

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



October 18, 2020

Theme for the Year:

**Sanctify Yourself & You
Will Sanctify Society**

San Giuseppe di Cupertino
Public domain 18th century engraving

Greetings from Brother Lawrence

The wonderful month of October is my favorite month of the year. I took a trip to Weber's Produce in the Parkville area this morning: tractor rides for the lads and lasses; pumpkins, some small and some huge up for sale; and cider donuts. It is just a perfect atmosphere for October; I love it. We need to look for the good things in life and not overlook them. Our busy world, especially during the week is filled with much that is good and some that is not and it should be our goal to find the good and celebrate it. That's what I went to Weber's for this morning. I remember it from when I was just a lad growing up in Parkville. Mom and Dad would put the six of us in the car and take us to Weber's for the fall festivities (which always ended with the cider donuts); it was a good day all rolled into one simple morning. These little remembrances are good ones and ones that we need to remember always. There are others but this I am writing about this one because of my visiting there again this morning.

I realize that I should be writing about St. Anthony and his sermon on purifying our soul, but, with all respect due to St. Anthony, I cannot help but think that remembering good things from the past (and this morning's present) can also, in a way, help to purify one's soul. There is so much out in the world that does just the opposite to us, but a celebration of the good in one's life reminds us that our soul has much good accumulated within it as well. In my philosophy class we have been reading Plato's story of Socrates' death. Socrates was pressured by his friends to use the prison opportunity to escape his prison and his city and go to live elsewhere. Many of Socrates' friends had already bribed the guards and they knew that the authorities would not go looking for Socrates, they just wanted him gone. Socrates refused to flee. He thought that that would be a violation of the laws of Athens and that that would be a "sin" (my word, not his) on his soul. Socrates believed that there was nothing more damaging to someone than a wrong on one's soul. *(Cont. on page 2...)*

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Sanctify Yourself!

Dear brothers and sisters in Francis and Clare, this year's theme has so far eluded the newsletter. As the Council has left me, your beloved editor, to my own devices this month, I decided to explore how this wisdom of Saint Francis may be lived out in our very own day and age! Blessed Carlo Acutis of Assisi, Servant of God John Bradburne OFS, and Carol Seydel are all wonderful examples of how sanctifying ourselves may sanctify society. Let us begin again!

Blessed Carlo Acutis

While the newly beatified teen may have been born in London and raised in Milan, Carlo had a fondness for Assisi that went beyond the scenic vistas. Like Saint Francis, Blessed Carlo used a popular media form to spread the Good News. Saint Francis used his Canticles as a troubadour to sing of the beauty of his Love, the revelation of Christ in Creation; Blessed Carlo used the internet both for research and dissemination of information about his Love, the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In both cases, the young men used their personal dispositions and resources in the service of Christ.

How do we use our talents in the service of Him who we love? Often, it is others who see something in us and challenge us to new heights—this is where fraternity comes in. Use this time of isolation to reach out to your brothers and sisters and see what they have to say!

Br. Lawrence from page 1...

He believed that that would be more harmful to him than any apparent good of fleeing the death penalty. What I am really addressing here is the idea that we must seek the purification of one's soul as St. Anthony said. Even a man who lived 400 years before Christ was aware of this much. Good makes the soul glow, if you will, so I am suggesting that we start accumulating the goods in our lives and avoid all the harmful things that are out there. Yes, the last parts of St. Anthony's homily stresses that those other Cana jars of water referring to almsgiving, fasting and forgiveness are also purifiers of the soul, I am just expanding the list to include some every day good that purify the soul as well. Enjoy this wonderful season of autumn before the leaves glowing in colors on the trees have gone away.

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 (or call 443-745-1109) by 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 of bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.

Treasurer's Report

September – 2020

Beginning (running) Balance: \$ 1,541.34

Common Fund Contributions \$ 985.00

Total \$ 2526.34

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence \$100.00

Franciscan Friars \$100.00

Total \$ 200.00

Ending (running) Balance: \$ 2362.34

Thank You for your monthly contributions!

May my mouth be filled with praise for the good things God has done for me.

Contributions are Tax Deductible. Please mail to:

Gerry Pinkas, OFS
3810 Marriottsville Road
Randallstown, MD 21133

Congratulations!

