



- *the Chimes* -

Visit us at <http://dcsfo.org/>

P.O. BOX 90366

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JAN Vol. LXV, No. 1

January 17, 2021

WE WILL HAVE OUR MEETING BY ZOOM ON JAN 17, AT 1:30pm, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH; SEE SCHEDULE.

FOR SOCIAL TIME, THE CONFERENCE WILL OPEN EARLY, AT 1PM.

TO JOIN BY COMPUTER: LOG ONTO ZOOM, MEETING ID 941 0046 1012

TO JOIN US BY TELEPHONE, CALL 1-301-715-8592, ENTER MEETING ID

Schedule

- 10:30am **Sunday Mass:** Dish or Direct TV subscribers Ch. 50; Comcast Ch. 23 in DC and Montgomery County, Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland; RCN Ch. 15; Verizon Fios Ch. 3
- 12:00pm Mass livestreamed from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: <https://www.nationalshrine.org/mass/>
- 1:00pm **Social time** by Zoom conference, click <https://zoom.us/j/94100461012>
- 1:30pm Fraternity Meeting starts

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Prayer for vocations – see [\(http://dcsfo.org/prayers/vocations/\)](http://dcsfo.org/prayers/vocations/)
- News of members, retreat, elections
- *Fratelli Tutti* discussion – Introduction
- Discussion of Article 20 of the Rule
- Evening prayer. In “Shorter Christian Prayer”, see **p122** (Evening Prayer II for Week II) and **p504** (antiphon for 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time).

HAVE YOUR BINDERS HANDY!

◆ Theme: **BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (Mt 12:46-50)



Prayer of the Month

And after the Lord gave me some brothers, no one showed me what I had to do, but the Most High Himself revealed to me that I should live according to the pattern of the Holy Gospel. (*The Testament*)¹



¹ Armstrong et al ed. (1999), *Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, Vol I: The Saint*, p125.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

2. The Wickedness of Self Will ²

The Lord said to Adam: From “every tree eat, however, from the tree of good and evil you may not eat” (cf. *Gen 2:16.17*). From every tree of paradise he could eat, because while he did not go against obedience, he did not sin. For one eats of the tree of the knowledge of good, who appropriates his own will to himself and exalts himself because of the good things, which the Lord says and works in him; and so through the suggestion of the devil and the transgression of the mandate it has become the fruit of the knowledge of evil. Whence it is proper, that he endure punishment.

² *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2017, URL <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm>.



The Rule

Chapter Three, Article 20 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into fraternities of various levels--local, regional, national, and international. Each one has its own moral personality in the Church. These various fraternities are coordinated and united according to the norm of this rule and of the constitutions.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“To worship the Lord, we first have to “lift up our eyes”: not to let ourselves be imprisoned by those imaginary spectres that stifle hope, knowing that the Lord is aware of our troubles, attentive to our prayers and not indifferent to the tears we shed.”³

Papal Intention for the Month

Prayer Intention – Human fraternity. May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all. ⁴

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$505 in donations and disbursed \$1457.99 in expenses, of which \$1300 were donations. This does not include undeposited checks.

February Birthdays

February 1 – Ronald McMahon and Cecelia Thieman; 4 – Alan Blevins and Mary Gamez; 8 – Jay Lynagh, III and Donna Wilkes; 21 – Joseph Rende; and 26 – Joan Adundo.

³ Jan 6, 2021. URL <http://twitter.com/pontifex>

⁴ Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed January 6, 2021, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

Jan 30th – Feastday of St. Hyacinth of Mariscotti.⁵

St. Hyacintha was born into a wealthy and prominent family in 1585. Her father was Count Antonio of Mariscotti, and her mother descended from the princely Roman family of the Orsini.



After her younger sister had been given in marriage, the disappointed Clarice, as Hyacintha was then called, entered the convent of the Tertiaries at Viterbo as a secular Tertiary. She permitted herself to be given all sorts of things by way of eatables and articles of dress which enabled her to enjoy quite an agreeable and comfortable existence. Her rooms were furnished with much worldly apparatus.

The spirit of mortification and of penance which every Tertiary should practice was not discernible to Hyacintha at this point in her life.

When she was afflicted with a strange illness, her confessor was obliged to go to her rooms to administer the sacraments to her. When he saw the worldly and frivolous objects in her cell, he sharply reproved the sick sister.

Following her confessor's advice, she went to the common refectory and there, with a rope around her neck, begged forgiveness of her fellow sisters for her behavior.

Only after she had invoked the aid of St. Catherine of Siena, however, did she dispossess herself of all frivolous and unnecessary objects, and entered upon a life of heroic virtue.

