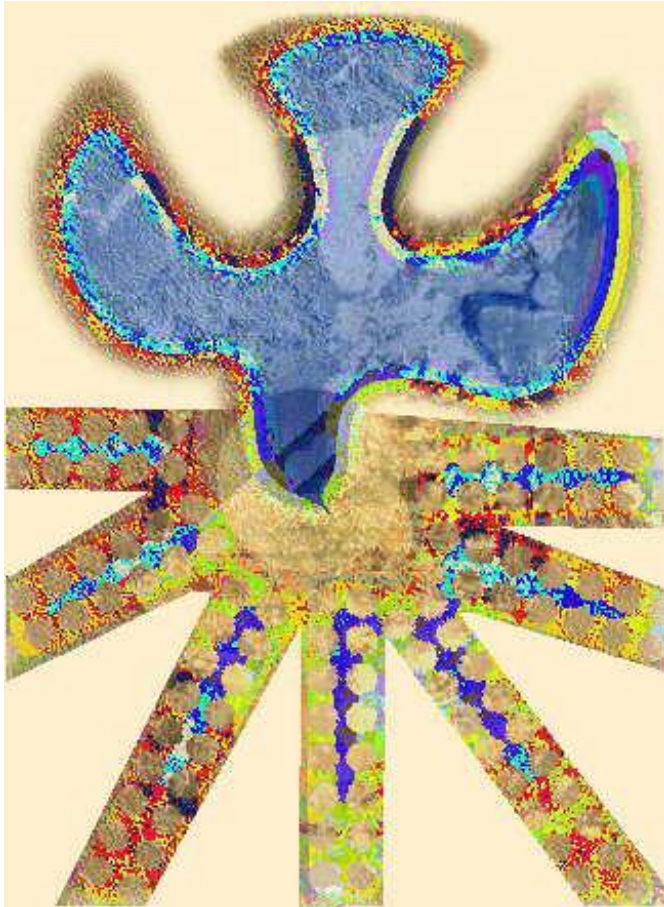


Communio

That All May Be One

Newsletter of the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region
Secular Franciscan Order

Spring 2018



The Pentecost of Profession

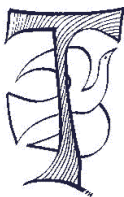
“In the liturgical action of Profession in the SFO **the Holy Spirit is invoked**, just as he is in the Eucharist and the other sacraments, in religious Profession, in the Consecration of Virgins, etc. The **celebration of Profession is therefore structured as an epiclesis**, precisely in virtue of the prayer of invocation performed by the Church asking for the Holy Spirit to be poured out on those called to follow in the footsteps of Christ in the Franciscan evangelical life. In every liturgical celebration, and therefore in the celebration of Profession, the Spirit comes when invoked, makes himself present, acts and transforms. Therefore **Profession takes on the form of Pentecost**, an effective epiphany

of **the Spirit**, who **consecrates and transforms those who make the promise to live the gospel life** in the Secular Franciscan Order.”

Father Felice Cangelosi, OFM Cap.,
“Profession in the SFO: Gift and Commitment,” Section 5

The Four Pillars of Secular Franciscan Life

Spirituality



Formation



Fraternity



Apostolate



Editor's Journal



“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from a sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each of them. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim” (Acts 2:1–4).

The Apostles had been with Jesus for three years, their formation for what God had called them to do. Now, on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came down upon them, and they then set out on the ministry they would fulfill for the rest of their lives.

When we make Profession, after three to four years in orientation and initial formation, the fraternity minister calls down the Holy Spirit on us. We then embark on what God has called us to do.

It's true that we don't hear a strong wind-like sound throughout the church, and no one sees tongues of fire resting on our heads. We have the fire inside of us. As the day of Profession drew near, we burned with desire to make that commitment. Now we've said those words, and the fire is intensifies within us.