On the anniversary of your professions:

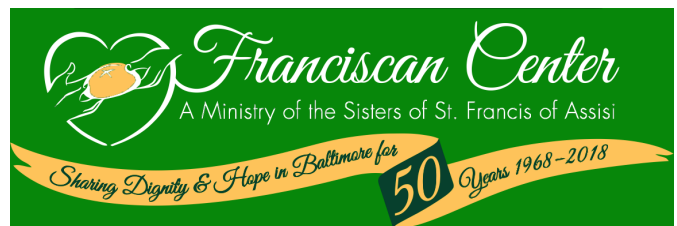
Sherry Lewis (26 years);

Eileen Peregoy (17 Years);

Edward Burgee, Geri Flynn, Rosemary Wheelan,
& Jerry Yu (9 years);

John Handiboe, Charlie Heyden, Jeanne Kerins,
Juliana Kim, Boniface Kim, & Mark McPherson (4
years);

Karan Bevers, Denise Donaldson, James Kim-
Young, Theresa Lam, Richard Lam, Mick Michieli
Beasley (2 years).



Please consider donating full & travel-sized toiletries this month.

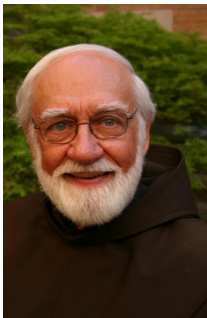
Lots of people enjoy donating "fun" items, but plenty of practical needs exist. Items needed include:

soap, shampoos, conditioners, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lip balm, deodorant, combs, razors, foot powder, socks, gloves, hats, and underwear.

To donate directly to the Center, please consider visiting their website at <https://>

fcbmore.networkforgood.com/projects/89510-giving-campaign-2020 and clicking the big, green button.

Book Share



Book Share is back! We may be on Zoom or in-person, so contact Gerri Fynn (410-707-1060) & let her know you're joining us on the first Saturday of the month (11/7/2020). We are finishing Chapter 8 of *Surrounded by Love* by Murray Bodo, OFM.

Normally meeting from 1-3 pm, we have great dialog, deep conversations, and many laughs—join us!

Murray Bodo, OFM,
Photo used with permission

Carol Seydel and the Eucharistic Miracles

Right now, I imagine a few of you are thinking, “I am not young and I am not a songwriter or a computer programmer. I am off the hook.” Wrong. In my effort to find out more about Blessed Carlo Acutis’ Eucharistic Miracles program, I ended up on the TheRealPresence.org’s website. “Hmm,” I thought, “Isn’t this where I find all the great audio, video, and writings of Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.?” Curious, I saw the phone number at the bottom of the page and called it.

I am not sure that Carol Seydel realized that, as she talked about how she became involved in the project, I heard more than the Eucharistic miracles that Carlo catalogued or even the miracles that God is still performing through Carlo. Back in 2005, Carol and friends were just beginning development of TheRealPresence.org when one of them saw a note on the internet asking for help with a project about the Eucharist. Through a series of events, Carlo’s mother, Antonia got in touch with Carol and the work began! All of Carlo’s work, you see, was in Italian and his mother asked Carol and the RealPresence.org to spearhead the translation into English and the dissemination of the project throughout the Americas and Canada. Carol reflects, “I was retired and doing nothing and out of nothing came something” and “you’re never bored when you’re with God.” To see the Carlo’s amazing research and bring it to your local parish, go to: http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/mir/engl_mir.htm .

P.S. There is no need to be retired and bored —and don’t try to claim that dying is an excuse! Just as with Saint Francis, much of young Carlo’s work was done while he was dying. Indeed, Sister Death merely gave these men of Assisi a “deadline” for their work. Reach out to your local friary, church, or fraternity!

Please Pray For:

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



October 18, 2020 Gathering

- ◆ 2 pm on Zoom.
- ◆ We will be talking about Mary, the Mother of our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ. We will talk of some of the titles by which Mary is known. Please be prepared to join the discussion & let us know how you approach Mary? What is your motivation? How has she answered your prayer?

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
Claire Lee Davidson, SFO
Adela Duff, SFO
Donna Duncan, SFO
Charles Ferrara, SFO
Mary Ferrara, SFO

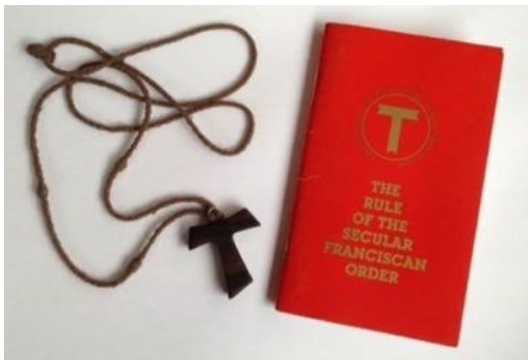
Dolores Fritz, OFS
Marilyn Gilson, SFO
Richard Hall, SFO
Joy Kubricky, OFS
Frances Langbehn, SFO
Bob Lewis, SFO
Jean Manning, OFS
Jim Manning, OFS
Yvonne Proch, SFO
Nancy Seaton, SFO
Don Sweitzer, OFS
Betty Taylor, SFO
Bud Tenley, SFO
Regina Yeager, SFO
Dorothy Zalewski, SFO

The Rule Review

So that we might more fully live the Gospel Life, Secular Franciscans should not just read *The Rule*, but reflect on, and pray with *The Rule*.

