

**ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO FRATERNITY**  
**2018 Theme for the Year "Living Our Charism Within Our Culture"**  
**Christmas Gathering – December 16, 2018**

Be solicitous to make your elections permanent

**ACTING MINISTER'S MESSAGE**

Hello everyone,

The end of a very busy year is approaching, and the Christmas season is here. We have two families this year that we are supporting.

Leah is a young girl who is a part of the family that we assisted last year. She lives with her grandfather who is undergoing chemotherapy. The second family was recently located by way of last year's family. There is a father, mother, a 6 year old daughter, and an 18 month old son.

This year instead of everyone buying gifts the Council has agreed to a dollar figure limit to spend on each family. Our sister, Karan Bevers, and friends have graciously offered to shop for items on the list and wrap them. Photos of the families opening the gifts will be taken to share with the fraternity.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on our regular gathering day, December 16th, following the noon Mass. Food will be pot luck so please be generous with your culinary creations.

May all of you have a very Merry Christmas and a very happy and blessed New Year.

Pax et Bonum,  
Ed Burgee, OFS

**A Message from our Vice Minister**

Our Christmas party is upon us!

We will gather on Dec 16th to thank Our Lord for coming among us as a babe in arms for our salvation.

We'll also enjoy each other in fraternity. This will be a pot luck affair and we would be grateful for your contribution of an entree, side dish, appetizer, dessert or beverage.

Would you please either call Geri (410-707-1060) or email her at [Angelbarty@aol.com](mailto:Angelbarty@aol.com) to say what you plan to bring?

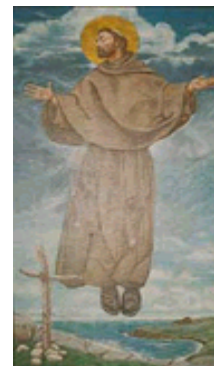
Contact would be appreciated by Dec 10.

To all my sister and brothers who have so kindly saved plastic bags for me, I thank you so much. I am now well supplied and won't need any more for 2-3 months.

You are all so appreciated. As you know, each sleeping mat requires 500 bags! So your support means much! I'll surely ask as my supply runs low.

Thank you all!!!  
Geri Flynn, OFS

**The Flyer**



**Our Fraternity Council  
2016 - 2019**

**Acting Minister**

Ed Burgee, OFS 410-788-2718

**Acting Vice Minister**

**Formation Director**

Geri Flynn, OFS 410 730-4395

**Secretary**

France Staudenmann, OFS  
301 366-1769

**Treasurer**

Michael Radcliffe, OFS  
301 310-5204

**Councilor**

Lita Maisel, OFS 410 747-2374

**Councilor**

Mary Karth, OFS 301 514-5717

**Spiritual Assistant**

Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM.  
Conv. 410 531-2800

**Christmas Party  
December 16**





**January 20** – Extraction of Saints

*Please Pray For ...*

Connie Baker, OFS  
Marlene Feaga, OFS  
Marie Lindung, OFS  
Jim Manning, OFS  
Georgianna Papazian, OFS  
Jim Tebo, OFS



## FRANCISCAN CENTER GIVING

Don't forget to bring your donated items to this month's gathering, please pick from below:

Hand sanitizer	Soap
Toothbrushes	Toothpaste
Shampoo & Conditioner	Washcloths
Deodorant	Disposable razors
Feminine hygiene products	

Your donations are tax deductible.

## OUR DECEASED BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Deacon Tom Bello, OFS  
Frances Bastress, SFO  
Joe Bezila, SFO  
Jerry Cichowicz, SFO  
Shirley Costello, OFS  
Joe Cykoski, SFO  
Stella Cykoski, SFO  
Claire Lee Davison, SFO  
Adela Duff, SFO  
Donna Duncan, SFO  
Charles Ferrara, SFO  
Mary Ferrara, SFO  
Dolores Fritz, OFS  
Marilyn Gilson, SFO  
Richard Hall, SFO  
Joy Kubricky, OFS  
Frances Langbehn, SFO  
Bob Lewis, SFO  
Jean Manning, OFS  
Jim Manning, OFS  
Yvonne Proch, SFO  
Nancy Seaton, SFO  
Don Sweitzer, OFS  
Betty Taylor, SFO  
Bud Tenley, SFO  
Regina Yeager, SFO  
Dorothy Zalewski, SFO

## BOOK SHARING

Please keep the book sharing group in mind

All are so welcome whether you have read from the book being discussed or not. We always find Franciscan spirituality to be the basis of our discussions and would love to have many voices present.

Currently, we are reading "Clare, A Light In The Garden". A beautiful meditation on the life of St Clare and her relationship to St Francis.

We meet on the first Saturday of each month from 1pm til 3pm in the Kolbe Room at the Shrine though we are very willing to move to another time slot if space at the Shrine is available. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy good conversation!

