



## *Dear Brothers & Sisters*

### **From the Minister**

WHERE TO BEGIN? First, in thanksgiving for ALL of you, our Franciscan Family and Friends and OUR way of life. We have been busy bees in our service to our community and our parishes. And we are attracting others by what we do.

At the last fraternity meeting, I submitted a Fed Ex bill to our treasurer for the printing of twelve more copies of our rule and constitution to be used in our formation program. We also had twenty copies of our new membership directory made and these were handed out at our last gathering. I will also be distributing an addendum of our professed shut-ins.

On April 26th, there were six of us very competitive secular Franciscans who worked at Feed My Starving Children. We packed twenty-five boxes (that is 2/3 of a pallet of manna packs). Our next FMSC date is May 31st. Currently, we have nine brothers and sisters scheduled to participate on that date. At our gatherings in April and May, the loose change collection netted half of the \$106 needed to feed a child for a year; our fraternity paid the other half from the Common Fund. We made a donation of \$106 on April 26th and will do so again on May 31st. We received a huge thank you for the April donation. Way to go!

So what are we doing in June? We are donating Blessing Bags for Franciscan Outreach. If you are able to:

Pack five (5) one-gallon size Ziploc bags with the following items: hand sanitizer (small), hand wipes, soap or body wash and wash cloths.

Optional items can include: socks, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, comb, packs of tissues, lotion or Vaseline, razors, lip balm, candy/mints.

Please bring your Blessing Bags to the June 12th fraternity meeting.

In July, our Sister Mary Kay, who attends Our Lady of the Wayside, will collect religious items (we all have so many of these) that will be sent to missionaries for their use...so be thinking of what you may want to pass on for others to use.

On July 26th, from 2:00 - 3:45 p.m., we will work at Feed My Starving Children.

Our loose change collection will be ongoing each month at our gathering to provide the funds for food to feed a child for a year.

Each month, I will also be collecting any aluminum pull tabs (from soda/soup cans), beer cans, or cat food cans. This is a collection that can be recycled and the money from recycling is used to support our Laurie Children's Hospital and their Ronald McDonald House. So let's recycle and help others!

So I end with prayers and praises for ALL the blessings in our lives and the miracles that we experience..for all the Good, the Bad and the Craziess that we are all experiencing. And a challenge from Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB, "Age does not forgive us our responsibility to give the world back to God a bit better than it was before we were here." Sounds a bit Franciscan to me...and so we shall live.

Peace and all Good, now and always,

Sue, OFS

## Our Monthly Gathering

We will gather on **Monday, June 12, 2023**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Center at Holy Family Catholic Church. We will pray the Liturgy of the Hours. Please bring a snack to share at social time.

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## We Pray ...

### PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

#### For the Abolition of Torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

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## Profession Anniversaries

June is a prolific month for anniversaries:

- June 6            Brother Tom celebrates 46 years as a secular Franciscan.
- June 12          Sisters Kathy and Faith celebrate 6 years.
- June 27          Sisters Mary Anita, RoseAnn and Marion celebrate their second anniversary

May God's abundant blessings surround you as they serve not only those in need, but also, us, their brothers and sisters in fraternity.

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## Franciscan Outreach

### FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

This ministry packs bags of nutritious grain for those living in the poorest and most destitute areas on our planet. Members of our fraternity will participate in this work of service every other month. The remaining dates for 2023 will be:

**July 26**

**September 27**

**December 27**

from **2:00 to 3:45 p.m.** Contact **Sister Sue G.** 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. It is mindboggling to think that for the lack of a measly 29 cents a day, a child will starve.

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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 Sue** for more information on Journeys.

### **MOST NEEDED ITEMS - JOURNEYS/THE ROAD HOME**

#### **Shampoo and conditioner (all sizes) and body wash**

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*	Canned beans*
	Canned fish and chicken*	
* 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 for **Fall and Winter**. The most needed are clothes for toddlers 2T-5T, especially boy's jeans and pants. Little boys have a way of wearing out the fabric of their pants at the knees with their active play. As you shop, keep checking those clearance racks; the deepest discounts on winter clothing may still be found as everyone is thinking summer. Also needed are the necessities for caring for babies and toddlers: diapers, formula, lotions, soap, bibs, socks, underwear, etc. Contact **Sister Stephanie** for more information.

