

# St. Louis of France



Statue of St Louis King of France at St. Louis  
the King Church in Rome, Italy  
Protector of the Secular Franciscan Order  
Photo by Corinne Helena, OFS in 2018

# The Cord

September, 2022

Newsletter of the San Luis Rey  
Secular Franciscan Fraternity

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

## September Gathering:

### September 11:

10:00am Mass at San Luis Rey Mission  
Church

11:30am BYO box lunch at Mission Retreat  
Center Refreshment Lounge

\* \* \*

12:30pm Prayer in Mission St. Clare Chapel

1:00 to 3:00 pm General Monthly Gathering  
in the Guadalupe Room and on  
Zoom (link [here](#))

## District Picnic:

### September 24:

10am - 2pm [San Dieguito Park](#) in Del Mar

## Vespers:

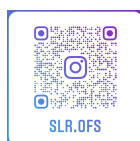
September 26: 7pm-8pm on Zoom (link [here](#))

## Login for All Zooms:

[www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) Click on: [Join a Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 760 726 2486 Password: 1798

**Next Month General Gathering:**  
**Sunday, October 9**



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

Mission San Luis Rey  
4050 Mission Avenue  
Oceanside, CA 92057

## Minister's Note for September

I was driving home from early morning exercise with the sun shining and was *surprised* by the traffic – and all the joy and excitement – spilling out in the neighborhoods. It was **BACK TO SCHOOL!** You could feel the joy of people coming together again!

We are also invited to feel that same joy! Although Zoom will continue to be an option for our formal Gathering between 1pm-3pm, there is so much more to our days together than the 2 hours shared on Zoom. For those are physically able to venture outside their homes, we are invited to come back in joy to all that our day is together: Mass, a meal, prayer, and our Gathering.

- **Mass is at 10am** over at Mission San Luis Rey parish. We each have our own parishes... but this is about us coming together as a *Fraternity*. If you'd like to join us, arrive a few minutes early and look for other fraternity members in the area in front of the large ambo.
- **A communal meal:** we then have an opportunity to share a brown bag lunch meal together at 11:30am. We generally sit outside of the refreshment center at the Mission, but there is inside seating as well. I generally bring my own umbrella since I love sitting outside but am sun-adverse.
- **Together in prayer:** At 12:30, we come together for 'chapel prayer' in St. Clare's chapel. This is stunningly beautiful and usually in the antiphonal format used in religious communities, with prayer reverberating from side to side. I love this because although we each pray at home, we don't pray like *this* at home. This is an important and prayerful experience of community.
- **Our gathering follows between 1pm-3pm** and is also simulcast on Zoom.

Just as we joined hands with the Minister when we first professed, there is great joy in coming together. Join us for what you are physically able. The doors will be open (as well as the windows). You are welcome to wear a mask. Coming together for Mass, meal, prayer is something we've done for years (begun while David York was Minister, continued by Donna Foley, and under the previous and current Council). It's time to be invited back again to more fully experience this 'community.' Marta will again be highlighting all these joyous opportunities on the front page of the Cord.

**Another beautiful opportunity to come together outdoors as a community is our District picnic on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>!** It's in a lovely setting full of the joy of nature at San Dieguito County Park (1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Del Mar – more details inside this Cord). We are the hosting fraternity, so it would be wonderful for us to have many participants! Need a ride? I've got you covered. Just let me know at our Gathering on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Being outdoors in a beautiful setting with fellow fraternities – what's more Franciscan than that???

Pace et Bene



Laura Chun, OFS, Minister, San Luis Rey Fraternity

## Sharing the Fruits and Joy of the Quinquennial



I feel blessed to have attended two Q's in my life and they were mountain top experiences. It is something that many have not yet experienced or can because of health, time or expense. This year we were blessed to have three members from our fraternity attend; Sam DeSantis, Carol Imhoff, and Linda Gossett.

The council has asked them to share their reflections at our September meeting. In addition I will be giving a short introduction to the keynote speakers. A link will be included so you can access their presentations at your convenience. We are grateful that our National Fraternity has provided them to us.

The theme of the Q was "Franciscan Jubilee", celebrating 100 years since the first one in Chicago in 1921. The subtheme was "Celebrate & Renew our Franciscan Calling in the Spirit of Conversion". Jan Parker, our national minister shared... we are bearers of peace and messengers of joy when we remember who we are called to be and live it and start again...tending to our own conversion as well as the conversion of society (Tau-USA Issue 106). All the videos speak to this theme in greater depth.

