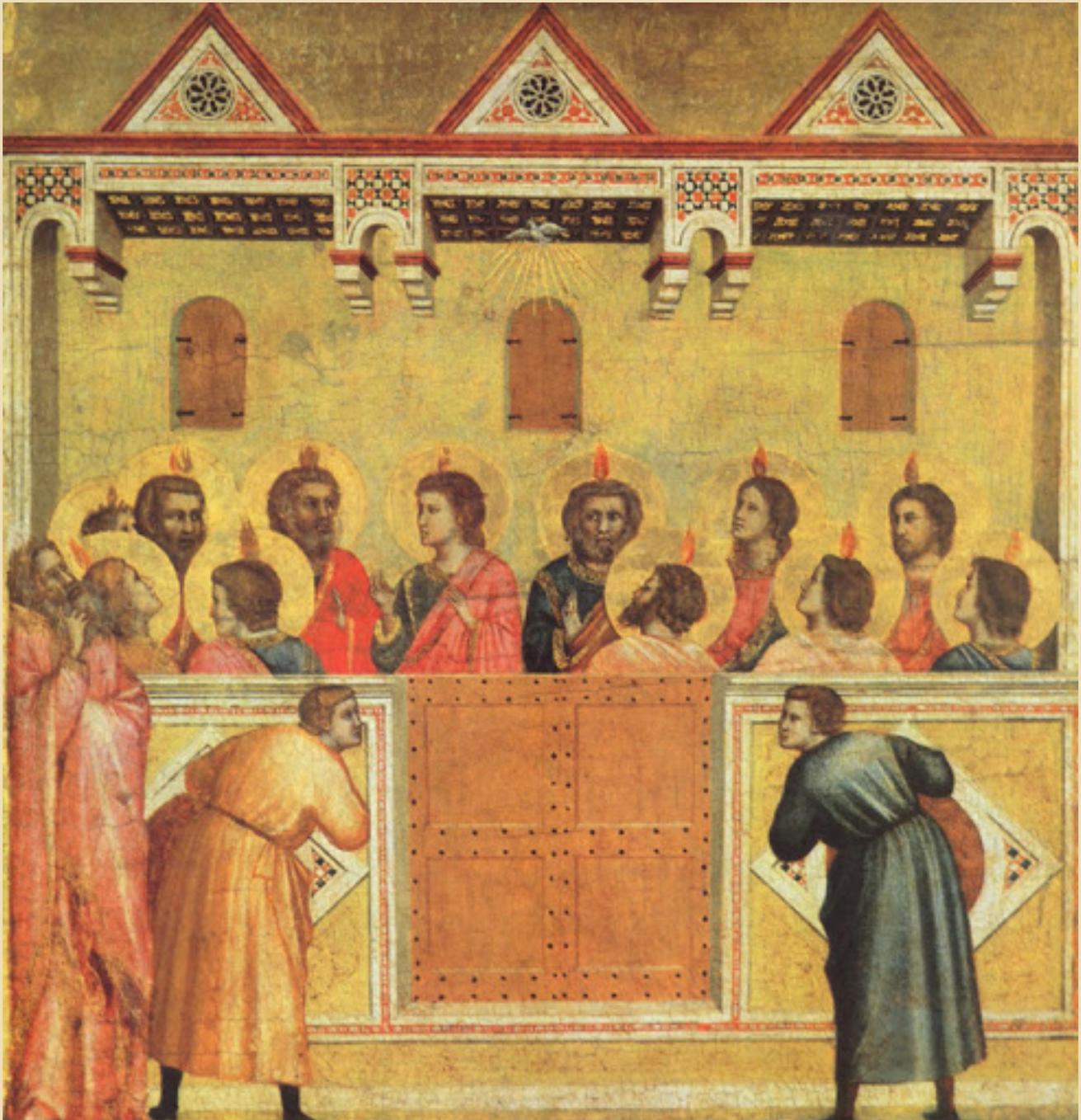


# The Poverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ✠ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 81, no. 5 — May 2021



