

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY FRATERNITY, OFS

September 2023 NEWSLETTER



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Pray for the protection of the
church in our country and
on the whole world.

<https://www.facebook.com/263622283843279/photos/a.689803484558488/1314066418798855/?type=3>

Archangel Michael's Feast Day in Roman Calendar is September 29th. Mentioned in the Bible for his role in the battle that brought down Satan from Heaven and in the battle of the last days... he protects God's people, as he is said to have guided Israelites coming into the promised land. He is much associated with Blessed Mother Mary and with Secular Franciscan Joan of Arc, whom he inspired and gave tactical advice. Archangel Michael is very much alive in the challenges of The Church in these times. He is considered a great healer in Eastern Orthodox Rites, too.

<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/10275b.htm>

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Frederick Stein, OFS

In these newsletters, I include little points of our faith, such as the information above-- not for the purpose of enlightening brothers and sisters on minor details of our faith and Franciscan charism,

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Minister

Frederick Stein

(510) 210-2376

derfniets@gmail.com

Vice Minister

Mary Frances Vigil

(510) 261-5797

maryfrancesvigil@yahoo.com

Secretary

Daniel Figueroa

(510) 261-1849

ursusarctos1968@icloud.com

Treasurer

Zeny Cruz

(510) 300-7926

Zenymcruz@yahoo.com

Formation Director

Kim Harris

(510) 543-8997

kmelise@aol.com

Councilor

Minnie Murella

(510) 541-1460

m_murella@yahoo.com

Councilor

Ron Stainbrook

(510) 300-7025

kc.crow@gmail.com

Spiritual Assistant

Appointment Pending

but to give little tidbits to share with the people we run across. This is in order to add depth to their own faith, and to perhaps get them to be curious of nuances that can add color to our creed. Oh, I have a lot more arcane lore and factoids to share! Our social time at gatherings is a time for sharing short insights at gatherings.

Learning little stories, such as [The Little flowers of St. Francis](#) vignettes, is a wonderful way to be able to share our Franciscan Spirit with people looking for something other than what the programmed media pounds into our senses. For me, these little factoids provide refreshment from the world-weary news cycle. The Franciscan tradition provides a fertile backdrop to our main focus: The passion of Our Lord. We are blessed to be able to appreciate humble whimsy, as a measure of joy.

September Birthdays	
Francis Phillips	September 22nd
Pat Buchanan	September 25th
Profession Anniversaries	
None	

✠ PRAYER OFFERINGS ✠

Gloria Figueroa, OFS

Please keep our sisters and brothers in our fraternal prayers...

For all the Franciscan Friars, who have retired and for the Friars who have ministries in their parishes, and for Franciscan vocations...

For Rafaela Martinez, Pat Buchanan (broken leg), Sue Forrest, Grace Manawato (heart surgery), Ron Martorana, Francis Phillips and Martin Manchester (son of Brother Melvin) and for Marcia Vigil (Sister Mary Francis's sister-in-law)...

For all our homebound members and for those who are having health issues and treatments...

For Each of you to the extent that God gives you the grace, shall we love and nourish one another, as a mother loves and nourishes her child.

... In Jesus' Name we pray...



SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT APPROVAL

Our Fraternity Council is very happy to report that Brother Bob Brady has tentatively agreed to act as our Spiritual Assistant. The installation of Brother Bob is subject to the approval of the Regional Spiritual Assistant, Joanne Dombrowski, which should be forthcoming soon.

Brother Bob is extremely well-versed in all things OFS, as he has held many notable positions in OFS hierarchy in the past decades. We are lucky to have Bob. He has already assigned the Council some reading material concerning effective Council operations and servant leadership! We should give Brother Bob a big welcome at our September Gathering this Sunday, September 3rd!



September Franciscan Calendar

September – Month of the Holy Cross

- [3. St. Pius X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1914](#)
- [4. St. Rose of Viterbo, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1252 Plenary Indulgence for cordbearers](#)
- [8. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- 10. Bl. Martyrs of Japan, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order and Franciscan Third Order Seculars, d. 1622-1632
- [12. Feast of the Name of Holy Mary](#)
- 14. Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15. Feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows
- [17. Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi](#)
- [18. St. Joseph de Cupertino, Priest, Conventual, d. 1664](#)
- [20. St. Francis Mary of Camporosso, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1866](#)
- [22. St. Ignatius of Santhia, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1773](#)
- 23. St. Pio of Peitrelcina, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1968
- [24. St. Pacific of San Severino, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1721](#)
- 25. St. Nicholas de Flue, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1487
- [27. St. Elzear of Sabran, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1323](#)
- 29. Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel



St. Pius X (1834-1914)

foresaw the horrible World War 1 (& WW 2). He urged devotion to the Eucharist and advocated for

vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order.

SAVE THE DATES!

- **Sunday, September 3rd, 3:00 PM. Regular Fraternity Gathering. Franciscan Room in front of School Gym, across the street from the church. Our Brother Raymond Figueroa will give a report on this year's *World Youth Day* in Portugal (last month). Please bring pot luck items. There is a Zoom Hybrid Option. Zoom STARTS AT 2:45 PM. Sign in early! Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72807443778> Meeting ID: 728 0744 3778**
One tap mobile
+13462487799,,72807443778# US (Houston)
+Dial by your location
+1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)
Meeting ID: 728 0744 3778 **No Password**
- **Thursday, September 14th, 7PM. Franciscan School of Theology (online) Lecture Series: *Wisdom Literature and the Franciscan Vision*. Presentation by Angela Zautcke, Ph.D. Candidate [Info & Register](#)**
- **Continuing Online Daily, 6:00-7:00 AM CONTEMPLATIVE MORNING PRAYER WITH LITURGY OF THE HOURS**, Sponsored by St. John The Baptist Fraternity of Fresno. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94893798612?pw=STVhMTM0eXhNQUX0R1VDeHRSYU9CUT09>
Meeting ID: 948 9379 8612
Password: 123
- **Every Tuesday evening, 6:30 PM St. Junipero Serra OFS Region Weekly Prayer Gathering**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84687562045?pwd=dFp3YlhTNT1FjWjJjOXIDSiVUyThPQT09>
Meeting ID: 846 8756 2045
Passcode: 09082021
One tap mobile: 1-669-900-9128
Meeting ID: 846 8756 2045
Passcode: 09082021 Find your local number-
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdqoVu0071>

