



## ***Presidents Message – December 2023***

Brother Friars,

Greetings! I want to share three items with you; first my appreciation for Past President Gene Hernandez conducting the November meeting, second our revived emphasis on devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and third an invitation for each friar to bring a guest to our December meeting.

Our November meeting reflected on the sacrifices which our military have offered in defense of freedom. Thanks to Dr./Lt. Cmdr Mike Cushing for sharing a presentation on the sacrifice of his uncle, a pilot shot down in WWII.

Second, our mission is to celebrate nine First Fridays at midday Mass. In September your directors resolved to promote the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through emphasis on the promises communicated to St. Margaret Mary Alcoque (1647-1690). Your directors resolved to communicate the promises offered to those who meet the requirements of the First Friday devotion. Your directors resolved to offer our members a greater opportunity to fulfill the FIRST FRIDAY requirements.

**To meet the requirements for the First Friday Devotion a person must, on each First Friday for nine consecutive months:**

- 1. Attend Holy Mass**
- 2. Receive Communion**
- 3. Go to Confession\***

**The communicant should have the intention, at least implicitly, of making reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for all the sinfulness and ingratitude of men.**

Your directors are considering adjusting our meeting calendar to satisfy the requirement for nine **consecutive** First Fridays. We are working to offer the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to our 11:45 Mass celebration. We are working to communicate the twelve promises offered to those who meet the requirements of the First Friday devotion. The twelve promises are:

- 1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.**
- 2. I will give peace in their families.**
- 3. I will console them in all their troubles.**
- 4. I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.**
- 5. I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.**

6. Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
9. I will bless those places wherein the image of my Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.
10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
11. Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.
12. In the excess of the mercy of my heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.

Third, our December meeting is an opportunity for Friars and wives to reflect and celebrate Christ in our lives. This month we will have the annual Christmas Concert. Our planned guests are the Servite Classical Guitar Program under the direction of Dr. Andrew Stroud. For two decades, the Servite Classical Guitar Program has been among the best in the United States. Students have won awards from competitions such as the Guitar Foundation of America, Columbus State University Guitar Symposium, and the Musical Arts Competition of Orange County.

I ask every friar to invite a guest to the December meeting. "Every one brings one!"

Faithfully yours in Christ Jesus,

*Hugh Lynch*

Hugh Lynch, President  
First Friday Friars  
[Lynch02@roadrunner.com](mailto:Lynch02@roadrunner.com)  
714-993-6874