

May 2024



Our Gathering Thursday, May 9th 2024

Agenda

- ❖ Inquirers meet with their Instructor
- ❖ Mass **(in the church)**
- ❖ Lunch & Fellowship **(in the parish hall, downstairs)** (bring your own food & drink)
- ❖ Business matters
- ❖ On-going Formation – Franciscan Crown Rosary (given by Tom Carter)
- ❖ Evening Prayer

Bring your Franciscan crown rosary or a regular rosary, to the gathering.

New – Be sure to sign in when you arrive.

EVENING PRAYER

(Please try and prepare your book ahead of time)

Thursday of the 6th Week of Easter

1 vol. Pg.830

Pg. 557 (Reading, Responsory, Intercessions, Prayer) Pg. 696 (Canticle)

4 vol. Pg. 1316

Pg. 907 (Reading, Responsory, Canticle Ant.) Pg. 1066 (Canticle)

Hymn: Let All Things Now Living

1 vol. pg. 1525 #45

4 vol. pg. 1315

Presider: Maureen Ciano

Antiphonarian: Patty Derrick

Reader: Pat DuBois

2024 Theme

Gospel to Life – Life to Gospel

A GENTLE REMINDER...
 IF WORK, HEALTH REASONS OR SIGNIFICANT FAMILY OBLIGATIONS
 HINDER YOU FROM ATTENDING THE
 GATHERING, PLEASE CONTACT OUR VICE
 MINISTER, PEPPER TULLY
 973-809-2344
 PEPPER32738@GMAIL.COM

Minister's Message

Mary, Our Hope

In Catholic tradition, the month of May is dedicated to Mary. Chosen by God above all other women, Mary's faith and obedience paved the way for the Incarnation. Her example teaches us faith, obedience, humility, and most of all, how to love.

"Mary My Hope" is a prayer book dedicated to our Blessed Mother. This prayer book was passed down from my grandmother to my mother and now to me. It is old, tattered, torn and very worn. I cherish this gift. My mother taught me that the purpose of true devotion to Mary is to lay a more solid foundation for devotion to Jesus Christ. It is a way to put forward an easy and secure means for finding Him, for loving and serving Him faithfully. Holy Church has taught us through her saints that "the way of coming to Christ is to draw near to Mary." Christ came to us by Mary, and it is through Mary that we must go to Him.

Peace and Blessings Franciscan Family,
Kathleen

We pray for all our fraternal sisters and brothers and for the special intentions of:

Janice & Dick McCarthy, ofs
Linda Sciallo, ofs
Ron & Bev Stoner, ofs
Bonnie Coté, ofs
Rhona Prescott, ofs
Judy Bennett, ofs
Pat DuBois, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs



We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and especially:

John Zell, ofs
Mary Lou Zell, ofs
Deacon Buddy Bianco, ofs
Deacon Bob Leonzio
Barbara Petrisko, ofs
Bill Farrell, ofs
Bill Walker, ofs
Dee Matthews, ofs
Laraine Hoffman, ofs
Florence Bianco, ofs
Celine Mallonee, ofs
Alicia Bourne, ofs
Fr. Ronald Pecci, ofm
Lucy Deiaco, ofs
Maury Robb, ofs
Dianne Douglas Barbacano, ofs



May BIRTHDAYS

Loretta Hanley	5/8
Carolyn Protin	5/13
Dely Diaz-Martinez	5/17
Bonnie Cote	5/21
Janice McCarthy	5/24
Richard McCarthy	5/31

May PROFESSIONS

Pat Dubois	5/16/2004
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**St. Margaret of Cortona
Regional Chapter of Elections**



We have a new regional council!

(Left to Right)

Minister: Gary Burton
Vice Minister: Michael Oliver
Secretary: Maria Martinez
Treasurer: Randy Bender
Formation Director: Rita Colleran



Pennies & Nickels

Thank you...

for your continued support of our Common Fund.

Individual donations to the common fund will now be recorded. Please, be sure to use an envelope and place your name on it.

If interested, at the end of the year you can receive a statement reflecting your contributions.

If you are ever unable to attend the gathering, send your donation check, payable to St. Clare Fraternity, to our treasurer:

**Andrea Lipchak, OFS
41 Tiffany Drive
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971**



Last minute Diaper & Wipe Drive

(Yes, last minute. Please bear with your new council. We are still in transition! If you're able to participate on short notice, great!)

