

THE FLYER

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE
ST. JOSEPH CUPERTINO
FRATERNITY OF THE
SECULAR FRANCISCANS**

SanGiuseppe di Copertino
Public domain, 18th century engraving



April 27, 2021

Theme for the Year:

Love is Patient

(1 Cor 13:4)

2019-2022 Council

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*Bible quotes are from Douay-
Rheims, unless otherwise
noted.*

Happy Easter! from Brother Lawrence

As I was preparing for the Sacred Triduum I found myself stuck as I read Mark's account of the Passion in the same spot:

And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith: And with the wicked he was reputed. And they that passed by blasphemed him, wagging their heads, and saying: Vah, thou that destroyest the temple of God, and in three days buildest it up again; Save thyself, coming down from the cross. In like manner also the chief priests mocking, said with the scribes one to another: He saved others; himself he cannot save. Let Christ the king of Israel come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him. (Mark 15: 27-32)

I was not really sure in the beginning as to why I kept getting stuck here, but I think that it eventually came to me. As I read this passage over and over I came to see that the truth of the statements which were presented here and the one falsehood as well. I have always recalled the good thief/bad thief scenario, which is not present here in Mark, and I was always fascinated with Jesus statement to the 'good thief' in Luke (23:39-43) where Jesus responds to him by saying, "'Amen I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with me in paradise. '."(23:43) What I always seemed to see in this promise was that paradise was to be opened to this man that very day. It always demonstrated to me a real hope that that would happen to all of us.

(cont. on pg. 2)



Crucifixion,
by Peter Gertner,
1537, The Walters Art
Gallery, CCO

...cont. from pg. 1

Still, this paragraph in Mark stopped me. Was it because there was no ‘good thief’/‘bad thief’ in it. Mark clearly states that *both* thieves taunted Jesus along with everyone else. If I continued to be stuck here I shall never get to one of the two proclamations in Mark’s gospel that are most important, the second one follows a few verses later when we are told, “The centurion who stood guard over him [now a corpse on the cross], on seeing the manner of his death, declared, ‘Clearly, this man was the Son of God!’ The first proclamation was at Caesarea-Philipi when Jesus asked his apostles who they thought that Jesus was and Peter responded (or, proclaimed) “‘You are the Messiah!’”

Peter’s response is a truth that Mark has been trying to show in the first seven and a half chapters of his account, and, now that this is proclaimed by Peter, we need to continue reading to discover what a ‘messiah’ is. And it is this, the proclamation of the centurion, a Roman official, who states what a messiah is, i.e. everything about his crucifixion and death. When I put this together I began to see this paragraph in a different light. If you read it you eventually come to the realization that all the taunting that we find in it are really explanations of truth. Yes, Jesus is going to rebuild that temple in a few days from now, He himself was to be saved by resurrecting from the dead. These taunters were actually screaming true statements about him thinking they were falsehoods, even the thieves. It is the Roman centurion who sees the truth that he proclaims upon Jesus’ death. The messiah is the one who will give his life as a redemption for all. The centurion sees it, the onlookers miss the entire thing.

Oh, yes, the falsehood that is here is mirrored in the opposite direction from the taunters. The chief priests and the scribes call out that if Jesus can save himself they will come to believe in him. Yet, as we know, he is saved in the resurrection and still the priests and scribes do not believe in him. They have lost all hope along with the others and it is the Roman centurion who now lives in hope of a resurrection with all of those who come to hear his proclamation. It stopped me because it was something that required additional thought and meditation to see through that scene as Mark presented it.

In hearing the centurion and having the hope that all of those who see the resurrected Jesus have, may you have a wonderful Easter season, a season full of hope for us.

**Please Pray for
Healing for:**

Joan Babin, OFS

Karan Bevers, OFS

Louise Hotovy, OFS

Mike Hotovy, OFS

John Kirby, OFS

Marie Lindung, OFS

Jean Singleton, OFS

Jim Tebo, OFS



The Resurrection by Andrea diBartolo, 1390-1410, The Walters Art Gallery CCO

Minister's Message ~James Kim

Proverbs 25:21-22

“If thy enemy be hungry, give him to eat: if he thirst, give him water to drink: For thou shalt heap hot coals upon his head, and the Lord will reward thee.”



