

ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO FRATERNITY
Gathering – May 18, 2014



A Message from our Minister

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Francis and Clare,

This month our fraternity gathering will be on Sunday, May 18, 2014 starting with Mass at 12PM, our social at 1PM and our meeting will start at 2PM. At approximately 2:15PM we will have our ongoing formation, our Vice Minister, Sherry Lewis, OFS will show a DVD on the Liturgy of the Hours. We will end our afternoon with Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours.

In this month of May we celebrate Mothers Day and we give a special place of honor to our Holy Mother Mary.

“It is said that during medieval times a beautiful golden flower migrated to western Europe from the Mediterranean area. Early Christians used this flower in their adoration of Mary, The Mother of God. They called this flower Mary's Gold.”

“No one knows exactly why this flower was used to pay tribute to Holy Mother. This piece of knowledge appears to be lost in the annals of time. Some say the color of the plant was similar to the rays of light which crowned Mary. Others thought the golden color was related to Mary's willing obedience to do God's will. Brother John M. Samaha, S.M. believes that the flower was popular because it bloomed during all of the holidays in Mary's honor and provided an abundant treasure of golden colored blossoms.”

“Medieval Christians would place Mary's Gold plants and flowers around statues of the Virgin Mary to pay her honor. Sometimes they also would place gold coins there also. The poor would place the blossoms of Mary's Gold as a substitute for gold coins. Because of the flowers spiritual association with the Mother of God it was believed to bring good luck and ward off evil, especially witchcraft.”

“This beautiful flower is an ever living memorial to the Mother of God. Over the years it has become the symbol of Our Lady. Another thing has happened over the years. The flowers name has changed. What medieval Christians used to call Mary's Gold, we now call Marigold.”

“It is more than likely that during this Marian month, The Mother of God will continue to be honored by Christians, especially Catholics, who will place Marigolds around statues and likenesses of Mary.” May 11th. was Mothers Day. “Perhaps Christian mothers received Marigolds from children and husbands to honor them as Christians honor Mary the Mother of God.” – *Brother John M. Samaha, S.M., author of the book, Mary's Flowers, Gardens and Meditations.*

We pray all Mothers received many blessings on your big day.

- *Your Fraternity Council*



Our Fraternity Council

- Minister:** Bob Longo, OFS
410 451-0943
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Cindy Mohler, OFS
410 747-4589
- Spiritual Assistant:**
Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv
410 531-2802

EVENING PRAYER



Fifth Sunday of Easter



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

The Marian Dedication of St. Francis of Assisi

For St. Francis the Blessed Virgin Mary was Mother, Advocate and Queen. St. Bonaventure bears witness that St. Francis honored Her as Mother, when he says: "He loved with an unspeakable affection the Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, forasmuch as that She had made the Lord of glory our Brother, and that through Her we have obtained mercy." (Leg. Mai. IX,3) For who can make the Lord our Brother, if She not also be our Mother? And again, this Doctor of the Church recounts that even before his perfect conversion the Seraphic Father had devotion for Her as Queen, for speaking of the Portiuncula, he says: "When the man of God beheld it thus abandoned, by reason of the ardent devotion that he had toward the Sovereign Lady of the world, he took up abode there, that he might diligently labor to repair it." (Leg. Mai II,8) That there can be no doubt that Saint Francis took this Mother and Queen as Advocate too, St. Bonaventure writes in the first place, "In Her, after Christ, he put his chief trust, making Her his own patron and that of his Brethren ...", adding moreover that which verified what he said: "...and in Her honor he fasted most devoutly from the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul unto the Feast of the Assumption." (Leg. Mai. IX, 3) and states the matter even more clearly, where he says, "Now Francis, the servant of God, abiding at the church of the Virgin Mother of God, with continuous sighing besought Her that had conceived the Word full of grace and truth that She would deign to become his Advocate." (Leg. Mai. III,1) This devotion of the Poverello was not without great fruit, for the Seraphic Doctor writes, "...and by the merits of the Mother of Mercy, he did himself conceive and give birth unto the spirit of Gospel truth," (Leg. Mai. III, 1) recounting immediately afterwards the taking up of the Apostolic life by Francis on the Feast of Matthias in the year 1208 A.D.

