



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
formation@nwfranciscans.org

Secretary

Kay Crnich, OFS
secretary@nwfranciscans.org

Treasurer

Tom Sharapata, OFS
treasurer@nwfranciscans.org

Spiritual Assistant

Jerry Stecker, 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.

In preparation for our triennial fraternity elections, our formation time during the August gathering was spent in a review of our rule which was given to CIOFS (Council of the International Order of Secular Franciscans) by the Holy Spirit who guided the minds and hands of those who wrote it forty years ago.

The celebration of this anniversary was the topic of a beautifully written letter from the CIOFS Minister General, Tibor Kauser, OFS, in which he describes this holy gift that was given to all secular Franciscans. ☒

Our Monthly Gathering...

FRATERNITY ELECTIONS

We will gather on Monday, September 10th, at St. Joseph's Home. It is vital that all professed attend this gathering to elect the new council. While only active professed brothers and sisters may vote, it is important for Candidates to attend to observe the election process, and to assist with the procedures, if called upon.

IMPORTANT: To assist you in the election process, on pages 2 and 3, we have listed the names of the nominees and some background information which may help you discern the most appropriate person for the position on the *new council which will guide the fraternity for the next three years*. Please note that nominations can also be made during the elections.

We will gather at 6:30 pm in the library and will be joined by members of the regional council: **Marc Golab, OFS**, who will be the presider for the elections and **Brother Marc Sheckells, OFM**, who will witness the elections.

After the elections are concluded, *all members will gather in the chapel at 8 p.m.* for a short prayer service and for the admission into Inquiry of our aspirants, **Jillian, Anthony, and Marion**. The evening will conclude with social time in the ice cream parlor.

A grateful Thank You to **Sister Sue**, for all her hard work as Nominating Coordinator these past months. ☒

Fraternity Elections in September Council Position, Responsibilities and Nominees

The most important responsibilities of each position on the council are briefly outlined under the position's title.

As you read the list of nominees, prayerfully consider every person nominated for the positions mentioned.

If you feel that there is another person who would be a good nominee for a position, their name can be put into nomination at the time of the elections.

MINISTER

The primary function of the minister is to serve the entire Council and the fraternity and to make sure that the directions and decisions of the Council are put into practice.

Stephanie, Professed January 11, 2010. Stephanie is the current minister and the Franciscan Outreach Coordinator. She is active in her home parish of Holy Family, Inverness.

VICE MINISTER

The vice minister supports the minister and the council, takes the minister's place when the minister is absent or incapacitated, and assumes the functions of minister when the office remains vacant.

Sue, Professed May 8, 2006. Sue has been active in fraternity from the beginning of her profession, serving as infirmarian to our shut-in sisters, formator and current Formation Director for the limit of three terms. On the national level, Sue served on the Welcoming Committee for the 2012 Quinquennial. Sue has been active on the regional council, currently serving as Councilor for Fraternal Life. She is also a very active member of St. Theresa Parish in Palatine.

SECRETARY

The secretary compiles the official acts of the fraternity and council and is responsible for all mailings of the newsletter and all other communications, preserves all member records and communicates with the regional and national councils. The upkeep of our website will also fall under this position since our current webmaster is no longer part of our fraternity, moving to another state.

Tim, Professed January 11, 2016. Tim brings to this position youthful energy and a very tech savvy background in word processing, spreadsheets, websites, a definite plus as the national and regional fraternities expand their use of all the current technologies. Tim is a member of our fraternity music ministry. Tim's home parish is St. James in Arlington Heights.

Cyndy, Professed October 11, 2010. Cyndy was elected fraternity secretary in 2012 and served for one year before relinquishing the position. Cyndy was active in fraternity prior to profession when she shared the task of fraternity hospitality at our gatherings. Cyndy has been active in her parish of St. Cecelia in Mount Prospect where she had been chair of Adult Faith Formation for 10 years, organizing parish events.

TREASURER

The treasurer records contributions received and expenses, reports these to council, makes bank deposits and keeps accurate records.

Kathy, Professed June 12, 2017. For 30 years, Kathy's daily work entailed dealing with billing, collecting, and bookkeeping. Through the years, she has been treasurer for several organizations. Kathy is a member of St. Theresa Parish in Palatine and is an active participant in the pro-life movement.

Tim, Professed January 11, 2016.

See above for information on Tim.

Council Positions continued

FORMATION DIRECTOR

The formation director coordinates all the formative activities of the fraternity, instructs and enlivens the inquirers, candidates and the newly professed.

Jackie, Professed July 11, 1999. Jackie has been part of the formation team for many years as formator for several members who are now professed. She has just started working with a new group. In our fraternity, Jackie has been secretary for two years (as a fill-in), vice minister for six years and minister for six years. On the regional level, she was Councilor of Visitations for six years. Jackie is an active parishioner at St. Theresa in Palatine. ☒

Anniversaries

There are no specific profession anniversaries in the month of September.
God’s Blessings on all professed as we strive each day to live our profession.

Common Fund – August 2018

Beginning balance	\$1,830.86
Deposits	250.00
Expenses including Fair Share	0
Balance	\$2,080.86

Franciscan Outreach

Thank you to all who signed up for items for Franciscan Outreach. There are three items still available. If interested, contact the minister. ☒

And So We Pray...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Evangelization: Young People in Africa

That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We pray that all families who have suffered separation through circumstances over which they have no control, not just in the United States, but throughout the world, will be swiftly reunited,

We pray that all families who have suffered separation because of misunderstandings, will learn to love each other and forgive each other just as our heavenly Father forgives us time and time again,

We pray that all families who are experiencing a time of testing and pain and loss, will receive a blessing from the Lord, bringing healing and grace,

We pray that our fraternal family, our brothers and sisters in fraternity, will always be united in our common goal of being Christ for each other and for the world,

We pray that the distress of our homeless brothers and sisters in Chicago will be eased by the new endeavors of Franciscan Outreach,

WE PRAY FOR THOSE NEAR AND DEAR

For our **aspirants** who are entering into Inquiry that they embrace the promptings of the Holy Spirit as they continue to discern their Franciscan vocation, we pray to the Lord,

[PRIVATE]

For all of our **shut-in sisters**, that the health issues that keep them separated from us will be attended to with compassion and love, we pray to the Lord,

For the grace of our Franciscan vocation, in thanksgiving, we pray to the Lord,

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. This is a year round project. Fraternity members can either donate to the cost or purchase the specific items for 120 Gift Bags which are made up in November for the homeless 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).

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.

2018 Calendar

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

January

08: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

22: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

February

12: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

March

12: Monthly Gathering (Stations of the Cross)

26: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

April

09: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)

May

14: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

June

04: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

11: Monthly Gathering (Mass)

July

09: Fraternity Day of Recollection

—(Holy Family Parish)

August

13: Monthly Gathering (Liturgy of the Hours)

20: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

September

10: Fraternity Elections (Prayer Service)

24: Council Meeting, Stephanie's home

October

03: Transitus of our Holy Father Francis

replaces regular fraternity meeting

November

12: Monthly Gathering (Rite of Remembrance)

18: (Sunday) Franciscan Outreach Project, Stephanie's home

December

10: Monthly Gathering (Communion Service)