

**ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO FRATERNITY**  
**Enkindle the Fire of Mercy in our Hearts**  
**Gathering – April 17, 2016 9:30 AM – 12 PM**

**The Flyer**



*Laudato Si (Praise be to you – On Care For Our Common Home)*, Paragraph 12

“Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker” (*Wis* 13:5); indeed, “his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world” (*Rom* 1:20). For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty.[21] Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise. ~ Pope Francis

**Ministers Message**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

This month's gathering, April 17th, will start at 9:30 am to 12 pm (followed by Mass) instead of our normal starting time at 1 pm.

In this Year of Mercy, Father Joseph Bayne, OFM. Conv. will give a presentation on St. Francis and his great legacy of mercy. The Peace Prayer, attributed to St. Francis, will be used as a background for his reflection on the unique role St. Francis has in living and showing us God's overwhelming mercy!

A \$5.00 fee will include breakfast, you must RSVP by April 15th, to register, call Lita Maisel, OFS, at the friary - 410 531-2800.

This wonderful presentation is in line with our theme for this year, “Enkindle the Fire of Mercy in our Hearts”, so please make every effort to attend.

As mentioned in our March Newsletter, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity will be voting for a new council in May. Since our last council was elected back in May of 2013, we have professed several new brothers and sisters in our fraternity who have never experienced the election process. Therefore, we felt it was necessary to explain the procedures for elections, which are addressed in our General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Our March newsletter described the duties of the various offices of the council, which includes the Minister, Vice-Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, and Formation Director. Please look back over the information in the last month's newsletter or you can find the same description of the duties in our General Constitutions, Articles 50, 51 and 52 on our website at: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2013/12/Constitution-of-the-SFO.pdf>

**Who is eligible to be elected these offices?** Any permanently professed sister or brother has the right to be elected to an office.

**Who is eligible to nominate?** Any permanently professed or temporarily professed sister or brother.

**Who is eligible to vote?** Any permanently professed or temporarily professed sister or brother can vote.

**Our Fraternity Council**

**Minister:** Bob Longo, OFS  
410-921-0040

**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  
410 747-2374  
Cindy Mohler, OFS  
410 747-4589

**Spiritual Assistant:**  
Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv  
410 531-2800

**St. Francis and Mercy**  
**A Reflection on the Peace Prayer**  
**at The Shrine of St. Anthony**

April 17th  
9:30am – 1:00pm  
\$5 per person

→ *Lord, Make Me A Channel...* ←

Presented by Fr. Joseph Bayne, OFM Conv.

Please join us on Sunday, April 17th, as Fr. Joseph Bayne leads us in reflecting on St. Francis and his great legacy of mercy. In this Year of Mercy, Fr. Joe will use the Peace Prayer attributed to St. Francis as a background to his reflection on the unique role St. Francis has in living and showing us God's overwhelming mercy! Breakfast is included and you must RSVP by April 15th. To register, please contact the Front Office at 410-531-2800.

12290 Folly Quarter Road Ellicott City, MD 21042 www.ShrineofStAnthony.org 410-531-2800



**Please Pray For ...**

- Connie Baker**, OFS
- Deacon Tom Bello**, OFS
- Donna Duncan**, OFS
- Marlene Feaga**, OFS
- Mary Ferrara**, OFS
- Marie Lindung**, OFS
- Jim Manning**, OFS
- Georgianna Papazian**, OFS
- Nancy Seaton**, OFS
- Jim Tebo**, OFS



**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
- Joy Kubricky**, OFS
- Frances Langbehn**, SFO
- Bob Lewis**, SFO
- Jean Manning**, OFS
- Yvonne Proch**, SFO
- Betty Taylor**, SFO
- Bud Tenley**, SFO
- Regina Yeager**, SFO
- Dorothy Zalewski**, SFO

A slate of nominees will be drawn up and published in the May fraternity newsletter. This will give you time to pray for those who might be leading our fraternity for the next three years.

Please pray that we will hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and will guide us throughout the election process.

