



Dear Brothers & Sisters

Secular Franciscan Fraternity

We gather at **7:30 p.m** on the **second Monday** of each month at:

St. Joseph's Home
80 W. Northwest Hwy.
Palatine, IL

Council Members

Minister

Stephanie Heavey, OFS
minister@nwfranciscans.org

Vice-Minister

Sue Gribbon, OFS
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Formation Director

Jackie Leo, OFS
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Secretary

Tim Panzica, OFS
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Treasurer

Kathy Fischer, OFS
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Spiritual Assistant

Jerry Stecker, OFS
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Councilor-at-Large

Kay Crnich, OFS

For privacy, all personal addresses, phone numbers, email, prayer intentions, and (for non-council members) last names are removed from this web version.

The shade of the towering trees protected us from the overly warm sun on the first Sunday in July. After four long months we were finally able to gather once again as fraternity—brothers and sisters happy to be with each other. Our outdoor gathering in the spacious yard of our Spiritual Assistant, Jerry, allowed for following the social distancing guidelines currently in effect to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

We discussed the current chapter in *Waiting for Love* and many agreed that it was the best chapter in the book. We enjoyed learning who our Secret Prayer Partners had been in June. We delighted in welcoming **Lukas** into our fraternity as an Inquirer. We brought to the gathering the items needed to pack Welcome Kit #2 for the Franciscan Outreach program that transitions homeless persons into apartments of their own.

We prayed, we laughed, we talked, we kept cool with the popsicles and ice cream sandwiches graciously provided by our host. Once again, we *were* fraternity! ☒

Our Monthly Gathering...

The July gathering worked so well that in August we will gather again in our spiritual assistant's yard. The particulars are:

Date: Sunday, August 2, 2020
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Brother Jerry's yard

We will continue ongoing formation with Chapter 14 in *Waiting for Love*. Please read the chapter in preparation for a discussion of it.

Since August 2nd is the Feast of the Portiuncula, the little rundown chapel that became home for the first Franciscan brothers. Our Liturgy will focus on the feast.

Please remember to **bring a chair and beverage of choice!** ☒

And So We Pray...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Mary,
We, your children of every nation,
Turn to you in this pandemic.

Our troubles are numerous; our fears are great.
Grant that we might deposit them at your feet,
Take refuge in your Immaculate Heart,
And obtain peace, healing, rescue,
And timely help in all our needs.

You are our Mother.
Pray for us to your Son.
Amen

Morning Offering, The Catholic Company

LET US PRAY

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For **Sister Sue G's family** that their recovery from COVID-19 will be swift and full, we pray to the Lord,

For **an end to pollution of our earth's most precious resource, its water**, we pray to the Lord,

For **patience** to sustain us during this time of separation from our families, friends, jobs and activities which we enjoyed, we pray to the Lord,

For **the gift of fraternal love** that recognizes that *every person in the world* is one of God's beloved children and, therefore, our brother or sister, we pray to the Lord,

For the **Little Sisters of the Poor** and the **residents of St. Joseph's**, that their needs be met and health sustained, we pray to the Lord,

For **all those who have no one to pray for them**, we pray to the Lord, ☩

Anniversaries...

There are no specific anniversaries during August.

God bless all of us as we strive to live our commitment as secular Franciscans.

Franciscan Outreach Welcome Kits

Through the caring and cooperation of the fraternity members, **Welcome Kit #2** has been completed for a homeless person who is transitioning from homelessness into a home (apartment) of his or her own. **Sisters Sue G. and Kay** will transport the kit down to the Outreach center in Chicago.

We will now start gathering together the items needed **Welcome Kit #3**. Below is the complete list of items needed for a kit.

When an item is purchased, the buyer should contact **Sister Faith** who has the Master List. She will then write the person's name next to the item(s) needed and purchased.

July and August are great months for purchasing items at good prices since all these items are being offered to set up college apartments and dorms.

The following items have already been bought for Welcome Kit #3:

4 place settings: plates/bowls/cups
15 piece set of frying pans, pots and pans, bakeware and utensils.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR WELCOME KITS- shopping list

Kitchen:

4 place settings: plates/bowls/cups
4 place settings flatware: forks, knives, spoons
4 each of different sizes glassware

Frying pans – large and small
Saucepans w/lids – 4 qt. 2 qt. 1 qt.
Bakeware: baking pans, cookie sheet
Gadgets: cutting/paring knives, long handle
spoons, spatulas, can opener, measuring cups
and spoons

Bathroom:

Towels – bath and hand, washcloths
Bath mat, toilet brush, plunger
Shower curtain and rings
Toiletries: shampoo, soap, toothpaste,
toothbrush, deodorant, toilet paper,
tissues

