



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Greetings to my Franciscan Family!

As I write this with so-o-o much on my mind and in my heart, I ask you to bear with me and hear me out.

I have just gotten confirmation from the region that we will have our council elections on Monday, September 9th at 1 p.m....so, please, we need you all to be present.

Tim has been very busy putting our slate together and calling members to see if they are willing to serve and practice their servant leadership. Excuses have been heard: "I have health issues," "I'm not comfortable with that," and, "if they ask me to do anything else, I'll quit."

We need to have everyone step up and be an active part of our Franciscan Community or we will cease to exist. We only exist because of our St. Francis and our rule.

Rule 21 states:

1. On various levels, each fraternity is animated and guided by a council and minister.
2. The Office of minister or councilor is a fraternal service, a commitment to hold oneself available and responsible in relation to each brother and sister and to the fraternity so that each one will realize his or her own vocation and each fraternity will be a true community, ecclesial and Franciscan, actively present in the Church and in society.

When we were professed, we were also taking on and joining into the vitality of the fraternity...

TO BE an active part of/not just a visitor to the fraternity. We have always said that being a Secular Franciscan is not a club. WE ALL have health issues. None of us feel comfortable leading, but start with prayer and lean heavily on our team to work together...we are never alone...we discern, we share and talk things out and put things to vote. Life is hectic for us all, being on council is one extra meeting a month. A term in office is 3 years long...and we are currently looking to change days/time of our meeting to accommodate those who are working. So, I pray, please consider running for an office on our council.

Our current candidate slate for Franciscan Elections, September 2024 is:

Minister:	Sue Gribbon
Vice Minister:	Tim Panzica and Patti Kaczor
Formation Director:	Kay Crnich
Treasurer:	Kathy Fischer
Secretary:	Tim Panzica
Councilor-at-large	Patti Kaczor

We, on the council, would like to see at least 2 candidates running for each council position. Please, I beg those of you who are professed, pray about this and call me so that I can add your name to

From the Minister continued from page 1:

the slate. Our fraternity is only as good as the life and vitality that we all put forth in making decisions. It should not be the same people time and again.
And, so I pray...for us all...please, let's make this work.
Sue, OFS

Our Monthly Gathering

We will gather on **Monday, August 12, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.** at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, in Room 83 on the lower level. Our liturgy will be the Lectio Divina.

Profession Anniversaries

Each month, we remember the anniversaries of those who were professed during that month and the number of years since profession. It is easy to forget what we professed on that day.

Celebrant: Before this fraternity and the other members of the People of God gathered here, I ask you to express your will. Do you wish to embrace the gospel way of life by following the example and words of St. Francis of Assisi, which are at the heart of the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order?

Member: **Yes, this is what I want.**

Celebrant: Do you wish to be faithful to this vocation and to practice the spirit of service proper to Secular Franciscans?

Member: **Yes, this is what I want.**

Celebrant: Do you wish to bind yourself more closely to the Church and to work intently to rebuild the ecclesial community and fulfill its mission among all people?

Member: **Yes, this is what I want.**

**I, _____, by the grace of God,
renew my baptismal promises
and consecrate myself to the service of his Kingdom.
Therefore, in my secular state
I promise to live all the days of my life
the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
in the Secular Franciscan Order
by observing its rule of life.**

Profession vows continued from page 2

**May the grace of the Holy Spirit,
the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and our holy father St. Francis,
and the fraternal bonds of community
always be my help,
so that I may reach the goal
of perfect Christian love.**

These themes are expressed in the language of the ritual:

Renewal of baptismal promises: **renew my baptismal promises**

Service to God: **service of his Kingdom**

Permanence of the commitment: *all the days of my life*

Gospel Life: **the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Importance of the rule: **by observing its rule of life**

Centrality of Fraternal Life: **the fraternal bonds of community**

We Pray ...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST

For the political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

Franciscan Outreach

JOURNEYS/THE ROAD HOME

We will again collect items for Journeys/the Road Home at our **August** gathering. Print out the list below and keep it in a handy place. When these items are on sale or you are at the Dollar Tree, pick up a few items and keep them for the August gathering. Contact **Sister RoseAnn** for more information on Journeys.

