

**ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO FRATERNITY**  
**Gathering – June 22, 2014**



**A Message from our Minister**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Francis and Clare,

Last Sunday was Fathers Day and we hope all our fathers had a day filled with many blessing.

Gosh, can you believe summer is almost here, many of us will be on vacation or planning our vacations. We have several events coming up during the coming months so please mark your calendar:

July 20, 2014 - We will come together at the friary for our monthly Gathering.

July 10 – 13, 2014 - A summer seminar for Secular Franciscans will be held at St. Francis University in Loretto, Pennsylvania. The topic is “Spiritual Assistance,” there will be two tracks: one for all Seculars as well as friar or sister spiritual assistants, and another for those directly involved in regional training programs for spiritual assistants. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the purpose and role of the spiritual assistant in the life of the fraternity. If you are interested in participating in this special seminar, please let me know.

September 21, 2014 – Our Fraternity picnic will begin with 12 pm Mass, the festivities will begin at 1pm at the friary. This is such a fun time; please bring your spouse and children for a day of fellow-ship with our fraternity. Our sister, France Staudenmann, OFS will be sending invitations out to our regional fraternities; we always have such a wonderful time spending the day with our brothers and sisters.

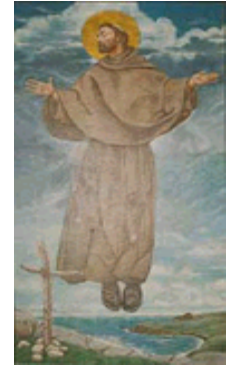
September 26 – 28, 2014 – Our Chapter of Mats will be at Priestfield Retreat Center, Kearneysville, West Virginia. As is the region’s custom, this will replace the annual regional retreat. As more information is received we will send you updates.

OCTOBER 20–24, 2014 - Iconology Workshop in the traditional Russian-Byzantine Icon Writing Method - If you can hold a paintbrush, you can write an icon!” Prosopon School of Iconology will present a five day workshop in the traditional Russian-Byzantine icon writing method. Classes will start at 9 am to 5 pm daily at the Shrine of St. Anthony.

The cost will be \$700.00 and includes all materials. A \$200.00 non-refundable deposit required by October 10, 2014

For more information visit our fraternity’s website:  
<http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/fraternity-news-events/> or call Mick Michieli-Beasley at Cell 410-303-2392 / Home 410-551-7373

May all have a wonderful summer. - *Your Fraternity Council*



**Our Fraternity Council**

- Minister:** Bob Longo, OFS  
410 451-0943
- 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  
410 379-2374  
Cindy Mohler, OFS  
410 747-4589
- Spiritual Assistant:**  
Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv.  
410 531-2802

**EVENING PRAYER**



Corpus Christi Sunday  
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**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

**Our Deepest Relationship Is with God**

I previously wrote about the deeply felt experience we can have with one another. Given that we are created in God’s own image and likeness, it is not an exaggeration to say that these human relationships are God-like. I want to reflect the ultimate basis for those relationships: our relationship with God and God’s relationship with us.

Each one of us is embraced with God’s love. This union is not dependent on whether we worship God or even know God exists. Every person’s life, from the moment of conception, is itself a sharing in God’s existence. Even though a newborn infant can’t be conscious of a mother’s presence, we know the mother is present to her infant very consciously.

We were made to be in a conscious and personal relationship with God. We who are blessed with knowing of God are called to a personal relationship with the Creator. Some relationships are based on fear—even terror. Our relationship with God is the opposite because it is based on love. The key word is personal. For example, an atheist who is interested in comparative religions can know more about the concept of God than 99 percent of ordinary believers, nevertheless, as a professed atheist, he won’t have a personal relationship with God given his intellectual stance. But his disbelief in no way removes God’s love and desire for him.

Our personal relationship with God is based on who we are as people. What is startling is that while we cannot reach out and embrace God with our arms, we can do just that with our hearts. Our physical size is of no importance here because love is based in the human soul. Isn’t it true that a smile from an infant gazing at the face of her mother totally transforms the mother in ways she could not describe?

In our personal relationship with God, all we need to do is act as we do with one another. The elements of that are the essence of our relationship with God. Many confuse a relationship with feeling a kind of closeness. Often it is not felt or sensed in that way. A relationship may include emotions, but they are definitely not the essence of it. Rather, it is with our hearts that we embrace the Lord. And in that relationship, we speak with God as we would with anyone else.

There is no special language or grammar. We speak as we always do. We remind ourselves that God is not “somewhere up there,” but within us so that we don’t have to find God. We must look within. God is the one who shares everything in our lives with us—good and bad. We hold nothing back. God can handle it all with no trouble. In fact, God embraces us no matter where we are in life.

