

THE FLYER

**NEWSLETTER
FOR THE ST.
JOSEPH
CUPERTINO
FRATERNITY OF
THE SECULAR
FRANCISCANS**



July 19, 2020

Theme for the Year:

**Sanctify Yourself & You Will
Sanctify Society**

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Cupertino, Osimo.JPG Created: 28 December 2010 by
Freedom4Eagle altered through cropping

Greetings from Brother Lawrence

I would like to begin a series this month by speaking of a sermon I read recently from that great Franciscan, St. Anthony. I am sure that most of you are familiar with St. Anthony who was an ordained priest when he encountered some Franciscan missionaries heading off to a mission in northern Africa. He became so impressed with these friars that he went to Italy to become a member of the Order himself. He never quite managed to become a missionary which is all the better for us today who are now able to “hear” his sermons which he preached in Italy.

In one of these particular sermons which I have “heard” in my reading lately, St. Anthony spoke of something at the very center of the new Franciscan movement—the cleansing of one’s soul. He refers to the story from St. John that we all know—the wedding at Cana. At the wedding were six jars of water for purification; St. Anthony saw these jars as six ways for cleaning our souls: contrition, confession, fasting, almsgiving, prayer, and true forgiveness of others. This month, I will touch on the first two.

Contrition, Anthony finds in a verse from the prophet Ezekiel that in being sprinkled with the water of contrition, one is cleansed from one’s sins (Ez. 36:25). We know that there are two types of contrition—perfect and imperfect—but he sees no difference in their result in this sermon. Perfect contrition is being sorry for one’s sins because they offend God, whereas imperfect contrition is being sorry for one’s sins so as not to be punished. We seek the former but, at times, cannot get beyond the latter, but Anthony says that one shall still receive the cleaning if one is sorry.

The second jar of water St. Anthony sees as the cleansing one receives in confession of one’s sins. Clearly, the willingness to speak of one’s sins is a pouring out of the water and thus, a cleansing. We all know that confessing one’s sins can be very difficult to do at times and I have always found, even before I “heard” Anthony preaching, that confessing is itself a demonstration of one’s contrition for one does it even when it is difficult. In this wonderful sermon, Anthony presents the Lamentation: “Pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord” (Lam 2:19).

I shall return to the other four jars over the next two months, but I wanted present these two jars this month for us to begin to see the wisdom of Anthony’s preaching about this most central and important element of Franciscanism-penance. Peace.

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Minister's Message

By James Kim

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In my early twenties when I joined a three-day mini Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, I realized the meaning of being in silence. It was called *mini* because the ordinary Spiritual Exercises runs for four weeks. About ten young men and a Jesuit priest and brothers were there. We stayed in a house, which was used for Jesuit residence in the past, at a corner of Sogang University, which is a Jesuit school in Korea.

During the Exercises, absolute silence was required. I thought I might be good at being in silence, however, contrary to my expectation, I began to feel pain. It revealed how much I have been trapped in the worldly things. Now I understand that I must have pain in silence, because the pain comes from the gap between my impurity and the beauty of the Lord.

Silence is not only *not talking*, but is shutting down my sensory channels. In Mass during the Exercises, we heard the voice of the priest and spoke to respond, but I was still in silence, because my inner senses might be more open to the Lord in Mass. *We cannot call "Our Father" while keeping the memory of the coffee smell.* Inner talks, my feelings, my opinions, my judgements, etc. break the silence. So, I must have pain, as I do not give my heart completely to the Lord. Actually, the pain is rather a blessing of the Lord, as it reveals my impurity.

When we pray, we are in silence even if we say it verbally. When I am distracted in prayers, I am reminded of what St. Charles Borromeo, bishop and Secular Franciscan, suggested:

Another priest complains that as soon as he comes into church to pray the Office or to celebrate Mass, a thousand thoughts fill his mind and distract him from God. But what was he doing in the sacristy before he came out for the Office or for Mass? How did he prepare? What means did he use to collect his thoughts and to remain recollected? ... Listen, and I will tell you. If a tiny spark of God's love already burns within you, do not expose it to the wind, for it may get blown out ("Acta Ecclesiae Mediolanensis," Mediolani, 1599, 1177, also The Office of Readings on November 4th).