# Minister's Letter

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO OUR MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS, AUNTS, GODMOTHERS AND SPIRITUAL MOTHERS!!!! BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL!!!**

*"The Blessed Virgin, having entered the Father's eternal kingdom, closer to her divine Son and thus closer to us all, can more effectively exercise in the Spirit the role of maternal intercession entrusted to her by divine Providence." Pope John Paul II*

Sisters and Brothers,

Thank you for your participation at our April Gathering. The Inquirers shared briefly their interest in our fraternity and we in turn shared what fraternity life means to us. It was a good opportunity to get to know each other and assist as the Inquirers seek a sponsor.

We are still welcoming anyone interested in joining our **Orientation Class**. The next class is **May 16 at Noon**. Please have potential Orientees contact **Maryann Kummer** at [mkummersfo@gmail.com](mailto:mkummersfo@gmail.com) for more information.

I am pleased to announce that **Doug Gordon** is our new **Vocations Coordinator**. I am grateful to Doug for taking on this endeavor. Vocations are important to the ongoing life and sustainability of our Fraternity. Please prayerfully consider working with Doug in this effort. Please contact Doug at [dgordon32671@gmail.com](mailto:dgordon32671@gmail.com).

There were a few of us that attended the **Regional Meeting** on April 24. We listened to a presentation on **Fratelli Tutti** and our Rule. We had breakout sessions and discussion on the topic. It was worthwhile. We were introduced to a great website called Formation Friday's. It has a lot of good Franciscan material that I believe will interest you. Ongoing formation is important for us all. Check it out: <https://www.dmf-ofs.org/>. We discussed the upcoming **Region Election** to be held in August. Nominations are now open for anyone interested in serving on the Leadership Council. Lastly, there was discussion on how to re-engage as fraternity in a Post-Covid environment.

The Region has also developed a new digital vocations brochure for our use. There is a place on the brochure to enter our Fraternity name, your name and contact information. This brochure will be useful for promoting our Fraternity within your parish and among friends. The brochure is on the Divine Mercy website, you can visit it at: <https://divinemercuryregional.files.wordpress.com/2021/04/adaptable-come-and-see-brochure.pdf-1.pdf>.

The **Anti-Racism team** and coalition partners have been hard at work. We have completed our proposal and are in the process of the final edit. We plan to submit our proposal to the Archdiocese of Detroit during the first week of May. Please keep this effort in your prayers. We are always looking for others to join us. Please contact **Steve Wasko** at [waskosteve@aol.com](mailto:waskosteve@aol.com) or **Eileen Smith** at [esaint6@yahoo.com](mailto:esaint6@yahoo.com) for more information.

**MAY ROSARY AT THE SOLANUS CENTER – VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED:** Pope Francis has requested to have a marathon of prayer in the month of May to bring an end to the pandemic. The Solanus Center is honoring this request by having the rosary prayed **each day during May at noon in St. Bonaventure Chapel**. Sally McCuen, is looking for anyone interested in leading the rosary to sign up. Should you desire to lead the rosary please pick a day in May and contact Sally. Sally is keeping a master list to ensure coverage throughout May. Sally can be reached at 313.579.2100 x1149 or [smccuen@thecapuchins.org](mailto:smccuen@thecapuchins.org)

Guidelines for Praying the Rosary:

1. Arrive early enough to begin prayer at noon
2. Begin by reminding the group we are gathered at the request of Pope Francis to storm heaven to end the pandemic
3. Announce the mysteries – a booklet will be provided to assist in this and includes a scripture passage
4. End with the prayer with Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary (it will also be provided)

Finally, good news we will begin gathering in person on **May 16. We will meet in the Solanus Center Dining Room at 1:30.** Due to COVID guidelines we are limited to 25 people in the dining room. Therefore, we are asking you to contact Britney Walendzik at [brittneymaltese@gmail.com](mailto:brittneymaltese@gmail.com) or Eileen Smith to register. **The May Gathering will be held both in person and on Zoom.** The Formation classes will continue to meet on Zoom until further notice. When visiting the Solanus Center you must wear a mask, maintain appropriate social distance between persons and no food allowed.

