



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
minister@nwfranciscans.org

Vice-Minister

Geri Allaire, OFS
viceminister@nwfranciscans.org

Formation Director

Sue Gribbon, OFS
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Secretary

Marc Golab, OFS
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Treasurer

Tom Sharapata, OFS
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Spiritual Assistant

Patrick Mendés, OFS
sa@nwfranciscans.org

**Newsletter submissions welcomed
by 25th of each month.** Send to:
minister@nwfranciscans.org

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

Palm Sunday joy seeped into Monday of Holy Week in April, as we gathered for a lively discussion of the questions in Session 2 of *The Holy Year of Mercy*, led by our Formation Director, Sister Sue. Brother Jerry, who completed his training as Spiritual Assistant with our fraternity was given a prayer shawl lovingly made by Sister Cyndy.

Thank you to our Brother Deacon Lou, who gave Jesus to us in a beautiful Communion Service, and to our Sisters Sue and Jackie, and Brother Tim, for leading us in song. ☩

Our Monthly Gathering...

All professed will gather for formation on **Monday, May 8th** at 6:30 pm. We will continue to discuss Session 2 of *The Holy Year of Mercy*, including *Understanding! Grow! Reflect! Act.* All will gather in the Chapel to honor our Mother Mary by praying the Franciscan crown rosary which is followed by a business meeting and social time in the ice cream parlor. It is important to notify the minister if you are not able to attend a fraternity meeting. ☩

Mass of Profession in June

Joy will be ours at the Mass of Profession for Candidates Kathy and Faith, which will take place at next month's gathering at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. There will be no ongoing formation that evening. Please arrive shortly before 7:00 p.m. and gather in the Chapel. Professed brothers and sisters should sit in the pews marked "Reserved" at the front of the Chapel. Professed, please bring a snack or dessert to share during the social time immediately after the Mass.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROFESSION MASS

For next month's Mass of Profession we need volunteers to:

1) pick up items in the chapel after Mass, and 2) set up/clean up the refreshments during social time. During the business portion of this month's gathering, we will discuss who will do these tasks. ☩

Anniversaries

In May, we celebrate the profession of four of our members.

An Abundance of Blessings to All!

May 8, 2006	Sue
May 13, 2013	Geri and Kay
May 18, 2014	Joe

Emergency Contact Information

As was mentioned at the April meeting, it is necessary for the fraternity to have a list of persons to contact in case of emergencies. As brothers and sisters we are concerned for the wellbeing of all members of the fraternity. Should a situation arise where a brother or sister is unable to contact us, we need to have the name of a relative or friend who can be contacted for information.

Please provide the name, relationship to you, and phone number of the person who should be contacted if you are ever unable to contact us yourself. The information can be emailed to the minister or given to her at the May fraternity meeting. All information will be held in strict confidentiality and only used by a council member when absolutely necessary. ☒

Meeting Sister Death

In the General Constitutions, Article 27:2 "Secular Franciscans should commit themselves to create in their environment and, above all, in their fraternities, a climate of faith and hope so that "Sister Death" may be regarded as a passage to the Father, and all may prepare themselves with serenity.

When a brother or sister meets Sister Death, the fraternity members will always pray for their companion and share fond memories. If the brother or sister wishes, as many members as are available will participate in a Franciscan wake service during the visitation."

Together with this newsletter is the form which gives specific instructions regarding your

wishes as to what should be done by the fraternity when you die.

If you have already filled out this form, you need not do so again *unless* contact information needs to be updated.

Those professed in the last several years should review the form and determine what your wishes are.

Each fraternity member is **responsible for keeping the contact information current and communicating your wishes to your family members.** Make sure that the person you designate to act for you when you cannot do so yourself, is aware of your wishes. ☒

Did You Know:

The **May 1961** issue of the newsletter thanked the ladies of the fraternity who used their S&H green stamps to obtain a coffee urn. (Is coffee so loved by seculars because it, too, is brown?) As is chocolate!

Tidbits from the **December 1968** newsletter:

*We can't all be **great**, but every one of us can be useful and no person who is useful is a failure.*

Webb Garrison

What Happened?

"I have the faith to move mountains"

My pride one time would say;

And I'm sure I would have done it,

But the hills were in the way.

P-Sap's Fables

Common Fund – April 2017

Beginning balance	\$2,235.46
Deposits	360.00
Expenses	194.20
Balance	\$2,401.26

You only know as much as You do.

St. Francis of Assisi



St. Francis of Assisi's prayer praising Mary the Mother of Jesus

Hail, holy Lady, most holy Queen,
 Mary, Mother of God, ever Virgin.
 You were chosen by the Most High Father in
 heaven,
 consecrated by Him, with His most Holy
 Beloved Son and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

On you descended and still remains all the
 fullness of **grace** and every good.

Hail, His Palace.

Hail His Tabernacle.

Hail His Robe.

Hail His Handmaid.

Hail, His Mother.

and Hail, all holy Virtues, who, by **grace** and
inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are poured into
 the hearts of the faithful so that from their
 faithless state, they may be made faithful
 servants of **God** through you.

Remember in Your Prayers

THE INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR MAY

Christians in Africa.

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the
 Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to
 reconciliation, justice, and peace.

[PRIVATE]

For the health concerns of our dear **shut-in sisters**.

For all **deceased** fraternity members.

For all **those in initial formation** and their
 formation instructors.

For 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.**

Please pray that our fraternity and all Franciscans:

Live the Holy Rule we've professed.

Bring the Gospel to Life, and Life to the Gospel
 in the spirit of Francis.

Live simply so that others can simply live.

Are active and participate in Franciscan
 apostolates.

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 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 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.

2017 Calendar

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

January

~~09: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)
23: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

February

~~13: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)~~

March

~~13: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)
27: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home~~

April

~~10: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)
17: Council Meeting Stephanie's home~~

May

08: Monthly Gathering (Franciscan Crown)

June

12: Profession Mass (Kathy and Faith)

July

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

August

14: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

September

09: (*Saturday*) Fraternity Day of Recollection, St. Colette's *replaces reg. fraternity mtg.*
25: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

October

03: (*Tuesday*) Transitus of our Holy Father Francis *replaces regular fraternity meeting*

November

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

December

11: Profession Mass (Fr. Dennis)