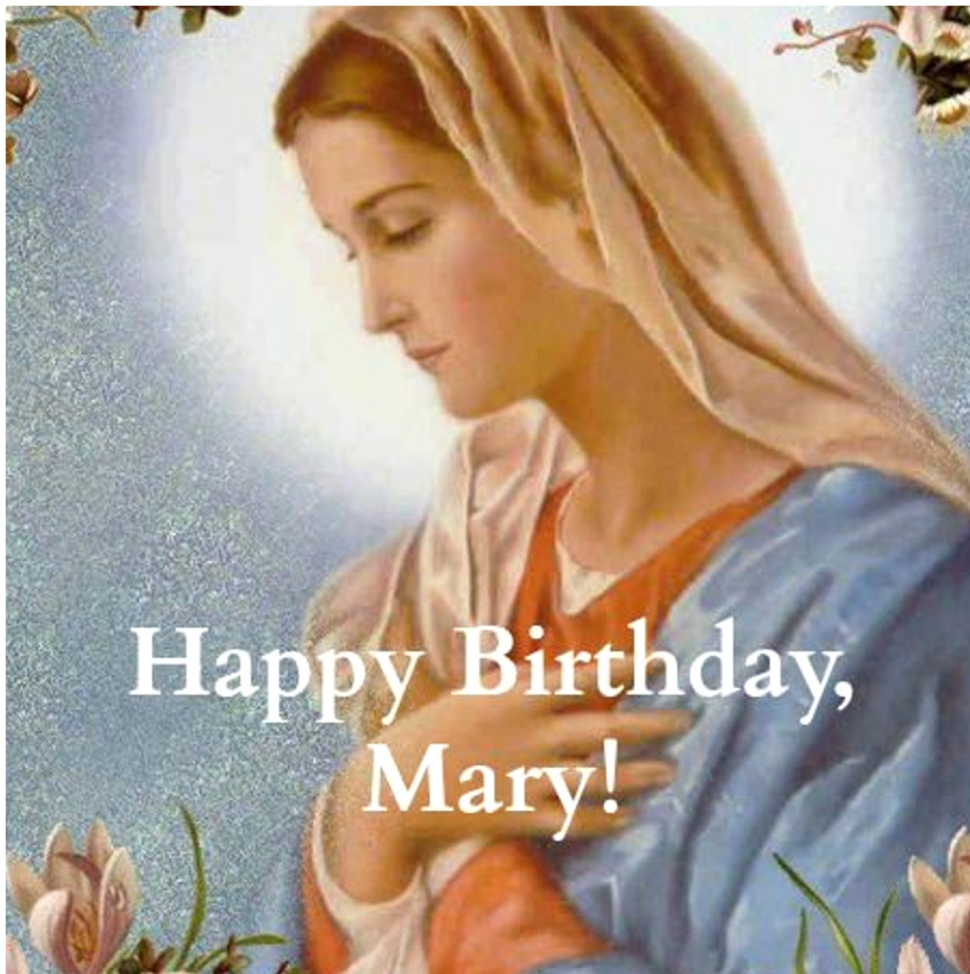


ST MARY OF THE ANGELS FRATERNITY  
ORDER OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN  
THE ANGELUS \* AUGUST 21, 2022



**Minister: Susan Jamison**  
**Vice-Minister: Sonia Bernardo**  
**Spiritual Assistant: Michael Huether - Formation Director: Tom McGrath**  
**Secretary: Portia - Treasurer: Carmencita Fiesta**  
**Counselors: Lilian Soriano, Mary Bajo & Irma Jean-Baptiste**  
**The Angelus: Mary Badjo & Susan Jamison**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE WILL HAVE NO SEPTEMBER MEETING** as many of us are attending the annual picnic graciously hosted by the St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity on **September 18th**, our usual meeting day, **from 1:30 to 4 pm** at the Shrine of St Anthony in Ellicott City. **Please bring a side dish to share. Mass in the Chapel will be offered at noon.** The address is 12290 Folly Quarter Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Happy Birthday** to OUR LADY and Dale Eppig on September 8th

