



# MISSION MATTERS

## monthly



No. 3 Vol. 2 | October 3, 2022 | Staff/BOT Edition

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way."*

~Saint Francis of Assisi

### CATHOLIC Q&A

Who was Saint Francis and why is he relevant today?

Click [here](#) to hear more

### INTERFAITH CALENDAR

Click [here](#) for more information

10/04: Feast of St. Francis - Christianity  
10/05: Yom Kippur - Judaism  
10/10: Sukkot begins - Judaism  
10/20: Installation of Scriptures - Sikhism  
10/24: Diwali - Hinduism  
10/26: Rosh Hashanah begins - Judaism  
10/27: Birth of Baha'u'llah - Baha'i  
10/31: All Hallows Eve - Christianity



## THE REAL SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI: 14 SURPRISING FACTS

by Wendy Murray

Francis of Assisi was, in his early life, a ladies' man, a carouser, a fierce warrior, and a P.O.W. Yes, that Francis of Assisi, who is also one of Catholicism's most beloved saints, known for his vow of poverty and prayer for peace.

Wendy Murray, a religion journalist, investigated the complex life of this very human man who became a saint, and tells his story in her new book, *A Mended and Broken Heart: The Life and Love of Francis of Assisi* (Basic Books). "Francis's life is a story of a complicated man, a true Italian among Italians, a poet, a warrior, a knight, a lover, a madman, and a saint," says the author. "It is a story about human love by lovers of God."

Discover the surprising story of Saint Francis.

1. He Was Originally Named John
2. He Disliked School
3. He Was Inspired by Arthurian Legends
4. He Was a Playboy
5. He Was a Warrior
6. He Nearly Died in Prison
7. He Was a Failed Knight
8. He Fell in Love
9. He Stole from His Father
10. He Stripped Naked in Public
11. He Rebuilt Ruined Churches
12. He Conspired with Clare
13. He Befriended Muslims
14. His Own Order Rejected Him

Click [here](#) for the full details.

## FELICIAN FRANCISCAN HERITAGE DAYS 2022!

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, September 30: Day of Service

Monday, October 3:  
Mission Matters Monthly newsletter - Special Heritage Days edition

Monday, October 3:  
Free Cale & Ice Cream in Dining Commons - while supplies last! 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday, October 4:  
Feast of St Francis Liturgy in college chapel - 11:15 am

Wednesday, October 5:  
Heritage Days Guest Speaker: Rev. Corey Gibson, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in college auditorium - 11:15 am

Friday, October 7:  
Prayer Service to commemorate the Feast of Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska in college chapel - 11:15 am

Friday, October 7:  
Service Day at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy

Monday, October 10:  
Feast of Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska, Foundress of Felician Sisters



## OUR CORE VALUES

Solidarity with  
People in Need



Transformation



**COMPASSION**



Respect for  
Human Dignity



Justice  
and Peace

2022-2023 Focus

## PUTTING COMPASSION INTO ACTION!

### Take Action to End the Threat of Nuclear Weapons!

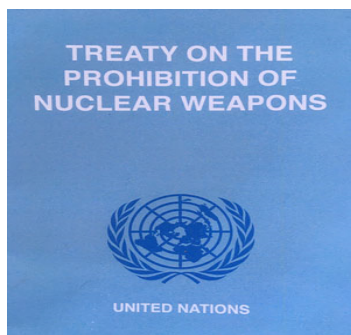
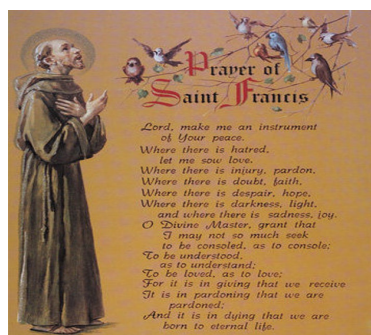
On August 6 and August 9, 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the only time nuclear weapons have ever been used. As these anniversaries approach, we are called to action as people of faith who believe in a just and peaceful world for all. The survivors of these two bombings (known as hibakusha) have long guided the activism for a world without nuclear weapons and as the years go by and they pass on, we must continue their legacy.

