



February 2022

Our Mother of Sorrows Fraternity Ordo Franciscanus Secularis (OFS)

A Member of Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity

Newsletter

Volume 7, 2

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

**February Fraternity Gathering
Profession Renewal and Rite of Admission
Saturday, February 19
Mass at 8:00 am in Church
****PLEASE NOTE TIME AND DAY CHANGE******

We will be meeting for Mass at 8:00 am in Church. Immediately following will our annual Profession Renewal before the Rite of Admission for 8 of our Inquirers. Fully vaccinated members need not wear a mask unless they choose to. **Reception will follow at Grand Coney, 809 Michigan NE.**

A Zoom link will be available starting at 8:30 am after Mass.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89543718623?pwd=SFNTb1BSYWkweTMyWmpiSTEyVIRjdz09>

Meeting ID: 895 4371 8623

Passcode: 732807

Dial on your phone: 1 312 626 6799

****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.**

Elections coming in March!



Our next elections will be Wednesday, March 30 at 7:00 pm at St. Thomas. Please try to be there. We cannot have an election without a quorum (over 50% of our members). THERE CAN BE NO ZOOM OR ABSENTEE BALLOTS! All votes must be in person.

Nomination Slate:
Minister—Chris Bueche

Vice Minister—
Chris Bueche
Margo Dean
Jeff Dills
Mark Mann
Beth Price
Mary VanderPloeg

Secretary—Carol Dills (must have 2/3
Majority on the 1st vote)

Treasurer—Jeff Dills

Counselor—
Chris Bueche
Carol Dills
Jeff Dills
Jim Howard
Mark Mann
Todd Oatley
Paul Wojtas
Mary VanderPloeg



The new issue of Vox Franciscana (winter 2021/2022) is out!

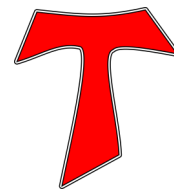
<https://ciofs.info/news/vox-franciscana/winter-2021-2022/>

A 10-month study of the Beatitudes begins on Zoom on Saturday, Feb. 19. Called “2022: A Year of Hope, Spirituality and JPIC Living the Beatitudes,” the sessions are sponsored by the National Executive Council. Times are 1-3 p.m. Eastern Time. Individuals are invited to attend whatever monthly sessions they can to pray and reflect on the Beatitudes. Obtain the Zoom link by sending a request to patriciaelizabethgrace7@gmail.com



Celebrating the Milestones

Wishing our brothers and sisters many blessings!



Professions

Ken Estes	March 21
Ellie Estes	March 21
Lois Flickinger	March 25
Diane Gray	March 25
Marilyn Hawkins	March 25
Mary Lou Thompson	March 25
Paul Wojtas	March 25

Birthdays

Alvin Matkovich	March 7
Barb Scott	March 8
Mary Lou Harig	March 14
Barbara Czuras	March 23
Jeff Dills	March 26

Message from the Minister

Our gathering last month was full of energy! It is so good to see our charism at work in thinking about ways to reengage our apostolate. Thank you Michelle for giving us a great overview of the Laudato Si Action Platform to help guide us in our discernment of living out the document. Please see page 4 for an opportunity to discern as a fraternity. Cory Mitchell, who will be admitted into the fraternity as a candidate on Saturday, has put together a wonderful process for us to participate in over Lent. Thank you, Cory!

These past six years as minister have been truly life changing. I have grown so much thanks to the support of my Franciscan brothers and sisters in Christ. I know the Holy Spirit is guiding us through our successes and our challenges, especially over the pandemic. I pray for his continued guidance into our elections next month. God bless all of you!

Pax et bonum,

Barbara Scott, OFS



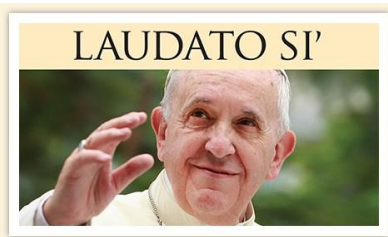
St. Thomas Soup and Stations

St. Thomas is resuming their Lenten Soup & Stations. We will be pairing up with the youth group and invited to serve on March 18 at 6:00 pm. Sign up for food at [St. Thomas Lenten Soup & Stations Sign Up](#). There will also be a sign up at the Profession Renewal on Saturday.

Upcoming Fraternity Gatherings

Feb 19	Profession Renewal Mass
Mar 30	Fraternity Elections

8:00 am	St. Thomas (Saturday Morning)
7:00 pm	St. Thomas (Wednesday Evening)



Lenten Discernment

By Cory Mitchell

Sisters and Brothers,

May the Lord give you peace. In St. Francis' early years, he struggled to discern God's will for his life. Like our founder, we need to put on our listening ears for God's still small voice as we discern how to actualize our charism in ways that are consistent with the integral ecology approach articulated by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*.

