



THE FLYER

**Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino
Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans USA**

August/September
2025
Third SUNDAY

FIND HOPE.
BE HOPE.

UPCOMING: PICNIC TIME Sept. 21. Lunch is immediately after the Noon Mass..

- ◆ Meetings are third Sunday of the month at 2 pm. (See website for date changes and updates)
- ◆ Check out our website: <https://StJosephCupertino.SFOUSA.org/Welcome-To-Our-Fraternity's-Website>
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <https://SaintMargaretOfCortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://SecularFranciscansUSA.org/>

Note from Brother Lawrence, OFM Conv. On Vacation



ANNUAL PICNIC Sept 21

Come and Celebrate!!

Bring a dish to share.

Meal will start after the Noon Mass!

If available, we will set up at 11 am in the courtyard!

Minister's Note

Each time we encounter time in the desert in the Bible, we see a time of preparation for something greater to happen.

This summer I spent time in the desert of Arizona after my sister-in-law passed away unexpectedly. We encountered record breaking temperatures of over 118 degrees (and dry heat is still HOT!), and witnessed a natural phenomenon called a haboob-dust storm. I can only imagine what it was like for the Israelites and Moses, John the Baptist, and Jesus. They did not have the luxury of escaping to air-conditioning.

The prophet Hosea wrote, "Therefore, behold I will allure her, and will lead her into the wilderness: and I will speak to her heart." (2:14).

So, what was God speaking to me? For one, each week the readings from the Sunday liturgy reminded me that I was not doing this for myself. Sirach 3: 17 from the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary time reminded me to conduct the affairs of dealing with the estate with humility. There were days when this was very difficult. There were 17 horses and just as many owners on the property that we had to work with over the 40 days.

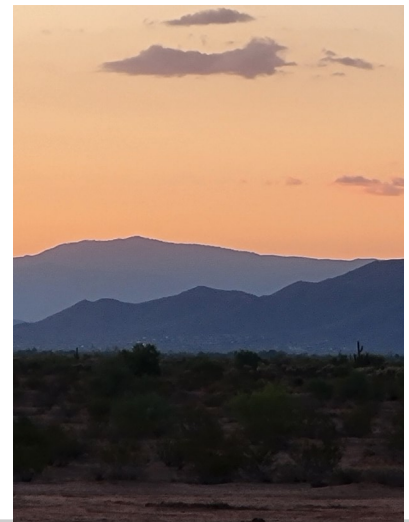
Secondly, for the first time in our marriage, Martin and I spent 24/7 alone together for 40 days. Sure, we had time during COVID together, but he was completing a degree, and we have children at home. This was different. He and I were working together for the same cause. Each day we prayed for wisdom and strength. We took care of his mother together. We buried his sister together. I was reminded that we are a good team.

Finally, I was reminded that God provides. While we had some bumps in the road, there were so many good people who came to our rescue and helped us. When Martin and I were flagging, folks came with pizza and fellowship. They held up our arms.

Desert experiences change us. They should not be seen as punishments or attacks from the Enemy. They are times when we are transformed, so that the plan that God has for us can come to fruition. They are times of solitude and reflection. They are times when we are called closer to God. They are times to remind us that we are never alone.

Peace and love

Melissa



Formation Thought of the Month:

“Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy. We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works.”

Hebrews 10:23-24



WINE at THE
SHRINE

October 11, 2025

Join us for a celebration of the Franciscan Center of Baltimore and Little Portion Farm – two nonprofit organizations striving to serve quality, fresh food to those who need it most, while caring for our earth. This partnership ensures hundreds of those facing food insecurity in Baltimore receive high-quality, made-from-scratch meals daily. All proceeds from Wine at the Shrine support these efforts.

Buy Tickets Here: <https://www.wineattheshrine.org/>

2025-2028 Council

CONTACT US AT StJosephCupertinoofs@gmail.com

Minister:

Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer OFS

Vice Minister:

Charlie Heyden OFS

Secretary:

Ray Glennon

Treasurer :

Jerry Yu OFS

Formation Director:

Jeanne Kerins OFS

Councilor 1:

Will Potter

Councilor 2:

Ed Burgee

Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv.

Bible quotes are from the Douay-Rheims translation, unless otherwise noted.



Treasurer's Report

August – 2025

Beginning (running) Balance:	<u>\$ 1,130.61</u>
Income:	
Common Fund Contributions	\$800.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
Expenses:	
Spiritual Assistant	\$100.00
Franciscan Friars	100.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
Ending (running) Balance:	<u>\$ 1,730.61</u>

If you are unable to attend the gatherings, you can send your contributions to the fraternity.

Contributions are tax deductible.

Direct Donation checks to: **St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity**

Mail donations to:

Jerry Yu
2812 Green Shade Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042

You may use your bank's BILL PAY. Direct payment to **St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity** C/O the address above.

NOTE! FOR BILL PAY, THE ADDRESS HAS CHANGED.

Pray for Deceased Members:

*Remember those who have gone before us.
Grant them peace, Lord. May they reign in
paradise with you. Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.*

Frances Bastress 9/5/1997
Claire Davison 9/4/2004
John Kirby 9/12/21

Happy Anniversary

This month:

Mary Karth 9/23/12
Gerry Pinkas 9/16/79

Happy Birthday!

Frank Braxton 8-12	Bob Longo 10/6
Dawn Glennon 9/5	Lita Maisel 10/13
Mike King 9/25	Harry Ford 10/10
Melissa R-K 9/24	

Book Share–

Thomas A'Kempis' classic Imitation of Christ.

First Saturdays from 1-3 pm on ZOOM!
Contact Geri Flynn OFS for details:
AngelBarty@aol.com

PRAYER LIST

For Healing:

Gail Bunyan, OFS
Lita Maisel, OFS
Bill Siefken, OFS
Teresa Lam, OFS
Rosemary Whelan, OFS
Patrick Caughy, OFS
Harry Ford, OFS
Kathy Ford, OFS

