



THE FLYER

June 28, 2020

Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino OFS Fraternity

Theme for 2020

**Sanctify yourself &
you will sanctify society.**

Greetings from Br. Lawrence:

Well, we have finally begun to move closer to normalcy. I know that the virus has not gone away and that we still need to follow protective measures for ourselves and others. Yet, it was a most interesting experience.

I hope that we shall all take some quiet time to pause and reflect on this experience. For who and what we missed or were unable to enjoy being with someone, or even to touch or be touched by another. These are experiences that we all need as humans. Spend some time in June in prayer for those effected by the virus, but also for what we learned about ourselves from this experience. For me this last element was a true blessing from God.

-Br. Lawrence

Dear friends, may no *adversity* paralyze you. Be *afraid* neither of the *world*, nor of the *future*, nor of your *weakness*. The Lord has allowed you to live in *this moment* of history so that, by your *faith*, his *name* will continue to *resound* throughout the world.

- Pope Benedict XVI -
~submitted by Bob Longo

Our Fraternity Council

2019/2022

Acting Minister:
James Kim, OFS:
443-458-3361

Acting Vice Minister:
Denise Donaldson, OFS:
443-683-2538

Acting Secretary:
Jeanne Kerins, OFS
410-227-6947

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Spiritual Assistant:
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OFM Conv. : 410-485-5000

Acting Minister's Message

"The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it." (Gen 2:15)

It seems that the job of the first humans was to cultivate and care for God's garden. Even after the humans were expelled from the garden of Eden because of their disobedience and even when in toil he has to eat yield of the ground in all the days of his life (Genesis 3:17), the ground still belongs to God, not to humans, because the ground is also God's creature. So, the job of the first humans may continue. In the second generation, God already manifested that we may have two choices. *"The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering."* (Gen 4:4) Given to us is the choice which way we would go. One is to make holy the yield of the ground, and the other is to defile the ground with blood.

About a hundred and fifty years ago, humans at last summarized the works of the flesh in a term of "survival of the fittest." The winners survive and the losers must disappear. It appears that St. Paul, two thousand years ago, already knew this and told us what the survival of the fittest would employ for its tools to achieve the goal. *"Now the works of the flesh are obvious: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, ..."* (Gal 5:19-20) It's not surprising that modern evolution scientists agree that these elements are what humans select at the first stage, while they are slaves of the "selfish gene," to be winners in society, in organizations and in jobs. The evolution scientists acknowledge that humans are controlled by their genes (the flesh, DNA) and the gene is selfish only taking care of its survival, which sometimes leads to total destruction. However, St. Paul also calls us *"children of light,"* reminding us that we have hope, as God manifested in the beginning. *"In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."* (Gal 5:22-23)

On May 24, Pope Francis announced a special year of *Laudato Si'*, which will run through May 24, 2021. Our Holy Father's message is not only for the earth, but includes all humanity. "We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental." (§139) I'd like to share the prayer of Pope Francis on May 24, 2020:

Loving God,
Creator of Heaven, of earth and of all that they contain.
Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we can be part of Creation, your gift.
Be present to the needy in these difficult times,
especially the poorest and most vulnerable.
Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing
the consequences of this global pandemic.
Make us courageous in embracing the changes geared to the search for the common good.
Now more than ever, may we be able to feel that we are all
interconnected and interdependent.
Make sure that we succeed in listening and responding
to the cry of the earth and to the cry of the poor.
May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a
more fraternal and sustainable world.
We pray to You through Christ Our Lord,
under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians.
Amen.

(Prayer for the Special Year of the Anniversary of Laudato Si' by Pope Francis).

--James Kim

From the Office of Readings

Mystical Wisdom is Revealed by the Holy Spirit

The Second Reading of the Office of Readings on July 15, Memorial of St. Bonaventure
(From *The Journey of the Mind to God*, by St. Bonaventure). ~ Submitted by James Kim

Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, like the "throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant," and "the mystery hidden from the ages." A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope and charity, devoted, full of wonder and joy, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a "pasch," that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulchre, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: "Today you will be with me in paradise."