Like the Apostles after the Holy Spirit came down upon them, we have been given what we need. How could we believe that we have this Secular Franciscan vocation, that the Holy Spirit has called us to this, and not believe that he had equipped us for our vocation?

The Apostles didn't know what they would encounter, but they accepted whatever came in the course of their ministry.

They didn't go around with flames on their heads, but the fire was there for all to see and hear in their preaching and in their lives. They gave themselves entirely to what the Holy Spirit had called them to, in all its aspects.

Do others see in us, for the rest of our lives, the fire of *our* vocation in all we do and say? Do we give ourselves totally to the OFS way of life? We don't know what will be asked of us, but if we're open, as they were, we may discover talents and abilities we never knew we had.

I remember our late, great spiritual assistant, Father Linus DeSantis, OFM Conv., saying about his life as a friar: “Being open has made all the difference.”

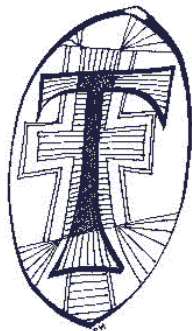
So it can be with each of us. Let the fire of our vocation always burn brightly within us to open up new paths for us to follow.

Joanita M. Nellenbach, OFS, is Communio editor. She is a member of St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity in Hendersonville, N.C., and spiritual assistant to Franciscan Martyrs of Siroki Brijeg Fraternity in Blairsville, Ga.

In This Issue

Minister's Message	3
ARG Rates	3
Regional Formation Director	4
Lenten Retreat Reflection	5
OFS Websites	5
JPIC	6
Fraternity News	7
Newly Professed	7
New Councils	8
Calendar	9
St. Joseph of Cupertino	10
REC Roster	11
Webmaster Needed	12

Minister's Message



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Lord is risen, alleluia! Trusting that you are filled with Easter joy, knowing that you are loved and redeemed!

I am so thankful and pleased to share the wonderful news that Deacon Tom Shaver, OFS, has been appointed our regional spiritual assistant. Deacon Tom is a member of Stigmata of St. Francis Fraternity, Duluth, Ga., and had been serving as spiritual assistant to St. Elizabeth of Hungary Fraternity, Augusta, Ga., prior to this appointment.

During this month of April, our regional formation workshops began for our three areas of our region. I attended the first one, in Spartanburg on the 21st. The second workshop is in Chattanooga on the 28th, and the third is in Raleigh on May 19. I am extremely grateful to Dianne Ambrose, OFS, our regional formation director, for coordinating these with the host fraternities and other members of the Regional Executive Council. I hope each fraternity will be represented at one of the workshops.

Aug. 3–5, we'll have our Annual Regional Gathering at the Ridgecrest Conference Center, near Asheville, N.C. Since 2007, we have been holding this annual event at Ridgecrest, and we've certainly grown over these past 11 years! How quickly time seems to pass.

This year will be a visitation from the National Fraternity for us. Father Christopher Panagoplos, TOR, will be our pastoral visitor; Joan Geiger, OFS, one of our national councilors, will be the fraternal visitor. And, yes, just like the local fraternity has preparatory paperwork for a visitation, so do we. That's the beauty of community! ☺

Many thanks to each minister for submitting their annual reports for 2017 and for serving your brothers and sisters as servant leaders as we journey together in our Franciscan way of life. May God the Father bless you and keep you; may Jesus inspire you to bring his love and peace to all you meet; and may the Holy Spirit guide you and grant you wisdom.

Peace and all good,
DorothyAnn

DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS, Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region's minister, is a member of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Fraternity, Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Annual Regional Gathering: This Year's Rates

Last year, Ridgecrest gave us private dining at no extra charge. This was because a very large group was at the conference center at the same time. If you were at the 2015 ARG, you'll remember this group, so large (1,000 or more people) that it was hard for us to find seats in the dining room.

Our members loved the private dining last year, as indicated by the evaluations we received.

Ridgecrest is willing to provide the catering this year but will add \$5.00 to the cost of each meal. This will raise the meal cost from \$58.00 to \$83.00 for five meals.

