



## *Dear Brothers & Sisters*

### **From the Minister**

Greetings my Franciscan Brothers and Sisters:

You have made me so thankful for all your generosity this past week...from our regional visitation to our donations to Hopeful Beginnings and our collection of 100 Mother's Day cards for the Lincoln Correctional Center. And our service work at Feed My Starving Children on April 26th... You have truly put your Franciscan values to work! You are all awesome!

When I dropped off our donations at Hopeful Beginnings, they were so happy and thankful...I wish you could have been there to see their smiles and hear their thanks.

Marion is now our official fraternity secretary. This move was approved by the council at our March council meeting. This leaves open the Councilor-at-Large position. Are any of you interested in this position? This would be a great opportunity to come to council meetings and get a feel for how we work at this level. Please let me know if you want to be considered.

At our council meeting on April 23rd, we voted to extend our Jerry's position as Spiritual Assistant for another three years. I will forward these results to Fr. Ed for his approval.

Our Carrie has submitted her letter of intent, requesting admission into Candidacy. A vote was taken by the council and all agreed to she should advance to the next step, the Rite of Admission. Dave will soon be progressing from Orientation to Inquiry. And we have Matt starting Orientation next week. So, we have growth and progress going on within the fraternity.

Our visitation went well. I heard many very positive comments from both our members and the regional visitors. When our final results come back from the region, I will share them with *All* of you.

Don't forget...we now have a donation box at each gathering to collect loose change for Feed My Starving Children. We will match that collection from our treasury, when it reaches \$44, as \$88 feeds a child for a year. Please look for the box each month. Kathy, our treasurer, will bring the box to the monthly council meeting where we will count its contents and keep track of the amount collected. *Guess what?!* We had \$44 as of today, April 23rd, the date of our council meeting. So, on Wednesday, April 26th, when we go to FMSC, we will be bringing a check from all of us to feed a child for a year. THANK YOU!!!

We also took a council vote which resulted in approval for Tim, our webmaster, to expand our website to include more social media to assist in aiding us to increase our membership.

WOW...so much going on and so much for which to be thankful! But, even with all this action and service, we remain forever centered on our Franciscan values of: Simplicity, Harmony and Peace, Compassion, Hope, Reconciliation, Service and Stewardship, Prayer and Reflection. And, so I end... St. Francis, pray for us.

Sue G., OFS

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## Our Monthly Gathering

We will gather on **Monday, May 8, 2023**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Center at Holy Family Catholic Church. There will be a Communion Service.

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## We Pray ...

### PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR MAY

#### For Church movements and groups

We pray that church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of the needs of the world.

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## Profession Anniversaries

Two members of our council are celebrating anniversaries of profession this month:

May 8        Sister Sue G. celebrates 17 years of profession

May 13      Sister Kay celebrates 10 years of profession

May God's abundant blessings surround them 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 participate in this work of service every other month. Contact **Sister Sue G.** for more information.

### 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.

### 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,

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pick up a few items and keep them for the August gathering. Contact **Sister RoseAnn** 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	

*‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’*  
*Matthew 25:40 NIV*

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**Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2023**

<b>Monday, May 8</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, May 21</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:30 p.m.
<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>Possible retreat</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>
<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.

# Calendar of Regional Gatherings 2023

Sat/Sun May 6 and 7, 2023

Sat. Aug. 5, 2023

Sat. Sept. 30, 2023

Sun. Nov. 12, 2023

Chapter of Ministers (REC)

Portiuncula Gathering (Cluster Four)

Fall Formation Day (Cluster One)

Mother Cabrini Celebration (Cluster Five)

All events are at Mayslake Village, except where noted.

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## Council Members

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

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## Take Time

Take time to **THINK** –

it is the source of wisdom.

Take time to **DREAM** –

it is the fountain of the future.

Take time to **PLAY** –

it is the way to stay young.

Take time to **REFLECT** –

it is the way to know God.

Take time to **SMILE** –

it is the road to happiness.

Take time to **LAUGH** –

it is the music of the soul.

Take time to **LOVE** –

it is God's greatest gift.

Take time to **PRAY** –

it is the greatest power on earth.

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

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