

Annunciation

March 25, 2021

"Let it be done to me
according to your word."
Luke 1:38



"Ave Maria, gratia plena, domine
tecum" ("Hail Mary, full of grace, the
Lord is with you!" Luke 1:28)

[Rogier van der Weyden,](#)

["The Annunciation from the Saint
Columba Altarpiece"](#) c. 1455
([Alte Pinakothek, Munich.](#))

The Cord

March, 2021

Newsletter of the San Luis Rey
Secular Franciscan Fraternity

Our Monthly Gatherings are on the
2nd Sundays of the month

Upcoming Gatherings on Zoom:

- **March Monthly General Gathering ~**
Sunday, March 14th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- **Vespers Evening Prayer ~**
Friday, March 26th, 7:00 – 8:00 pm
For Zoom Link, [see p. 10](#)
- **April Monthly General Gathering ~**
Sunday, April 11th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Our Gatherings Will Be on Zoom:

Login Link: www.zoom.us

Click on: **Join a Meeting**

Meeting ID: 760 726 2486

Password: 1798

Contact Us via our website [Contact Page](#)

San Luis Rey Secular Franciscan Fraternity
Mission San Luis Rey
4050 Mission Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92057

Minister's Note for March

St. Francis of Assisi understood the humility of God.

St. Francis understood the humility of our most loving and powerful God becoming *Incarnate* as Jesus Christ. We celebrate this at Christmas. In the Eucharist, we experience the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the form of humble bread and wine. We celebrate this at every Mass. In the crucifixion, Jesus gave his life for us and for all creation. The crucifixion is the ultimate act of humility – of God's self-giving Love. Francis understood that Jesus was the Good Shepherd; a shepherd willing to lay down his life. Jesus was born out of God's love for us; he lived, preached, taught, healed, suffered, and died for us – out of his unfathomable love.

Long ago, Christians wanted to walk in the footsteps of Jesus – from the Praetorium where he was judged by Pilate and unjustly condemned by the angry crowd, to Calvary where he was crucified. Since the early years of Christianity, many of the Faithful went on pilgrimages to the far away Holy Land to walk the Way of the Cross. Eventually, the desire to participate in this devotion was transformed into the more accessible 'Stations of the Cross' at our own local parish churches. Praying the 'Stations of the Cross' has been a practice highly encouraged by Franciscans for centuries. To prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross and to contemplate Christ's passion, especially as a community, is to open *our* hearts to be transformed by the experience.

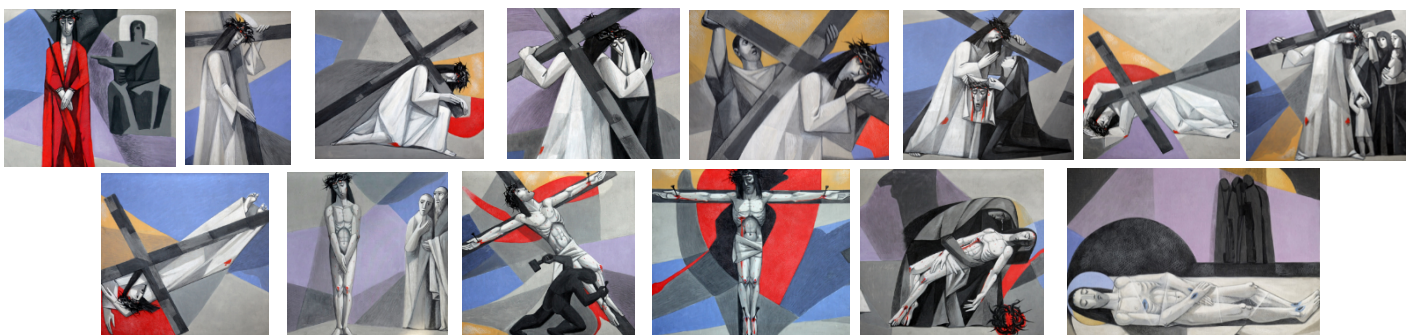
As we experience the Stations of the Cross this Lent, especially in a year where there has been so much suffering and grief felt by so many, let us open *our* hearts to conversion. Let us ask God to forgive our sins as we forgive the sins of others. Through our contemplation of the passion of Christ through the Stations, let us also *hunger* to experience the immeasurable love of Christ for us through the Sacraments, especially in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Let us ask God, that like Francis, we look upon the Crucified Christ - and see God's immense love.

