

## Seeking St Francis

Sat. 11th August

9am - 4pm

**0900** Morning Tea

**0930** Tour of Site

With some history and information about Franciscan tradition.

**1000** Play/skit/story

Presenting something from the Franciscan tradition, finishing with a spiritual exercise involving guests

**1100** A presentation on St Clare finishing with another spiritual exercise.

**1200** Mid-day Prayer in Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary Followed by **BYO Lunch** In silence in refectory or Gunya Chiara with readings from Franciscan tradition.

**1315 Workshop Groups**, with hands on components:

a] Franciscan spirituality and the environment

b] Franciscan simplicity

c] Exploring silence

d] Music for today's Eucharist

**1415** Five Minute talks on: vocations to Religious life, SSF; TSSF; invitation to join 'Friends' or 'Companions' and Friends of the Monastery.

**1500** Eucharist in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**1600** Afternoon tea

\*\*People are free to come and go during the day.\*\*

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.*

## Seeking

### Saint Francis

Saturday

11th August 2007

9.00am—3.30pm

*"Consider the lilies how they grow, they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these."*

Luke 12:27



#### For further information please contact:

##### Rosemary Bradford

Regional Minister

2 Ambrose St.,

Hunters Hill NSW 2110

Phone: (02) 9879 0120

E-mail: [bradford.pr@gmail.com](mailto:bradford.pr@gmail.com)

##### Wendy Brack

Newcastle Area Convenor

3 Wolstenholme St.,

Rutherford NSW 2320

Phone: (02) 4932 6907

E-mail: [wbrack@netcentral.com.au](mailto:wbrack@netcentral.com.au)

#### DIRECTIONS

Drive up Buckets Way, through Stroud village approximately 3 Km, turn Right into long driveway marked "Monastery" after the Stroud Golf Course.

BE PREPARED FOR UNEVEN TERRAIN!

*We invite you to come and visit, understand and experience the Spirituality of Saint Francis. To share in fellowship with members of the*

*Society of Saint Francis and to visit*

*the Monastery at Stroud.*

## *The Three Aims of the Third Order*

### *To make our Lord known and loved everywhere*

By word and example Franciscans witness to Christ in their daily lives. By prayer and sacrifice they help forward God's work wherever he has called them.

### *To spread the spirit of love and harmony*

By working happily with people of different race, colour, creed, education and opportunity Franciscans seek to break down the divisions in the world. They try to live in the spirit of Saint Francis' prayer: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

### *To live simply*

Acknowledging that everything belongs to God, Franciscans will use his gifts wisely, never wasting or destroying what God has made. They will provide the things necessary for themselves and their families without demanding luxuries. They will never forget the needs of others in their own country or elsewhere.

Companions of the Society of St Francis are women and men, children and teenagers, who wish to support the work and objectives of the Society of St Francis. Conversely, members of SSF desire to support Companions in their own personal journey with God. Prayer, Study and Work form the pattern of life for those who follow The example of Saint Francis.



*"Do not be afraid little flock, for it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:32*

Early in his ministry Francis of Assisi recognised the need to include within his movement of reform and renewal, people who lived the common life. The work of following Christ in simplicity, love and joy could not be restricted to the traditional religious life of the *First Order Brothers* and the *Second Order Sisters*.

This was true in the thirteenth century and it remains so today—it is the vocation of all Christians.

The *Third Order* consists of any people, men or women, married or single, priests or laity who, through following the ordinary professions of life feel called to a life-long dedication under a definite discipline and vows.

Dedicating themselves to our Lord as Instruments of His Peace, they seek to fulfill the special aims of the Third Order through the three avenues of service.

The Friends of the Monastery is a group of dedicated people who maintain and run the Monastery as a Retreat Centre and who pray that one day a community will reform in this beautiful place.