THEME FOR THE YEAR: **BE HOLY**



September 15, 2019 Gathering

Just as two friends, frequently in each other's company, tend to develop similar habits, so too, by holding familiar converse with Jesus and the Blessed Virgin, by meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary and by living the same life in Holy Communion, we can become, to the extent of our lowliness, similar to them and can learn from these supreme models a life of humility, poverty, hiddenness, patience, and perfection.

> ~Saint John Paul II from The Rosary of Saint John Paul II

BE SOLICITOUS TO MAKE YOUR ELECTION PERMANENT



Our Fraternity Council for 2019 – 2022

Minister: Geri Flynn, OFS, 410 730-4395 Secretary: Denise Donaldson, OFS, 443 683-2538 Formation Director: Sherry Lewis, OFS, 410-299-7144

Vice Minister: James Kim OFS, 443 458-3361 Treasurer: Gerry Pinkas, OFS, 410-655-2648 Councilor: Lita Maisel, OFS, 410 747-2374 Spiritual Assistant: Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv. 410 485-5000



Minister's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

"You must be holy, because I am holy" (Peter 1:16)

As we continue through this year with a focus on our personal holiness as Secular Franciscans, I hope these words from Mother Angelica are as meaningful to you as they are to me.

"But what does it mean to be holy? We will never attain God's perfect holiness, but we all are called to strive for holiness by reflecting God's words and actions to be a beacon of hope to the oppressed, a ray of comfort to the saddened, a source of encouragement to the destitute and a visible sign of the invisible reality of grace"

(Mother Angelica's Guide To Practical Holiness)

I wish us all a blessed September - that "boundary time" between Summer and Fall - a time for us to notice the exquisite changes in God's creation which surround us and reflect His glory.

Peace and blessings, Geri Flynn, OFS



Please Pray For ...

Connie Baker, OFS Marie Lindung, OFS



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity will have our annual picnic on Sunday September 15th from noon to 4pm.

This year we will celebrate under the arches in

the Shrine's Courtyard perpendicular to the

chapel entrance. This picnic will be our

September Gathering.



September 15, 2019

Fraternity Picnic Where? The Shrine of St. Anthony



Calendar

AT THE SHRINE Chapel Open Daily From 9 AM – 5 PM Noon Mass every day For more Information call 410 531-2800 Please sign up using the Sign-Up Genius link: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/20f0f4eaea72fa4fe3-annual2

or contact Denise Donaldson at 443-683-2538 or dmdonaldsonmd@gmail.com no later than September 5th.

We are asking each attendee to bring **one** of the following items:

Main Dishes (NO electrical source will be available for heating) Side & salad dishes (cold; eg. macaroni, potato, bean or veggie salad) Desserts - all sorts (YUM!) Chips - yes, oh yes chips! Drinks – Soda, Ice Tea, Lemonade, Gatorade both regular and diet

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up, starting at 10 am on the day of the picnic and for volunteers to clean-up after which usually takes about half an hour if several people volunteer.

Please mark all bowls and utensils with your name & make sure you take the containers, and utensils home with you. Also, whatever is not eaten must go back home with you. The fraternity is not responsible for items left behind after clean-up.

Thank you for participating in this wonderful fraternity event!



OUR DECEASED SISTERS AND BROTHERS

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

Food for Thought

While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.

> ~St. Francis of Assisi from Sign of Contradiction

Treasurer's Report

August 2019

Beginning Balance:

\$1,534.92

Common Fund Contributions 1096.00 St. Paul Street Ministry <u>2500</u> Total **\$ 2,655.92**

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence 100.00 Franciscan Friars 100.00 Formation Expense 84.00 PayPal 4.26 Miscellaneous 22.00 Web Fee for the Year <u>180.00</u> Total \$ **490.26**

Ending Balance: \$ 2,165.66

Thank you for your monthly contribution to the Common Fund

Contributions are tax deductible

Birthday Blessings Coming Your Way

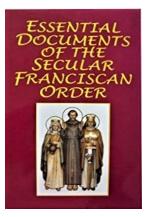




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Bill Siefken, OFS09/06Mike King, OFS09/22Pat Frederick, OFS09/22Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer, OFS09/24Jean Singleton, OFS09/28

General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order



The Form of Life Article 17

3. *Rule 13* They should work together with movements which promote the building of fraternity among peoples: they should be committed to "create worthy conditions of life" for all and to work for the freedom of all people.

Our Joy Brings Comfort

In our joy we bring hope to the hopeless and comfort to those in need of comfort, for joy not only brings us peace but peace to all we meet.





Remembering Your Profession Gerry Pinkas, OFS 40 Years 09/16/79 Mary Karth, OFS 7 Years 09/23/12



Book Sharing

Our book sharing group will begin the first Saturday in October, all are encouraged to come. Book to be determined.

~ Geri Flynn, OFS

Where is Love?

by Teresa V. Baker, SFO Gospel Living – Every Day of our Lives

Can it be found somewhere along the way like some treasure that makes the Journey worthwhile? Or is love the Journey itself? Or is it the Dream that makes the Journey possible? These thoughts ran through Francis' mind one day as he listened to Brother Leo reading to him the Letter of John the Apostle: "God is love, and if you abide in love, you abide in God and God in you."

Yes, if you found God, you also found love. But that was only the beginning of the Quest, for who was ever sure of having found God or even sure of looking for God in the right places and by the right road? Francis' experience in the cave assured him that Jesus dwelled within him, that God was nowhere farther than his own heart. But there were other Presences of God he sought to find. He wanted to search for God in all the places where he dwelled and he knew that such a quest meant finding God everywhere along the way.

That is where love was, that is where God was-anywhere and everywhere.

Having given up home and family, St. Francis embraced Jesus' Great Command to love wholeheartedly. Nothing held him bound. He was free to live his life as he felt called by God to do. He loved those members of his own Order. He loved the townspeople to whom he spoke. He loved the people who jeered him for giving up a comfortable life. Francis forsook all so that he was better able to love God with his whole heart, his whole soul, his whole mind, and his whole strength. In doing so, he was able to love his neighbor as himself, most often, better than himself. Francis found that, for himself, freedom from worldly possessions and cares afforded him the opportunity to love more.

Francis wished the same for those who would hear the same dynamic call of the Gospel. Some did so unencumbered, others not. Secular Franciscans, while living in the world are still called to follow this command to love. Secular Franciscans must set aside those things which do not allow them to remain free to love others. With fullest intention and deepest desire, Secular Franciscans should strive to love God as God deserves to be love. They should see in each person they meet the spirit of God. In greeting another person, they should greet the very spirit of God.

This freedom, this sharing of love, will help all persons realize the good that is yet to come, for the love we share on this earth falls far short of the love God has prepared for us for all eternity.

Where there is charity and wisdom,
there is neither fear nor ignorance.
Where there is patience and humility,
there is neither anger nor disturbance.
Where there is poverty with joy,
there is neither greed nor avarice.
Where there is rest and meditation,
there is neither anxiety nor restlessness.
Where there is fear of the Lord to guard an entrance,
there there is a heart full of mercy and discernment,
there is neither excess nor hardness of heart.

OUR GATHERINGS

All should make every effort to attend our gathering every month. All Candidates and Professed members are to contribute to the common fund box, located in the Shrine refectory during our social time. Everyone is required to sign in; the book is located next to the common fund box. If you are unable to attend one of our gatherings, please mail your monthly common fund to:

Gerry Pinkas, OFS 3810 Marriottsville Rd. Reisterstown, MD 21133

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