- **Sunday, October 1st, 3:00 PM. Regular Fraternity Gathering. Franciscan Room.**
- **Wednesday October 3rd, Feast of Transitus--- Details to follow... Possible trip to San Damiano???**
- **Franciscan Web Sites:**
 - The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:
 - <http://secularfranciscansusa.org>
 - **Tau-USA- Newsletter (complete issues):**
<http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa.html>
 - **Papal Encyclicals online:**
<https://www.papalencyclicals.net/>
- and The Holy See:
 - <https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>
- **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:**
 - <http://www.usccb.org/>
- **San Damiano retreats calendar:**
 - <http://sandamiano.org/retreats-programs/retreats-calendar>

SPEAKING OF WEB SITES, ST. ELIZABETH FRATERNITY HAS ONE TOO!

THANKS TO FRED'S SON JEREMY IN GERMANY, AT LONG LAST, WE HAVE A PRESENCE ON THE WORLD-WIDE-WEB. CLICK ON [HTTPS://ST-ELIZABETH-OFS-OAKLAND.NET/](https://st-elizabeth-ofs-oakland.net/) TO SEE AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-DERIVED DESCRIPTION OF US. ONLY NEWSLETTERS ARE THERE, BUT IT IS DEFINITELY A WORK IN PROGRESS! JEREMY SAYS HE CAN TEACH US HOW TO ADD CONTENT.

In this month of the Holy Cross, what does it mean to us? What did it mean to the [Blessed Martyrs of Japan \(feast day September 10\)](#)? Faith is important, and our Catholic Sacraments bond us to an ideal that is not worth giving up! In the apostasy of our times, many have given up, surrendering to the snares of the devil.

Notably, Jesuit survivors of the 17th century Japanese persecution (which occurred at Nagasaki) fled to The Philippines, which remained Christian-Catholic. That area provides spiritual example to present days.

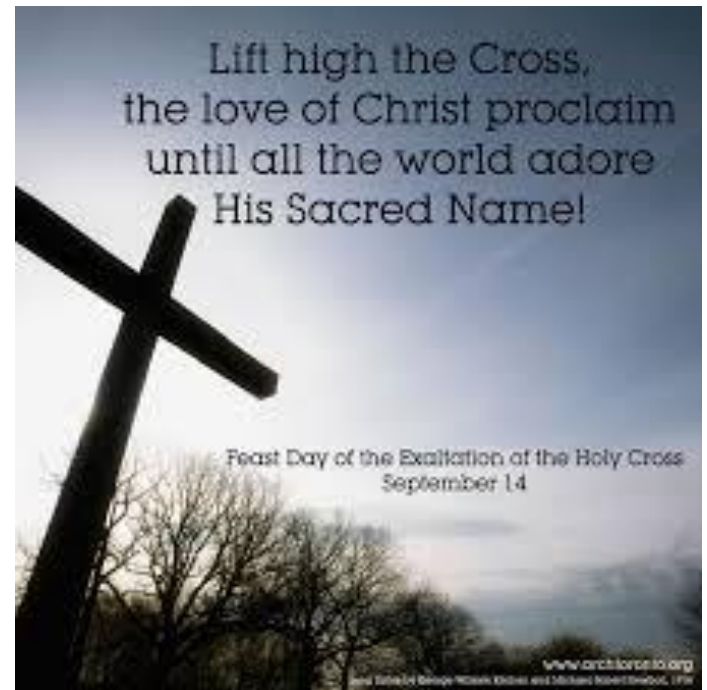
Franciscans are called to live “Gospel Lives,” which reflect gospel values. One of those is, **(John 6; 50-55):** *This is the bread which cometh down from heaven; that if any man eat of it, he may not die.*

*I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever; and the bread that I will give, is my flesh, for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying: How can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said to them: Amen, amen I say unto you: Except you **eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood**, you shall not have life in you. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath everlasting life: and I will raise him up in the last day.*

We, like the Japanese Martyrs, appreciate the link to “Manna from Heaven,” which gives us life in the wilderness, leading to “everlasting life.” Our Franciscan spirit within the Catholic Tradition has an

accompanying attachment, related to apostolic zeal: (Luke 48)—“**But he that knew not, and did things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. And unto whomsoever much is given, of him much shall be required: and to whom they have committed much, of him they will demand the more.**”

Walking around in the grace of sacraments, we relish in our grace and mercies granted from above. After our promise to live “Life to Gospel, and Gospel to Life,” we stand in witness to one another, saints and angels, and Our Lord--- that, through our lives, words and actions--- we are bearing witness to the Holy Cross, or the altar of Our Lord’s sacrifice. LET’S DO IT!



COMMUNICATION ARTICLE BY NATIONAL VICE MINISTER DIANNE F. MENDITTO, IN SPRING 2023 TAU MAGAZINE IS WORTH CHECKING OUT:

[HTTPS://WWW.SECULARFRANCISCANSUSA.ORG/ WP- CONTENT/UPLOADS/TAU_USA_109_SPR_23.PDF](https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/tau_usa_109_spr_23.pdf)