



THE FLYER

February 16, 2020
Profession

Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino OFS Fraternity

Theme for 2020

**Sanctify yourself &
you will sanctify society.**

Greetings from Br. Lawrence:

“Follow me” was said by Jesus to four fishermen at the Sea of Galilee and that exactly how they answered. The story does not indicate that they questioned it, nor debated it, nor asked, “what for?” When they were asked, they just followed. I honestly wish that it could be that easy. This is a story with which I have many questions and I did not see much hope that I was ever going to get the answers which I sought. So, what to do?

Recently, I have received some hope, but not with the answers themselves. In thinking about this story from Mark’s account I started asking myself about which was the tougher decision: what the apostles did or what I have done? I thought that at least the apostles were looking at Jesus when they were called whereas I was just sitting on a ship.

I began to consider my immediate situation and what it would entail and, like the apostles at the time, I saw no future ahead but just the current decision process. I had no more idea of what the future held in store for me than the four future apostles did. I think I had somewhat the same kinds of questions: who is this guy? What is he asking of me? Where is all this going to lead?

It was a tough and yet an easy decision, and one which I have never regretted. I have met and interacted with many different people over these decades and people I have lived with in those days have been quite interesting to say the least.

I guess that what I am saying here is that to trust in Jesus is easy and the expectations are quite wonderful. Every day I thank the Lord for his calling me. I also have hopes that some of those I meet will join me in this marvelous journey...continued on page 2

Our Fraternity Council for 2019-2022

Minister: Geri Flynn, OFS: 410-730-4395

Vice Minister: James Kim, OFS: 443-458-3361

Secretary: Denise Donaldson, OFS: 443-683-2538 *Treasurer:* Gerry Pinkas, OFS: 410-655-2648

Formation Dir.: Sherry Lewis, OFS: 410-299-7144 *Councilor:* Lita Maisel, OFS: 410-747-2374

Spiritual Assistant: Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv. : 410-485-5000

Minister's Message



Dear sisters & brothers in Francis and Clare,
"I have called you by name.
You are mine because you are precious
in my eyes, you are honored
and I love you." (IS 43:1)

This is such a special month for our fraternity as nine of our members are answering God's "request to come" as they commit to the Secular Franciscan Rule of life by their Profession. I recently read Pope John Paul II's address to youth and his words seem so perfect at this time:

"It is therefore indispensable for each one to seek and recognize day after day the long path on which the Lord is leading you to personal encounter with God. Dear friends, question yourselves seriously about your vocation and be ready to answer the Lord who is calling you to take the place God has prepared for you from eternity"

There is much to consider here. St Francis wrote that we are to hold back nothing of ourselves for ourselves, so that he who gave himself totally to us may receive us totally. By our choices, our yes, we become God's property to be used for the specific mission God has planned for us.

We know our soon to be Professed sisters and brothers are being imbued and led by the Holy Spirit as pure gift. This moment changes everything for all of us—both those to be Professed and the fraternity in which their formation has taken place, as they say "YES, THIS IS WHAT I WANT."

Our fraternity joyfully welcomes our new sisters and brothers in Francis and Clare!! May you be conformed to Jesus as you faithfully follow the path of "life to Gospel and Gospel to life".

May God bless and keep each one of you.... geri flynn, OFS (Minister)

Follow Me ...continued from page 1

I am sure that I heard a promise of some sort when I was first called to "follow" and it really is an easy thing to do. Look at the phrase, "Follow me," that is it. Nothing else to do but follow Jesus. Yet to follow Jesus is to follow the path that he took and there are two things I have learned about that path from reading Fr. Servais Pinckaers, OP. First, that the path is to journey deeper and deeper into the Church. Yet when I am reminded that the Church is made up of sinners that means there is a movement into the world of sin and with those who do so. This reminds me of the fact that I, too, am a sinner and need Jesus along my path to keep me on that path. Secondly, it also forces me to realize that Jesus' path is one heading towards the Passion. What will my cross be? I do not worry about the pain and suffering too much. It may be there, but I know that Jesus will be with me there, too. I also have come to realize that the path of life does not end at the Crucifixion, but with the Resurrection and Ascension. That marks the end of the journey, the journey of life here and life with God in heaven.

