



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister

Greetings, my Franciscan Brothers and Sisters,

I have been a member of our Formation Team since I was professed in 2006. Only recently did I become aware of a quote in *The Franciscan Journey Book* (the book we use for initial formation). The quote can be found on page 352 and it states: “Every gun that is made, warship that is launched, and every rocket fired, is in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. The world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of the scientists and the hopes of its children.” President Eisenhower – 1953 Speech to American Society of Newspaper Editors.

This brings me to our theme for our Mother Cabrini Celebration to be held at Mayslake on Sunday, November 8, 2026 – CARE OF THE POOR.

Then on June 20th, our Pope Leo, during a visit to our St. Frances Xavier Cabrini’s birthplace recalled how her service to migrants remains a model today for the Church and ALL of us.

Jane DeRose-Bamman, our National Minister, quoted in our latest TAU MAGAZINE on page 1, “Things I learned from my mother: there is always more we can do, but life is short – act with urgency, we must advocate for those who cannot speak for themselves, there’s always room for more at the table, and it is never too late to accomplish something.”

In honor of the 800th Anniversary of the Transitus of St. Francis, Pope Leo XIV has named 2026 the Year of St. Francis. October will be a month for all things Franciscan.

We are being called ...

We are being reminded to ...

“Let us return to the writing of Francis. Let us renew our promises. Let us ask for the grace to live simply, love deeply, and serve humbly.”

Eight hundred years after his passing, Francis still calls to us: “Live the Gospel. Repair what is broken. Begin again.” Page 3, latest Tau magazine, by Layna Maher, OFS-National Formation Commission Chair.

What a year we are living! But we professed to DO this! So, as we journey this year together and remember WHAT it was that brought us to this journey, let us BE mindful of our calling and pray for the Grace to STEP UP and STEP FORWARD, as we BEGIN AGAIN.

Peace and All Good,

Peace, Sue

Our Monthly Gathering – July 2026

We will gather on **Monday, July 20, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, in the chapel** for the Profession of Candidate Matthew Sadler into the Secular Franciscans. His profession will be accompanied by a Mass by Friar Johnpaul Cafiero, OFM. Matthew's profession will be celebrated by the secular Franciscans immediately after the Mass in Breakout Room 1.

SIDE DISHES FOR PROFESSION:

Potato salad	Sue G.	Cheese cake	Mary Anita C.
Macaroni salad	Dcn, Lou R.	Dessert	Kay C.
Cole slaw	Tom S.	Beverage – soda	Maria B.
Fruit salad	Bonnie M.	Beverage – soda	Bill K.
Appetizer	Carrie C.	Water	Mary S.
Appetizer	Kathy F.		

We Pray ...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR JULY

For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Profession Anniversaries

July 21, 2025 Sister Carrie C.

May God's abundant blessings be yours as you faithfully live the Gospel life you professed to live last year.

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2026

Monday, July 20	Profession of Matthew S. is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. in the chapel at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Note Date change.
Sunday, July 19	Council mtg, vice minister's home at 1:00 p.m. Note Date change.
Monday, Aug. 10	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Liturgy of the Hours. Anne F. will speak on Pope St. Pius X. There will be a collection of items for Journeys.
Sunday, Aug. 23	Council meeting, vice minister's home at 1:00 p.m.

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2026 cont. from page 2

Monday, Sept. 14	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Liturgy to be determined.
Sunday, Sept. 27	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 5	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. We will celebrate the Transitus of Father Francis . There will be a collection of items for the Household Pack for Welcome the Stranger.
Sunday, Oct. 25	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 9	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish. Liturgy will be the Liturgy of the Dead. There will be a collection of the items needed for the Palatine Township Thanksgiving baskets.
Sunday, Nov. 22	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 14	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. Communion Service. It will be our Christmas celebration.
Sunday, Dec. 27	Council meeting, minister's home at 1:00 p.m.

