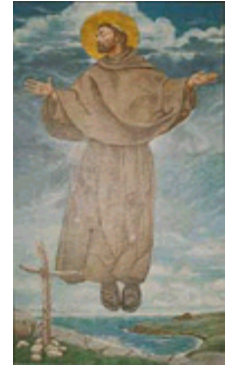


# ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO FRATERNITY

## Gathering – October 18, 2015

# The Flyer



[Laudato Si \(Praise be to you – On Care For Our Common Home\)](#), Paragraph 10

I do not want to write this Encyclical without turning to that attractive and compelling figure, whose name I took as my guide and inspiration when I was elected Bishop of Rome. I believe that Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace.

~ Pope Francis

### Ministers Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the day of our picnic, God gave us a beautiful day filled with plenty of sunshine and cool breezes. So many of our brothers and sisters from other fraternity's took part in our annual picnic and shared in Franciscan companionship.

As I looked around the grounds of the friary and saw our Franciscan Charism flowing among those in attendance, I thought to myself this is what our Charism is all about, sharing, loving, caring, allowing the Holy Spirit to move in us and through others.

Thanks to all for the wonderful job in pulling this picnic together. Without your fraternal love and giving of yourself, we could not have succeeded in providing wonderful fellowship with our Franciscan brothers and sisters.

I would like to give personal thanks to:

Ed Burgee, Ralph Colavilta, Carl Fisher, Geri and Owen Flynn, Cindy Mohler, Mimi Cox Owens, Michael Radcliffe, France and Jean-Louis Staudenmann and Jerry Yu. If I have left anyone out, please let me know.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> our sister and brother, Denise Murphy, OFS and Chris Donaldson, OFS were married at the friary. You can view a few pictures of their wedding on our fraternity website at: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/recent-photos-and-videos/> A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to the newly weds, may your new life together be filled with the blessings of Francis and Clare.

Our theme for this year is Contemplative Prayer; in 2016 we will have a new theme. The council would like your input, so if you could spend time in prayer and hopefully come up with suggestions, please bring your idea(s) to our October Gathering.

At the friary, Fr. Peter Tremblay, OFM Conv. will give a talk on "Science and Religion: A long history of cooperation". The talk will be at 10 AM on October 31, 2015 and is free of charge. The presentation will be about an hour with questions and answers to follow.

*Your Fraternity Council*

### 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

### EVENING PRAYER



**Twentieth Ninth Sunday  
Evening Prayer II  
Week I**



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

**Upcoming Events**

**Book Sharing**

**Our Next Book Sharing Meeting – All Are Welcome**

**Date:** Saturday - November 7th - 1:00 PM ~ 3:00 PM

**Place:** Shrine of St. Anthony (Check in at the Gift Shop as to what room we will be meeting in.)

**Book:** "Clare ~ A Light in the Garden", by Murray Bodo, OFM

**Chapters:** "A New Love"  
 "A Consecrated Life"  
 "San Damiano"  
 "Pilgrims in Spirit"

**October** - Fr Julio will speak with us on Contemplation.

**November** - Memorial Mass for our departed Brothers and Sisters.

**December** - Christmas Party!!

**January** - We will have the Franciscan tradition of the Extraction of Saints and will welcome our inquirers into the order with the "Rite of Admission" Ceremony in the Chapel.



**Remembering Your Profession Anniversaries**

- |                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Theresa Heath, OFS</i>     | <b>10/11/81</b> |
| <i>Lorie Chase, OFS</i>       | <b>10/15/08</b> |
| <i>John Kirby, OFS</i>        | <b>10/16/94</b> |
| <i>Sherry Lewis, OFS</i>      | <b>10/16/94</b> |
| <i>Edward Burgee, OFS</i>     | <b>10/16/11</b> |
| <i>Geri Flynn, OFS</i>        | <b>10/16/11</b> |
| <i>Rosemary Whelan, OFS</i>   | <b>10/16/11</b> |
| <i>Jerry Yu, OFS</i>          | <b>10/16/11</b> |
| <i>Diane Witherspoon, OFS</i> | <b>10/18/06</b> |
| <i>Jim O'Brien</i>            | <b>10/19/75</b> |
| <i>Amy Kulesa, OFS</i>        | <b>10/20/03</b> |
| <i>Eileen Peregoy, OFS</i>    | <b>10/20/03</b> |
| <i>Jim Tebo, OFS</i>          | <b>10/23/77</b> |



## Treasurer's Report

**Beginning Balance:** \$1214.60  
Income 942.00

Total \$2156.60

### Expenses:

Franciscan Friars 100.00  
Brother Lawrence 50.00  
Website Fee 15.00  
Picnic Expense  
-- Buns & water 47.82  
Total Expenses: \$ 212.82

**Ending Balance:** \$ 1943.78

Thank You for your monthly  
contributions

**Contribution is Tax Deductible**

## Loving—Graciously

by Friar Jeremy Harrington, O.F.M.

I am inspired by how St. Francis of Assisi praises God in all creation and what a joy it is for me to walk outside and soak in the beauty of God's world. Pope Francis began his new encyclical by quoting "The Canticle of Creatures" by St. Francis. Both men love creation and people. Sometimes, however, St. Francis' love for Brother Wolf or Sister Wren is emphasized more than his love for people.

