

THE FLYER

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



December 20, 2020

Theme for the Year:

**Sanctify Yourself & You
Will Sanctify Society**

San Giuseppe di Cupertino
Public domain 18th century engraving

2019-2022 Council

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443-458-3361

Acting Vice Minister:

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OFM Conv.:
410-485-5000

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In the Beginning with Jean Singleton, OFS

There were about ten of us in the beginning, our founder and foundress were Jean and Jim Manning; they came from another fraternity in Baltimore and Mike Eich introduced us to a young priest from St Michael the Archangel Fraternity. In the beginning, the local fraternities were very connected, whenever The Little Flower or St. Michael's fraternity did something, they always let us know so we could all do it together. For a while we met at St. Mark's in Catonsville, then at Our Lady's Center in Ellicott City before finally moving to the St. Joseph Cupertino Friary.

Jean shared a lot of stories with me: tales of a Eucharistic Procession that met with an unexpected turn, a dance that broke out during a silent retreat, and even a surprising, yet joyful feeding of hungry friars. Some common threads quickly emerge – Eucharist, fraternity, joy, servant leadership, service to others, Our Lady, and a sense of adventure. Full of thanksgiving, Jean let me know that she has not been forgotten. She still receives Mass cards, a very beautiful prayer shawl, cards, calls, visits, and many prayers from fraternity members.

As we look back on forty years of Franciscan fraternity, even a candidate like myself can see the joy that Francis felt as he declared, "After the Lord gave me brothers and companions, no one showed me what I ought to do, but the Most High Himself revealed to me that I ought to live according to the pattern of the Holy Gospel." (*Francis of Assisi: Early Documents* , vol. 3, 385)

Ministers Message by James Kim, OFS

Traditionally we had a Christmas party for the December gathering, but we are not able to do the party this year. However, while we see each other on computer or cell phone screens, we may still have many things to share with each other, reflecting what has happened to each of us this year and how much thanks we would give to the Lord and to our families, friends, and our sisters and brothers. In particular, this December is the 40th anniversary of our fraternity. We have around ten members who have been professed more than two decades. We may listen to them how they have done through decades and also some memorable stories.

Advent is the beginning of Jesus' life story in this world. When I read what angel Gabriel says, “of his kingdom there will be no end,” (*NRSV:CE*, Luke 1:33) however, my mind is suddenly flying over time to the scene at the end of the Messiah’s life in this world, saying “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:43) As we know, it’s the words that the crucified Jesus said to one of the criminals, responding to the criminal’s repentance. Two men hanging on trees are paradoxically talking about Paradise, the Kingdom. In fact, it is the Way for entering the Kingdom we are hoping for, and eventually Jesus’s passion and resurrection are the reason that we are joyful in the Christmas season. The Lord shows us the Way which we have never expected, but also encourages us to believe “For nothing will be impossible with God.” (Luke 1:37) I am wondering if the Blessed Virgin Mary knew this when she heard the words from angel Gabriel. But one thing I am sure of is that Mary was confident enough to say “Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed.” (Luke 1:48) Am I confident in the Lord like Blessed Mary at her young age? The confidence has not come from her knowledge, but came from her purity in the heart, which may be well expressed in these passages:

Tell me, you whom my soul loves, where you pasture your flock, where you make it lie down at noon; for why should I be like one who is veiled beside the flocks of your companions?

If you do not know, O fairest among women, follow the tracks of the flock, and pasture your kids beside the shepherds’ tents. (Song of Songs 1:7-8)

Thanks to all who submitted ideas and articles for this month’s issue! Have ideas for future issues? Submissions need to be 500 words or less. Please email to jtwillis@aol.com (or call 443-745-1109) by January 1 and you may see it in the January 2021 edition of *The Flyer*.

Please use this as a way to share a bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.



March for Life 2014

by Michael Radcliffe, OFS

Sometimes, and particularly during these pandemic times, you feel as an island. Does the World still believe? Is the faith still out there? Is it only during a fraternity meeting that you can find that Christian love and community? Several years ago I found my way into the middle of the National March for Life in downtown DC. I had never experienced such a massive gathering of young and old, united in one principal—Life—under one belief—God. It was awesome and inspiring...a contrast to the scenes played out these

past several months in major cities everywhere. Faith, Love, and the Spirit is out there, it is abundant, rich, powerful, beautiful. And the source of our hope?