*Your Fraternity Council*

**A Message from Br. Lawrence**

Dear brothers and sisters in Francis,

What a wonderful time of year! Each year God extends us Easter blessings and the blessings of the Spring season which affords all of us the opportunity of getting out into this beautiful world much more often.

Here at the Shrine we have beautiful grounds to spend time praying, meditating or just thinking as you take in the Spring changes of nature. We have trails as well to wander around for the same purpose. I encourage you to spend some time this Spring in quiet meditation on the Shrine grounds not just so that you "get out more," but also because it is good to spend quiet time with the Lord.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in the near future wandering the grounds of the Shrine. ~ Peace, Br. Lawrence

**Upcoming Events**

**April 17, 2016** – Presentation on St. Francis and Mercy (A Reflection on the Peace Prayer) 9:30 am – 12 pm

**May 15, 2016** – Fraternity Election of Council Members for the next three years

**To Serve, to become Slaves of Others**

The ministers and servants are those who are distinguished by their ability to serve others. They, like any servant, are aware of performing temporary action that does not elevate them in the community to no higher rank or title. Simply, as the son of man, are "servants of the Kingdom," and yet, "unprofitable servants." They have the task of guarding the good of the fraternity. It is here enclosed the sense of their responsibilities. The authority is an authentic form of diakonia: loving service rendered to others.

Francis, following the logic of the Gospel radically - in the footsteps of the Lord Jesus Christ - radically reverses the sense of authority, recognizing to power a new meaning. We could say that the authority suffers genuine metanoia or conversion: from power to power-domain-service (cf. Mk 10:45). Besides, Jesus himself, who is the master and Lord (cf. Jn 13.12 to 15), is in the midst of the disciples as the servant (cf. Lk 22:27).



## Treasurer's Report

April - 2016

**Beginning Balance:** \$1937.92  
Income 315.79

Total \$2253.71

### Expenses:

2016 fair share to  
the Region 1230.00  
Franciscan Friars 100.00  
Brother Lawrence 50.00  
Website Fee 15.00  
Total Expenses: \$1395.00

**Ending Balance:** \$858.71

Thank You for your monthly  
contributions

**Contribution is Tax Deductible**

The authority is a service of love to the others: "The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his own life as a ransom for many [all]" ( Mk 10,44- 45). This approach will have the authority to distinguish the life of the fraternity: neither will rule as absolute masters, nor oppress like the great earth. Just the opposite: they liberate and serve. The foundation of this revolution is the life of Christ.

Francis is aware of the experience of Christ who humbled himself-emptied and humbled himself to death on the Cross (cf. Phil 2,6-11). Therefore, the mission of the brothers and sisters, like that of the disciples, is to serve, up to become slaves of others (cf. Mt 20:27; Mk 10:44), just as the apostle Paul saw his own ministry so that the term "servant" (doulos) came to be the technical term for the heads of the Christian communities (cf. Rm 1,1; Gal 1:10; Phil 1,1; Col 1,7; 2 Timothy 3:24; Titus 1.1; Jas 1.1; 2 Peter 1.1). Those who preside over the fraternity should not take titles that place them on top of the other. The ministry is not a dignity, but a service. This is puzzling. No human logic will come to the conclusion that "the last shall be first" ( Mk 10:31); or that "the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves" ( Lk22,24-30); and "whoever would be first among you must be slave of all" ( Mk 10,44).

What makes credible authority is service, a diakonia of love and communion that takes the style of the kenosis, that annihilation (self-emptying, and how to model the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. He will not be used to destroy, but to build, to heal, to reconcile (cf. 2 Cor. 11:10). the gesture of the washing of Jesus' feet at the last supper is called by Francis as an effective symbol and load content for the community, for all are called to wash one another's feet.

In Chapter XI of the Earlier Rule, Francis exhorts all the brothers - and not just the ministers - to be considered "unprofitable servants."