Please mark Friday, March 26th at 7pm in your calendars. Our evening Vespers for March will be the Fraternity praying the Stations of the Cross. We will gather on the last Friday of Lent, Friday March 26th at 7pm via [Zoom](#). We, as a Council, would like to share this beautiful devotion with others. Please feel free to invite friends who would be called to such a reflection as well who may appreciate getting to know our community. We will also be inviting other Fraternities in the Region to join us as well. The text will be provided, and we will need many Lectors that evening. Please email Laura at chun@pacbell.net if you'd like to be a Lector that evening.

May you be blessed with the Holiness of Lent +

Laura Chun, OFS

Minister, SLR Fraternity



St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family

St. Joseph, Son of David, not a word did you say in Scripture, but what a mark you have made as part of the Holy Family. As a compassionate and caring man, after a dream, you took Mary as your wife to protect our Lord in the womb and gave your “Yes” to God in your silence.

St. Joseph, Son of David, in your “Yes” to God you took the Holy Family and fled to Egypt to protect baby Jesus from harm and returned to Nazareth when called again by God. As an earthly father to Jesus you taught him your trade as a carpenter, and not a word did you say in Scripture.

St. Joseph, Son of David, you took the Holy Family to the Temple to present Jesus to the Lord and Simeon was blessed as he had seen the Messiah. Not a word did you utter in Scripture, and Mary pondered all these things in her heart.

St. Joseph, Son of David, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem, twelve years later for the Passover, and lost Jesus. Jesus was found in the Temple as you and Mary went looking for Him in sorrow and anxiety. Not a word was said by you in Scripture.

St. Joseph, Son of David, you are the Patron Saint of the dying, universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsman, engineers, and working people. No word was said by you in Scripture in all you did for our Lord Jesus Christ.



*Sandy Baden, OFS
Vice Minister*

St. Catherine of Genoa Third Order (1447 - 1510)

Powerful Example of Sacrament of Reconciliation

Catherine gives us a beautiful example during Lent to consider Art. 7 of our Rule, calling us to daily conversion and renewal through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Catherine was born into a powerful aristocratic family in Italy who married her at age 16 to another nobleman. He turned out to be selfish and unfaithful. In her sadness and desperation she also turned to a life of selfish pleasures.



Have you ever had a turning point in your life? Well, Catherine certainly did. She visited her sister (a Nun) on a retreat and was encouraged to go to confession. Her suffering seemed to have prepared her for a powerful conversion experience. She left with a powerful knowledge of God's love for her. Her grace filled change and good example also influenced her husband to conversion also. By this time, her husband had brought them to financial ruin. They both became Third Order Franciscans and moved together into a local hospital to dedicate themselves to works of charity there. After her husband's death (1497), a terrible four year plague broke out killing four-fifths of the population. We too are in the middle of a pandemic. We can look to emulate her strength and courage in discerning how we can minister to others as we are able.

Catherine died on the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross (Sept.15, 1510). She was exhumed 18 months later and found incorrupt. She was made Patroness of hospitals in Italy.

Can you relate to our OFS Sister? Have you felt the emptiness of worldly pleasures? Have you felt the comfort and joy of the loss of finances or material goods because they brought you greater riches?

Kelly and Joe have had a recent emphasis on the Psalms at mid- month Vespers . So many Psalms are penitential. I can't help but wonder if Catherine meditated on them. In general, Penitential Psalms end with a Cantic of Hope. "But Thou, my God, art my salvation, and Thou shall have pity on me." Exactly what happened to Catherine.

We are blessed as Catholics to have the Sacrament of Reconciliation to lead us to a realistic sense of our own sinfulness and the greatness of God's love. What a beautiful opportunity to prepare us to meet the needs of others as we are healed. I know because of COVID-19 many cannot access this in the presence of a priest, but we can access it through a perfect Act of Contrition until we can once again do it in person. We ask her intercession to bring us to true contrition and reconciliation with God and others.

