

ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO FRATERNITY
Enkindle the Fire of Mercy in our Hearts
Gathering – March 20, 2016
A Blessed Palm Sunday to All

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

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“What is more, Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness.” ~ Pope Francis

Ministers Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

The St. Joseph Cupertino Secular Franciscan Fraternity will hold its council elections on Sunday, May 15, 2016 in place of our regular monthly gathering. All professed are requested to attend. A quorum of active professed members is needed to conduct an election (one half plus 1). Without a quorum, the election will need to be postponed to a subsequent meeting.

Visitors, Aspirants, inquirers and candidates are encouraged to attend; this is a wonderful experience to see the inner workings of the structure of the fraternity. Several of our candidates have volunteered to help with our upcoming elections.

Within the next couple of days request for nominations will be sent out to establish a slate for the May Elections. Before nominating a professed member, please ask permission to do so.

Please nominate one active professed member for Minister; one active professed member for Vice Minister; and three active professed members for other council positions.

Please begin to pray about whom best can serve our Fraternity for the next three years. Please be open to “the call to serve” if asked. If you hear the Lord calling you to be a servant leader, pray “Hear I am Lord; I have come to do Your Will”.

Please keep in mind that a fraternity cannot exist without a council.

Please see the Duties of the Council from our SFO Constitution on pages 2, 3 and 4 in this newsletter.

Your Fraternity Council

The Flyer



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



In the Chapel the Stations of the Cross will take the place of Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours

A Message from Br. Lawrence



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

Dear brothers and sisters in Francis,

The winter is coming to an end and the joyous season of spring is about to be here. Still, March is a difficult month because it teases us about spring coming while reminding us that that old winter season still is present as well. It is a time of transition.

As we get closer to the Sacred Triduum and the Easter season we must continue to realize that Lent is still with us and that no matter how much we say or do we always have a need to transition ourselves from sinner to saint. Not a one of us is free from sin and so we always struggle with that aspect of our life, but we know and have hope that we can continue to move ourselves away from sinner to saint.

Not a one of us is free from sin and so we always struggle with that aspect of our life, but we know and have hope that we can continue to move ourselves away from sin and closer to our goal of eternal happiness and union with God. Let us put forth real effort as the final days of this Lenten season come upon us so that we too can be full participants in the Sacred Triduum and celebrate with joyful alleluias the Easter season.

May God grant us all a blessed and joyous Easter Season - Br. Lawrence

Upcoming Events

March 20, 2016 – “Seeking a Gospel Life” Chapter 5 for ongoing formation

April 17, 2016 – Talk on Saints received at January’s Extraction of Saints

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

Below are the job descriptions for each office to be elected:

Duties of the Council from our SFO Constitution

It is the duty of the council of the local fraternity:

- * to promote the initiatives necessary for fostering fraternal life, for improving the human, Christian, and Franciscan formation of its members and for sustaining their witness and commitment in the world;
- * to make concrete and courageous choices, appropriate for the situation of the fraternity, from among the numerous activities possible in the field of the apostolate.
- * The duties of the council are also:
 - a. to decide on the acceptance and admission to Profession of new brothers and sisters;*) *) See Const. 39, 3 and 41, 1.
 - b. to establish a fraternal dialogue with members in particular difficulties and to adopt consequent measures.
 - c. to receive the request for withdrawal and to decide on the suspension of a member from the fraternity;



Treasurer's Report

March - 2016

Beginning Balance: \$2356.97
Income 500.00

Total **\$2856.97**

Expenses:

1st quarter donation 300.00
2nd quarter donation 300.00
Ink cartridge 54.05
Br. Lawrence
(Talk on Mercy) 100.00
Franciscan Friars 100.00
Brother Lawrence 50.00
Website Fee 15.00
Total Expenses: **\$919.05**

Ending Balance: **\$1937.92**

Thank You for your monthly
contributions

Contribution is Tax Deductible

- d. to decide on the establishment of sections or groups in conformity with the Constitutions and the statutes;
- e. to decide on the destination of available funds and, in general, to deliberate on matters concerning the financial conduct and economic affairs of the fraternity;
- f. to assign duties to the councilors and to the other professed members;
- g. to request from the competent superiors of the First Order and the TOR suitable and prepared religious as assistants;
- h. to perform such other duties as are required by these Constitutions or which are necessary to carry out its proper purposes.

The Duties of the Minister, who is the person primarily responsible in the fraternity, are to ensure that the directions and decisions of the fraternity and of the council are put into practice. He or she will keep the council informed concerning his or her activities. The minister also has the following duties:

- to call, to preside at, and to direct the meetings of the fraternity and council; to convoke every three years the elective chapter of the fraternity;
- to prepare the annual report to be sent to the council of the higher level after it has been approved by the council of the fraternity;
- to request, with the consent of the council, the pastoral and fraternal visits, at least once every three years.
- to put into effect those acts which the Constitutions refer to his or her competence.
- the minister represents the fraternity in all its relations with ecclesiastical and civil authorities. In addition, when the fraternity acquires a juridical personality in the civil order, the minister becomes, when possible, its legal representative.

