



Our Lady of the Rosary
Secular Franciscan Fraternity
Williamsburg, Virginia

www.olrsfo.weebly.com



Message from Minister— Maria Fuentes-Sherman OFS

Happy St Valentine's Day to All!

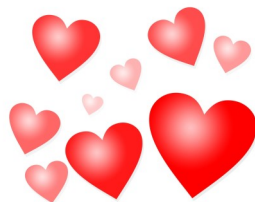
I have to admit that I have agonized about what to write this time. Until this song came to mind:

“Love, love changes everything, hands & faces, earth & sky.
Love, love changes everything, how you live & how you die.
Love can make a summer fly or a night seem like forever.
Yes love, love changes everything, now I tremble at your name.
Nothing in the world will ever be the same.
Love, love changes everything, days are longer, words mean more.
Love, love changes everything, pain is deeper than before.
Love will turn your world around and that world will last forever.
Yes love, love changes everything, brings you glory, brings you shame.
Nothing in the world will ever be the same.
Off into the world we go planning futures, shaping years.
Love bursts in & suddenly all our wisdom disappears.
Love makes fools of everyone, all the rules we make are broken.
Yes, love, love changes everyone, live or perish, in its flame. Love will never ever let you be the same.
Love will never ever let you be the same.”

Now, why **this** song? Change the word “love” to “God”. Our God, the God of love, does **ALL** of these things when He enters into our lives, & we willingly let Him in. When we open the doors of our lives & our hearts to God, **EVERYTHING** changes! Yes, there is still tragedy & pain. There is also glory. And, oh, that love! The love that surpasses all human imagination; the love of the Holy Trinity.

So, Happy Valentine's Day Everyone! Reach out to your neighbor in love. Open your heart again to that Holy Love. Pray to our God in gratitude for all the graces he showers on us:

Pax et Bene,
Maria Fuentes-Sherman



Important Dates:

- 2/3 Chris Wells — Birthday
- 2/21 Zoom Fraternity Meeting 1:00pm
- 2/27 **Lenten Retreat**



Visit our website at olrsfo.weebly.com

Message from Vice—Minister— Richard Churray, OFS

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the month of January we saw one administration depart and a new administration step in. The election is over! The airwaves are quiet. The administration is calling for unity. I don't believe this is a call to complete understanding. It is a call to come together for the common good. Just sit down to discuss our differences. To do the right thing for the people of our country. I asked each of you to do your part for unity.

Happy Valentine's Day! It is the month of love, which in John 13-34 Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another". I ask each of you to find a way to reach out to somebody to let them know they are loved and cared about. It can even be somebody in the fraternity. Just dig out that phone list and give someone a call. Let them know you care, let them know we are all in this together. I know how I feel when I get a call from a friend just checking in on me to see how I'm doing. I feel good knowing someone else is thinking about me. Or when my wife and I get an unexpected call from family out west. Knowing the grandkids wanted to talk to Nana and Dzedo (Slovak for grandpa)! It warms our hearts and we melt a bit with the love we get from our grandkids. It's the same love we can give to one another, it just takes a moment of our time. So I ask each of you to take some time this month to write a card or call someone in the fraternity. We all need each other. Spread the love of fraternity. Spread the love of Christ.

Please remember our council meeting on February 21. Look for the Zoom invitation from Peg.

Visit our website at: <https://olrsfo.weebly.com>

Pax et bonum!
(Peace and every blessing)
Rick Churray



Apostolate Information

Paul Reardon and Rick Churray's apostolate in Mathews, Virginia called "Hands Across Mathews" distributed food to over 280 families in December.



Pineapple Inn Pantry

At the Pineapple Inn, we strive to ensure that our guests have access to all services available to them. This includes access to a small pantry that is stocked by members of the faith community and good hearted individuals. If you would like to help, we are always in need of these items:



Soup/Chili – *Canned foods should have a pop-top if possible*
Ramen Noodles
Mac & Cheese (consider Velveeta or Kraft with liquid cheese)
Rice (White or Brown)
Canned meat (tuna, chicken, ham, Spam, Vienna Sausages etc.)
Tuna with crackers kit
Canned Veggies (no GREEN BEANS)
Canned tomatoes
Tuna with crackers kit
Shelf stable meals - i.e. Hormel Completes
Pasta
Spaghetti/Pasta sauce
Stove Top Stuffing
Peanut butter
Jelly
Sandwich Bread © Fruit cups/canned fruit © Cereal - cheerio's etc.
Hot Cereal – oatmeal etc.
Granola/Cereal bars
Juice (V8, Ocean Spray – no Hi-C please)
Boxed or powdered milk
Peanut butter
Jelly
Sandwich Bread
Canola oil/Vegetable Oil (needed to make Rice a Roni etc.)
Salad Dressing (Ranch & Italian)
Spices (Salt, pepper, Italian blend etc.)
Sugar & Flour
Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo etc.)
Fresh fruit & vegetables - we are happy to take your excess garden goods
Snacks/cookies
Microwave popcorn
Feminine hygiene products
Can Openers

We also are in need of pots, pans, dishes, and silverware.

