TAU FRATERNITY
OF THE SECULAR
FRANCISCAN ORDER
ST. MARGARET OF
CORTONA REGION



https://tauofs.org/

MARCH 2025

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

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- 2025 Lenten Retreat Opportunities!
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Minister's Message

Brothers and Sisters,

In this month's Minister's Message, I share my early reflections ahead of the Lenten journey.

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

I am a man. I am a father. I am a husband. I am a son.

I am successful. I am accomplished. I am the one.

I am Catholic. I am Franciscan. I am a fan.

I am a role model. I am a leader. I am a good man.

I am small. I am humble. I am a sinner.

I am a fighter. I am not a victim. I am a winner.

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

Tell me who I am.

Please God protect me.

Tell me who I am.

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

Am I loved?

Please God, comfort me. Make me safe.

Tell me wo I am.

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

Take off the fake deep.

Take off the fake masks.

Take off the big talk.

Take off the fancy titles.

Take off all the worldly idols.

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

I am here now.

Can I love? Can I provide comfort? Can I understand?

When you hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts.

Silence.

When I finally converse with the Lord, He delights in even the first word.

The voice in my head is quiet now.

I am complete.

I always was..

Josh





Jubilee 2025

GENERAL CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024

24 December

Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica



JANUARY 2025

24-26 January

Jubilee of the World of Communications

FEBRUARY 2025

8-9 February

Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel

16-18 February

Jubilee of Artists

21-23 February

Jubilee of Deacons

MARCH 2025

8-9 March

Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

28 March

24 Hours for the Lord

28-30 March

Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy

APRIL 2025

5-6 April

Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers

25-27 April

Jubilee of Teenagers

28-30 April

Jubilee of People with Disabilities

MAY 2025

1-4 May

Jubilee of Workers

4-5 May

Jubilee of Entrepreneurs

10-11 May

Jubilee of Musical Bands

16-18 May

Jubilee of Confraternities

24-25 May

Jubilee of Children

30 May - 1 June

Jubilee of Families, Grandparents and the Elderly



JUNE 2025

7-8 June

Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

9 June

Jubilee of the Holy See

14-15 June

Jubilee of Sport

20-22 June

Jubilee of Governments

23-24 June

Jubilee of Seminarians

25 June

Jubilee of Bishops

25-27 June

Jubilee of Priests

28 June

Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

JULY 2025

28 July - 3 August

Jubilee of Youth

SEPTEMBER 2025

15 September

Jubilee of Consolation

20 September

Jubilee of Justice

26-28 September

Jubilee of Catechists

OCTOBER 2025

5 October

Jubilee of Migrants

8-9 October

Jubilee of Consecrated Life

11-12 October

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality

18-19 October

Jubilee of the Missions

30 October - 2 November

Jubilee of the World of Education



NOVEMBER 2025

16 November

Jubilee of the Poor

22-23 November

Jubilee of Choirs

DECEMBER 2025

14 December

Jubilee of Prisoners













@iubilaeum25.va

Organization

Tau Fraternity St. Joseph Catholic Church 750 Peachtree St. Herndon, VA 20170

Meetings every 1st Sunday of the month at: St. Joseph Catholic Church 750 Peachtree St., Room 205



The Tau Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order was canonically established on June 21, 1992. The Fraternity is affiliated with the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Tau Fraternity is in the St. Margaret of Cortona Region of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Tau Fraternity Council currently includes the following officers:

- Minister—Josh Goldberg, OFS
- Vice Minister—Liz Wellborn, OFS
- Formation Director—Bill Richey, OFS
- Secretary—Barbara Slivers, OFS
- Treasurer—Joe Boyle, OFS



Monthly Tau Contemplative Prayer & Franciscan Spirituality Zoom Discussion led by Gil Donahue, OFS

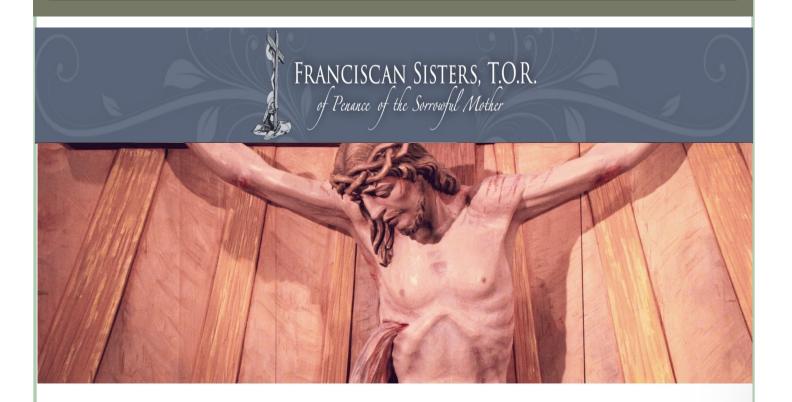


The Tau Contemplative Prayer
& Franciscan Spirituality
discussion group will take place
Monday, March 10
from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The theme will be "St. Bonaventure on Lent."

