



Secular Franciscan Order

Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity

May 1, 2012

Dear Fraternity Minister,

May the Lord give you Peace!

It is my pleasure to invite you and all the members of your fraternity to participate in the **2012 *Convivenza*** of Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity to be held on **Saturday June 16th at Saint Francis of Assisi Church 50 Lodi Street, Hackensack, NJ.**

Convivenza is an Italian word which means literally, “a living together” and this is an opportunity for all of the members of Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity to come together in fraternal life for a day of sharing, community and formation—this is our “chapter of mats”—a gathering of all of our sisters and brothers as St. Francis did when he gathered the Friars together to share their experiences and ministries. It is very important to realize that we belong to a world-wide Order. We are not only members of our own local fraternities but are also members of Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity and so your presence and support of the Regional Fraternity’s activities and especially of this once a year “family reunion” is of vital importance. We will begin with **coffee and registration at 9 AM.** Plan on bringing a **brown bag lunch.** The day will include **Mass at mid-day** and will **conclude by 3pm.**

This year, we are turning our attention to an issue which touches upon our Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation component: the issue of Fair Trade and specifically the international trade in chocolate and its connection with slavery, human trafficking and child labor. We will be viewing the documentary film, “The Dark Side of Chocolate” and will hear a presentation by Mr. Patrick Carolan, the Executive director of the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) who will be joining us from Washington, D.C. We will also have the opportunity to purchase chocolate and other goods which are Fair Trade items. Mr. Carolan will also be speaking to us about the Franciscan Action Network and its other many areas of activity and how we can be more effective participants/members of this organization. Please, make every effort to be with us and be sure to encourage all the sisters and brothers of your fraternity to take part in this special day.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, June 16th at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Hackensack. Until then may you have a prayer-filled and blessed continuing Easter season filled with the experience of the Risen Lord.

Fraternally,

Ron Pihokker, OFS
Regional Minister

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DIRECTIONS

Saint Francis of Assisi Church

50 Lodi Street.
Hackensack, NJ

From GW Bridge (or exiting the Turnpike onto Route 80 West):

Take I-95 to I-80 west local exit 66 Hudson St., Hackensack.
Get off Route 80 at exit 66 (Hudson Street/Hackensack/Little Ferry),
at the end of the ramp continue to the light and turn left onto Hudson Street.
Proceed to the third light and make a left onto Broadway.
Proceed one block and make a left onto Holt Street. You will see the church.
Park on Holt Street.

From I-80 East:

Take the Hudson Street, Hackensack/Little Ferry exit (66).
From the ramp, make a left onto Vreeland Ave. At the light turn left onto Hudson Street. Go
under I-80 and proceed to the fourth light (the light before going under Route 80 counts as #1)
and make a left onto Broadway. Proceed one block and make a left onto Holt Street. You will
see the church. Park on Holt Street.

From Route 17 South:

Exit onto I-80 East in Hasbrouck Heights/Lodi area. Follow the above directions from I-80 East.

From NJ Turnpike:

Stay on the Turnpike past the final toll booth. Take I-80 West LOCAL and follow the GW
Bridge directions.

From Route 46:

Exit at Teterboro Airport, Huyler Street, South Hackensack. Stay on Huyler Street to the
second light. (Huyler Street becomes State Street.) At the second light, turn right onto Lodi
Street. Proceed four blocks on your left to the second church at the corner of Lodi and Holt
Streets.

Transit directions

Take NJ Transit bus # 165 (toward Oradell) from Port Authority Bus terminal NYC to stop at
Hudson Street at East Broadway in Hackensack. Walk to Lodi St. about 5 min.