



Dear Brothers & Sisters

From the Minister:

Greetings, my Franciscan Brothers and Sisters,

As you know, my husband and I moved in July, downsizing to a condo. A lot of STUFF didn't make the move. I confess, I am one who always had things on my refrigerator door ... held there with magnets. Well ... one thing that made the move, and again is on my refrigerator door is the Seven Cardinal Rules of Life. For those who have never seen these ... let me share.

1. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present. (Reconciliation)
2. What others think of you is none of your business. (Our self-worth comes from our own values)
3. Time heals almost everything; give it time. (Daily life builds new habits that move you forward)
4. Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them. (You have no idea what their journey is all about)
5. Stop thinking too much; it's alright not to know the answers. They will come to you when you least expect it. (Stepping back from constant mental effort helps to quiet stress and lets the Holy Spirit be heard)
6. No one is in charge of your happiness, except you.
7. Smile. You don't own all the problems in the world. (Think Serenity Prayer)
- 8.

These seem simple and can be practiced on many levels. But, as a reminder, it helps, just as our supplications, our prayers, our praises and tears ... our Faith. This is what grounds us and sustains us through life.

Prayers go out for the healing of our Sister Stephanie, who sustained a fracture of her left upper arm – her dominant arm.

Currently, I have the following signed up for our fall formation day in Mayslake: Carrie, Matt, Jerry, Maria, Marion, Mary and Bonnie. All are signed up for lunch which is \$15. Bring that amount to our gathering on September 14. Jerry will write

out a check to the region for the entire amount. All are ridesharing except Jerry and Maria. Please, if there is any change in this, let me know ASAP, as I will be letting the region know our registration by September 13.

On September 17, we Franciscans celebrate the Stigmata of St. Francis on Mount LaVerna. Stigmata are the 'bodily marks resembling the wounds of the crucified Christ.' The 17th is an estimated date of his receiving the wounds of Christ in 1224, two years before his death.

I will send an email to supplement this newsletter when it is ready to post and let you all know what happened at our council meeting today. We aim to be transparent and keep everyone in fraternity informed.

For now, enjoy this beautiful time of year – fall - football – cooler temps – the change of colors. It is my favorite season. Keep each other in your prayers and be thankful for every day as life is Fragile.

Peace and ALL good,
Sue, OFS

Our Monthly Gathering – September 2026

We will gather on **Monday, September 14, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness, in the chapel** for the Liturgy of the Hours after which we will gather in Breakout Room 1. Brother Tom will share his Franciscan vocation story. Formation will be a discussion of *Sine Proprio*, Introduction and Admonition 1, pages 6-15. Hospitality will be provided by: **Mary S. and Kay C.**

We Pray ...

PAPAL INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

For the care of water.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Calendar of Fraternity Gatherings 2026

Monday, Sept. 14	Monthly gathering will be at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish, Inverness. LOTH.
Sunday, Sept. 27	Council meeting, vice 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. Please note date change. There will be a collection of items for the Household Pack for Welcome the Stranger.
Sunday, Oct. 25	Council meeting, vice 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), Mayslake

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.

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

Baby wipes

Large backpacks

Body wash - MOST NEEDED

Shampoo & conditioner - MOST NEEDED

Pullups - ALL SIZES

Food items:

Bottled water

Canned soups/vegetables*

Rice

Peanut butter

Jelly

Pasta (dried and canned)

Pasta sauce

Canned fruit*

Cereal - large boxes

Canned stew, fish and chicken

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

4 rolls paper towels

plastic wrap

CLEANING ITEMS

All-purpose cleaner spray (without bleach)

Toilet bowl cleaner

Laundry soap

BATH

4 bars of hand soap

2 bottles of shampoo

4 toothbrushes

2 tubes toothpaste

Feminine supplies

10 men's razors/shaving cream

8+ rolls of toilet paper

Bottle of hand lotion

2 boxes Kleenex

2 deodorants

Franciscan Outreach Schedule for 2026 cont. from page 5

CLEANING ITEMS continued

Roll of quarters (for laundry)

Scouring powder

Floor cleaner

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. sgribbon1949@gmail.com
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.

*Our Father Francis was devoted to the Gospels in a time when most people
were illiterate. He admonished his followers to
“Preach the Gospel always and if necessary use words.”
In today’s world, We might be the only Gospel some people read.*