

ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO FRATERNITY
2017 Theme for the Year: Living Our Spirit-Filled Rule
Our Next Gathering January 15, 2017

The Flyer



Laudato Si (Praise be to you – On Care For Our Common Home), Paragraph 31
“Greater scarcity of water will lead to an increase in the cost of food and the various products which depend on its use. Some studies warn that an acute water shortage may occur within a few decades unless urgent action is taken. The environmental repercussions could affect billions of people; it is also conceivable that the control of water by large multinational businesses may become a major source of conflict in this century.”[23] ~ Pope Francis

MINISTERS MESSAGE

Dear sisters and brothers in Francis and Clare,

I pray all had a most blessed Christmas and your council extends the best to you and your family for a most joyous new year.

At our January Gathering, we will continue the tradition in the Franciscan Order the “Extraction of Saints”. All will receive the name of a Franciscan Saint, a scripture quote for meditation and a new prayer partner for the coming year. Guess will receive a Saint and a scripture reading for the year.

Often, the “Extraction of Saints” is accompanied by much joviality on the part of the fraternity – lots of “oohs” and – “ah’s” for the members who are lucky enough to be honored with a famous Franciscan saint – like St. Francis or St. Clare – as their patrons.

When you receive your prayer partner, some people prefer to keep it a secret; you can do that if you like or you may want to let your prayer partner know that you will be praying for them throughout the year.

Here are some suggestions to remember your prayer partner throughout the year:

- Get to know your prayer partner better
- Ask your prayer partner if he or she has any special intentions for which you can pray
- Check with your prayer partner periodically to see how things are going
- Send your prayer partner a birthday card
- Send a card, or give a call if your prayer partner becomes ill

Remember, we are Christ’s hands and feet in this world! Let’s reach out in prayer and action to our prayer partner this year. <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/the-rite-of-extraction-of-saints/>

If you were unable to come to last month’s gathering and bought gifts and non-perishable food for our Christmas family, please bring them with you at this month’s gathering. Karan will make sure our family receives them.

Many thanks for your Franciscan charity in helping our needy family have a most memorable Christmas.

~ *Your Fraternity Council*

Our Fraternity Council

Minister: Bob Longo, OFS
410-921-0040

V. Minister: Ed Burgee, OFS
410-788-2718

Formation: Geri Flynn, OFS
410 730-4395

Secretary: France
Staudenmann OFS
301-294-3085

Treasurer:
Michael
Radcliffe OFS
301 310-5204

Councilor: Lita Maisel OFS
410 747-2374

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

Extraction of Saints



*The Fraternity will
conduct the traditional
Extraction of Saints in
the Chapel*

Message from Our Spiritual Assistant – Br. Lawrence



Please Pray For ...

Connie Baker, OFS
Patrick Caughy, 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

Deacon Tom Bello, OFS
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
Donna Duncan, 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

Brothers and sisters in Francis,

I love January! Having spent 19 winters in Buffalo you might find that surprising but what I remember most about those winters (and it is not limited to January) is the quietness of the snow. I remember one particular evening when I drove out into a falling snow (just about 4 inches or so; a flurry for Buffalo, really) and ended up sitting in the parked car around a small pond in Orchard Park not far from the Bills stadium. Eventually I rolled down the winter which eventually lured me to get out of the car and for the first time I was struck by the quietness of the snowfall! It is a quiet like I had never experienced and I found it to be extremely thought provoking. It left me in a state of considering the beauty of silence and the ability of silence to pull me away from everything else. I suppose that the quiet was actually enhanced by the fact that there were not many “crazy” people like me who went out on such a night, but since that first time I have found it to be a meditative event regardless of the amount of activity going on around me. I even wrote a bit about the sound of quiet which the snow makes.

It does not really take a person to be in a particular place, or mood, or environment to move one into such a contemplative mood and all that goes with that. I found the quietness of snow to be something that has often, since then, left me with much to contemplate from my meditations. It is a truly inspiring sound of quiet! I know that to speak of quiet as a sound seems strange, but there is something about the quietness of snow that makes it so different and so much more contemplative than any other quiet that I experience. I think that part of that is with the quietness of snow I do not expect it to be broken (although a snow plow occasionally interrupts the quiet) as I do when someplace else, say, for example, a chapel where I know I will hear talking voices outside the chapel more than once. That is not to say that there is something wrong with meditating in a chapel (God forbid) but the surrounding environment lends itself more readily that outside in the snow.

I am not here asking for a nice snow storm so that everyone can experience such quiet, but if it does come (even just a few inches) it might move some of you to try to use the quietness of the outside snow as a “snow chapel” which you could enter and experience without interruption. Try it (but be sure that you dress appropriately and in layers).

As the new year begins we pray to our Blessed Mother whom we celebrate on the first to draw us closer to her son whether in the snow or not.

