

July 2024



Our Gathering Thursday, July 11, 2024

Agenda

- ❖ Inquirers meet with their instructor
- ❖ Mass (**in the church**)
- ❖ Lunch & Fellowship (**in Religious Ed. Bldg.**)
(bring your own food & drink)
- ❖ Business matters
- ❖ On-going Formation – St. Bonaventure given by Tom Carter
- ❖ Evening Prayer

REMEMBER



June thru September

We are meeting at:

St. Jude's
152 Tulip Dr.
Lewes

EVENING PRAYER

St. Benedict, Abbot, (Memorial)

If you are using your Christian Prayer or The Liturgy of the Hours books there are many "page flips" for this days Evening Prayer. To respectfully pray our Evening Prayer, **copies will be available** or the Divine Office or IBreviary Apps on your phone may be used.

Presider: Nicole Meringolo
Antiphonarian: Kate Meire
Reader: Mary Moran

2024 Theme

Gospel to Life - Life to Gospel

Minister's Message



God Bless America

I pray that God's many blessings continue to descend upon our Nation, and this troubled world.

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Did you know that on every piece of US currency and coin is the phrase "In God We Trust"?

Peace and Many Blessings,
Kathleen

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*

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
Judy Bennett, ofs
Pat DuBois, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs
Kathleen Murphy, ofs
Joe O'Neill, ofs
Mimi Farrell, ofs
Carolyn Protin, ofs
Elena Spitzer, ofs
Sandy Paulen
Jackie Boyd, 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



July BIRTHDAYS

Judy Bennett	7/5
Ron Stoner	7/11
Frances Butler	7/18

July PROFESSIONS

None



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**



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

Formation, formation, formation!!

Rhona – Formation Director

Praise be to Him who created all things!

During our last gathering, Pepper taught us about the beginning of and reasons why we Franciscans pray from the Breviary, specifically Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, every single day. It originated from the Jews who prayed constantly and from the Muslims, who stop and pray, eight times, each day. We Christians unite with them and pray with them, every day, praising and petitioning the God we all worship. As Professed Franciscans, we are required, under obedience, to pray Morning and Evening Prayer. It seems that we have become unaware of this part of our ongoing conversion. It is so very important and enriching. Pepper suggested easy ways to do this, either from the books we can purchase or from the free “apps” on our devices.

There are three different apps that I recommend.

- * Divine Office - by far the easiest to follow.
- * I Breviary - which is richer.
- * Laudate - which includes the liturgy plus a myriad of other prayers, devotions, and even the Bible.

I challenge you to go deeper and come to know Him better.



**Maureen Ciano
Bev Stoner
Andi Lipchak**

You have volunteered to bring dessert to our **July** gathering.
THANK YOU!!

Council Corner

from Thursday, July 3rd

In addition to what is in the newsletter, the following are a couple topics your council was focused on this month:

- Mike Agnew from Code Purple visited and did an outstanding job with his presentation on the workings and needs of Code Purple.
- After discussion with numerous fraternity members Council has decided to suspend the raffle.



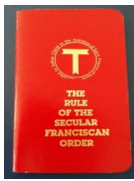
Do you have something that you believe is **“for the good of the fraternity”** or perhaps a personal reflection about your spiritual journey?

Please send it to Elena
(elenacspitzer@gmail.com)
for publication in the newsletter.

OUR FOOD COLLECTION THIS MONTH WILL AGAIN GO TO:

SHEPHERD'S OFFICE
IN GEORGETOWN

**PLEASE CONTRIBUTE
NON-PERISHABLE, INDIVIDUAL,
HEALTHY SNACKS SUCH AS:
NUTS
DRIED FRUIT
GRANOLA/PROTEIN BARS
CRACKERS
FRUIT CUPS**



The Rule - What we have promised

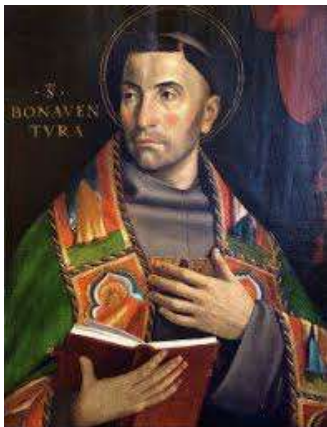
Chapter Two
The Way of Life

12. Witnessing the good yet to come and obliged to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation they have embraced, they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters.

Reflection- The evolutionary character of purity of heart is our ability to grow deeper and deeper in the love of God, others and ourselves, even in ways we could not even have imagined in an earlier stage of development. Once we have reached a certain level in our dedication, new vistas and new challenges open up before us that beckon us to take the next step (and sometimes a risky one) in our self-giving before the Lord. When we respond, we see life from a whole new perspective and can't help but give new shape to our purity of heart. This same cycle of spiraling more deeply and more intensely in an upward direction toward our oneness with God is a lifelong project that never has an end, but always has a new beginning.

Excerpt from:
Called to Proclaim Christ,
Short Reflections on the SFO Rule
Benet A. Fonck, OFM

Saint Bonaventure



“No one can become blessed, unless he ascends above his very self, not by an ascent with the body, but with the heart.”



Looking Ahead...

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

All are encouraged to attend!

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!!



National Zoom Webinar 800th Anniversary of St. Francis' receiving the Stigmata

Sunday, October 6, 2024

3PM EST (60-75 minutes)

Preliminary plans include:

*A talk on the Stigmata by Dr. Darlene Pryds, Assoc. Prof. of Christian Spirituality and History at the Franciscan School of Theology

*A panel discussion featuring members of our national leadership. This will provide us with multiple perspectives on how Francis' experience connects to our lives as Secular Franciscans today.

The invitation to register for the Zoom event will be sent out about a month beforehand via our regional ministers and regional formation directors. If you would like the registration information to be sent directly to you, please go to groups.google.com and request to be added to "NAFRACentenaryContacts".

Laughing With St. Sarah

(Patron saint of laughter)



Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2024

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
May 8th
June 12th (St. Jude's)
July 10th (St. Jude's)

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 301-471-7487