"Discernment...is the process of intentionally becoming aware of how God is present, active, and calling us as individuals and [as a fraternity] so that we can respond with increasingly greater faithfulness. Those moments in which we make decisions are privileged times in which discernment can make a big difference: in decision making, self- [and communal] determination come together with God's call" (Liebert, p. 8). While discernment is not magic, and rarely confirms a choice, it *always strengthens the chooser(s)*.

Our Lenten discernment process will start on Saturday, March 5th, with a virtual session from 10am – 11am and run through April 2nd weekly in the same format. You will receive calendar invites for these sessions.

The discernment will conclude with an in-person Communal Reconciliation Liturgy on April 9th, in keeping with our vocation to be sisters and brothers of penance. And then we will begin our apostolic work in earnest as a Fraternity on Mission.

Before we begin our discernment together, we need **everyone** to go to the Laudato Si' Action Platform at: <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/> to enroll and complete your self-assessment.

The process should take no longer than an hour to complete. Once you are done with the assessment, look at the left-hand side of your Dashboard, and click "See suggested actions." There, you will find a host of suggestions.

Identify the top three suggestions that most resonate with your heart, interests, and abilities, and write them down. Please bring these top three suggestions to our first meeting on March 5th and be prepared to discuss them.

Before he died, St. Francis told his followers, "I have done what was mine to do, may Christ now teach you what you are to do." May we work together to listen to Love so that we can be light and leaven in a desperate world. *Pax et bonum*.

PRAYER PARTNERS

for the Month of March



Alan Supran 616-340-2194
Marilyn Hawkins 616-791-1279

Ellie Estes (M) 616-784-3869
Sue Southerton 616-881-3276

Alvin Matkovich 616-460-3807
Mark Mann 616-450-1923

Fran Walker 616-365-9697
Susan Martin 616-456-5951

Amy Oatley 616-915-2414
Mary Ann Swiatlowski 616-458-8205

Harriet Pilson (M) 616-791-2061
Ted Kusmierz (M) 616-261-8777

Barb Czurak (M) 616-458-1096
Mary Lou Harig 616-334-0116

Jan Windy 616-438-7893
Terri Mauro (M) 616-803-5733

Barb Scott 616-550-5916
Mary Lou Thompson (M) 616-363-8710

Jason George 231-736-7487
Todd Oatley 616-894-8999

Beth Price 616-915-1757
Mary Michalski (M) 616-723-1250

Jeff Dills 616-490-8458
Verona Dunn (M) 616-228-4927

Cami Mann 616-450-1897
Mary VanderPloeg 616-443-5554

Jenn Bahm 989-235-2353
Virginia Champion (M) 616-323-4719

Carol Dills 616-822-7191
Michelle Bryk 616-485-5783

Jerry Swiatlowski 616-458-8205
Walter Krystiniak 616-304-3382

Chris Bueche 616-485-9668
Nancy Supran 231-462-3732

Jim Dohm (M) 616-877-0007
Ken Estes (M) 616-784-3869

Chris Walters 616-828-7544
Pat Fiebig (M) 616-453-5222

Jim Flickinger 616-485-6183
Laura Bouchard 616-813-7648

Chris Willmeng (F) 285-3712
Pat Herwaldt (F) 616-682-7970

Jim Howard 616-459-7940
Linda Lee Spencer (M) 616-361-6090

Chuck Drollinger 616-481-0831
Patti Reynolds 616-822-5723

Jim Parent 248-464-4550
Lois Flickinger 616-443-3126

Claire Pinsonneault 616-846-5955
Paul Wojtas (M) 616-538-5574

Joanne Dusendang 616-498-2365
Lori Fedewa 616-633-8131

Cory Mitchell 616-427-2379
Peg Wegenka 616-666-1072

Joe Bialczak 616-443-9328
Marcia Dohm 616-877-0007

Diane Gray 608-217-3499
Ray Boisvenue 616-450-6397

Julie Walters 616-828-7505
Marge Gessner (M) 616-453-0338

Dorothy Deja (M) 616-453-2827
Rich Michalski (M) 616-723-1251

Karon Koepke 616-631-0137
Marge Krystiniak 616-780-9731

Dwayne Betcher 616-283-6883
Rose Hickey (M) 616-446-3036

Kay Wilson (M) 616-361-7422
Margo Dean 616-272-2976

Elaine Kozloski 616-453-9965
Sarah Wagner 616-538-1551

Keith Southerton 616-881-3259
Margo Kiel (M) 269-795-3013

NOTES

****Please note the new format****

- We ask you to pray for the person you are partnered with all month.
- We encourage **either** person to call to check in or ask for prayer requests.
- All numbers are cell numbers, if available
- M=Mailing list
F=Formation
- Prayer requests can be emailed to Barb Scott and Michelle Bryk

We encourage you to call your prayer partners and check in to see how they are fairing. Specific prayer requests can be sent to Michelle Bryk if needed.

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

