



THE FLYER

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

OCTOBER 20, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY

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

Saint Clare

UPCOMING: October 20, 2024, Brother Lawrence on Quiet

- ◆ 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-Fraternities-Website>
- ◆ Check out our regional website: <https://SaintMargaretOfCortona.org/>
- ◆ Check out our national website: <https://SecularFranciscansUSA.org/>

Brother Lawrence, OFM Conv.

Each year at the feast of St. Francis there is a question that puzzles me and this year is no exception: Who did Francis believe was the founder of the Franciscan Orders? It seems easy enough to many but years ago I took a good amount of time thinking and reading biographies about Francis which started to change my mind.

Many people may say Francis considered himself as the founder who was the first member of the Order. There are many others who came to be followers and without them there would never have been an Order. The followers who wanted to follow Francis were inspired to follow him in the footsteps of Christ with Francis being the inspiration as the ideal leader. I now believe that Francis considered something different. I now believe if we could ask Francis who is the founder of the Orders, his humble response would be Christ himself; he would see himself as just another follower in the Order.

Francis, I believe, in all of his humility would have seen no one other than Christ as the real founder and that Christ used him as his tool. That is how I now see it; a humble man being humble enough to give the real credit where it is due. Yes; Francis was an initial leader of those who came after him and that is what real leaders do. Leaders, e.g. King David, led by taking care of those who follow them. Leaders do not force everyone to be what the leader's idea is. Leaders who are real leaders lead by give those who follow the Way of Christ the best example of Christ and not their own opinion or behavior.

Br. Lawrence

Minister's Note

Just a reminder that next month is our annual remembrance mass for our deceased brothers and sisters. Mass will begin at 2 pm.

Also, Father Jude Winkler will be hosting a weekly mini series on the Gospel of Luke on Wednesdays from October 23 to November 13. For more information see the newsletter.

This month we end our novena to Saint Clare with a reflection on *Embracing the Quiet*.

For many years long after they went out of style, I had a flip phone. I may have kept it too, if I had not dropped it and broke it. Instead I took a hand me down iPhone, and ushered in new distractions with its smart features. While it is hard to get away from some of the apps like GPS and two-part authentication, there is a nostalgia for when things were not so readily available at one's fingertips.

I wonder what we are missing when we are looking at our phones instead of being fully present with the people around us. What conversations are we missing because we are constantly checking in to the computerized version of our lives? How can we hear what God is saying to us?

Both Saint Clare and Saint Francis escaped to quiet places to better hear God's desire for them. Saint Clare sought silence in the monastery and Saint Francis in the caves on Mount La Verna. We know from reading the Gospels that Jesus also sought quiet places. He would slip away from the crowds, and even from the disciples to spend time with His Heavenly Father. (For examples, see Luke 5:16 or Matthew 14:23)

How often are we slipping away to be with our Heavenly Father? I don't mean a few minutes of prayer or even an hour of adoration. I mean real time to be with Him. I try to keep in mind that may look different than what I expect.

This week, I spent several hours with my elderly neighbors, and I caught myself wanting to scroll through my phone. But when I spend time with them, I am spending time with Him. Does He not deserve my full attention? When I cook dinner for my family and sit down at meals, do they not need my full attention? In the few minutes of quiet before Mass, do I need to check my notifications? Why am I afraid to embrace the quiet times of life? Why am I trying to fill every moment with something? What am I avoiding?

Embracing the quiet will look different for everyone. However, I think we need to force ourselves to do that. Maybe that is turning off notifications, and putting our phones on do not disturb. Maybe it is spending time on a mountain top or in the chapel of a monastery.

Like Jesus when He sought quiet spaces, we need to make space to reflect on our lives, and on what is really important. I know I need to be reminded to embrace the quiet to be my true authentic self to whom God is speaking. We cannot have deep connections to our Heavenly Father when we only give Him part of our attention.

Formation Thought of the Month:

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bend our knees and we ask that through the prayers of the glorious Virgin Mary, the holy mother of Christ, and by Father Francis and all of the saints, may Christ, who has given us bountiful beginnings, increase our efforts more and more, and guide us to persevere in that original spirit. Amen”

-Clare of Assisi

The St. Clare Prayer Book by Jon M Sweeney pg. 143

FATHER JUDE WINKLER REFLECTION ON GOSPEL OF LUKE OCT 23, 30 and Nov 6 and 13

The main Gospel used during the 2025 liturgical year is that of Luke (Year C). This four session course will examine some of the most important events described in the Gospel (e.g. the infancy narratives of Lk 1-2) as well as some of the most important themes found in the Gospel (e.g. joy, prayer, outreach to those at the margin of our society, etc.). Two identical sessions will be held each day, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM and from 7:00 to 9:00 in the evening which will also be livestreamed! Wednesdays October 23rd, 30th, November 6th and 13th!

Volunteer to help Little Portion Farm at <https://www.LittlePortionFarm.org>

Food grown helps those in need.



Help at the Shrine: 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

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



Treasurer's Report

September – 2024

Beginning (running) Balance: \$ 1,997.28

Income:

Common Fund Contributions	\$ 900.00
<i>Donation from</i>	
<i>St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity</i>	
<i>(for picnic)</i>	100.00
Total Income	\$ 1000.00

Expenses:

Spiritual Assistant	\$ 100.00
Franciscan Friars	100.00
Expense on picnic	179.09
Total Expenses	\$ 379.09

Ending (running) Balance: \$ 2618.19

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.

Pray for Deceased Members:

Sharon Lewis 10/5/2023
James Manning 11/3/18
Jean Singleton 11/17/21

Happy Birthday!

Mimi Cox Owens, OFS 10/01
Bob Longo, OFS 10/06
Harry Ford, OFS 10/10
Lita Maisel, OFS 10/13
Michael Radcliffe, OFS 10/22

**Remember those who have gone before us.
Grant them peace, Lord. May they reign in
paradise with you. Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.**

*Coming Next month:
Ray Glennon 11/22*

Happy Anniversary

Lita Maisel and Michael Radcliffe
11/16/97

Book Share--

Thomas A'Kempis' classic Imitation of Christ.

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

PRAYER LIST

For Healing:

Gail Bunyan, OFS
Lita Maisel, OFS
Bill Siefken, OFS
Teresa Lam, OFS
Rosemary Whelan, OFS
Patrick Caughy, OFS

