



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

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

November 27, 2022

My Secular Franciscan brothers and sisters,

Happy Advent! Happy Church New Year, Merry Christmas 🎄 , Happy Secular New Year 🥳 ,

We are now a full week into Advent 2023. Yes, that is correct in the Church's reckoning of time we are in 2023 - the Liturgical Year A. I pray with hope and joy that whatever prayer plan you are following in Advent 2023 is bearing much spiritual meat for your soul's preparation to receive Blessed Jesus into your soul on Christmas 🎄 .

And toot sweet, Advent is followed by the Great Octave of Christmas, 8 days beginning on Christmas Day, which are so filled with meaning for our faith growth that Mother Church celebrates it as ONE day. During the season of Christmas we celebrate Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Holy Family of Nazareth, various martyred saints, Sts. Stephen, Thomas a Becket and the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem, and John the Evangelist.

This year we get to celebrate within the Christmas season two memorials of USA saints with local importance St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first Saint of the USA canonized by Mother Church who was a mother, caregiver, foundress, and educator, and St. John Neumann, who was stationed in ADB for a time, and later the Archbishop of Philadelphia, PA.

Then comes, drum roll please, our great feast of the Epiphany in which we celebrate the manifestation of Jesus as Savior and Lord to us, the Gentiles, the barbarians, those whom ancient Israel often believed were unforgivable sinners and not saved. Boy, did God teach them a lesson. And we close out celebrating the Christmas mysteries on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Quite the celebration isn't it. Many in the secular world have pretty much given up the celebration on December the 26th. The rest on January the 1st. But we Catholics keep it going to the Baptism of the Lord and, if you like all the traditional feasts, don't forget February 2 the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple 🙏 .

So have yourself a Happy Advent, New Year and a Joy filled Christmas this year.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus come and be born in our hearts that this Advent-Christmas season will be our best ever. Amen.

May the Lord grant you his peace,

Phillip Francis Pucher, OFS
Minister, Little Flower Fraternity OFS

What's next....

Gathering Saturday, December 10, 2022 10am – Noon

The Holy Spirit will guide us in the order of things!

- Liturgy of the Hours
- "What it Takes" – please read Introduction and Chapter One
- Fr. Bart's Spiritual Talk

For December we are going to have a Cookie Swap! Please bring some cookies (homemade or bought) and we can swap out what we would like to take home with us. Please bring your own beverage.

Please note: We are sending the Roster along with this newsletter. Should you wish to give out Christmas Cards at the Gathering, please remember to take back with you cards for anyone not present at the Gathering. The Council will not mail out any unclaimed cards.

PERFECT JOY!

In Rejection Celebrating the Joy of Jesus in the Season of Lent Presenters Needed!

Is there a topic that you would like to share with the Fraternity?

Have you attended a seminar or talk that spoke to you about our Faith or your relationship with Jesus Christ? Or your connection with St. Francis?

Have you read a compelling book on these topics?

We are looking from our own members to give presentations for our in-house retreat. These can be as long or as short as you wish. We will provide the services of putting your information into a Powerpoint which can be displayed on the overhead screen.

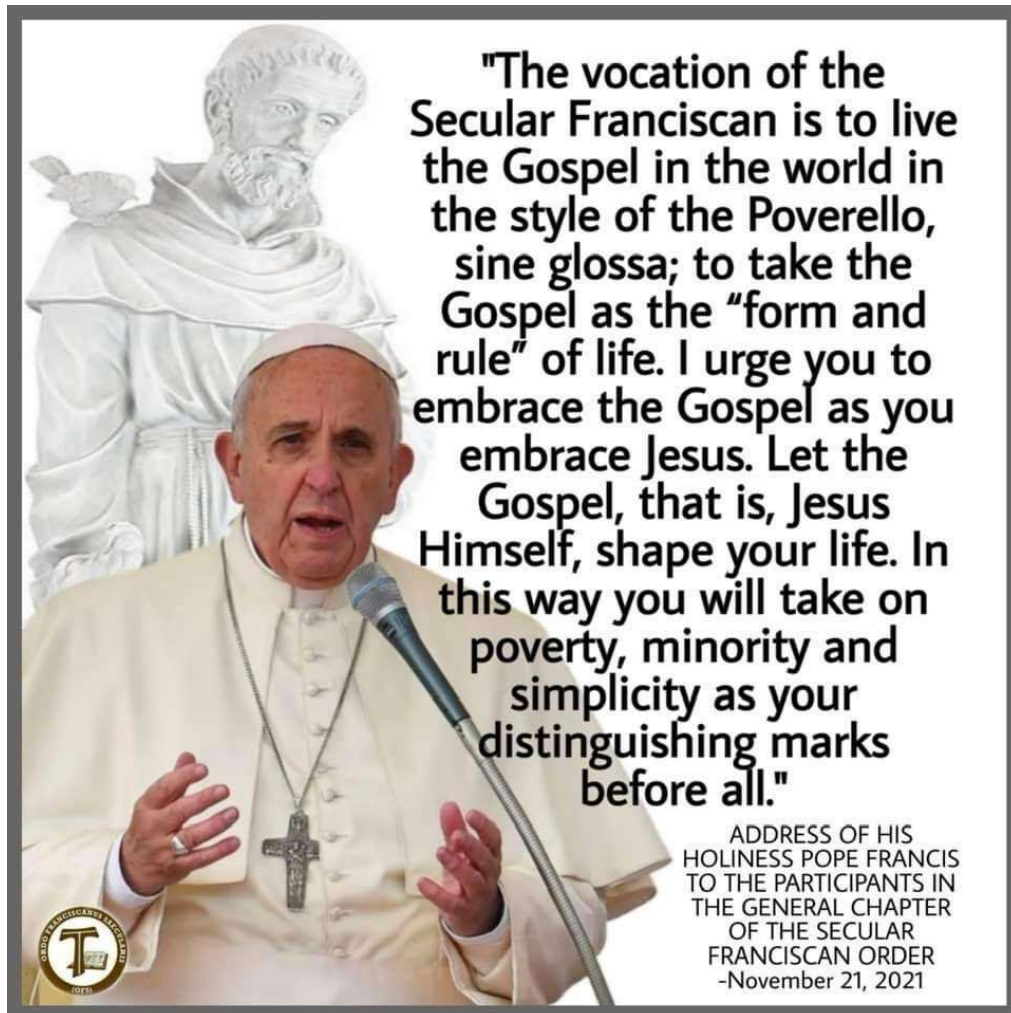
Please send your General Topic and rough amount of time needed to Minister Phil Pucher by Saturday December 3rd.