- Edoardo Scognamiglio Theologian (*From Assisi Newsletter*)

### April Birthdays



**Kathy Ford, OFS** 04/06  
**Geri Flynn, OFS** 04/26  
**Julianna Kim, OFS** 04/28



### Remembering Your Profession Anniversaries

*Ray Heverling, OFS 4/10/05*

### Food for Thought

If you are doing your best,  
you will not have time to  
worry about failure.

**Robert Hillyer**  
(1895-1961)

### PRAYER OPENS THE WAY TO THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S PLAN

Our prayers are often a request for help in our hour of need. That is natural because we need help, the help of other people and of God. We must also bear in mind that the prayer Christ taught us, the Our Father, is just such a petition. With that prayer the Lord teaches us our priorities. Yet, although it is natural to ask for things in prayer, that is not the only reason to pray. There is also cause to give thanks, because we receive so many good things from God. Thus prayer should also be praise and, if we open our hearts, we come to realise that, despite all problems, creation is beautiful and good".

In chapter one of his Letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul praises God "because 'he has made known to us the mystery of his will'. ... For believers 'mystery' does not so much mean the unknown as the merciful will of God, His plan of love which was fully revealed in

Jesus Christ and offers us the chance to comprehend with all the saints, what is the breadth ... and depth' of that love". The unknown mystery of God has been revealed and it is that God, ever since the beginning and for all eternity, loves us.

The Apostle reflects on the reasons for praising God by presenting the fundamental elements and the various stages of the divine plan. "Firstly we must bless God the Father because He ... called us into existence, He called us to sanctity, and we have been in His plan and His thoughts forever. ... The vocation to sanctity and communion with God is part of His eternal plan, a plan which stretches over history and which includes all the men and women of the world, because the call is universal. God excludes no one; His plan is exclusively a plan of love. ... The Apostle highlights the gratuitous nature of this marvellous design for humankind.

At the heart of prayer of praise St. Paul shows us the form in which the Father's plan of salvation is realized in Christ. "Christ's sacrifice on the cross was the unique and unrepeatable event by which the Father demonstrated ... His love for us, not just in words, but in concrete terms. God is so tangible that His love entered history; it became man to experience life and sensation in this world. So tangible is His love that it shares not only in our life, but also in our suffering and in our death. The sacrifice of the cross makes us 'the property of God'. The blood of Christ ... washes us of all evil and removes us from the slavery of sin and death.


Redemption is not yet concluded. ... It will reach fullness when those whom God has acquired will be completely saved. We are all journeying towards redemption. ... God wants us to be free; He wants our yes' to be free. We travel this road of redemption together with Christ and thus redemption is fulfilled.

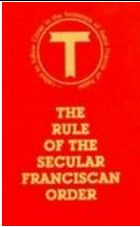
In prayer we learn to see the signs of this merciful plan in the journey of the Church. Thus do we grow in the love of God, opening the door for the Blessed Trinity to come and dwell among us, bringing us light and warmth and guiding our lives. ... Prayer generates men and women not animated by egoism, desire to possess and thirst for power, but by gratuitousness and the desire to love and serve. In other words, they are animated by God, and only in this way can we bring light into the darkness of the world. Pope Emeritus  
Benedict XVI

**OUR GATHERINGS** –Members should make every effort to attend our gathering every month. If you are unable to attend due to illness, work or family obligations, contact a council member (see page 1 for telephone numbers). If you are a candidate or 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 [blongosfo@gmail.com](mailto:blongosfo@gmail.com) **Fraternity Website:** <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/>

	<i>Calendar</i>
<b>At the Friary</b>	
<b>Chapel Open Daily From 9 AM – 5 PM</b>	
<b>Noon Mass everyday</b>	
<b>All are Welcome</b>	
<b>Reconciliation</b>	
Wednesdays from 4 - 5pm., and Monday through Saturday at 11:30am.	


<b>Rule 21 of the Secular Franciscan Order</b>
On various levels, each fraternity is animated and guided by a council and minister who are elected by the professed according to the constitutions. Their service, which lasts for a definite period, is marked by a ready and willing spirit and is a duty of responsibility to each member and to the community.