As always we are grateful for any and all donations.

If you have any questions please call us at (757) 259-9670 or send us an email to info@pineapplehousing.com

Little Known Titles of Our Lady: Our Lady of Kibeho



This is the title given to Marian apparitions to several adolescents in the 1980s in Kibeho, south-western Rwanda. The local bishop officially recognized these visions as authentic, and in the continent of Africa, these are the only Vatican approved apparitions of the Blessed Virgin. During these, various messages were given to the schoolchildren, including an apocalyptic vision of Rwanda falling into violence & hatred, thought to be foretelling the genocide in 1994. Over the course of the 1980s Mary appeared to three young women in the small village of Kohebo. She identified herself as "Nyina wa Jambo" {Mother of the Word}, & asked everyone to pray to prevent a terrible war. In the vision of 8/19/1981 they all reported violence, dismembered corpses & destruction. The longest series of visions were to Alphonsine Mumureke, with the first one shortly after she began high school in October of 1981. Anathalie Mukamazimpaka's began in January 1982, in which the Virgin instructed her to perform penance through mortification of the flesh, prayers & expiation. Marie Claire Mukangango had initially bullied Anathalie for her visions; herself began having these March 2. She was told by the Virgin that people should pray the "**Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows**" to receive the favor of repentance. During Pope John Paul II's visit in 1999 he exhorted the faithful to turn to the Virgins as a pure & simple guide". & to pray for greater commitment against local divisions.

For 100 days after the assassination of dictator President Juvenal 800,000 to over a million Rwandans were slaughtered by their countrymen, as a result of the culmination of intense animosity between 2 ethnic groups - Hutus & Tutsis - & the civil war preceding it. Kibeho itself was the site of two huge massacres: first at the parish church April 1994, the second a year later where 5,000 refugees who had taken shelter there were shot by soldiers. Marie & her husband were among those killed in the April 1995 massacre. In 1992 the Marian Shrine at Kibeho was named "Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows" The Pallotine Fathers are entrusted with its rectorate, with the rector appointed by the local Bishop & the Regional Pallotine Rector. The main altar shows Mary with seven swords piercing Her Sorrowful Heart.

Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows

1. Prophecy of Simeon
2. Flight into Egypt
3. Loss of Child Jesus in the Temple
4. Meeting with Jesus on the Via Dolorosa
5. Crucifixion of Jesus
6. Piercing of the Side of Jesus with spear & his descent from the Cross
7. Burial of Jesus by Joseph of Arimathea {Our Father & seven Hail Marys for each mystery - not to be confused with the five Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary - daily)

February Formation



This month we will continue the book, *Clare of Assisi: A Heart Full of Love*. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you as you read Chapter 3. Underline, highlight or otherwise identify those thoughts that spoke to you during your reading. I have found it beneficial to prayerfully read the pages more than once to ensure a good understanding of the content. I will be asking you to comment on what caught your eye as you read these pages. The first questions I will ask are: "What word or phrase stood out to you, and why? We will discuss the three questions for reflection on page 40. Also pray on the sentence Ilia poses on page 30: "I wonder how many of us look on the cross as the 'mirror of eternity' – a reflection of eternity in the crucified Christ." **Do you ponder the cross as the "mirror of eternity?"**

Flashback: Do you remember learning this in initial formation?

The Word, which is the Expression of the Inexpressible, became flesh and dwelt among us. This is the Incarnation.

Duns Scotus:

Even if there had never been any sin, the Incarnation would have taken place because it was God's first intention to become one with his creation.

Humans are created in anticipation of the Incarnation.

Franciscans see human nature as created so *that* the Incarnation could take place.

For Franciscans, creation itself shares in both the Trinitarian relationships and the union with God and the world: this is why St. Francis can look at creation around him and see Brother Sun, Sister Moon, and Mother Earth.



Upcoming Events

Coming this Month: Keep Your Eyes Open for Info on Lenten Morning of Spirituality!!

