



## *Dear Brothers & Sisters*

### Secular Franciscan Fraternity

We gather at **7:30 p.m** on the **second Monday** of each month at:

**St. Joseph's Home**  
80 W. Northwest Hwy.  
Palatine, IL

### **Council Members**

#### *Minister*

Stephanie Heavey, OFS  
[minister@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:minister@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Vice-Minister*

Sue Gribbon, OFS  
[viceminister@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:viceminister@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Formation Director*

Jackie Leo, OFS  
[formation@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:formation@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Secretary*

Tim Panzica, OFS  
[secretary@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:secretary@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Treasurer*

Kathy Fischer, OFS  
[treasurer@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:treasurer@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Spiritual Assistant*

Jerry Stecker, OFS  
[sa@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:sa@nwfranciscans.org)

#### *Councilor-at-Large*

Kay Crnich, OFS

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For privacy, all personal addresses, phone numbers, email, prayer intentions, and (*for non-council members*) last names are removed from this web version.

### **Our Monthly Gathering...**

Our next fraternity gathering is on Monday, June 10, 2019. All professed and candidates will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the library for formation. Read Chapter 6 in *Waiting for Love* and reflect on the questions for discussion at the gathering.

At 7:30 p.m. all members of the fraternity will meet in the chapel for a Word and Communion Service. Afterward, it is with great joy that we will welcome into Candidacy our aspirants, **Mary Anita**, **Suzanne**, and **Roseanne**.

There will be a business meeting after which all will gather in the ice cream parlor for social time. ☒

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*What is more, Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. "Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker" (Wis 13:5); indeed, "his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world" (Rom 1:20). For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.*

*~ Pope Francis, Laudato Si (Praise be to you – On Care For Our Common Home), Paragraph 12*

In beautiful things St. Francis saw Beauty itself, and through His vestiges imprinted on creation he followed his Beloved everywhere, making from all things a ladder by which he could climb up and embrace Him who is utterly desirable. *Bonaventure*

## Anniversaries

God's Abundant Blessings as our sisters and brother as they celebrate their special day. We especially remember Sister Eddie who made her profession 45 years ago on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our prayers are with you, dear Sister.

June 3, 1974           **Eddie**  
June 6, 1977           **Tom**  
June 12, 2017         **Kathy**  
                              **Faith**

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## Save the Dates

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Evening of Reflection**, Monday, July 8, 2019. The evening will begin one half hour earlier than usual, at 6:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars. For those whose work makes it impossible to arrive at this time, it is understood that you will arrive as soon as possible.

**Regional Portiuncula Gathering**, Saturday, August 3, 2019.

This opportunity to gather in fraternity with all the secular Franciscans in our region will include the celebration of Mass, lunch and presentations by Sr. Madge, SSJ-TOSF. ☒

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## Common Fund –           May 2019

Beginning balance	\$2420.44
Deposits	170.00
Expenses	48.00
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$2542.44</b>

Thank you for your continued support of the fraternity. In the coming months, there will be expenses for our Evening of Reflection in July and for an upcoming Profession. ☒

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Dear Brothers & Sisters   [www.nwfranciscans.org](http://www.nwfranciscans.org)

## And So We Pray...

### PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

#### **Evangelization: The Mode of Life of Priests**

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to solidarity with those who are most poor.

#### **Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.***

As we remember the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day and the sacrificial love of all those who gave their lives at Normandy, let us pray in gratitude to the Lord,

As we complain about too much rain affecting our plans, let us remember those who have lost everything, even their lives, in the floods and tornadoes that have devastated so much of the country and so we pray to the Lord,

As we join our Holy Father in praying for priests, let us also pray that more young people will express their love of God by committing to the religious life, we pray to the Lord,

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE NEAR AND DEAR

{PRIVATE}

For all of our **shut-in sisters**, that the health issues that keep them separated from us will be attended to with compassion and love, we pray to the Lord,



## Our Call to be a Secular Franciscan

*This month we continue our stories of the path that led us to recognizing our call to become secular Franciscans. This is the story of Sister Bonnie.*

As I look back now, ever since I can remember, I have been drawn to St. Francis. I can see the many ways I was being prepared for this point in my life to become a professed Secular Franciscan.

