



The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – April 2021
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for the April issue is May 6. Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting items that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 8217 Grainfield Rd, Severn, MD 21144, or send by email to jd6bouv@verizon.net.



Fraternity Meeting

Saturday, April 17, 2021 * 10:00 AM**

Via Zoom – Invitation will be sent on Friday, April 16th

Since several fraternity members may be attending Mary Henry’s funeral Mass on the Friday before our meeting, this Zoom meeting will be principally a social gathering with personal reflections on the joy of the Resurrection. Because Fr. Dressler is on sabbatical, it is uncertain if Capuchin College will live-stream the friars’ Mass at 8:30 am. The Mass typically does not start on time, so be patient.

<https://youtube.com/channel/UctFahWBDM9tTx-pb-EJG4og>

Prayer Requests



For the souls of: Mary Henry, OFS; Frances Cicero (Mary’s mom); and their families

For physical and spiritual healing of: Evelyn Jones, Tessie Chitty, John Gemmell (husband of Mary), Jan Parker (National Minister), Ed Wilbourne, Susan Greif, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Katherine Henry (daughter-in-law of Mary Henry), Stephen (great-grandson of Mary Henry), Joe McGeady, John McHugh (brother of Joe), Bill Mulqueen, Ruth Shea’s husband, Evelyn Jones’ niece, Jimmy Wilbourne (son of Genny), Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Melka (sis-in-law of Genny Wilbourne) (Please help update -send changes/additions to jd6bouv@verizon.net)

Birthdays

Fr. Paul Dressler – 4/10 Audrey Donnelly – 5/06
Santa Ragot – 4/21 Carmen Delgado – 5/07
Catherine Gonzalez – 5/04

Profession Anniversaries

Jenny Moreira – 05/08/1979

Treasury

Current balance: \$2,699.69 We are in good shape for the Fair Share contribution to the Region. Please mail your contribution to: Joe McHugh at 1740 Tedbury St, Crofton, MD 21114

Remember, when making your donation to the fraternity, you can use the memo line of your check to designate where you wish your contribution to be directed. There are 3 possible designations:

- **Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India)**
- **Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter clients)**
- **SFIS (St. Francis International School)**

Save the Date

May 22, 2021. Regional Retreat via Zoom, 9:00am – 4:00pm. Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM from the Holy Land Monastery in Washington, DC will facilitate: “Secular Franciscans, A Prophetic People.” To register to attend, send an email to Bob Longo, blongosfo@gmail.com

October 1-3, 2021. The Saint Francis Fraternity (at Cap College) has invited our fraternity to join their fraternity in a Fall Retreat under the direction of Fr. Paul Dressler at Claggett Retreat Center, 3035 Buckeystown Pike, Adamstown, MD. Stay tuned for registration details.

Council Meeting

Zoom meeting, Monday, May 3, 2021 at 1:00 pm



Minister's Minute

Springtime is starting to bust out in full bloom now. That tiny weed that I failed to pull in March is now a 12" mound with a root system that does not want to give up. Yet in this season of rebirth, we face death. First, Frances Cicero, Mary's mother passed April 3rd after 94 blessed years. Frances was a woman active in her faith, church and family. Next we lost our sister, Mary Henry, on April

8th. To quote, Fr. James Watson, OFM Cap, "I will always remember her joyful, hospitable and loving Franciscan spirit." Mary Henry's viewing is at Barranco funeral Home in Severna Park on Friday, April 16th, 10:00 am to noon. Her funeral Mass will follow at 1:00 pm at St John the Evangelist Church. The funeral home is limited to 50 people at one time. Fortunately, there is more room at the church. If you should choose to attend, please remember CDC guidelines, maintain social distancing, and do not sing. Singing requires at least 10-foot social distancing. Fr. Rigo, OFM Cap, plans to attend the Mass barring any parish emergencies in York, Pennsylvania. Mary Henry gifted him the ordination Chalice that had belonged to her brother-in-law who was a priest. Fr. James Watson, OFM Cap, dearly wished to attend the funeral. However, he has a wedding rehearsal at this parish he must attend. Fr. James will be joining us at our May Fraternity Zoom meeting. He is also helping to find a Spiritual Assistant for our fraternity to fill in while Fr. Paul is on sabbatical. We will have our fraternity meeting on Saturday, April 17 at 10:00AM. It will be mainly a social time with personal reflections on the joy of the Resurrection.

From Our Fraternity Family: Keep up the prayers for:

The families of Frances Cicero and Mary Henry

Fr. Paul Dressler, OFM Cap – that his spiritual sabbatical will renew him and provide direction on his spiritual journey

John Gemmell – Chemo was very rough but he is now improving

Tessie Chitty -- is doing well but in need of prayers as she makes decisions regarding follow-up treatment .

