Third Sunday of Easter:

Evening Prayer II: pg. 478

Hymn: TBD

Contact

**Liz Welborn, OFS,
to volunteer for
Scripture Reading &
Responsory, Opening Prayer,
& Presentations**