Hopeful Beginnings is most grateful for the abundance of items donated in April. Thank You!

### **LAURIE CHILDREN'S/RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE**

Save the pull tabs from soda and beer cans, soup cans, cat food cans. Bring these each month to the gathering. Sister **Sue** will collect these for recycling.

The funds from recycling are used to help families who stay at Ronald McDonald House while their children is being treated for cancer.

### **RELIGIOUS ITEMS FOR THE MISSIONS**

At our **July** meeting, **Sister Mary Kay** will collect religious articles which will then be sent to missionaries for distribution to the people they serve who are eagerly awaiting them.

At the June gathering, she will advise us of the items that are being sought by the missionaries. This will give us a month to go through our religious articles and select those for donation

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## How Jesus Showed Love

During a pilgrimage to Italy, amidst the tumult of Rome, all kinds of negative comments were heard. Even if the language spoken was not understood, the meaning of the words was easily apparent because of the facial expressions and gestures of the speaker. So much criticism. So much self-righteousness. So much ego.

Then we travelled to Assisi, the home of St. Francis. An undefinable peace pervaded the entire city and countryside. For several days, we walked where Francis walked and tried to understand him a bit better, hoping to learn how to live as he did - a Gospel life. Read a Gospel passage and ponder it. Francis considered the Gospels the blueprint for living his life. What did he understand when he heard a Gospel passage? Did he only understand what Jesus said or did he also understand what Jesus didn't say?

Some of the disciples argued about who would be greater in Jesus' kingdom. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "You idiots."

Ten lepers were cleansed. Only one came back to give thanks. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "Those nine ingrates. I'm going to withdraw my power from them."

Jesus asked a tax collector to join his disciples. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "On second thought, what will the Pharisees think? This won't be so good for my image."

Jesus was tender to the poor. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "They're just lazy. I'm sure if they tried harder..."

Jesus fed five thousand. Francis didn't hear Jesus say to Philip, "You're right. They must have some money. Let them go into the villages and see what they can buy."

Jesus had compassion on the woman taken in adultery. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "You slut. You deserve what you're getting."

Peter denied Jesus three times. Francis didn't hear Jesus say, "I know you are sorry, Peter, and I forgive you. But, maybe, I should pick someone else to head my church; I'm not sure I can trust you."

Francis saw Jesus treat every person with love, regardless of what they thought of him or how they treated him. Jesus, who was the Son of God, was never judgmental. Not only did he forgive 70x7, he gave endless chances. Francis, who wanted only to be like his Lord Jesus, did the same.

Anon.

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## Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2023

<b>Monday, June 12</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i>
<b>Sunday, June 25</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, July 10</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Liturgy to be determined</i>
<b>Sunday, July 23</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, Aug. 14</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, <i>Lectio Divina</i>
<b>Sunday, Aug. 27</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, Sept. 11</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i>

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<b>Sunday, Sept. 24</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, Oct. 2</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, <i>Transitus, Renewal of Profession Vows</i>
<b>Sunday, Oct. 22</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, Nov. 13</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, <i>Commemoration of deceased/LOTH</i>
<b>Sunday, Nov. 26</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Monday, Dec. 11</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at <b>1 p.m.</b> in the <b>Senior Center</b> at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, <i>Communion Service</i>
<b>Sunday, Dec. 17</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.

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## Calendar of Regional Gatherings 2023

<b>Sat. Aug. 5, 2023</b>	<b>Portiuncula Gathering</b> (Cluster Four)
<b>Sat. Sept. 30, 2023</b>	<b>Fall Formation Day</b> (Cluster One)
<b>Sun. Nov. 12, 2023</b>	<b>Mother Cabrini Celebration</b> (Cluster Five)

All events are at Mayslake Village, except where noted.

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## Council Members

<b>Minister</b>	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>minister@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Vice Minister</b>	Tim Panzica, OFS	
<b>Formation Director</b>	Kay Crnich, OFS	
<b>Secretary</b>	Marion Tuttle, OFS	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathy Fischer, OFS	
<b>Spiritual Assistant</b>	Jerry Stecker, OFS	
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	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.*

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***Live Simply, so that Others can Simply Live.***

***Preach the Gospel always; if necessary, use Words.***