



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

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

July 31, 2022

Fraternity Family,

Matt Talbot was an ordinary man with an ordinary problem that afflicts many, even many Franciscans. Yet, he overcame it. Who helped him first to control it then to defeat it? Read on to discover the answer.

Matt Talbot was born in 1856 in Dublin, Ireland one of twelve children born to a poor family. His father and several brothers were alcoholics. He didn't attend school for long, and got a job around the age of twelve with a wine seller. That's where his own drinking problem began. For years he cared about nothing but obtaining alcohol. It's where all his money and time went. He borrowed or stole money when he ran out—even pilfering a violin from a blind beggar to pawn for drinking cash.

But when he was twenty-eight years old, something changed in Matt. He realized that drinking was a path that led to nothing good and decided to do something about it. He took a pledge to avoid alcohol for three months, went to confession, and began attending daily Mass. He completed his three months successfully. Then he pledged six months. Actually, he never touched alcohol again. He worked as a laborer, stopped carry money on himself so that he wouldn't be tempted to spend it on booze. His wages were used for better things. He gave generously to the poor, to friends in need, and to the Church. He strove to pay back all those from whom he had borrowed or stolen.

He was close to Our Lady and prayed the Rosary fervently. He joined, our family, the Third Order of St. Francis, today called the Secular Franciscan Order, and observed intense penances, including abstaining from meat for the majority of the year. He read the Bible daily and poured over the lives of the saints.

Matt was a new man in Christ. He had once tried to fill a bottomless hole inside of himself with alcohol, only to find that it left him emptier than ever. Then, after all his trials, every corner of his life was dedicated to God and his heart was overflowing with His gifts. Truly, as Our Lady said in her Magnificat, *He has filled the hungry with good things.*

Matt died of a heart attack at the age of 69 on his way to Mass on Trinity Sunday in 1925. He had been sober for over 40 years. Pope St. Paul VI gave him the title of Venerable, and with a couple miracles, he'll be a saint one day—undoubtedly the patron saint of alcoholics and all who struggle with addiction.

Venerable Matt Talbot, like us, was no one extraordinary. He didn't become a saint by working miracles or doing anything we can't do. He did it by *mastering himself through the power of Christ*, even in the face of immense personal obstacles.

Venerable Matt Talbot pray for us. Amen.

Stay cool and pray during the dog days of August.

Phil Pucher, Minister, Little Flower Fraternity OFS

Monthly Gathering Saturday, August 13, 2022  
10AM – Noon  
Mass at 9AM for those interested

**ZOOM INFORMATION**

<https://jhuapl.zoomgov.com/j/1612498331?pwd=Y2p4bFJZaHlxElaeTFDM3NwUDcrZz09>

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)

**Agenda for Gathering**

**Please remember to bring your own beverage and/or snack.**

*Not necessarily in this order...The Holy Spirit is the only one who knows the agenda!*

Open with the Ritual Book

Liturgy of the Hours

Formation - Fr. Bart will provide us with a short talk with Q &A

Ongoing Formation – Vice Minister Al Gigel

Business Matters for the good of the Order

Close with the Ritual Book

**\*\*\*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)*



**Reminder:**

**Please take inventory of your Formation Materials and bring it to the Gathering or e-mail to Joan Kane [joankane1014@gmail.com](mailto:joankane1014@gmail.com)**



## **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](mailto:htumminello@aol.com)

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

*\*Our Sister Helen will be convalescing from surgery for the foreseeable future. Please send your prayer intentions to members of the Council (e-mail is best). Contact info is at the end of this newsletter.*

*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.*

<i>Aimee (Niece of Al Gigel)</i>	<i>Jim Davis</i>	<i>David (Son-in-law of Jim Davis)</i>		
<i>Peg Doerfler</i>	<i>Kathleen Hale</i>	<i>Mike (Brother of Kathleen Hale)</i>		
<i>Elsie Saylor</i>	<i>Helen Tumminello</i>	<i>John Tumminello</i>	<i>Johnny Gigliotti</i>	<i>Joyce Gigliotti</i>

# **Retreat...Reflect...Reconnect**

## **Opportunities for Spiritual Growth**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity Annual Picnic**

**Sunday September 18, 2022 1-4pm**

**Shrine of St. Anthony, Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD**

**Mass at Noon for those interested**

**Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be provided. Guests may bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert.**