Contact Gil to receive a Zoom link.

LENTEN RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES



LENTEN RETREAT Fleart Jursts for Fleart

We would love to have you join us for our Lenten Retreat!

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

The Franciscan Sisters, TOR, invite you to our Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 29. This year's theme is *Heart Thirsts for Heart*. Dr. Shane Owens, assistant professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, will lead the morning's talk reflection. Sr. Rita Clare Yoches, TOR, will lead us in prayer during the holy hour time. The day will also include Mass (celebrated by Fr. Patrick Anderson of the Diocese of Cleveland), and an option for prayer ministry or faith-sharing groups.

The retreat will be live streamed and virtual small groups are also available. Registration for the retreat is encouraged beforehand (though not mandatory).

SEE SCHEDULE AND REGISTER FOR LIVESTREAM HERE:

www.franciscansisterstor.org/events/lenten-retreat-2025

LENTEN RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

THE

SEVEN LAST WORDS

WITH SCOTT HAHN



Jesus' final utterances from the Cross have been a subject of meditation for the greatest Catholic mystics from St. Bonaventure to St. Alphonsus Liguori to Ven. Fulton Sheen.

In The Seven Last Words — a weekly Lenten video series from the St. Paul Center — Dr. Scott Hahn explores the final words that Jesus uttered while He hung dying on the Cross, and shows how those words reveal the heart of our salvation.

REGISTER HERE:

https://stpaulcenter.com/lent/

LENTEN RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES



We want to make sure that you have a chance to sign up for our Live Bible Study experience!

During Lent, we will read No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion together.

This is an opportunity to open your eyes to **the great love Jesus has for each on of us**. He died on the cross for *us*. This Lent, you can enter into his Passion with Dr. Edward Sri, as he leads you through the places Jesus himself walked.

Meeting Schedule:

3/11 - Session 1

3/18 - Session 2

3/25 - Session 3

4/1 - Session 4

4/8 - Session 5

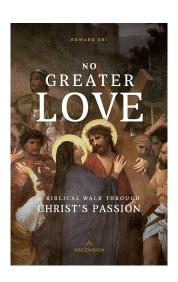
Recordings of the Study Meeting will be sent out the day after we meet.

BUY THE BOOK HERE:

https://ascensionpress.com/products/no-greater-love-a-biblical-walk-through-christs-passion-book

REGISTER HERE:

https://ctrk.klclick.coml/01JMF8GPR7KYERP1W88CNPZR2Y 0



RECAP OF FEBRUARY 2 GATHERING

PRESENTATION

Bill Bouffard, OFS, shared a presentation on Chapter One of the book, *The 9.9 Percent: The New Aristocracy that is Entrenching Inequality and Warping our Culture*, by Matthew Stewart.

- Mirrors the times of Jesus and St. Francis
- Rapid rise of inequality over the past half century with the 90% at the bottom having lost economic ground in the last 60 years
- Universities would not accept GI Bill from Black applicants post-WWII
- Most people in the top 10% own much more than they're worth, while the 90% are earning much less than they're worth: Oligarchs have power in the minds of others; we need to hold ourselves accountable
- Possible solutions
 - Re-empower workers, unions
 - Use the tax system
 - Get the money out of politics
- The political is personal start boycotting: Offered by Sharon Goldberg, OFS
- Excerpts from other chapters will be provided via email by Bill
- Bill emailed first installment to fraternity February 17

ONGOING FORMATION

Today's Gospel spoke of Simeon and Anna at the Temple during the Presentation of the Lord:

• LOH Night Prayer: Luke 2:29-32: Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel: Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled: my own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

RECAP OF FEBRUARY 2 GATHERING

ONGOING FORMATION (CONTINUED)

Bill Richey, OFS, led a group discussion after reading through the "The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order" to find an Article most aligned with hope: Chapter 2, Article 19:

Mindful that they are bearers of peace which they must build up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.

Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others.

Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father.

- Bill suggested reading the Article from the bottom up
- We see salvation, the Messiah, at every Mass
- If we can just live Article 19, it would be a huge undertaking
- Veronica O'Donnell, OFS, shared that the LOH Night Prayer would be a great prayer to say before we die
- Sally White, OFS, reminded those in need of hope during our current times of St. Teresa of Avila's Bookmark:

Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing frighten you.
All things pass away.
God never changes.
Natience obtains all things.
They who have God lack nothing.
God alone is enough.