For this passover to be perfect, we must suspend all the operations of the mind and we must transform the peak of our affections, directing them to God alone. This is a sacred mystical experience. It cannot be comprehended by anyone unless he surrenders himself to it; nor can he surrender himself to it unless he longs for it; nor can he long for it unless the Holy Spirit, whom Christ sent into the world, should come and inflame his innermost soul. Hence, the Apostle says that this mystical wisdom is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

If you ask how such things can occur, seek the answer in God's grace, not in doctrine; in the longing of the will, not in the understanding; in the sighs of prayer, not in research; seek the bridegroom not the teacher; God and not man; darkness not daylight; and look not to the light but rather to the raging fire that carries the soul to God with intense fervor and glowing love. The fire is God, and the furnace is in Jerusalem, fired by Christ in the ardor of his loving passion. Only he understood this who said: "My soul chose hanging and my bones death." Anyone who cherishes this kind of death can see God, for it is certainly true that: "No man can look upon me and live."

Let us die, then, and enter into the darkness, silencing our anxieties, our passions and all the fantasies of our imagination. Let us pass over with the crucified Christ "from this world to the Father," so that, when the Father has shown himself to us, we can say with Philip: "It is enough." We may hear with Paul: "My grace is sufficient for you;" and we can rejoice with David, saying: "My flesh and my heart fail me, but God is the strength of my heart and my heritage forever. Blessed be the Lord for ever, and let all the people say: Amen. Amen!"

Now available! A short video on St. Maximilian Kolbe by our very own brother, Ray Glennon, OFS.

"Summer with the Saints- Maximilian Kolbe" posted by StFrancis AssisiParish on June 3, 2020.

Just copy and paste this link in your browser: <https://youtu.be/0k7oPiQ-WRw>



The Franciscan Center's needs and mission have greatly expanded during this time of crisis. They are partnering with the National Guard to deliver food and supplies to the Baltimore community. As we cannot currently transport goods to the Center, please consider donating at www.fcbmore.org or through their Amazon wish list at: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/312XJQLW9I0TY?ref_=wl_share



Please remember The Franciscan Center in your weekly shopping trips. Toiletries needed include:

TOILETRIES/PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Adult Diapers/Depends
- Deodorant
- Disposable razors
- Feminine hygiene products
- Hairbrushes & Combs
- Hand Sanitizer
- Hand Towels & washcloths
- Lotion & sunscreen
- Nutritional supplements (Ensure/Boost)
- Shampoo & Conditioner Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste

 **Treasurer's Report**

May- 2020

Beginning (running) Balance:	\$1,268.34
Common Fund Contributions	<u>236.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,504.34</u>
 Expenses:	
Br. Lawrence	100.00
Franciscan Friars	<u>100.00</u>
 Total expenses	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
 Ending (running) Balance:	<u><u>\$1,304.34</u></u>

Thank you for your monthly contributions! Because You, Oh Lord, have opened Your Heart to me, I, in turn, open my heart to You.

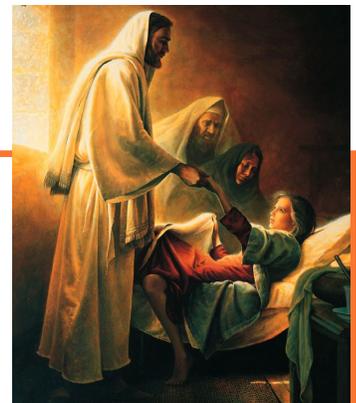
Contributions are Tax Deductible.

Contributions may be mailed to:

Gerry Pinkas, OFS
3810 Marriotsville Road
Randallstown, MD 21133

Please pray for:

- Joan Babin, OFS
- Connie Baker, OFS
- Karan Bevers, OFS
- John Kirby, OFS
- Marie Lindung, OFS
- Jim Tebo, OFS



**June 28, 2020
Gathering**

- *Details TBA through email.*
- *Might be a virtual or physical gathering.*
- *If you need help with virtual communications, please reach out now.*



Events at The Shrine

Events are currently changing frequently...Please check the website or call the Shrine for details.