To honor our Mother Mary, we are collecting the following items at our May gathering:

Diapers – sizes 3, 4, 5, 6

Pull-ups – sizes 4T – 5T

Baby wipes (non-scented for sensitive skin)

Gift Cards to Walmart

to be delivered to:

**Primeros Pasos (First Steps)
20648 Savannah Rd.
Georgetown, DE 19947**

Council Corner

from Thursday, May 1st

The following are a few topics your council was focused on this month:

* We discussed the on-going formation yearly plan that was presented by our Formation Director, Rhona. Several council members “signed up” to present to you in the coming year. We hope the topics will be very enriching to your spiritual journey.

* There was further discussion on how to better account for individual donations to the common fund.

* Extended talk about what “organization” we could financially support moving forward in addition to Shepherd’s Office in Georgetown and Franciscan Missions.

SUMMERTIME

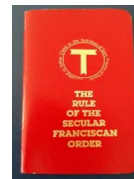
June thru September

we will be meeting at

St. Jude

152 Tulip Dr.

Lewes, DE 19958



The Rule -

What we have promised

Chapter Two

The Way of Life

10. Uniting themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed his will into the Father’s hands, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstances of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to him even in difficulties and persecutions.

Reflection- This union with the Lord is expressed and accomplished through our way of dealing with the problems of life that confront us. “Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:8). These words of St. Paul become for us both our energy and our example. We are bolstered up, especially in trying situations, because we know that Christ won for us a new life, even at the price of his own. But we also know that we cannot enjoy that new life to the fullest unless we too participate in that redemptive suffering. “Unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest” (Jn 12:24). Only in the measure that we are one with, and give witness to, Christ’s “obedience unto death,” will we be able to achieve the fullness of new life before us. Only insofar as we purposefully and positively identify with the “poor and crucified Christ” can we thoroughly “be received to obedience” in the Secular Franciscans’ way of simple living.



Franciscan Institute
at St. Bonaventure University

**Francis of Assisi, 1224-1226: A Spirituality of
Decline and True Joy**

This is for Secular Franciscans!

Three Saturdays: **June 1st, 8th and 15th**
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. EST

No cost

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

This workshop, presented on Zoom, will look at what are called Francis of Assisi's "years of decline" (1224-1226). It was a time of increasing pain and spiritual suffering. Francis, blind and suffering from malaria and leprosy, heads to La Verna for a time of contemplation and solace. The Stigmata and the Canticle of the Creatures are the products of the important year of 1224.

"Years of decline" are an ever-present context of our own lives. We experience the decline of parents and grandparents, friends and siblings, and, before long, signs of our own. What can Francis of Assisi's years of decline teach us?

Fr. Jack Rathschmidt and Fr. Dave Couturier, both Capuchins, will address these questions and more in these three Saturday Zoom sessions. There will be time given for Secular Franciscans to talk with one another in small discussion groups on this critically important topic.

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity

2024 Chapter of Mats

September 6th – 8th

Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD

The Next 800 Years

Exploring where we have been, where we are now & where we are going

This is for professed and candidates!

See details at the regional website.

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

If you have not been to a Chapter of Mats, I highly recommend experiencing it!! It's a time of great joy being with so many fellow Franciscans.

I (Elena) have registered and would love to see you there!!

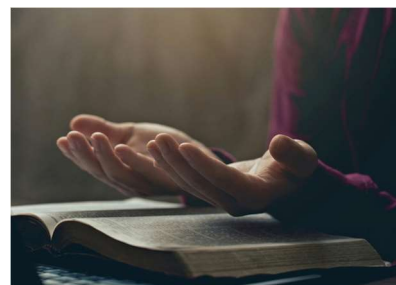
***Mary, Mother of God
Pray for us!***



May is the height of spring! Gardens everywhere are alive with blooming flowers and trees are filling their branches with leaves. This new beginning and new birth in nature reminds us of the life Mary gave to Jesus. So, it's believed that May (when nature is showing signs of life) is the ideal month to honor the woman who gave life to our Savior.

For more information on the above depiction of the Virgin Mary visit the website below.

<https://melaniejeanuneau.wordpress.com/2013/12/09/the-face-of-mary/>



**Remember
your prayer partner
in your daily prayers**

Laughing With St. Sarah
(Patron saint of laughter)



Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2024

June 13th (St. Jude's)

July 11th (St. Jude's)

August 8th (St. Jude's)

September 12th (St. Jude's)

October 10th

November 14th

December 12th

2025

January 9th

February 13th

March 13th

April 10th

Council Members

Minister: Kathleen Murphy 301-535-7011

Vice Minister: Pepper Tully 973-809-2344

Secretary: Mary Moran 302-644-1448

Treasurer: Andrea Lipchak 302-644-4434

Formation Director: Rhona Prescott 302-864-7280

Councilor: Tom Carter 302-344-1414

Councilor-Newsletter: Elena Spitzer 301-471

To all the mothers in our fraternity -

Happy Mother's Day!