



## Listen, Discern, and Go Forth!

*It's been a busy October for our region. First, I was able to attend the national Chapter in Detroit, MI. And second, we had our fall regional Chapter gathering in Kirkwood, MO last weekend (October 29). Our gathering was a fraternal & pastoral visitation too!*

*I was tremendously humbled to have been able to represent you at the national Chapter. Every decision, every vote was made with YOU on my mind and in my heart. The blessings of voting for our national council came quickly back to us when our new national minister, Jane Rose-Bamman, OFS, led our visitation.*

*And the benefit of meeting the national council, the national chairs, and many other regional ministers at the Chapter is knowing they are all here for us as well.*

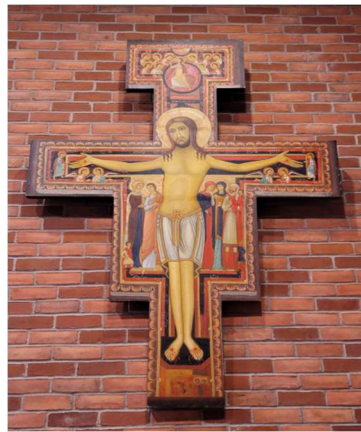
*But I have to say that my biggest take-a-way from both Chapter gatherings was the confirmation that we are all an integral part of our Order. Each and every one of us has very special gifts which have been called out through our own servant leadership by the Holy Spirit for the greater good of each other and for the Secular Franciscan Order.*

*So here we are, in this time in history, so perfectly placed here by God to Listen, Discern and Go Forth!*

*May we all be the best servants we can be in leading others humbly to Jesus.*

*Peace & All Good, Always!*

*Chris Blood, OFS*



*The San Damiano Cross in the Blessed Solanus Casey Center- Detroit, MI*

## Fall 2022

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The Secular Franciscan Order was established by St. Francis of Assisi more than 800 years ago. Our purpose is to bring the Gospel to life where we live and where we work. We look for ways to embrace the Gospel in our

## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN REGIONAL FRATERNITY



Over 30 of us from all over our region gathered at the Tau Center in Kirkwood, MO for our fall Chapter meeting. This was also a fraternal and pastoral visitation. Jane DeRose-Bamman, OFS, our new national minister and Fr. Chris Shorrock, OFS Conv. spent the weekend with us. They both inspired us with their reflections and presentations.

The speakers were our former national minister, Jan Parker, OFS, she spoke about the 2022-2023 national theme: Listen, Discern, and Go Forth!; Marilyn Muegge, ofs— candidate, spoke about her journey so far to the OFS; Maureen Gray, OFS, spoke about her 40-year journey in the OFS; and Annapoorna Mary, OFS, spoke about formation of the formators.

The 'State of the Region' was presented by Chris Blood, OFS.

Sr. Renita & Sr. Ellen— both Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, hosted us with wonderful hospitality and warmth.

Some big news from the region: We have a new Emerging Fraternity! The REC has approved— Servant of God Thea Bowman Emerging Fraternity. They will be gathering at the Tau Center in Kirkwood. San Damiano Fraternity will be their sponsoring fraternity.

The new emerging fraternity's presence ties into our new national priorities for the next three years—Vocations, Communications, Relationships. We are all called to build and rebuild the church within our parishes, families, communities. Our way of life must be visible, palatable to all who meet us. As Franciscans, we especially focus on these three charisms— The Incarnation of Christ; the Suffering and Crucifixion of Christ; and the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

### Our Agenda for the 2022 Chapter

Gathering & Fellowship with Song

Morning Prayer

Welcome: Sr. Renita Brummer, OSF, Minister General, FSOLP

Jane DeRose Bamman, OFS, National Minister and Fr. Chris Shorrock, OFM Conv.

