



# UPDATE

Newsletter of St. Anthony Fraternity  
April 2009



Secular Franciscan  
Order

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

(including list of Franciscan Saint)

- Apr. 3 - St. Benedict the Moor, 1<sup>st</sup> Order
- Apr. 5 - Palm Sunday
- Apr. 9, 10, 11 - Easter Triduum
- Apr. 12 - Easter Sunday
- Apr. 16 - St. Bernadette Soubirous,  
Cord bearer of St. Francis
- Apr. 17 - St. Benedict Joseph Labre  
Cord bearer of St. Francis
- Apr. 21 - St. Conrad of Parzham, 1<sup>st</sup> Order
- Apr. 24 - St. Fidelis of Sigmarigen, 1<sup>st</sup> Order

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### Quebec-Ontario Area Activities

**April 16 (Thursday), 7 p.m.** -- Eucharistic celebration to mark the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rule of St. Francis and Renewal of our Commitment to SFO will take place at St. Francis of Assisi church, 7785 d'Outremont Ave.,

**Apr 24-26** --Annual retreat in Chateauguay

**May 31-** Communion Breakfast, St. Malachy church, 5330 Clanranald. Ticket is \$12. Reserve now!

**July 31, Aug 1, 2** - Spiritual Conference in Cacouna, Quebec. Bus is approx \$80 to \$100. Please see Mila to reserve your seat.

## Happy Birthday!

### April celebrants

- 06 - Josefina Yabut
- 18 - Diane Bangalan

## Benedict Labre House

Coordinator – Emily Espiritu (514)- 932-8945

**Next Service: May 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Volunteers are still needed!**

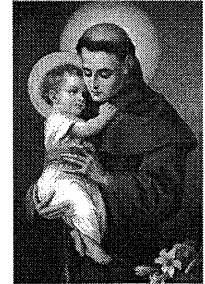
**Please call right away.**

If you or someone you know would like to sponsor for the coming months, please let Emily know.

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## St. Anthony 9-Tuesday Novena & Mass

April 14 – June 9  
every Tuesday at 7pm  
at St. Kevin's church



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## Prayer Requests

Prayer line coordinator – Nenita Salvado (514) 483-4248

### **For healing and good health:**

Leonor Galan, Donna Cote, Pete Manansala, Lilia Avendaño, Edna Rivera, Teresita Pulay, Armie Chan, Agnes Simoneau, Antonio Foz, Ma. Esperanza Espiritu, Aiza Olos, Randy Tolentino, Shirley Guevarra, Crisencia Pascual, Salome Velasco, Mario and Jayden Buban, Virgilio Mangubat, Nenita Saguyod.

### **For the repose of the soul of:**

Fr. J. Bruyers, Sr. Teresa Mabasa, Jun Sebastian, Anthony Siemak, sfo, Salvacion Campos, Martha Espinosa.

SFO Rule #9 (Chapter 2): The Virgin Mary, humble servant of the Lord was open to His every Word and Call. She was embraced by Francis with indescribable love and declared her the protectress and advocate of his family.

The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love in her by imitating her complete self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.

*Our blessed Mother's statue* visits different homes each month. If you would like to receive her into your home, please call Nita at 514-483-4248.

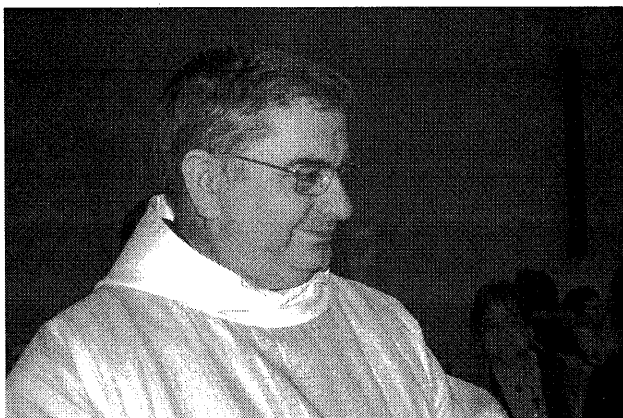
## **800<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of Franciscans and Visit of Minister General Jose Rodriguez Carballo, ofm**



St. Anthony Fraternity members with the Minister General holding the banner and appreciating our fraternity's warm welcome



The Minister General with some St. Anthony fraternity members, Regional Minister Tom Wilkinson, Area VM Eric Lasota, Deacon Lee Winchester, Fr. André Comtois ofm, Provincial Minister Le Goamvec ofm, Bro. Pierre Charland ofm, and Fr. Clarence Laplante ofm.



Our Minister General Jose Rodriguez Carballo, ofm

## **St. Benedict Joseph Labre**

In St. Benedict Joseph Labre there was realized the full meaning contained in the words of God: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the prudence of the prudent I will reject" (1 Cor 1,19). His entrance into the world took place at Amettes, France. He was the first-born of parents who were favored by God with 15 children.

It appears that the spirit of God, which moved him strangely throughout life, came over him at the age of 16, for, from that time forward, he lost all inclination to continue his studies. For that reason, too, his training for the priesthood, which his reverend uncle so earnestly desired, came to naught.

Because of poor health and lack of knowledge he was refused admission also among the Carthusians and the Cistercians. Then it was that he was interiorly instructed to imitate the life of St. Alexis, leave his native town, and his parents, live on alms, and visit the great shrines as a pilgrim. From that day on his soul was flooded with great peace.

His food was composed of the leavings that fell from the tables of others. Alms that had been given to him he gave to the poor. The rags of this beggar of the Lord covered a heart that glowed with love of God and neighbor, and the tenderest devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and to the Mother of God. At Assisi he was received into the Confraternity of the Cord of St. Francis. He has been the pride of that pious society ever since.

His repulsive exterior caused him more pain than it did others, indeed, his sensitiveness on the subject was his most poignant suffering. He used to say: "Our comfort is not in this world." In Rome he was called the poor man of the Forty Hours' Devotion. On the day of his death, April 16, 1783, he dragged himself to a church in Rome and prayed there for two hours until he collapsed. He was carried into a near-by house, where he died that night most peacefully.

Immediately after his death the people proclaimed him a saint. The guardians of Christian morals, Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII, have proposed the beggar Benedict as an example to a generation steeped in materialism. The former beatified him, the latter proclaimed him a saint of the Church.