Feb 6 Council Meeting

Feb 17 Ash Wednesday

Feb 21 Fraternity Gathering (via ZOOM)

Note: Meager showing? We need YOUR input for events at your parish or Other. Send to qkfs13@gmail.com

Useless Catholic Trivia

The smallest Catholic Church in the US is in Texas. It sits only 20 persons.



During the COVID-19 meeting restriction, if you wish to continue your monthly fraternity donation please send your check to treasurer, Barbara Massey, 862 Ventnor Drive, Newport News, VA 23608-8927. **Please make checks payable to SFO.**

Save the Date!!!



Our Lenten Retreat will be held on February 27th. Deacon Greg Ballentine will lead us on a morning of spirituality from 10:00 to noon.

Because of continuing COVID-19 restrictions, it will be a Zoom call. You will receive your invitation with additional information no later than February 25th. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the retreat.



Praying for Our Deceased Brothers and Sisters

- Joan Albrecht
- Edna Bartlett
- Gladys Branch
- Julia Carey
- Donald Carpenter
- Dorothy and Janice Carpenter
- Rose Coleman
- Josephine Decori
- Esme Esflavo
- Marian Garris
- Florence Gorden
- Jack Houlahan
- Dorothy and Don Johnson
- Lauren Pallazola
- Mark Pepper
- Daphne Pritchett
- Elma Stanbeck
- Lauren Sessa
- Denny Thiel
- Maria Torres



Prayer Request

Please keep in your prayers: Joe and Carol Murphy, Kathy Clagg, OFS, from St. Conrad (Hanover) Fraternity, Eileen Murray's son, Richard Churray's sister-in-law, Cathy, and Kelly Ann Lynch, former minister of Our Lady Queen of the Angels fraternity is requesting prayers for her daughter, Shannon, and yet to be born granddaughter, Claire.

If you have a prayer request, please email your request to karenrutherfordcoulson@gmail.com to be included in our next newsletter!



Peter Baptist, Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs - February 6

Peter Baptist was born in Spain in 1542. He was ordained a Franciscan priest and set out for Asia to preach the Gospel. For many years he worked in the Philippines. In 1593 he and five other friars went to Japan where he brought many to the faith. There was political unrest in Japan at the time and Peter and his companions were arrested. They were taken to Nagasaki where he and the other friars along with three members of the Jesuits and fifteen Franciscan Tertiaries were executed by crucifixion on February 5, 1597.



Our Lady of Angels

Submitted by Donna Kendall

In a small remote village in southern Italy, my parents and ancestors were born - and so was my Catholic faith, my belief in God, and my love for family and the Blessed Mother. My parents were immigrants to America but we only spoke Italian and lived

Italian in our home. Our traditions, customs and lifestyle were all Italian. My mother had a tiny shrine placed on a shelf at the bottom of our stairs with pictures of Jesus, Mary, the angels, and members of our Italian family both living and deceased, to whom and for whom we prayed each day. There was a small electric votive candle on the shelf which burned day and night. I would descend the steps each morning and my mother would take my hand and we would sit together on the steps and say our morning prayers. I was just two or three years old when this tradition began. I would stare at the pictures of Jesus and Mary, the angels, and the family members whom I had never even met, but we prayed for them routinely.

When I was five years old, my parents decided that my younger brother and I were old enough to make the long journey to Italy to meet my grandmother, aunts, uncles and cousins - pretty much the whole village of Cassano. It seemed that the entire family had been packed into small Fiats and driven to the airport in Bari to greet us. I was overwhelmed, but their faces were familiar from the pictures I had seen. When we arrived at my grandmother's house, I was taken into her bedroom to rest and there at her bedside table were the same pictures of Jesus, Mary, and the angels. There were also pictures of my parents, my brother, and I. At five years old I realized that if all those pictures on our little shelf at home were of *real people that lived far away, then Jesus, Mary, and the angels must be real too.*

We spent the entire summer with our family and on the 2nd of August there was an enormous celebration of the patron of our village - La festa della Madonna degli Angeli (The feast of Our Lady of Angels). Processions, parades, an overabundance of food, music, fireworks, markets, and gatherings of family and friends filled the streets of our small village. What was this feast day all about?