Peace, Br. Lawrence

Our Franciscan Center Apostolate

Our brother, Patrick Caughy, OFS, is asking our fraternity to participate in a new apostolate for the year. Sr. Mary Jean Quinlivan OSF, a Social Worker, from the Franciscan Center in Baltimore is seeking assistance in providing personal care items for homeless guests of the Center in Baltimore City. Sr. Mary Jean has cited a pressing need for these items as greater numbers of men and women are



Treasurer's Report

December – 2016

Beginning Balance: \$ 309.30
Income 787.00
Total \$1,096.30

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence 100.00
Franciscan Friars 100.00
4th Quarter Charitable Donation 300.00

Check Stock Order –
M&T Bank 34.95
Profession Materials 114.82
Web Fee 15.00
Book Adjustment 2015 & 2016 313.56
Total \$ 978.33

Ending Balance: \$ 117.97

Thank You for your monthly contributions

Contributions are Tax Deductible

coming to the Center daily, up to 700 a day. Often these supplies are few and so those asking for them are left without them. Winter is an especially dangerous and stressful season for those without homes and shelter.

Patrick has kindly taken on this apostolate to ensure that collected personal care items are delivered to the Franciscan Center in Baltimore. If anyone is interested in assisting Patrick is welcome to join this outreach representing our fraternity - especially those who live or work in or near Baltimore City. If you can help, please contact Patrick at: ptcaughy@hotmail.com

At this month's gathering a labeled collection box for donations will be located in the refectory next to the sign in book. Kindly plan to bring these care items to share with our brothers and sisters to help them maintain their human dignity and health. A lot of personal care items can be purchased at Dollar Stores.

Personal Care Requested Items

Hand sanitizer	Hand/skin moisturizer
Tooth brushes	Small Toothpaste
Bars of soap	Body wash
Small bottles shampoo	Wash cloths
Hand wipes	Small towels
Deodorant	Women's hygiene products
Disposable razors	Clean white sox
Lip balm	Vaseline
Toilet paper	Kleenex

January Birthdays



Claudette Lucas, OFS 01/07
Marie Lindung, OFS 01/18
John Kirby, OFS 01/25
Jim Soltysiak, OFS 01/26
Br. Lawrence LaFlame 01/26

Many thanks and blessings on behalf of Sr. Mary Jean and our brothers and sisters receiving your generosity. Patrick Caughy, OFS



January 15th

Extraction of Saints and renewal of promises for professed

February 19th

Welcome our new Inquiry Class
 Introducing Apostolates
 Introduction to our theme for the year
 Br. Lawrence on "Growing of the Fraternity"

March 19th

Contemplation of the Rule



Remembering Your Profession Anniversary

Jean Singleton, OFS 1/18/83
 (34 Years)

THE GUARDIAN ANGELS FOR SAN FRANCISCO - St. Francis' said that they should be worshiped anywhere as companions and not less invoked as guardians.

The Franciscan sources repeatedly mention the devotion of St. Francis toward the angelic spirits. In "Contact with the Guardian Angels", Don Marcello Stanzione (Sugarco Editions) explains that his first biographer, Friar Thomas of Celano, writes about it: "He worshiped lovingly the angels."

"Revered as COMPANIONS"

St. Francis' said that they should be worshiped anywhere as companions and not less invoked as guardians. He taught not having to offend their eyes and not daring before them do what you would not do in front of men. "In the first biography of the saint is stressed the memory of Santa Maria degli Angeli, the Porziuncola, a place beloved of St. Francis, because "favorite place thanks to more abundant and frequent visits of angelic spirits" (1 Cel 106: 503; 83 Spec: 786).

SANTA MARIA OF THE ANGELS

In two years of hermit life Francis had finished the restoration of the abandoned church of Santa Maria degli Angeli, which he chose for residence "because of his reverence for the angels and his special love for the Mother of Christ" (Leg M 3, 8: 1048). The Franciscan sources define this place "full of abundant grace" because in it the heavenly spirits "radiate their light" and do "echo of hymns" during the nights (Spec 84: 1782).

The TRONI CELESTIAL

A passage from the Earlier Rule, according to the model prayerful invocation, remember the three archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael along with the angelic choirs: Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Powers, Virtues, Angels and Archangels (ER 23: 67). In these medieval tales is the employment theological idea of heavenly thrones vacated by angels or devils and wicked reserved to the saints, especially those who have lived in virginity as the heavenly spirits.

THE ECSTASY FRANCESCO

In the legends of the vision of the Pacific is remembered seeing St. Francis in ecstasy on a throne "most splendid and glorious" of all other thrones, while the supernatural voice declares that the throne was reserved to St. Francis for his humility, while it was intended unfair angel Lucifer who lost it because of his pride and of his haughtiness. This is why St. Francis was called by his followers and admirers the "Seraphic Father" (2 Cel 122: 707; M Leg 6, 6: 111; P Leg 23: 1570; Spec 60: 1750)

Jasmine Del Guercio-Assisi Newsletter

OUR GATHERINGS – All 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:

**Michael Radcliffe, OFS
6324 Morning Time Lane
Columbia, MD 21044**

Editor: Bob Longo, OFS blongosfo@gmail.com Fraternity Website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/>



Calendar

At the Friary

**Chapel Open Daily
From 9 AM – 5 PM**

Noon Mass everyday

All are Welcome



**General Constitution of the
Secular Franciscan Order
December 8, 2000**

Article 3

2. Their secularity, with respect to vocation and to apostolic life, expresses itself according to the respective state, that is:

- for the laity, contributing to building up the Kingdom of God by their presence in their life-situations and in their temporal activities;
- for the secular clergy, by offering to the people of God the service which is properly theirs, in communion with the bishop and the presbytery.

Both are inspired by the gospel options of Saint Francis of Assisi, committing themselves to continue his mission with the other components of the Franciscan Family.