Even before joining the secular Franciscans, I was practicing the roots and ways of a secular Franciscan through the many ministries in which I served. I see this as part of my preparation all the while not really knowing this was happening to me at the time.

When difficulties arose in my life years ago, it was the pastor at my parish, Fr. Pat and, especially, Friar Johnpaul, OFM, who helped me through these hard times. They showed me that God loves me and would not abandon me. Friar Johnpaul became a dear friend, teacher and mentor in my life.

It was while I was on a pilgrimage to Assisi with him fifteen years ago that I learned that I

was being called to the secular life. In the early morning of October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Spirit came over me as I entered the chapel where the tomb of St. Francis is. It was there that I was called and spoken to. It was there that I said “Yes” to St. Francis.

This experience stayed with me when we went to Mount LaVerna and I saw what St. Francis wanted me to see through his eyes. I finally knew the journey I was being asked to take. And I accepted this journey with joy and willingness. This is what I was asked to do and I was ready.

My love for Jesus and St. Francis has grown so much more since my journey began and I have been part of the retreats, ministries and ongoing formation in our local fraternity and in the regional fraternity.

In Jesus and St. Francis,  
Sister Bonnie , OFS

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## TRADITION/TRADITIONALISM

*On April 16<sup>th</sup>, Cardinal Cupich celebrated the Chrism Mass, where the holy oils used for baptism, confirmation and ordination, and anointing of the sick are blessed. The following is part of the Cardinal’s homily at that Mass:*

Throughout his ministry, this Nazarene demonstrates a devotion to tradition, but in a way that is different from traditionalism. The great theologian of the past century Jaroslav Pelikan made this distinction when he observed: ‘Tradition is the living faith of the dead; traditionalism is the dead faith of the living. Tradition lives in conversation with the past, while remembering where we are and when we are and that it is we who have to decide. Traditionalism supposes that nothing should ever be done for the first time, so all that is needed to solve any problem is to arrive at the supposedly unanimous testimony of this homogenized tradition’ (The Vindication of Tradition, 1983 Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities).

## Our Apostolates

*Bringing the Gospel to Life, and Life to the Gospel in the spirit of St. Francis*

**BINGO.** Meets one night per month at 6:30 pm in St. Joseph's activity room. Please pick one month in which to volunteer. Contact Sisters Kay OFS, or Mary Kay , OFS, to sign up.

**FRANCISCAN OUTREACH.** This is a year round project. With the closing of the Marquard Center in Chicago, the fraternity will work with Our Lady of the Angels Mission, a Franciscan mission on Chicago's near west side. Sister Geri, OFS, will coordinate this ministry and determine the ways in which we can be of service. Contact Sister Geri, OFS.

**PRAYER & PRAISE MINISTRY.** For our brothers and sisters unable to participate in our monthly gatherings due to poor health or transportation issues. For more information, or if you are ill or know of a member who is ill, please call our infirmarian, Sister Kay, OFS.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY.** We interweave prayers along with God's love, care, and warmth into the stitches as we knit or crochet shawls for others. For more information, contact Sisters Sue, OFS, or Cyndy, OFS.

**SUPPORT (Money, Materials).** Quarterly donations are taken from any excess funds that are available in our Common Fund *after* all the fraternity obligations are met. The donations are given to: Franciscan Missionary Union, Franciscan Outreach, Poor Clares (Palos Park, IL).

**YOUTH PRAYER PARTNERS.** Coordinated by Brother Tom, OFS, this apostolate matches up fraternity members with young people who are preparing for First Communion or Confirmation. For more information, please call Brother Tom.

## 2019 Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at St. Joseph's Home.

### January

~~14: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)~~

### February

~~11: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)~~

~~25: Council meeting, Sue's home~~

### March

~~11: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)~~

### April

~~08: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)~~

~~22: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

### May

~~13: Monthly Gathering (Crown Rosary)~~

~~21: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

### June

10: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### July

08: Fraternity Evening of Recollection

*Please note change of venue. We will gather at St. Joseph's in the Library at 6:00 p.m.*

### August

12: Monthly Gathering at St. Joseph's

26: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### September

09: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

### October

03: Transitus of our Holy Father Francis

14: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

28: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### November

11: Monthly Gathering (Mass – with Rite of Remembrance)

### December

10: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

TBD: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home