



The Porter

St Conrad Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order – Severna Park, Maryland
St Margaret of Cortona Region
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

April 2020

Loving Mother, your Son has commanded us: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature” (cf. Mk 16:9-15). May we be faithful missionary disciples who turn to you for assistance when the times are uncertain and our spirit is weak.

-Cardinal Joseph Tobin

Fraternity Meeting

Postponed

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following members, relatives and friends in your prayers.

For physical and spiritual healing of Brigid Cobb, Audrey Donnelly, Susan Grief's grand daughter, Katherine Henry (daughter-in-law of Mary Henry), Mary Henry and her niece, Mary Jo Johnson, Bill Kvetkas (husband of Joan Kvetkas), Joe McGeedy, John McHugh (brother of Joe McHugh), Michelle niece of Denise Mianten, Bill Mulqueen, Ruth Shea's husband, Michael Sievers (son of Kathleen Sievers), Pat Troup, Ruth Shea's daughter, Evelyn Jones' niece, and Jimmy Wilbourne (son of Genny Wilbourne. For all those who are in need of our prayers who are absent from this list.

April Birthdays

None

Profession Anniversaries

Dennis R. Mallon, April 6, 1955

Treasury

Checking Account Balance: \$1,217.28

Thanks to all who have sent in their common fund checks for the past two months. We have paid our Fair Share to the region for 2020 and have only a few obligations, such support of our adopted family in India, which is \$100/month. Our Minister has asked that we shift our Fraternity giving to any of the charities and outreaches that are assisting lives that have been disrupted by COVID-19. Here are some suggestions...

Catholic Charities

<https://catholiccharitiesny.org/news/help-catholic-charities-provide-emergency-relief-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Maryland Food Bank

<https://mdfoodbank.org/donate/>

Anne Arundel County Food Bank Centers

Immediate Need (From Delegate Michael Malone) The County Parks are set up to receive items for the Anne Arundel County Food Bank. There has been a 200% increase in need.

Trailers will be located at these regional parks:

Quiet Waters Park
Kinder Farm Park
Downs Park
Fort Smallwood Park

The hours for drop off are from 7:00 am until dusk. AA County Park waived entry fees since March 16.

Apostolates

Lighthouse Shelter Lunches

Postponed We donated \$175 this month.

Phoenix Academy Backpacks

Postponed We donated \$120 this month for mass transit tokens.

**** If you are new for either Apostolate please contact Denise Miente at 410 253 5555****

Franciscan Family Apostolate #1178

Pat Tyrrell (our point person) received the following email from Sr. Elsy in Alleppey.

Dear Patrick,

About the house of Rejani Roy it is almost complete and they began to stay inside before the lock down. She is very happy to have a house for them. She is very much content with the help the sponsors have given to her.

To finish the completion she needs about \$500. Then she will be able to do the rest of the work.

The girls are doing well and they are continuing their studies. After the lock down I shall forward a video clip of the house.

The situation here is not at all good. The lock down has affected all of us. The office of FFA is closed till 14th April. Then let us hope for a better future. Hope all of you are keeping well. We pray for all our sponsors every day. May God be with us.

*Loving
Sr Elsy*

Franciscan Calendar

April 3 St Benedict the Moor, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1589

April 16 St Bernadette Soubirous, Sisters of Charity, Cordbearer, d. 1879

April 17 St Benedict-Joseph Labre, Confessor, Cordbearer, d. 1783 Plenary Indulgence for Cordbearers, Anniversary of the profession of St Francis (1209)

April 22 **St. Conrad de Parzham**, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1894

April 23 Bl. Giles of Assisi, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1262

April 24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Capuchin, martyr, 1622

Council Meeting

The next council planning meeting is tentatively planned for May 8 at 9:30 AM at ZOOM Meeting.

Save the Date

June 13, 2020 (tentative)

Br. Diogo's ordination to the priesthood.
Pittsburgh, PA

September ??, 2020 (tentative)

Br. Rigo's ordination to the priesthood.
Pittsburgh, PA

August 18-22, 2021

Quinquennial in Phoenix, AZ

Minister's Minute

First and foremost, I hope that everyone is in good health and not climbing up the walls. Only the Lord knows when we will be able to meet as a fraternity again. I am very concerned that the youth room will be too small to provide proper social distancing and with the number of members over 65 (including me), I am concerned about risking anyone's health. I am hoping that we might get together this summer at the picnic pavilion at Our Lady of the Fields. I think we could spread out enough and if everyone packed their own lunch, the risk of infection should be less. I am looking for your ideas as to how we might meet. Send your thoughts to me at jd6bouv@verizon.net.

