

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On Saturday, April 23rd, our Region gathered at Sacred Heart Parish in Wallington, NJ, for Convivenza, our Region's Chapter of Mats. One hundred seventy-five members of our Region made the pilgrimage to pass through the Holy Doors in order to gain the Year of Mercy Indulgence. It was a moving spiritual and fraternal experience to see folks from almost every fraternity in the Region. This is what fraternity is all about!

You may view the pictures of the day by clicking on the links below:

[Diane's pictures](#)

[Ed Wojciechowski's pictures](#)

Thank you to all those who made the day possible. Our host fraternities were: **Assumption, Wood-ridge** (Frank Catalano); **St. Louis, Wood-ridge** (Joseph Park); and **St. Francis, Hackensack** (Ed Atwood). Members of each of these fraternities were on hand to help set up and clean up. They also provided the wonderful refreshments we all enjoyed.

Special thanks go out to **Regional Council members** Ron Pihokker (arrangements, prayer, guest speaker and music); Ed Wojciechowski for his excellent talk; Fr. Frank McHugh for the beautiful Mass and inspiring homily; Pat Clayton and the Manhattan Cluster for coordinating transportation so our Manhattan Brothers and Sisters could attend; and Nancy Conroy for AV equipment and set up. Our other Regional Council members were very much a part of the planning and preparations too!

As has become a tradition at Convivenza, every Minister received a **Directory** containing important contact information. We thank Anna Geraci for her efforts in this regard. (If you are a Minister, and did not attend, either the Directory was mailed to you or given to a representative from your fraternity. **You should have it by now!**)

Thank you to all of you for all of the items you contributed toward our two "**works of mercy**." The Baby Shower for Birthright/ Several Sources and "Blessed Bloomers" received many donations on that day.

As we celebrate Mother's Day this weekend and Pentecost Sunday next weekend, let us remember that at the root of our vocation as Franciscans we find RELATIONSHIP. The relationship in our families and in our fraternities reflects the relationship we see in the Trinity--one God in three persons. This is our life and our goal to always be in relationship with God and with one another.

We have another special day coming up on **June 4th**. We will have a **Servant Leadership Workshop** to be held at Holy Name Parish on West 96th Street in Manhattan from **9:30 AM to 2:30 PM**. We will have **two excellent guest speakers** that day.

All those who are servant leaders or are interested in serving in the future should plan to attend.

Please share this with your fraternity members who do not have email!

Many blessings to all of you,
Diane

--

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