

ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO FRATERNITY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD
Profession on Sunday – February 16th, 2014



A Message from our Minister

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Francis and Clare,

Our candidates, Joan Bundy, OFS, Chris Donaldson, OFS, Kathy Ford, OFS and Harry Ford, OFS will make their commitment profession at 3:00 PM on February 16th. As a fraternity let us come together and experience once again the joy of our own profession and share in their joy of their commitment to the Franciscan way of life. Please arrive around 2:30 PM. Our Mass celebration at the friary will satisfy our Sunday Obligation.

What is commitment? According to the dictionary, commitment is

1. the act of committing, pledging, or engaging oneself.
2. a pledge or promise; obligation:
3. engagement; involvement.

“We, like Francis, in our Franciscan commitment should recognize that we have been called by God to this way of life. Though we are not confronted with the same dramatic experience that Francis had with the leper, we are living in a similar situation in the world, with its uncertainty and critical challenges. We are members of his fraternity and our goal is exactly the same as his was, namely, union with Christ. We know that Francis, so wholly committed, asked Jesus to grant him the extraordinary gift that while he was still alive on earth he might feel in his body the pain Jesus felt during His Passion, and that he might experience in his heart the overwhelming, burning love Jesus had for all of mankind.”

“When we became his followers we also set our feet on the way which leads to forgetfulness of self. It brings about a steady, progressive embracing of the selfless love of Jesus Christ. In order to achieve this we will have, so to speak, the opportunity many times, to embrace a leper, from whom we will have the tendency to shrink from; but, after we have accomplished the embrace, we will be left with a feeling of joy that can only be known for what it is a personal encounter with Christ.” – Ruth’s Book

“The Spirit is in charge. During the rite of Profession, there is an intense dialogue between the candidate and God. The liturgical moment gives us a chance to make a response to God. The Profession liturgy is a confession of faith”.

– Encarnita del Pozo, OFS, (our Secular Franciscan Order Minister General)

Commitment is a very serious matter, we have witnessed it in our marriage (pledge), our family (promise), our faith (involvement), our work (obligation) as stated in the definition of commitment. At profession we made a commitment to God to pledge, promise to get involve and obligate our lives to family and fraternity life. Our profession is a serious commitment especially in our faith. It affects our everyday life, who we meet, what we say, what we do and how we act.

Our next regular scheduled Gathering will be on March 16th at its normal time, and we will begin using the book "Seeking A Gospel Life". Please bring your book and a note pad. - *Your Fraternity Council*



Our Fraternity Council

- Minister:** Bob Longo, OFS
410 451-0943
- V. Minister:** Sherry Lewis, OFS
410-788-5395
- Formation:** Geri Flynn, OFS
410 730-4395
- Secretary:** France
Staudenmann OFS
301-294-3085
- Acting Treasurer:** Jerry Yu, OFS
410 988-5753
- Councilors:** Lita Maisel OFS
410 379-2374
Cindy Mohler, OFS
410 747-4589
Jim Manning, OFS
410 421-9332
- Spiritual Assistant:**
Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv
410 531-2802



**Profession in the Chapel at
3 PM. Please arrive
around 2:30 PM.**



Please Pray For ...

- Connie Baker**, OFS
- Donna Duncan**, OFS
- Marlene Feaga**, OFS
- Mary Ferrara**, OFS
- Joy Kubricky**, OFS
- Marie Lindung**, OFS
- Georgianna Papazian**, OFS
- Gerry Pinkas**, OFS
- Nancy Seaton**, OFS
- Jim Tebo**, OFS

**The St. Joseph Cupertino Bulletin Board
Posts from Our Fraternity Members**

Upcoming Events

Our Next Book Sharing Meeting – All Are Welcome

Date: Saturday, March 1st - 1:30pm (social)
2:00pm ~ 4:00pm

Place: Geri Flynn's home: 5072 Bucket Post Court
Columbia, Maryland, 21045
Tel. 410 730-4395

Book: "Francis, the Journey and the Dream", by Murray Bodo

Chapters: "Of Armor and Mail" - Page 83
"A Wild Canary" - Page 84
"Bishop Guido of Assisi" - Page 86

