



THE FLYER

March 15, 2020
Catholic Social
Teaching

Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino OFS Fraternity

Theme for 2020

Sanctify yourself & you will sanctify society.

Photo by Jean-Louis Staudenmann—>

Our Profession

It was on a beautiful February day, and the Mass was celebrated by Fr. Mike Heine, OFM Conv! That alone was a blessing. Family, fraternity, and friends gathered to support and encourage our group—a beautiful ceremony for which, we as a group are so grateful. The food was delicious—and that cake! We can not thank you enough for hosting. Our particular thanks to those in formation for hard work from the beginning to the end.



This profession day came after several months of prayers and reading. The formation manual was a very good discussion and reflection tool. With our group being large and diverse, our formation instructors had to put an end to our endless discussions and sharing. We really enjoyed each other and Wednesdays became a rich learning class that we all looked forward to. Another fact is that our first interview was with Bob Longo and our second with Geri Flynn. It was a rich experience that we are thankful for. Our formation team: Rosemary Whelan, Lita Maisel, Claudette Lucas, Sherry Lewis, Jeanne Kerins, and Geri Flynn shared their knowledge generously and we could not have asked for a better team. We could not have done this without the care and kindness of our sponsors and Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv.; their guidance and wisdom was a light we will carry all the way.

We are again so grateful to St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity to welcome us and to accept to walk with us in prayers as we begin this journey of a gospel life in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare. We are always happy to listen to and learn from you who have been on this journey before us. We are also there to share our experience with those in formation.

God bless each and everyone. Peace and all good, From the 2020 professed group:
Mike & Louise Hotovy, Alice Umugiraneza, Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer, Joanne Patton,
Mimi Cox Owens, Bill Siefken , Thom Partenope, & Michael King .

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 and brothers in Francis and Clare,

As we happily begin the Lenten season, in order to experience the joy of Easter, the virtue of humility is on my mind. I have long loved these words of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta:

Spread love everywhere you go. Be the living expression of God's kindness.

Kindness in your face

Kindness in your eyes.

Kindness in your smile.

Kindness in your warm greeting.

St. Mother Teresa and our Sts. Francis and Clare have much to teach us about the virtue of humility and how it is reflected in our kindness to others.

Humility is a lynch pin of our Rule. It asks us to think carefully about why we do what we do. Is it for *my* greater glory *or for God's*? We are asked to remember that our actions must always be totally for the other in God's name.

I have learned several ways to strive toward this kindness and humility:

- 1) Prayer - as I genuflect and bow my head before Him I realize I am nothing but for Him,
- 2) Listening - to listen carefully when others speak,
- 3) Mindfulness - to try to focus on the present,
- 4) Gratitude - for the astounding gifts I have received from God,
- 5) To ask for help when needed,
- 6) To seek feedback on a regular basis (this one is hard!), and
- 7) To review my actions against the language of pride (even harder!).

I wish us all a holy and blessed Lent as we strive to live in the humility and kindness of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Peace and all good, geri.

PS- may I remind everyone that the fraternity book study (bag lunch) will be held on March 7 from 1P-3P (*Surrounded By Love* by Murray Bodo- chp. 5 "Making Peace") I can highly recommend the First Saturday devotions (10:30) and Mass beforehand. If you don't have the book, don't worry. Just bring your Franciscan self!! You will have much to contribute 😊



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 out our fraternity's website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/our-fraternity/> .
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/> .
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/> .



Upcoming Regional Events

- The St. Francis Missal at The Walters Art Museum, Feb. 1- May 31.
- Day of Reflection for Inquirers & Candidates at Shrine of St Anthony, April 4.
- OFS Gathering & Retreat in Bristow, VA, April 25.
- St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Retreat at Priest Field Pastoral Center in Kearneysville, WV, May 29-31.
- Summer Seminar for Secular Franciscans in Loretto, PA on July 9-12.

For details, please see the regional website per page 2.



Treasurer's Report

February - 2020

Beginning Balance: \$ 3689.26

Income

Common Fund Contributions \$ 791.00

Total Contributions \$ 791.00

Expenses:

Br. Lawrence \$ 100.00

Franciscan Friars \$ 100.00

Formation

Profession reception \$277.25

Mass Celebrant \$100.00

Liturgical Music \$160.00

Total Formation \$ 537.25

Miscellaneous (Office) \$ 1.76

Total expenses \$ 739.01

Ending Balance: \$ 3,741.25

Thank You for *ALL* of your contributions to the work of Our Secular Franciscan Fraternity!!!

We will be paying a >\$2,300 per capita payment to the National Fraternity around April.

**Please make all Checks payable to:
St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity.**

Contributions are Tax Deductible

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

**March 15, 2020
Gathering**

Catholic Social Teaching

Fr. Michael Lasky will give a talk on:
Catholic Social Teaching
– not a guide to fixing things, but a way
of living in the world today.



Events at The Shrine

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Chapel Open 9-5
Daily Noon Mass

Thurs. 4/2 6-8:30p
Seder Meal, \$35,
RSVP req'd

Sat. 4/4 6-7:30 pm
Lenten Confession & Adoration

Holy Thursday 4/09
Adoration (after service)
in Classroom until Midnight

Good Friday 4/10 1-6 pm
Retreat \$25 RSVP req'd
Reflection, Liturgy of the Passion,
& Death, and a simple meal.