Our Lady of Angels Continued

In the year 1250 a priest of the village had recurring dreams of the Blessed Mother. One day, a young shepherd boy came to the priest and told him he had seen the Blessed Mother in a well. The priest was alarmed and followed the child to the craggy hills outside of town. What had appeared to be a well to the shepherd child was actually a grotto (a small cave) where rainwater had collected. The priest saw something shimmering in the grotto. Disturbed by his recurring dreams the priest decided to remove some of the rocks and boulders and enter into the grotto. There at the bottom of the grotto on the wall facing the pool of water was the source of the glimmering light. A fresco of the Blessed Mother holding the Child Jesus in her arms and a host of angels surrounding her head was painted on the wall of the grotto. There was also a very narrow tunnel leading out of the grotto towards town. The residents of Cassano visited the grotto throughout the day and night for over two centuries until 1469 when a small sanctuary was built over the grotto and the site was entrusted to the Reformed Franciscans. (The date is certain because we have an Erection Bull issued by Pope Paul II to confirm this.) The Reformed Franciscans cared for this site until 1866 when their order was abolished. However during their time at the sanctuary, the Prince of Cassano in devotion to Our Blessed Mother had a baroque sanctuary and altars built at the site of the grotto in 1736. A convent was added to the sanctuary but from 1866 to 1935 (difficult years for southern Italy) the church and convent began to deteriorate. The sanctuary and convent were then entrusted to the Augustinians who built an adjacent building whose purpose was to serve the poor. Archeologists came along and dated the fresco to the first centuries of Christianity and because of the tunnel and a slab that may have been used as an altar it is believed that this grotto was used during persecutions for the Christians to gather for worship.

This beautiful fresco led to Our Lady of Angels becoming the patron of Cassano forever more and this August feast is celebrated to this day. In 1903, my paternal grandmother went into labor with her 12th child - my father. It is said that because her labor lasted from the beginning of the procession (at Our Lady of Angels) until the procession ended in the town piazza in front of the church of St. Nicola, she decided to name my father Angelo Nicola in honor of this important event. The Blessed Mother's feast day, her angels, and St. Nicholas were now incorporated into our family.

One year when we visited my grandmother, I was 11 years old at the time, I could not bear the heat of the southern Italy afternoons and I was unable to sleep during the siesta like the rest of the family. I decided to sneak out of my grandmother's house and walk to the sanctuary of Our Lady of Angels. It was a scorching hot day and no one was on the streets but I made my way to the church, opened the side door to the grotto and descended below where the temperature was at least 40 degrees cooler. I sat there in the darkened grotto, lit only by the votive candles in front of the fresco and enjoyed the cooler temperatures. I looked up at the fresco and I sensed the Blessed Mother smiling down at me. By this time my father had died and I carried such sorrow in my heart whenever I thought of him. In this place, this grotto, this special, holy site, I felt comforted. As the years went on and I grew older, I often visited this grotto. Much of it has been modernized now but the ancient fresco remains on the wall where it has been for many, many centuries. In this place I know that it's possible that my ancestors (real people) had to hide here to practice their Christian faith. Perhaps some had even shed their blood for love of Jesus. Just as I had learned when I was five years old that my family consisted of real people, and Jesus and Mary and the angels were as real in Italy as they were on our shelf at home, this grotto represented the roots of my unshakable faith. Just as the cooler temperatures had comforted me that scorching day in 1970, Our Blessed Mother, Her Precious Son, and those Holy Angels have comforted me all of my life. In my father's name was a family legacy, a legacy of faith and devotion. And in 1987 when I gave birth to my daughter, I named her Angela Nicole. She knows where her roots are, and someday I hope she returns to this place that conserves who and what we are.



Profile - I. Terry Carlino, OFS

Isadoro Terry Carlino was born on August 30, 1953, on what would have been the feast of St Jeanne Jugan. It was also a Sunday 1953 was also a Marian year declared by Pope Pius XII. He was born at Mother Cabrini Hospital in Chicago, Illinois.

After a short period of attending the Illinois Institute of Technology, in Chicago during which time he worked at both the Public Library of Chicago and The Sun Times Newspaper he entered The United States Navy where he qualified as a Nuclear Plant Reactor Operator. During this period he met his wife Judith and they were married. He left the navy for a number of year where he worked as a reactor operator at the Brunswick Power Plant in North Carolina and the Palo Verde Nuclear Powers station in Phoenix Arizona. After a brief stint as a High Voltage Electrician at the Public Works division of Naval Base Norfolk he returned to the U.S. Navy where he performed a multitude of assignments. During this period he received a baccalaureate degree in History from Excelsior College in New York. In 1998 he retired from the Navy. In that year he qualified as an Accelerator Operator at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility located in Newport News. He has since advanced to a Senior Crew Chief position. During that time he has done graduate work receiving a Master of Teaching Art, A Master of Science in Applied Physics from Christopher Newport University and a Master of Engineering Technology from George Washington University. He continues to work at Jefferson Lab in Accelerator operations where he is the Operations Group Training Coordinator.