He came to the world as a babe in the manger, the Christ Child born to us.

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*.

14. Secular Franciscans, together with all people of good will, are called to build a more fraternal and evangelical world so that the kingdom of God may be brought about more effectively. Mindful that anyone "who follows Christ, the perfect man, becomes more of a man himself," let them exercise their responsibilities competently in the Christian spirit of service.

15. Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith.

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order may be accessed at anytime at: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/RULE.pdf>

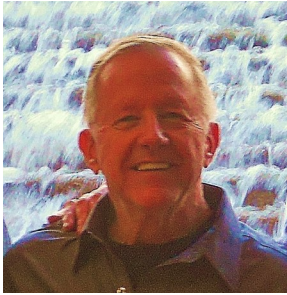
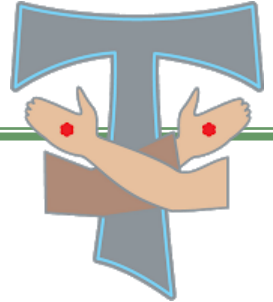
Sponsorship and Profession are two gifts of our fraternal life. Here, Gerry Pinkas, Geri Flynn, Bob Longo, Ed Burgee, Charles Fischer, Mark McPherson, Rosemary Whelan, and Mary Chandler witness the 2016 profession of Boniface Kim.



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/ourfraternity/>
- ⇒ Check out the St. Margaret of Cortona website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>
- ⇒ Check out our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>



Servant Leadership

~Bob Longo, OFS, Minister and Regional Minister

The current Minister of the St. Margaret of Cortona Region is our own Bob Longo, OFS. Bob first served as our fraternity vice-minister from 1998 to 2000. In 2000, upon the passing of the current minister, Bob Lewis, OFS, Bob Longo became the Acting Minister from 2000 to 2001. In May 2001, he made a decision to put into practice the commitment made in his 1996 profession, when asked, “Do you wish to be faithful to this vocation and to practice the spirit of service proper to the Secular Franciscans?” In May 2001 he was elected the minister of our fraternity.

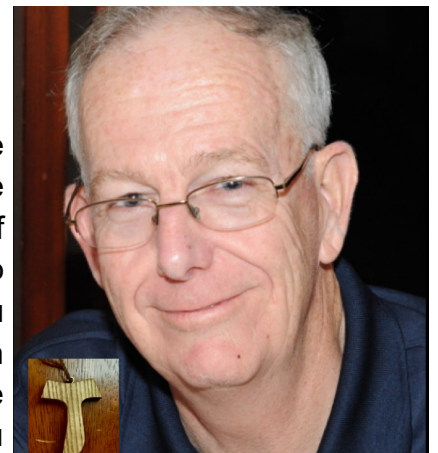
In May 2013, Bob once again made that commitment of service, as he was once again elected to serve as our fraternity minister and again in 2016. In April 2015, he went on to be elected Regional Councilor for the Washington Metro Area. In April 2018, he resigned as our fraternity minister, to become our current Regional Minister.

Bob is quoted as saying, “it has been a joy to have had the privilege to serve both on our fraternity council and on the regional council and to have Francis and Clare as our model for what it means to be a servant leader in our Order.

*Image of Franciscan Coat of Arms cc3.0 clipart #18 corpusimmobiliserrantemanimun.blogspot.com

*Image of Bob Longo from 2014 Trip to the National Art Gallery at www.stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/the-history-of-the-st-joseph-of-cupertino-fraternity/ Photo by JLS

zoom



Since the beginning of the pandemic, many gatherings have been held virtually on Zoom. Zoom is like a conference call & can be accessed with a computer, laptop, tablet, smart phone, or landline. If you are using a smart device to attend a St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity event, your brothers and sisters will be able to see and you them! But, even if you only have a landline phone available, you can still join the call and hear everyone. Everyone needs to be aware that the people on phone only may not know who is talking, so you may need to identify yourself before speaking. Join in on the fun and join the next gathering via Zoom!

