



# La Verna E-Vision

*Be the Bridge to Fraternal Life*

Vol. 4

Summer edition

2020

## Minister's Message

My brothers and sisters in St. Francis,

The past few months of COVID-19, safe-at-home and physical distancing have been very challenging times for our parishes, fraternities, states, nation and world. On the 17th Sunday in ordinary time I heard the parable about the value of the Kingdom of God, which got me thinking how this time of stay-at-home has allowed me to set my heart on God and his kingdom, rather than the possessions of this world. With nowhere to go, I have been able to get into a rhythm of praying the Divine Office in a more consistent manner. What a way to begin and end each day, by joining others throughout the world and praying the official prayer of the Catholic Church.



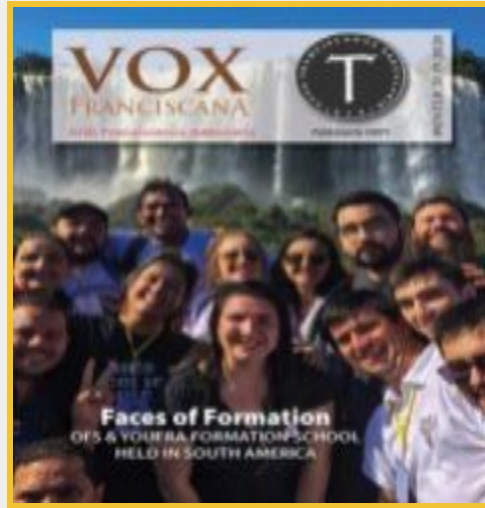
One of the beautiful results of the COVID-19 crisis is the opportunity to pray more. Every Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Central we join together to pray a Rosary. Call the following number: 978-990-5000 and enter the access code: 328279. We will pray each Wednesday until we overcome this COVID-19 crisis. Please pass on the information to other Franciscans. By praying and studying the Word of God we gain wisdom, patience and hope. As St. Francis taught us when he broke with his father, possessions cannot bring us happiness. By setting our hearts on the kingdom of God we can experience the true freedom that Francis sought. This time of stay-at-home is a great opportunity to set our hearts on the kingdom of God.

During this time of physical distancing Fraternities are still functioning; here is what a few are doing. Sacred Heart Fraternity in Oshkosh, WI met for the first time

**Minister's Message**, cont'd on page 3

## Five Nations Participate in "Fraternity without Borders"



Brazil hosted its first OFS-YouFra Formation School and the theme was Franciscan formation and identity for fraternity without borders in the Southern Cone of South America. The

Cone region is geographically located in the southern areas of South America comprising Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and includes some of Brazil's southernmost states in that area.

Last year the Fraternity without Borders School was held in Foz de Iguazu—a triple national border region of Brazil-Paraguay-Argentina, which includes the famed Iguazu Falls, which participants got to visit. The members' priority focus was on formation, leadership, and Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC).

The Fraternity without Borders theme helps participants to become committed to JPIC as an essential part of the Franciscan charism, and help promote communication among Southern Cone countries.

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## Fraternity without Borders, cont'd from page 1

Fraternity without Borders educates members about JPIC service and builds on JPIC commitments coming out of the Latin American OFS-YouFra Congress held in Guatemala in 2019.

The school's general objective is to provide a creative space of formative and informative sharing for OFS and YouFra formators, JPIC animators, fraternal animators and spiritual assistants. Fifty-one brothers and sisters from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile and Paraguay participated in the formation school.

There were also teams of volunteers from the local OFS and YouFra fraternities of Foz de Iguazú (Brazil), along with Capuchin Friars Minor, members of the local parish community, and about 30 families that welcomed formation team members into their homes throughout the meeting.

The Fraternity without Borders meeting took place at Our Lady of the Conception Vicentine Education Center, managed by Sisters of San Vicente de Paulo.

The Five Nation Formation Team organizes and strengthens all the countries of the Southern Cone to think of formation as a path of conversion. "I really liked the collaboration of OFS and YouFra," Ana Maria, a team member. "The course was very well prepared," a Capuchin friar added. "I liked their sense of prayer...their life was joyful... Participants were looking forward to another course."

### Editor's Note:

For additional reading and information about "Fraternity without Borders" and other Franciscan International YouFra activities, please click on to [Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis – Consilium Internationale OFS \(CIOFS\)](#) | [Secular Franciscan Order](#) and then click on *Vox Franciscana* (Franciscan Voice), which is published twice a year.