Leaf from the Book of Hours
(St. Francis of Assisi, Master
of Isabella di Chiaromonte,
1640, The Walters Art
Gallery, CCO

Treasurer's Report

March – 2021

Beginning (running) Balance:	\$4144.00
Common Fund Contributions	\$ 45.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 45.00</u>
<i>Intermediate Subtotal</i>	\$4,189.00
Expenses:	
Brother Lawrence	\$100.00
Franciscan Friars	\$100.00
Total Expense	<u>\$200.00</u>
Ending (running) Balance:	<u>\$3,989.00</u>

Thank You for your tax-deductible contributions! & Coming up expenses: Fair Share contribution \$2,000.

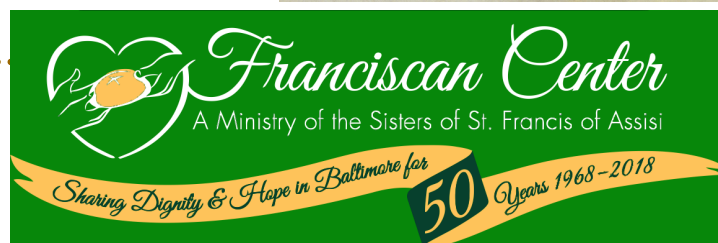
The average contribution per person estimate for 2021 should be \$156 per year.

Direct donation checks to:
St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity.

Mail donations to:

Gerard Pinkas
3810 Marriottsville Rd.
Randallstown, MD 21133

Your bank's bill pay may be used. Direct payment to **St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity** at the address above. *Contact Gerry with any bill pay questions.*



In the 365 days following March 16, 2020, the Franciscan Center has helped our neighbors with: 381,063 meals, 3660 hygiene kits, 11,400 face masks, 5,900 pairs of new socks, 829 bags of clothing, 600 coats, 10,350 Farmers to Families grocery boxes, 131 haircuts, 129 Birth Certificates, 27 State Ids, 13 pairs of glasses, 9 dental visits, 74 medical/medicine, and stopped 7 evictions.

Please consider hosting a fundraiser or donation drive! Items most needed this month include hygiene items, masks, and socks. Order online from your favorite retailer & have delivered to: The Franciscan Center at 101 W. 23rd Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-5607 or go to www.FCBmore.org



Bird in Cherry Tree, 1747-1797, by Kano Toshun,
The Walters Art Gallery CCO

Moved or Changed Contact Info? (I have.)

If you have moved or changed contact information, please contact our sister, Jeanne Kerins, OFS (410) 227-6497 or jmkerins12@gmail.com.

Our Deceased	Shirley Costello, OFS	Mary Ferrara, SFO	Jim Manning, OFS
Brothers & Sisters:	Joe Cykoski, SFO	Dolores Fritz, OFS	Yvonne Proch, SFO
Connie Baker, OFS	Stella Cykoski, SFO	Marilyn Gilson, SFO	Nancy Seaton, SFO
Frances Bastress, SFO	Claire Lee Davidson, SFO	Richard Hall, SFO	Don Sweitzer, OFS
Dea. Tom Bellos, OFS	Adela Duff, SFO	Joy Kubricky, OFS	Betty Taylor, SFO
Joe Bezila, SFO	Donna Duncan, SFO	Frances Langbehn, SFO	Bud Tenley, SFO
Mary Chandler, OFS	Charles Ferrara, SFO	Bob Lewis, SFO	Regina Yeager, SFO
Jerry Cichowicz, SFO		Jean Manning, OFS	Dorothy Zalewski, SFO

St. Gertrude Prayer to Release Souls from Purgatory

The Prayer of St. Gertrude, is one of the most famous of the prayers for souls in purgatory. St. Gertrude the Great was a Benedictine nun and mystic who lived in the 13th century. According to tradition, our Lord promised her that 1,000 souls would be released from purgatory each time the prayer is said devoutly.



