

ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO FRATERNITY

Gathering – August 17, 2014

The Flyer

Ministers Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Francis and Clare,

Our Holy Father was asked to pray for our fraternity: Akisha, who attends our gatherings and soon to go into our Candidacy Program, is on her honeymoon in Italy. I received an e-mail from Akisha and she and her husband actually met the Holy Father at his August 6th Wednesday General Audience. Akisha asked our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to pray for our fraternity, what a beautiful blessing. Our fraternity "Thanks You" Akisha.

Speaking of blessings, our brother Patrick and I were delighted to have lunch with three of our four homebound Secular Franciscans at Charlestown. We spent an hour and a half with Nancy Seaton, OFS, Georgianna Papazian, OFS and Jean Singleton, OFS and we were told that it was hard to catch up with our sister, Sheila Eberhardt, OFS. Hopefully Sheila will be able to join us at our next get-together. We had wonderful conversations and you can tell all three of our sisters were so happy to spend time with members of their fraternity. They asked questions about the fraternity and all told me they wear their TAU crosses daily. The smiles and the twinkle in their eyes said it all, they love their Franciscan vocation.

It was agreed that we should meet once a month for lunch, and I heard from Patrick that we are already scheduled for September. It is hoped that Charlestown will allow us to have lunch with our Franciscan sisters on a monthly basis.

For our ongoing formation, we will discuss Chapter 4 – A look at Prayer, from our book, "Seeking the Gospel Life". Geri will forward the questions for this chapter to me and I will forward to all members by e-mail.

On August 11th we celebrated the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi, below is a talk given by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at his September 15, 2010 Wednesday General Audience:

CLARE OF ASSISI: A DECISIVE IMPULSE TO CHURCH RENEWAL

VATICAN CITY, 15 SEP 2010 (VIS) - Benedict XVI dedicated his catechesis during this morning's general audience to St. Clare of Assisi (1193-1253), a contemporary of St. Francis and one of the most beloved saints of the Catholic Church. "Her witness", the Pope said, "shows us how much the Church is indebted to courageous women rich in faith who, like her, were capable of giving a decisive impulse to ecclesial renewal".

Clare, the Holy Father explained, was born to a rich and noble family. While she was still very young, her relatives decided to arrange an important marriage for her, but at the age of eighteen the saint, in a bold gesture inspired by a profound desire to follow Christ, abandoned her family home in the company of a friend. She joined the Friars Minor at the church of Porziuncola and Francis himself welcomed her in a simple ceremony, cutting her hair and investing her with the penitential habit. From that moment Clare became a poor and humble bride of Christ, and dedicated herself entirely to Him.



Our Fraternity Council

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EVENING PRAYER



20th Sunday
4 – Volume - Page 1101
Canticle of Mary Page 123



Please Pray For ...

- Connie Baker**, OFS
- Donna Duncan**, OFS
- Marlene Feaga**, OFS
- Mary Ferrara**, OFS
- Joy Kubricky**, OFS
- Marie Lindung**, OFS
- Jim Manning**, OFS
- Georgianna Papazian**, OFS
- Gerry Pinkas**, 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
- Frances Langben**, SFO
- Bob Lewis**, SFO
- Jean Manning**, OFS
- Yvonne Proch**, SFO
- Betty Taylor**, SFO
- Bud Tenley**, SFO
- Regina Yeager**, SFO
- Dorothy Zalewski**, SFO

"Clare found in Francis of Assisi, especially at the beginning of her religious experience, not only a master whose teachings to follow but also a fraternal friend. The friendship between these two saints is a beautiful and important element, for when two pure souls enflamed with the same love for God meet; from their mutual friendship they draw a powerful stimulus to follow the path of perfection. Friendship is one of the most noble and exalted human sentiments, which divine Grace purifies and transfigures".

The Flemish bishop and chronicler Jacques de Vitry, who visited Italy during that period, speaks of Clare and her followers in the early days of the Franciscan movement and notes her sensibility towards "a characteristic trait of Franciscan spirituality: ... radical poverty associated with complete trust in Divine Providence".

For this reason the saint received "from Pope Gregory IX, or perhaps earlier, from Innocent III", the so-called "Privilegium Paupertatis" according to which Clare and her followers "could possess no material property. This", the Pope explained, "was a truly extraordinary exception to then current Canon Law, granted by the ecclesiastical authorities of the time in appreciation of the fruits of evangelical sanctity they saw in the lifestyle of Clare and her consouers.

"This shows", he added, "how even during the Middle Ages women played an important not a secondary role. In this context it must be remembered that Clare was the first woman in Church history to produce a written Rule, approved by the Pope, so that the charism of Francis of Assisi could be conserved in all the many female communities which were coming into being at that time, and which sought to draw inspiration from the example of Francis and Clare.

"In her convent of San Damiano, Clare heroically practised the virtues that should characterise all Christians: humility, a spirit of piety and penance, and charity".