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Jerome Schroeder, OFM Cap

### *A Spiritual Assistant's Reflection - An Introduction*

Peace and All Good to you. It is my delight to be drawn by the Good Spirit into accompanying you, as a regional spiritual assistant, in our call to live the Gospel life. As a Capuchin Franciscan for over 50 years, my thirst for understanding this call has grown deeper and stronger. I hope to learn from you and share what I know as we go.

My call consciously began in high school at the Capuchin run St. Lawrence Seminary in Mount Calvary, WI. Growing up, our family moved twenty-two times before I entered there. Needless to say, there was no time to develop lasting relationships. What attracted me to the Capuchins was their witness to the brotherhood. With them, my world expanded, my friendship with the Trinity took on warmth and meaning and my friendships with women and men grew.

Most of my ministry years were played out in urban centers of the Midwest with the major one being Dwelling Place serving the retreat needs of the poor in Milwaukee. Its name is taken from Ephesians 2:22 which reminds us that the Good Spirit works relentlessly to form us into dwelling places for God in the Spirit.

For a few years I served the Capuchin community as a formation director which wet my appetite for a truer understanding and participation in the Franciscan way of being human in the mystery of Christ. It is a journey into Being where I have never been before.

Part of my calling in life is to be a poet. The following poem, written long ago, is a key player in my imagination about myself and how to be with my sisters and brothers. May we face our future, together, in the joy and courage of the Good Spirit.

**On Being Held**  
When done too tightly,  
I find no rest.  
When too lightly,  
I feel like an unwelcome guest.  
Those who free me,  
hold me best.

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Your Brother, Jerome Schroeder, Capuchin Franciscan.

### **Minister's Message**, cont'd from page 1

in July since February, 2020. Teri Doughty, OFS, Minister Sacred Heart encouraged her members to "please remain safe from this pandemic by wearing a mask in public." Janet M. Dubec, OFS, Spiritual Assistant for St Anthony's Fraternity in Marathon shared a message of spiritual communion with her members during stay-at-home. Dubec said, "We aren't in communion with ourselves; communion needs another.

What we experienced in the past each time we received Holy Communion is still with and available now for us to share; to take that communion offered us from God in the Eucharist, enabling us to reach out and offer it to others in need of that love." Ellen Jennings, OFS, from the Portiuncula Fraternity in Franklin, WI said that during this time of stay-at-home she hasn't been bored at all but is experiencing a "retreat". Our Regional Secretary, Kathy Sutliff, OFS, participated in a Virtual Taize Service (featuring prayers, meditation, chanting, liturgical readings, and icons, set in candlelight) from Ancilla Domini Chapel.

For the past couple of months, St. Ann Fraternity members have met at St. Mary of the Angels Church in Green Bay to pray the office together and study our

beautiful rule as the focus for ongoing formation. Secular Franciscans walk through life with a Franciscan Community – called Fraternity. It is great to see that so many Franciscans in the La Verna Region are making connections with each during this COVID-19 pandemic.

If Fraternity members are deciding to meet during the COVID-19 pandemic, always remember to wear a mask, maintain at least 6 feet of physical distancing, wash or disinfect hands often and stay home if you are sick. Those are the guidelines that the St. Ann Fraternity are following in Green Bay when they meet. Socialization and snacks have been cancelled along with our annual picnic. Also remember, among adults, the risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at highest risk.

There are members that don't feel comfortable joining the St. Ann Fraternity, even following CDC guidelines, and that is okay. Whether we are meeting physically or virtually our faith and sense of community will help us pull through this historic moment in our world's history.

Always, remember that this pandemic will eventually pass away. Maintain your faith, hope and ask yourself "What does God want of you?" during these challenging times. Let's do God's work.

Peace and Joy!  
Jeff

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### **Obituary - Mary Fedor, OFS**

Mary Fedor passed into eternal life on August 9, 2020. Her daughter Sarah was with her and said that Mary died peacefully. Beloved wife of Ralph for 56 years, Mary was a cherished mother to her children and seven grandchildren.

Mary's profession was on December 4, 1999. Her service with St. Josaphat fraternity in Milwaukee included the following: Minister, Vice-minister, Secretary, Formator, Hospitality. She will be remembered as a kind, gentle and loving soul to everyone.