**Join Zoom Meeting Link:**

<https://zoom.us/j/8765411335?pwd=YSs0VkxXR3RWT2VlaTV3V2RsZzZM5dz09>

Meeting ID: 876 541 1335

Passcode: 694109

**Conference Call Information**

Dial In Number: 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 876 541 1335

Passcode: 694109

For this month's Reflection I have included a document written by Pope Francis called "**Pope Francis and Pentecost**". He continues to call us to gospel living and challenges each of us to live out our Franciscan call. He challenges us to reach beyond ourselves and share the love of God with those around us. Our Rule: Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel continues to be our mantra. Let us not disappoint!

Prayers do send down blessings from heaven. Please continue to pray for all on our prayer list and I encourage you to join in praying the rosary during May for Pope Francis's intentions. Let us storm the gates of heaven!!

Happy Mother's Day and Blessed Pentecost!! I look forward to seeing you in May.

Peace and Blessings,

Eileen

## Preparing a May Altar at Home

As we approach the month of May – the month dedicated to Mary – we invite you to prepare a May altar at home. This old tradition of honoring Our Lady in our homes during the month of May has been passed down through the generations.

You can create a space for your altar on a small table, on a windowsill or on a shelf in your home.

- Central to the altar is a statue or image of Our Lady, placed on a small blue or white cloth.
- May altars are traditionally adorned with flowers, either wild flowers such as primroses which are plentiful in the hedgerows at this time of year or some of your own personal favorites.
- Place a candle on your altar that you can light as you take some time each day during the month of May, for quiet prayer, to pray the rosary and ask for Our Lady's intercession.



# POPE FRANCIS AND PENTECOST



Evangelization is the Church's mission. It is not the mission of only a few, but it is mine, yours, and our mission. The apostle Paul exclaimed: "Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16)." We must all be evangelizers, especially with our lives! Paul VI stressed that "evangelization is...the grace and vocation proper to the church; her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 14)." Who is the real driving force of evangelization in our lives and in the church? Paul VI wrote clearly: "It is the Holy Spirit who today, just as at the beginning of the church, acts in those who allows themselves to be possessed and led by him. The Holy Spirit places on our lips the words which we cannot find by ourselves; and at the same time, the Holy Spirit prepares the soul of the listener to be open and receptive to the Good News of the kingdom being proclaimed (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 75)."

In order to evangelize, it is necessary to open ourselves again to the horizon of God's spirit without being afraid of what he asks us or where he leads us. Let us entrust ourselves to him! The Holy Spirit will enable us to live out and bear witness to our faith; and he will illuminate the hearts of those we encounter each day. This was the experience at Pentecost. Gathered in the Upper Room with Mary, "there appeared to the apostles tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and begin to speak in other tongues as the Spirit instructed them (Acts 2:3-4)."

In coming down upon the apostles, the Holy Spirit makes them leave the room they had locked themselves into out of fear. He prompts them to step out of themselves and transforms them into heralds and witnesses of the "mighty works of God (Acts 2:11)." Moreover, this transformation, brought about by the Holy Spirit reverberated in the multitudes that had arrived "from every nation under heaven (Acts 2:5)" because each one heard the apostles as if they had been "speaking in his own language (Acts 2:6)."

**This is one of the first effects of the action of the Holy Spirit who guides and enlivens the proclamation of the Gospel: unity, communion.** It was in Babel, according to the biblical account, that the dispersion of people and the confusion of languages had begun; the results of the pride and conceit of the people who wanted to build, by themselves and without God, "a city and a tower with its top in the heavens (Genesis 11:4)."