What’s a simple way of coming to the Lord, you might ask? Simply say in your heart, Here I am, Lord. We need to talk. - by Friar Jim Van Vurst, O.F.M



## 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:** \$ 757.14  
Income 307.00  
Total **\$1064.14**

### Expenses:

Franciscan Friars \$ 100.00  
Brother Lawrence 50.00  
Bob's Ink Cartridges 59.35  
Website Fee 15.00  
Total Expenses: **\$ 224.35**

**Ending Balance:** **\$ 839.79**

Thank You for your monthly contributions

**Contribution is Tax Deductible**

## June Birthdays



**Kevin Corcoran, OFS 6/06**  
**Chris Donaldson, OFS 6/06**  
**Mary Karth, OFS 6/28**

### July Birthdays

Gerry Pinkas, OFS 7/18  
Will Witherspoon, OFS 7/31

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

### Upcoming Events

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

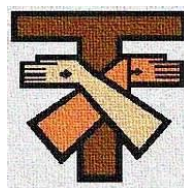
Date: Saturday, July 5th - 1:30pm (social)  
2:00pm ~ 4:00pm

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: "The Devil's Dream" - Page 99  
"A Hymn to La Verna" - Page 100  
"Of Sickness" - Page 101

### Remembering Your Profession



Barbara Levasseur, OFS 6/03/02  
Bob Longo, OFS 6/15/96  
Kevin Kulesa, OFS 6/15/07  
Patrick Caughy, OFS 6/24/12  
Cindy Mohler, OFS 6/24/12  
France Staudenmann OFS 6/24/12

### Food For Thought

From our brother, Jim Manning, OFS

Solitude Is Not Separation

And it is only when we pay no attention to our own excellence that we are at last completely free to serve God in perfection of His own sake alone.

New Seeds of Contemplation  
Thomas Merton

## Anniversary Proclamation - Saint Francis Patron of Italy

On June 18, 1939, his Holiness Pope Pius XII, three months after his election, proclaimed St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of Italy. "Since Divine Providence has willed that the Roman Chair of St. Peter was established in Italy, our will cannot apply specifically to promote the spiritual benefits of the Italians. Therefore we declare from this moment and we are in perpetual St. Francis of Assisi and Saint Catherine of Siena Primary Patrons of Italy "(Papal Brief).

The news had great resonance in the ecclesial world, civil and cultural: many bishops publicly expressed its satisfaction; ordinary citizens and authorities, and faithful writers stressed the event, which helped them to feel identified with the virtues, human and spiritual characteristics of the person represented in a very high culture and historical traditions of Italy. The company and the Italian church, which already felt the closeness and the consonance of feelings and spirituality with the Saint of Assisi, rallied to make the daily report significant and greatly rewarding.

The outbreak of war made more intense and confident prayer appeal to the Patron to implore peace. The municipalities of Italy they put a perpetual lamp at the tomb of the Saint and every year, on 4 October, the municipalities in each region alternate in the offer, that burn oil throughout the year in memory of the devotion and love of all Italians for their Patron Saint. Some might think that today it is simplistic to remind the "patron of Italy", having regard to the universal dimension which took St. Francis of Assisi not only territorially but also in religious contexts, and more. In today's globalized world, society, multicultural, multiethnic cannot appear as anachronistic "misappropriation"? Certainly St. Francis is the Saint of the universal Church, Saint of every place and time, is next to every man, especially the needy and poor.

However the Italians posed by Providence in the same territory, mixed in the same culture and language, more in him identifying and feel represented by him. Recognize in him the model of humanity and of exceptional Holiness, toward whom they feel a deep nostalgia. Have special pallier is for us reason for hope because he helps us look at life with optimism, cultivate the awareness that we live in a world, where despite appearances, men, women, animals, plants, in fact the whole creation, are for us brothers and sisters. But it's also responsibility. Francis said: "therefore is great shame for us servants of the Lord, the saints worked with facts and telling us and preaching the things that they do want to receive honor and glory". (FF 155, Reprimand).

Having St. Francis of Assisi as special patron means getting an extension for the humanity of his message and his spirituality.

- NEWSLETTER Basilica San Francesco Rivista

**GATHERINGS** - All active members should make every effort to attend our monthly Gatherings. 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

#### 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

July 11<sup>th</sup> 4PM – 9PM

#### Friar Fest at the Red Barn Friday July 11th

On Friday July 11th, an outdoor music festival starring Curb recording artist Marie Miller! has had songs played on VH1, CMT, and most recently on Dancing with the Stars and brings with her members of L'Angelus for a fantastic night of music. Friar Fest also welcomes Lila Rose who will be speaking on her work within the Pro-Life movement. Featuring the Love Good Music tour and other local acts, this family friendly festival is a must for music lovers.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$40 per family of 4 or more. Children 7 and under are free. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be available for purchase during the event. Bring your own camp chairs and blankets.

Individual tickets may be purchased online at [www.ShrineOfStAnthony.org](http://www.ShrineOfStAnthony.org).

To purchase a family ticket please call the Shrine office as we are not able to process online - 410 531-2800