10. United themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed His will into the Father's hands, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstances of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to Him even in difficulties and persecutions.

11. Trusting the Father, Christ chose for Himself and His mother a poor and humble life, even though He valued created things attentively and lovingly. Let the Secular Franciscans seek a proper spirit of detachment from temporal goods by simplifying their own material needs. Let them be mindful that according to the gospel they are stewards of the goods received for the benefit of God's children. Thus, in the spirit of the Beatitudes, and as pilgrims and strangers on their way to the home of the Father, they should strive to purify their hearts from every tendency and yearning for possession and power.



Happy Birthday!

Mimi Cox Owens	10/1
Joanne Patton	10/3
Bob Longo	10/6
Harry Ford	10/10
Michael Radcliffe	10/22
Theresa Heath	10/30

Upcoming:

Sherry Lewis 11/15
Barbara Levasseur 11/18
Alice Umugianeza 11/20
Raymond Glennon 11/22



EVENTS AT THE SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY

Mass Times- Sundays thru
Fridays, 12 Noon, Outside of
Carrollton Hall

Adoration:

In the Chapel: Saturday 10am-12 Noon
Outside of Carrollton Hall: Tuesday 11am-Noon

Confession Schedule- Monday through Friday :
11 am Outside of Carrollton Hall

Upcoming Event:

Night with the Saints, consider volunteering or donating

Gift Shop Hours

Monday through Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 2:00pm
(Gift Shop & Office closed on 10/12)

The Shrine Grounds & Courtyard are open daily
dawn till dusk!.

If you have any questions please call our Front Office
at 410-531-2800; check the website for full details
www.shrineofstanthony.org

Servant of God, John Bradburne OFS

Recently, I began research into the International Secular Franciscan water project, Well4Africa; the current project is at Mutemwa Leprosy Catholic and Care Center and it is there that I met John. Of course, I didn't really travel to Africa or actually meet John, I found them both in books. Our brother in Francis and Clare, John Bradburne, OFS led a life much like Saint Francis himself.

Born in June of 1921, John found his way into the military and was sent to fight in WWII in Malaya; he was not a man of war and it was not a war for men. John suffered greatly, but did not often talk about this terrible time. Once he returned to England, John began a journey of seeking his vocation in monasteries, in journeys to the Holy Land, and eventually at mission centers in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). When a friend invited John to visit Mutemwa, he had no idea what the Lord had in store for him

When John arrived at Mutemwa, the lepers ran to get burlap sacks to cover their "ugly" selves with; I think that is the moment that John decided to abandon all his searching and seek God in the outcast—for these people were the lowliest of outcasts. Many were foreigners who had come seeking work, but were now sick, disfigured, handicapped, and unable to return home. John made them family and became their servant. He did whatever was needed and would not leave them, even in the midst of a civil war.

John's story did not end with his kidnapping by rebel youth. It did not end when those in charge refused to condemn him. It did not end when the youth assassinated him in the streets. It did not end when he was found after three days or with the signs at his funeral or the miracles since his death. In his memory, those at Mutemwa are setting up to be not only self-sufficient, but to provide fresh food to the community. To learn more & help out, go to:

<https://www.johnbradburne.com/> and
<https://ciofs.info/category/projects/well4africa/> .

Through Assisi

Dear brothers and sisters in Francis and Clare, I pray that my silly little insights and articles have given you some insights into how both Saint Francis and the Secular Franciscan movement have inspired people throughout the ages, including our own! During this time of COVID-19 and season of Francis, I thought that we all might need this reminder. I know many of our members are very excited about Carlo and his Eucharistic project, others are captivated by John's servant attitude and poetry, some are astounded by how Carol's little actions have added up, and yet others are motivated by the idea of bringing sustainable water solutions to Africa.

As Saint Francis said on his deathbed, "I have done what was mine to do; may Christ teach you to do what you are to do." What are your projects, prayers, and hopes for this world? Please call your brothers and sisters in Francis and Clare, attend a Zoom meeting, or even drop a notecard into the mail and share your adventures!



Francis Starts a Christian Order by Pedro Subercaseaux, used with permission of St. Francis Prayer Center in Stoneville, NC

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.
- ⇒ 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/>