If you have an interest in her writings I encourage you to read her two classic works. " A Treatise on Purgatory" and "A Dialogue of the Body and Soul" The Church concluded that these writings alone were evidence of her sanctity. They can be found on Librivox.org which has audio recordings of books in the public domain.



*Jan DeSpain, OFS
Director of Formation*

Lenten Practices

🍂 2021 🍂

Greetings dearly beloved ~ May we remember the Works of Mercy

🍂 SPIRITUAL 🍂

To instruct the ignorant
To counsel the doubtful
To admonish sinners
To bear wrongs patiently
To forgive offenses willingly
To comfort the afflicted
To pray for the living and the dead

🍂 CORPORAL 🍂

To feed the hungry
To give drink to the thirsty
To clothe the naked
To shelter the homeless
To visit the sick
To ransom the captive
To bury the dead

May our Lenten journey be deep

🍂 Kelly

Councilor 🍂



Lent is the Autumn 🍂 of the spiritual life during which we gather fruit to keep us going for the rest of the year~

St. Francis de Sales



*Kelly Farnum, OFS
Councilor*

JPIC: Lent in a time of Plague

Staying safe in the time of COVID. We all know about it. The disruptions in our family life, our worship communities, our work and our kids' schooling. We've got new strategies for grocery shopping, exercise, and haircuts. We now meet and socialize on Zoom, or outside wearing masks. The plague disrupted our lives, our routines and our plans.

And this Lenten season – this year more than ever - summons us to prayer. I am so thankful for Lent in this time of suffering and disruption. It's focused me on what matters, as I pray for God's help and healing.

So, Care of Creation may not be top priority right now. I totally get it. I know why you haven't called or sent letters, texts and emails about our next event, or asked how to further our Franciscan cause for Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation: *it's because you're animating JPIC at your house, for yourself and your family!*

In a short while, we'll come together at the Mission, pour some coffee and meet guests in person. We'll share what's been on our hearts and in our heads. And then we'll be ready to come together to pray, organize and move forward for the next big thing.

My dear Brothers and Sisters, I thank you. your kind hearts and intentions, know you are spirit-filled in Christ.

Until then, I leave you with these thoughts:

1. First, prayer is always transformative. I hope you will thank God for His many blessings, and intercede for His Creation:
 - *And all things whatsoever you shall ask in prayer, believing, you will receive. (Matt 21:22)*
 - *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened. (Matt 7:7)*
2. During Lent, join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30 for **Laudato Si': Catholic Environmental Teaching**. Sign up at <https://www.sdatholic.org/office-for/diocesan-institute/course-registration-pay-online/> OR danderson@sdatholic.org OR call 858-490-8212
3. In the meantime, if you do have any questions about JPIC and Care of Creation, dash me off an email at karron.esmonde@gmail.com



