



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Greetings my Brothers and Sisters!

I hope you are all staying safe in this heat that we are currently experiencing and finding ways to enjoy family and friends.

This week we delivered a trunk load of Blessing Bags to the Franciscan Outreach/Homeless Shelter on Harrison Street in Chicago. When I cautioned a helper to be careful with the Blessing Bags, as they were heavy, he replied, “they can’t be heavy enough”. And then, laughing, he said, “I smell deodorant and soap, we really need this now” (this was said on a 95-degree day). I hugged both Jasmine, the director of that homeless site, and the man who helped me carry the Blessing Bags into the building.

At our last gathering, during our group discussion, a member asked, “What can I do? There is so much need?”

Within our fraternity, every month, we are doing something. Here is our year-long visit:

January	Feed My Starving Children – filling bags of grain
February	Collection of items for Journeys the Road Home
March	Feed My Starving Children
April	Collection of baby and toddler items for Hopeful Beginnings
May	Feed My Starving Children
June	Collection for Franciscan Outreach/Blessing Bags
July	Feed My Starving Children
August	Collection of items for Journeys the Road Home
September	Feed My Starving Children
October	Collection of baby and toddler items for Hopeful Beginnings
November	Providing Thanksgiving Baskets for Palatine Township needy
December	Feed My Starving Children

In addition,

members visit our shut-ins,
help clean the grave sites of the Secular Franciscan section at Queen of Heaven Cemetery,
do the research and present on a Psalm for the fraternity,
be willing to run for a fraternity council position.

We are all able to do something. We all have gifts to share and put into action. So, I ask you to live your Franciscan commitment and live our Franciscan rule. Psalm 55:22 states: “Cast your

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cares on the Lord, and he will sustain you.” Find your passion and bring it to our gatherings. We are called to serve. Hopefully, we have something for everyone to “do”.

July 31st will be our next Feed My Starving Children event from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Currently, we have four members signed up: Patti, Matthew, Jerry and Kathy. If anyone else would like to go, please let me know.

Peace to you and yours as we continue being the hands and feet of Christ.

Sue, OFS

Our Monthly Gathering

We will gather on **Monday, July 8, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.** at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, in Room 83 on the lower level. Our liturgy will be the Liturgy of the Hours.

Profession Anniversaries

There are no specific profession anniversaries this month. Let us all pray for each other that we will be given by God the graces we need to fulfill the promises we made on our profession day.

We Pray ...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JULY

For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

Franciscan Outreach

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 **July 31th** 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.

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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	Body wash - MOST NEEDED
Baby wipes	Shampoo & conditioner - MOST NEEDED
Large backpacks	Pullups - ALL SIZES

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

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2024

Monday, July 8	Monthly gathering will be held at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room on the Lower Level at Holy Family, Inverness. <i>LOTH.</i>
Sunday, July 21	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
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. The triannual election of Council Members will be held at this gathering. <i>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

All events listed in this calendar are at Mayslake, except where noted.

Saturday, August 3	Portiuncula (Virtual Only)
Saturday, September 28	Fall Formation Day
Saturday, October 19	REC Meeting
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

God's Drinking Straw

I am just a drinking straw,
Of myself I cannot nourish you.
Any good that you receive
Is God's grace flowing through.

When I am a hard glass straw
Rigid, fragile and easy to break,
I am of little use in God's plan
For stress I cannot take.

When I am a solid metal straw
I stand tall and straight
Happy to dispense what I love
And refuse what I hate.

When I am a twisty straw
People love me and I glow,
But the little good I splatter about
Is really all for show.

It's only when I am a flexible straw
Which God can shape and bend to His will,
That His mercy flows thru abundantly
Allowing others to have their fill.

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.

Live Simply so that others can Simply Live.