

June 2022

# Minister's Message

**Brothers and Sisters,**

We are preparing for an exciting month! The Regional Gathering on the 4th and Profession on the 12th.

**The Regional Gathering:** (For those planning to attend) In case you overlooked the email with the details...

**Saturday June 4: Christ the King Retreat Center...**[621 1st Ave S, Buffalo, MN](#)

7:00-7:20 – Registration – Reception Area

7:30 am - Morning Prayer – Chapel.

8:00 am - Breakfast – Dining Room

9:00 – 9:45 am -Roll Call/Opening Remarks (Kim Pappas)

- Franciscan Youth/Young Adults report (Lori Hinker)

- Formation Update (Mona Wolney)

- Regional SA Update (Kathy Taormina)

- JPIC Update (Mary Higgins)

- JPIC Announcements (Kim)

- Pilgrimage Opportunity 2023 (Emilio Alvarez)

9:45 – 10:00 am - Break

10:00 - 11:45 am - NAFRA Visitor Talks

12:00 – 1:00 pm – Lunch – Dining Room

1:00 – 2:45 pm - 30 for 30 Presentations (moderator Tim Taormina)

2:45 – 3:00 pm - Break

3:00 – 3:45 pm Regional Business

- State of the Region (Kim)

- Gathering in September: “Building the Kingdom of God by Building the Bonds of Fraternity”  
(Kathy and Kim)

- Treasurer's Report (Gordon Walker)

3:45 – 4:45 pm - NAFRA Visitors meet with Fraternity Ministers (without REC)

4:45-5:00 break

5:00 – 6:00 pm - Mass - Chapel

6:00 pm – Dinner – Dining Room

7:15 – 8:00 pm -Memorial Service – Chapel

Social to follow (30 th Anniversary Celebration) - coffee room

Closing of Silent Auction/Book Tables – immediately after Memorial Service.

### **Sunday June 12 - Profession**

10:30 Mass - St. Mary's Greene

Followed by Reception and Potluck Lunch

If you are interested in a Secular Franciscan Ring, there has to be a minimum order of 2 rings, so please communicate with each other before placing an order. You can visit the

Franciscan [Resources Books and Gift Webpage](#)

at <https://www.mcssl.com/store/franciscanresourcesbooksandgifts/catalog/search?keyword=rings> or call 218-837-5447

See you in **Greene, June 12** at 10:30 Mass.

Pax ~ Brenda

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### **St. Mary's Fraternity**

**Sunday, June 12, 2022**

St. Mary's Church, 105 N Main St, Greene IA

### **Agenda**

#### **June GATHERING**

10:30 Mass / Profession

11:30 **Gather / Reception / Welcome Visitors**

12:30 **Opening Prayer**

### **Gospel to Life**

Prayer to the Holy Spirit - Tom

First Reading - Tony

Gospel Reading - Barbara B.  
Lead Discussion - Barb S.

### **Necessary Business**

**Treasurer's Report**  
Common Fund Prayer  
Divide Socks for donating  
Christ Our Life Conference - update

**Prayer for the Sick**  
**Memorare**  
**Closing Prayer**  
**Final Blessing**

### **Remember:**

- Pray for your secret-prayer-partner and plan on revealing your identity at the meeting.
- Join us for the Crown Rosary on Wed. evenings at 8:00 PM on ZOOM... <https://tinyurl.com/CFFranciscan>...Password: 1234

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### **Calendar of Events**

June 1 - Birthday - Anthony May, OFS  
June 4 - Profession Anniversary - Charles Heiderscheit, OFS  
June 7 - Birthday - Julie Jung,  
June 14 - Profession Anniversary - Therese Fosselman, OFS  
June 14 - Profession Anniversary - Francine Fosselman, OFS  
June 27 - Profession Anniversary - Josephine Navarro, OFS

Check out the Franciscan Feast Days for May at <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/june-franciscan-calendar.html>

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### **Secular Franciscan Life**

*Secular Franciscans praise God and we do this everyday in prayer. Using the Divine Office we start the day with praise, and end the day in*

*thanks. This is something Secular Franciscans do... not because we have to...not just because our Rule asks us to, but because it is heart-felt and we are called by God's Holy Spirit to pray. The Holy Spirit that dwells within us calls out to God, Our Father, and longs to be with Jesus Christ – and this is why we pray – because we love Him and He loves us.*

*Let us bless our Lord and God, living and true;  
let us always return unto Him praise, glory, honour, blessing,  
and all good things. Let it be, Amen.*

***St Francis of Assisi – Said at the end of every Office.***

***RULE 8:*** *As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do. Let them participate in the sacramental life of the Church, above all the Eucharist. Let them join in liturgical prayer in one of the forms proposed by the Church, reliving the mysteries of the life of Christ.*

**Our Rule says that we should pray by imitating Mary.**

***RULE 9:*** *The Virgin Mary, humble servant of the Lord, was open to his every word and call. She was embraced by Francis with indescribable love and declared the protectress and advocate of his family. The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her complete self giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.*

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### **A Message from Melody Taninies, OFS**

Spiritual Assistant

My dear brothers and sisters,

I recently ran into several articles suggesting we stop using the word “blessed” as much as we do. Although we basically use the word to express gratitude, the word “blessed” has a meaning that is much bigger than gratitude. I was reminded that its meaning is rooted in religion. The online dictionaries define “blessed” as “divinely or supremely favored; fortunate.” I honestly had never really thought about it before. I am just as guilty of using the word too frequently. No, it’s not something for which I need to bring up in Confession. It just tells

me I need to be more sensitive in how I express gratitude. We know God is very generous yet as I think about examples given in these articles, the author's words rang true. There are hard-working individuals who can't seem to get a break and struggle in varied ways day after day. Many long for a job that would better provide for themselves and their families. There are lonely people who want and need to find meaningful relationships. And what about all the couples who are longing to have families but are unable to conceive or those who grieve for a lost child? And good health for those who struggle with health issues, chronic pain and illness? There's no shame in being grateful and sharing our gratitude but at the same time, we ought to be careful not to create division or hurt feelings in doing so. Are we more fortunate than any other person? It may seem we are but does God love them less? No, but it may seem that way from their point of view. Life is not always fair and God never promised it would be. We likely at some point in our lives have been on either side of the spectrum of the haves and have nots. (I remember days long ago struggling to raise my girls by myself.) If we are on the "haves" side, how do we use or share what we have been given? How do we show to others our love for God? Take some time to think about your own situation and remember how Francis shared with everyone. To God be the praise and the glory!

May God's peace be with you,

Melody Taninies, OFS

Spiritual Assistant

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## **Formation Director**

Katherine Osterman

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## **Franciscan Supplies**

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[franciscanresources.com](http://franciscanresources.com) (Minnesota)