Her fame of sanctity and the prodigies that came about thanks to her intervention led Pope Alexander IV to canonise her in 1255, just two years after her death. Her followers, the Poor Clares, still "play a vital role in the Church with their prayer and their works", Pope Benedict concluded. - VIS 20100915

- Your Fraternity Council

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

Upcoming Events

Our Next Book Sharing Meeting – All Are Welcome

Date: Saturday, September 6th - 1:30pm (social)
2:00pm ~ 4:00pm



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: \$1262.79
Income 285.00
Total **\$1547.79**

Expenses:

Franciscan Friars \$ 100.00
Brother Lawrence 50.00
Website Fee 15.00
2nd fair share
to the Regional 447.50
Total Expenses: **\$ 612.50**

Ending Balance: \$ 935.29

Thank You for your monthly contributions

Contribution is Tax Deductible

Place: Ed Burgee – 408 Westside Blvd., Catonsville, MD 21228
Telephone Number (home): 410 788-2718

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

Chapters: "Mountain Man" - Page 94
"Of Seasons and Weather" - Page 96
"La Verna" - Page 97

Understanding Scripture

For those studying the Bible or would like to better understand Scripture, John Handiboe has recommended the following:

1. Reading the Old Testament, 2nd Edition, Lawrence Boadt, CSP, Paulist Press, Mahwah, NJ. , Jul.2012, \$16.24
2. Reading the New Testament , 3rd Edition Revised and Updated, PHEME PERKINS, Paulist Press, Mahwah, NJ, Aug,2012, \$11.06
3. The New Jerome Biblical Commentary, Raymond Brown, SS,ed., Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, NJ, Sep, 1989, \$ 63.37.

All are available in updated editions from Amazon.com.

Young Adults: An Invitation to a Franciscan Feast

I am asking for help on the evening of Thursday, Oct. 16th, here at the Shrine of St. Anthony. The region is trying to develop a young adult ministry program, and this will be our first effort.

The evening is called "Young Adults: An Invitation to a Franciscan Feast" Although it will be just pizza, chips, and soda, we hope to introduce the young adults to the feast of life that following Francis offers. We are having guest speakers from several Franciscan organizations that encompass the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation activities. One goal is to get young adult volunteers to help form a core group of servant leaders that will plan future activities. We want to have an active, fun-filled night. But we do need several people to help setup, greet, and cleanup.

The plan is to start at 6:30 PM with a casual gathering, and then go to opening prayer and the presentations. I hope to be finished by 9:00 PM, but it might go later. Please e-mail me at hmford1010@gmail.com. Young adult ministry has always been a challenge, but even more so these days. I truly feel that what we have as Franciscans can offer to the young adults a radically different approach to their lives. Peace, Harry Ford, OFS

August Birthdays



Jim Manning, OFS 8/17
Jim Tebo, OFS 8/20
Rosemary Whelan, OFS 8/20
Gail Bunyan 8/21
Sheila Solomon, OFS 8/21

September Birthday

Jean Singleton, OFS 9/28

Pope Francis reveals top 10 secrets to happiness July 29, 2014

1. Live and let live. - Everyone should be guided by this principle, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying, “move forward and let others do the same”.
2. Be giving of yourself to others. - People need to be open and generous toward others, because if you withdraw into yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes putrid.
3. Proceed calmly in life. – In my youth, I was a stream full of rocks that I carried with me; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, I am still moving, but slowly, like a pool” of water. I like this latter image of a pool of water – to have the ability to move with kindness and humility, calmness in life.
4. A healthy sense of leisure. - The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost. Consumerism has brought us anxiety and stress, causing people to lose a healthy culture of leisure. Their time is swallowed up so people can’t share it with anyone. Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it complicated, but you must do it. Families must also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat because, even though television is useful for keeping up with the news, having it on during mealtime doesn’t let you communicate with each other.
5. Sundays should be holidays. - Workers should have Sundays off, Sunday is for family.
6. Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people. We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs” and be more vulnerable to suicide. It’s not enough to give them food. Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home from one’s own labor.
7. Respect and take care of nature. - Environmental degradation is one of the biggest challenges we have. I think a question that we’re not asking ourselves is: ‘Isn’t humanity committing suicide with this indiscriminate and tyrannical use of nature?’
8. Stop being negative. - Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, ‘I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down.’ Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy.
9. Don’t proselytize; respect others beliefs. - We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes: ‘I am talking with you in order to persuade you,’ No, each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The church grows by attraction, not proselytizing.
10. Work for peace. - We are living in a time of many wars, and the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive and dynamic.

OUR GATHERINGS – Active members should make every attempt to attend our Gathering every month. If you are unable to attend due to illness, work or family obligations, please contact a council member (see page one for telephone numbers). 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



Calendar

September 21, 2014

FRATERNITY PICNIC AT THE SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY

Our Fraternity picnic will begin with 12 pm Mass - festivities will begin at 1pm.

October 20-24 - Iconology Workshop in the Traditional Russian-Byzantine Icon Writing Method

For further information please visit our Fraternity Website:
<http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/fraternity-news-events/>

Rule 2 of the Secular Franciscan Order

The Secular Franciscan Order holds a special place in this family circle. It is an organic union of all Catholic fraternities scattered throughout the world and open to every group of the faithful. In these fraternities the brothers and sisters, led by the Spirit, strive for perfect charity in their own secular state. By their profession they pledge themselves to live the gospel in the manner of Saint Francis by means of this rule approved by the Church.