



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

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

May 30, 2021

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Peace and all good!

Slowly but surely things are opening up and life is working its way back to normal. We are very close to gathering in person once again. Our Lady of Mt Carmel (Essex) where we plan to now meet has indicated that they will be opening up to groups like ourselves in September. Meanwhile the Council will be trying to come up with alternate ways to come back together before then. The Council is meeting on June 1st to discuss potential options and we will provide that update for you at the Gathering on June 12th. My intent is to still bring ZOOM to the in person gatherings. I just need to work through some logistics for screen sharing and sound. It's a work in progress my friends.

But getting back to "normal" has lead me to further contemplation. Two phrases keep coming to me. When I was in High School there was a saying that went around "Why be normal?" More recently you may have come across the question of "If where we were pre-COVID was normal and it wasn't working, why are we going back to it?" I found myself going deep into these two thoughts.

Why be normal? Such a simple question, but it is PACKED with answers. I think each of us could identify ways in which we are NOT normal. I think we could call these our gifts. These things make us unique and set us apart from others. This month we are starting a new feature "We Are Many Parts" (We sang this at Mass this morning so it was on my brain!). By using all of our unique gifts, together, we create something wonderful. One way we learn is by sharing our individual journey. See more on this further in this newsletter.

But if pre-COVID normal wasn't good, why go back to it. Why indeed. Granted, there are many aspects of life that were indeed GOOD before this virus. But there was a good bit that wasn't, and in some cases, has become worse since. We need only look at the headlines in the paper or on TV. All across the world, things are becoming more divided. As Franciscans we are very aware of Social Justice and Catholic Social Teaching. Our Justice and Peace for the Care of Creation (JPIC) team at the Regional level is becoming more active and involved in this area. If you would like to know more, please contact our Regional JPIC Coordinator Gil Donohue at baitang@gmail.com. Better yet, if you would like to become the JPIC representative for our Fraternity, please let me know!

After a brief hiatus we are resurrecting Gospel to Life this month. The Gospel we will look at is from Luke and it is for the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. There are some really great questions I found for us to discuss. Please take some time in prayer for this and provide your viewpoint for the discussion.

Continue to stay safe and stay well. See you on June 12th at 10AM via ZOOM/Phone.

Pax,

Lisa

Our next Gathering will be via ZOOM on Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 10AM to Noon

If you are using video, click on the link:

<https://jhuapl.zoomgov.com/j/1614042494?pwd=YWhjY1pPdVlkwWjNyTOhJZiRMUT09>

Meeting ID: **161 404 2494**

Password: **165756**

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

One tap mobile +16468287666,,1614042494# US (New York)

If you will be only calling in without video, please call:

1-833-568-8864 US Toll-free (then use the same Meeting number and password as above using the # sign after the Meeting ID and the Password.)

Agenda for Gathering:

Opening Prayer: Brown Book: Page 35

Liturgy of the Hours - Morning Prayer for the Feast of The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Presider	Joan Kane
Antiphonarian	Kelly Frederick (Women will be Side 1 and Men will be Side 2)
Reader	Gary Haigley
Invitatory Antiphon	Page 1372 (Use alternate Antiphon "Come, let us sing...")
Invitatory Psalm	Page 688 (<i>Note: the Antiphon "The Lord is risen, alleluia" is repeated between each verse of the psalm</i>)
Opening Hymn	Page 1372 Morning Prayer Hail Mary, Gentle Woman (<i>The lyrics may be found at the end of this newsletter</i>)
Antiphons	Page 1372-1373
Psalmody	Page 707
Reading	Page 1373 Isaiah 61:10
Responsory	Page 1373
Gospel Antiphon	Page 1373
Canticle of Zechariah	Page 691
Intercessions	Page 1373 <u>OR</u> 1374
Closing Prayer	Page 1377 (Second full section)
Closing of LoH	Page 694

Little Flower Business Matters – Lisa Gough

- Infirmarian Report - Helen Tumminello
- Gathering in person – IT'S SO CLOSE FOLKS!
- Fraternity Elections – we are due to hold our elections in September. We need 2 members to form a Nominating Committee. Please consider helping in this capacity. Further, please consider running for an office. We are called to be SERVANT LEADERS. Each of us has a responsibility to help guide and lead our Brothers and Sisters in Fraternity.

What is feeding our souls? *Minister's Note: I need volunteers!!! Please consider sharing your experiences!!*

This month Lisa Gough will give a summary of the book "Women of the Bible Speak – The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today" by Shannon Bream. Ms. Bream is the anchor for Fox News @ Night and is their chief legal correspondent in Washington, DC.

Around the ZOOM!

Everyone is invited, when called upon, to share some good news or positive things happening in your life, family, parish, neighborhood, workplace, etc. Each person will be called upon in turn.

Ongoing Formation – NEW! We Are Many Parts

At our last Gathering we stumbled upon a topic that seemed of interest to those on the ZOOM. We have created "We Are Many Parts" as a way each month we will hear from a selected a member of the Fraternity to share in their journey to the Secular Franciscans. You can share topics such as who approached you to check us out, what drew you to the Order, what aspect(s) of St. Francis did you find surprising or fascinating, etc. We want to hear about YOUR journey and your initial (and ongoing!) conversion.

Our spotlight this month is our Vice Minister Beth Dykton.

Gospel to Life: Lk 2:41-51

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

Questions to ponder and respond for discussion:

- 1.) What would you have wanted to ask Jesus had you been around during those three days in the temple?
- 2.) What do we learn about Mary in this incident?
- 3.) How does this story illustrate the tension Jesus may have felt between obedience to His Father and obedience to His earthly parents?

Closing Prayer: Brown Book, Page 36

Birthday Celebrant:

Mea culpa! Mea culpa! Mea culpa! I was advised that Anna Hagerman is ONLY 102! My sincerest apologies for the oversight - Lisa

June None

Profession Anniversaries:

June Jim Davis 6/12/1960
 Francine Hilton 6/4/1978

Charity for June: Defend Life

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.
 410-665-1054 Frageo63@gmail.com

Minister	Lisa Gough, OFS	lisa21093@comcast.net	443-928-9668
Vice Minister	Beth Dykton, OFS	mybese@aol.com	301-641-4764
Treasurer	Kelly Frederick, OFS	kellyfrederick0@gmail.com	410-967-1794
Secretary	Ann German, OFS	algerman1124@gmail.com	410-952-7225
Formation Director	Joan Kane, OFS	carolkane511@yahoo.com	410-925-7910
Elected Councilor	Marge Lane, OFS	florianlane@verizon.net	410-657-1309
Elected Councilor	Ann Amrhein, OFS	aamrhein16@gmail.com	410-256-6467
Infirmarian	Helen Tumminello, OFS	hlcave@outlook.com	410-859-8343
Councilor at large	Al Gigel	albertofs14@gmail.com	443-762-6722

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman by Carey Landry

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death.
 Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father; you were chosen for the Son. You were chosen from all women and for woman, shining one.

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

Blessed are you among women, blest in turn all women, too. Blessed they with peaceful spirits. Blessed they with gentle hearts.