



Dear Brothers & Sisters

Secular Franciscan Order
Palatine, Illinois

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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Treasurer
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Spiritual Assistant
Patrick Mendés, 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.

“I have done what is mine to do. May God teach you what is yours.” These were some of our Holy Father Francis’ last words to his beloved brothers. Words to be pondered by all of us who prayed and sang together on Monday, October 3rd, in memory of the Transitus, the moment when Francis had completed what was his to do and realized the indescribable joy of eternal union with God. We are grateful to our Spiritual Assistant, Brother Patrick, and Brothers Marc and Dcn. Lou, for enriching us with the readings and prayers that are part of the Transitus liturgy. Thank you to Sisters Sue and Jackie, and our Brother Tim, for leading us in song. ☒

Our Monthly Gathering...

Formation for the professed at our monthly meeting on **Monday, November 14, 2016**, at 6:30 p.m. will be devoted to developing a greater understanding of *Lectio Divina* and how to use it as a means of closer union to our Brother Jesus by using the four elements of: *lectio* – reading, *meditatio* – meditating on what was read, *oratio* – letting our hearts speak to God and *contemplatio* – letting go of our thoughts, ideas, and prayers to rest in the Word of God and hear His voice, not ours. We will be given a better knowledge of this beautiful way of reading and absorbing Scripture. How can we “Bring the Gospel to Life and Life to the Gospel” if we truly do not understand what a Gospel passage means? This is what Francis did when he spent time alone in caves and mountainous places like LaVerna.

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All are invited to join us in the chapel at 7:30 p.m. for the celebration of Mass and the Rite of Remembrance for our dear brothers and sisters and relatives who have met Sister Death.

There will be a brief business meeting afterward followed by social time in the ice cream parlor. Notify the minister if it is impossible to attend. ☒

Anniversaries This Month

05: Rosemary (shut-in)
Professed in 1990.

06: Mary Kay, Professed in 2005..

God's blessings for your years
of Franciscan living!

FORMATION FOR DECEMBER

Liturgy of the Hours for Dodos is an absolutely wonderful little book that was found by our Sister Lisa. Whether you have prayed the Liturgy for years or are fumbling your way through it, this book is a gem. **Copies will be distributed at the November fraternity meeting.** Members will use the book to help them pray the liturgy. **Our December formation time will be devoted to questions about praying the liturgy and discussions of the tips provided in this book.** A huge thank you to Sister Lisa for bringing this book to our attention. ☒

Remember in Your Prayers

THE INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR NOVEMBER

Universal: Countries Receiving Refugees

That the countries that take in a great number of displaced persons and refugees may find support for their efforts which show solidarity.

Evangelization: Collaboration of Priests & Laity

That within parishes priests and laity may collaborate in service to the community without giving in to the temptation of discouragement.

[PRIVATE]

All **infirm, shut-in** and **deceased** fraternity members.

All **those in initial formation** and their formation instructors.

Our entire **Franciscan Family, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (Secular and Regular) Orders**

For strength in commitments and increase in vocations.

For the **work we do as fraternity**, especially for **Franciscan Outreach, Franciscan Missionary Union, the Poor Clares in Palos Park, and Amazon Relief.**

For the **Guests of Franciscan Outreach's Soup Kitchen:** that they know God's loving care and overcome the difficulties that keep them homeless.

For the **Little Sisters of the Poor** and the residents of St. Joseph's Home.

For our **families and loved ones.**

2016 Calendar

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

January

10: Monthly Gathering (Profession Mass)
24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home.

February

08: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)
24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

March

14: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)

April

11: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

May

09: Monthly Gathering (Franciscan Crown)
23: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

June

13: Monthly Gathering (Mass, Feast of IHM)

July

11: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

August

08: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)
29: Council Meeting, Stephanie's Home

September

10: (*Saturday*) Fraternity Day of Recollection,
— St. Colette's *replaces regular fraternity*
— *meeting*

October

03: *Transitus of our Holy Father Francis*
— *replaces regular fraternity meeting*

November

14: Monthly Gathering (Mass – with Rite of Remembrance)
20: (*Sunday*) Franciscan Outreach Project, Stephanie's home
20: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home, (following Outreach gathering)

December

12: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

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. Donations are accepted year round in the Christmas stocking at each monthly gathering. 100 Gift Bags are made up in November for the guests at the Franciscan Outreach soup kitchen in Chicago. Contact Sister Stephanie for more information.

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 Jackie.

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 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 Missionary Union, Franciscan Outreach, Poor Clares (Palos Park, IL) and Amazon Relief.

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.

OUTREACH BAG STUFFING

Sun. November 20 – 1 p.m.

Minister’s Home

Sign-up sheets will be at Nov. 14 gathering. Or email Minister.

Mass – Food - Fun

New Membership Directory

As a newbie to the fraternity in 2006, your minister was stymied in sending Christmas cards to sisters who were married. What was the husband’s name? Or a note to a brother and his wife. What is her name? And for all brothers and sisters, the question would arise – what day did they say was their birthday?

This year the updated member directory will be ready in December. It will have a new format that will allow for names of spouses and month and day of birth. **This is a feature that is optional. If you would like this information included in the new directory, please contact your minister. The deadline for this information is Friday Nov. 18th.**

The New Directory will be printed with space to make corrections throughout the year. Copies will be distributed at the December meeting. Copies will also be sent along with the January newsletter to those receiving it by mail.

Common Fund Report-September

Beginning balance:	\$2179.85
Deposits:	150.00
Expenses:	-634.91
Ending balance:	\$1694.94

**LETTING GO
LETTING GOD**

If we don’t, we may not be in the right place at the right time. A lesson taught once again to your minister.

The plan was to spend Thursday at home getting everything ready for a flurry of errands with my daughter on Friday with everything in order: bank deposits, grocery list, coupons, list of items for the Outreach bags, etc. We’d leave bright and early in the morning well organized. Thursday morning a client called my daughter and changed her date to watch the dogs from Thursday to Friday. She had stayed up to watch the last game of the World Series and was working from home.

I wasn’t ready for any of it. But my daughter was free. By the time the deposit slip was made out and the lists, it was almost noon. Not good in my mind.

At the Dollar Tree store in Rolling Meadows, my daughter was helping me get items that were hard to reach. Even she was having a time of it. A driver who was stocking bread came to our rescue. He was curious why we needed so many lip balms. My daughter explained it was for the homeless. The driver asked if we could use bread for the homeless. He was just going to throw it out as instructed.

Not for them, but St. Joseph’s Home probably could. He was happy to give us 37 packages of bread, bagels, rolls, cinnamon bread, which the staff at St. Joseph’s was happy to receive.

It’s a little thing, but...had I not gone shopping until Friday, or even been in the store as early as I had wanted to be, that never would have happened.

Lesson learned.