Mary was OFS representative on the Board of Directors for the Franciscan Institute in Milwaukee, elected and served as southeastern district La Verna Regional Councilor from 2005 to 2008. She faithfully volunteered at St. Ben's Community Meal, served homemade chili and soup at St. Anthony Food Pantry, and initiated St. Josaphat fraternity's Blessing Bags for the Homeless project



Mary Fedor, OFS

Memorial service was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Milwaukee. Burial at Holy Sepulcher

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Cemetery. St. Francis of Assisi, pray for Mary and welcome her into heavenly glory to be united forever with her Savior.

## Sharing Franciscan Spirituality in Times of Pandemic

By Dianna Thrush, OFS  
St. Paschal Baylon Fraternity, Wind Lake, WI

OFS Rule - article 10: **United themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed his will into the Father's hand, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstances of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to him even in difficulties and persecutions.**



In the beginning of the month of March 2020, there were changes coming to all hospitals. Before entering the hospital, everyone was asked: do you have a high temperature? Are you coughing? Are you having breathing concerns? I work as a nurse at the

Milwaukee VA Medical Center Palliative/Rehabilitation Unit, and we were seeing more of our residents with respiratory disease. Many changes came as the now virus Covid-19 was surging in big numbers.

On March 18th, I had surgery that was going to take six weeks of recuperation. The day after my surgery all elective surgeries were canceled, my family couldn't visit me, and I was discharged. I had various complications from the surgery, however being a nurse, I placed my health and recuperation with God. I felt mixed emotions as I think back to that time. I worked as a new nurse in times of HIV/AIDS and understood that there was a higher power that protected me during that time. Now I was going to be off work in times of great need, however I felt that great providential protection from above caring for me.

As a Secular Franciscan I have always put the will of God in front of my decisions and trusted completely in his loving mercy. I keep my coworkers in constant prayer and send them letters of encouragement. I remember that in the writings of St. Claire, she exhorts us to pray. As she prayed so many times for St. Francis's safety while he was on his mission, it is the most positive thing to do. I saw televised Mass

offered every day from the Vatican with Pope Francis. His words of compassion and mercy, his teaching of being strong and loving, and to pray for all those that are suffering of isolation, illness, and despair. His words brought purpose to my life as I was recuperating.

OFS Rule - article 13: **As the Father sees in every person the features of his Son, the first-born of many brothers and sisters, so the Secular Franciscan with a gentle and courteous spirit accepts all people as a gift of the Lord and an image of Christ. A sense of community will make them joyful and ready to place themselves on an equal basis with all people, especially with the lowly for whom they shall strive to create conditions of life worthy of people redeemed by Christ.**

I returned to work at the VA Medical Center on April 30<sup>th</sup>. What I remembered from the beginning of this pandemic was far different. Now I was told to always wear a mask, keep a safe distance of six feet from each staff, and also use a facial shield while caring for my residents. I felt inner joy, like the joy that St. Francis talks about brother Leo: knowing in your heart that you are in a difficult situation, but aware of God's love and of the purity within me. It gives me strength to be present for those that I care for.

I wear my mask as a sign that I care for others as of myself. I don't want to cause harm; I check my temperature every four hours during work to detect and protect those that I am caring for. I use proper PPE to stay close to my residents at their time of passing. I have lost family members from this virus, which I translate as having more angels to watch over me.



People call us Heroes, because of what we do,  
I call it love!

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**Editor's Note:** Dianna Trush is Vice Minister with St. Paschal Baylon Fraternity. Her nursing career began in 1981. Over the years, she graduated from Cardinal Stritch University with a certificate of Lay Ministries, and also obtained from Marquette University a certificate in Faith Community Nurse. Dianna says, "I love serving our veterans; it has been the highlight of my career." Dianna professed on December 13, 2015.

## *OFS News* -

### **National** - Guidelines for OFS Fraternal Life During Social Distancing

The National Priority of Fraternity Life has never been more important than at this time of social distancing. Some of you have asked how to maintain fraternity activities during this time. The following events can be held using video conferencing or conference call: Fraternity gatherings Fraternity Council meetings, Initial formation sessions. Some fraternity events require **personal presence**: Elections, Visitations, Rite of Admission, Rite of Profession. These must be postponed until we can meet safely in person, however initial formation should continue in the manner described below. Please see the following sections for detailed guidelines on the above. In all instances, please continue to follow your state and local guidelines.

#### FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

We encourage fraternities at both local and regional levels to maintain fraternal bonds as much as you can. Be creative. Make phone calls, send cards or letters. Use technology to meet as a group (conference calls or teleconferencing, etc.) if possible. On a video conference some members will not have the ability to be "on screen," but they can join by phone. Do your best to incorporate prayer and ongoing formation.

#### FRATERNITY COUNCIL BUSINESS

Fraternity Councils and Regional Executive Councils can conduct business by phone or teleconference. Decisions can be made by consensus or voice vote. (Note: A secret ballot is only required for elections or for approval of a Candidate for Profession.)

#### FRATERNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Fraternity members, the appointed Presider and Ecclesial Witness must be physically present for an election. Elections involve voting by secret ballot, and this cannot happen by teleconference, phone or email. Mail in ballots are not acceptable for the following reasons: the reading of ballots must be overseen by the Presider and Ecclesial Witness, and there are Guidelines for Fraternal Life During Social Distancing May 12, 2020 multiple elections and a changing slate. Elections that cannot be held safely must be postponed.

Q: What if postponement of an election is not a good option?

A: If a Council member is not able to continue to fulfill their duties during a term that has been extended due to the pandemic, then that person may resign. In this case the Council fills the vacancy in the usual manner.

#### OFFICIAL FRATERNITY VISITATIONS

Fraternity members and the Visitor(s) must be physically present for an official Visitation. An official Visitation cannot take place by teleconference. Visitations that cannot be held safely must be postponed.

#### INITIAL FORMATION

Initial Formation should continue during social distancing. However, every effort should be made to maintain the same standards followed for an in-person formation session. Material can be sent out by email or surface mail but discussion is still key. Engage everyone in discussion as it would normally take place at a formation gathering. This may be done by phone, conference call, FaceTime, Zoom, Google Classroom—whatever is the most comfortable for the formation director and those in initial Formation. Please resist the urge to combine classes. Orientation, Inquiry, and Candidacy sessions

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should be held at separate times as you would usually do.

The National Executive Council thanks the National Formation Commission for their work on these guidelines.

### ***Regional News***

Dear La Verna Region fraternities, we are asking that each and every fraternity member respects and follows the Corona virus protocol of the church/facility in which they are meeting. If you don't feel you can follow the established protocol, then please, in order to protect the decisions made by those in charge, find another place to hold your gatherings. Thank You! Blessings, Lee Ann Niebuhr, La Verna Region Spiritual Assistant.

### ***Local Fraternity News***

## **Profession in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Fraternity in Wisconsin Rapids**



On Thursday evening, June 18, 2020, our fraternity welcomed its newest member, Lynn Schroer. Father Janusz Kawolski, pastor of St. Lawrence Church, presided as Lynn professed her promise to make her permanent commitment to the Gospel life and to live under the Rule of Secular Franciscan Order. Our minister Patrick Ruesch OFS accepted Lynn as a member and Karen Juntikka OFS our Formation Director presented Lynn with the symbols of profession—the lighted candle, the San Damiano Crucifix (bought and blessed in Assisi), her new TAU Cross and a Franciscan Crown Rosary (made especially for her by a fraternity member).



Liturgical music was provided by Ann and Emma Ruesch, Patrick's wife and daughter. Besides our fraternity members, friends and family members were present for the profession. Because of the limitations of social contact required at this time, a reception was not immediately held. It was decided that our fraternity would present Lynn with gifts and celebrate with food and a special cake at our annual fraternity picnic scheduled in August.

The following article was written by Sharon Dale, OFS and Lynn's profession pictures taken by fraternity photographer Cheryl Erickson, OFS.

### **Portiuncula Fraternity - "Parish Mission Via Zoom"** written by Leslie Mayer, OFS (article on page 12)



**The La Verna E-Vision** newsletter is published three times a year, is a communication vehicle with the La Verna Region, and presents information that relate to the Secular Franciscan Order way of life.

The La Verna Region of the Secular Franciscan Order in the USA consists of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. The region's geographical area is divided into three districts: Southeast, Central, Fox Valley.

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## *The La Verna Regional Executive Council*

The REC is here to help your Fraternity in any way possible. Do not hesitate to email or call any member of the REC with a concern you may have. Current members of the REC are:

**Minister** - Jeff Gumz, OFS - [jagumz@gmail.com](mailto:jagumz@gmail.com), 920-393-9087

**Vice Minister** - Bob Crane, OFS - [bobcrane.ofs@gmail.com](mailto:bobcrane.ofs@gmail.com), 715-204-9671

**Secretary** - Kathy Sutliff, OFS - [katsut@charter.net](mailto:katsut@charter.net), 715-369-3367

**Treasurer** = Bob Henning, OFS - [BMJHSFO@AOL.COM](mailto:BMJHSFO@AOL.COM), 906-273-0374

**Councilor** - Nick Crane, OFS - [ncranewms@gmail.com](mailto:ncranewms@gmail.com), 715-204-4113

**Councilor** - Sharon Dale, OFS - [shadale@wctc.net](mailto:shadale@wctc.net), 715-423-4136

**Councilor** - Teri Doughty, OFS - [OFS4TERI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:OFS4TERI@GMAIL.COM), 920-231-4838

**Regional Spiritual Assistant** - Lee Ann Niebuhr, OFS - [lamnieuhr@gmail.com](mailto:lamnieuhr@gmail.com) 715 356-1009

**Regional Spiritual Assistant** - Br. Jerome Schroeder, OFM Cap [jschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:jschroeder@gmail.com)

**Formation Director** = Joann Boss, OFS [jboss@my.wctc.edu](mailto:jboss@my.wctc.edu) 262 250-9251

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## *La Verna Region events*

- **REC Meeting** - September 12, 2020 - (Zoom conference)
- **Retreats at the St. Anthony Spirituality Center, Marathon, WI**

**Franciscan Living: The Spirituality of Beauty** - September 25 -27, 2020 - presented by Jerome Schroeder, OFM Cap



Spirituality – identity in action – springs from the mystery of our being. To live well is to live out of an identity that “works.” From a Franciscan perspective, such an identity is grounded in beauty, for beauty lies at the heart of Franciscan spirituality. Such an identity is constantly growing in beautiful simplicity, moving like a stream that daily rids itself of toxins. This cleaning is a vital component of maintaining our identity – our spirituality – in a world filled with toxins such as hatred, prejudice, greed, and fear. Let us take time and space at this retreat to wonder and to discover together the beauty within ourselves, so we can shape a beautiful world.

The retreat will be presented by **Jerome Schroeder**, a Capuchin Franciscan for over 50 years. His years of ministry centered on the marginalized in the larger urban landscapes of the Midwest, the greater part of which was parish pastor and retreat ministry to the poor. Jerome is a published poet and ongoing student of the Franciscan approach to bringing life to the Gospel and the Gospel to life.

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Cost: \$200 | Registration begins at 5 pm on Friday, followed by supper at 6:30. The retreat concludes after Mass and the noon meal on Sunday. To register, call 715-443-2236, or visit [www.sarcenter.com](http://www.sarcenter.com)

- **Retreat at the St. Anthony Spirituality Center, Marathon, WI**

**Silent Theme Retreats - Separating the Wheat from the Chaff in Our Lives -**

November 13 - 15, 2020, January 29 - 31, 2021, and March 26 - 28, 2021-presented by Lee Niebuhr, OFS, Rita Simon, Elizabeth Schussler and Deacon Mike Harvey

We have all been moving through dramatic and incredibly challenging times this year. Perhaps this upheaval in our “normal” lives has called you to evaluate what is really important in your life and what, at the core really matters. Let us explore how the gift of dark times, when we are drawn to go deeply into silence with deep listening, allows the Spirit to lead us to new life and transformation.

This retreat will be offered November 13 - 15, January 29-31, 2021, and March 26 -28, 2021). All three sessions check in begins Friday at 5 p.m., followed by supper at 6:30. The retreat concludes after the noon meal on Sunday. All sessions are limited to 21 participants. Register early. Cost \$200. To register and reserve your spot call 715-443-2236 or visit [www.sarcenter.com](http://www.sarcenter.com)

**All retreat guests will be asked to wear a mask or cloth face covering in common areas except at mealtimes.** We strongly encourage each guest to bring his/her own face covering; however, a limited number of masks will be available for those who do not have their own.

- **Secular Franciscan social media site:**

- St. Josaphat Fraternity (Milwaukee) <https://www.facebook.com/StJosaphatOFS/> This is a current site on fraternity, Franciscan media, archdiocese news, spiritual events, and more.
- Join with your La Verna Region Secular Franciscans to pray the Rosary together each Wednesday evening. To access the audio conference call, please dial the following number: 978-990-5000 and then enter the access code: **328279**. We will begin the Rosary each Wednesday at 7 p.m. and continue until we overcome the COVID-19 crisis. Please pass on the information to other Franciscans.

