



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Time, calendars, seasons...our schedules...God's time. I think this Covid time has made me step back and slow down. And while these past two years were often quiet (without daily busy social times and activities), I can honestly say those two years passed quickly...but don't ask me what I did.

I think in the last two years, we all experienced this in our Mass attendance: we remember a time when the churches were closed and Mass was live streamed. Next the churches opened, but we had to register to attend as the number of attendees was limited, and we had to practice social distancing and wear masks as well as only being able to receive Communion in our hands and no acolytes or gift bearers were allowed. Gradually, more and more were able to attend, but so many stayed home and continued to live stream their Sunday service out of fear. But this past Easter had our churches full to overflowing. Most attendees were maskless. There was music, smiles, some handshakes and some hugs. We gathered as a community of believers, singing our praises and thanksgiving to our Risen Lord. What a truly wonder-filled experience was Easter for me. I will never take this for granted again.

Covid taught me that I could meet God anywhere, in a sunrise or sunset, taking a walk through nature, working in my garden, listening to the birds or working with my honeybees or monarch butterflies. I wish to retain that awareness as well as be thankful for our full churches as we all come together to celebrate the Church as the Body of Christ.

So, I add a prayer from our St. Anthony Messenger (April 2022):

The Resurrection Prayer

Risen Lord,
by your very incarnation,
You made all things holy.
And by your resurrection,
You ensure our incorruptibility.
Open our eyes throughout this blessed season
of Easter,
so that we may better see and appreciate,
like St. Francis,
how surrounded we are by Your love.
Amen.

At our April gathering, we were delighted to welcome seven guests who shared a Communion Service with us and were interested in knowing more about our secular Franciscan way of life:

Barb N., Ron S., Janeen F., Denise A., Carrie C., Mark and Marisa G. We look forward to being with them again and having the opportunity of getting to know them better. Remember that at our May fraternity gathering we will be having a "Franciscan Shop and Swap". Bring any Franciscan items (books or statues) that you are willing to part with. All proceeds will go to our treasury...so bring money to buy things!
Peace and All Good.
Sue G., OFS

Our Monthly Gathering

Our monthly gathering will be on **Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Brennan Library** at **Holy Family Parish in Inverness**. There will be formation as well as our Franciscan Shop and Swap. The Liturgy will be the Crown Rosary.

Profession Anniversaries

This month we will celebrate the following profession anniversaries:

May 6	Lea N.	38 years professed
May 8	Sue G.	16 years professed
May 13	Kay C.	9 years professed

We are on this journey together! *Minister*

And So We Pray...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR MAY

For faith-filled young people

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life, the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that generates faith, and the dedication to service.

During this Easter season which lasts until the Feast of Pentecost, let us use the prayer which our Minister has shared with us in her message to us. Let us pray this prayer:

In thanksgiving for the overwhelming blessings our God has bestowed on each of us,

During those times when we feel less than grateful for the situations that trouble our lives,

As an acknowledgment of our belief that we also are to take up the crosses God has given us and that we will never be carrying them alone,

In remembrance, not of who we are, but Whose we are.

Franciscan Crown Rosary - the Seven Joys of Mary CIOFS

The seven-decade Crown Rosary dates back to the fifteenth century when the Blessed Mother appeared in Assisi to a Franciscan friar named James. As a child, James had offered Mary a crown of roses every day as a sign of his love and devotion to her. As a Franciscan, he was distressed that he could no longer do so. Mary appeared to James and instructed him to weave for her a crown of prayers instead by reciting a rosary of seven decades, each one meditating on one of the seven joyful events in her life. This is how to pray the Franciscan Crown Rosary:

In the name of the Father...

The First Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE ANNUNCIATION

Immaculate Virgin Mary, greeted by the angel, by your humble "yes", keep us in continuous union with Jesus.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Second Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE VISITATION TO HER COUSIN, ST. ELIZABETH

O Virgin Mary, who went to visit St. Elizabeth, to sanctify John the Baptist, make those who bring Jesus to people assiduous in mercy.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Third Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

O Virgin Mary, in your poverty beside the manger, help us to obtain the riches of Franciscan poverty, through which we receive Jesus and we can say: "My God and my All!"

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Fourth Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

O Virgin Mary, who showed Jesus to the three Magi, always increase our faith so that we will be able to pass it on to those we meet.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Fifth Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE FINDING OF THE CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

O Virgin Mary, so happy to have found your Son, pray for us to keep faithfully the grace of never losing Jesus and to help everyone to find Him.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Sixth Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE RISEN SAVIOR APPEARS TO HIS MOTHER ON EASTER MORNING

O Virgin Mary, comforted by the risen Jesus, grant that we may have the desire of the Spirit that comforts us with the knowledge that Jesus lives in us and in other people.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

The Seventh Joy of the Virgin Mary: THE ASSUMPTION AND CORONATION OF MARY AS QUEEN OF HEAVEN

O Virgin Mary, elevated into glory, draw us to you through faithful knowledge of your Divine Son and through the desire of the Kingdom of God.

Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be...

After the last mystery, 2 *Hail Marys* are recited (according to tradition Mary lived for 72 years; therefore, by reciting 72 *Hail Marys*, all the years of her life are honored).

For the Pope's intentions: *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2022

Monday, May 9	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Crown Rosary</i>
Sunday, May 15	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, June 13	Newly professed anniversary 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. <i>Day of Recollection</i>
Sunday, July 24	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 8	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Lectio Divina</i>
Monday, Sept. 12	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i>
Sunday, Sept. 25	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 10	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Transitus</i>
Monday, Nov. 14	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Commemoration of deceased</i>
Sunday, Nov. 27	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 12	Monthly gathering will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brennan Library at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. <i>Day of Recollection</i>

Council Members

Minister	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>minister@nwfranciscans.org</i>
Vice Minister	Tim Panzica, OFS	<i>viceminister@nwfranciscans.org</i>
Formation Director	Kay Crnich, OFS	<i>formation@nwfranciscans.org</i>
Secretary	Suzanne Rogers, OFS	<i>secretary@nwfranciscans.org</i>
Treasurer	Kathy Fischer, OFS	<i>treasurer@nwfranciscans.org</i>
Spiritual Assistant	Jerry Stecker, OFS	<i>sa@nwfranciscans.org</i>
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.

Live Simply so That Others Can Simply Live

Preach the Gospel Always; if necessary, use Words.