Ministers & Spiritual Assistants - meeting with the Visitors

Faith Sharings: Marilyn Muegge, ofs & Maureen Gray, OFS

Chris Blood, OFS- State of the Region

Jan Parker, OFS- 2022-2023 Theme: Listen, Discern & Go Forth

Annapoorna Mary, OFS- Formation of the Formators

Business

Final Blessing & Dismissal

GROUP PHOTO!!!

More photos from the gathering are on our website: [www.stclareregionofs.org](http://www.stclareregionofs.org)

## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN SERVICE

### The Cardinal Rigali Service Award

Joe & Susan

Scalise

2022

“The award is presented to those who exhibit selfless devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in parishes, schools and agencies throughout the Archdiocese.”



Joe & Susan Scalise were recently recognized by the Archdiocese of St. Louis for their volunteer work at the St. Frances Cabrini Academy in St. Louis, MO.

Pictured with them are:

Bishop Mark S. Rivituso (left) & Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski (right)

*“Joe and Susan Scalise have been faithful volunteers at St. Francis Cabrini Academy for six years. Their dedication, commitment and kindness bring joy to our students. Teachers and students alike eagerly anticipate their weekly visits. Joe and Susan have become an integral part of our learning program as they assist small groups of students with both remediation and enrichment in our 2nd and 1st grade classrooms. In addition to their support of our academic programs, they nurture the spiritual development of our students through their association with the Secular Franciscan Order. Joe and Susan’s generosity extend beyond the time they spend volunteering at Cabrini. They attend special events (i.e. First Communion, Mass) and share Cabrini’s mission with the larger St. Louis community. We are grateful for the time and talents Joe & Susan bless us with!”*

*Caroline Koetting, Principal  
St. Frances Cabrini Academy*

# THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN FELLOWSHIP

## Fraternity Retreat

St. Francis of Assisi  
Fraternity

October 2022



Il Ritiro Retreat

Center

Dittmer, MO



**St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity  
October 2022**

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## Servant of God Thea Bowman Emerging Fraternity

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October 2022

## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN FRATERNITY

The St. Clare Region Executive Council has approved a new emerging fraternity! The new fraternity will be called: Servant of God Thea Bowman Emerging Fraternity. The new fraternity will have their gatherings at the Tau Center in Kirkwood, MO. San Damiano Fraternity will be the sponsoring fraternity.

Their new council (approved by the REC) is:

Acting Minister: Tom Brinkmann, OFS

Acting Vice-Minister: Joe Scalise, OFS

Acting Secretary: Padraic McGrath, OFS

Acting Treasurer: Suzee Irwin, OFS

Acting Councilor: Christine Blood, OFS

Joe Scalise will help lead formation along with Mary Wainscott, OFS, who is the acting Spiritual Assistant.

Enjoy this wonderful biography on SOG Thea Bowman at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9oOa2iOwck>



## **FORMATION**

Our last Regional Formation Workshop took place on Saturday, October 1. The topic was on Formation & the Rite of Admission. Here's the link to our website: <https://www.stclareregionofs.org/formation-workshops.html>

### **REGIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT TRAINING**

Mary Wainscott, OFS, Spiritual Assistant for St. Francis of Assisi & St. Anthony of Padua Fraternities is offering to assist anyone who feels called to learn more about or even becoming a Spiritual Assistant for your fraternity.

Please contact her at:  
marywainscottofs@gmail.com  
314-420-7475

## ***2023 Chapter- NEWS!!!***

**BREAKING NEWS!!** Our St. Clare Region is hosting the 2023 National Chapter! We are blessed to have been given this opportunity to show our Midwest, Franciscan Hospitality!

The Chapter will be held from August 22-26, 2023 at the Pallottine Renewal Center in Florissant, MO. More details to follow, but mark your calendars now... we have been called to serve!



**Pallottine Renewal Center**  
Retreat & Conference Center

# THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL AT THE NATIONAL ELECTIVE CHAPTER, OCTOBER 2022

The 2022 National Elective Chapter took place in Detroit, Michigan. On the national website, much more information can be found:

<https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/2022-national-fraternity-nafra-chapter/>

Below are photos taken at the Chapter by Chris Blood.