He saw as his mission sharing the Good News. He and his brothers walked from village to village to tell everyone about God's love. In his joy, sometimes Francis picked up two sticks and played them like a violin and sang in French.

The poor received special attention. In his "Testament," St. Francis says the Lord led him among the lepers who were banished outside the walls of Assisi. Francis lived among them, nursed their wounds, and treated them with dignity. He counts as a great blessing that God gave him brothers, St. Clare and her sisters, and lay married and single people to follow his Gospel way of life.

I want to imitate Francis' love for others and his nonjudgmental attitude and sensitivity to each person. Here are a couple of examples.

When Francis left home and Assisi, he took off his fine clothes and returned them to his merchant father. He put on the rough tunic of a beggar. But he told his followers "not to look down or pass judgment on those they see wearing soft and colorful clothing and enjoying the choicest food and drink; instead each must criticize and despise himself."

In the Rule, Francis told his followers not to judge others but to be "peaceful and unassuming, gentle and humble, speaking courteously to everyone." He cautioned them not to become "angry or disturbed because of the sin of another, since anger and disturbance hinder charity in themselves and others."

Francis observed strict fasts himself, but was sensitive to the limitations of others. I love the story of the brother who cried out in the middle of the night, "I'm dying of hunger!" Francis jumped up, woke up the other brothers, and told them to set out what food they had so they could share a meal. He didn't want the hungry brother to be embarrassed by his hunger and eating alone. He called the chosen leader of each friary "minister" (servant). In a letter to the ministers he wrote: "There should not be any brother in the world who has sinned ... who after he has looked into your eyes, would go away without having received your mercy...."

That's the attitude I want: love people, don't be quick to judge, but be quick to excuse and forgive. Francis loved everyone—graciously.

### October Birthday



**Brandon Justice, OFS** 10/06  
**Bob Longo, OFS** 10/06  
**Akisha Townsend-Eaton, OFS** 10/07  
**Harry Ford, OFS** 10/10  
**Lita Maisel, OFS** 10/13  
**Angela Schuler, OFS** 10/21  
**Michael Radcliffe, OFS** 10/22  
**Theresa Heath, OFS** 10/30

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

And when it rains on your  
parade look up rather than  
down. Without the rain,  
there would be no rainbow  
— G.K. Chesterton

# The Generosity of God

by Friar Jim Van Vurst, O.F.M.

Most of us are attuned to the issue of fairness. But what is interesting is how often people criticize God for not being fair. I'm reminded of Jesus' parable about the workers who were hired to work all day and those hired at the end of the day. The parable illustrates the generous vineyard owner giving all the workers a full day's wage. The exhausted workers who toiled in the heat cried foul when he saw they late-in-the-day workers hardly breaking a sweat. Jesus posed the question, "Why can't I be generous with my money? It is after all mine, isn't it?"

What about God's generosity toward *us*? I look at myself and I stand back in awe. I was born into a wonderful family, with a mom and dad who were good Catholics. My sister and I were taught from early on how to pray, what to believe, and how to live our lives. I received a vocation to the Franciscan life—including ordination to the priesthood. My sister was also called to religious life with the Sisters of Charity. We both had good educations—and then the opportunity to use our talents for the good of others.

I often wonder how I could ever look down on someone whose life has been filled with struggle, abuse, lack of love, or lack of education. How could I ever sit in judgment that they should be doing better? It can be an instant rejection.

## All Are Saved

We tend to build ourselves up by comparing ourselves with those who don't measure up to our standards. We sometimes feel better by looking at those we deem beneath us. And those who are seen as less often do not have the blessings and chances that we have. That's where rash judgment comes in. How many children today are raised in one-parent homes, and who experience deprivation, rejection, physical abuse, or more? When I grew up in the '40s and '50s, life was uncomplicated. Growing up in society today is a challenge—even with the best of opportunities.

In the parable of the workers, we have to remember that those who were hired at the end of the day had been standing around waiting for a chance to work. When questioned why they were idle, their answer was: "Because no one has hired us."

The Gospels tell us that Jesus embraced lepers and outcasts. In those days, sickness of any kind was seen as punishment from God, so people felt good about rejecting them. But Jesus' answer is just the opposite: they are God's favorites since they have so little. I think to myself that, given all the gifts I have been blessed with, I'm accountable to the Lord. Next to adoration of God, the next best prayer is one of gratitude. I have to remind myself of how blessed I have been. Can you imagine anyone being upset with Jesus for saving the thief Dismas on the cross? It is a moment to rejoice.

And that is why, even though no one can know who is saved and who is not, the true Christian should pray that *everyone* be saved.

**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 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

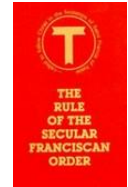


Calendar

At the Friary

## [A Night with the Saints](#)

Saturday October 31st  
from 6:30pm.-9:30pm.  
Bring the kids dressed as  
their favorite Saints and  
biblical figures to get  
loads of candy and hear  
the life stories of some of  
the most popular  
Franciscan Saints of all  
times!



## Rule 15 of the Secular Franciscan Order

Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith.