



# THE FLYER

**Newsletter for the St. Joseph Cupertino  
Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans USA**

February 19, 2023

Fr. Bart Karwacky - 2 pm

Our Theme for the Year:

Franciscan Joy

## **Greetings from Brother Lawrence, OFM Conv.**

Well, we have seen a whole month of the new year come and gone and I, at least, wonder where all the time went. Of course, February, being shorter, will probably go faster than January did but that is the way nature works. I have been reading St. Augustine's *Confessions* since the new year began and I am just getting to the second chapter. This time I am really reading more slowly and stopping to ponder what he is saying in this most wonderful of works. One of the major ideas that he presents in chapter one, "Early Years," from birth to school age is the idea of his famous phrase, *fides querens intellectum*, i.e. "faith seeking understanding." I shared this with my junior year honors student and one bright lad knew what I was about to say before I could say it. In fact, he repeated it with me as I said, needless to say that was quite impressive. You cannot seek to obtain understanding about God until you have the faith that there is a God.

The point Augustine is making is faith comes before all else. Faith comes before we can hope or know how to love in our theological virtues. Faith is the most basic of all virtues for it is necessary to know that there is something before one can try to understand it. This goes for God as well. This issue with God is that we cannot *not* know that He even exists without Him first telling us. Think of His first speaking to Abram or Jacob, or Joseph or Moses. They were called by God first and, as I understand it, they had no real idea of what to do because of it. God had to call and also to let them know what He wanted done. I think the same is true for Francis of Assisi as well. Shortly before his death he stated that he had no idea what God wanted of him but that issue was cleared up when "the Lord gave me brothers." I think that the same can be said for each of us, indeed for each and every real Christian. I have the privilege of watching boys grow up to be young men. There is such a change in them from when they first arrive for their freshman year and four years later when they walk "across the stage" of the Cathedral in late May. It still, after 30 some years is amazing to me. They do not just look different, they are different inside as well. I also am amazed at the growth of their faith as well.

God is the one who does that to them, just as He did it to us years ago. And they follow us in growing in the faith as well and we pray that they stay with it and most of those who came through Catholic education do. Catholic education is important, *really* important for these young generations. This world is not going to help them to grow in their faith. We need to pray for them and hope in our love for them as Christians that they also continue to move forward to a wonderful relationship with God. I am privileged to see this occur every day during the school year and I perceive it as a miracle in progress that begins in their very basic belief that there is a God who loves us, all of us. *Peace, Br. Lawrence*

## Minister's Note February 2023

In these few weeks before the start of Lent, the ordinariness of the days give time to pause and reflect. It is a good time to think about how we will prepare for Lent. What will make this year different than all the rest?

Lent should not be some after-thought. It should be a time when we are truly preparing our minds, hearts, and souls for a change that will be everlasting. It can be a time of so much grace. It can be a time where God transforms us to be more joyful, more loving, more selfless.

If we think that Lent is a time that we dread, then we are not going to get much out of it. It can be more than giving up sweets or the internet. Giving up things can be a good spiritual practice, especially if they are idolatry or prevent us from focusing on God. However, if we are giving up something just to do it without thought to the sacrifice, then don't do it. The forty days before Easter should be a time where we anticipate that something extraordinary is about to occur in our spiritual lives, especially through our fasting, alms-giving, and prayer.

So, let's plan before we get to Ash Wednesday and ask ourselves, "Where does God really want me to grow? What does He want me to let go? Who is God asking me to become?" Prayerfully answering these questions can help us make this Lent one of radical change. Let's start with our plan for Ash Wednesday. How can we make this day more than getting some ashes on our forehead? Can we make meals that are a special time of abstinence and fasting for our families? A long time ago, I heard a priest say that eating shrimp and lobster really isn't abstinence. What can we eat that would be a more sacrificial meal? Can we carry this over to the Friday meals?

We are not alone in our Lenten practices. We have our spouses, our children, our friends, and our fraternity brothers and sisters to help us along the way. We should ask one another for support as we make our Lenten journey. We can make the difference for each other in making Lent a powerful time of spiritual renewal and growth. We can help each other see what God has in store for us- more than we ever imagined.

The forty days of Lent are an incredible, precious time for us to look at ourselves with the eyes of God, the one who created us, knows us, and loves us. We need to plan ahead so our ordinary lives become more holy and more intentional. Let's make these forty days a time of extraordinary penitential transformation.

