



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

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

April 3, 2022

Monthly Encouragement from the Minister,

As Lent 2022 continues, ask yourself this question, how do I react when I encounter seemingly trivial annoyances, sufferings or interruptions during my day? Do I erupt angrily like an exploding volcano? Or, do I consciously place myself in Jesus' presence and ask him for patience and peace?

Mother Angelica, PCPA, foundress of EWTN, often spoke of the nitty-gritty holiness born from the "sacrament of the present moment," a spiritual practice she freely admitted borrowing from Fr. Jean-Pierre de Caussade, S.J. Mother advised when some small "pinch" comes to us, and they do more often during our day than we desire them to, something out of our choosing, we should receive them as small gifts of love from God's hands, gentle kisses on the cheek from God's lips.

She recommends we respond with prayer. Simply saying, "Dearest Lord, I receive this pinch as Your Will for me today. I offer it to You, with all the love of my heart, for the salvation of the world and for the suffering souls in Purgatory." Making this a habit, Mother advised, will give us a deeper understanding of St. Paul's teaching that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus Our Lord. (confer Romans 8: 38-39)

So, sisters and brothers, when life pinches us we have two choices. We can choose the volcanic reaction and spew forth tons of lava or we can choose to offer it back gently to God, asking that He use it for the salvation of souls. From their example we know how Mother Angelica and our Seraphic Father, St. Francis of Assisi would choose. So ask yourself, when it happens to me, how will I choose?

Let us encourage each other daily while it is still today. May each of you have a prayerful conclusion to Lent and a Blessed and Holy encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus during the Great 50 days of Easter.

In the joy of Jesus and Francis,

Phil Pucher, OFS, Minister

OUR APRIL MEETING (April 9th from 10am-Noon) WILL BE IN PERSON

IN BURKE HALL AT ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

(ZOOM will also be available. See below for logon info.)

Mass at 9am in the church for anyone interested.

CHANGE FOR MAY GATHERING TO MAY 7TH FROM 1 TO 3PM!

The May 14, 2022 fraternity Gathering will be moved to May 7

from 1 pm and ending at 3 pm

in The Burke Hall at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

There are four reasons for this move of date and time: first, on May 14 the confirmation class will be having its day of recollection and will be using the hall from 9am to 4 pm. Secondly, the space in the rectory can only accommodate fewer than 12 members. Third, many of our brothers and sisters will be attending the regional retreat on May 14. Fourth, the 1 pm start time accommodates the new SFA/SLF Pastorate Catholic Meditation Group that meets from 9am to Noon that Saturday. Thank you for your understanding.

ZOOM INFORMATION

<https://jhuapl.zoomgov.com/j/1612498331?pwd=Y2p4bFJZaHlxdElaeTFDM3NwUDcrZz09>

Meeting ID: 161 249 8331

Password: 748638

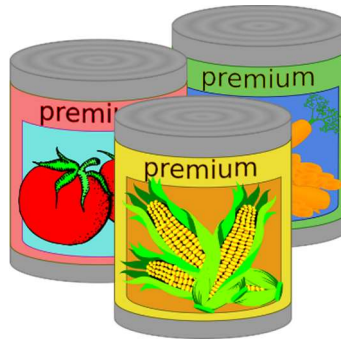
One tap mobile

+16468287666,,1612498331# US (New York) OR

Dial 1-833-568-8864 US Toll-free (same Meeting ID and Password as above)



Please remember that if you require a beverage or snack,
please bring your own.



******HELP US HELP ST. FRANCIS CHURCH FOOD PANTRY!******

******PLEASE BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO EACH GATHERING!******

(Note: If you are bringing items from your personal pantry, please check the expiration dates and kindly do not bring expired items for donation as they will likely be discarded)

Agenda for Gathering Saturday, April 9, 2022:

(always subject to change by the will of the Holy Spirit!)

Opening	Brown Book
Liturgy of the Hours	Please volunteer to help lead in this prayer!
Business Matters	Minister Phil Pucher
Short Break	10 minutes
Ongoing Formation	
"Praying the Liturgy of the Hours"	Fr. Bart Karwacki
"Peter's Denial"	Phil Pucher, OFS
Announcements and final remarks	Anyone
Closing	Brown Book

Here we go again!

Mark your calendars!

There's another Profession coming!

