

## THE FLYER

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

January 21,2023

THIRD SUNDAY

"Gaze upon Him; consider Him; contemplate Him, as you desire to imitate Him."

Saint Clare



<u>UPCOMING:</u> January 21– Drawing of Saints: Gather after mass for fellowship. Meet in chapel at 2 pm.

- Meetings are third Sunday of the month at 2 pm. (See website for date changes and updates)
- 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/

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

Happy New Year,

As always the New Year opens with the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Just a mere week ago we celebrated the Nativity of Our Lord and now a week later we celebrate Mary's motherhood. Of course, these two feasts obviously go together, but I think that the real celebration is Mary's Mother's Day as we celebrate for our earthly mothers in May.

This is the day for celebrating Mary's motherhood of Jesus and all of the wonderful things she did to support her son during his early years, his teenage years and into his early adulthood. It is the tradition that Jesus began his mission when about 30 -33 years of age so I can guess that Jesus was the child who stayed at home into his thirties as many do today! Yet, I envision Jesus taking care of his mother, working the carpentry shop to bring in some money, etc. Of course, when he began his mission he had to forego this as he made his way around the countryside of ancient Israel. But, as I see it, the tables were turned.

When Jesus left for his mission activity it seems to me that Mary would be on mission of supporting her son by following him with the other women who were following along with Jesus' disciples. It is stated in the gospel accounts that they were doing service for Jesus as he went along so as to be able to free Jesus and his apostles to carry out the mission of Jesus. I do not know if I have ever thought about this before and so I have lately been pondering this mission of Mary and the other women who were on their own mission too. I think of Martha and Mary a bit as it is the only episode of which I can think where there is an issue that arises. (cont.)

(Brother Lawrence cont.)

I really do not know how to look at this today but it is an important thing to consider — what did the traveling followers actually do because I think that they just followed Jesus around listening to his preaching and witnessing miracles. I think of Jesus feeding the 5000 which he initially passed off to his apostles who had no idea how to respond.

I am sure that, like the apostles, the women in the following had fallen into their own role along the way. They were not just people in the background, after all who were the ones who first knew of the resurrection; they were very important to the group indeed.

Since this solemnity is on the first of the month this may be something that we may do on a day of our choice later in the month. Spend some time in meditating of these holy women who were part of of Jesus' disciples following along whit this missionary crowd. If you have the fortune of being born in January you might want to do this on your own birthday; it will be not just Jesus and Mary but you and your own mother as well.

#### Br. Lawrence

#### Minister's Note

Our theme this year is from the writings of Saint Clare. Who are we? Who do we want to become? Saint Clare challenged Blessed Agnes of Prague to look in the mirror daily.

There are days when I seldom look in a mirror. I know my own face. Yet when I do look, do I see what Christ sees? Do I see His glory reflected back to me? In Saint Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, he writes of this transformation: "But we all beholding the glory of the Lord with open face, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 2:18, Douay Rheims Bible)

Let us all be transformed this New Year with the grace of God.

Peace and goodness.

Melissa

Do you have an article for the newsletter? Please send your input to Melissa. The word count should be under 500 words.

#### PRAY FOR ALL OUR DECEASED

Name Date of Transitus Anna M. Bianco, OFS January 4, 1990

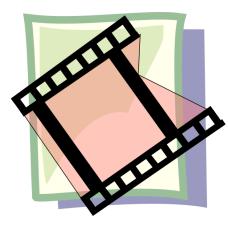
Joy Kubricky, OFS January 10, 2016

#### Formation Thought of the Month:

"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become."







Did you know that our own <u>Kelly Neale</u> has been featured in two videos featured on EWTN and Catholic Climate Covenant? Both videos were filmed at Little Portion Farm. Kelly gives a wonderful testimony about feeding the poor and care for the environment.

You can watch the videos on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otcrr1RgykQ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uACaWUWvfxk

Volunteer to help Little Portion Farm at https://www.LittlePortionFarm.org Food grown helps those in need.



<u>Help at the Shrine:</u> Volunteer as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, Usher, especially before our gatherings. Help staff a table to invite interest in the Secular Franciscan Order. Email Melissa.

#### 2022-2025 Council

Minister:Vice Minister:Secretary:Treasurer (Acting):Melissa Reed-Konigsdorffer OFSCharlie Heyden OFSFrance Staudenmann OFSJerry Yu OFS410-552-5750410-215-9079301-366-1769443-514-5007Scoutsdouglas@yahoo.comCHeyden2@comcast.netFrance.Staudenmann@gmail.combravo0226@yahoo.com

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



December - 2023

Beginning (running) Balance: \$1,137.82

Income:

Common Fund Contributions \$685.00

Total Income \$685.00

**Expenses:** 

Spiritual Assistant\$100.00Franciscan Friars100.00Music ministry for Mass85.00Tau for Rite of Admission26.45

Total Expenses \$311.45 Ending (running) Balance: \$1,511.37 If you are unable to attend the gatherings, you can send your contributions to the fraternity.

**Contributions are Tax Deductible** 

Direct Donation checks to: St. Joseph Cupertino

Fraternity

Mail donations to:

Jerry Yu

2812 Green Shade Court

Ellicott City, MD 21042

You may use your bank's BILL PAY. Direct payment to St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity C/O the address

above.

NOTE! FOR BILL PAY, THE ADDRESS HAS CHANGED.



Look into the mirror.
Consider what you see.

(Photo provided by F. Staudenmann)

#### **Book Share-**

New Book Share coming in the New Year
Thomas A'Kempis' classic <u>Imitation of Christ</u>.
We'll take a January break and then start back up
on February 3 at 1 pm

First Saturdays from 1-3 pm on ZOOM! Contact Geri Flynn OFS for details: AngelBarty@aol.com

# Happy Birthday

Jim Soltysiak, OFS 01/26 Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv. 01/26

Coming Next Month: Theresa Lam, OFS 02/06 Charlene Heyden, OFS 02/15 Jerry Yu, OFS 02/26

### PRAYER LIST



For Healing:
Gail Bunyan, OFS
Lita Maisel, OFS
Bill Siefken, OFS
Teresa Lam, OFS
Rosemary Whelan, OFS
Michael Radcliff, OFS
Patrick Caughy, OFS
Will Potter, OFS