

The Flyer

St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity

THEME FOR THE YEAR—BE HOLY

June 23, 2019 Gathering

The Meaning of Vocation

Every vocation is part of a divine plan. From all eternity, since we began to exist in the plan of the Creator, He also willed us to be "called." He prepared in us the gifts and conditions for the personal, conscious and opportune response to the call of Christ and of the Church. It is God Who loves us, Who is Love, Who calls us. "Vocation is, therefore, a mystery that one accepts and lives in the depths of their being" ~ Pope John Paul II

What is Fraternity

FRATERNITY is a call to unity and harmony with all our brothers and sisters, all of whom are children of the same loving God.

FRATERNITY is a call to unity and harmony with all of creation, plant and planet, all created by the same loving God.

FRATERNITY is a call to build a community of love that reflects Love back to the God of Love: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

~ Deacon Tom Bello, OFS, former National Minister—FUN Manual - "Fraternity and Francis"

BE SOLICITOUS TO MAKE YOUR ELECTION PERMANENT



Our Fraternity Council for 2016 – 2019

Acting Minister: Ed Burgee, OFS, 410 788-2718

Acting Vice Minister: Geri Flynn, OFS, 410 730-4395

Secretary: France Staudenmann, OFS, 301 366-1769

Treasurer: Michael Radcliffe, OFS, 301 310-5204

Formation Director: Geri Flynn, OFS, 410 730-4395

Councilor: Lita Maisel, OFS, 410 747-2374

Councilor: Mary Karth, OFS, 301 514-5717

Spiritual Assistant: Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv. 410 485-5000



Acting Ministers Message

Hello everyone,

The Summer season is here and it is time to start thinking of and planning for our annual fraternity picnic. Before that, however, we need to accomplish our triennial election of a new council. As of this writing I have 16 professed members, including myself, who have committed to attending our next gathering on June 23rd. We need a total of at least 21 to have a quorum in order to hold the election. Please make every effort to attend. As stated before, if we have no council, we have no fraternity.

Pax et Bonum,

Ed





Please Pray For ...

- Connie Baker, OFS
- Marie Lindung, OFS
- Georgianna Papazian, OFS
- Jim Tebo, OFS

FRANCISCAN CENTER GIVING

Don't forget to bring your donated items to this month's gathering. Please pick from below:

- Hand sanitizer
- Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Washcloths
- Deodorant
- Disposable razors
- Feminine hygiene products

Your donations are tax deductible.

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



OUR DECEASED SISTERS AND BROTHERS

- 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
- Mary Ferrara, SFO
- Dolores Fritz, OFS
- Marilyn Gilson, SFO
- Richard Hall, SFO
- Joy Kubricky, OFS
- Frances Langbehn, SFO
- Bob Lewis, SFO
- Jean Manning, OFS
- Jim Manning, OFS
- Yvonne Proch, SFO
- Nancy Seaton, SFO
- Don Sweitzer, OFS
- Betty Taylor, SFO
- Bud Tenley, SFO
- Regina Yeager, SFO
- Dorothy Zalewski, SFO



Elections on June 23

All professed must attend unless excused by the Minister. A quorum is needed to hold valid elections.



VI. WEAK RESPONSES (Paragraph 59)

“At the same time we can note the rise of a false or superficial ecology which bolsters complacency and a cheerful recklessness. As often occurs in periods of deep crisis which require bold decisions, we are tempted to think that what is happening is not entirely clear.

Superficially, apart from a few obvious signs of pollution and deterioration, things do not look that serious, and the planet could continue as it is for some time. Such evasiveness serves as a license to carrying on with our present lifestyles and models of production and consumption. This is the way human beings contrive to feed their self-destructive vices: trying not to see them, trying not to acknowledge them, delaying the important decisions and pretending that nothing will happen.” ~ *Pope Francis*

On the St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity website <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/encyclical-page-of-laudato-si/> you can view the following:

Encyclical – [Laudato Si](#)

Laudato Si – [Animated Brief](#)

[Bishop Robert Barron's commetary](#)

On the Enviroment

[Encyclical – Study Guide for Laudato Si](#)



Calendar

AT THE FRIARY

Chapel Open Daily
From 9 AM – 5 PM

Noon Mass every day

For more information,
call 410 531-2800

Food for Thought

"Who is going to save our Church? Not our bishops, not our priests and religious. It is up to you, the people. You have the minds, the eyes, the ears to save the Church".

