



# THE FLYER

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

April 27, 2025

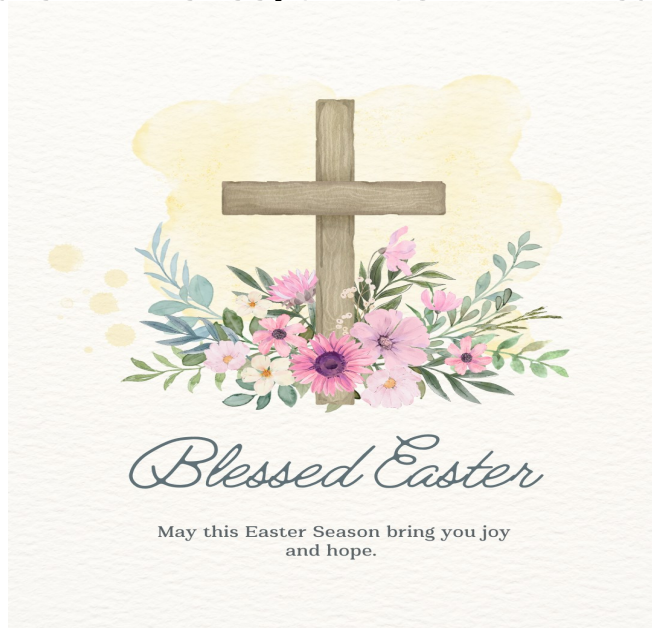
Fourth SUNDAY

FIND HOPE.  
BE HOPE.

## UPCOMING: April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday

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

**Note from Brother Lawrence, OFM Conv. Will return**



## WELCOMING CEREMONY

Please join us on Sunday as we welcome

Ron Chrismer, Joni Plant, Trudy Kerber, and Milande Watson

### *Minister's Note*

*Please note that the fraternity meeting will move from the Third Sunday to the Fourth Sunday in April due to Easter. We will participate in Divine Mercy Sunday.*

In his Easter message, Pope Francis stated that we must act and look for Jesus without ceasing. He is present everywhere “in the most ordinary and unpredictable situations of our lives”. (Pope Francis)

He is living and present in our lives now. Everywhere we turn, he is there. In our sorrows, in our joys, and even in the most mundane things of life, Christ is with us. We have been given a beautiful task. To seek Him in every face that we see, and in every moment of our days.

No matter what is going on around us, we are not alone. There is someone with us, caring for us, loving us.

May our lives be continually filled with His presence, and may we be able to recognize His love and care for us. May we fill others with His presence by our love and care. That is Easter joy.

***We pray for all those who mourn and ask God's wisdom and guidance as a new pope is elected in the upcoming days.***

Peace, love, and hope, *Melissa*

### **ELECTIONS**



In June we will have elections. Please mark your calendar. It is important that every member of the fraternity attend to vote. If you would like to run for an office, please read the description of each member of the Council at the end of the newsletter.

*Formation Thought of the Month:*

“Hope is possible because the Holy Spirit is always at work. The vision of Jesus is the goal of hope. We are not witnesses to our own truth or understanding, but to the message of the Gospel.

We are privileged to be called to give form to God’s dream. “

Seeking the Gospel Life by Lester Bach OFM Cap. pg. 96

**Happy Anniversary**

Ray Heverling 4/10/2005



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

Food

**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**

**Minister:**

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**Spiritual Assistant:**

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



## Treasurer's Report

March – 2025

<b>Beginning (running) Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,433.19</u></b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Common Fund Contributions	\$ 240.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 240.00</u></b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Spiritual Assistant	\$ 100.00
Franciscan Friars	100.00
Expense for the Open House	160.03
Donation to Little Portion Farm	200.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 560.03</u></b>
<b>Ending (running) Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,113.16</u></b>

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:

# Happy Birthday!

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

**Theresa Heath 3/22/2025**

**Pope Francis 4/21/2025**

*This month:*

Kathy Ford 4/6

Coming Next Month:

Patrick Caughy 5/18

Mimi Cox-Owens 5/18

Ray Heverling 5/31

### 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  
Harry Ford, OFS



*Every three years the fraternity holds an election to establish the Fraternity Council. Here are the job descriptions of each position that should be elected. Our elections will be in June. The SFO Constitutions lists the job descriptions in Articles 51-52*

<https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/SFO-Constitution.pdf>

## The Offices in the Fraternity

### Article 51

1. While firmly upholding the co-responsibility of the council to animate and guide the fraternity, **the minister**, as the primary person responsible for the fraternity, is expected to make sure that the directions and the decisions of the council are put into practice and will keep the council informed about what he or she is doing.

2. The minister also has the following duties:

- a. to call, to preside at, and to direct the meetings of the fraternity and council; to convoke every three years the elective chapter of the fraternity, having heard the council on the formalities of the convocation;
- b. to prepare the annual report to be sent to the council of the higher level after it has been approved by the council of the fraternity;
- c. to represent the fraternity in all its relations with ecclesiastical and civil authorities. When the fraternity acquires a juridical personality in the civil order, the minister becomes, when possible, its legal representative;
- d. to request, with the consent of the council, the pastoral and fraternal visits, at least once every three years.
- e. to put into effect those acts which the Constitutions refer to his or her competence.

### Article 52

1. **The vice-minister** has the following duties:

- a. to collaborate in a fraternal spirit and to support the minister in carrying out his or her specific duties;
- b. to exercise the functions entrusted by the council and/or by the assembly or chapter;
- c. to take the place of the minister in both duties and responsibilities in case of absence or temporary impediment;
- d. to assume the functions of the minister when the office remains vacant [34] .

2. **The secretary** has the following duties:

- a. to compile the official acts of the fraternity and of the council and to assure that they are sent to their respective proper recipients;
- b. to see to the updating and preservation of the records and the registers, noting admissions, professions, deaths, withdrawals, and transfers from the fraternity [35] ;
- c. to provide for the communication of the more important facts to the various levels and, if appropriate, to provide for their dissemination through the mass media.

## Offices of Fraternity Continued

3. **The master of formation** has the following duties:

- a. to co-ordinate, with the help of the other members of the council, the formative activities of the fraternity;
- b. to instruct and enliven the inquirers during the time of initiation, the candidates during the period of initiation formation, and the newly professed;
- c. to inform the council of the fraternity prior to profession, concerning the suitability of the candidate for a commitment to live according to the Rule.

4. **The treasurer, or bursar**, has the following duties:

- a. to guard diligently the contributions received, recording each receipt in the appropriate register, with the date on which it was given, the name of the contributor, or the one from whom it was collected;
- b. to record in the same register the items of expense, specifying the date and the purpose, in conformity with the directions of the fraternity council;
- c. to render an account of his or her administration to the assembly and to the council of the fraternity according to the norms of the national statutes.

5. The provisions regarding the rights and duties of the vice-minister, the secretary and the treasurer apply, with the appropriate adaptations, to all levels.

You may read more about the Council Members duties in the handbook:

<https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Council-Members-Handbook-Final.pdf>