In the meantime, please email with any concerns, prayers and news you wish to bring to the attention of the fraternity. I would also like to hear what you have been up to and how you are surviving social isolation. Send me pictures of any projects you are working on. Has anyone completed a jigsaw puzzle with more than 1,000 pieces yet? Anyone read any good books or watched a good movie that they would like to recommend. I will compile and redistribute the news to all the fraternity members. It would nice to get some chit chat going.



Just to be the first to share some chit chat. This is "Bailey", my new puppy which I picked up on Easter Sunday and which turned 9 weeks old last Friday (April 17). He has totally disrupted my routine and is taking up a lot of my time. The office manager at the vet's office thinks it is funny to see me with such a tiny dog. Bailey is a Kromfohrlander. When full grown he will top out at 18" and 30 pounds. This breed is in the AKC foundation stock service, which means the breed is in the process of being established. AKC requires so many club members and breeding lines and litters before the breed can be recognized. There have been two attempts to establish this breed in the US in the past which fell apart. This current attempt looks like it will work and is being led by a breeder in Michigan who has previously established another breed in AKC.



My other dog Bristol is a 7.5-yr old Bouvier des Flandres is delighted to have a little brother but needs to be supervised to make sure she does not play too rough. So please send me your chit chat and pictures for distribution to the rest of the fraternity. It will be nice to see what everyone is up to.

Community

Sarita Palmer has officially transferred to St. Pope John XXIII fraternity. Sarita lives in Bowie and is located much closer to this fraternity. Sorry to see her leave but I'm sure our paths will cross in the future.

Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity is newly established in the St. Margaret of Cortona Region. The fraternity meets at Holy Family Catholic Community, Middletown, MD 21769 (near Frederick, MD)**Divine Mercy Sunday Weekend - April 18-19**

Broadcast This Sunday

While the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy is not open to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, you can still watch our Divine Mercy Sunday annual broadcast April 19 on EWTN and our website. A pre-liturgy show begins at 12 noon (ET) followed by the Solemn Liturgy at 1:30 p.m. (ET).

[See our special pages on April 19](#)

Do This on Divine Mercy Sunday!

Jesus makes an extraordinary promise. Father Chris Alar, MIC, shows what to do differently this year to make it the most important day of your life.

[Watch Fr. Chris video](#)

Top Divine Mercy Speakers Gather Online

Where can you find a great lineup of Divine Mercy speakers in one place? Online! While COVID-19 prevented a popular conference from meeting in person, it has led to an unprecedented online gathering of speakers, including Fr. Donald Calloway, Fr. Chris Alar, and Fr. Michael Gaitley. The event will close with a Vigil Mass from the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.

[Watch April 18 for FREE on YouTube](#)

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You were already there,

I embrace You and unite myself to You;

permit not that I should ever be separated from You.

Amen.

Solanus' Prayer for Spiritual Communion -- <https://www.solanuscenter.org/prayer-for>

Solanus would urge people who couldn't get to Mass or receive Communion to ask Jesus to come spiritually into their hearts. He himself did this throughout the day, even when he did celebrate Mass and receive Communion. A friend of his heard him speak so often about Spiritual Communion that he asked him one day how to actually go about doing it.

Solanus told him: "Please come to me in spiritual communion. Send your body and blood gushing through my veins. Send your love into my heart, my soul and my mind. Lift me up to your bosom and infuse me with your divine love. Amen."

From Jean Gaes

Padre Pio's Prayer for Spiritual Communion

At various times during the day, Padre Pio would pause and pray, making a spiritual communion.

Jesus, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament,

I love You above all things
and I desire to possess You
within my soul.

Since I am unable
at this moment to receive
You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually
into my heart.

I embrace You as being already there,
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated
from You.

Amen.

Websites Suggestions during this confinement to keep oneself connected

Word on Fire

Daily Mass from Bishop Barron's Chapel (Word on Fire)

<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

<http://savior.org/>

From Margaret Jackson

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