- **Perpetual Adoration:** open 24-hours a day at **St. John the Evangelist Church**, 8500 W. Cold Spring, Greenfield, WI. Enter via the south doors of the Church.

- **Transitus** - October 3, 2020 (**via phone**) hosted by St. James Fraternity in Wausau.

St James fraternity will host a live Transitus from their local St. Michael Catholic church fireside room. This special ceremony is open to all La Verna Region members who wish to call-in and listen to the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi “passing over” from this life to the glory of heaven.

The ceremony welcome starts October 3, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. and Transitus begins at 1 p.m.



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To confirm your visit, please contact Lora Hainy, St. James fraternity minister, at (715) 845-8927. Lora will then provide you with a phone access code. Phone access to the Transitus is not complicated, but using a speaker phone is helpful to listen to the live broadcast. Please call Lora before October 3rd to get the phone access code number and confirmation.

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## Ready to Serve Up Franciscan Hospitality

By Ed Boss and Jeff Gumz, Franciscan pie baker and contributor



Jeff Gumz, OFS with his homemade cherry pie with vanilla ice cream topping

La Verna Regional Minister Jeff Gumz is always busy with something: family, high school teacher, working with Secular Franciscans, Lambeau Field Stadium tour guide. Now, his busy schedule also includes baking a cherry pie!

Jeff says that one of his joys of living in Northeastern Wisconsin during late July is cherry picking, and Door County, Wisconsin is famous for their cherries. So, now is your opportunity to join in and enjoy a piece of cherry pie. But first you have to prepare it. Here's how:

### JEFF'S CHERRY PIE BAKING INGREDIENTS

Homemade Pie Crust

4 and 1/2 cups pitted fresh sour cherries

1 cup granulated sugar

1/4 cup cornstarch

1 Tablespoon lemon juice

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1 Tablespoon cold unsalted butter, cut into small cubes



Door County fresh picked cherries

### Pie Baking Instructions

1. Prepare your pie crust recipe. Carefully place the dough into a 9×2 inch pie dish.
2. Make the filling: In a large bowl, stir the cherries, sugar, cornstarch, lemon juice, vanilla extract together until thoroughly combined. Set filling aside in the refrigerator as the oven preheats. This gives the filling a chance to rest.
3. Preheat the oven to 400°F.
4. Spoon the filling into the crust and discard any leftover juices in the bottom of the bowl. Dot the pieces of butter on top of the filling. Cover with the top of the pie crust and press the edges into the bottom to seal. Flute or crimp the edges with a fork, if desired. Use a fork to create air holes.
5. Place the pie onto a large baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes. Keeping the pie in the oven, turn the temperature down to 375°F and bake for an additional 30-35 minutes.
6. Allow the pie to cool for 3 full hours at room temperature before serving. This time allows the filling to thicken up.



of

### Brother Juniper



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## LaVerna Region Monthly Treasurer's Report

01-31 July, 2020

The overall status of the Region's finances is Green.

### FINANCIAL REPORT (attached)

The Checking account balance is \$24,609.43 broken out as follows;  
Regular Checking = \$ 16,208.89  
Retreat Subsidy Fund = \$3,838.08  
Education/Training Fund = \$4,062.46 ( \$998.00 JDSG remaining )  
Fair Share Fund = \$500.00

Pending near-term 2020 bills – None

### FAIR SHARE STATUS REPORT (attached)

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Fair Share receipts = \$7,660.00 ( 18 Fraternities )  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fair Share receipts = \$5,740.00 ( 18 Fraternities )  
One fraternity has taken advantage of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter option of paying partial.  
Three fraternities took advantage of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter option of paying nothing.

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fair Share receipts = \$3,000.00 ( 10 Fraternities )  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fair Share still owed = \$3,250.00 ( 8 Fraternities )  
One fraternity took advantage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter option of paying nothing.  
One fraternity has taken advantage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter option of paying partial.  
One fraternity paid for both the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter they opted not to pay.

