



# THE FLYER

**Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino  
Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans USA**

November 19, 2023  
THIRD SUNDAY  
Our Theme for the Year:  
Franciscan Joy

**UPCOMING: November 19: Mass of Remembrance of Deceased 2 pm**

- ◆ Meetings are third Sunday of the month at 2 pm. (See website for date changes and updates)
- ◆ Check out our website: <https://StJosephCupertino.SFOUSA.org/Welcome-To-Our-Fraternities-Website>
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <https://SaintMargaretOfCortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://SecularFranciscansUSA.org/>

## **Greetings from Brother Lawrence, OFM Conv.**

Happy November,

In the coming to an end of the close to this year approaches the weather gets frostier, the colors get more beautiful and then fade to a dull brown on empty trees, and we all begin to get excited to the near arrival of Christmas. My students know that I am big on this greatest of feasts in the Christian calendar because there is always a scene of Christmas on display in my classroom every day of the year. To me it is the biggest celebration of all since it is the day when God became man, like us in all things except sin.

It always reminds me, and my students come to know this, that this is there one person who has been able to be totally faithful to God the Father and be always obedient to him in all things. This is a key to what the Son of God came to do; and do he did. The Franciscan Bl. John Duns Scotus, whose feast day we just celebrated, was a great proponent of God the Son and his coming to earth as a human being for that very reason. I have read some Scotus and this is one of the things I have certainly picked up from him: if Jesus had never come into the world as a human how could we possibly have come to know how to try to live in the lifestyle of the Son if he never came to show us how. There is no one other than he to show us how God really wants us to live.

As we come to the end of the Church year let us reflect during the season of Advent of how Jesus lived, how Jesus lived with people those he got along with and those who were not so accepting of him and his ways. Spend some time reading the gospel accounts this Advent season and coming to see what God really expects of us in our lives.

Peace,

Br. Lawrence

## Minister's Note

This month the Franciscans will celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> annual anniversary of the Franciscan Rule that was established in 1223 for the First Order. Next month we will celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Greccio. Our legacy is long. As Secular Franciscans, we can draw on this long legacy for strength and guidance. Our way of life is solidly based in this legacy. Who we are and who we will become is based on this legacy.

It is not for the faint of heart. Saint Francis challenged the minor brothers who joined him to live a radical life. He tasked them to live a life that was always in consideration of others, especially the poor. It was not easy 800 years ago, and it is not easy today. Our world challenges us in ways that may make us intolerant of others. It fights to divide us and set us apart from one another. We can forget to Whom we belong. On his deathbed, Francis predicted that many would be separated by the "scandals to come."

Over the next several weeks, take a look again at the Secular Franciscan Order Rule. There were some updates in translation from the 1978 Rule approved by Pope Paul VI, but not any changes in 2020. You can access an online copy of the Rule here: [https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020\\_Dec-updated-Translation\\_OFS-Rule-s1467.pdf](https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020_Dec-updated-Translation_OFS-Rule-s1467.pdf)

The Rule is as relevant today as it was 800 years ago. It should govern how we act, how we live, how we profess our faith. We are not asked to live by this Rule alone. We are buoyed by our Fraternity, by our fellow penitents, by our brothers and sisters. Together we called to live out the Gospel Way of Life.

Peace and goodness,

*Melissa*

## **PRAY FOR ALL OUR DECEASED**

### **Mass November 19 at 2 pm**

Name                      Date of Transitus

Connie Baker, OFS February 27, 2021  
Frances S. Bastress, OFS September 5, 1997  
Joseph William Bezila, OFS March 5, 2012  
Anna M. Bianco, OFS January 4, 1990  
Mary Chandler, OFS October 3, 2019  
Jerry Cichowiz, OFS June 10, 2003  
Joseph Cykoski, OFS Unknown  
Stella Cykoski, OFS October 5, 1993  
Claire Davison, OFS September 11, 2004  
Adela Duff, OFS August 20, 2007  
Donna Duncan, OFS June 23, 2015  
Charles Ferrara, OFS February 21, 2010  
Mary Ferrara, OFS January 16, 2018  
Jean Ann Finari, OFS May 28, 1991  
Dolores Fritz, OFS December 27, 2013  
Marilyn Virginia Gilson, OFS September 25, 2010  
Richard Hall, OFS November 23, 2005  
John Justice, OFS July 24, 2001