Today, the risk of nuclear war seems ever closer. The use of even a tiny fraction of the existing nuclear weapons could cause worldwide climate disruption and global famine, not to mention widespread death and destruction. Nuclear weapons are a tool of domination and violent coercion in a time when we urgently need to prioritize mutual aid, care for the stranger, and trust in the community.

We are calling on Congress to pass H.Res.1185, "Embracing the goals and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)." The TPNW is the first legally binding international agreement to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons with its goal being their total elimination.

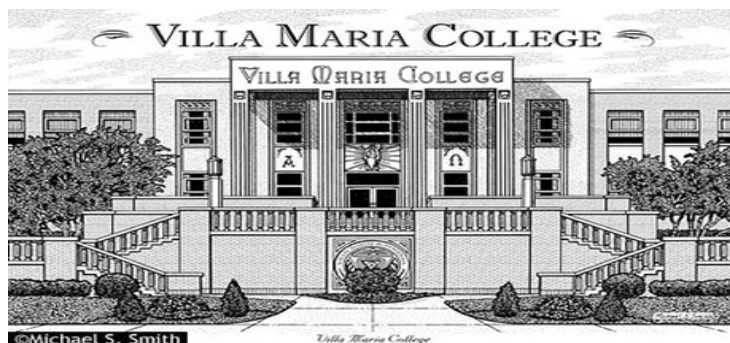
This resolution calls on the United States to take concrete steps toward reducing the threat of nuclear war, like taking our nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert as well as working with other nuclear-armed states to eliminate our nuclear arsenals. This resolution is only a first step, but it's an important one towards a just and peaceful world for all. Take action now and contact your legislators.

Please click [here](#) to tell our lawmakers to support this important legislation.



## OUR FELICIAN FRANCISCAN HISTORY & HERITAGE TIMELINE

- 1181/1182 \* Birth of Francis of Assisi
- 1193/1194 \* Birth of Clare of Assisi
- 1226 \* Death of Francis of Assisi
- 1228 \* Canonization of Saint Francis of Assisi
- 1253 \* Death of Clare of Assisi
- 1255 \* Canonization of Saint Clare of Assisi
- 1515 \* Birth of Felix of Cantalice
- 1587 \* Death of Felix of Cantalice
- 1712 \* Canonization of Saint Felix of Cantalice
- 1825 \* Birth of Sophia (Mary Angela) Truszkowska
- 1855 \* Founding of the Felician Sister by Mary Angela Truszkowska
- 1874 \* Felician Sisters arrive in America
- 1881 \* Felician Sisters arrive in Buffalo, N.Y.
- 1899 \* Death of Mother Mary Angela Truszkowska
- 1961 \* Founding of Villa Maria College by the Felician Sisters First President – Mother Mary Annette Guzowski
- 1965 \* Laywomen admitted as students
- 1967 \* Second President – Sister Mary Pachomia Lenda
- 1968 \* Laymen admitted as students
- 1974 \* College achieves full accreditation status
- 1978 \* Third President – Sister Marcella Maria Garus
- 1986 \* College celebrates 25th Anniversary
- 1993 \* Beatification of Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska
- 2001 \* College celebrates 40th Anniversary
- 2005 \* College awards first Baccalaureate degrees
- 2011 \* College celebrates 50th Anniversary
- 2018 \* Fourth President – Dr. Matthew Giordano PhD.



### CONNECT WITH MISSION MATTERS:



[www.villa.edu](http://www.villa.edu)

### The Felician Sisters of Our Lady of Hope Province:

[Click here](#) for more information

### The Association of Franciscan Colleges & Universities:

[Click here](#) for more information and resources

### Sister Mary Josette Food Pantry:

*Serving Staff & Students*

[Ichinn@villa.edu](mailto:Ichinn@villa.edu)  
716-961-2858



*Villa Maria College is a Felician Sponsored Ministry*

240 Pine Ridge Road, Buffalo, NY 14225