"When you have catering, we have to bring in separate staff to work your event," said Angela R. Beattie, Ridgecrest's account manager, via email. "The \$5.00 per person pays their wage to work your event."

The meal plan is Friday evening dinner; Saturday breakfast, lunch, and

dinner; and Sunday breakfast.

Here are the rates for this year:

- Single (1 person in room) — \$301.00 per person (\$109.00 per night x 2 = \$218.00 + \$83.00 meal plan)
- Double (2 people in room) — \$192.00 per person (\$109.00 per person + \$83.00 meal plan)
- Triple (3 people in room) — \$162.33 per person (\$79.33 per person + \$83.00 meal plan)
- Quad (4 people in room) — \$147.50 per person (\$64.50 per person + \$83.00 meal plan)
- Commuters — \$12.00 per day or \$25.00 for the weekend + whatever meals are purchased. The individual-meal rate will include the additional \$5.00 catering fee.

From Your Regional Formation Director



Greeting Brothers and Sisters

I pray that your formation sessions are going well and are fruitful.

We have two more area Spring Formation Workshops this year. After the workshop we had on April 21 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Spartanburg, S.C., the second one is April 28 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Chattanooga, Tenn. The third is on May 19 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh, N.C.

If you are a minister or group leader interested in attending the workshop in Raleigh and have not received the registration form, please email me at ambrosedianne6@gmail.com.

The Formation Tool Kit to promote vocations has been released by the National Formation Commission. It can be found at <http://www.nafra-sfo.org/forms>. It includes an introductory document, prayer cards, Come and See session, online customizable promotional brochure, PowerPoint presentation and more. Most of the documents are available in English, Spanish, and Korean.

We owe special thanks to our own Willie Guadalupe, OFS, for her work on the Spanish-language translations.

In several months, on our own Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis regional website, we will have the “Pathway to Profession,” which was approved by the Regional Executive Council in January. Please pay special attention to the time frames that have been lengthened for each phase. These will also have been discussed at the area workshops, as will the changes and suggestions for the preprofession retreat and ongoing formation resources.

Also remember that you can follow the national Facebook page at Secular Franciscans - Nafra, USA, and on twitter @SecFranNAFRA. In addition, on YouTube, the regional formation director for Our Lady of the Angels Region has started a monthly YouTube Channel. The link is <http://www.youtube.com/channel?UCbcNNcccQuh5gOANJAEr8Gg>.

Also, do not forget our regional monthly formation discussions for local formation directors on ZOOM. The next one will be May 22 at 7 p.m. EST. Link is <https://zoom.us/j/6421174193>.

I am always here to help you. Feel free to contact me at ambrosedianne6@gmail.com or 706-338-2402. Looking forward to meeting you this spring and to hearing from you.

Peace

Dianne Ambrose, OFS

Dianne Ambrose, OFS, the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis regional formation director, is a member of San Damiano Fraternity in Athens, Ga., and serves as National Historian.

A Reflection on our Lenten retreat

By Trish Howerter, OFS

It seems so long ago when Father Aubrey McNeil, OFM, our spiritual assistant, and all of us in Mother Cabrini, Emerging Community, were meeting late last year at St. Mary of the Angels Church in Anderson, S.C., planning the Lenten retreat.

We thought we had plenty of time to plan, and we knew we had lots to do. We had a checklist of tasks and more ideas to present. The brainstorming was so exciting.



“I have a feeling we will have 100 attendees,” I said. We all laughed. “OK, maybe we will have 10. Who knows?”

I can clearly see in my mind’s eye Father Aubrey smiling and laughing as we were coming up with our various ideas.

One of the ideas we were really excited about was to paint rocks with numbers corresponding to the 14 Stations of the Cross. We planned to hand the rocks out during the retreat and ask each attendee to meditate on the particular

Station associated with his or her rock.

