

Franciscan¹ *Footnotes*²

1 Franciscan: Called like Francis of Assisi, the Sisters of St. Francis are messengers of peace, committed to works that reverence human dignity, embrace the poor and marginalized and respect the gift of all creation.

2 Footnotes: A publication of the Congregational Advancement Office of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, OH.

October 2019

"I have done what is mine to do; my work is finished;
may Christ teach you to carry out yours." - St. Francis, in his final days.

How valued are our donors?

The Sisters of St. Francis value all of our donors. As I have stated in the past our donors are the GPS for the Sylvania Franciscans. Your **Gifts** help sustain the active ministries, your **Praying** helps those who benefit through the ministries and your **Service** with the Sisters strengthens all of us. Donors choose when they give... once a year, some give monthly and some only give once with an Legacy Gift noted in their estate. All are valued at the right place and time of your life.

As we deepen our philanthropic decisions, we tend to think more of how a gift, either in time, talent or treasure, will impact others. Through the Sisters of St. Francis and their Franciscan Ministries, we strive to help all in need, at differing stages of their lives, who are in need of services that will impact their daily lives

Because of you, the legacy of caring continues to strengthen marginalized lives in need of healing.
We are grateful!

Pace e bene.'



**Support the
Sylvania Franciscans**



Estate Planning with Paul Hood

Dear Paul,
I am seventy. What are the five top items I need to focus on for my retirement and estate plan?

Paul's response might surprise you -
[read it here.](#)

Author Paul Hood, FCEP, is a consultant and adviser to the Sylvania Franciscans.

A Georgetown University Law Center graduate, Paul is currently Vice President of Thompson & Associates in Toledo, OH and recently returned from a long career in the New Orleans area. Paul served on the Louisiana Board of Tax Appeals. Paul has taught at the University of New Orleans, Northeastern University, The University of Toledo College of Law and Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law.

Do you have a question for Paul?

[Ask it now!](#) (You'll receive a response in 24-72 hours.)

[Click here](#) to read previous questions and answers



Transitus 'performers' back row: Sisters Sharon Havelak, Shannon Schrein, Carolyn Giera, Carol Ann Grace. Front row: Sisters Barb Vano, Ann Carmen Barone, Ann Lorette Piekarz, Julie Myers, Jeanette Zielinski and, at center, Sister Karen Zielinski.

A 'transition' remembered around the world

On October 3, Franciscans around the world gather to tell the

story of the final hours of “the poor man from Assisi” in a ceremony known as ‘Transitus.’

The “Transitus portrays the death of Francis in a prayerful way,” explains Sister Julie Myers who has played Francis for Transitus at the Sylvania Motherhouse for over two decades.

Typically, a narrator and several speaking roles use the words and prayers that Francis and the brothers used.

Surrounded by his brothers, friends and loyal supporters, Francis makes his transition to Sister Death with both solemnity and joy. He recalls the energy of his younger days and charges his brothers to continue their work in bringing the peaceful word of God.

Francis rejoiced that he had kept faith with Lady Poverty to the very end of his life. “Francis saw death as the ultimate poverty,” says Sister Julie. “He felt that the wind, the sun, the moon were brothers and sisters. He understood that transitions were part of creation and he approached his own death by embracing Sister Death. Francis looked forward to the ultimate presence of God,” says Sister Carol Ann.

It is during Francis’ final hours with his brothers that he surprised them by adding two new verses to his “Canticle of the Sun.” *“All praise be you, my Lord, through Sister Death, from whose embrace no mortal can escape.”*

“It is always beautiful,” says Sister Nancy Ann Johnson. “We can feel for the brothers in their loss. As Sylvania Franciscans, we aspire to live a life like Francis.”

“It’s a universal Franciscan thing to re-enact the death of our leader Francis,” says Sister Karen Zielinski who has been part of the ritual. While on pilgrimage in Assisi, she saw the depth of the Franciscan movement. “The number of Franciscans and non-Franciscans who participated in the Transitus overwhelmed me. There was such unity,” remembers Sister Karen.

Transitus is at 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 3 in Queen of Peace Chapel and is open to all.

The Franciscan Way: A Lego Universe

By Sister Judy Zielinski



That's the question one of the early friars allegedly asked Francis of Assisi. *Why? Why you? What was it?* What did Francis have that made people want to see him, hear him, follow him?

[Read Sister Judy's Blog here](#)



The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go. - *Unknown*.



Thank you to our 2019 Gala sponsors and guests who helped raise over \$100,000 in support of the Sylvania Franciscan



**Distinguished
Honorary Chair**
Vincenz M. Meyer
Sandusky, Ohio



St. Francis Award
Dr. Anne Ruch
Toledo, Ohio



St. Clare Award
Mary Campbell
Canton, Georgia

2019 GALA PHOTO GALLERY

Donate to the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania

Upcoming Events

Transitus Service

7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 3

Queen of Peace Chapel

All are welcome to join us at this service commemorating the death of St. Francis and a simple reception that follows in Madonna Hall.

Feast of St. Francis

4:30 p.m., Friday, October 4

Mass at Queen of Peace Chapel

All are Welcome!

Mini-Pilgrimages

Thursday, October 10

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Meet in Madonna Hall

Come walk among the sites that transport us to the world of Saints Francis and Clare.

Your pilgrimage includes history, prayer, reflection and a lovely lunch on campus.

Cost: \$20 (includes lunch). RSVP: Sister Joan Jurski, 419-824-3528 or

jjurski@sistersosf.org

Sister Gretchen's Bake Sale

Friday, November 22, 2019

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in Regina Conference Center

All Good Things Open House

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Madonna Hall

**All events located on the Sylvania Motherhouse campus
at 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania, OH, 43560.**

Giving Tuesday

24 Hours! Tuesday, December 3, 2019

An online day of giving in recognition of the Sylvania Franciscans, with a special tribute to the Sisters who served in some of the most beloved Catholic schools in Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota and beyond. Check your emails, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to see some of your favorite teachers and schools featured.

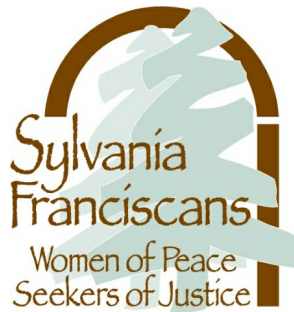
If you would like to discuss a planned gift for the Sylvania Franciscans, including Wills or Bequests, Life Insurance or IRA Retirement Plan/Beneficiary designation, please contact Eileen Kerner, Director of Congregational Advancement.

ekerner@sistersosf.org or 419.824.3625.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, OH are grateful to you, our donors, for helping us continue to be messengers of peace through our [Sylvania Franciscan Ministries](#).

*The Sisters of St. Francis is a 501(c)(3) organization
and your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
Tax ID#34-4450609*

Ministries of the Sisters of St. Francis
[Bethany House](#) | [Convent Park Apartments](#) | [Lourdes University](#)
[Our Lady of Grace Hall](#) | [Rosary Care Center](#) | [Sophia Counseling Center](#)



www.sistersosf.org