~ Archbishop Fulton Sheen (1972)

Treasurer's Report

May – 2019

Beginning Balance:
\$ 1,834.85

Common Fund Contributions
275.00

St. Paul Street
35.00

Total \$ 2,144.85

Expenses:

Brother Lawrence
100.00

Franciscan Friars
100.00

Formation Expense
168.00

Web Fee 15.00
Total \$ 383.00

Ending Balance:
\$1,761.85

Thank you for your monthly contribution to the Common Fund

Contributions are tax deductible

May Your Birthday be a Day of Special Blessings



Boniface Kim, OFS	06/05
Chris Donaldson, OFS	06/06
Richard Lam, OFS	06/06
Joan Babin, OFS	06/18
Mary Chandler, OFS	06/18
Dale Edmunds, OFS	06/25
Eileen Peregoy, OFS	06/26

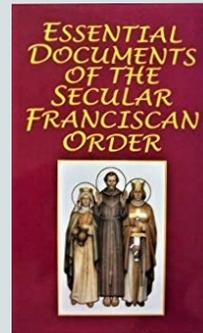


REMEMBERING YOUR PROFESSION DAY

Barbara Levasseur, OFS	17 years	06/03/02
Bob Longo, OFS	23 years	06/15/96
Cindy Mohler, OFS	7 years	06/24/12
Dale Edmunds, OFS	9 years	06/23/10
France Staudenmann OFS	7 years	06/24/12
Kevin Kulesa, OFS	12 years	06/15/07
Patrick Caughy, OFS	7 years	06/24/12

General

Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order



**December 8, 2000
The Form of Life
Article 16**

2. Mary is the model of fruitful and faithful love for the entire ecclesial community.

Secular Franciscans and their fraternities should seek to live the experience of Francis, who made the Virgin the guide of his activity. With her, like the disciples at Pentecost, they should welcome the Spirit to create a community of love.



Book Sharing

Our book share group has decided to break until Fall when we will begin a new book (to be determined) and all are encouraged to come.

~ Geri Flynn, OFS

Words and Phrases, Phrases and Words

What's in a word? What's in a phrase? That being said I would like to offer words and phrases to ponder as we continue on our Franciscan journey:

“Love: love turns one person into two; and two into one.” ~ Isaac ben

“Courage: courage is fear that has said it's prayers.” ~ Dorothy Bernard

“Dream: to dream: anything that you want to dream, that is the beauty of the human mind. To do anything that you want to do, that is the strength of the human will. To trust yourself to test your limits, that is the courage to succeed.” ~ Bernard Edmonds

“Actions: many acts of service: cost nothing and take little time: encouragement, compliments, listening, gratitude, and compassion. Anytime you affirm the worth of others, you serve.” ~ Chris Karcher

“Difference: there is no greater joy nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone's life.” ~ Sister Mary Rose McGeady

SIMPLE FORMULA FOR LIVING

Live beneath your means.
Return everything you borrow.
Stop blaming other people.
Admit it when you make mistakes.
Give cloths not worn to charity.
Do something nice and try not to get caught.
Listen more; talk less
Every day take a 30-minute walk.
Strive for excellence, not perfection.
Be on time. Don't make excuses.
Don't argue. Get organized.
Be kind to unkind people.
Let someone cut ahead of you in line.
Take time to be alone.
Cultivate good manners.
Be humble.
Realize and accept that life isn't fair.
Know when to keep your mouth shut.
Go and entire day without criticizing anyone.
Learn from the past. Plan for the future.
Live in the present
Don't sweat the small stuff.
It's all small stuff.