The Release of Holy Souls Chaplet

Begin with The Apostle's Creed.

Before each decade—One Our Father and One Hail Mary

Pray: *Holy Souls pray for us as we pray for you.*

Pray: *Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.*

10 times

At the end of the decade pray: a Glory Be, the Fatima Prayer (Oh, my Jesus, forgive us our sins and save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven especially those who are in need of thy mercy.), and “Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar.”

(You can say one decade or all five decades on your rosary. If you pray all five decades, you will release fifty thousand souls from Purgatory.)

Remember most of us will be in Purgatory, and we will want prayers said for us.

Chaplet created by Bob Longo, OFS

Our Sister, Mary Constance “Connie” Baker, OFS ~Lynne Float, OFS

Connie Baker was a wonderful friend whom I didn't meet until she was already 70 years old; we worked on the Liturgy Committee at St. Mark's Church in Catonsville, MD. When talking, we realized that we had both attended the same college, The College of Norte Dame of Maryland. Then we started serving as E.M's at the same Mass and then she signed me up to distribute Holy Communion as partners at the same nursing home. Thus our friendship began and I soon came to know her as a person who liked to go out to dinner with friends, have a glass of wine, talk about books



she had read, and travel around the world. She enjoyed life and although she wanted very much to marry and have children, life never seemed to bring about that dream she had carried with her for many years. She found herself in the ups and downs of daily living and the difficulties that came with it. Connie's two brothers married and she got a government job at The Applied Physics Lab; working there for 30 years, she remained with her mother in Catonsville. Now there were many cousins in the family who also experienced difficulties in married life that left the children of the cousins who she loved dearly, to find refuge with dear Aunt Connie. She spent a lot of time getting them through school and, as they grew up, they became her traveling buddies. She took them many places in the United States and Europe. Connie always talked to me about her children and I was confused as to who they were since I knew she never married. Connie was so generous with her life. She tried to make sure the children had the love they needed to survive in their own lives.

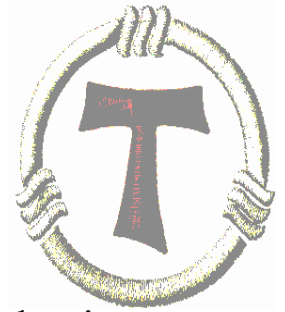
During those years when I was getting to know Connie, I started my own formation journey in the SFO. Connie wanted to know all about what I was learning and she was attracted to the same way of life. I knew she had been developing many of the Franciscan attributes in her life as she searched for God and how to serve Him. So about a year later she started her formation with Sheila Solomon (now in FL) and Barbara Pence (now in GA). Connie loved coming to the gatherings and participating in the apostolates. Connie loved to write, so she volunteered to write about each professed Secular. It was her way of getting to know everybody in the Fraternity. The articles appeared monthly in our newsletter in the early 2000's.

Connie's life was still very much involved with the family members she had helped earlier. She continued to live in Catonsville and invited a niece who was married to come and live with her. The niece had two children who needed help and she continued to love these children and support them any way that she could. In fact, she continued to live with them until she died in Feb. 2021. She would have turned 102 on this coming May 19. The last time I saw Connie was right before her 100th birthday. Her life was exciting because she saw the little things as wondrous gifts from God & didn't want to waste a minute of the life God had generously given her.

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Retreat

Online via ZOOM

May 22, 2021



Due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic, our May 21st—May 23rd Regional Retreat at the Loyola Retreat Center in Faulkner, Maryland is canceled. Instead, we will have a free, Zoom Regional Retreat on May 22nd.

Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM from the Holy Land Monastery in Washington DC will be our facilitator. We will start at 9 AM. and end around 4 PM or earlier.

Theme for the Retreat

Secular Franciscans, A Prophetic People

If you would like to attend the Regional Zoom

Retreat, please email Bob Longo, blongosfo@gmail.com. On May 22nd, around 8:45 AM, you will receive an email invitation to join the Retreat. All you will then need to do is click on “Join Meeting”.

