

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

St. Charles Fraternity
P.O. Box 12644 M.P.O., Fort Wayne, IN 46864
Website: stcharlesfrat.com
November/December 2022



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Established on or before 2/9/1936	Last elections: 10/17/2021	Last fraternal visit: 11/17/2017	Last pastoral visit: 7/15/2018

National Executive Council Elected Saturday at End of Five-Day Chapter

The new National Executive Council was elected Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Chapter meeting in Detroit.

Jane DeRose-Bamman, OFS, was elected minister

Diane Menditto, OFS, was elected Vice-Minister.

Susan Ronan, OFS, was elected Secretary

Claudia Kauzlarich, OFS, was re-elected Treasurer.

Mary Frances Charsky, OFS, was elected International Councilor

Cherryle Fruge, OFS, was elected as councilor while **Josh Molidor**, OFS, and **Donna Hollis**, OFS, were re-elected as councilors.

All terms are for three years and begin immediately.

There is a picture of the installation of the new NEC on the National website.

Our Regional Minister, Cyndi Pilot, represented Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity at the National Chapter. It was her first year to do so.

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME

Sr. Agnes Marie Regan, OFS, one of our two Regional Spiritual Assistants, will be visiting with our fraternity at the November 20 gathering for the required triennial Pastoral Visitation. It has been four years since Sister was here due to the delays in visitations caused by Covid. We look forward to seeing Sister's smiling face back in our midst. Be sure to ask Sister about her recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land!!

Barb Balbo, from St. Paul's Chapel, Clear Lake, who is beginning initial formation.

FROM OUR FORMATION DIRECTOR...

There's been a lot of discussion, as always, about attendance at our monthly gatherings. While I am as guilty as anyone at missing the occasional gathering, I would like to talk about why this happens.

When we professed, we committed to our Franciscan family. One of those commitments is to attend our fraternity's gatherings, as the means of "living in community." The First and Second Orders, as well as Third Order Regular, have to live together in community. If they don't, they will be expelled from their respective order. We, as Secular Franciscans, meet this requirement by attending our monthly gatherings. It is a very serious obligation. While I think the most important part of being a Secular is to live your life in a Franciscan way, this obligation is part of that. Our Regional Executive Council has discussed that a member needs to attend at least six gatherings a year in order to be considered as active.

All that being said, I would like to figure out what we can do to make our gatherings more representative of a family gathering. Which it is. Our Franciscan family. We should WANT to attend these gatherings, in much the same way we want to attend our own personal blood family gatherings. To see each other, to laugh, to cry, to feel joy in each other's presence. To catch up on each other's lives. In my family that usually involves alcohol, but we better not go down that road. One thing our local council came up with is to spend more time getting to know our fraternal brothers and sisters. One way to do this is to take time at each gathering for each member to share something about themselves, totally voluntarily. Something you are going through right now, a story about your past, something that happened to you since we last met, anything. We will do this during our social time, while we are eating, which is also a very familial thing. Anything that helps create that personal intimate bond with each other. I know some are already doing that within their own smaller groups, but we need to bring that same level of friendship and sharing to the larger group.

What else can we do? Please feel free to propose any other ideas you may have to enliven our gatherings, to make them something we can't wait to attend every month. I know we can do it with everyone's participation.

Rich Cain, OFS
Formation Director

National Theme 2022-2023: Listen, Discern, and Go Forth

The focus for the next three years will be on Secular Franciscan vocations. How do we attract people to the OFS, especially younger people? What priority do we give to our Secular Franciscan professions? How do we nurture our own vocations after we profess?

**FRANCIS OF ASSISI: WRITER AND SPIRITUAL MASTER
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS**

November 20

Chapter 4

- ~ How would you describe your relationship/description of God in 1-3 words?
- ~ On page 31, what is the ultimate reason for Jesus' Passion and death? How does this differ from the common expression that "Jesus came to die"? What is the significance of this difference?
- ~ How do you see the Eucharist as being Trinitarian?
- ~ How might the Holy Spirit relate to article 21 of our Rule?

**St. Charles Fraternity Christmas Party
Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.
Brookside Mansion, University of Saint Francis
2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne**

There will be a carry-in dinner with the Council providing the meat, drinks, and tableware. Bring your favorite holiday dish to share!

We are also asking everyone (who is able) to bring a small, wrapped gift (homemade, regifted, or new (no more than \$5) to be used as prizes for our Christmas bingo after dinner.

PROFESSION ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Katie Herendeen</i>	11/11/2007
<i>Vicki Marcellus Smith</i>	11/11/2007
15 years	
<i>Marcylye Voigt</i>	25 years 11/16/1997
<i>Laura Hoffman</i>	11/21/1976
<i>Arlene Lewis</i>	11/22/2009
<i>Joann Arendt</i>	12/18/1994

BIRTHDAYS

<i>Su Hohman</i>	11/8
<i>Joyce Wesner</i>	11/16
<i>Joy Olry</i>	11/20
<i>Joann Arendt</i>	11/26
<i>No December birthdays</i>	

Teri Queitsch has transferred to Holy Family Fraternity. We wish her well.

NOV. FRATERNITY GATHERING

Date: Nov. 20, 2022 **Time:** 1:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's School teachers lounge
232 N. Main St., Avilla

Sr. Mary's talk

Food: Bring snacks to share

Book: Matura, pages 27-40
(supplemental questions on pg 3)

Liturgy of the Hours: Evening Prayer II
Solemnity of Christ the King

Page 674; Hymn: #102

Homebound: Isaiah 40:1-11 and/or
Matthew 3:1-12

DEC. FRATERNITY GATHERING CHRISTMAS PARTY

(see details on page 3)

Date: Dec. 18, 2022 **Time:** 1:30 p.m.

Place: Brookside Mansion, USF
2701 Spring St., Ft. Wayne

Food: Carry-in

Activity: Bingo

Liturgy of the Hours: Evening Prayer II
4th Sunday

Pages 114 & 121; Hymn: #63

Homebound: Matthew 1

Friendly reminder: If you are sick,
or think you may be getting sick,
please stay home.

Love Your Commitment in 2022

- Love my fraternity
- Love the Rule
- Love Scripture
- Love conversion



Do you know of someone in our fraternity who is sick, homebound, has gone into a nursing home, or is in the hospital? Please contact Vicki and she will send a card. Her contact information is on page 1 of this newsletter.

Opportunities for fraternity apostolates: 1) Knit, crochet, sew, or even quilt **30"x30" lap robes** for the residents of Sacred Heart Home in Avilla. They must be in these dimensions so they cover the residents' laps adequately, but don't get caught in wheelchair wheels. 2) Carve **wooden crosses** that people could hold (approximately 5" tall x 2.5" wide). 3) Make **cord rosaries**.

