

The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – October 2018
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

Council

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Spiritual Assistant	Br. Diogo Escudero, OFM Cap. Br. Rigo Azanwi, OFM Cap.		friardiogofmcap@gmail.com brorigocap@gmail.com

Volunteers

Historian	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	marifrances14@outlook.com
Infirmarian	Evelyn Jones	(410) 827-9023	evelyn88jones@yahoo.com

The Porter deadline for the November issue is November 4. Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting things that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 8217 Grainfield Rd, Severn, MD 21144, or send by email (address above).



Fraternity Meeting

Fraternity Meeting & Open House
(invite someone you think might be interested)
Saturday, October 20, 2018

St. John the Evangelist, 689 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146
8:30 Mass – Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth Room, School

Program

The Meaning of Vocation presented by Brs Diogo and Rigo

Liturgy

Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park-- Bl. Contardo Ferrini, OFS (handouts will be provided)

Refreshments



Annapolis/Eastern Shore. Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary. *Please remember to bring your own cup.*

Prayer Requests




For our sick and/or homebound members: (Please help us update this list.)
John McHugh (Joe's brother), Rita Rossi, Katherine (Mary Henry's daughter-in-law), Audrey Bushee's husband, Bob Countryman (husband of our regional executive Councilor), Jude Dodge, Evelyn Jones' niece, Genny Wilbourne's granddaughter Jessica, Al Gigel, Peggy Rideout (Mary Musselwhite's daughter), Joan's husband Bill Kvetkas, Mandy (Kathleen Sievers' niece), Teri Egan, Denise Miante, Pat Troup.

Birthdays

Brigid Cobb – 10/08	Patricia Troup – 10/24	Judy Hool 11/02
Joan Robinson – 10/19	Kathy Duffy – 10/25	Ron Van Nest – 11/07
Audrey Bushee – 10/21	Marie Waleryszak – 11/01	Jeanne Catrow – 11/07
Margaret Jackson – 10/22	Emily McGeady – 11/01	

Profession Anniversaries

Joan Faltot – 10/16/1991	Santa Matarazzo – 11/01/1992
Mary Jo Johnson – 10/19/1988	George Ryan – 11/11/1984

Outreach	For more information, contact Denise. Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Thursday, October 25, 9:30 a.m. at Joan Kvetkas' home. Phoenix Academy "Backpacks": Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 31 at 12:30pm. Call Denise to confirm date if you would like to help.
 Treasury	Common Fund balance: \$1,605.22. <u>REMINDER</u> - Please remember to use the memo line of your check to designate how you wish your contribution to be directed. There are 3 possible designations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India), • Phoenix Academy (for student weekend food packs), and • Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter clients). You can write one check and direct your contribution to any or all three areas. Example: \$20 Com / \$10 Phoenix / \$5 Token. None of these amounts should be interpreted as being what is expected from any particular member. Cash contributions are also acceptable, but checks are preferred.
Council Meeting	Monday, November 5, 9:30 am at Tyrrells.
Upcoming Events	
Nov 17	Next fraternity meeting will be at Capuchin College in DC to celebrate the profession of Sarita Palmer, Mary Rohde, Laura Benso

COMMUNITY



Minister's Minute:

Occasionally someone asks me about the Tau cross I regularly wear. I tell them about it and our Franciscan life. I hope you wear your Tau all the time or at least often. It is a way to engage people in dialogue. It is a way to share your faith and gives you an opportunity to invite someone to a meeting (no matter what time of year). Speaking of inviting, have you invited anyone to our meeting Saturday? If not, why not? Article 45.1 of the General Constitutions of 2000 says, in part: The promotion of vocations to the Order is a duty of all the brothers and sisters and is a sign of the vitality of the fraternities themselves. So, invite someone. It's not too late. Sometimes we hesitate, but we can overcome our reluctance. Rule 7 of the OFS calls us to daily conversion:

United by their vocation as brothers and sisters of penance, and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel itself calls conversion. Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily.

As Franciscans we are called to daily conversion. Why? Because we aren't perfect; we sin. A quote from Br. Michael Harvey, OFM, from the October 2nd entry on the Franciscan flip calendar that sits atop our microwave at home, suggests to me that the need for conversion may be the result of the "wolves" within us. He says: "Each of us knows his or her own wolf: fear, envy, impatience, greed, doubt, laziness, apathy. Only when we greet our own 'wolves' with the sign of the cross, and bid them the Lord's peace, can we be agents of peace in our world."

He refers, of course, to St. Francis' meeting with the wolf of Gubbio, which had been terrorizing the townspeople. Thomas of Celano tells us:

Francis and his companion began to walk on. Suddenly the wolf, jaws agape, charged out of the woods at them. Francis made the Sign of the Cross toward it. The power of God caused the wolf to slow down and to close its mouth. Then Francis called out to the creature: "Come to me, Brother Wolf. In the name of Christ, I order you not to hurt anyone." At that moment the wolf lowered its head and lay down at St. Francis' feet, meek as a lamb.

So the next time one of your wolves crosses your path, “cross” it—that is, bless it with the Sign of the Cross; then rebuke it in the name of Jesus, and move forward, leaving it behind. There’s still time to invite someone: a spouse or significant other, other family members, friends, acquaintances, strangers. Keep your wolves at bay and renew your dedication to daily conversion.