Little did we know our time with Father Aubrey would be so limited. Little did we know those rocks would bear the inscription “In Loving Memory of Fr. Aubrey OFM – 2018 Lenten Retreat.”

We were excited. We were a little nervous (OK, a lot nervous) and motivated to have this retreat worthy of Father Aubrey’s vision. We wanted to make him proud. I am sure I am speaking for all of us when I say that we felt his presence, and we know that he was smiling. We did our best.

We are so grateful for the help of Father Michael P. Jones, OFM, pastor of St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, and for everything his did to make the retreat a success. We are so fortunate that Father Mike has been so giving to us. We are always grateful for the never-ending support of Our Lady of Good Council, our sponsoring fraternity, who are always there for us. And thanks to the other fraternities who attended.

We are humbled by the positive feedback and grateful for the input on ways to improve. We can always do better when we know what to do.

That being said, thanks to everyone who helped. We had 62 attendees.

Trish Howerter, OFS, is a member of Mother Cabrini, Emerging Community.

Editor’s Note: Father Aubrey McNeil, OFM, 72, died Dec. 5 in Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston, Mass. A member of Holy Name Province, he was a Franciscan friar for 36 years and a priest for 32 years. He was pastor of St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church in Anderson, S.C., where he had lived since 2005.

Secular Franciscan Websites

Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region — www.bsfsfo.org

National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States (NAFRA)

www.nafra-sfo.org

Consilium Internationale Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis (CIOFS)

International Council of the Secular Franciscan Order

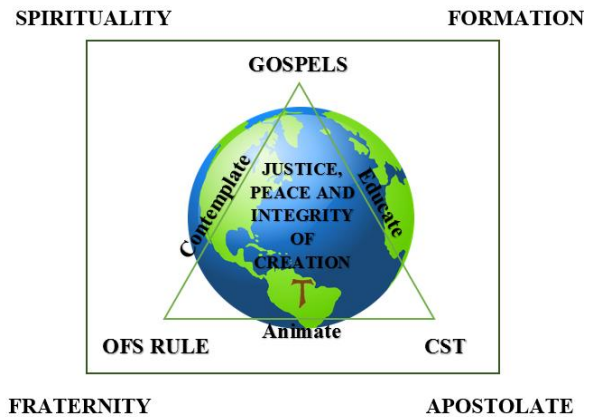
Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation: Verbal Nonviolence as a Path to Holiness

By Carolyn D. Townes, OFS

In his latest apostolic exhortation, *Gaudete Et Exsultate*, Pope Francis reflects on the call to holiness in today's world.

I am struck by the five signs or spiritual attitudes the Holy Father outlines as necessary for understanding the way of life that Jesus calls us to.

Of course, he mentions the signs that are more known to us as Catholic people of faith, such as prayer and the sacraments. But he goes further as he elaborates on five attitudes that are necessary for living a holy life. I want to highlight one for reflection as it pertains to compassionate and mindful communication.



Perseverance, Patience, and Meekness

Pope Francis states this first sign is solid grounding in the God who loves and sustains us:

“Christians too can be caught up in networks of verbal violence through the Internet and the various forums of digital communication. Even in Catholic media, limits can be overstepped, defamation and slander can become commonplace, and all ethical standards and respect for the good name of others can be abandoned. The result is a dangerous dichotomy, since things can be said there that would be unacceptable in public discourse, and people look to compensate for their own discontent by lashing out at others. It is striking that at times, in claiming to uphold the other commandments, they completely ignore the eighth, which forbids bearing false witness or lying, and ruthlessly vilify others. Here we see how the unguarded tongue, set on fire by hell, sets all things ablaze (cf. Jas 3:6)” (115).

I was quite struck when I read this passage from the document as I am presently a witness to this kind of “communication.” To repeat Pope Francis’s words: “It is striking that at times, in claiming to uphold the other commandments, they completely ignore the eighth, which forbids bearing false witness or lying, and ruthlessly vilify others.”