## The National Elective Chapter

October 11-15

Detroit, Michigan



Divine Mercy Region hosted the Chapter.



Mary Bittner, OFS and Jan Parker, OFS—National Vice Minister and National Minister. They served from 2015-2022. Thank you!!



Br. Al Mascia, OFM performed his one man play/musical **“More Love than Skill: A Saint and His Fiddle”** on the life of Bl. Solanus Casey



Praying at the casket containing the remains of Bl. Solanus Casey at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit



Closing Mass celebrated by Fr. Chris Shorrock OFM Conv and the CSNA



Our new National Executive Council! Thank you!

## MEET YOUR NEW NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

*Secular Franciscan Order - USA*

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



Councilor	Councilor	Councilor	Treasurer	Secretary	Vice Minister	Minister
Donna Hollis	Joshua Molidor	Cherryle Fruge	Claudia Kauzlarich	Susan Ronan	Diane Menditto	Jane DeRose-Bamman

*Not included in photo: Mary Frances Charsky elected International Councilor*

## VOX FRANCISCANA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the peace of the Lord be with you. The Latest issue of the Vox Franciscana is available for us. Enjoy!!

Love and Peace,

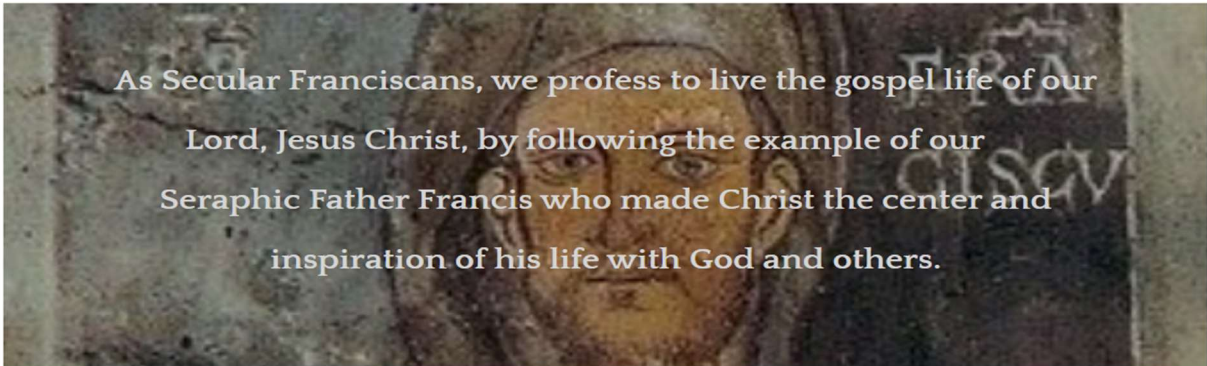
Your Sister,  
Mary Frances Charsky, OFS, International Councilor

<https://ciofs.info/news/vox-franciscana/summer-autumn-2022/>



ST CLARE REGION SECULAR  
FRANCISCAN ORDER USA

WELCOME   OUR FRATERNITIES   FORMATION   CLARION NEWSLETTERS



As Secular Franciscans, we profess to live the gospel life of our Lord, Jesus Christ, by following the example of our Seraphic Father Francis who made Christ the center and inspiration of his life with God and others.

Welcome to the  
St. Clare Region  
of the Secular  
Franciscan Order USA!

St Clare Region Website: [www.stclareregionofs.org](http://www.stclareregionofs.org)

### Our Region's Website!

On our website we have information on all of our fraternities, our regional formation workshops and resources, our archived newsletters, and more!

As we continue to add and build the site, please email us to add more information on your fraternity, your formation suggestions, your newsletters...

The website is designed to be a repository for ALL of our fraternities. Let's build this together!

**Followers of Francis Fraternity**

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