Susan Greif – adjusting to life in Austin, Texas is hard. She misses Maryland. Send her a card: 11001 Austin Lane, Apt 10406, Austin, TX 78758.

And on a happier note:

Evelyn is back home from rehab and is doing well!

Dennis Mallon is plugging along and helping his son with his raised bed gardening.

Mary Cicero retired on April 8 from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Pax & Bonum. Joan

P.S. IT'S NOT TOO LATE.... THERE IS STILL TIME to volunteer to serve on the Regional Council. Nomination procedures and form can be found at

<https://saintmargaretofcorona.org/upcoming-events/>

The election will take place on April 24th At the Shine of the Sacred Heart in Washington, DC.



LETTER FROM REJANI ROY PUTHUVAL -- ARRIVED MARCH 31, 2021

Dear Loving Friend,

Hope this letter will find you and your dear ones are safe and prosperous. Have you taken the vaccine? Here it is started first in health workers. I received your generous help sending for my family. I include my heart felt gratitude and respect towards you. I utilized your assistance for my house and children's education. Thank you very much for your special help.

I am going for prawn peeling work and my elder daughter Sandra is preparing for 12th grade exam. And my younger daughter Santhwana is doing lab technician course. We are safe from this pandemic. Your generous and compassionate heart gives us a new vigor and hope in our life. We are wishing you Happy Easter.

*Yours sincerely,
Rejani Roy*

BOOK REVIEW: *from Jean Gaes*



Habits for Holiness: Small Steps for Making Big Spiritual Progress

by Fr. Mark-Mary Ames, CFR

This book is changing my life. It is full of Franciscan wisdom and profound insights, written in ordinary language with a lay audience in mind. Most helpful for me was that Father Mark-Mary, at the very beginning of the book, suggests “note-taking:” putting a star by passages that touch your heart, going back to circle those things you intend to put into practice right now, and later re-reading and repeating this procedure. Not surprisingly, ***Habits for Holiness*** begins with a powerful chapter on how to integrate prayer in the moments of each day. Subsequent topics include: family; Catholic culture and liturgical living; simplicity; love for the poor; priests by baptism; living a provocative life (prophets); cultivating happiness, healthiness, and holiness; renewal that lasts (the mechanics of conversion); and an examination of conscience for lay people trying to live a life of radical discipleship. The book is full of realistic, compassionate, common-sense advice. Amazon lists it as “temporarily out of stock.” I am planning on ordering from Ascension Press so if you

want to order with me just let me know. The paperback costs \$14.95 plus \$4.48 shipping & taxes. You can find the book here:

<https://ascensionpress.com/products/habits-for-holiness-small-steps-for-big>



MAY 1ST
FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH
THE WORKER

On May 1, 1955, Pope Pius XII established a new feast day in the Church's calendar, dedicating May 1 to "St. Joseph the Worker."

[As] the Vicar of Christ, we wish to reaffirm highly, on this day of May 1 ... the dignity of work, and [to] inspire social life and laws, based on a fair share of rights and duties ... [We have determined to] establish the liturgical feast of St. Joseph the Worker, assigning it precisely on the 1st of May ... because the humble craftsman of Nazareth not only embodies the dignity of the arm of the worker ... he is also always the guardian of you and your families.

Prior to the Feast day's establishment, Pope St. Pius X, composed a prayer to "St. Joseph the Worker." His prayer, shown below, recognizes the dignity of work and how it can be offered to God as a sacrifice, pleasing in His sight. St. Joseph has always been the supreme example of this type of holy work, teaching his son, Jesus, how to work with great care and precision, giving to God his best work possible.

Before beginning your next workday, consider praying this simple, yet powerful prayer to St. Joseph. He will help you utilize your talents, turning the "daily grind" into something beautiful for God.

O Glorious St. Joseph, model of all who are devoted to labor,
obtain for me the grace to work in the spirit of penance in expiation of my many sins;
to work conscientiously by placing love of duty above my inclinations;
to gratefully and joyously deem it an honor to employ and to develop by labor
the gifts I have received from God,
to work methodically, peacefully, and in moderation and patience, without ever shrinking
from it through weariness or difficulty to work;
above all, with purity of intention and unselfishness,
having unceasingly before my eyes death and the account I have to render
time lost,
talents unused,
good not done, and
vain complacency in success, so baneful to the work of God.
All for Jesus, all for Mary, all to imitate thee, O Patriarch St. Joseph!
This shall be my motto for life and eternity. Amen

Rule 16. Let them esteem work both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption, and service of the human community.