



The Little Flower Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order St. Margaret de Cortona Region

Come and be fed...body, mind, soul and spirit

June 28, 2020

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I cannot believe we are half way through 2020! I think the general consensus might be ... GOOD! We need to hit a reset button for this year. So many plans and arrangements have been cancelled, postponed, rearranged, down-sized etc. (in some cases all of the above!) Like they say, we plan, God laughs. I, for one, have certainly learned how to scale back and learn to accept that things may not be as I had planned (oh at least for the last 9 years while Justin was in Seminary.) Am I mad? Yes, a little. More disappointed, I think. The word resilient keeps coming to mind. We need to have the ability to bounce back after a set-back. Let's be honest we have hit numerous set-backs in the last 4 months since the pandemic hit the US shores.

So how do we become and stay resilient? Do we grow a thick skin? How can we do this and not become hardened, or to the other spectrum, lackadaisical? In our Gospel to Life this month we look at the parable of the seed and which type of ground it hits and what the result is from each type of soil. Therein lies the answer, I believe. While parables are kind of fun and you can look at them in many different ways, we typically read this one as our relationship with God. But we can also parlay it into an examination of ourselves and our resiliency. Do we let the challenges in our lives be the weeds that choke us? Do we allow our challenges to find a little bit of fertile soil so that we may learn and something good may come of it? Do some of our challenges keep nagging at us time and again and perhaps need some pruning or growth control? Like I said, parables are fun!

Onto other news, we still do not yet know when we will be able to meet in person at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Throughout the Archdiocese careful steps are being taken to make sure nothing is rushed and that everyone is being kept safe and healthy. Activities other than Mass and drive-through Confessions are still on hold. Patience is a virtue, my friends!

Our Charity this month is Mother Seton Academy. We normally support them in September but they have reached out with an Appeal. They need to get technology to the students by the beginning of the school year in the likelihood that school will be held online. Many of the students do not have computers and the supplies they need to have a successful school year. Please support them as best you can so that they have a fighting chance to succeed.

Following is the ZOOM information for this month. FYI, the information changes with every meeting, so you cannot use the previous month's Meeting ID and Password. I am pleased so many of you have been connecting with us! However there is still room for more! You do not need a computer to join! You can simply call in and enter the ID and Password. It's that simple!

I hope everyone is staying well and connecting with family and friends in a safe manner.

Pax,
Lisa

Our next Gathering will be via ZOOM on Saturday July 11, 2020 from 10AM to Noon

If you are using video click on the link:

<https://jhuapl.zoomgov.com/j/1615494768?pwd=ajjVN1NBTWtIbGMwaVVIZVY0UkJDZz09>

Meeting ID: 161 549 4768

Password: 659368

If you will be using video from your phone, please use the information below:

One tap mobile

+16468287666,,1615494768# US (New York)

If you will be only calling in without video, please call:

833 568 8864 US Toll-free (then use the same Meeting number and password as above)

Agenda for Gathering:

Opening Prayer: Brown Book: Page 35

Liturgy of the Hours - Morning Prayer Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Benedict, Abbot (Memorial)

Presider Phil Pucher

Antiphonarian Joan Kane

Reader/Responsory Bettie Onorato

Opening Page 689 Morning Prayer

Preface Page 1191 July 11, Benedict, Abbot

Hymn Page 182 "O God Our Help in Ages Past"

Antiphons Page 1452 Common of Holy Men, Morning Prayer

Psalmody Page 845

Reading Page 1452

Responsory Page 1452

Gospel Antiphon Page 1453

Canticle of Zechariah Page 849

Intercessions Page 1453

Final Prayer Page 1454

Closing Page 694

Saint Reports for this next year

The Council this year has decided that our Saint reports would be on the Saint we chose for our Confirmation. Our reasoning was that we selected this saint for a reason. Wouldn't it be good to take time to revisit our saint and reflect on how they have interceded for us throughout our life?

Please remember that we do not need a long "book report" on your saint. While providing a very brief biography of your saint, we are more interested in what it was that drew you to this saint. How has your life journey been formed by/with your saint? Provide some reflection on how your saint is still relevant today.

Saint Report – Dennis Bernardo – Stephen

Marge Lane – Dorothea/Dorothy

Gospel to Life: Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Facilitator: Lisa Gough
First Reading IS 55: 10-11
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 65: 10, 11, 12-13, 14
Second Reading ROM 8: 18-23
Gospel MT 13:1-9

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

1. Share what verse or image in the Gospel caught your attention or drew you in. Was there a verse or aspect that challenged you?
2. Jesus said, "Whoever has ears, let them hear." How can we be sure to hear what Jesus is saying?
3. What is the meaning of the seed that fell along the path and the birds came and ate it up?
4. What is the meaning of the seed that fell among rocky places - it sprang up quickly, but because the soil was shallow when the sun came up they withered because they had no root.
5. How can we help water and nourish people who sprout and start to grow in their spiritual life?
6. What is the meaning of the seed falling among thorns which choked the plants?
7. Can we do some weeding to get rid of these choking plants? If so, how?

Closing Prayer: Brown Book, Page 36

Birthday Celebrant:

July

Bettie Onorato

July 28

Profession Anniversaries:

July

None

Treasury:

We know and understand that times may be tough for some of our members now financially. However the support we provide to our Apostolate family in Alleppy, India continues. We are still supporting our various charities on a monthly basis. Please send in whatever financial support you can to Kelly. Even though we are not meeting, our works still go on!

Further, we are still responsible for paying our Fair Share to the Region. If you have not done so already, please send in your Fair Share (Active Members) \$40 per year to Kelly Frederick (address below). If you are unable to so, please contact Kelly or Lisa to make arrangements.

Charity for June: Mother Seton Academy

Please make **ALL** checks payable to: **LITTLE FLOWER FRATERNITY**

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Note: The Priestly Ordination of Rev. Mr. Justin Gough has been moved to August 22, 2020. The Ordination Mass and Fr. Justin's First Mass will be by invitation only. Both will be live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube. More details to follow.