There is nothing holy in defaming or slandering someone in the name of God and the Church. When we are using verbal violence, we are not being compassionate, mindful, or holy.

Verbal **non**violence is communication that is mindful: thoughtful and compassionate. We have taken the time to **think** before we speak. And when we are being holy, we do all things in the name of the One who loves us all.

Carolyn D. Townes, OFS, a member of St. Clare of Assisi Fraternity in Aiken, S.C., is the JPIC Animator for the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region, the National JPIC Animator, and a member of the International Commission for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.

Fraternity News



Members of St. Thomas More Fraternity in Wilmington, N.C., help with the International Food Festival, held April 21 at St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington. Marie Mallon, OFS (left); Joe Wells, OFS; Mary Hellmann, OFS; Mike Yamat, OFS; Evelyn Lauer, OFS; Linda Keir, OFS (seated); and Mary Ellen Humphrey, OFS, prepare packets of bird seed labeled “St. Francis of Assisi — one with creation” for free distribution at the festival. The fraternity’s booth had raffle tickets for a statue of St. Francis. Proceeds from the festival benefit the poor of the greater community.

Bl. John Duns Scotus Fraternity, Garden City, S.C.

On April 8, Divine Mercy Sunday, our Fraternity celebrated Mass with the students at Coastal Carolina University and then serving them a meal of ham, macaroni and cheese, salad, string beans, and of course dessert.

We gave out monthly birthday cards to “our kids” at Seacoast Youth Academy, as well as serving our once-a-month dinner to the homeless and the residents at the Shelter, New Directions/Street Reach, in Myrtle Beach.

We still have many dealing with medical issues, and we ask for continued prayers for Raedell Crown, OFS; Kay Winters, OFS; Marguerite O’Brien, OFS; Francis Cannon, OFS; Mel and Pat Libby, OFS; and Ellen DeCleva, OFS, who recently had foot surgery. May God bring them to better health soon.

Newly Professed Congratulations!

Fraternity of Brother Francis

Newton, N.C.

Feb. 24

Bernard Taft, OFS,

Bl. John Duns Scotus Fraternity

Garden City, S.C.

April 14

Carol A. Bray, OFS

Mary Sacavage, OFS

Congratulations — New Councils



Father Solanus Casey Fraternity, Morehead City, N.C., Feb. 11.

Minister: Bob Sabisch, OFS (left); Councilor: Rodney Strickland, OFS; Treasurer: Joan Rogers, OFS; Secretary: Elaina Bogan, OFS; Vice Minister: Sylvia Jackson, OFS; Councilor: Carolyn Peduzzi, OFS Formation Director: Pat Kasprzyk, OFS (Photo by Joan Davis, OFS).



St. Elizabeth of Hungary Fraternity, Elizabeth City, N.C., April 8

Councilor: Clarissa Fisher, OFS (left); Vice Minister: Lee Norfleet, OFS; Minister: Doreen Warren, OFS; Secretary: Janet Norfleet, OFS; Councilor: Shannon Brooks, OFS; Treasurer: Cee Cee Petruncio, OFS; Formation Director: Mary Gilbert, OFS (not shown).

See **COUNCILS**, page 9

Our Lady of Good Council Fraternity

Greenville, S.C., Feb. 17

Minister: Judy Bruce, OFS

Vice Minister: Mary Pat Morris, OFS

Secretary: Marsha Wiggins, OFS

Treasurer: John Bruce, OFS

Formation Director: Leslie Owens, OFS

Councilor: Elizabeth Oughton, OFS

Councilor: LaDonna Sexton, OFS

BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS REGION CALENDAR SCHEDULE OF VISITATIONS (V) AND ELECTIONS (E) May through November 2018