~ September 20, 2017 by SJ Brinter

Thomas of Celano Page

CHAPTER III

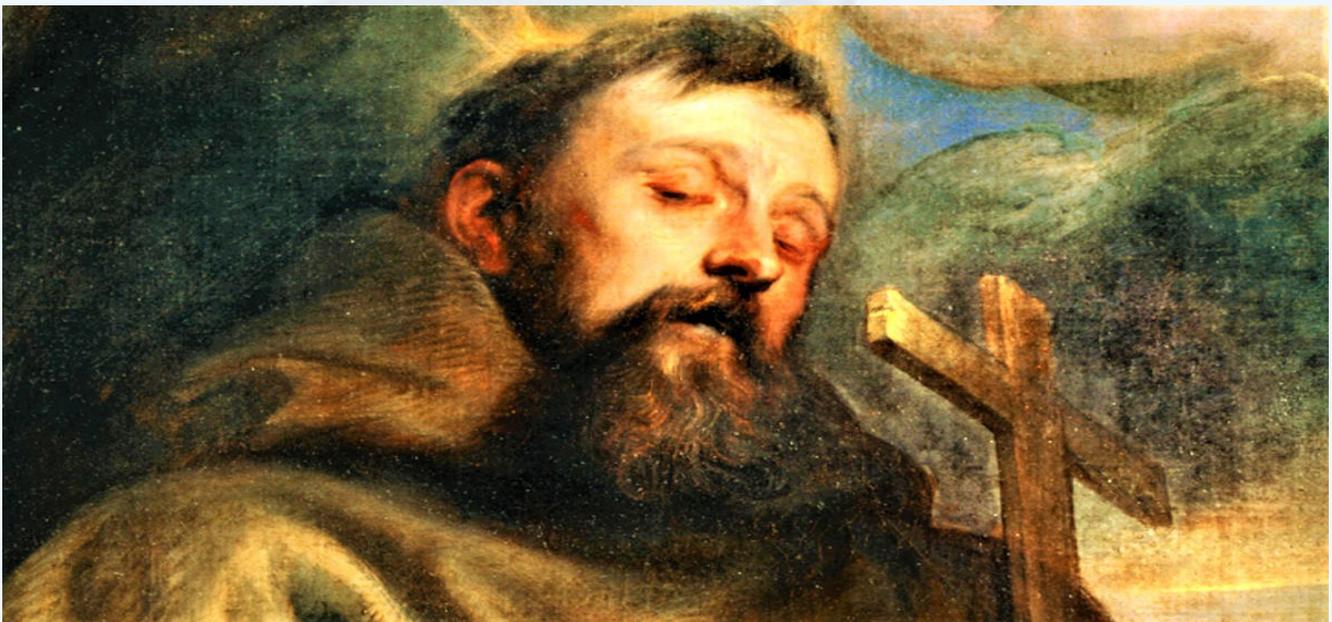
How, changed in mind but not in body, Francis spoke of the treasure he had found and of his spouse in allegory

6 Changed, therefore, but in mind, not in body, he refused to go to Apulia and he strove to bend his own will to the will of God. Accordingly, he withdrew for a while from the bustle and the business of the world and tried to establish Jesus Christ dwelling within himself. Like a prudent business man, he hid the treasure he had found from the eyes of the deluded, and, having sold all his possessions, he tried to buy it secretly. Now since there was a certain man in the city of Assisi whom he loved more than any other because he was of the same age as the other, and since the great familiarity of their mutual affection led him to share his secrets with him? he often took him to remote places, places well-suited for counsel, telling him that he had found a certain precious and great treasure.

This one rejoiced and, concerned about what he heard, he willingly accompanied Francis whenever he was asked. There was a certain grotto near the city where they frequently went and talked about this treasure. The man of God, who was already holy by reason of his holy purpose, would enter the grotto, while his companion would wait for him outside; and filled with a new and singular spirit, he would pray to his Father in secret. He wanted no one to know what he did within, and taking the occasion of the good to wisely conceal the better, he took counsel with God alone concerning his holy proposal.

He prayed devoutly that the eternal and true God would direct his way and teach him to do his will. He bore the greatest sufferings in mind and was not able to rest until he should have completed in deed what he had conceived in his heart; various thoughts succeeded one another and their importunity disturbed him greatly.