The Vice-Minister has the following duties:

- to collaborate with the minister in a fraternal spirit and to support him or her in carrying out the duties proper to him or her;
- to exercise those functions which are entrusted to him or her by the council and/or by the assembly or chapter;
- to take the place of the minister in both his or her competencies and responsibilities in case of absence or temporary incapacity;
- to assume the functions of the minister when the office remains vacant.

The Secretary has the following duties:

- to compile the official acts of the fraternity and of the council and to assure that they are sent to their respective proper recipients;
- to see to the updating and preservation of the records and the registers, noting admissions, professions, deaths, withdrawals, and transfers from the fraternity.

The Director of Formation, has the following duties:

- to coordinate the formative activities according to Arts. 40 ff of these Constitutions;
- to instruct and animate the brothers and sisters in the period of formation,

March Birthdays



Mick Michieli-Beasley, OFS 03/05
Cindy Mohler, OFS 03/13
Amy Kulesa, OFS 03/14
France Staudenmann OFS 03/29



Remembering Your Profession Anniversaries

Gail Bunyan, OFS 3/21/99

Food for Thought

"I have learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but they will never forget how 'You' made them Feel" ~ **Maya Angelou**

See Const. 39 ff. Concerning the participation of the spiritual assistant in formation, see Art. 89,4 of the Constitutions.

- to inform the council of the fraternity concerning the suitability of the candidate(s), prior to admission and profession ;*) *) See Const. 41.

The Treasurer, or bursar, has the following duties:

- to guard diligently the contributions received, recording each receipt in the appropriate register, with the date on which it was given, the name of the contributor, or the one from whom it was collected;
- to record in the same register the items of expense, specifying the date and the purpose, in conformity with the directions of the fraternity council.
- to render an account of his or her administration to the assembly and to the council of the fraternity according to the norms of the national statutes.

The provisions regarding the vice-minister, the secretary and the treasurer apply, with the appropriate adaptations, to all levels.

'Our Sister, Mother Earth'
by Friar Jeremy Harrington, O.F.M.

Nature embraces us with beauty and gives us a new perspective. We can't think we are the center of the universe when we study the sky. By getting away from the screen—computer or TV—we can gain the positive energy of poet e. e. cummings: “i thank you God for most this amazing day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes.”

But even more important, for me, is that spending time outside in nature can draw us to God. “The heavens proclaim the glory of God,” the psalmist declares. God speaks to us through the world he has made. Creation reflects the goodness and beauty of the Creator.

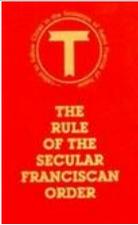
I've always loved walking on the beach or in the woods. Rivers fascinate me. The powerful waters never stop. In the woods, you see tiny wild violets and giant oaks, birds, and squirrels. For the 20 years I lived in the inner city, parks where I could walk and pray were my salvation. As a college seminarian, after Morning Prayer, Mass, and breakfast, walking for 10 to 15 minutes was mandatory, even in winter. It was a healthy awakening.

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 Fraternity Website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/>

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


Rule 20 of the Secular Franciscan Order
The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into fraternities of various levels -- local, regional, national, and international. Each one has its own moral personality in the Church. These various fraternities are coordinated and united according to the norm of this rule and of the constitutions.

Annual Retreat 2016

Where: PriestField Pastoral Center, 4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV 25430-3742

When: April 22-24, 2016

Who: All Secular Franciscans, including candidates, inquirers and spiritual assistants

What: Mercy: The Heart of God: Mercy: The Heart of Francis

Presenter: Father Michael Heine

Registration Form Instructions:

1. Submit form no later than April 8, 2016
2. Please type or print all information clearly.
3. Only one participant per registration form.
4. NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of \$50.00 must accompany this form.
5. **Make your check payable to ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA REGION* and mail this form with payment to:**

Peter Noyes, ofs
2917 Shepperton Terrace
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Phone: 301-384-8424 tty
email: pnoyesofs@yahoo.com

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Fraternity _____

Please check room requirement: Rooms are designed for double occupancy for maximum attendees.

A) Single occupancy room: \$243.00 †

B) Double occupancy room: \$223.00

C) Single occupancy cabin: \$277.00

D) Double occupancy cabin: \$252.00

E) Dormitory: \$179.00

F) Days Only: \$121.00

†**Select single occupancy only if there is a serious or medical reason. Thank you!**

Please indicate any special needs you have: _____

Please choose a roommate, or one can be assigned for you.

Name of preferred roommate: _____

Amount enclosed with this form \$ _____