



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Wow, we did it! Thank you to all of you for filling three Thanksgiving baskets for the Palatine Township. Kay said that the Township would distribute one thousand baskets this year. There was a need.

Mother Cabrini Celebration

Our region hosted its Mother Cabrini Celebration on Sunday, November 14th at St. Gregory the Great Parish in Chicago. About one hundred secular Franciscans from the region attended; it was an awesome day. Fr. Guillermo (Memo) Campuzano, CM was our dynamic speaker. His topic was Radical Hospitality: The Healing of a Wounded World.

Here are some of his keynote thoughts: Life walks to survive, south to north, for opportunities, food, and survival reasons. The sustainability of society is its middle class. Do not be afraid. We are in a profound restoration of our church. The poor are always with you...do not forget the poor. We are all profoundly connected...do not be afraid. Practice equity with dignity. Embrace the leper. Open your house to a stranger. Always be open. Passion is a full commitment. Radical means with roots. St. Francis was a way to restoration (Francis Rebuild My Church)...Service to the poor, Restoration of the Universal Church and he is the patron saint of animals and ecology...Earth Day. So let us all encounter the strangers, listen to them. And let's discern together on what we are invited to do today as people of faith.

Council Meeting

We had our Council Meeting on Sunday, November 21st. I would like to share with you some of our thoughts and decisions.

We are looking to expand our Formation Team. For anyone who might be interested, we will be having a training team meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 1 p.m. at my home. We are looking to break up the training program. We need someone to handle Inquiry, someone for Orientation, and lastly, someone for Candidacy. We would like to see more fraternity members involved, as formation is a fraternity responsibility. It is the initial opportunity to get to know our future Brothers and Sisters better. Please consider this opportunity.

Keeping in Touch

We will be forging the emergency phone tree. Please take responsibility for yourself. If the weather looks bad, call me. Not all members text or have answering machines. Not everyone checks their emails throughout the day. Please call me if you can't make it to our fraternity meetings.

And if you are stressed out, realize that you really need fraternity at that time...that is what fraternity is for--support, listening, praying for each other and hugs. We can't help you if we don't know what you're going through.

December Outreach

Our December giving project is to support the St. Vincent de Paul Society. During our next fraternity meeting we will collect gift cards and checks to assist people in our local communities who are in need right now. Please come prepared to help. I will be sending out information on to whom those checks need to be made out, i.e., parish or St. Vincent's.

See you soon!

Sue G. OFS

Our Monthly Gathering

Our monthly gathering will be on **Monday, December 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish in Inverness**. There will be a Communion Service. We will celebrate Christmas as fraternity. Please bring a small snack to share with your brothers and sisters.

And So We Pray...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Universal intention - *Catechists*

Let us pray that the catechists, summoned to announce the word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

LET US PRAY...

For Brother Tim as he transitions to new employment, Lord, hear our prayer.

For Sister Bonnie and an improvement in her health, Lord, hear our prayer.

For Sister Sue G.'s son, as he battles his alcohol addiction, Lord, hear our prayer.

For Sister Sue B. and her ongoing family issues, Lord, hear our prayer.

For our Sisters who are homebound, and for all of us, as we continue to journey together in this Covid time, Lord hear our prayer.

St. Francis' Prayer

Our father St. Francis passed on to us only prayers of praise. He went simply through his life finding new things for which to praise God at every turn: the little things, nature, the creatures, the animals, situations, his brothers--for whatever is happening, he praises God. Francis is never achieving God's love; he is celebrating it! He continually celebrates God's love in everything he sees and experiences. Mature prayer always breaks into gratitude.

Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful, praising God until we ourselves are an act of praise.

Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

Radical Grace

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2022

Monday, Jan. 10	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Communion Service
Sunday, Jan. 23	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 14	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Liturgy of the Hours
Monday, Mar. 14	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Communion Service
Sunday, Mar. 27	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, Apr. 11	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Stations of the Cross
Monday, May 9	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Crown Rosary
Sunday, May 22	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, June 13	Candidates' celebration will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness
Monday, July 11	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Day of Recollection
Sunday, July 24	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 8	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Lectio Divina
Monday, Sept. 12	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Liturgy of the Hours
Sunday, Sept. 25	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 10	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Transitus
Monday, Nov. 14	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Commemoration of our deceased
Sunday, Nov. 27	Council Meeting, Minister's home at 1 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 12	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness Communion Service

GUADALUPE - Evangelizing Woman

In 1531, exactly ten years after the Spanish conquest of the native peoples of Mexico, there was an unprecedented “constellation of signs” that came at once from the heavens of Catholic Spain and the mythologies of the indigenous Americans: We call it the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Like all ongoing revelation, it has taken us four hundred years to begin to unravel the depths of loving mystery that was revealed in this encounter between “a dear brown woman from heaven” (La Morenita) and Juan Diego, a poor Christianized Nahuatl Indian.

The oppressed Indians had lost everything: their land, their honor, their freedom, but most of all their gods. There was nothing left to do except die. But true to the biblical pattern, God’s way is not just to punish or destroy the misguided oppressors, but to surprise and subvert their explanations by creating a new and better reality through which they themselves could be converted and transformed. As always, God seems to be an expert in beating people at their own game.

In this case, the Lord speaks through the “Mother of the true God through whom one lives,” whom the Spanish call Mary. But she is dressed in the clothes of the Indians, speaks their Nahuatl language and uses Juan Diego, one of the poorest, to “repreach” the gospel back to the people who thought they had the gospel in the first place. It’s a classic example of God taking unexpected sides to usher in a new civilization—just when the Nahuatl thought it was all over! In one generation, under this mother symbol, almost all of the native peoples accept Christianity. A new *mestizo* people, and I might say a new mestizo Christianity, unfolds. We are slowly, hesitatingly learning that there is no other kind. Christ always takes on the face and features of each people he loves. In this case God knew that the face and features had to be feminine and compassionate. There was no other sign that could convert the Spanish *machismo* and the matriarchal religion of the Indians at the same time.

Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM
Radical Grace, “Our Lady of Guadalupe”

Council Members

Minister	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>minister@nwfranciscans.org</i>
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Councilor-at-Large	Marion Tuttle, OFS	

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