Adoration, Community, Theology and Service

MENS AND WOMENS ACTS RETREATS: Are you seeking a new or deeper relationship with Christ? Do you long for a sense of belonging? Come on an ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology and Service) retreat. Wherever you are in your faith journey, the ACTS retreat will meet you there. For more information on the Men's Retreat (February 27-March 2, 2014), contact Leo Regensburger at leoregensburger@verizon.net or 410-382-9064 or Tom McCarthy at tom_mccarthy@live.com or 301-943-6129 and for the Women's Retreat (March 27-30, 2014), contact Vera Rudegear at vrudegear@gmail.com or 410-531-6314 or Pat Sullivan at prsjfs@gmail.com or 301-854-3749



**OUR DECEASED
BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

- Frances Bastress**, SFO
- Joe Bezila**, SFO
- Jerry Cichowicz**, SFO
- Shirley Costello**, OFS
- Joe Cykoski**, SFO
- Stella Cykoski**, SFO
- Claire Lee Davison**, SFO
- Adela Duff**, SFO
- Charles Ferrara**, SFO
- Dolores Fritz**, OFS
- Marilyn Gilson**, SFO
- Richard Hall**, SFO
- Frances Langben**, SFO
- Bob Lewis**, SFO
- Jean Manning**, OFS
- Yvonne Proch**, SFO
- Betty Taylor**, SFO
- Bud Tenley**, SFO
- Regina Yeager**, SFO
- Dorothy Zalewski**, SFO

Remembering Your Profession

Will Witherspoon, OFS 2/8/04

Lobby Night – February 17th at 2:30 PM

Lobby Night: Join hundreds of Maryland Catholics in Annapolis for an evening of talking to your Maryland state legislator on issues regarding upcoming legislative issues. This will be on Monday, Feb. 17th; starting at 2:30 PM. Registration is required so that an appointment with your legislator can be arranged. You can register at www.mdcathcon.org/lobbysnight. This is always a very interesting and thought provoking day. The best way to keep informed about upcoming laws is to register for the Catholic Advocacy Network. You can do this by going to www.mdcathcon.org under Resources the section marked for parishes (Catholic Advocacy Network) and find the register on line.

Harry Ford, OFS



Treasurer's Report

If you miss a gathering send your check payable to St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity

Jerry Yu, OFS
2812 Green Shade Ct.
Ellicott City, MD 21042

At our gatherings, the common fund box will be in the Refectory.

Beginning Balance: \$ 875.96
Income \$ 697.00
Total \$1572.96

Expenses:

Franciscan Friars \$ 100.00
Brother Lawrence \$ 50.00
Stamps & Envelopes \$ 88.10
Formation Exp. \$ 113.09
Website Design \$ 15.00
Gift to John Clem \$ 50.00
Formation Books \$ 43.45

Total Expenses: \$ 459.64

Ending Balance: \$ 1113.32

Thank You for your monthly contributions

Contribution is Tax Deductible

Francis, Clare, and Faith-Based Non-Violence

Although the word “non-violence” was not coined until 1923, the dynamic of non-violence understood as a creative and integrative power is, as Mohandas Gandhi put it, “as old as the hills.” Francis and Clare of Assisi envisioned, cultivated and experimented with this non-violent power in their own lives and in the transforming Franciscan movement they founded. In the Prologue to his Itinerarium, St. Bonaventure uses the word “peace” ten times.

He uses it to describe God’s presence and power, referring to God’s minister of peace, St. Francis. Clearly, the ministry of peace figured significantly in the path Francis walked. We reflect on this peace, how it came to play such an important role in Francis’ spirituality, how can we promote this ministry of peace today.

Francis experienced a full transformation of identity in 1208 when he took radically to heart the thoroughgoing demand of Matthew 19:21, Jesus’ call to the rich young man to give everything away and follow him. Francis, burning with the desire to imitate the poor and crucified Jesus, renounced all claims to his family’s wealth and espoused “Lady Poverty” or “Holy Poverty” as his lifelong companion.

In 1212 he was joined in his work by Clare of Assisi. Francis was born into a family that represented one center of power of Assisi life, the emerging mercantile class, while Clare was born into a clan that represented the other, the long-established nobility. In tandem, their renunciation of the typical life of the times served as a complementary and virtually complete rejection of the world of getting, spending and dominating.