John Kirby, OFS September 12, 2021  
Joy Kubricky, OFS January 10, 2016  
Fran Langbehn, OFS March 18, 2002  
Gene Langbehn, OFS November 12, 2001  
Robert (Bob) Lewis, OFS December 17, 2000  
Sharon (Sherry) Lewis, OFS October 5, 2022  
Marie Lindung, OFS April 12, 2021  
Jean Manning, OFS February 8, 2013  
Jim Manning, OFS March 20, 2018  
Frances Miller, OFS July 1, 2005  
Georgianna Papazian, OFS August 13, 2021  
Yvonne Proch, OFS September 18, 2003  
Betty Lou Rohnacher, OFS September 10, 2007  
Elsa Ruscoe, OFS September, 2020  
Nancy Seaton, OFS February 23, 2017  
Regina (Jean) Singleton, November 17, 2021  
Elizabeth (Betty) Taylor, OFS 10/17/93 September 30, 2008  
Jim Tebo, OFS December 25, 2022  
Carroll (Bud) Tenley, OFS December 27, 1997  
Regina Yeager, OFS May 2, 2007  
Dorothy Zalewsky, OFS October 28, 1998

*Formation Thought of the Month:*

“My brothers, count it pure joy when you are involved in every sort of trial. Realize that when your faith is tested this makes for endurance. Let endurance come to perfection so that you may be fully mature and lacking in nothing. “

James 1: 2-4



Upcoming Events at the Shrine

December 9 at 7 pm Greccio (We will provide cookies and serve hot chocolate. Please help.

Christmas Masses

December 24 4:00 pm Mass, 7:30 pm Caroling, 8 pm Mass



Volunteer to help Little Portion Farm at <https://www.LittlePortionFarm.org>

Food grown helps those in need.

**Help at the Shrine:** Volunteer as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, Usher, especially before our gatherings. Help staff a table to invite interest in the Secular Franciscan

**2022-2025 Council**

**Minister:**

Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer OFS  
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**Vice Minister:**

Charlie Heyden OFS  
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**Secretary:**

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**Treasurer (Acting):**

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**Councilor 1:**

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**Councilor 2:**

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**Spiritual Assistant:**

Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv.  
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*Bible quotes are from the Douay-Rheims translation, unless otherwise noted.*



## Treasurer's Report

October – 2023

<b>Beginning (running) Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,354.41</u></b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Common Fund Contributions	\$ 205.00
Donation for website fee	180.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 385.00</u></b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Website fee	\$ 180.00
Re-printing of brochure	166.59
Spiritual Assistant	100.00
Franciscan Friars	100.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 546.59</u></b>
<b>Ending (running) Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,192.82</u></b>

If you are unable to attend the gatherings, you can send your contributions to the fraternity.

### Contributions are Tax Deductible

Direct Donation checks to: St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity

### Mail donations to:

Jerry Yu  
2812 Green Shade Court  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

You may use your bank's **BILL PAY**. Direct payment to St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity C/O the address above.

**NOTE! FOR BILL PAY, THE ADDRESS HAS CHANGED.**

What is true joy?

Think about what you have discovered over the last year that has tested you, strengthened you, uplifted you, challenged you.

Have you accepted it with patience?

### Book Share–

Join our online book sharing and delve more deeply into: *St. Francis' Sermon on the Mount: Lessons from the Admonitions* by John Michael Talbot.

First Saturdays from 1-3 pm on ZOOM!  
Contact Geri Flynn OFS for details:  
AngelBarty@aol.com

# Happy Birthday!

Ray Glennon, OFS 11/22

Coming Next Month:

Ed Burgee 12/17

Mark McPherson 12/23

Will Potter 12/23

## PRAYER LIST



### For Healing:

Gail Bunyan, OFS  
Lita Maisel, OFS  
Bill Siefken, OFS  
Teresa Lam, OFS  
Rosemary Whelan, OFS  
Michael Radcliff, OFS  
Patrick Caughy, OFS  
Will Potter, OFS