Most needed items:

Razors and shaving cream

Baby wipes

Large backpacks

Body wash - MOST NEEDED

Shampoo & conditioner - MOST NEEDED

Pullups - ALL SIZES

Franciscan Outreach continued from page 3:

Food items:

Bottled water	Pasta (dried and canned)	Canned soups*
Rice	Pasta sauce	Canned fruit*
Peanut butter	Cereal - large boxes	Canned vegetables*
Jelly	Canned stew, fish and chicken*	Canned beans*
	* pop top cans preferred	No bulk items

HOPEFUL BEGINNINGS

The next collection for Hopeful Beginnings will be at our **October** gathering. This will be a collection of clothes and baby items needed for fall and winter.

Specific needs for babies and toddlers:

diapers - sizes 3T, 4T, 5T, lotions and soaps (hypoallergenic, if possible), wash cloths, towels, formula, lotions, soap, bibs,

Clothing for Boys and Girls: Most needed sizes are 3T, 4T, 5T

Size 2T and 3T pants and jeans for boys are rarely donated (boys wear out the knees)

Snug-fitted foot cotton pajamas, loose-fit footed pajamas, jeans, pants, tops,

Also needed: underwear, socks, short sleeve tops, shorts, lightweight pants and jackets.

Contact **Sister Stephanie** for more information.

BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

If you are able, pack five (5) one-gallon Ziploc bags with the following items and bring them to the **June** meeting each year:

Necessities:	hand sanitizer (small size)	soap and body wash
	hand wipes	wash cloths
	socks	

Optional items:

toothpaste and toothbrush	deodorant
packs of tissues	Vaseline or lotion
razors	cotton balls
lip balm	pad of paper and pen
Q-tips	hard candy/mints

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Pack bags of nutritious grain for those living in the most destitute areas on our planet. Members of our fraternity will participate in this work of service every other month from **2:30 to 4:00 p.m.** Our next outreach is **Sept. 25** from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. Contact **Sister Sue** for more information.

Loose change wanted - at each monthly fraternity gathering, fraternity members have an opportunity to donate their loose change so that we can provide the funds to feed a child for a year. Whenever a total of \$53 in change is collected, it will be matched by \$53 from our Common Fund for a total of \$106, the cost of feeding a starving child in another country for a year.

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2024

Monday, Aug. 12	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family Parish. We will collect items for Journeys/The Road Home. <i>Liturgy Lectio Divina.</i>
Sunday, Aug. 25	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 9	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>The triannual election of Council Members will be held. LOTH.</i>
Sunday, Sept. 22	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 7	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. There will be a collection of fall clothing and baby items for Hopeful Beginnings. <i>Liturgy Transitus and Renewal of Profession Vows.</i>
Sunday, Oct. 27	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 11	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family Parish. We will pack Thanksgiving baskets for the Palatine Township needy. <i>Liturgy will commemorate the deceased.</i>
Sunday, Nov. 24	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 9	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Liturgy - Communion Service.</i>
Sunday, Dec. 22	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.

Calendar of Regional Gatherings 2024

Saturday, August 3	Portiuncula (Virtual Only)
Saturday, September 28	Fall Formation Day, Mayslake
Saturday, October 19	REC Meeting, Mayslake
Sunday, October 27	All Soul's Day Prayer Service, OFS Section, Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, IL 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 9	Mother Cabrini Celebration (Cluster One) location TBD

Council Members

Minister	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>sgribbon1949@gmail.com</i>
Vice Minister	Tim Panzica, OFS	
Formation Director	Kay Crnich, OFS	
Secretary	Marion Tuttle, OFS	
Treasurer	Kathy Fischer, OFS	
Spiritual Assistant	open	
Councilor-at-Large	open	

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