

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

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

October 31, 2022

My Secular Franciscan brothers and sisters,

Franciscan family, this November let us reflect upon these things.

First, we reflect upon our own desire to know more about our God, our faith, our Church and our Franciscan vocation. And as we discover and increase in this desire and knowledge don't stop there. Allow it to draw you ever closer to the message of our Lord.

Secondly, be attentive to the "holy curiosity" of those around you. Perhaps a neighbor, family member or coworker a fellow fraternity brother or sister has shown interest in what your faith and what our Church has to say. When you see that, pray for them and ask God to use you as He did John the Baptist to bring His message to all who seek it.

Thirdly, November is the month we celebrate three other important realities and practices of our beautiful Catholic Church as we are called to reflect on all the Saints, those already in heaven, and our own desire to be among them after this life.

We also are called to the ministry of service to our beloved dead and all the souls in Purgatory and on the Earth who yearn to enter the Kingdom of Love which our Savior Jesus, the Christ of God, promised us who remain faithful to him to the end. Pray daily for the holy souls in Purgatory and for the conversion of all to God-Life.

Finally, we are called in a special way to thank and praise our dear Lord during this month in which we celebrate all the good things God has done for our nation throughout our history as we spend a day in national Thanksgiving on our annual holiday. Of course, as faithful Franciscans we make all five of these realities a part of our daily prayers and our Franciscan walk.

St. Francis and Clare of Assisi, pray for us. Have a blessed Thanksgiving everyday knowing that you belong to Christ Jesus.

Peace and all good,

Phillip Francis Pucher, OFS Minister, Little Flower Fraternity

#### What's next....

Gathering Saturday, November 12, 2022 10am – Noon

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

- Liturgy of the Hours Prayers for the Dead including the Remembrance of all the Dearly Departed
  of our Fraternity Family
- Welcome Teresa Knauff as our JPIC leader!
- Issue of book "What It Takes" as our ongoing formation resource. A \$20 donation is suggested. Please put it in the Common Fund and mark the reference as "What It Takes"
- Thanksgiving Prayer
- And whatever else the Holy Spirit guides us to!

Please make sure to bring your own beverage and/or snack.

#### \*\*\*\*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: <a href="mailto:hltumminello@aol.com">hltumminello@aol.com</a>
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.

Barb Bruno Al Gigel Ron Polkowski (Husband of Cathy) Eddie Davis (son of Jim Davis)
Ron and Susan Neis (Daughter and Son-in-law of Helen Bridges)
Helen Tumminello Andy and Leticia (Brother and Sister-in-law of Mark Evans) Jeremy (Son of Cindy)
Maria Mercaldo Debbie Gough (Sister-in-law of Lisa) Peg Doerfler
Kathleen Hale Elsie Saylor

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

# **Advent Bible Study**

"The True Meaning of Christmas – The Birth of Jesus and the Origins of the Season" by Michael Patrick Barber

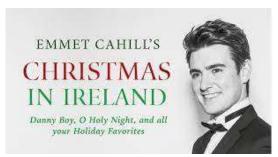
St. Francis Church

Take a break from Hallmark Christmas movies and learn much more about the Advent-Christmas season, the source of all the joys of Christmas that the secular world tries to practice often without knowing why.

Our Advent-Christmas Bible & book study begins on Thursday, December 1, continues on Wednesday, December 7, Thursday December 15, and concludes Thursday December 22.

We will be reading and discussing the Gospel narratives about the birth of our Savior Jesus and reading the book written by Michael Patrick Barber, titled The True Meaning of Christmas: The Birth of Jesus and the Origins of the Season.

Please call Gina Gross in the rectory to pre-register so that we can order the books. The donation of \$15 covers the cost & shipping of the book. BYOB = bring your own Bible.



#### Sunday December 4, 2022

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 8501 Loch Raven Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21286
Tickets \$50 (VIP includes Meet and Greet and front of house seating) and \$35 for Concert only with General Admission Seating. Meet and Greet at 2:30pm and Concert at 4pm.

Contact the Rectory for Tickets 410-668-7935

#### Saturday, February 11, 2023 Little Flower DIY Day of Retreat and Recollection

Instead of our Monthly Gathering this day we will be holding a <u>full day</u> of presentations and discussions to help us deepen our faith and our roles/duties as Secular Franciscans. We are looking to the Fraternity itself to provide topics to present. More to follow but start thinking about what <u>YOU</u> would like to present!

Optimal length would be 15-20 minutes plus 10 minutes for Q&A each
Help will be provided with any Powerpoint/Audio/Visual assistance you may need.

# Latest Up To Now issue link:

## **Little Flower News Reel**

#### **Birthday Celebrant:**

November

Ann German November 24th
Kathleen Hale November 24th
Linda Herilla November 24th

**Profession Anniversaries:** 

**November** 

None

**Treasurer's Report:** 

Little Flower Fraternity Financial Report October 9, 2022

Net balance as of 9/24/2022 \$ 1,374.25

Income

TOTAL INCOME \$ 420.00

Expenses

Ck 1549 St. Margaret of Cortona Region \$ 125.00 Chapter of Ministers Ck 1550 St. Francis Church \$ 50.00 October Gathering

 TOTAL EXPENSES
 \$ 175.00

 Net Income/(Loss)
 \$ 245.00

 Net Balance
 \$ 1,619.25

 Less:
 Future Retreat Reserve
 \$ (300.00)

 Working Balance as of
 10/9/2022
 \$ 1,319.25

#### **Charity for October & November:**

## **Christmas Outreach**

This year we will split the funds raised for Christmas between St. Francis Church Christmas Baskets (Collecting non-perishables as well) and

St. Vincent de Paul at St. Jospeh Fullerton Church

#### **Charity for December:**

**Franciscan Center** 

# 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	ofsphilpucher.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

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

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us.