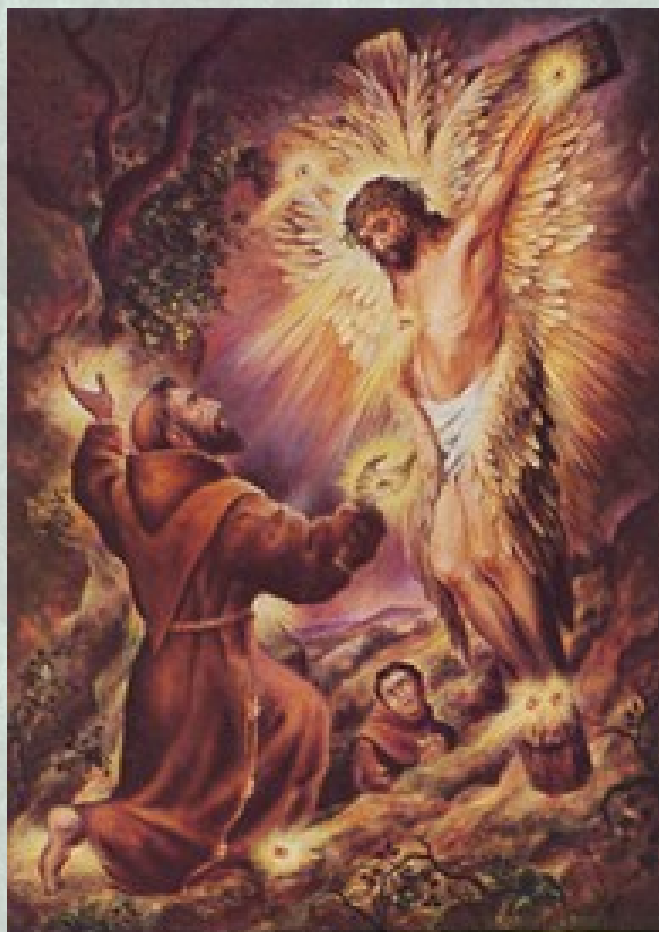
**Our monthly Mass** for living and deceased fraternity members will be on Sunday September 18th at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Grace Church.

**Please pray** for healing for Brenda Dawson, Hazel Cummings' husband, Marty, Carol who is recovering from a hip replacement, Jim Wall, and Genie, and all of our Fraternity members in general, living and deceased.

**WE WILL HAVE NO SEPTEMBER MEETING** as many of us are attending the picnic on September 18th, our usual meeting day, at the annual Ellicott City picnic at the Shrine of St Anthony so graciously hosted by . Please bring a side dish to share.

**Our November Elections:** I will be sending out an email to you with details on the various offices you should consider serving upon on our Council. Please prayerfully consider offering your talents. Portia and Sonia are graciously serving as our Nominating Committee.

**Mike Huether** is starting a new series for his monthly Spiritual Assistant's Message. We all found inspiration on his writings about the Peace Prayer. Now we are on to a new topic!



Hopefully all of you enjoyed my series of messages on the prayer we all love as Franciscans: that of the Peace Prayer of St. Francis. So, starting with this month, the month we celebrate the feast of the Stigmata of our Father Francis, September 17, I will have for you a series of messages on this great turning event of his life as well as what effects the stigmatization had on his life thereafter. Again, I base these next few writings of mine for you on a reference I read entitled, "Franciscan Perfection" by Ce`saire de Tours, OFM Cap.

On one morning close to the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Francis was blessed with a vision of a seraph with six wings of fire which appeared and hovered in the air before him. Between the wings, there was a figure of a man nailed to a cross by his hands and feet. Two of the wings were extended above the man's head; two were spread out in flight; and two covered his body. Francis gazed at this figure with both joy and sorrow: joyful at the sight of he knew was Christ, but sadness to see Him nailed to a cross. The figure imparted a divine revelation to him explaining the meaning of this mysterious appearance. He soon understood by it that he was to be transformed into a likeness of the crucified Lord, but not by martyrdom, but by his ardent love of Him in his soul.

(Continued)

This transformation began immediately. The first appearance was of the marks of the nails in his hands and feet in the same way he observed them in the vision of the crucified figure. The heads of the nails could be seen in the palms of his hands and on the upper part of his feet close to his ankles. The points of the nails protruded on the other sides and were long and bent back. On his right side, a red wound appeared looking as if he were pierced with a lance. Blood flowed from this wound staining his undergarment and habit

Celano, who witnessed this sacred event of the Stigmata, described it similarly this way. As a historian, he states it as such: “We who tell of these things, have seen them with our own eyes; we have touched with our hands that which these same hands here set down in writing.....Many Friars besides ourselves saw this while the saint was living, and, after his death, more than fifty friars and innumerable seculars venerated the sacred wounds.” The Stigmata is the best authenticated event of the whole history of the saint: an event which cannot be adequately explained. As Celano continues: “This mystery has been shown in the flesh because it could not be explained in words.....Therefore, let our silence speak where adequate words are lacking; where expression fails us, the figure of Francis, marked with the Stigmata, proclaims the miracle.”