Note: For more ideas to make this Lent meaningful:

Choosing Lent: Acting Lent

<https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/choosinglent.html>

## **The Shrine of St. Anthony**

Noon Mass daily,

**Confessions** Mon. - Sat. 11am; **Adoration** Tuesdays 11am

**Tours** (following Mass):  
Feb. 12 & 25, March 12 & 25.

The Shrine Grounds & Courtyard  
are open daily dawn till dusk.

410-531-2800 <https://www.ShrineOfStAnthony.org>



Please bring diapers and toiletry items  
to the meeting. Thanks to Jerry Yu  
and Kelly Neale for delivering our  
donations.

### ***Franciscan Stations of the Cross***

1. Jesus is Condemned to Death
2. Jesus Carries His Cross
3. Jesus Falls the First Time
4. Jesus Meets His Blessed Mother
5. Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry His Cross
6. Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus
7. Jesus Falls the Second Time
8. Jesus Speaks to the Women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus Falls the Third Time
10. Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

11. Jesus is Nailed to the Cross
12. Jesus Dies on the Cross
13. Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross
14. Jesus is Laid in the Sepulchre

Prayers and images may be found on our  
fraternity website at :

<https://StJosephCupertino.sfoUSA.org/Stations-of-the-Cross-by-St-Francis-of-Assisi/>

A printable pdf with images & prayers may be  
found at:

[www.calefactory.org/books/stations/stationsofthecross-sfrancis.pdf](http://www.calefactory.org/books/stations/stationsofthecross-sfrancis.pdf)

### **2022-2025 Council**

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**Newsletter Editor:** Deanna Williston, OFS jtwillis@aol.com

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

# Happy Anniversary

On the anniversary of your profession:

Joan Bundy, OFS	02/16/2014	Mimi Cox-Owens	02/16/2020
Harry Ford, OFS	02/16/2014	Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer	02/16/2020
Kathy Ford, OFS	02/16/2014	Bill Sefken	02/16/2020
Louise Hotovy	02/16/2020	Alice Umugiraneza	02/16/2020
Mike Hotovy	02/16/2020		
Michael King	02/16/2020		



# Happy Birthday!

Theresa Lam, OFS	02/06
Charlene Heyden, OFS	02/15
Jerry Yu, OFS	02/26
James Kim, OFS	02/27

## Coming Next Month:

Mick Michieli-Beasley, OFS	03/05
Deanna Williston, OFS	03/05
Cindy Mohler, OFS	03/13
Karan Bevers, OFS	03/21
France Staudenmann OFS	03/29

## 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*. This is translated and printed by Eds Armstrong, R.J, Wayne Hellman J. A., Short, W. J, Francis of Assisi: Early Documents (FA:ED), Earlier Exhortation (1LtF), p. 41.

**Concerning those who do not do Penance** <sup>1</sup>All those men and women who are not living in penance, <sup>2</sup>who do not receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>3</sup>who practise vice and sin and walk after the evil concupiscence and the evil desires of their flesh, <sup>4</sup>who do not observe what they have promised to the Lord, <sup>5</sup>and who in their body serve the world and the cares of this life: <sup>6</sup>They are held captive by the devil, whose children they are, and whose works they do (Jn 8:41) <sup>7</sup>They are blind because they do not see the true light, our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup>They do not possess spiritual wisdom because they do not have the Son of God, the true wisdom of the Father. <sup>9</sup>It is said of them: Their wisdom has been swallowed up (Ps 107[106]:27), and Cursed are those who turn away from your commands (Ps 119[118]:21). <sup>10</sup>They see and acknowledge, know and do evil, and knowingly lose their souls.

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

<https://secularfranciscansusa.org/the-rule-of-the-secular-franciscan-order/>

Please note that the English and Spanish versions have updated 2020 translations.