Bedroom:

Twin-sized sheet sets
Twin-sized comforter and blankets
Pillows

Cleaning supplies:

Waste baskets, bucket
Mop, broom
Towels, dishcloths
Cleaners and sanitizers
Dish/hand soaps, sponges
Paper toweling

**2 LARGE PLASTIC BINS FOR PACKING
ITEMS**

**10 Ways You Can Make a
Difference**

Be energy efficient. During the summer months, close your curtains to block heat from the sun. During the winter, open your curtains during the day to allow the sun to warm your home. These simple steps can significantly reduce the need for air conditioning and heating, which are likely the most energy-intensive aspects of your home.

Calculate your carbon footprint. Understanding which activities are carbon-intensive allows you to know to take action. ☒

The EPA has a free *carbon footprint calculator* you can use.

Adjust the thermostat. Adjusting your air conditioning or heating when you leave the house will further shrink your carbon footprint. A change of just five degrees is a good start.

Adjust your driving routine. By combining multiple errands into one trip, you reduce the amount of fossil fuel you use.

Go meatless on Fridays. Livestock production accounts for 4% of Americans’ greenhouse gas, according to the EPA. By going meatless one day per week, you’ll both honor Catholic teaching and better care for Creation.

Recycle more. Recycling reduces your carbon footprint both because landfills emit greenhouse gases through decomposition, and because manufacturing from scratch is carbon-intensive. Find where and how to recycle almost anything in your area at *search.earth911.com*.

Use less water. Water processing accounts for approximately 3% of energy use in the United States, according to the EPA. Saving water means saving energy. Post a “please conserve water” sign at sinks and showers, install low-flow spigots, or select the “eco” setting on laundry machines and dishwashers.

Petition policy makers. Your elected officials have the power to take action on climate change. Write policy makers to tell them that you stand for the stewardship of creation.

Write to your local newspaper. Writing a letter to the editor, has effects beyond your local community. Legislators assign their staffs to read letters to the editor as an important barometer of constituents’ interests.

For tip sheets and templates, write to program@catholicclimatecovenant.org.

Form a study or action group at church. We are all strengthened when we act together as a community. Consider forming a Creation Care Team, and visit *Catholic Climate Covenant.org* for more information.

Catholic Climate Covenant
Care for Creation.
Care for the Poor.

Our Apostolates

Bringing the Gospel to Life, and Life to the Gospel in the spirit of St. Francis

BINGO. Meets one night per month at 6:30 pm in St. Joseph's activity room. Please pick one month in which to volunteer. Contact Sisters Kay or Mary Kay to sign up.

FRANCISCAN OUTREACH. This is a year round project. Welcome Kits with necessities for kitchen, bed and bath are needed for every person transitioning from homelessness to an apartment. We will buy the items needed and fill kits throughout the year. For more information, contact Sister Faith.

PRAYER & PRAISE MINISTRY. For our brothers and sisters unable to participate in our monthly gatherings due to poor health or transportation issues. For more information, or if you are ill or know of a member who is ill, please call our infirmarian, Sister Kay.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY. We interweave prayers along with God's love, care, and warmth into the stitches as we knit or crochet shawls for others. For more information, contact Sisters Sue B. or Cyndy.

SUPPORT (Money, Materials). Quarterly donations are taken from any excess funds that are available in our Common Fund *after* all the fraternity obligations are met. The donations are given to Franciscan Outreach, Poor Clares (Palos Park, IL).

YOUTH PRAYER PARTNERS. Coordinated by Brother Tom, this apostolate matches up fraternity members with young people who are preparing for First Communion or Confirmation. For more information, please call Brother Tom.

***Bringing the Gospel to Life
and
Life to the Gospel.***

2020 Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at St. Joseph's Home.

January

~~13: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)~~

February

~~10: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)~~

March

~~02: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

~~09: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)~~

April

~~13: Monthly Gathering (cancelled)~~

~~27: Council Meeting via email~~

May

~~11: Vocation Day (cancelled)~~

VOCATION DAY WILL BE RESCHEDULED

June

~~08: Monthly Gathering (cancelled)~~

~~22: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

July

~~**05: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours) at Brother Jerry's home**~~

August

~~**02: Monthly Gathering at Brother Jerry's home (Feast of the Portiuncula)**~~

~~23: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

September

~~14: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)~~

October

~~12: Monthly Gathering (Crown Rosary)~~

~~26: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

November

~~09: Monthly Gathering (Mass – with Rite of Remembrance)~~

December

~~14: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)~~

~~TBD: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~
