

NEWS RELEASE

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Family Fun in Store for Fiesta Goers on November 11 Veterans Day

Fifth Annual Fiesta Sponsored by School Sisters of St. Francis

Milwaukee, Wis., October 12, 2017—Butterflies, a symbol of freedom and nature's beauty, will be the theme of this year's southside Milwaukee neighborhood fiesta sponsored by the School Sisters of St. Francis on Saturday, November 11.

This will be the fifth consecutive year that the religious community has hosted its bilingual Mass and fiesta at the sisters' campus, St. Joseph Center, 1501 S. Layton Blvd. (27th St. and Greenfield Ave.). The generous support of the We Energies Foundation makes possible this intergenerational gathering and significant outreach to the Latino community.

The butterfly (in Spanish, *mariposa*) symbol was chosen for the delicacy of nature, Franciscans' respect for care of the Earth and their advocacy for freedom. As this year's fiesta will be celebrated on Veterans Day, November 11, the congregation extends an invitation to all who have served, and are serving, in the military to be recognized at the bilingual Mass at 4 p.m. in the convent's St. Joseph Chapel. Milwaukee Auxiliary Bishop James Schuerman will preside, with the children's choir of Our Lady of Guadalupe/ St. Patrick's Parish singing at the liturgy.

The fiesta begins after the Mass, with food and fun aplenty until 7 p.m. Visitors will enjoy the variety of Mexican and Puerto Rican fare offered by Lopez Restaurant and Bakery and Sofrito Vega Restaurant. Live musical entertainment will be provided by the nine-piece jazz and salsa orchestra, Latin Inspiration, from Chicago.

A captivating exhibit in the Alfons Gallery accompanies the festivities each year, honoring the Latino cultural tradition of the Day of the Dead. This year's theme is "Women of Importance—Day of the Dead."

With hundreds of dollars in raffles and other prizes at stake, the fiesta offers an element of suspense: Who will be the lucky winners? Family games, like "Loteria," which is Bingo Mexican style, as well as tabletop toys and puzzles, will keep all ages engaged. Free face painting and fun portraits will highlight the warm community feeling.

Admission to the fiesta is free. For more details, visit www.sssf.org or call Rosaura Solano at 414-385-5253. Convenient free parking is available at 29th St. and Orchard St. in the St. Joseph Center lot.

About The School Sisters of St. Francis

The School Sisters of St. Francis are an international community of Catholic sisters who unite with others to build a just and peaceful world. Founded in 1874, they now have sisters, associates, staff, donors, and volunteers actively working to address the needs of those who are poor and marginalized by society. Their mission is thriving throughout the United States, Europe, Latin America, and India. In the U.S., School Sisters live and minister in 15 states, addressing needs in education, holistic wellness and healing, and pastoral ministry, spiritual growth, social justice, and the arts. For more information about the School Sisters of St. Francis, please visit www.sssf.org.

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