At Pentecost, these divisions were overcome. There was no longer conceit with regard to God. There was going out to proclaim his word: a new language of love that the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts (see Romans 5:5). This is a language that everyone can understand; a language that once learned can be expressed in every life and in every culture. The language of the Holy Spirit, the language of the Gospel, is the language of communion that invites us to overcome isolation and indifference, division and antagonism.

We must ask ourselves: Do I allow myself to be guided by the Holy Spirit in such a way that my life and my witness of faith are both unity and communion? Do I convey the word of reconciliation and love, which is the Gospel, in my life and community? It sometimes seems like we are repeating today what happened at Babel: division, inability to understand each other, rivalry, envy, egoism.

What do I do with my life? Do I create unity around me? Or do I cause division by gossip, criticism, or envy? What do I do? Let us think about these questions. Sharing the Gospel means that we are the first to proclaim and live the reconciliation, forgiveness, peace, unity, and love that the Holy Spirit gives to us. Let us remember the words of Jesus: “It is by your love for one another that everyone will recognize you as my disciples, if you have love for one another (John 13:34-35).”

A second element is the day of Pentecost. Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit. He stood with the other apostles. He “lifted up his voice (Acts 2:14)” and “confidently (Acts 2:29)” proclaimed the Good News of Jesus, who gave his life for our salvation and was raised from the dead. This is another effect of the Holy Spirit’s action in our lives: the courage to proclaim the Good News to everyone, confidently, with a strong voice, in every time and in every place. This still happens in the Church and within each one of us: the fire of Pentecost, from the action of the Holy Spirit, releases an ever-new energy for mission; new ways to proclaim the message of salvation; new courage for evangelization.

Let us never close ourselves to this action! Let us live the Gospel with humility and courage! Let us give witness to the newness, hope, and joy that the Lord brings to our lives! Let us feel within us “the delightful and comforting joy of evangelization (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 80)” because proclaiming Jesus give us joy! By contrast, egoism makes us bitter, sad, and depressed. Evangelizing uplifts us!

I will now mention a third point which is particularly important: a new evangelization. This means that church which evangelizes must always start with prayer, with asking as the apostles asked in the Upper Room, for the fire of the Holy Spirit. Only a faithful and intense relationship with God makes it possible to get out of our own selfishness and proclaim the Gospel with honesty. Without prayer, our actions are empty and our proclamation has no soul; it is not inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Source: General Audience (May 22, 2013)



# Excitement Swirling Around EWTN's New Project on Blessed Solanus

As information from the Solanus Casey Volunteer Newsletter:

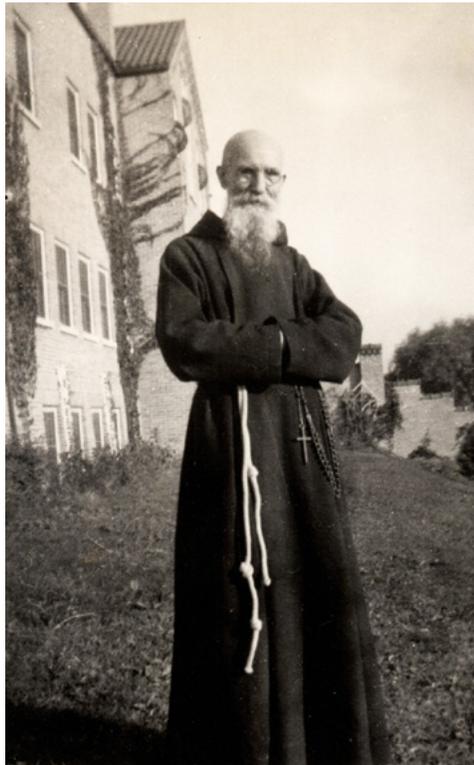
EWTN is working on a new episode in their original series “They Might be Saints.” This instalment will feature Blessed Solanus. Each episode runs about half an hour and focuses on a holy person’s life and the status of their Cause for Sainthood. Peppered with dramatizations and interviews, Blessed Solanus’ legacy of humble confident faith will be brought to life for a multitude of viewers all over the world.