He was afire within himself with a divine fire and he was not able to hide outwardly the ardor of his mind; he repented that he had sinned so grievously and had offended the eyes of God's majesty, and neither the past evils nor those present gave him any delight. Still he had not as yet won full confidence that he would be able to guard himself against them in the future. Consequently, when he came out again to his companion, he was so exhausted with the strain, that one person seemed to have entered, and another to have come out.



THE GIFT OF HOLINESS

All men are equal before God, everyone has some inclination to holiness ~ by Silvia Ceccarelli

"If I can prevent, a heart to break, I will not have lived in vain. If I alleviate the pain of a life or relieve a pain or help a fallen robin to return to the nest, I will not have lived in vain! [...]".

So wrote Emily Dickinson in the verses of one of her famous poems, still remembered today for the sweet melody of the verse that vibrates with the same intensity in the sounds of English (her native language) and for the beauty of its contents from which the need emerges to make sense of their lives by doing good works, expressing their closeness to people's problems and showing how even a simple smile can alleviate the wounds of living beings. The profound and suggestive verses of Emily Dickinson's poetry invite us to think about the value, or perhaps better, about the gift of holiness that God has infused into human nature.

On many occasions Pope Francis has affirmed that all mankind are equal before God, and that each of them possesses, sometimes even minimally, some inclination to holiness (conceived primarily as the way to go to consent to the divine will). In every part of the world there is no saint who is not revered by a large community of faithful: St. Anthony of Padua, for example, is loved and revered everywhere.

Represented conventionally next to the Child Jesus, as well as alongside other objects of intense symbolic value (the lily and the book), Saint Anthony embodies the purity of mind, the innocence never lost, the tender and good nature manifested in understanding of the discomfort or the sickness of the smallest. He is for everyone a member of the family, the perfect companion who is there to support us in the difficulties of life, a fixed point on which to count and to share in prayer the joys and sorrows of existence.

St. Francis of Assisi, whose brevity of life did not prevent him from manifesting his holiness in small things, also left in the memory of all, feelings of love, peace and hope. A past not too far, however, leaves in our mind the memory of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the little pencil in the hands of God, who has traveled the world far and wide on streets and alleys full of poor and needy to whom she went teaching and dispensing His love and care without fearing anything, as accompanied and sustained by the grace of the Lord.

That same grace that allowed St. John Paul II, during his long pontificate, to give proof of his holiness by siding with all his strength to defend the rights of all and against any form of corruption or injustice. Holiness, as a gift from God, is therefore in the small daily gestures: any work of good done within the home, at work or in places of prayer, is the key to sanctity.

You do not need miracles to be holy, but small gestures made with the heart, small gestures that reveal our love, our attention and dedication to others - whoever it is. Because "it's in giving that we receive".

OUR GATHERINGS

All should make every effort to attend our gathering every month. All Candidates and Professed members are to contribute to the common fund box, located in the Shrine refectory during our social time. Everyone is required to sign in, the book is located next to the common fund box.

BEGGING FOR BAGS

Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

Our sister, Gerri Flynn, OFS, is requesting plastic bags for her plastic mats ministry for our homeless sisters and brothers. Please bring your bags with you at our June 23rd elections gathering.



Making Sleeping Mats out of Plastic Shopping Bags

For several years, our sister, Geri Flynn, OFS has been busy making sleeping mats out of plastic shopping bags for our homeless sisters and brothers for the Franciscan Center in Baltimore.

Geri tells us, “crocheting or knitting these sleeping mats for those who find themselves homeless has been such a pleasure. In addition to providing a lightweight, waterproof surface between the person and the cold, wet ground, they are also an amazingly positive way to utilize plastic bags!”

“Each mat uses up to 500 bags—so much better than the landfill - I find so many people are happy to save their bags for me. Our kids got a kick out of me quietly **removing** bags from our supermarket recycle bin and the Franciscan Center has been happy to receive them.”