Curbside Pickup

The Shrine Gift Store is now filling Curbside Contactless pickup orders! If you need to purchase something just give us a call at 410-531-2800 Monday through Friday from 10am- 2pm and we can bring your order out to your car!

Daily Mass Livestream

Join us, for our Daily Mass through our Live Stream Portal every day 8:30 am-9 am.

www.shrineofstanthony.org
410-531-2800.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- June 5: Boniface Kim
- June 6: Chris Donaldson & Richard Lam
- June 25: Dale Edmunds
- June 26: Eileen Peregoy

Upcoming: 7/11 Jeanne Kerins
7/18 Gerry Pinkas

Remembering Your Profession:

- Patrick Caughy (8 years)*
- Cindy Mohler (8 years)*
- France Staudenmann (8 years)*
- Dale Edmunds (10 years)*
- Barbara Levasseur (18 years)*
- Bob Longo (34 years)*

Our Deceased Brothers & Sisters:



- Deacon Tom Bello, OFS
- Frances Bastress, SFO
- Joe Bezila, SFO
- Mary Chandler, OFS
- Jerry Cichowicz, SFO
- Shirley Costello, OFS
- Joe Cykoski, SFO
- Stella Cykoski, SFO
- Claire Lee Davidson, 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

Welcome, Visitors!

Want to find out more about the Secular Franciscans?

- ◆ Attend a meeting. Franciscans are friendly & do not have secret rites. We meet (usually) on the third Sunday of the month from Noon~4:30pm
- ◆ (check the website: <http://stjosephcupertino.sfousa.org/our-fraternity/>)
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>

Do you have a story from your daily conversion, pilgrimage, street evangelization, or social justice activity that you would like to share? Please email Deann Williston, OFS at jtwillis@aol.com on the first of the month and you may see it in an upcoming edition of *The Flyer*. *Please use this as a way to share of bit of yourselves with your Franciscan brothers and sisters.*

Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity

*"If we only try to show the Dear Lord a good will and ask Him for resignation to the crosses He sends or permits to come our way, we may be sure that sooner or later they will turn out to have been just so many **blessings in disguise.**"*

Recently, I reached out to the “new” Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity for comments about their official split from our St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity. Whew! I was overwhelmed by their humility, love, gratitude, and prayerfulness. This process has taken three years and helped in the continuing formation of the Secular Franciscans impacted. What began as a desire of the region to keep fraternities, well, smaller and, thus more fraternal, revealed itself to be a movement of the Holy Spirit. When fraternity names were being suggested, several members had connections or felt a call toward Blessed Solanus Casey, but not everyone. This Franciscan humble porter is not widely known, so they took a chance on the soon-to-be saint for their reactivated and renewed fraternity.

Fully embracing the humility of Blessed Solanus Casey, the members enrolled in his beloved Seraphic Mass Association and began praying both for mission and for more brothers and sisters to join them. The Mass Association is a way for Capuchin friars to fund their foreign missions while remembering the prayers of those who enroll. Blessed Solanus Casey kept his own notebooks of those whom he enrolled and of those on whom God, in His mercy and love, granted favors. Our hopeful brothers and sisters persisted in the process and held formative gatherings (in addition to their responsibilities with St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity). On a beautiful Spring day amid the Corona-virus crisis, and with full social-distancing measures, the small group met amid the mountains and church spires to elect their new council. Congratulations to Minister-Mary Karth, Vice Minister-John Handiboe, Treasurer-Thom Partenope, Secretary-Laurel Swencki, Formation Director-Amy Kulesa, Councilor-Richard Scott, Newsletter Editor-Claudette Lucas, and Spiritual Assistant-Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM. Conv.; Deacon Kevin Kulesa, Jack Dempsey, and candidate Ed Haynes (not pictured) are happy to be apart of a growing membership.

—Deanna Williston, editor