Filming at the Solanus Center is slated for three days in mid– June. Depending on the demands of the film crew, the Center may need to close for a short amount of time.

Five events from Blessed Solanus’ life will be reenacted to capture the significance of those moments in his life. EWTN will handle all re-enactments in their production studio. Michael O’Neill will narrate the episode as he has done for the many other episodes in the series.

Venerable Bishop Baraga, a priest who ministered to the inhabitants of the upper peninsula, was featured in a previous episode in the series. The series spotlights holy people who are in the process leading to canonization.

If the timeline holds, EWTN plans to air the episode on November 25, 2021. This is a significant date for two reasons. The first reason is that it is Fr. Solanus’ 151st birthday. The second reason is that it will be Thanksgiving in the United States. What a perfect day to “thank God” for the blessing of Blessed Solanus.



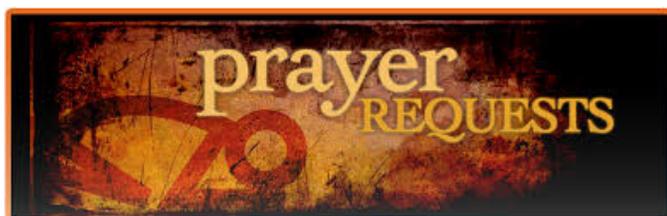
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



7.....Marguerite Brannigan  
21.....Jo Marie Nardi  
22.....Steve Wasko  
29.....Esther Kelley

## Franciscan Holy Days

May 9 – St. Catherine of Bologna  
May 11 – St. Ignatius of Laconi  
May 12 – St. Leopold Mandic  
May 16 – St. Margaret of Cortona  
May 17 – St. Paschal Baylon  
May 18 – St. Felix of Cantalice  
May 20 – St. Bernadine of Siena  
May 23 – Pentecost; St. Crispin of Viterbo  
May 24 – Dedication of Basilica of St. Francis  
May 28 – St. Mariana of Jesus De Paredes  
May 30 – St. Ferdinand, King  
May 31 – St. Camilla Baptista Varano



*Please help to keep our prayer list up-to-date. Call:*

**Jackie Hale**

### Members of our Fraternity

Lettie Aguilar	Ilene Manning & Family
Dan and Jan Atkinson	Stella Mordarski
Claire Boutain	Connie Musial
Joyce Brouillette	Ray Mylenek
Jerry Borycz	Jo Marie Nardi
Pat Cardellio	Mary Poole
Sophia Cisneros	Barbara Pardington
Salina De La Rosa	Diane Raymond
Julia Ertzbischoff-Donahue	Marilyn Ricard
Daniel Gabriel	Mary Saber
James Heymes	Joe Sapien
Gary Johnson	Bridget Schultz
Joyce Kaminski	Ben Stapel
Esther Kelley	Eileen Smith
Ron Kessler	Ruby Thompson
Sharon Krill	Anna Tyler
Patricia Long	Terry Westbrook-Lienert

### Our Deceased

#### Relatives needing prayers

Tiffany Fogg, niece of Daniel Gabriel  
Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forsys  
Marie Hollerud, mother of Greg Johnson  
Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis  
David Kaminski, son of Joyce Joe Quesnelle  
Frances Krempasky, daughter of Mary Krempasky  
Patricia Mcleary, mother of Therese Joseph  
Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas Nozewski  
Kathy Olehowski, relative of Marguerite Brannigan  
Kathleen Penridge, cousin of Julia Ertzbischoff-Donahue  
Theresa Poole, mother of Mary  
Donald Schrotenboer, son-in-law of Marguerite Brannigan  
Matthew Smith, son of Eileen Smith  
Jim Smith, grandson of Claire Boutain  
Tom Sherfield, son-in-law of Claire Boutain  
Sandra Woods Family  
Denise Maltese, mother of Brittney Walenzik

