



# MISSION MATTERS

## monthly



No. 4 Vol. 2 | October 2, 2023 | Student Edition

### BLESSED MARY ANGELA SAYS: (Foundress of the Felician Sisters)

*"Give aid to all without exception; your vocation obliges you not to exclude anyone, for everybody is your neighbor."*

#### CATHOLIC Q&A

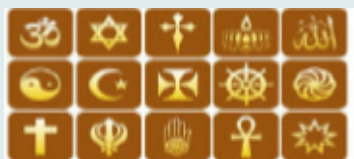
What is Franciscan Theology?

Click [here](#) for the answer

#### INTERFAITH CALENDAR

Click [here](#) for more information

10/04: Feast of Saint Francis - Catholic Christians  
10/20: Installation of Scriptures - Sikh  
10/26: Birth of the Bab - Baha'i  
10/31: All Hallows Eve - Christian  
10/31: Reformation Day - Protestant Christian  
10/31: Deep Diwali - Jain



### FELICIAN FRANCISCAN HERITAGE DAYS 2023!

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### Monday, October 2

Mission Matters Monthly newsletter special Heritage Days edition

##### Tuesday, October 3:

Speaker on Transformation - Duncan Kirkwood  
11:15am College Auditorium

##### Wednesday, October 4:

Feast of Saint Francis - Mass at 11:15am in College Chapel

##### Thursday, October 5:

Heritage Days Celebration Day - 11:15 am in Dining Commons - free cake, ice cream, games, prizes and more!

##### Friday, October 6:

Annual Day of Service

##### Tuesday, October 10:

Feast of Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska, Foundress of Felician Sisters

##### Wednesday, October 11:

Feast of Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska Prayer Service 11:15 am in College Chapel



### SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI: LIVING SIMPLY, SIMPLY LIVING

By Vicki Gruta at [bustedhalo.com](https://bustedhalo.com)

St. Francis was the founder of the Franciscan Order and is the Patron Saint of Ecology. Following the example of Christ, he lived in poverty and preached the Gospel. Here are some ways to live like Saint Francis today:

Staying Fit with St. Francis

**\*Go outdoors for your workout** — St. Francis loved spending time in nature. Instead of hitting the treadmill in the gym, go outside and run on a trail. Go for a bike ride. Take a simple stroll. Just spend some time outside. Not only will you get a workout, but you will get fresh air and experience nature.

**\*Simplify your stuff** — St. Francis gave up all his possessions and lived life as a simple hermit. You do not necessarily need to go as far as that but do look at the material things in your life that seem to be collecting dust rather than being used. These might be books, excess clothes or shoes, knickknacks and more. Gather the things you do not need or use regularly and donate them to a charity.

**\*Volunteer in your community** — St. Francis gave time to help rebuild the church of San Damiano. Find a charity or organization in your community where you can volunteer your time. If you love animals, volunteer at an animal shelter. If you like working with kids, volunteer at a tutoring or after-school program. There are many organizations out there that need volunteers. Maybe one of these programs will capture your heart.

St. Francis' example and spiritual practices still resound with us today. His devotion to the teachings of Christ, love and respect for nature, and struggle with corruption are as relevant today as they were back in the 13th century.

Click [here](#) for full article

## OUR CORE VALUES

Respect for  
Human Dignity



Compassion



**TRANSFORMATION**



Solidarity with  
People in Need



Justice  
and Peace

2023-2024 Focus

## PUTTING TRANSFORMATION INTO ACTION!

### *Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth*

Last month, the Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act (S. 1885/H.R. 4285) was introduced in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. The bill would relieve the backlog currently confronting special immigrant juveniles by exempting them from the annual caps for the employment-based, fourth preference (EB-4) visa. This would ensure that abused, neglected, or abandoned youth who are deemed eligible for relief by state courts no longer need to compete with adults relying on the same category of visas. These minors are ill-suited for the EB-4 visa category, as they are seeking humanitarian protection, not employment-based immigration. This exemption would simultaneously free up visas for others who require them, such as religious workers relied upon for a range of essential services. Now is a crucial time for your advocacy to ensure movement on this important piece of legislation. Help ensure vulnerable youth receive the protections they deserve and American communities can benefit from the contributions of religious workers by completing this action alert in support of the Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act.

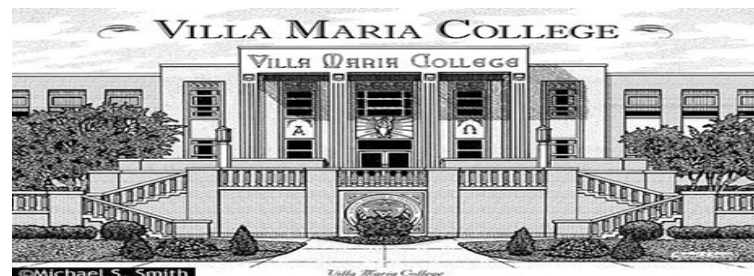
Click [here](#) to send your message to your legislators.



*we are one family under God*

## 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:



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*Villa Maria College is a Felician Sponsored Ministry*

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