How about exercising silence for a day in this summer while we are in the restricted condition? Our Lord may give us cool air in silence.

Treasurer's Report

June – 2020

Beginning (running) Balance: \$ 1,304.34

Common Fund Contributions \$ 236.00

Total \$ 1,480.34

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence \$100.00

Franciscan Friars \$100.00

Office \$ 24.00

Total \$ 224.00

Ending (running) Balance: \$ 1256.34

Thank You for your monthly contributions!

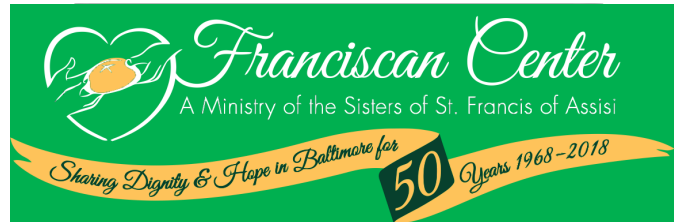
“Regarding expenses necessary for the life of the fraternity and the needs of worship. Of the apostolate, and of charity, all the brothers and sisters should offer a contribution according to their means. Local Fraternities should contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils.”

(#25, Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order)

May charity be the root and foundation of your life.
(Eph 3:17)

Contributions are Tax Deductible. Please mail to:

**Gerry Pinkas, OFS
3810 Marriotsville Road
Randallstown, MD 21133**



We are helping families in crisis in our City! With the current state of the country and this global pandemic the support from our community and neighbors is needed now more than ever to help those in crisis. With schools, stores, and transportation being closed/shutting down for the foreseeable future it puts a strain on the lives of those who use these services to get to appointments, get food etc.

Nearly everyday we will serve 500+ individuals and families through our lunch and dinner program. Many of these guests are struggling and experiencing crisis and without our support will likely be staying on floors, couches or worse.... on the street. With the current global pandemic going around we are expecting to see an influx of clients coming by our building for food.

There are a lot of unknowns right now but food should not be an unknown. With your help we will help our community.

Please consider support our Center this year in this time of crisis.

Thank you.

Yours in Service,

The team at the Franciscan Center.

-Taken from the website at www.fcbmore.org

To donate to the Center this month, please consider visiting their website at <https://fcbmore.org/get-involved/> . To donate directly, click the big, yellow button.

Book Share

Book Share is back! We may be on Zoom or in-person, so contact Gerri Fynn at 410-707-1060 and let her know you're joining us on the first Saturday of the month (8/1/2020). We are on Chapter 7 of *Surrounded by Love* by Murray Bodo. Normally meeting from 1-3 pm, we have great dialog, deep conversations, and many laughs—join us!



Give Yourself Totally to God

Some men immerse themselves as deeply in prayer as fish in water, because they give themselves totally to God. There is not division in their hearts. O, how I love these noble souls! Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Colette used to see our Lord and talk to him just as we talk to one another.

How unlike them we are! How often we come to church with no idea of what to do or what to ask for. And yet, whenever we go to any human being, we know well enough why we go. And still worse, there are some who seem to speak to the good God like this: "I will only say a couple of things to you, and then I will be rid of you." I often think that when we come to adore the Lord, we would receive everything we ask for, if we would ask with living faith and with a pure heart.

-Excerpt from *The Glorious Duty of Man: To Pray and To Love*

by St. John Baptist Mary Vianney (diocesan priest & Secular Franciscan), submitted by James Kim



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Please Pray For:

Joan Babin, OFS
Connie Baker, OFS
Karan Bevers, OFS
John Kirby, OFS
Marie Lindung, OFS
Jean Singleton, OFS
Jim Tebo, OFS



Our Deceased Brothers and Sisters:

Deacon Tom Bellos,
OFS

Frances Bastress, SFO

Joe Bezila, SFO

Mary Chandler, OFS

Jerry Cichowicz, SFO

Shirley Costello, OFS

Joe Cykoski, SFO

Stella Cykoski, SFO

Claie 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

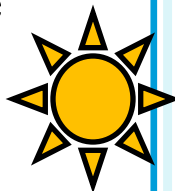
Bud Tenley, SFO

Regina Yeager, SFO

Dorothy Zalewski, SFO

July 19, 2020 Gathering

- ◆ Details TBD
- ◆ Virtual or at the Shrine
- ◆ If you need help with Zoom, please call Ray Glennon, OFS at 443-458-8044



The Rule Review

4. The rule and life of the Secular Franciscans is this: to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of St. Francis of Assisi who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people. Christ, the gift of the Father's love, is the way to him, the truth into which the Holy Spirit leads us, and the life which he has come to give abundantly. Secular Franciscans should devote themselves especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from gospel to life and life to gospel.