## May 2021 Prayer Request for Priests

### ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT, MI

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Rev. E. Mondragon
2 MSGR. R. Monticello	3 Rev. L. Moreeuw, C.PP.S	4 Rev. G. Morelli, Rev. C. Morris	5 Rev. R. Moslosky, C.S.B.	6 Rev. C. Muer, Rev. S. Muma	7 Rev. T. Munz, S.J.	8 Rev. W. Murphy
9 Rev. W. Murphy, S.J.	10 Rev. P. Naessens, O.F.M. CAP.	11 Rev. R. Nally, Rev. N. Nawrocki	12 Rev. J. Nedumcheril	13 Rev. B. Nedumpampil, O.F.M. CAP	14 Rev. T. Nguyen, L.C.	15 Rev. V. Nguyen An Ninh
16 Rev. C. Niehaus, S.J.	17 Rev. R. Nikodem, S.M.	18 Rev. A. Nithiyaselvam, M.S.F.S.	19 Rev. M. Nkachukwu	20 Rev. D. Noelke, C.S.B.	21 Rev. D. Novelly	22 Rev. P. Nowacki, S.CHR.
23 Rev. K. Nowak, Rev. P. Nowak	24 Rev. A. Nowak, Rev. D. Nowinski	25 Rev. J. Nuota	26 Rev. C. Nyaki, C.S. SP.	27 Rev. S. Obloj, Rev. J. Odbert, S.J.	28 Rev. C. Okeke	29 Rev. L. Olszamowski, S.M.
30 Rev. J. O'Neill, C.S.B	31 Rev. P. Onyebuchi					





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Council Meeting
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Pss I</i>					BD: Marguerite Brannigan	
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
MOTHER'S DAY <i>Pss II</i>						
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
ASCENSION FRATERNITY GATHERING 1:30 P.M. ZOOM <i>Pss Prop</i>					BD: Jo Marie Nardi	BD: Steve Wasko
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
PENTECOST <i>Pss Prop</i>						
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					
HOLY TRINITY <i>Pss Ptop</i>						BD: Esther Kelley

# Fax et Phonum

## Minister

Eileen Smith .....

## Vice Minister

Brittney Walendzik .....

## Treasurer

Doris Allen .....

## Secretary

Bernie Mikowski .....

## Formation Minister

Maryann Kummer.....

## Councilors:

Melissa Lindow .....

Ron Kessler .....

Sharon Krill .....

## Spiritual Assistant:

Fr. Bill Hugo.....

## APPOINTMENTS

### Continuing Formation Coordinator:

Brittney Walendzik .....

### Gospel Happenings Coordinator:

Sharon Krill .....

### Healing Service Social Coordinators:

Ron Kessler .....

### Hospitality co-Coordinators:

Julia Ertzbischoff-Donohue.....

### Infirmarian:

Jackie Hale .....

### Caring Hearts

Melissa Lindow .....

### JPIC Coordinator:

Doris Allen .....

## MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

Our Fraternity gathers on the Third Sunday of every month. For more information, contact:

Eileen Smith.....

## FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

### HEALING PRAYER SERVICE SOCIAL

Wednesdays at 2 PM

### FRANCISCAN MINISTRIES

2nd Saturday of each month

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Franciscan Ministries Office next to St. Aloysius  
Contact

## FRANCISCAN BOOK DISCUSSION

Prior to each of our monthly meetings, at Noon, a Franciscan Book Discussion group gathers in the Solanus Center Library for anyone interested. For more information, contact:

Jacqueline Hale at

*The Poverello* is published by the  
St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
1780 Mt. Elliott St.  
Detroit, Michigan 48207  
Phone: 313-579-2100, ext. 1136  
e-mail: OFSDetroit@gmail.com  
<http://www.sfstbonaventure-detroit.org>  
editor: Brittney Walendzik



**St. Bonaventure  
Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
1820 Mount Elliott Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48207**