Here are introductions to the speakers you can listen to. Each presentation is an hour+ in length. There are some minor audio glitches but nothing that detracts from the message. [Updates from the Q – August 3rd through 7th, 2022 – Secular Franciscan Order – USA \(secularfranciscansusa.org\)](https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/updates-from-the-q-august-3rd-through-7th-2022)

1. Fr. David Couturier OFM Cap. He emphasized art. 14 as key in **our calling** and **goals**. Called to build a more fraternal and evangelical world with all people of good will...(the goal).

I would like to add here that he offered to all OFS a new handbook which has just been released and made available through St. Bonaventure University on the latest research into the life of St. Francis. It can be downloaded from this link and includes a 120 page handbook containing links to short video lectures by two Franciscan scholars plus supplementary readings. The only requirement is filling out a short 1 minute survey.

2. Bishop John Stowe, OFM, Conv. Spoke on the vision and priorities of Pope Francis in choosing the name of Francis of Assisi. He examines Pope Francis Joy of the Gospel and how the OFS are called to be part of the renewal of the church.
3. Our Minister General Tibor Kauser from Hungary and Vice Minister Mary Stronach from USA spoke on the state of the worldwide OFS. He spoke on the relativism rampant today and Fratelli Tutti. He made a strong point on knowing our Constitution. He stressed Art. 12.1 in his talk (In a nutshell...we are called to bear witness to our faith in family life...work...joys and sufferings... associations with all brothers and sisters...in presence and participation in society...and fraternal relationship with all creatures.)
4. Rejoice in the Choice was presented by five OFS Seculars who have been active on the National and International level in various ways. Doug and Marion Clorey are from Prince Edward Island, Canada and Tim and Kathy Taormina and daughter Lori Hinker have been very involved in YOUFRA. They shared covering the evolution of our Rule and how they were built on each other and the changing times. Fraternity and our mission were strongly emphasized.

I am looking forward to being a moderator in September to have our members enlighten you on their experience.

Peace and blessings, *Jan DeSpain, OFS, Director of Formation*



## *The Theology and Philosophy of St. Bonaventure - Part 1*

This is a series of four articles, one per month, on the theology and philosophy of St. Bonaventure based on a weeklong Continuing Education Course I took at the Franciscan School of Theology this Summer given by Fr. Tom Herbst, OFM.

In order to understand St. Bonaventure, we first have to know his background, the time, and scholastic ethos he lived in. St. Bonaventure is a second generation Franciscan being born in 1217 not far from Assisi. He never met St. Francis. According to his mom, he was cured from a serious illness in his childhood through the intercession of St. Francis. Italy was Franciscan territory at the time of Bonaventure. Central Italy was absolutely saturated with Franciscan influence throughout the 13th Century. You couldn't take a breath without being a Franciscan breath. Bonaventure's dad was a medical doctor that places him in the middle class. Bonaventure was a bright kid, was sent to the University of Paris as a young teenager, and obtained his doctorate in theology.

Prior to the high Medieval period (1090 to 1300 AD), the dominant Christ picture is the triumphant Christ, depicted as king and warrior who incarnates to battle with Satan. On the cross He is rigidly straight, no blood, dressed like a king. He is looking right at you, and not happy. He sees you at the core of your being. That changes in the late 11th century from triumphant Christ to suffering Christ. The San Damiano cross depicts Christ as the suffering servant, half old, half new Christ. He is not looking right at you, and there is blood everywhere. He is the picture of holistic compassion that wants to embrace. Climate change, global warming, is a major factor in a positive way during this period of close to 300 years. Europe's population more than doubles because more land can be cultivated, new towns are born, and migration stops. There is a newly positive view of nature. Prior to this period Nature was viewed as the devil's playground. Nature was dangerous, to be feared. It was believed that the natural world is an exile and one's real home is in heaven.

That changes in the high Medieval period. Nature speaks of the existence of God, in the beauty of Nature one encounters God. Bonaventure has a deep experience when he retreats to Mount LaVerna in 1259 where St. Francis received his stigmata. Bonaventure was seeking peace and spiritual renewal. The Soul Journey into God is out of his mystical experience there. In the 7th stage of the Soul Journey into God, the soul arrives at the beatific vision. The beatific vision for Bonaventure is the crucified Christ. He understands St. Francis experience with the six wings seraph. Christ is a tangible reality - He is present in every place and every time. Christ is historically tangible. He is the leading man in the play of history. Christ is in every scene, and wants to meet you.