Both funds have seen gains and are now more than when originally started.  
The General Fund is currently at 113% of the current budget. Goal is 140%

Respectfully submitted by,

Bob Henning, OFS  
La Verna Regional Treasurer

**La Verna Regional Fraternity OF S  
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSE  
FOR PERIODS ENDED DEC 31, 2020 and 2019**

	THIS YEAR Y. T. D. 2020	Budget 7 months period 2020	Budget Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Approved Last Year Actual 2019	Approved 2020 Budget 22 Jun 2019	Approved Amended 2020 Budget 08 Jun 2020
<b>BEGINNING BALANCES:</b>						
REGULAR CHECKING .....	10,079.07			6,748.66		
RETREAT SUBSIDY FUND .....	3,838.08			3,888.08		
EDUCATION/TRAINING FUND .....	4,062.46			637.46		
RETREAT/EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FD .....	25,000.00			25,000.00		
CUSTODIAL FUND .....	25,547.00			25,547.00		
CASH ON HAND .....	0.00			0.00		
FAIR SHARE FUND .....	500.00			500.00		
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND &amp; IN BANKS -</b>	<b>69,026.61</b>			<b>62,521.20</b>		
<b>REVENUE:</b>						
DONATIONS .....	800.80	2,633.75	(1,832.95)	4,515.42	4,515.00	4,515.00
FAIR SHARE FUND .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INT. RETREAT ENDOWMENT FUND .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	708.00	0.00
INTEREST EDUCATION FUND .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	708.00	0.00
SPECIAL MEMORIALS .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	410.00	0.00	0.00
CHAPTER .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,664.00	1,664.00	0.00
FAIR SHARE -- 366 + 24 @ 80-40 .....	16,770.00	17,196.67	(426.67)	30,425.00	29,440.00	29,480.00
SA WRKSP .....	0.00	437.50	(437.50)	1,460.00	1,525.00	750.00
INTEREST CUSTODIAL FUND .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,464.00	0.00
MISC & FORMATION WS INCOME .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,490.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE .....</b>	<b>17,570.80</b>	<b>20,267.92</b>	<b>(2,697.12)</b>	<b>42,964.42</b>	<b>40,024.00</b>	<b>34,745.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS .....</b>	<b>86,597.41</b>			<b>105,485.62</b>		
<b>EXPENSES:</b>						
STIPENDS & EXPENSES .....	1,300.00	1,516.67	216.67	2,845.70	3,000.00	2,600.00
RENT INCLUDING EQUIPMENT .....	500.00	291.67	(208.33)	500.00	500.00	500.00
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES .....	139.00	29.17	(109.83)	0.00	50.00	50.00
EDUCATION/TRAINING .....	0.00	2,091.25	2,091.25	3,585.39	3,585.00	3,585.00
MEETING ROOM & FACILITIES .....	0.00	116.67	116.67	1,035.00	200.00	200.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES .....	0.00	291.67	291.67	636.96	500.00	500.00
DONATIONS .....	1,500.00	1,458.33	(41.67)	410.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
ADMINISTRATIVE EXP .....	729.03	212.33	(516.70)	585.39	364.00	364.00
NEWSLETTER .....	0.00	350.00	350.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
TRAVEL EXP & EXPENSES .....	678.95	2,625.00	1,946.05	9,983.72	9,983.72	4,500.00
FAIR SHARE TO OFS-USA -- 382@17 .....	6,494.00	3,788.17	(2,705.83)	6,732.00	6,477.00	6,494.00
ANNUAL CHAPTER .....	0.00	-	0.00	5,761.27	5,800.00	0.00
VISITATION / ELECTION .....	0.00	-	0.00	641.00	2,500.00	0.00
RETREAT SUBSIDY .....	100.00	58.33	(41.67)	580.00	580.00	100.00
FAIR SHARE FUND .....	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SA WRKSP .....	0.00	577.50	577.50	2,870.75	1,997.00	990.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE .....	0.00	29.17	29.17	291.81	500.00	50.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....</b>	<b>11,440.98</b>	<b>13,435.93</b>	<b>1,994.95</b>	<b>36,459.01</b>	<b>39,136.72</b>	<b>23,033.00</b>
<b>GAIN OR (LOSS) FOR PERIOD .....</b>	<b>6,129.82</b>	<b>6,831.99</b>	<b>(702.17)</b>	<b>6,505.41</b>	<b>887.28</b>	<b>1,1712.00</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE .....</b>	<b>75,156.43</b>			<b>69,026.61</b>		
<b>CURRENT BALANCES:</b>						
REGULAR CHECKING .....	16,208.89	113%		10,079.07		
RETREAT SUBSIDY FUND .....	3,838.08			3,838.08		
EDUCATION/TRAINING FUND .....	4,062.46			4,062.46		
RETREAT / EDUCATION CATHOLIC FUND .....	25,000.00			25,000.00		
CUSTODIAL FUND INVESTMENT (JC) .....	25,547.00			25,547.00		
CASH ON HAND .....	0.00			0.00		
FAIR SHARE FUND .....	500.00			500.00		Outstanding
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND &amp; IN BANKS --</b>	<b>75,156.43</b>			<b>69,026.61</b>		Checks
CUSTODIAL FUND(5283)-JC bequest + St Pascal Baylon gift as of 6/30/20, last 12 mo = +1.66% <b>Gain / (Loss)</b>	28,021.15	5%	\$	1,401.06		
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION FUND (5205) as of 6/30/20	2,474.15					
* St Francis of Assisi + Anonymous + REC Last 12 mo +1.66% <b>Gain / (Loss)</b>	27,114.61	5%	\$	1,355.73		
Bob Hennig, OFS, <b>TREASURER</b> 07/31/20	2,114.61					