I now realize what an invitation "Follow me" really is. A different one from many others here on Earth, yet one with the help of many other sinners and the Guide along the path itself who makes it easier than the other paths to take.

Peace and all good,
Brother Lawrence

For Your Consideration

The 11th annual Summer Seminar for Secular Franciscans "Called to Act with Justice" will be held at Loretto, PA (St Francis University) on July 9-12, 2020. The leaders will be : Father Christopher Panagoplos, T.O.R. and David Seitz, OFS.

Check the website (<http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/12/2020-OFS-Summer-Seminar-at-Saint-Francis-University.pdf>); updates will appear as available.

Otherwise, check future newsletters.



Treasurer's Report

January - 2020

Beginning (running) Balance:	\$3066.26
Common Fund Contributions	\$736.00
Double entries corrections	<u>\$109.00</u>
Total Contributions	<u>\$ 845.00</u>
Expenses:	
Br. Lawrence	100.00
Franciscan Friars	100.00
Miscellaneous (Office)	<u>22.00</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$ 222.00</u>
Ending (running) Balance:	<u>\$3,689.26</u>

Thank You for your monthly contributions!!! We have exited PayPal and are no longer collecting PayPal contributions. Please consider other donation alternatives such as Bill Pay with your bank or checks.

We will be paying a ~\$2,000 per capita payment to the National Fraternity around April

Contributions are Tax Deductible. Please let Gerry Pinkas, your Treasurer know if you need a donation statement for tax stewardship.

Contributions may be mailed to:
Gerry Pinkas, OFS
3810 Marriotsville Road
Randallstown, MD 21133

Please remember The Franciscan Center in your weekly shopping trips. Toiletries needed include:

TOILETRIES/PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Adult Diapers/Depends
- Deodorant
- Disposable razors
- Feminine hygiene products
- Hairbrushes & Combs
- Hand Sanitizer
- Hand Towels & washcloths
- Lotion & sunscreen
- Nutritional supplements (Ensure/Boost)
- Shampoo & Conditioner Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste



Please pray for:

Joan Babin, OFS
Connie Baker, OFS
Karan Bevers, OFS
John Kirby, OFS
Sherry Lewis, OFS
Marie Lindung, OFS
Joanne Patton, OFS
Jim Tebo, OFS

Upcoming
mark your calendars

February 16, 2020 Gathering

Profession:

- ◆ Shrine of St. Anthony at 3 PM
- ◆ Dinner to follow from 4 to 6 PM

Please plan to attend this wonderful event and celebrate with: Louise & Michael Hotovy, Michael King, Mimi Owens, Joanne Patton, Alice Umugiraneza, William Siefken, Thom Partenope, & Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer



Events at The Shrine

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Chapel Open 9-5
Daily Noon Mass
Sun. Feb. 15

Legion of Mary Rosary
Procession after Mass

Mon. Feb 17

Office & Gift Shop Closed

Wed. Feb. 19 7:00-8:30 pm

Little Portion Book Club

Sat. Feb 22 1-6 pm

Sat. February 22 1-6 pm

Icon Guild

Ash Wednesday (2/26)

Masses: Noon & 7:30

Fridays during Lent (2/28-4/3)

Confessions & Adoration
11-11:55

Stations of the Cross
after Noon Mass

*Many more events...Please check
the website or call the Shrine for
details.*

410-531-2800



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Theresa Lam (02-06)
- Thom Partenope (02-06)
- Charlie Heyden (02-15)
- Joan Bundy (02-16)
- Kevin Kulesa (02-26) &
- Jerry Yu (02-26)
- James Kim (02-27)
- Laurel Swencki (02-28)
-
- Deanna Williston (03/05)
- Cindy Mohler (03-13)

Remembering Your Profession

February 8, 2004:
Willard Witherspoon

February 16, 2014:
Chris Donaldson
Harry & Kathy Ford
Joan Bundy

Our Deceased Brothers & Sisters:



- Deacon Tom Bello, OFS
- Frances Bastress, SFO
- Joe Bezila, SFO
- Mary Chandler, OFS
- Jerry Cichowicz, SFO
- Shirley Costello, OFS
- Joe Cykoski, SFO
- Stella Cykoski, SFO
- Claire Lee Davidson, 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

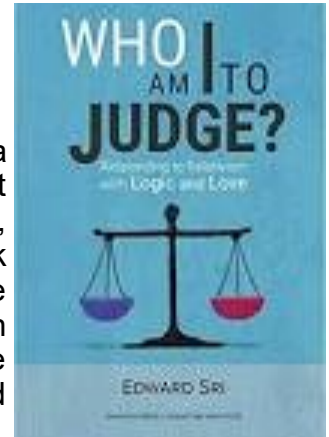
Welcome, Visitors!

Want to find out more about the Secular Franciscans?

- ◆ Attend a meeting. Franciscans are friendly & do not have secret rites. We meet (usually) on the third Sunday of the month from Noon~4:30pm
- ◆ (check the website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/our-fraternity/>)
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>

Who Am I to Judge? - A Program Review

-Kathy Ford

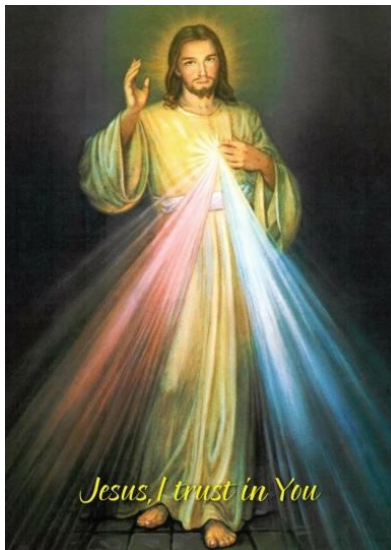


“Who Am I to Judge? ---Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love,” a very readable book by Edward Sri, is available through Ignatius Press at Ignatius.com. It also is available as a course with a study guide and a video, and all are a part of the Augustine Institute. I am currently taking the 8 week course at my home parish, St. Peter in Libertytown, but even just reading the book would be very beneficial. At this point our class is only half-way through the course, but I can tell you however that this book could help many people to understand and talk to each other in this time of such strong opinions and deep rifts in our country and around the world.

The approach of Edward Sri is to begin by describing a “Catholic world view” which has favorably changed many lives and continues to do so. He explains how Catholic morality is all about love. Pope Francis understands that humanity has been deeply wounded by relativism. Edward Sri agrees and recognizes that to heal the wound of relativism we need to lead with mercy. He first stresses how important it is that all people come to know, or be reminded of the deep, saving love God has for each of us, His children. We must never forget God’s willingness to forgive us and heal us. God will never give up on us. Mercy is the first of “Seven Keys” Edward Sri gives us for responding to relativism. This briefly summarizes the first part of the book (and my class), and so far each lesson gets even better. I would fully recommend this book to all, both individually or as part of a group study.

Jesus, I Trust In You. - A Devotion to Love

-Louise Hotovy



The Three O'clock Prayer

You expired Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and an ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O fountain of life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and water which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You. (x3)



Last month, Geri shared a bit of my story of how I found this card in my grandmother’s things. I have been going through boxes and downsizing, just trying to simplify our lives.

It is a treasure! I have set my phone alarm for 3 pm everyday with a special ring. I titled the alarm “Jesus, I trust in you.” It is kind of interesting to see where I am when it goes off. I have friends ask what that was for and, when I explain, some set their phones, too. I find it is great the way this simple practice has me thinking about Jesus daily.

