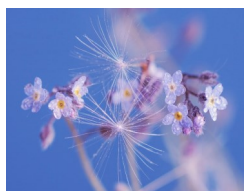




## The Veil is Thin!

For me, Halloween or All Hallows' Eve has always been magical -- and mystical. While Wikipedia is intent on explaining the difference between these two terms, I will explain how they are intertwined. I vividly remember my childhood Halloweens: the decorations, the costumes, going out after dark, and of course, the CANDY. So much candy! For me, there was magic in the air. Jack O' Lanterns glowed on porches, children were transformed into costumed creatures, and did I mention candy? Full disclosure...

[Read More...](#)



## Praying for Your Loved Ones in the Month of November

Would you like to have your deceased loved ones remembered during our November Masses? Just send us the name(s) and they will be held lovingly in prayer. Also, please join us for All Saints Day Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1, and Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 23.

[Submit Names](#)



## "Franciscan Relationship as Brothers and Sisters"

If you missed this presentation by Sr. Mary Elizabeth Imler on October 22 in celebration of the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Franciscan Rule, you can view it now on our YouTube channel.

[View Video](#)



## Join Us for Fraternitas!

We are excited to welcome you all to our beautiful Motherhouse for Fraternitas on **Nov. 12 at 3:00 p.m.!** Join us for an afternoon of friendship and international tastings among our Sisters and friends followed by a delicious dinner presented by Enrico's Italian. We hope you can be there when we announce our raffle winners at the event! What a day it will be! - *Vallerie Wonders, Director of Development*

[RSVP](#)



## Spiritual Direction Offered at St. Francis Woods

Share ordinary life experience and be guided to listen for how the Divine is speaking through the twists and turns of your faith journey. Spiritual Direction is an hour-long session, usually scheduled monthly and offered either in-person or over Zoom. The fee is \$55.00 per session or \$40.00 per session for anyone on retreat at The Portiuncula Center for Prayer on campus.

Norma Janssen, OSF 815.545.0183  
Joyce Shanabarger, OSF 815.464.3803

Janice Keenan, OSF 815.469.4883  
Mary Shinnick, OSF 815.464.3807

Nancy Roberta Schramm, OSF 224.565.1460



## A Santamental Christmas

Christmas – Ho! Ho! Ho! Here we go! Registration for our Santamental Christmas event is open! Although registration is not required, I highly recommend doing so to secure your time slot with the big guy himself – Santa! A fun-filled morning for the whole family, we invite you to join us as we gaze upon Nativity scenes from around the world, enjoy wintertime snacks, crafts, and stories, and of course, get your family photo with Santa. So much fun is to be had so register now! - *Vallerie Wonders, Director of Development*

[Register](#)



"Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye and fail to see the plank in your own." - Matthew 7: 1-5

How easy it is to look at the faults of others and fail to look at our own faults. We try to think we are perfect but that is not the case. Lord, please give me the grace to see my own faults. Let me realize I will be judged for me and not others. — Sr. Dominic Dybel



### A Favorite Pastime Becomes a Way to Serve and Pray Together

Years ago, at a Blue Stem Festival at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois, I was intrigued by the Water With Blessings program. Little did I know what that spark of interest would grow into! — Sr. Ella Binz

[Read More](#)


### Scripture Reflections

Thursday Scripture Reflections via Zoom and In-Person continues on Thursdays **at 10:30 a.m.** No registration is required—either come to the Assisi Center (stop at the Motherhouse front desk for directions) or submit the form below to receive a Zoom link for the next gathering. Looking forward to seeing you!

[Zoom Signup](#)

### Three Job Openings at St. Francis Woods

Explore the three job openings currently available on St. Francis Woods' campus.

[Learn More](#)


### Franciscan Spirituality Program

At any time, new registrants can join the monthly conversation already in progress about Franciscan spirituality using the book (purchased by registrants), *In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare* by Roch Niemier, OFM.

[Register](#)


### Explore Self in Series of Reflections on the Enneagram

Explore self in this series of monthly reflections, "Becoming the Person God Created Me to Be." Registration is ongoing for this program which is based on the Enneagram. The next session is November 27. Register once for as many sessions as your schedule allows. We hope you'll join us on the fourth Monday of each month (excluding Christmas Day), **7:00-8:00 p.m.** There is no cost for this program series.

[Register](#)

### Associate Applications Accepted Online

Learn more about the Associate relationship and orientation classes.

[Learn More](#)


### Curious About Religious Life?

Explore what life is like as a Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart.

[Learn More](#)

### Prayer Requests

Your private prayer intentions will be held lovingly in prayer by our Sisters and Associates.

[Prayer Request](#)



## A Franciscan Christmas

**December 17**  
**4:00-5:00 PM**  
**Queen of Angels Chapel**

**Be inspired by St. Francis' love of Christmas  
and how it affected the way he lived.**

**Be calmed in spirit by allowing the harmonies  
of the carols to wash over you.**

**Be comforted by praying before/touching  
a relic of St. Francis and blessed straw  
from the manger at Greccio.**

**RSVP Online**

St. Francis Woods, 9201 W St Francis Road, Frankfort, IL 60423

### Virtual Fall Offerings at the Port Empower Women

This fall the Portiuncula Center for Prayer has two virtual offerings for those who can't come to campus. These programs are designed for the empowerment of women. One is focused on Forgiveness and the other is Acceptance. Both are facilitated by Jennifer Ramirez and are free will offering. The third is by Reverend Karen Hering, a Unitarian minister. Karen will discuss her book on change with us. This offering is also a free will offering. Email [info@portforprayer.org](mailto:info@portforprayer.org) or call 815.464.3880. Many on-campus services are also available. Hope to see you in person or via Zoom.

**Learn More**

### Gift Certificates Available

With the gift-giving season quickly approaching, finish your shopping early with gift certificates for either the Portiuncula Center for Prayer or the Poverello Holistic Center. Call 815.464.3880 or stop by the Portiuncula Center for Prayer, 9263 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, Illinois 60423.

### Mass Cards

We have a beautiful selection of Mass cards available at our front desk for the living as well as for the deceased. Stop by or call our front desk at 815.469-4895, ext. 0.

### Hermitages Available for Private Retreats

Simplicity and solitude are the hallmarks of our hermitage retreats. We offer five dwellings for our hermits.

**Learn More**

### Subscription Preferences

Do you have subscription preferences, wanting to subscribe to some emails but not others? Use our Preferences page to let us know! If instead you unsubscribe using the green link at the end of an email sent to the subscribers of our newsletter, be aware that you can no longer receive *any* emails from our no-reply address.

**Subscription Preferences**