



## *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*

To be appointed  
[sa@nwfranciscans.org](mailto:sa@nwfranciscans.org)

**Newsletter submissions welcomed  
by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.** Send to:  
[minister@nwfranciscans.org](mailto: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.

Joy filled the chapel at St. Joseph's Home on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, as Sisters Kathy and Faith professed to live the rest of their lives as Secular Franciscans, according to the rule of Our Holy Father Francis. In the presence of their brothers and sisters in fraternity and relatives and friends, they promised to live a Gospel life filled with love, humility and obedience. Not only will the profession candle and San Damiano crucifix remind them of this unforgettable evening, but also the prayer shawls which were lovingly and prayerfully made by Sisters Sue and Cyndy.

Immediately following the Mass, a celebration was held for Sisters Kathy and Faith and their guests. Thank you to all the brothers and sisters who filled the tables with an array of tempting refreshments and made light work of all the tasks that needed to be done to ensure a memorable evening for our newly professed members.

We gratefully thank Fr. David, who presided at the Mass which not only celebrated the profession of our sisters, but also celebrated the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua.

Our gratitude to Ellen, whose melodious voice and music added to the joyous occasion.

We will be forever indebted to Fr. Ed McKenzie, OFM, Provincial Spiritual Assistant, who graciously made time in his overly busy schedule to witness the profession of our sisters as we mourned the loss of our dearly departed Spiritual Assistant, Brother Patrick, who met Sister Death on June 4, 2017. ☩

### **Our Monthly Gathering...**

All professed will gather for formation on **Monday, July 10th** at 6:30 pm. Please read Section 3 of *The Holy Year of Mercy*, and answer the questions in *Understanding! Grow! Reflect! Act*. We will pray the Liturgy of the Hours, so please bring your books to the gathering. Liturgy will be followed by a short 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. ☩

## In Memoriam

In memory of our Beloved Brother Patrick, there will be an addition to the August newsletter. Please send **your thoughts, prayers for, memories of Patrick** to the minister by July 22, for inclusion in this tribute to Brother Patrick. ☒

## Anniversaries

In July, we celebrate the profession of one of our members.

*An Abundance of Blessings to Sister Jackie!*

July 11, 1999

Jackie

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## New Membership Directory

Attached to this newsletter is the New Member Directory for our fraternity. Please print a copy so you will have contact information for all members handy when you need to make a call.

## Emergency Contact Information

Very few members have sent me their emergency contact information since the need was first mentioned in April. **It is important that we have this information on hand.** 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. Provide the name, relationship to you, and phone number of the person who should be contacted. The information can be given to the minister at the July fraternity meeting. **All information will be held in strict confidentiality.**

The events that preceded the meeting of our dearly departed Brother Patrick with Sister Death has outlined this need most clearly. When Brother Patrick was hospitalized in Pennsylvania, he called me on his cell phone to let me know. Had he been so seriously ill that he was unable to call, I would not have even known he was in the hospital let alone where.

## The Difference Between Rich and Poor People

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad."

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered: "I saw that we have one dog and they had four.

"We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end.

"We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night.

"Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

"We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

"We have servants who serve us, but they serve others.

"We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

"We have walls around our property to protect us. They have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

*Isn't perspective a wonderful thing?*

*Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.*

*Author unknown*



## A Blessing for Nature

Blessed are you, O God,  
Creator of the universe,  
who have made all things good  
and given the earth for us to cultivate.  
Grant that we may always use created things  
gratefully  
and share your gift with those in need,  
out of the love of Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.  
Amen

## Integrity of Creation

*Our fraternities are clearly called to help the brothers and sisters live their faith in the world, helping them to understand and act on the social dimensions of the gospel in their everyday lives. Like Saint Francis, we are not only called to rebuild the church, we are called to be like our Incarnate God, who is attentive and present to all of life and creation.*

~ [Handbook for Animators of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation \(JPIC\)](#), National JPIC Commission of the Secular Franciscan Order, USA.

## Remember in Your Prayers

### THE INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR JULY

#### Lapsed Christians.

That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of Christian life.

[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, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> (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.

**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.

## 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.

## 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)