
FRANCISCANS CANADA

Volume 1, Issue 2

Feast of Clare, August 11, 2000

People with Francis!

Who We Are in Canada

SOCIETY OF SAINT FRANCIS (ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA)

A column for membership updates and events and activities of interest.

Requiescat in Pacem

Our sister **Caroline Jensen** of Niagara Falls, Ontario died December 23, 1999 at the age of 89. She became a professed member of the TSSF in June of 1962. Perhaps those of us who knew her could share some stories for the next issue. Thanks be to God for her life and work.

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People who Work!

Our Community Obedience by *Muriel Adey*

My 'formation' took place in England where we then lived, and where I'd been a Companion for over ten years. It was possible, there, to go to specifically Franciscan retreats, lead by one or other of the Friars. And for many, it was also possible to visit, or stay, at one of other of the Friaries and take part in the worship there.

'Here and in all your churches throughout the whole world we adore you O Christ, and we bless you, Because by your Cross and Passion you have redeemed the whole world.'

These words got ingrained in my being as they were heard in the holy awe of the Friary, and the heightened spiritual awareness of being on retreat. I mourned, on coming to Canada and meeting with North American tertiaries because these words were absent from regular meetings here even though they are printed on page 59 of our Devotional Companion. I guess because the meetings, or at least the worship part of the meetings, didn't take place in a church.

'May our blessed Lady pray for us May St. Francis pray for us, May St. Clare pray for us... (and so on).

These words ended the Third Order Office, which also included the prayer above, where ever it was said, and especially when Professions, Renewals and Admissions were part of the Office. Here in North America this prayer is part of the Profession, Renewal and Admission ceremony, so I didn't lose touch with that, except that being an isolated tertiary there weren't many opportunities to be present except for my own renewal. In those days Holy Communion was mostly in the early morning, even in the Friaries and on retreats, and the previous evening's Compline always ended with the words 'Come in the dawning of the day and make thyself known in the breaking of the bread.' Wonderful words to end one's day with - looking forward to the next morning's meeting with our Lord! I still say them even though the meeting is no longer at dawn.

When the edition of the Principles which we all now use in North America first came out I was joyful beyond measure to see Community Obedience there at the front, and to hear that at the International Provincial Third Order Convocation (IPTOC) in 1996 there had been an agreement to use it in all provinces to help bind us all together. This was the first time that I really began to feel at home in the TSSF on this continent! And with the suggested reading from the Principles, Intercession from the Directory, other prayers from the Devotional Companion it makes a very satisfactory Office in itself in those parts of the Third Order family which aren't obligated to do an Office according to the Prayer Book.

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Just as the inclusion of the Community Obedience helped me to really feel at home in this branch of the TSSF after being in Canada for 29 years of profession and serving on chapter and as Formation Director for part of that time, I hope that others who emigrate here will find it being used, for that would help them also to feel at home.

Peace and all good to you! And hearty thanks to Lyndon for getting this Newsletter started!

Muriel Adey, professed 1964 in England, emigrated to Canada in 1967, where I've lived with my husband and children on an island off the west coast ever since, except that the children have left home by now.

(For your own copy of the Community Obedience in "The Principles of the TSSF for Daily Reading" and other basic **TSSF Publications** just write to Dee Dobson, 4001 S.W. 5 Terrace, Miami, FL 33134-2040 for a list and prices.)

Third Order Library: Books/videos/tapes on loan by mail. Contact the librarian, Rosie McFerran, 1518 Tulane Drive, Davis, CA, USA 95616 Phone: 530-756-3487 or find the library list through the website: <http://www.tssf.org>

PEOPLE FOR JUSTICE

CANADIANS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

ISSUE: INTERNATIONAL DEBT FORGIVENESS
AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUBILEE

ACTION: For Ideas Contact the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative at Box 722, Toronto, ON M4Y 2N6;
E-mail: jubilee@devp.org or
visit their website: www.web.net/~jubilee.

We Canadians have already been very successful in lobbying our government and the world for debt reduction and we need to continue to do more work for justice and peace in our world. SOUND THE TRUMPET OF JUBILEE!

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People of the Spirit!

Prayers for the Feast of Clare - August 11

The following prayers for the Feast of Clare are written with an emphasis on restoring the great balance of all God's creation. Prayer are provided for use as the propers for a eucharistic liturgy. The "Prayer to Begin" can also be used as the Collect for a Daily Office.

Prayer to Begin

God our eternal light,
today we give thanks for our humble sister Clare
who reminds us that you are our light in the darkness
and who with clarity called us
to be co-creators in the world.
Like Clare, may our hearts be ever open and enlightened
so that your face will shine for us
in all people and places
as we work and pray for holy peace
and a balanced environment,
now and forever.

Prayer Over Our Offered Gifts

God our provider,
accept all we offer you today from your creation.
Like Clare, may our clear vision of you move us
to share the light of your love in all you provide,
now and forever.

Preface for the Eucharistic Prayer

Blessing to you, sacred Creator,
We give you thanks
for sister Clare who reminded us
that in the beginning of time
you brought light out of darkness
and that Christ is our light and life
in all the world today.
Like Clare, in humility we come together to serve,
in love we come together to share,
and in joy we come together to celebrate.
And so with all creation
we raise our voices to proclaim:

Prayer after Communion

God our peacemaker,
like Clare, we thank you
for bringing us together as one body
in the light of Jesus Christ.
May we be eternally enlightened by our unity
with you and with all creation in peace and love,
now and forever.

"Always be lovers of God and your souls and the souls of
your Sisters, and always be eager to observe what you have
promised the Lord."

- From Clare's blessing to her Sisters near the end of her life.