Anyone wanting a friendly tutorial and practice session, can reach out to our brother, Ray Glennon, OFS at ray.glennon@1972.usna.com or (443)458-8044.

Extracting Blessings & Memories

By Jeanne Kerins OFS

Although I love all of our gatherings, the Extractions of Saints is one I cherish! Learning about a saint I wasn't familiar with or the excitement of hearing a favorite Saint being called is a joyful experience. Also, having a specific brother or sister as a prayer partner for the year is a privilege that I love.



Left to right: Jim Tebo, John Kirby; backs of France Staudenmann, Jerry Yu, Geri Flynn. Jean Singleton is choosing her saint; Lynne Float. 2014 Photo (cropped) by JLS www.stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/the-history-of-st-joseph-cupertino-fraternity

Reflecting Back on Your Franciscan Journey ~Deanna Williston OFS

Dear brothers and sisters, Jeanne's above reflection really touched me! As we wrap up this crazy year of 2020, let us not forget the many blessings of our forty years of fraternity. Consider setting apart a special area of your prayer journal for keeping your yearly extracted patron saints, Scripture verses, Admonitions, and prayer partners; consider adding a deceased fraternity member to pray for every year. How has the Lord been speaking to you through this Franciscan practice? Does a pattern or path seem to emerge? Can you find areas for growth? Consider sharing your reflections with at least one of your fraternity brothers and sisters.

Our Deceased	Joe Cykoski, SFO	Dolores Fritz, OFS	Yvonne Proch, SFO
Brothers & Sisters:	Stella Cykoski, SFO	Marilyn Gilson, SFO	Nancy Seaton, SFO
Dea. Tom Bellos, OFS	Claire Lee Davidson, SFO	Richard Hall, SFO	Don Sweitzer, OFS
Frances Bastress, SFO	Adela Duff, SFO	Joy Kubricky, OFS	Betty Taylor, SFO
Joe Bezila, SFO	Donna Duncan, SFO	Frances Langbehn, SFO	Bud Tenley, SFO
Mary Chandler, OFS	Charles Ferrara, SFO	Bob Lewis, SFO	Regina Yeager, SFO
Jerry Cichowicz, SFO	Mary Ferrara, SFO	Jean Manning, OFS	Dorothy Zalewski, SFO
Shirley Costello, OFS		Jim Manning, OFS	

An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life. “A fight is going on inside me,” he said to the boy. “It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil – he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.” He continued, “The other is good – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. The same fight is going on inside you – and inside every other person, too.”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, “Which wolf will win?”

The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

The Two Wolves of Our Daily Conversion

submitted by Bob Longo

Treasurer's Report

November – 2020

Beginning (running) Balance: \$2,221.34

Common Fund Contributions \$340.00

Christmas Fund Contributions (to date) \$960.00

Other: Fair Share Refund \$540.00

Total Income **\$1840.00**

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence \$100.00

Franciscan Friars (monthly, Mass) \$200.00

Formation \$ 56.83

Total Expense **\$ 356.83**

Ending (running) Balance: **\$3,704.51**

Thank You for your contributions!

Excellent job on the Christmas Families collection!!!!

Contributions are Tax Deductible.

Direct donation checks to:

St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity.

Mail donations to:

Gerard Pinkas

3810 Marriottsville Rd.

Randallstown, MD 21133

Your bank's bill pay may be used. Direct payment to **St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity** at the address above. *Contact Gerry with any bill pay questions.*



In November 2020, the Franciscan Center gave out over 2,500 hygiene kits! Items most needed this month include deodorant, socks, Baltimore City bus passes, and passport/security/phone neck wallets.

**Order online from your favorite retailer
& have delivered to:**

**The Franciscan Center
101 W. 23rd Street
Baltimore, MD 21218-5607**

EVENTS AT THE SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY

Mass Times:

Sunday thru Friday at 12 Noon,
Tent on front lawn.
Please BYO mask & chair.

Adoration:

In the Chapel: Saturday 10am -12
Tuesdays 11-12, Mass following

Confession Schedule:

Monday through Friday :
11am-12 Noon in the Conference Room,
Enter through side chapel doors, remember your mask.