**Please RSVP to Beth Dykton NO LATER THAN September 4, 2022**

**mybese@aol.com phone 301-641-4764**

## **60 NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD!**

**Little Flower Fraternity celebrates 60 years in October 2022!**

**Another Update: We will start with Mass at 10AM followed by a pot luck.**

**Pot Luck Sign-Up to Start this month!**

**We would love to have ALL of our members, especially those that are excused,  
to join us this day. If you need a ride, please reach out to the Council and we  
will get this done!**

Latest **Up To Now** issue link:

<https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/May-2022-Up-to-Now-Regional-Newsletter.pdf>



**Birthdays Celebrant:**

**August**

Sandra Chabot	August 30 <sup>th</sup>
Beverly Edwards	August 28 <sup>th</sup>
Maureen Korzelius	August 30 <sup>th</sup>
Elsie Saylor	August 20 <sup>th</sup>
Helen Tumminello	August 26 <sup>th</sup>

**Profession Anniversaries:**

**August**

Fr. Bart Karwacki, OFM Conv.	August 15, 1969
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**Treasurer's Report:**

Net balance as of	6/28/2022	\$ 1,544.25	
Income			
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 760.00	
Expenses			
Ck 1536	Helen Tumminello	\$ 73.00	Postage \$58 and Mass Card \$15
Ck 1537	Companions of St. Anthony	\$ 150.00	June Charity - Shine of St. Anthony in EC
Ck 1538	St. Francis Church	\$ 50.00	June Hall rental
Ck 1539	Lisa Gough	\$ 58.00	Postage
Ck 1540	Fr. Bart Karwacki	\$ 250.00	Stipend Feb - June 2022
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 581.00	
<i>Net Income/(Loss)</i>		\$ 179.00	
Net Balance		\$ 1,723.25	
Less:	Future Retreat Reserve	\$ (300.00)	
Working Balance as of	7/26/2022	\$ 1,423.25	

**Charity for August:**

**St. Lawrence Seminary High School**

**Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin**

<https://www.stlawrence.edu/>

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

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

### Little Flower Fraternity Council

Spiritual Assistant: Fr. Bart Karwacki, OFM Conv. [bartkar47@gmail.com](mailto:bartkar47@gmail.com)

Minister	Phil Pucher, OFS	<a href="mailto:ofspphilpucher.21@yahoo.com">ofspphilpucher.21@yahoo.com</a>	410-243-2924
Vice Minister	Al Gigel, OFS	<a href="mailto:Albertofs14@gmail.com">Albertofs14@gmail.com</a>	443-762-6722
Treasurer	Lisa Gough, OFS	<a href="mailto:Lisa21093@comcast.net">Lisa21093@comcast.net</a>	443-928-9668
Secretary	Beth Dykton, OFS	<a href="mailto:mybese@aol.com">mybese@aol.com</a>	301-641-4764
Formation Director	Joan Kane, OFS	<a href="mailto:joankane1014@gmail.com">joankane1014@gmail.com</a>	410-925-7910
Elected Councilor	Mike Huether	<a href="mailto:Michaelhuether4@gmail.com">Michaelhuether4@gmail.com</a>	410-963-0190
Elected Councilor	Kelly Frederick, OFS	<a href="mailto:Kellyfrederick0@gmail.com">Kellyfrederick0@gmail.com</a>	410-967-1794
Elected Councilor	Gary Haigley	None	410-477-0016
Infirmarian	Helen Tumminello, OFS	<a href="mailto:htumminello@aol.com">htumminello@aol.com</a>	410-859-8226

**Invite a friend to join us the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month!**

**Gathering Address**

**St. Francis of Assisi Church**

**Burke Hall**

**3615 Harford Road**

**Baltimore, MD 21218**

## Ongoing Formation Resources Checklist

**In an effort to enhance our Ongoing Formation we need to have everyone take an inventory of their reading materials and what books everyone has or does not have.**

**Please take a few moments to check your bookshelves for the following resources:**

**Please put a check (√) in the space next to the resource you have**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Journey
- \_\_\_\_\_ Catch me a Rainbow Too
- \_\_\_\_\_ Come and See
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pick More Daisies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Essential Documents (hard copy or electronically)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rule Book (Small Red Book or the long white book)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ritual Book (Brown Book)

Do you have a Tau Cross to wear? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please bring this with you to the Gathering on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>!**

**No need to bring the resources themselves...yet!**

**If you will not be at the Gathering please e-mail (or snail mail) it to:**

**Joan Kane  
8511 Coltrane Court #402  
Ellicott City, MD 21043**

**[joankane1014@gmail.com](mailto:joankane1014@gmail.com)**

***Your Name:*** \_\_\_\_\_