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## Parish Mission via Zoom

By Leslie Mayer, OFS  
Portiuncula Fraternity Minister,  
Franklin, WI



Leslie Mayer, OFS  
Portiuncula Fraternity

Fr. Greg Plata, our spiritual assistant presented two talks via Zoom on the internet. On April 28 Fr. Greg's topic was "Why Be Catholic?" The next day's topic was the Holy Eucharist.

Fr. Greg began his lecture on Catholicism by speaking of the canon, the books of the bible accepted by the early Church. Our canon includes seven books excluded by Martin Luther during the Reformation, including the letter James, which speaks of the necessity of faith and works for salvation instead of faith alone.

Fr. Greg emphasized the importance of ecumenical councils like Nicea and Jerusalem to prevent confusion, heresy and division. He listed 20 heresies of the early church, such as Arianism which denied the Trinity. He also stated the importance of the early church fathers in preserving the truth handed down from Christ to His successors in the apostolic hierarchy.

The Catholic Church has all seven Sacraments that Christ instituted. Holy Communion and Reconciliation especially are huge portals of grace to help us grow in holiness. As members of the Mystical Body of Christ we pray for the souls in purgatory and ask their intercession for us until they have reached that state of perfection and holiness the Gospel calls us to have.

The glorified saints in heaven are that great cloud of witnesses from the letter to the Hebrews whose intercession before God for us is powerful. Mary's intercession to Her Son is very powerful, just as it was at the wedding at Cana.



Fr. Greg Plata, OFM  
Portiuncula Fraternity  
Spiritual Assistant

On the next day, Fr. Plata's lecture on the Eucharist was packed with biblical references regarding the Real Presence of Jesus as the Bread of Life. He said that when non-Catholics really understand this teaching, they are drawn to the church.

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## Obituary - Joan Reiter, OFS



Joan Reiter, OFS

Joan Reiter was born April 11, 1930 in Appleton and died August 10, 2020 at the age of 90. She served in the United State Air Force (1953 - 1956) to "see the world." Joan received a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh in 1965 graduating Summa Cum Laude; and an M.A. from UW-Madison in 1967. She worked in clinical social work for Winnebago County until her retirement in 1992.

In 1977, Joan professed into the Secular Franciscan Order at St. Joseph's Church in Appleton. She served as Minister to St. Joseph Fraternity, and later moved to Oshkosh and transferred to the Sacred Heart Fraternity and served on their council until 2013. From 2013 -2015, Joan, along with regional councilor Teri Doughty, routinely drove from Oshkosh to Beaver Dam and contributed with formation to the soon-to-be professed members of St. Katharine Drexel Fraternity. Her down to earth humor and pleasant storytelling offered

the Beaver Dam members a warm gateway into Franciscan Joy.

Joan was an active outdoors person all her life - a deer hunter and a duck hunter; she canoed in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Canada; she skied downhill and cross country in Wisconsin, Utah, Arizona, and Austria. She was a very important part of the lives of 13 great, great nieces and nephews and because of her joy and fun they had with her, she acquired the name "great-great" and it was a perfect name for a deeply loved aunt.

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A Mass burial was celebrated for Joan at the Most Blessed Sacrament Church, Oshkosh.