Now this devotion of St. Francis was no small thing; for this reason St. Bonaventure considered it no small thing. For there is an intimate link of charity that unites the whole life of this Herald of the Great King in unity. And this link which has lain hidden in plain view can clearly be seen by the historical circumstances of St. Francis' life. The Lord spoke to him from the Cross of San Damiano sometime in January of 1206 A.D. [K. Esser, Gli Scritti di San Francesco, Ed. Messagero Padova, 1995, p. 458; cf. A. Vincinelli, Gli Scritti di S. Francesco, Verona, 1955, p. 217]. Shortly thereafter, St. Bonaventure reports that the Saint dwelt continually at Churches (Leg. Mai. II-III). It is a moral certainly therefore, on the basis of what the Seraphic Doctor says in his Legenda Maior, (III,1), that the Saint had the habit of attending to the Gospel readings at Mass. It is unreasonable to suppose therefore that the Saint listened attentively also to the Gospel before his dramatic final conversion on February 24, 1208 A.D.? Certainly not. And what therefore could be more appropriate and consistent with the Saint's devotion than that Gospel which he undoubtedly heard just a month before that marvelous day.

Immediately after the mention of St. Francis' pleading for Her to become his Advocate, St. Bonaventure testifies:



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: \$1089.64
Income 280.00
Total \$1369.64

Expenses:

Franciscan Friars \$ 100.00
Brother Lawrence 50.00
Half-year fair share to the Regional 447.50
Website Fee 15.00
Total Expenses: \$ 612.50

Ending Balance: \$ 757.14

Thank You for your monthly contributions

Contribution is Tax Deductible

"and by the merits of the Mother of Mercy, he did himself conceive and give birth unto the spirit of Gospel truth. For while on a day he was devoutly hearing the Mass of the Apostles, that Gospel was read aloud wherein Christ gave unto His disciples that were sent forth to preach the Gospel pattern of life, to wit, that they should possess neither gold, nor silver, nor money in their purses, nor scrip for their journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves. Hearing this, and understanding it, and committing it to memory, the lover of Apostolic poverty was at once filled with joy unspeakable. 'This,' said he, 'is what I desire, yea, this is what I long for with my whole heart.'" (Leg. Mai. III,1)

It is the will of the Immaculate, the perfect consecration to the Mother of God! The instrument of the restoration of the Church! A spiritual wonder! A supernatural mystery! An enigma of sanctity to those outside; and a portal of holiness for those within! What a stunning and altogether extraordinary son of the Immaculate Virgin, our Father Francis was! Not since the Apostles was the like seen; and in the Order hence, may his likeness be seen again and again!

May both Mother and son obtain for us the true grace of faith and penance, humility and devotion, that we may attain to that Kingdom where Her Son lives and reigns and is glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen-<http://www.franciscan-archive.org/patriarcha/mdevot.html>

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

Upcoming Events

Our Next Book Sharing Meeting – All Are Welcome

Date: Saturday, June 7th - 1:30pm (social)
2:00pm ~ 4:00pm

Place: Ed Burgee's home: 408 Westside Blvd.
Catonsville, MD
Tel: 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

May Birthdays



Lynne Float, OFS 5/17
Patrick Caughy, OFS 5/18
Ray Heverling, OFS 5/31

June Birthdays

Kevin Corcoran, OFS 6/06
Mary Karth, OFS 6/28

Remembering Your Profession



There are no Profession Anniversary's in May

Visitors and Inquirers

Our new inquirers class is well under way and I would like to list the names of those who are seeking to live the Gospel Life:

Mary Chandler
Carl Fischer
Charlene (Charlie) Heyden
John Handiboe
Jeanne Kerins
Juliana Kim
Boniface Kim
Mark McPherson
Thom Partenope
Charles Schuler
Akisha Townsend

Our Visitors List is growing each month, the following are interested in our order:

Mick Michieli-Beasley, Reilly Gates, Joanne Hann, Joe Hann, Robert Landry, Denise Murphy, Asun Puser and Denise Reccardi.

At our social hour please make sure all of us wear our name badges that are located near the sign-in book. By wearing name badges we can introduce ourselves to our visitors and they will get to know who we are as well. We are looking forward to seeing you at our May Gathering. - The Council

ATTENDENCE 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 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

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Calendar

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

Reconciliation
Monday through Saturday at
11:30am and Wednesdays
4 PM – 5 PM
Thursdays 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

May 17, 2014 - May 24, 2014
The Journey of Spiritual
Direction by Fr. Julio
9:30am. - 11:00am.
Cost \$35 for both workshops, or
\$20 for one. For more
information visit the Shrines
website at
www.ShrineofStAnthony.org or
call 410-531-2800



Dinner Concert
Under the Arches
June 8, 2014 6:PM. - 8:30PM

Mark your calendar for the annual Dinner Concert Under the Arches in honor of St. Anthony. Mass will be celebrated at 4:30pm. in the Shrine Chapel. Cost: \$40 per person. For More details please call the Shrine at 410-531-2800