The sovereign popes have solemnly verified the truth of the Stigmata event by instituting the Feast of the Impression of the Stigmata of St. Francis to honor the solemnity of this miracle and to keep it sacred throughout the whole Catholic Church.

According to mystic writers, the bestowing of the Stigmata is granted as either a reward freely done by God to one for his contemplation, or as a disposition given to elevate to the mystical union. According to P. Seraphin, C.P., God gave them to St. Francis after he entered the perfect union, therefore, the wounds were a reward granted.

Three wonderful effects produced by the Stigmata in Francis were, A sharing in the sufferings and privileges of the Crucified Christ, The anticipated glorification of his body, and the alternatives to original justice. I will expound on these starting with next month.

May the Lord give you peace, Mike

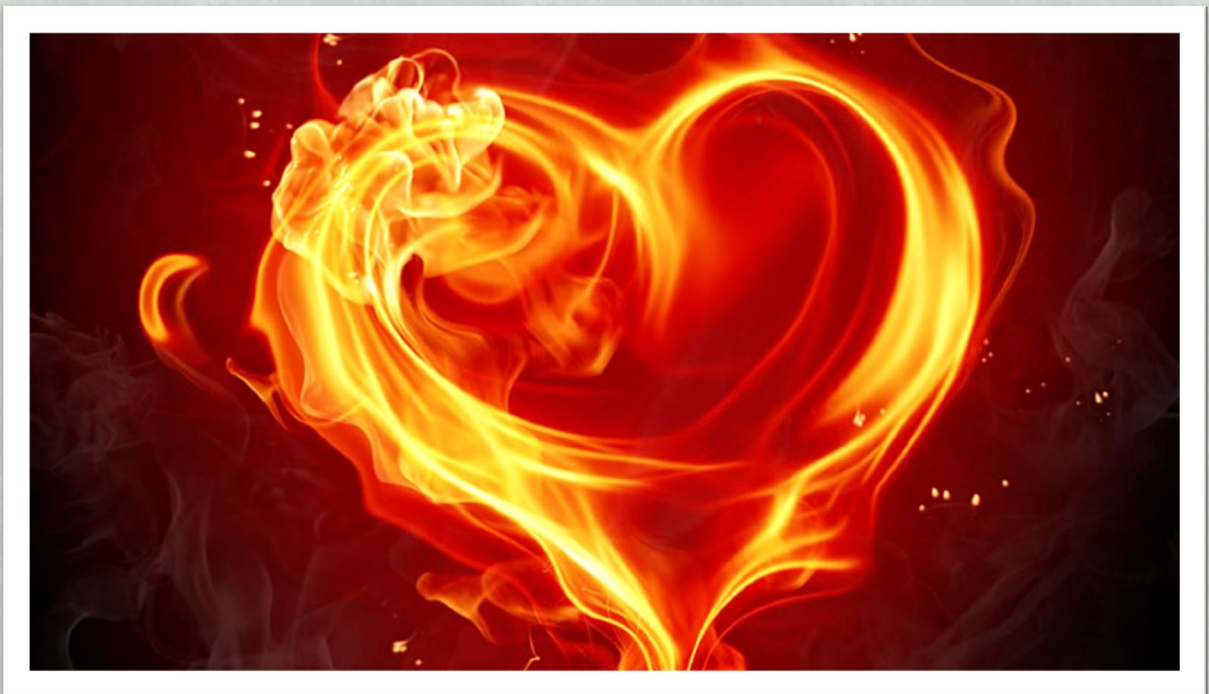


## MINISTER’S MESSAGE

September, 2022

I wanted to share this prayer in honor of the Feast of The Stigmata of St. Francis from the website for the Irish Franciscans OFM Province in Ireland (<https://www.franciscans.ie/feast-of-the-stigmata-of-st-francis/>)

*I beg you, Lord,  
let the fiery, gentle power of your love  
take possession of my soul,  
and snatch it away  
from everything under heaven,  
that I may die  
for love of your love,  
as you saw fit to die  
for love of mine.*



In addition to the Feast of the Birthday of Mary on September 8th, and the Feast of the Stigmata of St Francis on September 17th, there are many notable feast days in this month which is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows including:

September 3rd we honor Pope St Gregory

September 5th we honor Mother Theresa

September 12th we honor the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary

September 13th, we honor St. John Chrysostom

September 14th we honor the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 15th we honor the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

September 18th we honor St Joseph of Cupertino

September 21 we honor St Matthew the Apostle

September 23 we honor St Padre Pio

September 29 we honor the Archangels, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

**AND THAT IS ONLY SOME OF THEM!**

