



- the Chimes -

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

P.O. BOX 29506
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017
APRIL 2024 Vol. LXVIII, No. 4
April 1, 2024

WE WILL MEET ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1:00 PM FOR LUNCH, 1:30 PM MEETING IN THE ST BONAVENTURE ROOM.

Meeting Agenda: Sunday, April 21, 1:00-3:00 pm

- 1:00 - Social and Lunch (please bring something to share)
- 1:30 - Opening Prayer
- Announcements and News of Members
- Discussion of Upcoming Fraternity Elections
- Ongoing Formation
- Evening Prayer and Closing

Zoom info for our infirm or distanced members:

Computer: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89453185478?pwd=DqizYdRDHkakMMwgEfAhSOxBkrlOyZ.1>

Meeting ID: 894 5318 5478 Passcode: 536361

Telephone: 301 715 8592 Meeting ID: 894 5318 5478

Preparing for our April meeting. Please consider prayerfully whether you would consider running for any fraternity Council office. The current Council's term expires in June and we will need a new minister, vice minister, treasurer, secretary, and formation director for the fraternity to continue. Elections will be scheduled for our June 2024 meeting. Please come ready to discuss at our April meeting or email or call any member of the Council with your thoughts. Thank you!

Fair Share is now due. This is a reminder that each member must pay their Fair Share in the amount of \$40 for each active member and \$20 for each active excused member each year. Fair Share supports the operation of the Secular Franciscan Order at the regional, national, and international order. Please pay your Fair Share for 2024 by check (made out to Mt St Sepulchre Fraternity, with Fair Share in the memo line) or cash by April 30. The fraternity is obligated to pay for all members, whether the members pay or not, and will cover for members unable to pay.

Reminder: Register for Chapter of Mats. Register before April 30 to get the early bird rates for our regional Chapter of Mats, to be held Sept 6-8 at the Clagett Center in Adamstown MD. Prices range from \$185-265 for the weekend depending on which accommodation you select. Scholarship funds are available as well as carpooling, so please don't let financial or transportation constraints keep you from participating. Information and registration links here: <https://saintmargaretofcorona.org/upcoming-events/> Let a member of Council know if you want to attend but need a scholarship.

Update on Fr. Gardiner. Our spiritual assistant Fr. Gardiner remains in Carroll Manor and is making slow but steady progress. Please pray for him daily, call, and visit if you can. Carroll Manor permits visitors 9 am-9 pm daily and there is an easy check-in system by kiosk at the entrance as well as easy parking.

Please pray for our members: Rosemary Boardley and family, Maria Louisa Correa and family, Sarah Faizi's friend Ron Harner, Fr. Jim Gardiner, Mary Gigliotti, Adele Lewis, Nancy McCleary, Ouida Morrison, Carol Petro, John Whipple and his sister Cathy, Donna Wilkes and her brother Hollis.

Contacting Council

Minister	Michele Dunne	202-412-1210	micheleddunne@gmail.com
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Secretary	vacant		
Treasurer	Francoise Bidiki	443-518-6367	kimbekele@gmail.com
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Spiritual Asst	Fr. Jim Gardiner	763-516-1439	jgardiner@atonementfriars.org

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Council

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Janice Benton (DC Metro Area Councilor)	jbentonsfo@gmail.com

National Fraternity

Jane DeRose-Bamman (Minister)	ofsusaminister@gmail.com
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Our fraternity website:

<https://dcsfo.org/>

April Reflection

Michele Dunne, OFS

Welcome to the centenary of the Stigmata of St. Francis! On April 5, Pope Francis [commemorated](#) with Franciscan friars the 800th anniversary of the Stigmata of St. Francis, which took place on September 17, 1224. In his remarks, the Holy Father emphasized the reputation of Franciscans as “good confessors,” and asked us to “be forgiven bearers of forgiveness, healed bearers of healing.” Let us each meditate on that: am I a forgiven bearer of forgiveness and a healed bearer of healing?

Pope Francis also gifted us with this beautiful new prayer, asking for the intercession of St. Francis:

Saint Francis,
man wounded by love, Crucified in body and in spirit,
we look to you, decorated with the holy stigmata,
to learn how to love the Lord Jesus
and our brothers and sisters with your love, with your passion.
With you, it is easier to contemplate and follow Christ, poor and Crucified.
Give us, Francis,
the freshness of your faith,
the certainty of your hope,
the gentleness of your charity.
Intercede for us,
so that it may be sweet for us to bear the burdens of life,
and in trials, we may experience
the tenderness of the Father and the balm of the Spirit.
May our wounds be healed by the Heart of Christ,
to become, like you, witnesses of His mercy,
which continues to heal and renew the life
of those who seek Him with a sincere heart.
O Francis, made to resemble the Crucified One,
let your stigmata be for us and for the world
resplendent signs of life and resurrection,
to show new ways of peace and reconciliation.
Amen.