*Karron Esmonde, OFS
JPIC Animator*



In Honor and for the Soul of our brother Joseph Cannon OFS

Litany of St. Joseph

LORD HAVE MERCY ~ Lord have mercy
CHRIST HAVE MERCY ~ Christ have mercy
LORD HAVE MERCY ~ Lord have mercy
GOD OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN ~ have mercy on us
GOD THE SON, REDEEMER OF THE WORLD ~ have mercy on us
GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT ~ have mercy on us
HOLY TRINITY, ONE GOD ~ have mercy on us
HOLY MARY ~ pray for us
SAINT JOSEPH ~ pray for us
NOBLE SON OF THE HOUSE OF DAVID ~ pray for us
LIGHT OF PATRIARCHS ~ pray for us
HUSBAND OF THE MOTHER OF GOD ~ pray for us
GUARDIAN OF THE VIRGIN ~ pray for us
FOSTER FATHER OF THE SON OF GOD ~ pray for us
FAITHFUL GUARDIAN OF CHRIST ~ pray for us
HEAD OF THE HOLY FAMILY ~ pray for us
JOSEPH, CHASTE AND JUST ~ pray for us
JOSEPH, PRUDENT AND BRAVE ~ pray for us
JOSEPH, OBEDIENT AND LOYAL ~ pray for us
PATTERN OF PATIENCE ~ pray for us
LOVER OF POVERTY ~ pray for us
MODEL OF WORKERS ~ pray for us
EXAMPLE TO PARENTS ~ pray for us
GUARDIAN OF VIRGINS ~ pray for us
PILLAR OF FAMILY LIFE ~ pray for us
COMFORT OF THE TROUBLED ~ pray for us
HOPE OF THE SICK ~ pray for us
PATRON OF THE DYING ~ pray for us
TERROR OF EVIL SPIRITS ~ pray for us
PROTECTOR OF THE CHURCH ~ pray for us
LAMB OF GOD, WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS IF THE WORLD ~ graciously hear us, O Jesus
LAMB OF GOD, WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD ~ have mercy on us, O Jesus
GOD MADE HIM MASTER OF HIS HOUSEHOLD ~ And put him in charge of all that He owned.



Let us pray.

God, in your infinite wisdom and love You chose Joseph to be the husband of Mary, the mother of Your Son.

May we have the help of his prayers in heaven and enjoy his protection on earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

[News from the Fraternity Council](#)

Remembering Joe Cannon, OFS

Our beloved Joe passed into eternal life February 11, 2021. We miss you Joe! Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen



Joe's profession -
May 6th 2018.

(from Left to Right)
Fr. Vince Messi OFM,
Sandy Baden, Penny
Johnson,
(back) Connie Collins,
Donna Foley, Dick
Holdren, Joe Cannon



From our Director of Formation:

We all still are saddened by the loss of Joe Cannon in the year of his namesake, St. Joseph. He is a great loss to our formation team. He and Kelly did a wonderful job with Inquirers and mid-month Vespers. He will be greatly missed but I'm sure he was warmly welcomed by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

We will resume our formation as scheduled for February since we decided to cancel it in the wake of Joe's death. Formation sessions will be held on March 13 on Zoom.

11:00 am Inquiry: Chapter Six in "The Journey" will explore writings and stories of Francis and Clare using original sources. We find insights into why we choose to follow their charism using their own words. Sister Madeline will be our Council representative at this meeting. What a perfect topic for her comments.

2:00pm Candidacy: We are on Chapter 22: Foundations for the Kingdom. The focus is on Article 14. This is a challenging look in our call to build a more fraternal (brotherly) and evangelical (gospel centered) world.

We continue to praise God for sending these good people to us. Pray for them as they continue their journey. Peace!

Jan

From our Treasurer

My article on alms

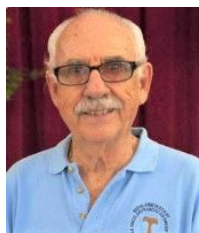
The Oxford and Google dictionaries have the exact meaning of alms, *"to give money or food to the poor."* In sacred scripture there are many references to almsgiving, like Acts 24:17 *"Now after several years I came to bring alms to the nation and to present offerings."* And in Acts 10:31, 1 Timothy 6:18 and Ephesians 4:28, plus many others.

Adding to scripture, a loving historical deed of a President of the USA.

George Washington who was a very wealthy man and did not like slavery. But the dynamics of America at that time was slavery was OK.

So when he died, in his will, he freed his black slave valet, that he be given an apartment in the White House for the rest of his life, and a generous stipend each month.

So, here we are in Lent, where alms is an important part of our Franciscan, Catholic, Christian obligation based on what we have and are able to give. Now, think about what you can do.