Calendar of Regional Gatherings

Sat. Sept. 26	Fall Formation Day (Cluster Two)
Sat. Oct. 31	All Soul's Day Prayer Service, OFS Section, Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, IL 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Nov. 8	Mother Cabrini Celebration (Cluster Three) location TBD

Franciscan Outreach Schedule for 2026

The schedule for Franciscan Outreach for 2026 has been streamlined to make it easier for all fraternity members. In 2026 the fraternity determined that we will concentrate on **THREE** organizations that help those MOST IN NEED: **Feed My Starving Children**, **Journeys/The Road Home** and **Welcome the Stranger**.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Pack bags of nutritious grain for those living in the most destitute areas on our planet. Members of our fraternity will participate in this work of service every other month from **2:30 to 4:00 p.m.** Sign-up sheets are available at the fraternity gatherings for the next opportunity. Contact **Sister Sue** for more information.

Franciscan Outreach Schedule for 2026 cont. from page 3

Dates for Feed My Starving Children:

Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
Wednesday, July 29, 2026
Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Wednesday, December 30, 2026

Loose change wanted - at each monthly fraternity gathering, fraternity members have an opportunity to donate their loose change so that we can provide the funds to feed a child for a year. Whenever a total of \$53 in change is collected, it will be matched by \$53 from our Common Fund for a total of \$106, the cost of feeding a starving child in another country for one year.

JOURNEYS/THE ROAD HOME

This organization serves persons in our community who are homeless, on the verge of losing their home and have other needs that impact the norms of daily living. We collect food and needed items. Fraternity members are needed to help stock the items at Journeys when they are delivered.

Dates for Journeys/The Road Home collections:

Monday, February 9, 2026
Monday, June 8, 2026
Monday, August 10, 2026

Print out the list below and keep it in a handy place. When these items are on sale or you are at the Dollar Tree, pick up a few items and keep them for the February and August gatherings.

Most needed items:

Razors and shaving cream	Body wash - MOST NEEDED
Baby wipes	Shampoo & conditioner - MOST NEEDED
Large backpacks	Pullups - ALL SIZES

Food items:

Bottled water	Pasta (dried and canned)	Canned soups/vegetables*
Rice	Pasta sauce	Canned fruit*
Peanut butter	Cereal - large boxes	Canned beans*
Jelly	Canned stew, fish and chicken*	Canned beans*

WELCOME THE STRANGER

Welcome the Stranger works in tandem with Exodus to support refugee families who have come here in recent years. We will be helping to provide necessities for these families in the months of **April** and **October**.

The necessary items are listed below. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February and September gatherings. Items will be brought to the fraternity gatherings in April and October.

KITCHEN

Bottle of dish soap
2 sponges w/scrubby side
Tall kitchen trash bags

BATH

4 bars of hand soap
2 bottles of shampoo
4 toothbrushes/ 2 tubes toothpaste

Franciscan Outreach Schedule for 2026 cont. from page 4

4 rolls paper towels
plastic wrap

Feminine supplies (pads)
10 men's razors/shaving cream

CLEANING ITEMS

All-purpose cleaner spray (without bleach)
Toilet bowl cleaner
Laundry soap
Roll of quarters (for laundry)
Scouring powder
Floor cleaner

8+ rolls of toilet paper
Bottle of hand lotion
2 boxes Kleenex
2 Deodorant

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

As we have done the past few years, in **November** we will be putting together baskets of food for Thanksgiving to be given to families who live in Palatine Township and are desperately in need of food. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October gathering. It will include items for each basket. The items will be gathered into baskets at our November meeting. Last year, we contributed Two Baskets of food to the Township needy.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Sister Sue accepts all tabs from pop top cans which are then donated to Ronald McDonald House. The tabs are sold to aluminum recyclers and the proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House.

Council Members

Minister	Susan Gribbon, OFS	<i>sgribbon1949@gmail.com</i>
Vice Minister	Stephanie Heavey, OFS	
Formation Director	Kay Crnich, OFS	
Secretary	Marion Tuttle, OFS	
Treasurer	Jerry Stecker, OFS	
Spiritual Assistant	open	

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

Dear Brothers & Sisters www.nwfranciscans.online

July 2026

page 5