Please join us on Saturday, June 11th at Noon for the Profession of Dennis James Bernardo to the Secular Franciscan Order. A luncheon Reception will follow. Please see attached flyer for more information.



The key to our success is COMMUNICATION!

If you are in need of prayers for yourself or an immediate family member, please make sure to contact our Infirmarian

Helen Tumminello

Phone 410-859-8226 (Preferred) or e-mail: htumminello@aol.com

Helen will then get out an e-mail and make phone calls with the information.



Please keep our contact information in a place with your Will and/or final wishes so that your loved ones can notify us at the appropriate time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

In order to protect the privacy of our Sisters and Brothers, we are only listing the names of those who have asked for/or are in need of our prayers.

Elsie Saylor

Marge Lane

Cathy Via's family

Kathleen Hale

Maria Mercaldo

Retreat...Reflect...Reconnect
Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

May 13-15, 2022 - St. Margaret of Cortona Region Regional Retreat
at Loyola on the Potomac

Click link for more information and registration

<https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/>

May 14, June 11 and July 9 - Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University
The Crib, The Cross and The Eucharist

Three Saturdays from Noon to 2pm via ZOOM and FREE

<https://www.sbu.edu/academics/academic-resources/franciscan-institute/programs-conferences>

Click on link above for registration and more upcoming events at SBU!

June 3-5, 2022 – Power and Purpose Conference

Franciscan University of Steubenville (Ohio)

Carpool with others! Contact Donna DuPuis at St. Philip Neri for more information at 410-850-4118 or desdupuis@hotmail.com. Secular Franciscans receive a (SIZABLE!) discount!

Use code PPC22DDuPMD in your registration at

<https://steubenvilleconferences.com/events/ppc/>

August 2022 Quinquennial Congress

Phoenix, AZ!

Please see the Tau USA or go to <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/> and click on “Quinquennial” for more information

Little Flower Fraternity celebrates 60 years in October 2022!
Stay tuned for more details!

Latest Up To Now issue link:

<https://saintmargaretof cortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/February-2022-Up-to-Now-Newsletter-1.pdf>



Birthday Celebrant:

April

Phil Pucher	April 1 st
Maria Mercaldo	April 22 nd
Lisa Gough	April 27 th

Profession Anniversaries:

April

Barb Bruno	4/22/2001
Phil Pucher	4/27/2003
Maria Mercaldo	4/22/2012

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of 02/22/2022	\$3,092.90
Add: Deposits	\$326.00 (1)
Less: Disbursements	
Ck #1514 National Fraternity (Brazil Flood)	\$250.00
Ck #1515 Catholic relief Services (Ukraine Relief)	\$250.00
Ck #1516 Franciscan Family Apostolate (Jan-Mar)	\$225.00
Ck #1517 St. Francis Church	\$100.00 (1)
Ck #1518 St. Margaret of Cortona Region	<u>\$270.00 (2)</u>
Sub-Total	\$2,323.90
Less: withhold for future Retreats	<u>\$300.00</u>
TOTAL Available for use:	<u><u>\$2,023.90</u></u>

Notes: (1) CK 1502 was lost and replaced by CK 1517 (2) Advance for Dennis Bernardo to attend regional retreat before his Profession in June.

Charity for April:

Beans and Bread <https://www.vincentbaltimore.org/what-we-do/homelessness/beans-and-bread/>

Please make ALL checks payable to: **LITTLE FLOWER FRATERNITY**

Mail to: Little Flower Fraternity
c/o Lisa Gough, OFS
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Lutherville, MD 21093

Little Flower Fraternity Council

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Other notes and tidbits:

To help us reach out and evangelize who we are, we are collecting the names of Parishes to which all of us belong. Primarily we want to record the Parish in which you are registered. Additionally, we also want to know which parishes in which you have a personal connection and know the Pastor well. We plan to compile the data for the future so we can ask if we can speak at Masses on a weekend and promote our Order. This is completely voluntary.

Also, included in this Newsletter is an updated Roster which now incorporates the Transfers from St. Michael the Archangel Fraternity.

In the Roster, we are still missing some information (in addition to the above). Please provide Lisa Gough any missing information (e-mail preferred or to the Infirmarian for those that do not have e-mail.)

DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

DENNIS'S PROFESSION ON SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH AT NOON!