Greccio - December 19: 7 pm – 8:30 pm

Come and contemplate the Birth of Our Lord by visiting
mangers scenes & Adoring the Blessed Sacrament in the
chapel. The Gift Shop will also be open. The Secular
Franciscans are preparing small packets with blessed
straw for people to take home for their Nativity sets. All
are welcome!



Christmas Eve Masses:

In tent on front lawn:
12:30, 2:30, 4:30, & 8 pm

Christmas Day Masses:

8:30 am *Livestream Only*
12 noon in tent on front lawn

Gift Shop Hours

Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am - 4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Currently, masks must be worn at all times inside
the building & no public bathrooms are available.
Note that the choir stalls in the Chapel are
currently unavailable.

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

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

"St Anthony of Padua" by Walwyn is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0 , edited to fit



Denise Donaldson, OFS	12/10
Joan Bundy, OFS	12/15
Ed Burgee, OFS	12/17
Diane Witherspoon, OFS	12/18
John Handiboe, OFS	12/18
Mark McPherson, OFS	12/23
Will Potter, OFS	12/23
Sweet Baby Jesus of Beeethlehem	12/25

St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity 1980

Upcoming:

Mike Hotovy, OFS	01/06
Marie Lindung, OFS	01/18
John Kirby, OFS	01/25
Jim Soltysiak, OFS	01/26
Br. Lawrence LaFlame OFM Conv.	01/26

detail-of-poinsettia.jpg (1920x1280)
(publicdomainpictures.net)



2011 The Missal at The Walters Art Gallery

Bob Longo, Kevin Cochran, Sheila Solomon, Patrick Caughy,
(visitors), Lita Maisel, Lynne Float, & Jean Singleton

photo credit JLS

GOOD NEWS!

The Fraternity Book Study has recently started a new book!
It's the perfect time for those who have wanted to join to do so and we would so welcome your contributions of thoughts, prayers and words as we ponder areas of spiritual growth from a Franciscan point of view.

We are beginning Francis of Assisi's Sermon on the Mount: Lessons from *The Admonitions* by John Michael Talbot

We will meet on Zoom every First Saturday from 1-3.
Just write an email to Geri Flynn (Angelbarty@aol.com)
and you will receive an email invitation at 12:45 on Saturday.

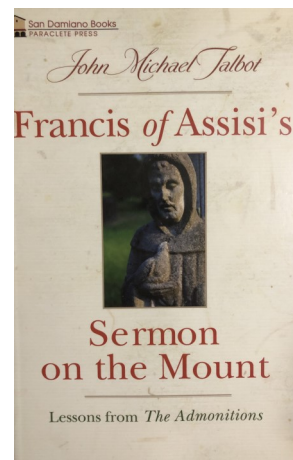


Photo used with permission, www.TroubadourForTheLord.net ; please consider ordering directly from this site.

Sharing Our Journey Through the Book Share

Have you ever noticed that the Saint Joseph Cupertino Fraternity has a book *share* instead of a book club? As we started our new book this month, Jerry Yu OFS and Bob Longo OFS led us in a discussion of how we share our lives through the book we are reading rather than merely discuss a book. In his (and our) new book, *Francis of Assisi's Sermon on the Mount: Lessons from "The Admonitions,"* John Michael Talbot himself reinforces this idea. Each chapter begins with an Admonition of St. Francis, then Talbot shares his reaction to the Admonition and how it fit into his journey. Lastly, Talbot describes the challenges of the world & Church in both St. Francis' time and ours. This book neatly parallels our book share!

Our format is simple. Each month, we read one or two chapters on our own. Any available study guides simply help us explore the book on our own. On the first Saturday of the month, we gather in person or on Zoom and share what passages of the book spoke to us. Soon, everyone is sharing! I have learned so much about my brothers and sisters and Franciscan spirituality from the book share.

Please Pray For:

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



December 20, 2020 Gathering

- ♦ Zoom (you can even join via phone!)
- ♦ Check your email for the invite or call Ray Glennon OFS at 443-458-8044.
- ♦ 1:30 pm Social & 2 pm Meeting (join when you can)
- ♦ Consider wearing a Christmas outfit & sharing how you will celebrate Christ's birth this year.
- ♦ Consider sharing memories from our 40 years of fraternity.
- ♦ We will end by praying the Joyful Rosary.