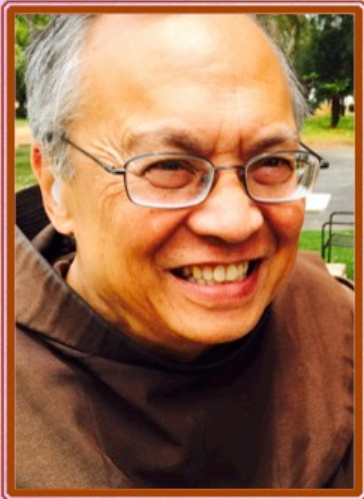
You can mail your OFS fraternity contributions to:

**Rock DeSpain, OFS
1257 Lodgepole Drive,
Hemet CA, 92545**



March Monthly General Gathering - March 14, 2021 @ 1PM

The San Luis Rey Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order invites you



Fr. Franklin Fong, OFM

WHAT: **Fresh Perspectives during Lent: Vision and Action**
a talk given by Fr. Franklin Fong, OFM

WHEN: Sunday afternoon, March 14th from 1pm – 2pm.
Join us for Lenten insights and engaging conversation

WHO: All are welcome!

WHERE: Zoom

On your computer or device:

- Click or Go to this [link](#) *
- Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Password: 1798

To join Zoom by landline only:

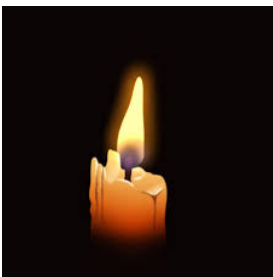
- Dial: 1-669-900-6833
- Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Then use Password: 1798

Questions about this presentation or the Secular Franciscans?
Feel free to contact Laura Chun at chun@pacbell.net or 760-271-4968

* Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7607262486?pwd=dmRBNVU5WFUxMTdzaUxGcy9ibGtwdz09>

* * *

Vespers - March 26 at 7 PM



Please mark your calendars for Friday, March 26th at 7pm when our SLR evening 'Vespers' will a mutual reflection on the **Stations of the Cross**. We'll need a *lot* of Lectors for that evening, so please reach out to Laura Chun, OFS if you'd like to participate (email: chun@pacbell.net). Invitation is extended to all the Fraternities in our Region to join us.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7607262486?pwd=dmRBNVU5WFUxMTdzaUxGcy9ibGtwdz09>

**ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION
THE CROSS AND JPIC
FRANCISCANS IN BOLIVIA: A CASE STUDY**

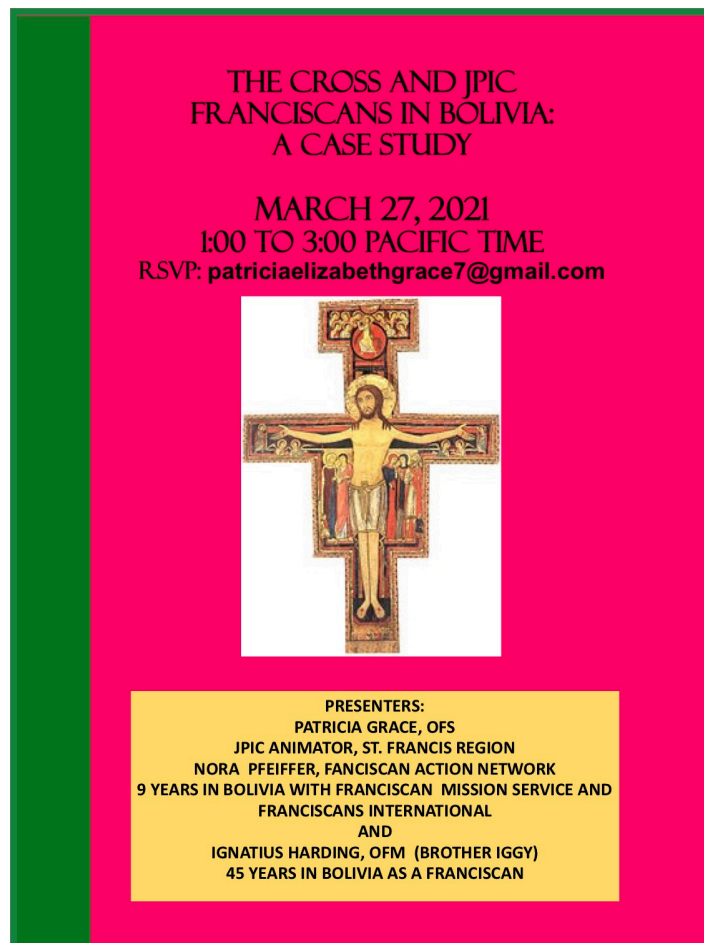
**MARCH 27, 2021
1:00 TO 3:00 Pacific Time**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The cross is the most universal and profound symbol of our faith. It speaks to us and the world in so many ways. Let us reflect together on how our Lord united heaven and earth and all of the world on the cross. He drew all to His Sacred heart in love. After reflection and prayer, we will learn about Franciscans around the world, focusing on Franciscan groups in Bolivia. Nora Pfeiffer from Franciscan Action Network, who was a missionary in Bolivia and then a representative there from Franciscans International will present on her experiences. Brother Ignatius Harding, OFM, who served our Lord in Bolivia for 45 years, will present on his experiences. We can walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Bolivia and deepen our understanding of our Franciscan work for justice, peace, and integrity of creation throughout the world.