3 pm Liturgy open to all

Holy Saturday 4/11
10:30a-1p Easter Egg Hunt,
Pizza Lunch, and Kite Flying

7:30 p Easter Vigil

Easter 4/12
6 a Sunrise Service behind
Carrollton Hall

Fridays during Lent (2/28-4/3)
Confessions & Adoration 11-11:55
Stations of the Cross after Mass

Also During Lent
Confession M-Sat 11-11:55a
& W 4-5 p

*Many more events...Please check the
website or call the Shrine for details
(410-531-2800).*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mick Michieli-Beasley (03-05)
Deanna Williston

Cindy Mohler (03-13)

Amy Kulesa (03-17)

Karan Bevers (03-21)

France Staudenmann (03-29)

.....
Kathy Ford (4/6)



Remembering Your Profession

March 21, 1999

Gail Bunyan

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

My Anniversary by Gail Bunyan

I can't believe I have been professed twenty-one years. What a beautiful journey it has been. I consider the Friary as my spiritual home and all of you as my brothers and sisters. Thank you for always being there for me. Pax et Bonum

Divine Mercy Novena - James Kim

Divine Mercy Novena begins on Holy Friday and continues for nine days before the Divine Mercy Sunday. The Novena prayers may be said with the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Each day, Jesus asks us to bring a group of souls to Him. In the revelation, Jesus said to St. Faustina, “I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw there from strength and refreshment and whatever grace they need in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death” (Paragraph 1209 of *Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*).

For the first day, Jesus asks “Today, bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.” For the second day, souls of priests and religious; for the third day, devout and faithful souls; for the fourth day, the pagans and those who do not yet know the Lord; for the fifth day, the souls of heretics and schismatics; for the sixth day, the meek and humble souls; for the seventh day, the souls who especially venerate and glorify His mercy; for the eighth day, the souls who are in purgatory; and for the ninth day, souls who have become lukewarm.

The prayers for the nine days are found in paragraphs 1210-1229 (they are paragraph, not page, numbers) of St. Faustina’s Diary. The Novena prayers are saved in our fraternity website in PDF format:
<http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2020/02/Divine-Mercy-Novena.pdf>

The Novena prayers also can be found in cell phone apps:

> For Android phones or tablets:

[apps/details?id=com.jacobsmedia.divinem&hl=en](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.jacobsmedia.divinem&hl=en) (Divine Mercy app by Marian Fathers) or

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=jimk.com.sfo_rule&hl=en (Secular Franciscan app)

> For iPhones or iPads:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/divine-mercy/id410696366> (Divine Mercy app by Marian Fathers)

Through the Novena, we may learn what pleases Jesus, what makes Him suffer, and what He wants us to do. For example, Jesus says: My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out “Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.” (Ninth day).

Although the Novena is intended to be said before the Divine Mercy Sunday, it can be said perpetually (Novena after Novena) over the year. I like to begin the Novena every Friday biweekly. Let’s immerse ourselves in the ocean of mercy of Jesus during the coming Holy Week and Easter Octave, offering all our beings to Jesus through the Novena.

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 a bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.*

Faith is an act of submission—a loving surrender of self to Christ who is present within the Church.

If we don't renew that self-surrender every day of our lives,
we're going to become a part of the problem, not the solution.

— **Dr. Scott Hahn**
from *The Splendor of the Church*

Greetings from Br. Lawrence

The second of March is the memorial of Bl. Agnes of Prague, who was a contemporary of St. Clare. The Office of Reading's second reading for the day is from a letter from Clare to Agnes and it got me wondering. Many historians today have stated that the biggest cause of loss to history today is technology. This is because some of the most important records that historians use in researching about the past are diaries, personal papers, and correspondence. With everything quickly gone digital, those are no longer going to be available for those living today for historians of the future. Still, this situation made me begin to wonder.

Clare and Agnes seemed to have a good correspondence for their day. What I have been able to find is always about living the life of a Poor Clare. I would imagine that today we might have brothers and sisters in the community with whom we discuss things, sometimes in person, sometimes on the phone, sometimes in email, etc., but in today's world they quickly become lost to us. Now I am not saying that my dialog with another merits saving as a Clare and Agnes letter does, but what I am pointing out is that we need to write our thoughts down, that maybe they have some value for us, and others, sometime later on.

I am fascinated when I go back and read some of the things which I wrote, and often, it makes me think, "why did I say that?" And it gets me to thinking again, I think during this Lenten season it would be a good time to write our daily meditation thoughts as well as things we discussed with another and save them for the future where we may sometime be able to go back and see what was happening "back then."

Some of the Minister Provincials I have known have told me that when cleaning out the room of a recently deceased friar, they find such journals and things, and that they really find that what is written there to be very spiritual and cause for reflection. They may have been thoughts from a long gone homily that they had given, but the the thought that was recorded would have been wonderful to share with others.

A spiritual journal is a wonderful thing to have. At the end of the day to just sit in my room at my desk with only the desk lamp lit and to think about the day and to write down my spiritual concerns and thoughts from the day or my ministerial interactions in school that day are times of real, personal reflection. It often becomes the penitential part of Compline for me. I can go back over them at times in the future. It is Lent, so perhaps one of our Lenten practices could be the beginning of a spiritual journal that can be a ritual that goes on for years to come.

Saturday, April 4

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 6 of *Surrounded by Love: 7 Teachings from St. Francis* by Murray Bodo, OFM.



Meeting at the Shrine -

April 19, 2020

Divine Mercy Sunday

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.