“If anyone wishes to join me in this effort, just let me know and will be happy to share the easy Instructions”: **angelbarty@aol.com**

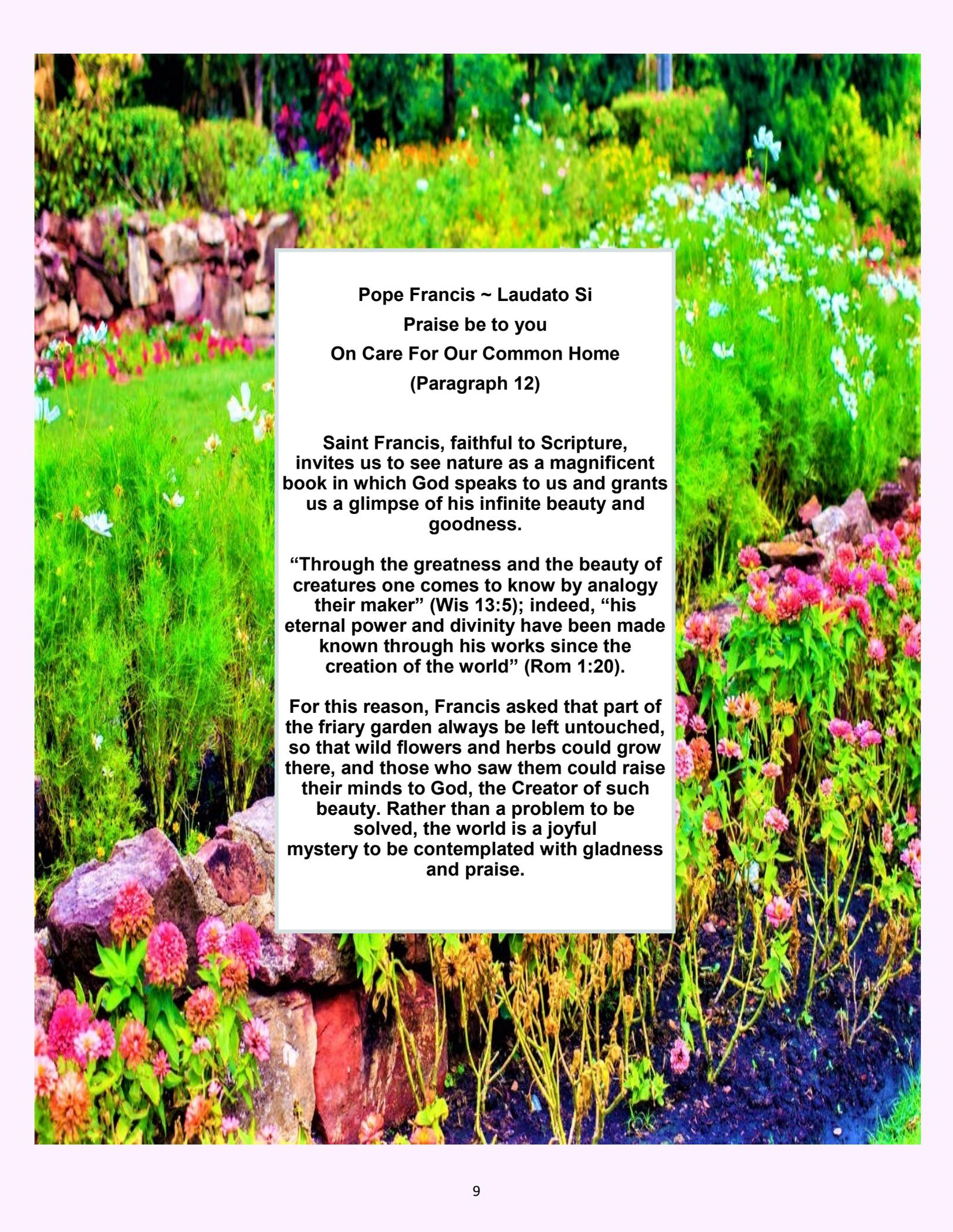
Below are several pictures of sleeping mats crocheted by Geri:



This is a wonderful ministry any time of the year, it would be great to have other fraternity's take on this apostolate, believe it or not, next winter will be here before we know it. Please ask your fraternity to help us keep our sisters and brothers dry in the spring and summer and warm in the winter.

Sponsored by the St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity

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



**Pope Francis ~ Laudato Si
Praise be to you
On Care For Our Common Home
(Paragraph 12)**

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.

“Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker” (Wis 13:5); indeed, “his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world” (Rom 1:20).

For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.