JPIC -- JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION, ANIMATOR JUDITH TYRRELL, OFS

Our travels took my husband and I to Sacramento, California to the California Museum and an awesome experience in their **Unity Center**. We were challenged to become **Unity Activists** anew. Think about this challenge for yourselves and then spread the words and actions to others: “If you like living in a diverse place where identities, cultures and ideas mix and you feel it is wrong for people to insult or threaten (does gossip, slander count) those who are different, you can become a **Unity Activist**. Unity activists have pride in themselves and respect others, no matter how they look or what their culture is. They improve their schools and neighborhoods (and Parishes and families) and create communities that value all people.” Our Rule encourages us to “individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of our human lives and our courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life we should make definite choices in harmony with our faith.” The Unity Center provided an interactive exhibit that inspired us to stand up to hate, bigotry, and intolerance in the world. One of the areas in the Center encouraged the visitor to create a t-shirt for Unity. I wrote “Teach our youth to love (big heart) not hate.” At the World Peace Garden at the Capitol in Sacramento, school children had written what peace means to them and their sayings were on plaques at the base of rose bushes. Here’s just a sampling: Peace comes when we practice the presence of God. World peace and harmony make us one. The world is a sacred place, a place for people to be happy, kind, and non violent.

The Holy Father Pope Francis spoke SUNDAY at the beautiful canonization Mass about the Word of God as the living word of God not just of truth but a word that transforms us. Let this word transform us all: Ephesians 4: 1- 3 “I therefore a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the **unity** of the spirit through the bond of peace.”

A wonderful reference for Peace and Justice in your parishes: The ministry of Peace and Justice by Michael Jordan Laskey Liturgical Press. As it says on the cover, “to answer Pope Francis’ call to be a Church that is poor for the poor.”

Where have all the honey bees gone? From Joan Faltot

Before I retired, I commuted by train from Odenton to DC where I worked. To ensure my doggies didn’t suffer nor mess up the house while I was gone, I installed a doggie door from the house into a 10x12 foot kennel. To help keep the kennel cool in the summer, I planted a vine on the side of it. I don’t know the name of it, but I cut it back to six feet (the height of the kennel) each fall and each summer it grows out to cover the entire top of the kennel. The vine produces abundant clusters of very tiny white flowers, which attract all kinds of pollinators. I never knew there was so many types of flies, bees and wasps. I was shocked this year when I examined the expanse of flowers that I could only spot one honey bee.

I have heard about bee colony collapse and that this was particularly bad this year. In the online issue of Sierra Club magazine, there was an article this month by Austin Price

entitled *New Study Shows Roundup Kills Bees, Glyphosate targets undesired weeds—as well as honeybees*. Roundup is a controversial product which I refuse to use on my property for numerous reasons. It appears that this new study has discovered a possible link to the honey bee die off. Roundup targets enzymes which are found in plants and is advertised as innocuous to wildlife. However, the study found that some bacteria do have this enzyme, including the microbiome found in the intestines of most bees. Glyphosate reduces the gut bacteria and leaves the bees vulnerable to pathogens and premature death. It’s like taking too many antibiotics. Glyphosate is actually patented as an antibiotic.

The study by the University of Texas at Austin has shown that bees exposed to Roundup and then exposed to a common pathogen were more likely to die prematurely.

For additional info see:

https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/new-study-shows-roundup-kills-bees?utm_source=insider&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter

Don't Forget: Polystyrene Recycling

- Bring your clean polystyrene packaging material (including the molded inserts used to protect furniture or electronics) to the fraternity meeting and Pat and Judith will take them to a business in Crofton which will reuse the material. Typically the small beads can be remolded into new packaging material.
- Also, Polystyrene peanuts and bubble wrap... collect it in a plastic bag and deliver it UPS Mailbox storefronts. They will gratefully reuse the material for packing their shipments.

QUOTABLES -- Read anything interesting lately? Please send a short excerpt to Joan F. at jd6bouv@verizon.net

From: Óscar Romero, Homily (November 27, 1977). *Through the Year with Óscar Romero: Daily Meditations*, trans. Irene B. Hodgson (Franciscan Media: 2015, ©2005), 24.

“A Gospel that doesn’t take into account the rights of human beings, a Christianity that doesn’t make a positive contribution to the history of the world, is not the authentic doctrine of Christ, but rather simply an instrument of power. We . . . don’t want to be a plaything of the worldly powers, rather we want to be the Church that carries the authentic, courageous Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, even when it might become necessary to die like he did, on a cross. “

From *Rediscover Jesus* by Matthew Kelly (Beacon Publishing: 2015, ©2015 Kakadu, LLC), 47

”Jesus was a radical....

What does *radical* mean? It means to get to the “root” of things.

Jesus was interested in getting deep down to the root of things. He was interested in what was essential—not the fluffy periphery, but the core, the center, the heart of things.

Jesus wasn’t trapped by the notion of political correctness. He wasn’t burdened with the need to be liked by people. He wasn’t moved by the desire for expediency or convenience. Instead, he simply allowed truth to reign supreme.

Truth is radical.”

Inter-Pastorate Lecture Series

St. Joseph, Odenton • Our Lady of the Fields, Millersville • St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Crofton

THE SULTAN AND THE SAINT



October 24, 2018
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
1800 Seton Drive
Crofton, Maryland 21114

Presented by
Imam Mohamad Bashar Arafat
President of the Civilizations Exchange and Cooperation Foundation
&
Reverend William A. Au
Pastor of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Baltimore

The Invitation to Transformative Encounter

• an interfaith exploration between the Christian and Islamic Faiths, based on the encounter 800 years ago between St. Francis of Assisi and Sultan Malik al-Kamil of Egypt. The presentation will be followed by a Q & A period.