5. Secular Franciscans, therefore, should seek to encounter the living and active person of Christ in their brothers and sisters, in Sacred Scripture, in the Church, and in liturgical activity. The faith of St. Francis, who often said, "I see nothing bodily of the Most High Son of God in this world except His most holy body and blood," should be the inspiration and pattern of their Eucharistic life.



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Happy Birthday!

Jeanne Kerins	7/11
Gerry Pinkas	7/18
Willard Witherspoon	7/31

Events at the Shrine of St. Anthony

- * **Sunday & Tuesday Outdoor Mass @ Carrollton Hall Lawn**
 - * Sit in marked spaces on your own seats, blankets, or umbrellas
 - * Communion in the hand only & masks at all times
 - * No restrooms will be available
- * **Drive-Thru Confessions @ Chapel Parking Lot @ 5-7 pm on Fridays**
 - * Follow those directing traffic
 - * Only one person per car
 - * Masks must be worn
- * If you have any questions please call our Front Office at 410-531-2800; check the website for full details www.shrineofstanthony.org

For Pondering: Article 26

In the fraternity, the brothers and sisters should promote mutual understanding and they should see to it that the atmosphere of their meetings is welcoming and that it reflects joy. They should encourage one another for the good.

Peace & All Good by Geri Flynn

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

It seems like forever since I last wrote a note to you explaining my status at the time. So much has happened in our world since then! I pray you and your families are very well and that they continue to be so. Over the past few weeks I have received several inquiries from our fraternity members as to my current situation. Am I in- am I out- am I inside out??? ;-)

Truth be told, things have been a bit topsy turvy but all is well. In a nutshell, as you know I resigned in April and planned to move to Florida in early May. That never happened as travel was not an option (I am immunocompromised) and we had to give up the lovely apartment we had chosen and put everything on hold because of COVID-19. We remain on hold- the community in which we plan to live has kindly suspended all financial commitment until December. So we have some breathing space and remain safe and comfortable in our home of 50 years. Of course I am longing to be with our family and they are waiting patiently for our arrival. In the meanwhile my husband and I remain well and willingly follow God's holy will. I am still an active member of our fraternity and anxious to assist in any area as needed. Won't it be great when we can gather in person again?

This prayer of St Teresa of Avila has become my mantra:

Let nothing disturb thee, nothing affright thee;

All things are passing, God never changeth!

Patient endurance attaineth to all things;

Who God possesseth in nothing is wanting: Alone God sufficeth.

Pope Francis & Mother Earth by Denise Donaldson

This month, Pope Francis presented his encyclical on the environment, calling on Catholics to consider care of our natural world to be a matter of faith. You can read the encyclical here:

<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/encyclical>; you can see easily referenced highlights of the letter categorized here: <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/files/inline-files/CatholicClimateCovenantencyclicalexcerpts.pdf>.

Among many directives, The Holy Father has called on Catholics to do what we can to reduce our carbon footprint and abandon the use of fossil fuels. St. Francis rejoiced in his relationship with Mother Earth and considered his familial relationship with all of nature as one of the ways he experienced the joy and love of God. Let us prayerfully consider how Pope Francis is once again drawing our spiritual attention to the practical care of Mother Earth.

Welcome, Visitors!

Want to find out more about Secular Franciscans?

- ⇒ Keep an eye on our websites & newsletter so you know when we begin meeting in person again. Secular Franciscans are friendly & do not have secret rites. We (usually) meet on the third Sunday of the month from Noon~4:30 (we start with a social lunch, business meeting at 1, formation/presentation, and then end with prayer).
- ⇒ Check out our website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/our~fraternity/>
- ⇒ Check out the St. Margaret of Cortona website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>
- ⇒ Check out our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>