



## *Dear Brothers & Sisters*

### **A New Format and a New Minister**

It is with great regret that I have resigned as minister of the fraternity due to health concerns. I had hoped to stay the course until my term was fulfilled in September. The elections in other regional fraternities which should have taken place since March 2020 were put on hold because of the inability to gather as fraternity with the required representation of the regional council. So it is likely that our fraternity will also wait its turn. I will still be an active, participating member of the fraternity.

As great as is my regret, my enthusiasm is even greater knowing that the fraternity is in the most capable hands of Sister Sue G, OFS, who is now the minister. Our prayers and helping hands will ease her responsibilities.

Sister Sue is my model of what a true secular Franciscan should be. Our fraternity will flourish with her loving and wise guidance.

Joy and peace,  
Stephanie, OFS

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### **Our Monthly Gathering**

We will be using *Fratelli Tutti*, chapter 5, for our formation for June. Hopefully, for the last time, the gathering will be through Zoom on Monday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m. Our Spiritual Assistant, Brother Jerry, OFS, will facilitate. Those members who have preferred to pair will meet at a convenient time to discuss the chapter and answer the question(s) in the Study Guide. Send a synopsis of your discussion to Brother Jerry.

On Sunday, June 27, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., the entire fraternity will gather to witness the profession of our candidates, Mary Anita, Suzanne, Marion, and RoseAnne. This gathering will be in the side yard at the home of our Spiritual Assistant, Brother Jerry, OFS. Please arrive a little before 1:00 p.m, so that the ceremony can start on time.

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

## Profession Anniversaries

Congratulations to three of our professed who are celebrating their anniversaries of profession in June. Brother Tom was professed June 6, 1977. Sisters Kathy and Faith were professed on June 12, 2017.

*God's Abundant Blessings be Yours!*

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## And So We Pray ...

### PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

#### **Intention for evangelization – The beauty of marriage**

Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community; may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

#### **LET US PRAY...**

For our **Candidates – Mary Anita, Suzanne, Marion, RoseAnne** – that the Holy Spirit, will shower them with insight and love as they make their professions this month, we pray to the Lord...

For our **Candidates**, that our Father Francis and Mother Clare, will guide their footsteps and hearts, not only as they begin their professed life, but also throughout its length of years, we pray to the Lord...

For all **professed secular Franciscans** throughout the world, that each day they will bring the Gospel to life and life to the Gospel, we pray to the Lord...

For our **shut-in fraternity members**, that their health and isolation will be relieved by our prayers, we pray to the Lord...

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## Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings

<b>June 7, 2021</b>	Zoom formation gathering will be held at 7:00 pm. Pairs will continue to meet.
<b>June 27, 2021</b>	Profession of candidates will be held at 1:00 pm in Brother Jerry's side yard
<b>July 11, 2021</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at 1:00 pm in Brother Jerry's side yard
<b>July 25, 2021</b>	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 pm
<b>August 8, 2021</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at 1:00 pm in Brother Jerry's side yard
<b>September 12, 2021</b>	Monthly gathering will be held at 1:00 pm in Brother Jerry's side yard

# Council Members

<b>Minister</b>	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>minister@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Formation Director</b>	Jackie Leo, OFS	<i>formation@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	Tim Panzica, OFS	<i>secretary@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathy Fischer, OFS	<i>treasurer@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Spiritual Assistant</b>	Jerry Stecker, OFS	<i>sa@nwfranciscans.org</i>
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	Kay Crnich, 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.*

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## June 6, D-Day

*The action that began on this day is the most well-known endeavor that kept the flickering flames of freedom alive. Countless other actions, both big and small—some very small—speak to the desire of man for freedom, if not for himself, then selflessly for others.*

*A story to think about when we feel depressed that the constraints of our own life don't allow us to "do anything".*

Elmer Bendiner was a navigator in a B-17 during WWII. He tells this story of a World War II bombing run over Kessel, Germany, and the unexpected result of a direct hit on their gas tanks.

Our B-17, the *Tondelayo*, was barraged by flak from Nazi antiaircraft guns. That was not unusual, but on this particular occasion the gas tanks were hit.

Later, as I reflected on the miracle of a 20-millimeter shell piercing the fuel tank without touching off an explosion, our pilot, Bohn Fawkes, told me it was not quite that simple. On the morning following the raid, Bohn had gone down to ask our crew chief for that shell as a souvenir of unbelievable luck.

The crew chief told Bohn that not just one shell but eleven had been found in the gas tanks, eleven unexploded shells where only one was sufficient to blast us out of the sky. It was as if the sea had parted for us. A near miracle, I thought. Even after 35 years, so awesome an event leaves me shaken, especially after I heard the rest of the story from Bohn.

He was told that the shells had been sent to the armorers to be defused. The armorers told him that intelligence had picked them up. They could not say why at the time. But Bohn eventually sought out the answer. Apparently, when the armorers opened each of these shells, they found no explosive charge. They were as clean as a whistle and just as harmless.

Empty? No, each contained a carefully rolled piece of paper. On it was a scrawl in Czech. The intelligence people scoured our base for a man who could read Czech. Eventually they found one to decipher the note. It set us marveling.

Translated, the note read:

*"This is all we can do for you now...  
Using Jewish slave labor is never a good idea."*

(This story is confirmed in Elmer Bendiner's book, *The Fall of Fortresses*.)

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