She then led a very penitential life, persevering unto the end. She went barefoot, wore an old habit that had been discarded by another sister,

and performed the lowliest and most trying tasks. She ate only inferior food with which she mixed bitter herbs. Her bed consisted of a few bare boards, with but a single blanket, and a stone for her pillow. She fostered a special devotion to the sufferings of Christ; and in memory of them, subjected herself to special austerities on Fridays and in Holy Week. She also entertained a filial love for Mary, the Mother of Mercy, who sometimes appeared to her and comforted her.

St. Hyacintha de Mariscotti died at the age of 55, in 1640. Many miracles occurred at her grave for which reason Pope Benedict XIII placed her in the ranks of the blessed. In 1807 she was canonized by Pope Pius VII.

Please Pray For Our Members

Adele Lewis and her sister Diane Dalton; Larry Bleau; Rosemary Bordley and her family; Vilma Camposano; Mary Ann Corr; Maria Louisa Correa; Sarah Faizi and her friend Ron Harner; Jean Fleurival; Nancy McCleary; John Hewitt; Mary Okumu and her family; Margaret Murphy and her family; Carol Petro; Cecilia Thieman and her family; John and Deneen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her brother. Also pray for Jan Parker, the National Fraternity Minister.

Fair Share – What Is It?

Article 25 of the Rule asks us to “*contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils.*” The St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity’s suggested Fair Share donation is \$40 per active member (\$20 for active-excused). If you have not already done so, please include a Fair Share contribution in this month’s envelope, and write “Fair Share” on the envelope or check.

► Please note that this special donation does not go towards the support of our fraternity; your regular, separate monthly donation does this.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Gerda Biglin** had a chance to visit her new great-grandson, Alexander Thomas, who was born last year.

⁵ *The Franciscan Book of Saints* (1979), ed. by Marion Habig, OFM. Accessed from web site Roman Catholic Saints on Jan 8, URL <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/st-hyacintha-de-mariscotti.html> .

From Our Seminarian

By Dylan Prentice

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! The break for me has been quiet, but peaceful and still full of lessons and blessings. One of those blessings came under the guise of a little book I received for Christmas entitled *Let Us Dream* by Pope Francis. In the prologue he includes a quote from Friedrich Hölderlin's *Hyperion* that has carried him through many times, including this ongoing pandemic: "Where the danger is, also grows the saving power." The Holy Father explains that this quote reveals the "genius in the human story: there's always a way to escape destruction." That way to escape, Pope Francis encourages, is to realize that "this is a moment to dream big, to rethink priorities...and to commit to act in our daily life on what we have dreamed of." I know this is a much needed reminder for myself. During this pandemic where things seemed hopeless, never-ending, and exponentially volatile throughout the country, I myself had indeed lost the desire to dream, to wonder. There is a beautiful song in the Broadway musical *Steel Pier* by Kander and Ebb, called "First You Dream." In the song, the character Bill sings to his love interest, Rita, that first one must dream, then one can fly. I think our Loving Father in Heaven is singing this to our aching hearts. Dream, my children, He says, dream of love, beauty, and friendship. Then, and only then, fly. We must, during this 'danger,' dream of that way out, those new priorities, that new way to act out love in our lives. May you first dare to dream big with God, and then to fly on His wings. God bless you all abundantly.



Burial Shroud

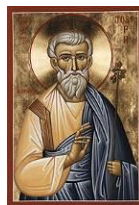


If you plan to be buried in the OFS Burial Shroud, be sure to order it ahead of time to avoid expensive overnight shipping costs from Poor Clares of the Franciscan Monastery of Saint Clare (<https://poorclarepa.org/sfo-shrouds/>).

January Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

Joseph: Saint, Illustrious Son of David



On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis proclaimed the "Year of St. Joseph", to run through Dec 8, 2021. This marks the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being named Patron of the Universal Church. The Church has given 22 titles to St. Joseph. I thought a good way to honor him this year would be to reflect on these titles.

The first title is one we may not often consider to be a title as such, even though we always say it: "Saint". He is in the presence of the Lord in all His glory, is able to look upon our Lord and Savior, together with all the other saints. That to which we are all called has been given him.

"Illustrious Son of David" is another title, which recognizes St. Joseph as a descendent of King David. In Matthew ch. 1, three groups of 14 generations ending with Joseph are named. So St. Joseph is an essential part of the fulfillment of the prophecy that the Messiah would come from David's line.

Called To Serve: Discern

In September this year the fraternity will hold its Council elections. At least three positions will be vacant. In the months until then, consider prayerfully if you are called to serve and how. Recall how in your initial formation you learned of your future responsibilities as part of our fraternity family.

A Stitch in Chimes

Here's a look at our fraternity 20 years ago:

In January of 2001 the fraternity discussed the next chapter in Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ, Council reported \$250 in Christmas donations, members were encouraged to take part in the annual Right to Life March, and excerpts of letters from members were published.