Francis’s vow of voluntary poverty was an intuitive critique of the growing economic and social disparities in thirteenth-century Europe as it witnessed the shift from rural to urban life, the rise of the merchant class, the coming end to feudalism and emerging monarchies as well as nation-states. These historical factors were creating an increasingly stratified society that led to involuntary poverty.

Francis was convinced that God was the “Most High” who was Transcendent Goodness, a goodness lavished freely, everywhere. To become voluntarily poor was to share the plight of the poor but also to share in the life of God, who gives everything. This Trinitarian God—known in the magnificence of life, in the crucified Jesus and in the Holy Spirit who is actively vivifying all that exists—was, for Francis, worthy of praise and endless gratitude. It was with these convictions that Francis finally became a “troubadour”—not as a singer of earthly honor and romantic love but as a singer of the God who loves us with infinite mercy and tenderness.

- Franciscan Non-Violence - Ken Butigan, OFS, Mary Litell, O.S.F., and Louis Vitale, O.F.M.

February Birthdays



Jerry Yu, OFS 2/26
Kevin Kulesa, OFS 2/26

March Birthdays

Cindy Mohler, OFS 3/13
Amy Kulesa, OFS 3/17
France Staudenmann OFS 3/29

The Poverty of Francesco

The poverty of Francesco has, therefore, a specific and precise face, is essentially the Gospel; It does not precede but follow the primary choice of adherence to Christ. Francis, in fact, is not only poor, but according to Christ: Discipleship of Christ – as evidenced by his biography after conversion – is the stripping of assets, is not feeling any master, since every form of possession can be a tool or symbol of power. His fratres Minores are these not so much because they do not possess anything, because they are completely devoid of any element of supremacy; they can and must endure the domination of others, but cannot, in turn, exert dominion over anyone.

The real poverty before men is unable to defend itself in the face of the violence, the aggression of power, first that wealth. Each exclusion arises from violence, and any violence produces exclusion. Francesco proposes a model of Christian life in the earthly expression is not power, but his refusal. However, the poverty of Francis is not only a historical condition, it is also and especially a mystical status and as such all-encompassing; "it is not the desire of contemplation, is the highest scored his total identification with God the son incarnate, in the flesh of the son, in humanity, in its non-deity" (Claudio Leonardi).

The poverty of Francis is certainly the abandonment of worldly goods and historical heritage, because far away and different from God, but it is also the means to identify itself with the God who gave to show his divinity to appear in the weakness of the flesh. The poverty of Francis is the desire of a man too; God is the sign of this deity on Earth, its manifestation in history.

In the absolute awareness that a poor person is one who has lost himself in mystical identification total with the divine. In him, thanks to the perfect imitation of its model, is a charismatic, extraordinary strength that makes it look to contemporaries as the reincarnation of Jesus of Nazareth. Francis becomes more Christ because it mimics the Christ in his suffering; He undresses and receiving the stigmata to be equal to God made man. – Henry Fourteenth, San Francisco Newsletter – Assisi

ATTENDANCE AT THE GATHERINGS - All active members should make every attempt to attend the Gathering every month. If you are unable to attend due to illness, work or family obligations, please contact Bob Longo 410-451-0943. If you are professed and miss a gathering please send your check for the Common Fund to: Jerry Yu, OFS - 2812 Green Shade Ct., Ellicott City, MD 21042

Editor: Bob Longo, OFS (blongoOFS@verizon.net) Fraternity Website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/>



At the Friary
Chapel Open Daily
From 9 AM – 5 PM
Noon Mass everyday
All are Welcome

Reconciliation is on
Wednesday from 4 - 5pm., and
also Monday through Saturday
at 11:30am.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday
12 pm – 5:30 pm

February 15th **Valentine Dinner**

Call the Friary for reservations.
410 531-2800

March 9th Family Hour

The next Morningstar Family
Holy Hour will be Sunday
March 9th, 2014 from 4:00-
5:00pm. Families with children
of all ages are invited to join for
a dynamic hour of prayer, song,
learning about our Faith!

Iconology March 17-22

9 AM – 6 PM

A Six day workshop on the
traditional Byzantine-Russian
icon writing method. For
more information please call:

Mick Michieli-Beasley at
Home 410 551-7373 or
Cell 410 303-2392