



## *Dear Brothers & Sisters*

Secular Franciscan Order  
Palatine, Illinois

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*

Geri Allaire, OFS  
[viceminister@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:viceminister@nwfranciscans.org)

*Formation Director*

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

*Secretary*

Marc Golab, OFS  
[secretary@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:secretary@nwfranciscans.org)

*Treasurer*

Tom Sharapata, OFS  
[treasurer@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:treasurer@nwfranciscans.org)

*Spiritual Assistant*

Patrick Mendés, OFS  
[sa@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:sa@nwfranciscans.org)

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

Joy and sorrow, thanksgiving and petition surrounded those of us who gathered in August for our monthly meeting. We were joyful and full of thanksgiving as we focused on all the Marian feasts celebrated in this last month of summer, the feasts of St. Mary of the Angels of the Portiuncula (so dear to our Franciscan hearts), the Assumption of Mary and the Queenship of Mary. Thank you to our knowledgeable Spiritual Assistant, Brother Patrick, who led us in a discussion of these feasts and their importance to us who gather under the mantle of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sorrow clouded our joy as we mourned the loss of our Regional Spiritual Assistant, Brother Joe Middleton, OFM, who met Sister Death on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. The sorrow was for ourselves and for all of Brother Joe's friends and companions who will miss his smile and gentle presence. But joy triumphs—the joy of knowing that Brother Joe is now adoring God face to face in the company of our Father Francis and our Mother Claire. May he rest in eternal peace.

Thank you to Brother Dcn. Lou, who presided at the Communion Service which was enhanced by our gifted musicians and singers, Sisters Sue and Jackie, and Brother Tim.

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

We will gather on Saturday, September 10, 2016 for the annual Day of Recollection at:

St. Collette's Catholic Church  
2900 Meadow Drive  
Rolling Meadows, IL

*cont. page 2*

This Day of Recollection replaces our monthly gathering and attendance is vital. While this date is not the usual second Monday, it was given to all members in the yearly calendar in January so there would not be conflicts of interest. Bring your Liturgy books and luncheon dish.

Since our fraternity is hosting members of other fraternities in the region, please plan on being at St. Colette's by 8:30 am so that we can coordinate food and set up the hall for the comfort of our guests. ☒

### Transitus in October

As the calendar has shown, we will be gathering on **Monday, October 3, 2016**, to celebrate the Transitus of our Father Francis into Eternity. The Transition of our Father Francis from earthly life into the Eternal Life promised by God and in which he believed with all his heart is cause for Joy for all Franciscans. When we join together for the Transitus of Father Francis, we pray that our lives lived according to the Rule he set for us will one day result in our own transition from earthly life into eternal life.

This gathering replaces our monthly meeting on the second Monday. ☒

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ***Anniversaries***

*There are no specific anniversaries to celebrate this month.*

*Let us all offer thanksgiving to our Good God for the grace of vocation He has given to all of us.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Remember in Your Prayers

### THE INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR SEPTEMBER

#### **Universal: Centrality of the Human Person**

That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

#### **Evangelization: Mission to Evangelize**

That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.

\*\*\*\*\*

[PRIVATE]

All **infirm, shut-in** and **deceased** fraternity members.

All **those in initial formation** and their formation instructors.

Our entire **Franciscan Family, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> (Secular and Regular) Orders**

For strength in commitments and increase in vocations.

For the **work we do as fraternity**, especially for **Franciscan Outreach, Franciscan Missionary Union, the Poor Clares** in Palos Park, and **Amazon Relief**.

For the **Guests of Franciscan Outreach's Soup Kitchen**: that they know God's loving care and overcome the difficulties that keep them homeless.

For the **Little Sisters of the Poor** and the residents of St. Joseph's Home.

For our **families and loved ones**.

## 2016 Calendar

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

### January

10: Monthly Gathering (Profession Mass)  
24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home.

### February

08: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)  
24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### March

14: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)

### April

11: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

### May

09: Monthly Gathering (Franciscan Crown)  
23: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### June

13: Monthly Gathering (Mass, Feast of IHM)

### July

11: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

### August

08: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)  
29: Council Meeting, Stephanie's Home

### September

10: (Saturday) Fraternity Day of Recollection,  
St. Colette's replaces regular fraternity  
meeting

### October

03: Transitus of our Holy Father Francis  
replaces regular fraternity meeting

### November

14: Monthly Gathering (Mass – with Rite of  
Remembrance)  
20: (Sunday) Franciscan Outreach Project,  
Stephanie's home  
20: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home,  
(following Outreach gathering)

### December

12: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

## 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 or Mary Kay to sign up.

**FRANCISCAN OUTREACH.** Monetary donations are accepted in the Christmas stocking at each monthly gathering. 100 Christmas Gift Bags are made up for the guests at the Franciscan Outreach soup kitchen in Chicago. Contact Sister Stephanie for more information.

**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 Jackie.

**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 or Cyndy.

**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) and Amazon Relief.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

### Common Fund Report

#### July

Beginning balance:	\$1934.73
Deposits:	275.00
Expenses:	150.00
Ending balance:	\$2059.73

\*\*\*\*\*

### Directory Updates & Corrections

Please make the following **changes** or **additions** to your member directory.

[PRIVATE]

\*\*\*\*\*

### DEALING WITH AN EVIL AGE

*The following article was written by Mother Marie des Douleurs (died 1983) foundress of the Benedictine Sisters of Jesus Crucified. What wisdom written long ago that answers our angst about the politics and state of our world today.*

It is quite the vogue, nowadays, not only to think that everything is going very badly, but also to observe that people are getting worse and worse, and to repeat this *ad nauseam*.

Instead of being fascinated by political scandal, why don't we seek out and hold on to, and ourselves set good examples, of professional courage, of hidden heroism, of unselfish virtue? Such examples are to be found all around us. We should be inspired by them, stimulated. This is an excellent apostolate that is within the reach of all of us.

Always seeing evil, incessantly considering it—even deploring it—is certainly demoralizing. Why concern ourselves with what is dead, rotten, or dying? There is also much that is alive, that gushes with vitality, that pierces through the darkest ruins. In our catastrophic age, so full of discouragement, how many attempts to do well, to do better, do we find?

How touched we are when we discover the resistance to evil that remains in many souls, in souls surrounded by selfishness, money, and every temptation, which are nevertheless able to overcome these evils and become lights in the darkness for those around them! Let's look for such examples and imitate them.

Gradually, this feeling will grow with us: "Why can't I do what they have done?" And thus drawn toward the good, toward self-giving, we will find ourselves walking steadily on the road to sanctity instead of dizzying ourselves and others with corruption and baseness. ☒