APOSTOLATES

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY HOSPICE

Thanks to our Brothers and Sisters who support the apostolate at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House.

To help with the next cooking session and/ or delivery — or for questions — please contact Joe Boyle, OFS.

POOR CLARES OF NEW JERSEY

Tau Fraternity supports the Monastery of St. Clare in Chesterfield, NJ, with a biannual monetary donation. The monastery is home to Sister Karen Stapleton, OSC, who began her Franciscan journey with Tau Fraternity. The main work of the Poor Clares of NJ is to provide Altar Bread to parishes in the diocese of Trenton.

For more information, or to submit a prayer intention to the Poor Clares, see The Poor Clares of New Jersey — Joyfully Embracing the Gospel Way of Life .(poorclaresnewjersey.com)

Watch their YouTube video A Quiet Joy: New Jersey's Monastery of Saint Clare

ECUMENICAL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity partners with the First Baptist Church of Herndon to provide English lessons to students. Tau members volunteer time and talent to teach at Introductory, Intermediate, and Advanced levels. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Bill Bouffard, OFS. Many thanks!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Help to feed the hungry. Joe Boyle, OFS, volunteered to shop and deliver food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter at St. Timothy Catholic Church. Food donations may be dropped off prior to the Tau Gathering in the stairwell on the right at St. Joseph School. You can also provide a monetary donation to Joe, who is Tau Treasurer. Thank you!

For more information, see

https://sttimothyparish.org/outreach-and-ministries/st-vincent-de-paul/

FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE

Tau Fraternity provides a biannual monetary donation to Franciscan Mission Service. The organization prepares and supports lay Catholics for mission service opportunities around the globe.

For more information, see Home | Franciscan Mission

PRAYER SHAWL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity provides handmade prayer shawls to individuals in the Diocese of Arlington. Currently, shawls are being provided to pregnant women participating in the Gabriel Project. For more information, please contact Sharon Goldberg, OFS.



James 2:17

APOSTOLATE NEWS — FOOD PANTRY

As Br. Joe Boyle, OFS, sent in a February 22 e-mail to Tau Fraternity:

"Today, Tau Fraternity was represented by Brother Josh, Sister Veronica, Brother Bill R., and me at the Missionaries of Charity's 'Day of Reflection.' The Day of Reflection was organized in recognition for individuals and groups who have supported the Sisters' 'Gift of Peace' hospice during the past months. All the Sisters are extremely thankful for Tau Fraternity's support both with our Food Apostolate and also in our generosity helping with their 'kitchen supplies'".







MAY 2025 RETREAT THEME ANNOUNCED!

2025 TAU ANNUAL RETREAT THEME: 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. FRANCIS' CANTICLE OF THE CREATURES!

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,

Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing.

To You alone, Most High, do they belong,

and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,

especially Sir Brother Sun,

Who is the day and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;

and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,

in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,

and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,

through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,

who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,

through whom You light the night,

and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us.

and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace

for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,

from whom no one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,

for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks

and serve Him with great humility.

MEET YOUR MAY 2025 RETREAT MASTER!

Fr. Vincent Yeager, TOR



Hometown: Patton, PA

Year professed/ordained:

- Entered the Franciscan Community: 2011
- Professed Vows: 2013
- Ordained: 2018

What did you do or consider doing before entering the community?

I completed my degree in electro-mechanical engineering and turned down two jobs in the field.

What drew you to the TOR friars?

I got to know a number of the friars who were in formation and serving at Saint Francis University, close to where I grew up. While I was attending a neighboring college, I kept coming back to these men and finally realized I wanted to be one of them, to be a brother with them.

What are some hobbies you enjoy?

I enjoy most things that get me outside: hiking, camping, exercise. My more leisurely pursuits are reading and leatherworking.

Favorite saint and why:

Aside from Saint Francis of Assisi, I find Saint Benedict of Nursia to be compelling. His devotion, diligence, and practicality align well with my personality, and I find him a good example for me.

Favorite Bible verse:

"Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." - Luke 24:45-47

Current Ministry:

Provincial Councilor, Director of Formation, Post Novitiate Director

TAU COMMITTEES

If you are interested in participating actively in a Tau Committee, take a moment to chat with the chair:

Cultural Diversity Committee (ESL) — Bill Bouffard, OFS
Hospitality Committee — Cyndy Filan-Kim, OFS
Interfaith/Ecumenical Committee — Kimberley Heatherington, OFS
Infirmarian Committee — Sharon Goldberg, OFS
Recruitment Committee — Vacant
Technology Committee — John Ata, OFS



PRAYER INTENTIONS

HEAR US, LORD!

Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:

For the physical and spiritual healing of Sylvia Capurso; Cynthia Filan-Kim's sister; Sally White and her husband Gary; Richard and Carole Clarke and their grandsons Liam and Rory.

For peace in the Middle East.

For the patients and Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House.

For the people affected by Coronavirus and their caregivers.

For the Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic and its patients.

For all peoples who suffer persecution.

For the country of Myanmar and its citizens.

For the victims of natural disasters and terror attacks.

For refugees and migrant workers.

For Russians opposing the war in Ukraine.

For all those who are in need of our prayers who have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Please send prayer requests to Josh Goldberg, OFS.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.

Philippians 4:6-7



REFLECTIONS: MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH

POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER



REFLECTIONS: MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH

POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER

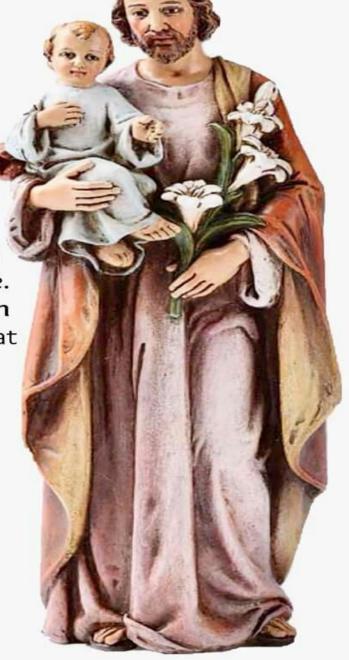
Saint Joseph, Pray for Us!



"He was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of his greatest treasures, namely, his divine Son and Mary, Joseph's wife. He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying: 'Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord'"

(St. Bernardine of Siena).





CALENDAR: ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

March is the Month of St. Joseph*

Mar. 2 Tau Monthly Gathering Feast of St. Agnes of Prague

Mar. 5 Ash Wednesday

Mar. 7 Helen Broxmeyer's birthday

Mar. 9 Daylight Saving Time

Mar. 14 Veronica O'Donnell's birthday

Mar. 17 Feast of St. Patrick

Mar. 19 Solemnity of St. Joseph Josh Goldberg's birthday

Mar. 28 Jennifer Raimo's birthday

March 2025

Su	Мо	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025

Sun	Мо	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

GOT BIG QUESTIONS?

February 24 - April 14 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM



St. Joseph Catholic Church See the latest bulletin for more info!

It's Time to Discern!
Tau Council Elections



Are you called?
More details to come from
Bill Bouffard, OFS

^{*}See the Franciscan Calendar for more dates: http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/traditional-franciscan-calendar.html

NEXT TAU GATHERING

MARCH 2, 2025

SCHEDULE

1:30 PM Opening Prayer: Liz Wellborn, OFS

Social Time

2:00 PM Presentation: Bill Richey, OFS

2:45 PM Break

3:00 PM Ongoing Formation: Bill Richey, OFS

3:30 PM Angelus & Liturgy of the Hours

3:45 PM Business Meeting **4:00 pm** Closing Prayer

St. Joseph Church Room 205

INITIAL FORMATION

Aspirants:

Ch. 3 in The Franciscan Journey

Candidate:

Ch. 27in The Franciscan Journey

ONGOING FORMATION

Let's discuss our Franciscan apostolates!

During Ordinary Time, we will precede the Liturgy of the Hours with the Angelus:



- V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
- R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
- ---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----
- V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
- R. Be it done unto me according to your Word.
- ---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----
- V. And the Word was made flesh,
- R. And dwelt among us.
- ---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----
- V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
- R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

--- LETUS PRAY ---

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE HOURS 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Midday Prayer: See here or

https://divineoffice.org/ord-w08-sun-dp2/?date=20250302

Evening Prayer:

Gospel Canticle and Prayer: Evening Prayer II: pgs. 253 and 252 Everything else: Sunday, Week IV Evening Prayer II: pg. 931

Hymn: #33: O Christ, You Are the Light and Day

Contact
Liz Welborn, OFS,
to volunteer for
Scripture Reading &
Responsory, Opening Prayer,
& Presentations

Women's Conference 2025

Journey of Hope

featuring



The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge Bishop of Arlington



Laura Phelps Author and Speaker



Sister Mary Elizabeth Albers, SOLT Vocations Servant, SOLT

Saturday, March 15

St. Joseph Catholic Church

750 Peachtree St., Herndon, VA 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Register Today!

arlingtondiocese.org/women



MEN'S CONFERENCE 2025 A N C H O R E D I N H O P E



MOST REV. MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE



MICHAEL WARSAW



DR. JOHN

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH HERNDON, VA

REGISTER TODAY!

WWW.ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/MEN

