



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

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

August 29, 2020

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Praise and thanks be to God! We have 5 new priests in our Archdiocese and a new Bishop! August was, in my humble opinion (and Mom bias aside), a stellar month for our faith! Thank you all for the kind words sent our way for our son's Ordination. I hope you were able to catch the Ordination and his First Mass on-line. The links should still be active if you would care to take a look. Both celebrations were so worth the wait!

Now that this is in my rear-view mirror, my attention can now be fully turned towards getting us into better shape both spiritually and even physically. I don't know about the rest of you, but COVID has inevitably placed a few extra pounds on some of us. The desire to eat comfort foods when under stress or stay-at-home orders did not help the waistline. I encourage you to eat as healthy as possible and, to the fullest extent you possibly can, to get some sort of exercise. A can of soup can make for a great hand-held weight! Even just gentle stretching is good for you.

As for spiritually, we are still in a holding pattern for actual Gatherings. I know this is difficult for social creatures like Franciscans, but it is what we must do at this time. In a way we can liken this to a retreat to a hermitage as Francis did many times. Albeit, our "hermitage" is our home and all the comforts that go with it, yet we can still take time to find our "upper room" for prayer and reflection. What I have found amazing is that even though it is just my husband and I (and the dog) in the house, how noisy it can be! As I sit here and type, the clickity of the ceiling fan has an ongoing drone to it (I do need to get the parts to fix that!) I hear the TV 2 flights down of a movie my husband is watching. The dog occasionally needs to bark to let us know someone is walking by outside. The rat-tat-a-tat of the keyboard of my heavy handed typing is loud. Even the sound of the AC kicking on and off tends to become noisy when other things settle down. Further, our house is right along the Baltimore Beltway and the traffic, sirens and motorcycles can be overwhelming at times. Yet, one does become used to these noises (except for the ceiling fan, that is really annoying!) It is life. It is our connection to the good gifts God has given us. It might even be His way of reminding us that He is all around. Everything is of Him and a reminder to us all that we need ...we MUST... THANK GOD for everything! Even the drone of a ceiling fan.

Peace and all good,

Lisa

**Our next Gathering will be via ZOOM on Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 10AM to Noon**

**If you are using video click on the link:**

<https://jhuapl.zoomgov.com/j/1614458278?pwd=bVJsZXJlWENFZ3F5cm5haENSaTJwUT09>

Meeting ID: 161 445 8278

Password: 716241

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

One tap mobile +16468287666,,1614458278# 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 for Saturday of Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time**

Presider	Joan Kane
Antiphonarian	Bettie Onorato
Reader/Responsory	Mike Huether
Opening	Page 689 Morning Prayer
Preface	Page 916
Hymn	Page 1515 Hymn #8 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"
Antiphons	Page 916
Psalmody	Page 916
Reading	Page 919
Responsory	Page 919
Gospel Antiphon	Page 919
Canticle of Zechariah	Page 849
Intercessions	Page 919
Final Prayer	Page 920
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 – Al Gigel Ann German**

## **Gospel to Life: Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Facilitator:	Beth Dykton
First Reading	Sirach 27:30-28:7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12
Second Reading	Romans 14:7-9
Gospel	Matthew 18:21-25

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

- 1.) Is there someone in your life who is difficult to forgive?
- 2.) How do people measure forgiveness? How does God measure forgiveness?
- 3.) How is conversion a life-long journey for you? How has God helped you to realize that his forgiveness is on-going and never ending? How has that fact affected your relations with others, especially those who habitually hurt you?

**Closing Prayer:** Brown Book, Page 36

**Birthday Celebrant:****September**

Barbara Bruno Sept 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Theresa Gagliano Sept 14<sup>th</sup>

**Profession Anniversaries:****September**

Mike Huether 9/27/98  
 Angie Mulcahy 9/25/88

**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 September: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**

Please make ALL checks payable to: LITTLE FLOWER FRATERNITY

Mail to: Little Flower Fraternity  
 c/o Kelly Frederick, OFS  
 86 Ginwood Lane  
 Baltimore, Maryland 21221

**Little Flower Fraternity Council**

Spiritual Assistant: Fr. George Sabol, OFM Conv.

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