**The Retreat will be on
Saturday, February 11, 2023**

Start with Mass at 9am, Continental Breakfast provided.

Bring your own lunch, beverages will be provided throughout the day.

Wrap up, cleaned up and out by 3pm



******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)



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: hltumminello@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 **Joan Kane or Kelly Frederick (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.*

*Phil Pucher Barb Bruno Stas & Cass Chrazanowski Donna Dellaglio
John Tumminello Jim Childress Debbie Gough (Sister-in-law of Lisa)
Peg Doerfler Kathleen Hale Elsie Saylor*

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

Live Nativity Coming to IHM

The IHM Outreach Office is going to produce a live nativity scene this Christmas season! On December 9 (6pm – 8pm) and December 10 (from 5 – 7 PM), we'll celebrate the birth of Jesus with a live rendition of that special night, complete with holiday themed music, a manger, the arrival of the angels and plenty more!

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
8501 Loch Raven Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21286

Greccio Service
Sunday, January 8, 2023
4pm (Doors open at 3:30pm)
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Presented by the Choirs of Archbishop Curley High School
Free and open to the public

Oyster Roast
January 22, 2023
1-5pm Burke Hall \$65 Call the Rectory for Tickets

Inquirers and Candidates Day of Reflection and Recollection
March 11, 2023
Shrine of St. Anthony
Details to follow

Regional Retreat
Loyola on the Potomac
July 14-15, 2023
Details to follow

Formation Retreat Weekend
 June 23-25, 2023
 Washington Retreat House
 Details to follow

Latest Up To Now issue link:

<https://saintmargaretofcorona.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022-August-Up-to-Now-Regional-Newsletter.pdf>



Birthday Celebrant:

December

Marge Lane Dec 3rd

Profession Anniversaries:

December

Ann Amrhein 12/17/89
 Anna Hagerman 12/28/80
 Kathleen Hale 12/28/80
 Helen Tumminello 12/19/90

Treasurer's Report

Little Flower Fraternity
 Financial Report
 November 22, 2022

Net balance as of	10/9/2022		\$ 1,619.25
Income			
TOTAL INCOME			\$ 630.00
Expenses			
ck 1551	Joan Kane	\$ 632.00	Books
ck 1552	St. Francis Church	\$ 50.00	November Gathering
	TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$ 682.00</u>
	<i>Net Income/(Loss)</i>		<i>\$ (52.00)</i>
Net Balance			\$ 1,567.25
Less:	Future Retreat Reserve		<u>\$ (300.00)</u>
	11/22/2022		<u>\$ 1,267.25</u>

Charity for December:

Franciscan Center

Charity for January:

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility

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

Minister	Phil Pucher, OFS	ofspilpucher.21@yahoo.com	410-243-2924
Vice Minister	Al Gigel, OFS	Albertofs14@gmail.com	443-762-6722
Treasurer	Lisa Gough, OFS	Lisa21093@comcast.net	443-928-9668
Secretary	Beth Dykton, OFS	mybese@aol.com	301-641-4764
Formation Director	Joan Kane, OFS	joankane1014@gmail.com	410-925-7910
Elected Councilor	Mike Huether	Michaelhuether4@gmail.com	410-963-0190
Elected Councilor	Kelly Frederick, OFS	Kellyfrederick0@gmail.com	410-967-1794
Elected Councilor	Gary Haigley	None	410-477-0016
Infirmarian	Helen Tumminello, OFS	hltumminello@aol.com	410-859-8226
JPIC Coordinator	Teresa Knauff	teresalmknauff@gmail.com	410-300-4452

Invite a friend to join us the 2nd Saturday of every month!

Gathering Address

St. Francis of Assisi Church

Burke Hall

3615 Harford Road

Baltimore, MD 21218

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us.