Do you have a story from your daily conversion, pilgrimage, street evangelization, or social justice activity that you would like to share? Please email to jtwillis@aol.com on the first of the month and you may see it in an upcoming edition of *The Flyer*. *Please use this as a way to share of bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.*

Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap. (October 15, 1931-February 2, 2020) “Franciscans develop a sense of freedom, guided by the Holy Spirit, following the words of Jesus, and loved with an eternal passion by Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As love relationships blossom in our lives, we discard things that hinder our love of God, the Church, the world, all people, and all of creation. God gives us a sense of community-love that brings joy and moves us to serve others, especially those in need. We also learn to graciously accept such love when we are the needy ones,” with these words, Fr. Lester Bach welcomed so many of us to *The Franciscan Journey* (ii); may the Lord have greeted him with such enthusiasm! (Obituary available at : <https://wichmannfuneralhomes.com/obituary/rev-lester-bach-o-f-m-cap/>)



2020 Regional Retreat
May 29th - 31st

Our Regional Retreat this year will be May 29th – 31st at Priest Field Retreat Center. Please mark your calendar.

Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM from the Holy Land Monastery in Washington, DC will be our weekend facilitator.

In the coming weeks, our regional treasurer, Peter Noyes, OFS, will send out the cost for the weekend retreat, stay tuned for information updates.

Bob Longo, OFS
blongosfo@gmail.com

Saturday, March 7

1-3 pm @ Clare House

Our book sharing group will meet on the first Saturday of each month at the Shrine. We are currently discussing Chapter 5 of *Surrounded by Love: 7 Teachings from St. Francis* by Murray Bodo, OFM.



Meeting at the Shrine -
March 15, 2020

All should make every effort to attend our gathering every month. All Candidates & 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. Those unable to attend should see the box on pg. 3.

The Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, MD

Presents - The St. Francis Missal

February 01, 2020 – May 31, 2020



The St. Francis Missal—a legendary 12th-century manuscript and relic of touch of St. Francis of Assisi—will have its first dedicated exhibition at the Walters Art Museum in more than 40 years.

The St. Francis Missal is an intimate exhibition that features approximately 17 objects, including manuscripts, paintings, ivories, ceramics, and documentation of the Missal's recent two-year conservation funded by the Mellon Foundation.

In 1208, St. Francis of Assisi and two followers were debating what God's plan for them might be. Unable to agree, they sought answers at the church of San Nicolò in Assisi, where Francis often attended. They opened the Missal, which sat on the altar, three times at random and in every case, the text on the page urged renouncing earthly goods. This pivotal moment laid the foundation for the Franciscan order. Due to this possible contact with the saint, Franciscans worldwide consider the book now known as the St. Francis Missal to be a relic of touch, and many make pilgrimages to Baltimore to see it.

Decades of use took a toll on the book's fragile binding, and in 2017, the Walters conservation staff began a two-year restoration project. The Missal has since been repaired and stabilized, and will soon be digitized for the Walters' manuscript website [Ex Libris](#).

The exhibition draws upon the Walters world-renowned rare books and manuscripts collection that spans more than 1000 years and contains over 900 manuscripts, 1300 of the earliest printed books, and 2000 rare later editions from across the globe.

Please note that there may be a wait to enter the exhibition due to space limitations in the gallery.

- Hours: Wednesday–Sunday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Thursday: 10 a.m.–9 p.m. Monday–Tuesday: Closed
- Located: 600 N Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201 Telephone: 410 547-9000



Franciscans: Rebuild My Church Franciscan Day of Reflection For Inquirers and Candidates 2020

Fr. Paul Dressler, OFM Cap.
Saturday, April 4, 2020, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Shrine of St. Anthony
12290 Folly Quarter Road
Ellicott City, MD 201042
(410) 531-2800

Sponsored by the St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Formation Team

**Join with your Franciscan brothers and sisters from around the region
as we explore insights into how we as Secular Franciscans
can rebuild the church of Christ.**

(Formation teams and newly professed are also invited.)

Cost: \$50.00 per person

Yes! I plan to attend the Franciscan Day of Recollection for
Candidates and Inquirers.

Name _____

Fraternity _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone _____

- I am an Inquirer I am a candidate I am newly professed
 I am a member of the formation team

My heart is ready, oh God; my heart is ready.

Psalm 57:7

Please complete this form
and return by March 23
with check payable to

St. Margaret of Cortona Region
Registration fee is not refundable
after March 27.

Send form and payment to:

Peter Noyes, ofs
P.O. Box 860
Burtonsville, MD 20866
pnoyesofs@gmail.com

[Directions to the Shrine of St. Anthony](#)