

**Tuesday Evening  
Lenten Vespers Series 2018  
Holy Name of Jesus-St. Gregory the Great**

## **ST. FRANCIS CALLING!**

### **What does he say to us today?**

*“To live the Gospel according to the spirit of St. Francis means participating:*

- *in communion with Christ poor and crucified*
- *in the love of God*
- *in brother/sisterhood with all people and all of creation*
- *in the life and mission of the Church*
- *in continual conversion*
- *in a life of prayer—liturgical, personal, communal, as instruments of peace.”*

Murray Bodo, OFM, *Francis: The Journey and the Dream*



### **Schedule for 2018**

**6:30 pm Vespers (Evening Prayer)  
7:00 pm Simple Supper  
7:30 pm Reflection  
Place: St. Mary of the Angels Chapel**

### **Reflections**

**February 20 ..... Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M.**  
William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Adult  
Education, St. Francis of Assisi Parish

***“Poverty and its connection with humility”***

“Holy poverty stands high above all the virtues that prepare in us a dwelling place for God...The other virtues only promise the Kingdom of Heaven, but poverty makes the Kingdom present here and now. ‘*Blessed are the poor in spirit,*’ Jesus said, ‘*for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*” Murray Bodo, OFM

**February 27 ..... Diane Dragonetti**

***“The spirituality of St. Clare and other Franciscan women”***

Francis and Clare were united by a deep bond of spiritual friendship because of their intense love of Jesus Christ and the common struggle to preserve the gospel ideal of voluntary poverty.

**March 6 ..... Katie B. Sullivan**  
Executive Director, Franciscan Volunteer Ministry, Holy Name  
Province

***“Franciscan collaboration: sharing the work, the worries  
and the wonder!”***

“In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, the Franciscan Volunteer Ministers live simply and embrace three core values: intentional community, direct service with their brothers and sisters, and expressed prayer. The FVM residences are located in the neighborhoods of the people served so the volunteers can live with and among the poor...serving the poor and working for social justice.” (FVM website)

**March 13 .....Fr. Gene Pistacchio, O.F.M.**  
HNP Spiritual Director, Secular Franciscan Order

***“The Third Order Franciscans: spirituality for the laity”***

“From the beginning, the Secular Franciscan Order has had its own proper place in the Franciscan Family. It is formed by... the union of all the Catholic fraternities whose members, moved by the Holy Spirit, commit themselves through profession to live the Gospel in the manner of St. Francis, in their secular state, following the Rule approved by the Church.” (SFO Rule #2)

**March 20 ..... Fr. John Heffernan, O.F.M.**

***“Why did Pope Francis take the name Francis?”***

“Some people want to know why I wished to be called Francis. For me, Francis of Assisi is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation...the same created world with which we don't have such a good relationship.” Pope Francis, March 16, 2013

**A Reconciliation Service with the opportunity  
for individual confession follows this reflection.**

## ***The Canticle of Brother Sun of St. Francis of Assisi***

*Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, all praise is Yours, all glory, all honor and all blessings.*

*To you alone, Most High, do they belong, and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.*

*Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, Who is the day through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor. Of You, Most High, he bears the likeness.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars. In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and fair and stormy, all weather's moods, by which You cherish all that You have made.*

*Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water, so useful, humble, precious and pure.*

*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, producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.*

*Praise be You my Lord through those who grant pardon for love of You and bear sickness and trial.*

*Blessed are those who endure in peace. By You Most High, they will be crowned.*

*Praised be You, my Lord through Sister Death, from whom no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin!  
Blessed are they she finds doing Your Will.*

*No second death can do them harm. Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks, and serve Him with great humility.*

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Holy Name of Jesus-St. Gregory the Great Parish  
Amsterdam Avenue at West 96<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N Y 10025  
Adult Faith Formation Committee