Aristotle's philosophy of cause and effect took Europe by a storm in the first decade of the 12th century. Christians took back land in Spain held by Arabs for 500 years. Aristotelian manuscripts were discovered. The government paid for translation from Arabic to Greek, then from Greek to Latin. It revolutionized Western thought. Aristotelian philosophy and deductive reasoning gradually replaced Neo-Platonism. Everything has a cause except the original cause who is God. God is at the center, everything is connected to him, and through him all things are connected. It's not just between me and God says Bonaventure. It's between me, you, and God. If I don't have a relationship with you, I don't have a relationship with God. We're living in an Aristotelian world now for 800 years.

Next month's article will be on the trinitarian theology of St. Bonaventure.

*Dr. Marta Kassai, OFS, Councilor*



## The Season of Creation: September 1 to October 4, 2022

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

### A Prayer for Our Earth

By Pope Francis

All-powerful God, you are present the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, That we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,  
Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature  
as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.,  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle  
for justice, love and peace.



\*\*\*\*\*

Watch this short film clip "Listening to the Sounds of Creation"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyjUTvGmlil>



Pax et Bonum!

Karron Esmonde, OFS  
JPIC Animator



Listen to the  
Voice of Creation  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

# San Luis Rey Fraternity is hosting the Summer Picnic!

When: **Saturday, September 24th**  
**10am – 2pm**

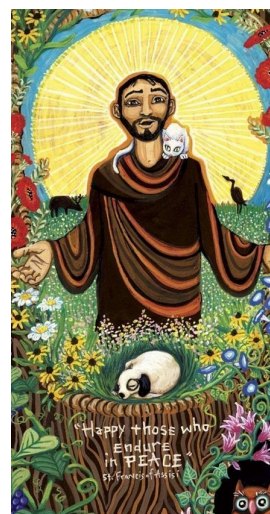
Where: **San Dieguito Park**

**1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Del Mar, CA 92014**

We'll be at Picnic Site #2 in the Upper Park. There are ten picnic tables (up to 100 people). Parking and restrooms nearby.

### Here's how we divided the picnic responsibilities:

- Set up, Coffee, Water, Opening Prayer - SLR
- Morning Tai Chi – Vietnamese
- Service Project - Spanish
- Community Prayer - Immaculate Conception
- Games – Korean
- Pot Luck Lunch - Everyone
- Every person to bring their own plates, utensils
- Clean-Up - Everyone



### Service Project:

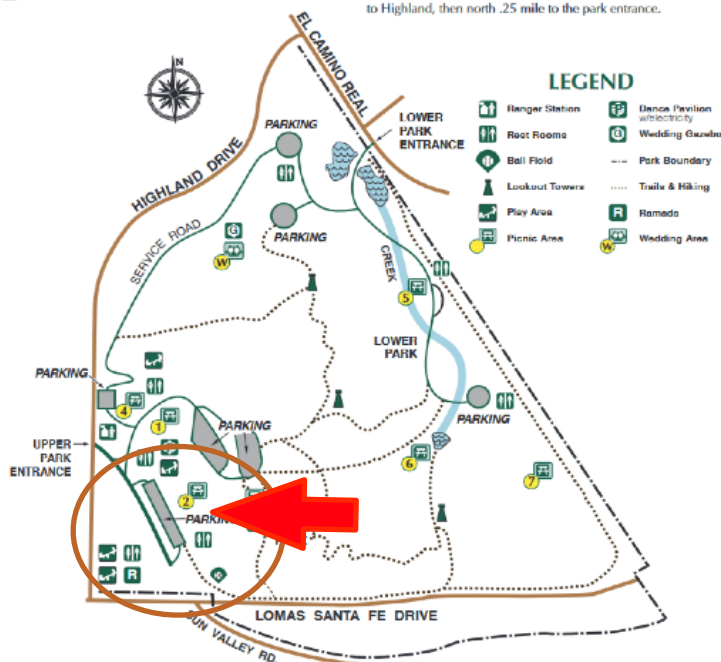
**San Luis Rey Fraternity:**  
New medium towels,  
toothbrushes &  
toothpaste.



### SAN DIEGUITO COUNTY PARK

1628 LOMAS SANTA FE DR., DEL MAR

Location: From San Diego, 21 miles north on I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe Dr. exit. Go east 1.5 miles to Highland, then north .25 mile to the park entrance.