### *Laudato Si (Praise be to you – On Care For Our Common Home),*

#### **IV. DECLINE IN THE QUALITY OF HUMAN LIFE AND THE BREAK-DOWN OF SOCIETY**

Paragraph 52. "The foreign debt of poor countries has become a way of controlling them, yet this is not the case where ecological debt is concerned. In different ways, developing countries, where the most important reserves of the biosphere are found, continue to fuel the development of richer countries at the cost of their own present and future. The land of the southern poor is rich and mostly unpolluted, yet access to ownership of goods and resources for meeting vital needs is inhibited by a system of commercial relations and ownership which is structurally perverse. The developed countries ought to help pay this debt by significantly limiting their consumption



## Treasurer's Report

November – 2018

**Beginning Balance:** \$ 1,593.73  
Common Fund ns 681.25

**Total** \$ 2,274.98

**Expenses:**

Brother Lawrence 100.00  
Franciscan Friars 100.00  
Charitable Giving  
3rd Quarter 200.00  
Formation Expenses 146.83  
Web Fee 15.00

**Total** \$ 561.83

**Ending Balance:** \$ 1,713.15

Thank you for your monthly contributions

**Contributions are tax deductible**

### December Birthdays



Denise Donaldson, OFS	12/10
Joan Bundy, OFS	12/15
Edward Burgee, OFS	12/17
Diane Witherspoon, OFS	12/18
John Handiboe, OFS	12/18
Mark McPherson, OFS	12/23



### Remembering Your Profession

Laurel Swencki, OFS	12/14/08
Marie Lindung, OFS	12/16/09
James Soltysiak, OFS	12/16/09

of non-renewable energy and by assisting poorer countries to support policies and programs of sustainable development. The poorest areas and countries are less capable of adopting new models for reducing environmental impact because they lack the wherewithal to develop the necessary processes and to cover their costs. We must continue to be aware that, regarding climate change, there are *differentiated responsibilities*. As the United States bishops have said, greater attention must be given to “the needs of the poor, the weak and the vulnerable, in a debate often dominated by more powerful interests”.<sup>[31]</sup> We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family. There are no frontiers or barriers, political or social, behind which we can hide, still less is there room for the globalization of indifference.”

~ Pope Francis

## EDITORS CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

On that holiest of nights, God who is love was born in a manger, a humble bed for the Creator of the Universe who took on our human nature to save mankind. This is the night faithful Christians set aside differences, wars take a moment to pause as service members stop to bend their knees in silence. The world takes notice whose great day is being celebrated, even if it's just for a moment.

As the angels appeared in Shepherds' Field to announce the birth of our Savior, so our holy father Francis brought to life the birth of Christ in Greccio, Italy, in 1224. The Incarnation was an important part of St. Francis' spirituality. Today we Franciscans carry on that same spirit by living out our Profession by our words and in our daily actions.

May your Christmas and the New Year be of Peace and Love just as “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” in the humble stable in the “Little Town of Bethlehem”.

**Wishing you and your family a most blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year.**

In Francis and Clare,  
bob longo, OFS



## OFS-USA NATIONAL CHAPTER 2018 STATEMENT

We, the members of the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order - USA, gathered for our annual Chapter at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel in Missouri, October 9-14, 2018. Approximately 90 leaders and observers were present, representing over 12,000 members throughout the United States, including Guam.

The recent Grand Jury report in Pennsylvania is a cause of sorrow, pain and agonizing self-scrutiny for the Catholic Church in the United States. We recognize the tragic reality of sinful abuse perpetrated on the most vulnerable. It deeply saddens all of us. We stand firm and make no excuses. The brothers and sisters of the Secular Franciscan Order extend mercy and compassion to the victims of abuse and to their abusers. Trusting in God who allows the good seed and the weeds to grow together (Mt. 13: 24-30), we pray for healing, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace.

More than 800 years ago, our Lord asked St. Francis of Assisi to “rebuild my Church which is falling into ruin.” Francis accomplished this by living a life of penance and sacrifice according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As followers of St. Francis, we commit ourselves to do the same. We call the members of our Order and invite all people of faith to be vigilant for the sake of the vulnerable and to foster strong relationships throughout the Body of Christ. We support the clergy and religious who serve Christ Jesus and His Church. Let us go forth in the Light of Christ to rebuild our Church, that it may be renewed as a beacon of hope and safe refuge, grace and truth.

### OUR GATHERINGS

All should make every effort to attend our gathering every month. If you are unable to attend due to illness, work or family obligations, contact a council member (see page 1 for telephone numbers). If you are a candidate or are professed and miss a gathering, please send your check for the Common Fund to:

Michael Radcliffe, OFS  
8140 Madrillon Court  
Vienna, Virginia 22182

Or by using PayPal on our fraternity website at [http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/common\\_fund/](http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/common_fund/)



### Calendar

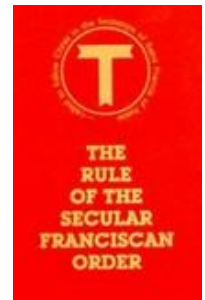
At the Friary

Chapel open daily  
Noon Mass every day

From 9 AM – 5 PM

For more information call:  
410 531-2800

### General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order



**December 8, 2000**

### The Form of Life Article 14

5. In all places and at all times, it is possible for true worshippers of the Father to give him adoration and to pray to him. Nevertheless, the brothers and sisters should try to find times of silence and recollection dedicated exclusively to prayer.