The Rite of Extraction

This is one of the oldest traditions of the Franciscan community and is celebrated by the First, Second and Third Orders, Religious and Secular, usually during the season of Epiphany. We believe that God speaks to us in many ways, not the least of which is through the example of his Saints, through the inspired words of Scripture, and through the Virtues that were exemplified by St. Francis, St. Clare, and other saints**.**

Your patron saint for the year, your Scripture passage, and your Franciscan virtue might be a special source of inspiration in the challenges which might be facing you during the year. Read the life of your saint: What does the message of his or her life have to say to you? Offer intercessory prayers for yourself and others. Reflect on the Scripture passage and its meaning in your life. Offer prayers to the Holy Spirit to assist you in embodying your virtue in your daily life and encounters with others.

Opening Song: Come, Holy Ghost

Come, Holy Ghost,
Creator blest,
And in our hearts take up thy rest;
Come with your grace and heavenly aid
To fill the hearts which thou have made. (Repeat)

O Comfort blest, to thee we cry,
Thou heavenly gift of God Most High,
Thou Fount of life and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above. (Repeat)

Praise be to thee, Father and Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One;
And may the Son on us bestow
The Gifts that from the Spirit flow. (Repeat)

Opening Prayer:

Leader: Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.
ALL: And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Leader: Let us pray:
ALL: Almighty and everlasting God, we celebrate that day when your word became flesh for all the world to see. In becoming one with our human family, He sanctified human activity and made us holy through His life-giving word. Through the ages, His message has continued to touch the hearts of men and women of every place, taking flesh in their lives through Christian service. May these holy men and women stand as shining examples of Christian virtue and the Gospel life, for each one of them reflects a unique aspect of Your divine love. Be with us today, Lord our God, as we choose one of these saints as our patron for this new year. With the help of your spirit may the saint given to us today serve as a special reminder of our call to holiness. May his or her teaching and example serve to

inspire us to exercise Christian virtue and to follow your Son more closely in our Franciscan Family. We ask this through our Christ your Son. Amen

EXTRACTION: Three baskets (Saint, Scripture and Virtue) are laid on a table. The Minister and three other fraternity members are seated at the table. (May add a 4th basket with Fraternity members to pray for during the year) The Minister says the name of the fraternity member who comes forward. One by one, a slip of paper is randomly extracted from each basket. As each slip is extracted, it is read aloud to the fraternity and then presented to the person whose name was called.

Psalm 150

Side A	Praise God in his holy place, praise him in his mighty heavens.
Side B	Praise him for his powerful deeds, praise his surpassing greatness.
Side A	O praise him with sound of trumpet, praise him with lute and harp.
Side B	Praise him with timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and pipes.
Side A	O praise him with resounding cymbals, praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Side A	Let everything that lives and that breathes, give praise to the Lord.

Closing Prayer:

Leader: The Lord is the Honor of His saints.
ALL: He has heard those who cry to Him.

Leader: Let us pray.
ALL: O God you have raised up men and women outstanding in holiness as examples to your people in following in your footsteps. Grant that we may ever look to the example and teaching of your saints, imitating their virtue, and thus merit to arrive at your heavenly banquet. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.