



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Greetings my Brothers and Sisters! Buongiorno!

I hope and pray that your hearts are full of the hope, love and thanksgiving that this season brings to us all. A song that comes to mind is: “How Can I Keep From Singing” and the stanza:

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I’m clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

And so I sing this loudly and from my very depths...and in THANKFULNESS for ALL the blessings I have experienced recently.

I’m sorry to have missed our May gathering, you were all in my prayers I was able to travel to Texas to celebrate our oldest grandson’s college graduation, our middle grandson’s 20th birthday, our youngest grandson’s high school graduation, our daughter and son-in-law’s 25th wedding anniversary and to visit my 96-year-old aunt who is in hospice and currently able to verbally throw barbs at me! All I can say is “Thank you, God, for safe traveling and all the love that was felt and displayed. GOD IS SO GOOD.”

But I also know that GOD IS SO GOOD in the hurts and sorrows of life as well. And I know that many of you are feeling these hurts in your losses, poor health, your depression and in all the fighting going on around us and around our world.

So, I ask you to come to our gatherings, we need you as much as you need us. *Your absence is felt.* At your profession, you made a commitment to make the OFS a priority in your life forever. This is like exercise—you will feel better when you come to our fraternity gatherings! I missed May, but it was my first absence in a year. And I get that we all have times where we will not be able to be present at our gatherings. But, some call every month stating they cannot come; some don’t bother to call. If you are not attending regularly, we will need to look at a Professed/Inactive status. So, my plea to you is, please come back.

Secondly, I need to hear from each and *everyone* of you regarding your contact information in our fraternity membership directory. The Regional and National levels have a new data base that requires your birth year...I know, we’re all young. The information we need can be found in a separate article in this newsletter. Please email or text me your information before June 20, so that in July we can have new member directories to distribute.

Our Stephanie, is our newsletter editor. I write the Minister’s Message and she does all the rest, the *Magic* to make it all come together and flow. Please read it; there is so much to keep you up to date and in the loop. Thank you, Stephanie.

So, peace to you all. We are all in each other’s prayers and thoughts. We are stronger together than apart. We chose this Franciscan Path—let’s live and put into action our profession. Thank you.

Peace and all good,

Sue, OFS

Our Monthly Gathering

We will gather on **Monday, June 10, 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. Please remember to bring your Blessing Bags for the homeless.

Membership Directory Information

Every member of the fraternity is required to submit the following information to the Minister by June 20, 2024.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

PHONE NUMBER(S) state if home phone or cell phone
EMAIL ADDRESS

DAY, MONTH AND YEAR OF PROFESSION (professed only)

DAY, MONTH AND YEAR OF BIRTH (the year is required; but will not be published in member directory)

NAME OF PARISH
CITY, STATE

Profession Anniversaries

SIX members of our fraternity are celebrating anniversaries of profession this month:

June 6 Tom Sharapata celebrates 47 years
June 12 Kathy Fischer and
 Faith Phillips celebrate 7 years
June 27 Mary Anita Campbell
 Marion Tuttle
 RoseAnn Yanik all celebrate 3 years

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

We Pray ...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

For the Migrants Fleeing Their Homes

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

How Words Matter

Where we stand and who we stand with can change things. Read the following as we normally do from top to bottom. This may sound like what we hear in the media or from people around us. Allow the words and emotions that arise to be acknowledged. Then read from the bottom up which is a totally new perspective—from a place of faith and love. Allow the words and emotions that arise to touch your heart and mind.

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt us a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Lazy loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our country
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

Franciscan Outreach

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:

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

Optional items:

toothpaste and toothbrush	deodorant
packs of tissues	Vaseline or lotion
razors	socks
lip balm	hard candy/mints

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 from **2:30 to 4:00 p.m.**

Our next outreach is **July 24th** 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. It is mindboggling to think that for the lack of a measly 29 cents a day, a child will starve.

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.

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2024

- Monday, June 10** Monthly gathering will be held at **1 p.m.** in the **Gathering Room** on the **Lower Level** at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. We will bring items and fill Blessing Bags for Franciscan Outreach. *LOTH.*
- Sunday, June 23** Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
- Monday, July 8** Monthly gathering will be held at **1 p.m.** in the **Gathering Room** on the **Lower Level** at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. *Liturgy TBD.*
- Sunday, July 28** 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, Inverness. The biannual collection of items for Journeys/The Road Home will be held. *Liturgy Lectio Divina.*
- 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. *LOTH.*
- 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. *Liturgy Transitus and Renewal of Profession Vows.*
- 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, Inverness. We will pack Thanksgiving baskets for the Palatine Township needy. *Liturgy will commemorate the deceased.*

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- 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. *Liturgy - Communion Service.*
- 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

* Our fraternity is part of Cluster Four together with Junipero Serra fraternity and St. Maximilian Kolbe fraternity. As such we will be sharing the hosting of the Spring Formation Day.

Council Members

- Minister** Susan Gribbon, OFS *minister@nwfranciscans.org*
- 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.