### DIRECTIONS:

- Take I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe Drive. Go east 1.5 miles to Highland, then north .25 miles to park entrance.
- We're at Site #2, in the Upper Park (see Red circle)

## Living and Leading Laudato Si Workshop, Saturday, October 8th!

Amidst all the joy and intensity that is October for us (Transitus, the Feast of St. Francis), we have something new! The topic is 'Living and Leading Laudato Si' with Br. Keith Warner, OFM. The day will be from 9:30am to 3:30pm. They're looking for people to attend who after learning wants to implement some of the ideas in their family, fraternity, parish or other community. Please see the detail in the flyer included here in the Cord. SAVE THE DATE.

Laura Chun, OFS, Minister

**October 8, 2022**  
**9:30AM – 3:30PM**  
**MISSION SAN LUIS REY / OCEANSIDE, CA**

# Living and Leading Laudato Si'

**A Workshop for  
Secular Franciscans by  
Brother Keith Warner, OFM**

**No cost to participate!  
A Free Will offering is  
invited and encouraged.**

**To Register:**  
**Contact Patricia Grace, OFS**  
**patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com**  
**442-300-4652**

**Sponsored by:**



The Saint Francis Region  
of the OFS



Pope Francis calls for the moral and religious renewal of humanity to

tackle the twin crises of global environmental degradation and poverty.

Come to this workshop to learn how you can integrate your Franciscan spirituality with community leadership to live out the vision of both St. Francis and Pope Francis for our time!



Br. Keith Warner, OFM is the incoming Director of the Franciscan Renewal Project at the Franciscan School of Theology and co-author of *Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth*. He is an active participant in the retrieval of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition with a focus on Franciscan environmental ethics.

## The San Luis Rey Fraternity Council



Laura Chun, OFS  
Minister



Sam DeSantis, OFS  
Vice-Minister & Formator



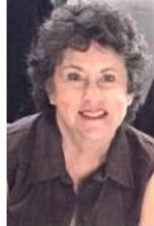
Jan DeSpain, OFS  
Formation Director



Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC  
Spiritual Assistant



Connie Collins, OFS  
Secretary



Corinne Helena, OFS  
Treasurer



Pam Pert, OFS  
Councilor



Marta Kassai, OFS  
Councilor & Newsletter Editor

### News from the Fraternity Council

Please note: **September Gathering** will be **in person & zoom**. **October Gathering** will be on **2nd Sunday October 9**. The **October 8 'Living & Leading Laudato Si'** is a regional workshop.

**Mark your Calendars for Monday, *September 26<sup>th</sup>* for Vespers!**



Join us on Zoom on **September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** for praying the psalms together with our fraternity brothers and sisters.

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

### From our Treasurer



You can mail your OFS fraternity contributions to:

**Corinne Helena, OFS**  
1048 Turnstone Way  
Oceanside, CA 9205





## Formation September 2022 News

Our Candidates will gather on September 10th at 10am on Zoom . We will be covering Chapter 25 (art. 16) and Chapter 26 (art.17) . These articles cover the topics of work and family. Laura will join us from the council this month. Thank you for Pam Pert adding to our meeting last month. Our council has been so supportive in helping our candidates.

I like to highlight ongoing formation opportunities. We are so blessed to have the Franciscan Lecture Series hosted by the Franciscan School of Theology. On September 22nd Michael W. Blastic, OFM will be speaking on “Francis and Clare of Assisi and the Cross with the Open Eyes.” It is at 7-8 pm. Hope you can join. It is free, but we encourage your support of donations to help them.

Events | Franciscan School of Theology (fst.edu)

This month we will be sharing about the Quinquennial at our fraternity. Our International Minister asked us to read our Constitution 12.1. This falls under ongoing formation.

Here it is: Gaining inspiration from the example and writings of Francis and, above all, filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit, each day the brothers and sisters faithfully live the great gift which Christ has given: the revelation of the Father. They should give witness to this faith before all:

- in their family life;
- in their work;
- in their joys and sufferings;
- in their associations with all men and women, brothers and sisters of the same Father;
- in their presence and participation in the life of society;
- in their fraternal relationships with all creatures.

We can all give witness in some way. God bless you in all your endeavors. Thank you for all you do. Jan

Jan DeSpain, OFS  
Formation Director



## Franciscan Rite of Extraction at Epiphany Saints in September



Corinne Helena, OFS  
Treasurer

### Saint for 2022

St. Rose of Viterbo  
Fr. Mychal Judge

### Feast Days

Sep 04  
Sep 11



Pam Pert, OFS  
Councilor

## Prayers Requested from the Fraternity:

1. **Linda Ochwat, OFS** requests that she may find a stable housing arrangement after release from the facility where she's being treated for health condition.



