

July 2021

# Our Mother of Sorrows Fraternity Ordo Franciscanus Secularis (OFS)

A Member of Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity

Newsletter

Volume 6, 7

### Infirmarian Contact:

Marilyn Hawkins, OFS  
Phone: 616.791.1279 Cell  
Email: roseysposies@gmail.com

### Executive Council

Barb Scott, OFS  
Minister  
OMSGRminister@gmail.com  
616-550-5916  
Keith Southerton, OFS  
Vice Minister  
keith.southerton@gmail.com  
616-891-1564  
Carol Dills, OFS  
Secretary  
OMSGRsecretary@gmail.com  
616-822-7191  
Jeff Dills, OFS  
Treasurer  
OMSGRtreasurer@gmail.com  
616-490-8458

### Councilors

Jennifer Bahm, OFS  
jbahm697@gmail.com  
989-235-2353  
Laura Bouchard, OFS  
bouchardfamily6@gmail.com 616-813-7648  
Jason George, OFS  
johnkite@rocketmail.com  
231-736-7487  
Sue Southerton, OFS  
southertonfamily@gmail.com  
616-891-1564  
Michelle Bryk, OFS  
Formation Minister  
michellebofs@gmail.com 616-616-361-8489  
Mary VanderPloeg, OFS  
JPIC Animator  
vanderploegmary49@gmail.com  
616-454-0349  
Lori Fedewa, OFS  
Ecumenical Chair  
wadalaf@gmail.com  
616-633-8131  
Regional Spiritual Asst.  
Linda Solis, OFS  
lsolisofs@gmail.com

## **July Monthly Gathering** **Wednesday, July 28 7:00 pm** **St. Thomas Lower Level**

Welcome Back! Come enjoy prayer time together and small group activities. Wear your own mask if you choose. Fully vaccinated members need not wear a mask unless they choose to. Cookies will be served (please DO NOT bring a snack to share). See more details in the Minister's Message or call one of the Council members with any questions or concerns.

If you still wish to attend virtually, please click this link or call in:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83508265729?pwd=Um54VmNoSGJBMIBHNHNhaFIHM0o1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 835 0826 5729

Passcode: 501865

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,83508265729#,,,,\*501865# US (New York)

+13017158592,,83508265729#,,,,\*501865# US (Washington DC)

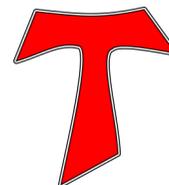
Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

**\*\*Please mail your fair share checks for the month if you don't plan to attend to Jeff Dills (address on the back on the newsletter). You may also electronically transfer your fair share using Venmo. You can find our account at @OMS-Franciscan-GR.**

# Celebrating the Milestones

Wishing our brothers and sisters many blessings!



## Professions

Ted Kusmierz August 26  
Joanne Dusendang August 29  
Mary Ann Swiatlowski August 29

## Birthdays

Ellie Estes August 6  
Margo Kiel August 8  
Jason George August 11  
Catherine Wilson August 30

---

## Message from the Minister

I hope your summer is starting out well. Here is what we talked about at our last Council meeting.

Our picnic last month was a great success! We apologize for any confusion about the pavilion we reserved. Next year we will have better markings and directions.

Our July gathering will be a welcome back meeting. Please know that we will still try to ensure safety measures for those that are concerned. St. Thomas has installed air purifiers in the basement, We will not be sharing food but will provide cookies (which will be served by someone with a mask and gloves), water, and coffee. Tables will be socially distanced and hand sanitizer will be available. Feel free to wear a mask if you choose. We will still hybrid for those that would still like to attend through Zoom. We will pray together, reflect on Scripture, have small group activities that will lead to a focused prayer time at the end before social time. I hope you all can make it. Please call someone on the council if you still have questions or concerns about coming back together indoors.

Please note that we will discontinue the prayer partners in the newsletter since we will resume the prayer partners in person at the July gathering. Also, the Council reflections on the Tau will resume in September.

Pax et bonum,

Barbara Scott, OFS

## *Upcoming Fraternity Gatherings*

Aug 25	August Fraternity Gathering	7:00 pm	St. Thomas
Sep 29	September Fraternity Gathering	7:00 pm	St. Thomas
Oct 3	Transitus	TBA	
Oct 27	October Fraternity Gathering	7:00 pm	St. Thomas

## Year of St. Joseph

*In this year of St. Joseph, we would like to reflect on various gifts of leadership that St. Joseph was given. We pray for his intercession in developing these gifts in ourselves to use for the common good of the fraternity.*



### Ethical Worldview

With Clare and Francis, walking in the footsteps of Jesus, the Franciscan worldview includes:

- all life is gift
- all life is interrelated and has intrinsic value
- we are sisters and brothers with all in creation
- we are called to sustain one another
- we are called to seek the common good for all in creation.

This worldview calls us to on-going conversion:  
from dominating, devaluing and possessing to serving, reverencing and sharing.

*And her husband Joseph, since he was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. (Matthew 1:19)*

**How can I remember to look at life as a gift, having value and interrelated?**

**How can I treat others better as sisters and brothers with all of creation?**

**Who is one person that I can support better this week?**

**Where is God calling me to work for the common good?**



Please pray for those who have accepted nominations for the election of the Divine Mercy Regional Council. Elections will take place at the Regional gathering in DeWitt, Michigan on Sunday, August 8, 2021.

### **PRAYER FOR OFS LEADERSHIP**

Give us, O God, leaders whose hearts are large enough to match the breadth of our own souls and give us souls strong enough to follow leaders of vision and wisdom.

In seeking a leader, let us seek more than our own enhancement – though enhancement we hope for – more than security for our own plans and vision – though security we need – more than satisfaction for our own selfish wants – though many things we desire.

Give us the hearts to choose and follow the leader who will work with other leaders to bring Your will to the agenda and help us to fulfill it.

Give us leaders who lead us to virtue without seeking to impose their own version of virtue on others.

Give us leaders who will provide for the advancement of our Order without dictating to others to achieve it.

Give us insight enough ourselves to choose as leaders those who can tell strength from power, growth from greed, leadership from dominance, and real greatness from the trappings of grandiosity.

We trust you, Great God, to open our hearts to learn from those to whom you speak in different tongues and to respect the life and words of those to whom you entrusted the good of other parts of this globe.

We beg you, Great God, give us the vision as Secular Franciscans to know where holy leadership truly lies, to pursue it diligently, to ask it to respect the integrity of every person in the entire Order.

We ask these things, Great God, with minds open to your word and hearts that trust in your eternal care. Amen.

*The above "Prayer for OFS Leadership" was adapted and updated September 1, 2012 by: Kevin Queally, TOR and Anne Mulqueen, OFS*

## Fair Share Update

If you are excused from attending the fraternity gatherings and would like to send your fair share amount, please make check payable to Our Mother of Sorrows Fraternity and send your check to:

Jeff Dills, OFS  
2265 Burton Pines SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

OR Venmo to:  
**@OMS-Franciscan-GR**

## To Be Excused

If you are unable to attend a fraternity gathering due to health or other hardship reasons, please email:

Carol Dills    OMSGRsecretary@gmail.com  
Barb Scott    OMSGRminister@gmail.com

---

Newsletter Editor  
Our Mother of Sorrows  
Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
6490 Kingtree SW  
Byron Center, MI 49315