On April 24, the St. Margaret of Cortona Region will be holding elections for our 2021-2024 Regional Council. Please pray for discernment on the possibility of holding a position on the new council. Open offices include:



Minister
Vice Minister
Secretary
Treasurer

Area Councilors: MD/DE, MD/PA, Metro DC, & Virginia.

Contact Mary Lou Coffman, Chair of the Regional Nomination Committee:
MaryLouSFO@gmail.com.

Intro to the Fight Against Human Trafficking (SLAVERY) ~Geri Flynn, OFS

As you know my husband and I are now settled in a beautiful senior community in Florida. Last week I attended a presentation by the Tampa Archdiocese on Human Trafficking. I was sure I was aware of the situation but our priest impressed on us that there was much more to learn—was he ever right!!

Here is what we learned:

1) **the US is the highest ranked country** where human trafficking can be found. Tampa and DC rank among the worst areas.

2) **the average age of victims, both young men and women, is 12-19,**

3) **traffickers (pimps) approach their prey most often online.** They find young ones who are vulnerable, depressed, isolated from friends and family, and who have a lot of unsupervised time. The predators befriend them, invite them for a coffee, demonstrate that they want to protect them, & shower them with gifts.

Eventually, they take the young ones home—where the horror begins. We were told that the majority of these victims come from Mexico, the US, and the Philippines.

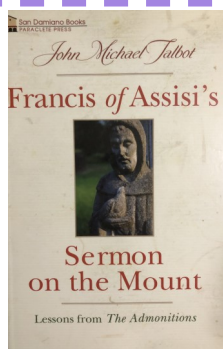
What to do:

1) We were warned about the presence of a parent and child asking for money, as that **money will go directly to the pimp.** Instead, we were advised to try to engage the person in conversation- can we help?, where do you live?, I can get help for you.

2) Most likely **the victim(s) will be very submissive and fearful** with scripted answers if they speak at all. He specifically mentioned nail salons saying that the "employees" who have been trafficked will keep eyes down and frequently look over shoulders at the back room.

3) Often **if the trafficker sees the victim speak to someone, he will take them away quickly** in a car. We are encouraged to **get a description of car, license number and to look for bruises or other signs of abuse and then call 911 (if you witness abuse) or the hotline number 888-373-7888.** We were told the police have been trained and will respond quickly.

The saddest part in all this is that successful rehabilitation of these young victims is very, very poor. For the most part they are lost souls in this world SO the answer is prevention!



Going Deeper into the Admonitions

It's the perfect time for those who have wanted to join to do so and we would so welcome your contributions of thoughts, prayers and words as we ponder areas of spiritual growth from a Franciscan point of view.

We are on [Admonition 4](#) of
Francis of Assisi's Sermon on the Mount:
Lessons from The Admonitions
by John Michael Talbot

We will meet on Zoom every First Saturday from 1-3 (the next meeting is on May 1).

*Just write an email to Geri Flynn (Angelbarty@aol.com) and you will receive an email invitation at 12:45pm on Saturday.

Photo used with permission,
www.TroubadourForTheLord.net

Events at the Shrine of St. Anthony



Mass Times:
Monday through
Saturday- in the Chapel
at 12 Noon.

Sunday outside- in front
of the building at 12
Noon.

Adoration:

In the Chapel:
Tuesdays & Saturday 11am-Noon, Mass
following

Confession Schedule:

Monday through Saturday :
11am-11:55 in the Conference Room

Gift Shop Hours

Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am -
4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Currently, masks must be worn at all times
inside the building, public bathrooms *are*
available; however, the choir stalls in the
Chapel are currently unavailable.

Outdoor Tours, 1st Friday & 1st Saturday
Devotions, and Prayer Shawl Ministries are
back! Please check the website for the
latest updates.

The Shrine Grounds & Courtyard are
open daily dawn till dusk! *The Chapel bell*
will be rung about 10 minutes before Mass.

If you have any questions please call the
Front Office at 410-531-2800;
check the website for details
www.shrineofstanthony.org

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FIVE TYPES OF TRAFFICKING



SEX TRAFFICKING -

Forcing, deceiving, or coercing a person to perform a
commercial sex act.



