



THE FLYER

Newsletter for Saint Joseph Cupertino Secular Franciscan Fraternity

FRATERNITY 2026 THEME

*THE LORD GAVE ME
BROTHERS AND SISTERS.*

UPCOMING: Social after Noon Mass and Gathering at 2 pm.

LORD, KING OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, WE
GIVE YOU THANKS FOR YOURSELF. OF
YOUR OWN HOLY WILL YOU CREATED ALL
THINGS SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL, MADE
US IN YOUR OWN IMAGE AND LIKENESS,
AND GAVE US A PLACE IN PARADISE,
THROUGH YOUR ONLY SON, IN THE
HOLY SPIRIT.

Saint Francis

Minister's Note

Please note that next month we will not be meeting at the Shrine. We will be meeting at The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy lands in America, 1400 Quincy Street N.E. | Washington, DC 20017. Mass begins at 11 am, and our tour begins at 1:30 pm. Please bring a bag lunch. We will eat on the grounds after mass. Carpooling is available. Please email Melissa if you would like to car pool.

A Walk in the Woods

Each time that I get to spend a long period of time in the woods, I come back tired but refreshed in a manner that defies logic. There was no air conditioning or electricity in the tent that I slept in each night. Yet, I slept comfortably and woke up each morning ready for a new adventure.

Every afternoon, I took long walks through the forests, climbing hills and getting my feet muddy. I observed edible mushrooms, wildflowers, and breathed in deeply the green of the forest. There has been some scientific research that shows that spending long periods of time in the woods can have significant health impacts: lower blood pressure, increased immune systems, reduced stress and positive mental health.

My spirit needs the time in the woods. There I grow closer to God. Saint Francis said that the world was the mirror of God. Everything that surrounds us is His reflection. Saint Paul wrote in Romans 1:20 "Ever since the creation of the world His eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made."

Yes, there are briars and sweat. But there is also infinite beauty and quiet and peace. God is there in the woods: Incarnate, Creator, Love.

Peace and Love
Melissa

Plan ahead for our Meetings

July 19- Regional Visitation/ Observation – Fraternity Service Project. Please donate items at https://www.amazon.com/registries/guest-view/YNW634C2SFK3?ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ud_ggr-subnav-share_4M8R52K7YJP9VP7V6DRB_1

You may also bring items to meeting. Please send Melissa an email so that we can manage how much we have.

August 16- Pilgrimage to Monstery of the Holy Lands: Begins with Mass at 11 am. Tour at 1:30 pm. Limited to 30 participants.

September – Annual Picnic

October- Planning for Sister Death with Will Potter

October 3- Transitus with Archbishop Lori

FORMATION THOUGHT FOR JULY

“The Lord Gave Me Brothers”

“On our pilgrimage to Assisi, Fr. Nathan Malavolti, TOR, pointed out something I hadn’t noticed in previous visits. In the Basilica of St. Francis, the body of the great saint isn’t buried alone. Rather, three of his dear brothers are buried in close proximity to him in the crypt. Francis carried out his mission of rebuilding the Church in community with his brothers—and even in death, he is buried in their company.... In our fractured society, it was a good reminder that holiness isn’t achieved in isolation. We need one another.”

Dr. James Pauley
Professor of Theology and Catechetics
Pg. 11 of Franciscan
Magazine Summer 2026

Events at the Shrine of Saint Anthony

The Shrine has many upcoming events that you may want to attend:

<https://www.shrineofstanthony.org/calendar>



PRAY FOR HEALING

Gail Bunyan, OFS
Lita Maisel, OFS
Bill Siefken, OFS

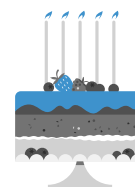
Teresa Lam, OFS
Rosemary Whelan, OFS
Patrick Caughy, OFS
Harry Ford, OFS
Kathy Ford, OFS
Will Potter, OFS

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

BIRTHDAY WISHES:

Jeanne Kerins 7/11

Gerry Pinkas 7/18

Trudy Kerber 7/23

Mary Karth 7/28

Next Month

Frank Braxton 8/12

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.



2025-2028 Council

CONTACT US AT StJosephCupertinoOFS@gmail.com

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Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer OFS

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