Praying Hands by [Albrecht Dürer](#)

### Prayer for Homeless "Men, Women, and Children"

Precious Holy Spirit, I come to You with a broken heart for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living with no security, no shelter, and no safety from the outside world. Please be with all the men, women, and children in our world who are homeless. Give them extra warmth, peace, and guidance like only Heaven can send. Let angels hold their hands at all times, ease their worries, and provide opportunities for a better life.



Give hope where there is no hope and provide wisdom as they work through their trials. Lord, let them know they are loved, prayed for, and Your precious children who will never be forgotten. In Jesus name, I pray.

2. **Carol Imhoff, OFS** requests for a successful cataract surgery on one eye on Sept 8th. The second eye will be done at a later date.



### St. Lucy Prayer

Saint Lucy, whose beautiful name signifies light, by the light of faith, which God bestowed upon you, Increase and preserve His light in my soul, so that I may avoid evil, Be zealous in performance of good works, and abhor nothing so much as the blindness and the darkness of evil and sin.

Obtain for me, by your intercession with God, perfect vision for my bodily eyes and the grace to use them for God's greater honor and glory and the salvation of souls.

St Lucy, Virgin and martyr, hear my prayers and obtain my petitions. Amen



Saint Lucy, by [Francesco del Cossa](#) (c. 1430 – c. 1477)

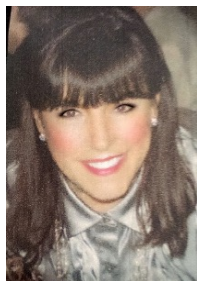
3. **Christine Treadway**, daughter of Marta's friend, requests that her condition be correctly diagnosed and she'll receives the right treatment.



Dear Lord, as my loved ones and I await the results of medical tests about my affliction, let us offer you our anxieties for our good and your glory. Calm us in our worries, knowing these don't add wisdom but rather stress to this situation. Enlighten us, through the power of your Spirit, to make wise decisions as to treatment. Help us not to turn away from You in these fragile, painful moments, but rather towards you for grace and strength. Comfort us in seeking you now as we place all our concerns in your loving hands as we say "Thy Will Be Done."

<https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/prayer-for-medical-tests.html>

- 4. **Denise Scalzo, OFS** requests for prayers. She recently came down with COVID19.



*Prayer for the sick*

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

- 5. Your prayers are requested for those affected by the **wildfires** currently burning in the State of California. Specifically, for the safety and protection of our Secular Franciscans **Rock & Jan DeSpain** who are near the Fairview Fire in Hemet where two people have already died. Also for the safety of **Kelly Farnum** from the Radford Fire in the Big Bear area.



*Prayer in time of disaster:*



Loving and compassionate God, you are our comfort and strength in times of sudden disaster, crisis or chaos. Surround us now, O Lord with your grace and peace through storms or winds, fires or floods.

By Your Spirit, lift up those who have fallen, sustain those who work to rescue or rebuild, and fill us with the hope of your new creation; through Christ, our rock and redeemer.

*Prayers Answered*

**Dottie Dassen, OFS** thanks the Fraternity for their prayers. She's now in a stable living situation.



\* \* \*

Please update us so we can continue to pray for your special intentions, or give thanks to God for his great mercy and love.

Please send your prayer requests and updates to Sam DeSantis, OFS, Vice Minister: [carguyrt66@gmail.com](mailto:carguyrt66@gmail.com)



Sam DeSantis, OFS  
Vice Minister



*Memorare: Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.*



**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 were professed in the month of May:
  - September 9, 2007 **Barbara Upson, OFS**
  - September 9, 2007 **Edward Upson, OFS**
- ❖ For **Linda** Ochwat, OFS who recently spent two days in the ER and was transferred to a rehab hospital. She's in pain, and finds it very difficult to walk on her own. However, she remains connected to the world through her cell phone. Linda's cell phone is 760-583-5749.
- ❖ For **Denise** Scalzo, OFS who has COVID19 that she have a speedy recovery.
- ❖ For **Carol** Imhoff, OFS who has cataract surgery on one eye on September 8.
- ❖ For **Christine** Treadway, Marta's close friend's daughter who has a serious health condition that they have not been able to diagnose., May she'll be correctly diagnosed and receive the right treatment.
- ❖ For all those affected by the California **wildfires**.

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**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](mailto:mksfo@me.com).

Thanks,  
Marta

Dr. Marta M. Kassai, SFO, Editor

