



## *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  
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*Vice-Minister*

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*Secretary*

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*Treasurer*

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*Councilor-at-Large*

Kay Crnich, OFS

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

### **BEING PRO LIFE**

*“A reminder when a politician is called ‘pro life’: Pro life means reverencing not just the unborn child in the womb, but also the Black person who fears for their life in their own neighborhood, the inmate on death row, the starving homeless person in our streets, the migrant family at the border, the LGBTQ teen tempted to suicide in a rejecting family, the poor family without health care in the inner city. Pro life means pro all lives, not pro some lives.”*

*Fr. James Martin, SJ*

This morning (Sunday, September 27, 2020) the Gospel focuses on the parable that Jesus told about the two sons asked to go and work in their father's fields. One said he wouldn't go; then had a change of heart and went. The other son said he would go but never did.

Our pastor at Holy Family related that when he first came to the parish, he admired the green shirts worn by the maintenance staff. He really liked those shirts and after he had been at the parish for a while, he asked the head of maintenance if he could have one. Two days later, it was on his office chair. One day, he decided to wear it. As he was walking down the hallway, a long-time member of the maintenance staff teasingly said, “Don't wear the shirt, if you're not going to do the work.”

“Don't use the title of minister, if you're not going to serve the fraternity.” A reminder to me to do the maintenance work that needs to be done to keep us in fraternity vibrant, healthy and holy.

In the past few months, there has been an overload of horrific stories, comments, so-called “jokes”, cartoons, and slurs about Black people and other races or ethnicities. They have permeated the media, emails, text messages, Facebook, Twitter, and all forms of communication. They are so numerous that they are creeping into the comments, emails and text messages of those who say they abhor Satan. These items are the work of Satan. Not of Jesus Christ who is the Lord of All and loves All. *(continued on page 2)*

**Being Pro Life (cont.)**

Don't bother praying rosary upon rosary or novena upon novena to our Blessed Mother for peace, if you don't stop agreeing with, laughing at, or passing on these racist messages.

Don't wear the Tau cross, if you're not going to follow Francis in the footsteps of Jesus.

Don't sing ALL creatures of our God and King, if you don't mean it.

*Actions speak louder than Words.* ☒

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**Our Monthly Gathering...**

On Sunday, October 4, 2020, we will gather again in Brother Jerry's side yard for our monthly meeting. It is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Founder of the Brothers and Sisters of Penance. We will celebrate the Transitus of St. Francis after formation.

**Date:** Sunday, October 4, 2020  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Brother Jerry's yard

The weather for the day shows temperatures around 55 degrees with only a 30 % chance of rain in the morning. This may change as the date draws closer. Please dress accordingly, bring your lawn chair and your beverage of choice and we will do a re-enactment of the way in which Francis and his first brothers met with joy in the open spaces of God's creation. If we did a real re-enactment, we'd have to forego the lawn chairs and beverage mugs! ☒

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**Anniversaries...**

This month three members of our fraternity are celebrating their anniversaries of profession:

October 1986 Kathleen B.  
Oct. 10, 2010 Sue B.  
Oct. 10, 2010 Cyndy S.

*God bless You as you strive to live your commitment as secular Franciscans.*

**And So We Pray...**

**PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER**

**The Laity's Mission in the Church**

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church. ☒

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**PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

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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

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Morning Offering, The Catholic Company

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**LET US PRAY**

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For **honesty and clarity of vision** as we look at ourselves and our thoughts and actions that contribute to racial injustice and prejudice, 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 willingness to suffer inconveniences** in our daily lives that help protect not only us but our neighbors from COVID-19, 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 all of our brothers and sisters who are also dealing with **personal medical issues**, we pray to the Lord,

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

## Our Ministries

*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 inter-weave 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

Until we can meet regularly, the venue for our gatherings may change from month to month. The newsletter will contain all information on what will occur each month.

### October

04: Monthly Gathering (Transitus)  
Brother Jerry's side yard at 2 p.m.  
26: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

### November

Date, place and time to be determined

### December

Date, place and time to be determined  
TBD: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

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## The Wisdom of St. Clare

*Our body is not made of iron. Our strength is not that of stone. Live and hope in the Lord, and let your service be according to reason.*

*They say that we are poor, but can a heart which possesses the infinite God be truly called poor?*

*What you hold, may you always hold; what you do, may you always do and never abandon. But with swift pace, light step, unswerving feet, so that even your steps stir up no dust, may you go forward securely, joyfully, and swiftly, on the path of prudent happiness.*

*Love God, serve God; everything is in that.*

*St. Clare of Assisi*