# Common Fund Account Report

December—2022

January—2023

Beginning (running) Balance

Beginning (running) Balance

\$3118.81

**Contributions are Tax  
Deductible.**

\$2541.30

Income:

Direct Donation checks to:

Income:

Deposits \$205.00

**St. Joseph Cupertino  
Fraternity**

Deposit \$500.00

\$420.00

Total Income: \$625.00

**c/o Jerry Yu, OFS**

Total Income: \$500.00

2812 Green Shade Court

Intermediate Subtotal:

Ellicott City, MD 21042

Intermediate Subtotal:

\$3743.81

\$3041.30

Expenses:

**You may use your bank's  
BILL PAY.**

Expenses:

Spiritual Assistant \$100.00

Little Portion Farm \$250.00

Franciscan Friars \$600.00

Direct payment to:

Total Expenses: \$250.00

Celebrating Priest \$100.00

**St. Joseph Cupertino  
Fraternity**

Musician \$125.00

Reimburs. Brochures \$277.51

Total Expenses: \$1,202.51

**Ending (running) Balance:**

**Ending (running) Balance:**

\$2,541.30

\$2,791.30

## March Meeting:

- ◆ Gathering
- ◆ **March 19** \*
- ◆ **Third Sunday**
- ◆ 2 pm in the Classroom.
- ◆ Come for Mass & stay for a lunch social.
- ◆ Brother Lawrence on "Franciscan Joy in the Eucharist."



## **Book Share— Admonition 19**

### **The Virtuous and Humble Servant of God**

Join our online book sharing and delve more deeply into: *St. Francis' Sermon on the Mount: Lessons from the Admonitions* by John Michael Talbot.

Friends old and new usually meet on the first Saturday of every month from 1-3 pm on ZOOM!

Contact Geri Flynn OFS for details:

AngelBarty@aol.com

**Next meeting: March 4.**

## **Moving, Sick, or Changing Status?**

Our sister, Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer, OFS, needs to know of any change of your contact information, but also, would like to be able to pray with you for any changes in your health or living situation. Please contact our Minister with any needs or concerns.

Please email Melissa at: [ScoutsDouglas@yahoo.com](mailto:ScoutsDouglas@yahoo.com)

**Please Pray for Healing for:**

Karan Bevers, OFS  
Gail Bunyan, OFS  
Patrick Caughy, OFS  
Harry Ford, OFS  
Louise Hotovy, OFS  
Mike Hotovy, OFS  
Lita Maisel, OFS

Will Potter, OFS  
Br. Lawrence,  
OFM Conv.



“ I think Christ on the San Damiano Cross offers one possible answer to the Mystery of Perfect Joy. It is not about Him! It is not about Death. It is not about Suffering. Perfect Joy is perfectly offering yourself for the glory of God and the salvation of our brothers and sisters.”

—Deacon Tom Bello OFS

excerpt from “One Possible Answer to the Mystery of Perfect Joy,” originally published in TAU USA, 2015.

**Welcome, Visitors!**

*Want to find out more about the Secular Franciscans?*

- ◆ Attend a meeting. We meet (usually) on the third Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm.
- ◆ Check out our website:  
<https://StJosephCupertino.SFOUSA.org/Welcome-To-Our-Fraternitys-Website>
- ◆ Check out our regional website:  
<https://SaintMargaretOfCortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website:  
<https://SecularFranciscansUSA.org/>

“Wherefore, brethren, labour the more, that by good works you may make sure your calling and election.

For doing these things, you shall not sin at any time.

For so an entrance shall be ministered to you abundantly into the ever-lasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

2 Peter 1:10

Should you need to miss a Gathering, please contact a Council member.

**Our Deceased Brothers & Sisters:**

Connie Baker, OFS  
Frances Bastress, SFO  
Dea. Tom Bello, OFS  
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

John Kirby, SFO  
Joy Kubricky, OFS  
Frances Langbehn, SFO  
Bob Lewis, SFO  
Sherry Lewis, OFS  
Marie Lindung, OFS  
Jean Manning, OFS  
Jim Manning, OFS  
Georgianna Papazian, OFS  
Yvonne Proch, SFO  
Nancy Seaton, SFO  
Jean Singleton, OFS  
Don Sweitzer, OFS  
Betty Taylor, SFO  
Bud Tenley, SFO  
Jim Tebo, OFS  
Regina Yeager, SFO  
Dorothy Zalewski, SFO

Fr. Cronin Cantlon, OFM Conv.

Fr. James Elliott, OFM Conv.

Fr. Larry Kubera, OFM Conv.

**UPCOMING GATHERING:**

**\* February 19 \* 3rd Sunday \***

◆ **Glass Room\* 2:00 pm \***

◆ **Come for Mass & stay for lunch.**

Father Bart Karwacky OFM Conv.

On Franciscan Joy