His interest in Franciscanism was engendered working with The Youth Group at St. Jerome Catholic Church where he continues to be active. Through taking numerous groups to Steubenville Youth Conferences in North Carolina, Atlanta and the University of Steubenville itself Terry came in contact with various members of both the Third Order Regulars and Secular Order. Searching for a Franciscan Fraternity in the local area he finally found Our Lady of the Rosary, where he has recently served as Minister.



FYYA Statement on Racism

“But any kind of social or cultural discrimination in basic personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, color, social conditions, language, or religion, must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design.” (*Gaudium Et Spes: The Church in the Modern World*, Vatican II, 1965, #29)

Statement from the United States Secular Franciscan Youth and Young Adult Commission Regarding Racism and Our Responsibility to Young People

Saint Francis of Assisi devoted his life to rebuilding the Church, healing wounds, and bringing peace as well as dignity to all. Secular Franciscans are called to follow in his footsteps. Living Christ-centered lives is essential especially in light of racism that permeates our society. We are called to seek the divine seed in all God's children and strive for unity. Racism only brings hatred where there should be love and is counter to our Franciscan charism.

The Franciscan Youth and Young Adult (FY/YA) Commission challenges our brothers and sisters to animate young people in this important work. In order to do that, we must prepare ourselves first. Recent events have forced all of us to identify systemic racism in society. It is not enough to simply say this is a problem for someone else. The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order, which we profess to live, demands that we “be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of [our] human lives and [our] courageous initiatives.” (art. 15) We see many young people already participating in social justice action and they need our presence, Christian example, and support. It is important that young people know their stance against racism is valid. Secular Franciscans are called to help them discern an appropriate response based on a gospel perspective. Through study, dialogue, and prayer we have a responsibility to grow in our own Franciscan charism and our knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching. Only then can we walk confidently with our young people as we confront difficult issues together.

We are specifically directed by our Rule to “foster communion with” youth and young adults, and to adopt “appropriate means for growth in Franciscan and ecclesial life.” (art. 24) In other words, we invite youth and young adults on the journey toward finding Christ within themselves and others. They are hungry for change. Secular Franciscans need to be ready to support young people as they discern their role in society, the Church, and the world.

Some Secular Franciscans may not currently be working with official youth fraternities (YouFra). However, genuine relationships found in our families, among our friends, and in our fraternities should not be discounted. When the Holy Spirit creates an opportunity for dialogue or action, we need not be afraid. If we are properly prepared, we are able to listen with openness in our hearts and speak truth with love and peace, “For the Holy Spirit will teach [us] at that moment what [we] should say.” (Luke 12:12)

This is a time to work together in assisting our youth and young adults in achieving their own goals against the evils of racism. The FY/YA Commission is committed to educating ourselves then stepping forward in solidarity with our young people, remaining faithful to our Franciscan spirituality. We ask that you consider the same challenge.



February Franciscan Calendar— Month of the Holy Family

1. Bl. Patrick O'Loughran, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr d. 1612
2. Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary
3. Martyrs of Japan, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, lay brothers and Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1597
4. St. Joseph de Leonisse, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1612
5. St. Jane of Valois, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1505
6. Bl. Pius IX, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d.1878
7. St. Egide-Marie de St. Joseph, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order d. 1812
8. Bl. Anthony of Stroncone, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1461
9. Bl. Clare of Rimini, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1346
10. Bl. Alojzije Stepinac, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1960
11. Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes, 1858
12. Bl. Andre Ferrari, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1921
13. St. Eustochium of Messine, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1485
14. Bl. Philippa Mareri, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1263
15. Translation of the relics of St. Anthony
16. Bl. Veridiana, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1242
17. Bl. Luke Belludi, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1286
18. St. Bernadette Soubirous, Virgin, cordbearer, d. 1879 Plenary Indulgence possible for the Cordbearers only
19. St. Conrad de Plaisance, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1351
20. Bl. Peter of Treja, Priest religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1304
21. St. Margaret of Cortona, penitent, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1297, Plenary Indulgence possible (renewal of engagements of the Franciscan Third Order Secular)
22. Feast of the Chair of St. Peter
23. Bl. Isabelle of France, Virgin of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1270
24. Bl. Innocent XI, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1689
25. Bl. Sebastian of Aparicio, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1600
26. Bl. Antonia of Florence, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1533
27. Bl. Louise Albertoni, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1533
28. Bl. Jeremie de Valachie, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1625