* confirmed	V+ follow-up visit	(observers in parentheses)
Date	Fraternity/Group & Location	V Fraternal/Pastoral Visitors E Presider/Ecclesial Witness
May 12*	Immaculate Conception, Jonesboro, GA	E Lannie Newman/Joanita Nellenbach
June 3*	St. Maximilian Kolbe, Huntersville, NC	E Sara Nell Boggs/Willie Guadalupe
June 8–9*	Blessed Sacrament, Burlington, NC	V Bob Pearson/Joanita Nellenbach
June 9*	Crucified Christ, North Charleston, SC	E Janet Hulshof/Audrey Binet
June 23–24	St. Joseph Cupertino, Bessemer, AL	V Lori Moran/Willie Guadalupe
Aug. 3–5: Annual Regional Gathering, Ridgecrest, NC, National Visitors		
Sept. 21–22*	St. Michael the Archangel, Spartanburg, SC	V Janet Hulshof/Audrey Binet
Oct. 9–14: NAFRA Chapter, St. Louis, MO		
Nov. 14*	St. Anthony of Padua, Fayetteville, NC	E Carolyn Peduzzi/?
Nov. 17*	St. Francis of the Hills, Hendersonville, NC	E Carmen Madero/Fr. Roberto Perez

St. Joseph of Cupertino (1603-1663)

By Bret Thoman, OFS

“Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.” Mt 18:3

I am fortunate to live in Loreto, not only for the Marian spirituality of the Holy House of Mary in the Basilica of the Holy House, but also for the numerous saints in the region. Just 10 miles away is the picturesque hill town of Osimo, famed not only for its architecture and food, but for the



St. Joseph of Cupertino Levitating at the site of the basilica in Loreto; 18th century painting by Ludovico Mazzanti (public domain).

famous Franciscan saint safeguarded within the Conventual church in the center of town.

In 1603, Joseph was born in Cupertino, near Lecce in the southern Italian region of Apulia. He was said to have been unintelligent as a child, forgetful, incompetent at his chores, and prone to angry fits. Yet he also experienced intense spiritual ecstasies during which he would stare off into the distance.

When he was 17, he sought to enter the Conventual Franciscan Order but was denied due to his lack of education. He was then admitted to the Capuchins, but was expelled shortly thereafter when his spiritual raptures made life in community difficult.

After Joseph returned home, in his late teens, his mother, exasperated, sought to have her son admitted to the Conventuals near Cupertino. There he was allowed to serve as a stable boy. This time, however, he began to grow in humility and gentleness. His spirituality impressed the friars, and they allowed him to enter the community.

Though Joseph could barely read or write and was unsuited for scholarship, he did his best to grow in holiness and wisdom and dedicated himself arduously to a life of poverty and prayer. Despite his simplicity, he could answer intricate theological questions in an extremely simple manner.

He did his best to study intently one small section of his material, and prayed that the material he studied would be what he was tested on. On several occasions just that happened. In what some believe was a miracle, he was ordained a priest on March 28, 1628, when his examiner asked him one of the only things he had studied.

He was then sent to the Madonna delle Grazie, Gravina in Puglia, where he spent the next 15 years. His work consisted of menial tasks around the friary, such as gardening, looking after the animals, cleaning their stalls, and helping in the kitchen. Joseph was often found wandering in a daze, winding up in different places in the friary, unaware of how he got there.

He was also known for levitation. Soon stories of his spiritual ecstasies and “flying” began to

spread. While in prayer, he would be lifted up from the ground a few yards into the air.

**Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis
Regional Executive Council Roster**

Minister: DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS

Vice Minister: Carmen Madero, OFS

Secretary: Barbara Garrison, OFS

Treasurer: Ken Brooke, OFS

Formation Director: Dianne Ambrose, OFS

**Spiritual Assistant:
Search In Progress**

Area Councilors

Area 1

Lori Moran, OFS; Lannie Newman, OFS

AL: Bessemer;

GA: Athens, Blairsville, Conyers, Duluth, Jonesboro;

TN: Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville

Area 2

Sara Nell Boggs, OFS; Janet Hulshof, OFS

GA: Augusta, St. Simons Island;

NC: Asheville, Charlotte, Hendersonville, Newton;

