

## 2017–2020 REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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# SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

## OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGIONAL FRATERNITY

March 12, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings of peace to you and to your fraternity!

Gathering in fraternity is the hallmark of Franciscan life. On **Saturday, April 21, 2018**, we will once again have the opportunity to gather with our brothers and sisters at our yearly Chapter of Mats called **CONVIVENZA**.

Although we meet regularly with our local fraternities, in our Clusters and on Retreat, Convivenza is the one, true opportunity for *all* of us to gather as a **Regional Family**. At Convivenza **everyone in the Region** can come together to **pray, learn, share and socialize**. It should be the highlight of our year as members of Our Lady of the Angels Region.

In addition to this letter, you will receive a “**Save the Date**” card reminding you about this year’s gathering. (We thank Dolores Jules, OFS, for always offering her talents to create these invitations for us!) Please share this information with *everyone* in your fraternity. It is important that each member be made aware so that **everyone is offered the opportunity to attend Convivenza**.

Our gathering will be held on **Saturday, April 21, 2018, at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 135 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Manhattan, NYC (San Damiano Hall)**. We will begin with **coffee and registration at 9:00 AM**. As always, we ask that you bring along a **“brown bag” lunch**. Please see below for the day’s schedule and directions to St. Francis Church. We thank **St. Benedict the Moor, Korean Martyrs and St. Thomas More Fraternities** for hosting the day.

As we have done in the past, we are asking for a special donation. This year we are asking for personal hygiene items (toothbrush, lip balm, travel size Kleenex, small soap) and travel size (no larger than 3.5 oz.) toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, mouth wash, hand cream, hand sanitizer etc.)

Out of **courtesy to our host fraternities**, please let us know **how many will be attending** from your fraternity **by April 15<sup>th</sup>**. You may e-mail or call me using the information at the left-hand side of this letter.

Thank you for your service to the Order. I look forward to seeing you on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Blessings,

Diane F. Menditto, OFS  
Minister, Our Lady of the Angels Region

### **Schedule of the Day**

9 AM Registration and Coffee

9:30 - Morning Prayer

9:45 - Welcome and announcements

10 AM - 11:30 Morning Presentations

- ***Who Do We Say We Are? Reflection*** (Diane Menditto, OFS)
  - Small group discussion
- ***Sharing Who We Are with Others*** (Ed Wojciechowski, OFS)
  - Introduction of our regional YouTube Channel
  - followed by large group discussion

11:30 - Break

11:45 - Mass

12:30 to 1:15 - Lunch (Brown Bag)

1:15 - ***Living Who We Are***

- (Panel Discussion on fraternity apostolates moderated by Chris Leone, OFS)
- Large group discussion and reflections on the day.

*(Please note that times may need to be adjusted as the day progresses.)*

### **Directions**

St. Francis of Assisi Church

135 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street

San Damiano Hall

New York, NY

(212) 736-8500

### **From NJ:**

George Washington Bridge (Lower Level is better) to

Henry Hudson Parkway South DOWNTOWN;

Exit at W. 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Follow West 30<sup>th</sup> to Sixth Avenue.

Turn left, then make the next left onto West 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

(There are a number of parking garages in the area)

Mass Transit in NYC—see the St. Francis Church website:

<http://www.stfrancisnyc.org/directions/>