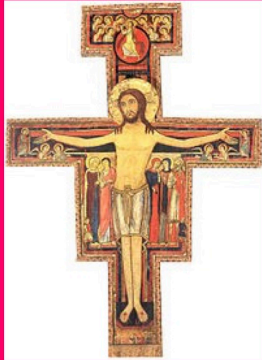
Please circulate this invitation and the attached flyer to all in your region. Please R.S.V.P. to patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com.

So looking forward to seeing you!



THE CROSS AND JPIC
FRANCISCANS IN BOLIVIA:
A CASE STUDY

MARCH 27, 2021
1:00 TO 3:00 PACIFIC TIME
RSVP: patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com



PRESENTERS:
PATRICIA GRACE, OFS
JPIC ANIMATOR, ST. FRANCIS REGION
NORA PFEIFFER, FRANCISCAN ACTION NETWORK
9 YEARS IN BOLIVIA WITH FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE AND
FRANCISCANS INTERNATIONAL
AND
IGNATIUS HARDING, OFM (BROTHER IGGY)
45 YEARS IN BOLIVIA AS A FRANCISCAN

Laura Chun's Zoom Meeting Room



To join by **Computer**, Laptop, Tablet, SmartPhone App:

- Click or Go to this [link](#) (full link is below):
- If prompted use: Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Then use Password: 1798

To join by **landline or audio-only Phone** (no video):

- Dial this number (it's in San Jose): 1-669-900-6833
- Meeting ID: 760 726 2486
- Then use Password: 1798

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7607262486?pwd=dmRBNVU5WFUxMTdzaUxGcy9ibGtwdz09>



Let us Pray for our brothers and sisters, especially: :

❖ For those who died in the month of March~~~✝

- March 2, 1995
- March 9, 2012
- March 11, 2012
- March 15, 1995
- March 16, 1989
- March 28, 2001

- Amanda Martineau, OFS**
- Thomas F.M. Siersma, OFS**
- Thomas Siersma, OFS**
- Robert Wells, OFS**
- Gertrude Brown, OFS**
- Katherine Kundinger, OFS**



❖ For those who were professed in the month of March:

- March 8, 2009
- March 8, 2015
- March 9, 1997
- March 8, 1997
- March 20, 1994

- David York, OFS**
- Dorothy Mann, OFS**
- Mary Behnke, OFS**
- Patricia Dominguez, OFS**
- Marjo Grey, OFS**

- ❖ For Joe Cannon, OFS who passed into eternal life on February 11.
- ❖ For Br. Alexander Escalera, OFM Cap experienced a stroke on 2/18.
- ❖ For Corinne who had an accident and suffered a broken wrist and bruises to her head and body.
- ❖ For the repose of the soul of Carol Imhoff's sister-in-law Afaf Prom who passed into eternal life.

* * *

From the Editor: Thank you all for your contributions to this month issue of The Cord. Due to change in our monthly general gathering date to second Sundays, please submit your articles, reports or adds by the 25th of the month to publish in next month issue. Send your Word or Pages files (font Arial 12 pt, if possible) and any photos (jpg or png) via email to: mksfo@me.com. Thanks, Marta,

Dr. Marta Kassai, OFS