SC: Aiken, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville,
Hilton Head Island, Spartanburg

Area 3

Bob Pearson, OFS; Carolyn Peduzzi, OFS

NC: Burlington, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Greensboro,
Morehead City, Raleigh, Wilmington, Winston Salem;

SC: Garden City

Archivist: Sara Nell Boggs, OFS

Communio Editor

Joanita M. Nellenbach, OFS

Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation Animator

Carolyn D. Townes, OFS

Multicultural Commission Chair

Willie Guadalupe, OFS

Youth/Young Adult Fraternal Animator

Position Available

Prayer Ministry (online prayer requests)

Area 1: Lori Moran, OFS

Area 2: Dorothy Huebner, OFS

Area 3: Bob Pearson, OFS

Fraternity prayer coordinators submit prayer requests.

The unusual spiritual phenomena soon caused conflicts with the community. At times, his brothers scolded him for not accepting money. Other times he would return to the friary with his habit ripped (simple townspeople would frequently tear off pieces of his clothing, regarding him a saint and his clothing as relics). His superiors responded with alarm and tried to sequester him and stop the crowds who were coming to see him.

Others were more skeptical of him. Joseph was accused of attracting undue attention to himself with his “flights” and claims of performing miracles they believed to be false. In 1638, he was summoned to appear before the Inquisition where he was detained and examined for several weeks. Joseph was eventually released when the judges found no fault with him.

After being cleared by the Inquisition, Joseph was sent to the Sacro Convento at the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, where he lived for nine years. There he experienced a period of spiritual dryness, and his ecstasies stopped. Just the same, many people continued to seek him out for spiritual direction and consolation. Those who came to him included ministers general, provincials, bishops, and cardinals, as well as worldly knights and princes. Though he was permitted to meet with those who came to him, he was forbidden to preach, hear confessions, or to join in processions and festivities on feast days. As a result, this period of “exile” left him feeling even more repressed.

Due to the huge following surrounding him in Assisi, he was sent to other friaries: first in Pietrarubbia, then Fossombrone, and finally to Osimo, near the Holy House of Mary

in Loreto on the Adriatic Sea. There, Joseph was ordered to live in seclusion and not speak to anyone except the bishop, the vicar general of the Order, his fellow friars, and, when necessary, a doctor. Joseph continued to endure these ordeals with great patience and all the while practiced corporal asceticism.



St. Joseph of Cupertino (from website of St. Joseph of Cupertino Province, Order of Friars Minor Conventual, used with permission.

On Aug. 10, 1663, Joseph became ill with a fever, and experienced one last “flight” on the feast of the Assumption, Aug. 15, while saying Mass. Joseph of Cupertino died on the evening of Sept. 18, 1663. He was buried two days later in the chapel of the Immaculate Conception before great crowds of people.

Pope Clement XIII canonized St. Joseph on July 16, 1767. The church of St. Francis in Osimo is now the Basilica of St. Joseph of Cupertino. His body rests in the basilica’s crypt, preserved in a glass coffin held up by two statues of angels.

St. Joseph of Cupertino is the patron saint of aviators, pilots, students, and those suffering from mental illnesses and limitations.

Bret Thoman, OFS, is director of St. Francis Pilgrimages and author of St. Francis of Assisi: Passion, Poverty, and the

Man who transformed the Catholic Church and St. Clare of Assisi: Light from the Cloister.

Webmaster Needed

Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region seeks a person to maintain our Region’s website (bssfsfo.org).

Applicants should be familiar with WordPress.

If interested, please contact

DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS, regional minister, at darsfo@embarqmail.com or 843-466-9867

Communio

**is published quarterly for the
Brothers and Sister of St. Francis Region
of the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States.**

OFS

It’s our Order’s abbreviation after our names or in other writing and refers to Ordo Franciscanus Sæcularis, the official — Latin — name of our Order.

In English, we’re still the
Secular Franciscan Order.