



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

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

July 26, 2020

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On August 8th both Beth and I will be out of town. Beth will be on a well-deserved vacation and I will be with family in North Carolina for the Nuptial Mass of my niece Jaclyn Gough to Anthony Pline. Please keep these two in your prayers as with each new day they encounter the challenges of having a wedding in this pandemic. They are inspiring as they have great faith. They met at morning Mass and have attended daily together ever since. Now they come before God to start their marriage together. They are a great example for other young couples.

With both Beth and I out, and still getting everyone comfortable using ZOOM, the Council has decided that we would take a hiatus this month. **There will NOT be a Gathering on August 8th**. We will resume our monthly Gatherings on Saturday, September 12th. Council will meet at 9AM and our Gathering will be from 10AM until Noon. I will be sending a Newsletter prior to with all of the ZOOM information.

Although we will not be together, August is a very busy month!

Also, on August 8th, Seminarian Scott Kady will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate. This will be at St. Ignatius in Hickory. Please keep Scott in your prayers.

On August 15th, The Archdiocese of Baltimore will install its newest Bishop, Fr. Bruce Lewandowski. We look forward to having a new bishop to help guide the faithful. Please keep Fr. Bruce in your prayers.

On August 22nd is a day we (I) have been anticipating for 9 years. God willing, 5 young men will be ordained to the Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Please keep in your prayers Rev. Mr. Brendan Fitzgerald, Rev. Mr. Evan Ponton, Rev. Mr. Jeremy Smith, Rev. Mr. Zachary Crowley and Rev. Mr. Justin Gough. They, too, have been met with the challenges of preparing during this pandemic.

The one factor that has tied all of these events is an outpouring and display of FAITH! They are all dealing with having less people in attendance (physically, anyhow), cancelled or postponed receptions, loved ones from afar not being able to attend, Mass and ceremonies changed to accommodate the guidelines established by local jurisdictions and many, many other things that need to be re-thought, re-worked or eliminated. Trust me, even down to the most miniscule thing had to be addressed. Yet, all of these faithful have held on to the eminent joy that is awaiting them! They have the courage to soldier on and see this through and not let anything or anyone keep them from God!

We could all learn from them. They see what is important. That the love of God is there for all of us. All we need do is reach out for it and ask.

On Monday July 20th we laid to rest Msgr. Arthur W. Bastress. I was privileged to attend his wake and funeral. Fr. B, as he was known around the IHM Community and in the Archdiocese, was a remarkable human being. Those that knew him well, knew of his sense of humor, his love of the church and his willingness to help those brother priests and deacons

that were faced with the challenges of the clerical life. The day he died, Justin had an appointment with him to pick up his chalice that was bequeathed to Justin. The chalice had just returned from New York after being re-plated and the engraving updated. The family had honored Fr. B's request and they presented his chalice to Justin at the gravesite. It was by far the most moving and loving moment between two families that barely know each other, yet bound by our "sons" who are priests of Jesus Christ.

This drilled home for me the true resolve, it isn't about the fanfare or the elaborate celebrations or the massive amounts of people bearing witness. It is about our commitment and dedication to God and each other. THAT is what matters. While each is certainly something to celebrate, a new marriage, a new deacon, a new bishop, 5 new priests and the long and meaningful life of a humble priest, it is all about the new life being entered into with God.

Are we that blessed? Are we keeping our sights on the joy that is here now and will come to us in His heavenly kingdom? Are we really living our lives as God has planned for us? When our days have ended will we be at the gates of heaven being welcomed and told "Well done, my good and faithful servant"?

My friends, we need to keep FAITH...RIGHT NOW! It is upon each of us to be Christ-like to one another. We have incredible examples of people living our faith all around us. The question is, are you one of them?

So that you may partake and witness the joys laid out in this letter here are the links to the various websites to watch via live-stream. Please note due to the gathering restrictions and guidelines, it was necessary to hold these events by invitation only.

My niece's wedding is private (but I will have pictures!) However, if you would like to see where, it is the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, Raleigh, NC. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI21RA6P2_rqG80Ggo_ufMA/

Mr. Kady's Diaconate ordination is Saturday August 8th at 10am at St. Ignatius Hickory <https://www.facebook.com/StIgnatiusHickoryRomanCatholicChurch/>

Ordination of Bishop Lewandowski on August 18, 2020 and Priestly Ordinations on Saturday August 22, 2020 both at 10AM at The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen <https://www.cathedralofmary.org/about/webcast> Or at Archdiocese of Baltimore <https://www.archbalt.org/online-mass/>

Fr. Justin's First Mass at 2pm on Sunday August 23, 2020 at Immaculate Heart of Mary <https://www.facebook.com/IHMTowson/> (I anticipate to be the one down front crying and box of tissues in hand)

My friends, it was my full intention to invite each of you to celebrate with us at Fr. Justin's first Mass. However, with the limitations, I am even having to cut back on some family. This has been a very difficult time for us as we know so many of you expressed an interest in joining us. Please continue to pray for Justin and for all those discerning a call to religious and consecrated life.

Lastly, should you join in to watch Fr. Justin's First Mass on Aug 23rd please take note of the Roman Missal he will be using. It is a gift from all of you, the Little Flower Fraternity. For this I am humbly grateful.

Pax,
Lisa

Birthday Celebrant:**August**

Maureen Korzelius 30th

Profession Anniversaries:**August**

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 August Beans and Bread

Please make ALL checks payable to: LITTLE FLOWER FRATERNITY

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