FORCED LABOR -

Forcing a person to work in captivity for little or no pay.



BONDED LABOR -

Forcing a person to work for low wages to pay back an
impossible debt.



INVOLUNTARY DOMESTIC SERVITUDE -

Forcing a person to work and live in the same place for little or
no pay.



CHILD SOLDIERS -

Forcing a child to participate in an armed force.

LEARN MORE: A21.ORG

After having spoken with our sisters, Geri Flynn & Lynne Float, I was moved to begin investigating the issue of human trafficking. What I found shocked me even more! On Fr. Brian Nolan's February 22, 2021, *Catholic Review* podcast, Erin Younkins, of the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office, revealed that Baltimore itself is considered a "hot spot" for human trafficking! Combining the information gleaned from these sources, I realized just how important our apostolates are. Whether we are supporting marriages, crisis pregnancies, the working poor, the homeless, youth & young adults, or even the friars, we are helping to break the cycle of loneliness and vulnerability—but we can do more. Erin recommended a website, A21.org, and I encourage all of you to get out there and make use of the (overwhelming) resources available. Our sister, Denise added this resource: <http://goccp.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020-Maryland-Human-Trafficking-Task-Force-Victim-Services-Directory.pdf> And, please, don't forget, just like our dear, departed sister, Connie, we can make a difference in our own homes & families.

EDITORIAL

Thanks to all who submitted ideas and articles for this month!

Have ideas for future issues? Submissions need to be 500 words or less. Please contact Deanna at jtwillis@aol.com (or call 443-745-1109) by May 1 and you may see your idea in the May 2021 edition of *The Flyer*. *Please use this as a way to share a bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.*

SEEKING A NEWSLETTER HELPER!!!

No experience with newsletters necessary, just a computer with Microsoft Office or Publisher.

The Rule Review

So that we might more fully live the Gospel Life, Secular Franciscans should not just read *The Rule*, but reflect on and pray with *The Rule*.

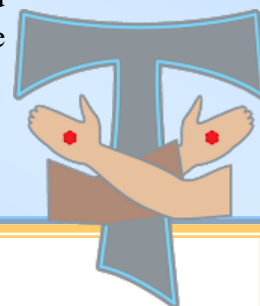
3. The present rule, succeeding "Memoriale Propositi" (1221) and the rules approved by the Supreme Pontiffs Nicholas IV and Leo XIII, adapts the Secular Franciscan Order to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times. Its interpretation belongs to the Holy See and its application will be made by the General Constitutions and particular statutes.

CHAPTER TWO: THE WAY OF LIFE

4. The rule and life of the Secular Franciscans is this: to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of St. Francis of Assisi who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people. Christ, the gift of the Father's love, is the way to him, the truth into which the Holy Spirit leads us, and the life which he has come to give abundantly. Secular Franciscans should devote themselves especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from gospel to life and life to gospel.

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (with citations) may be accessed at anytime at:

<https://secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/RULE.pdf>



Welcome, Visitors! Want to find out more about Secular Franciscans?

- ⇒ Secular Franciscans are friendly & do not have secret rites. **APRIL WILL BE AN IN-PERSON MASS AT THE SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY.**
- ⇒ Check out our website: http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/our_fraternity/
- ⇒ Go to the St. Margaret of Cortona website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>
- ⇒ Visit our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>

Happy Birthday!

06 Kathy Ford, OFS
26 Geri Flynn, OFS
28 Juliana Kim, OFS

Upcoming in May:
5-18 Patrick Caughy, OFS
5-31 Ray Heverling, OFS

Congratulations!

On the anniversary of your
profession:

4/10/2005 16 years

Ray Heverling

YouFra Voices

Although St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity does not have a YouFra, or Franciscan Youth group, there are a number of inspirational youth and young adults all around us. Please encourage inspiring young ones to send in an article, poem, or drawing.

April 18, 2021 Gathering

- ◆ Mass at the Shrine for us!
- ◆ 3-4 pm, but come a few minutes early to socialize.
- ◆ We will renew our Professions; handouts will be available.