

	August 3-7, 2022: 20th Quinquennial Congress in Phoenix, Arizona. For more information: https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/ . Click on the 20 th Quinquennial Congress icon to download all four pages of information.
Council Meeting	February 18, 2022, 6:30 (planning session); March 4, 2022, 7:00 (council meeting)



Minister's Minute

The Prince George's County Council voted unanimously on January 18 to extend the county's COVID-19 emergency declaration, and its mask mandate for indoor public spaces, to March 9. So please bring a mask with you. HOWEVER 😊, we will again be meeting in person and enjoying refreshments again.

The renovations at St. John the Evangelist church are NOT completed. Apparently supply-chain issues, and possible asbestos abatement, will delay completion of renovations to the convent and rectory until this summer. In the meantime, we will continue at Whitemarsh Hall at Sacred Heart Parish in Bowie through June. On the bright side we will have the use of the Chapel on the Hill for Mass at 8:30AM. Thanks, Father Patrick!

News from our membership:

Belated Happy Birthday to Fr. Patrick whose birthday was on January 31

Joan Kvetkas fell in her kitchen and hit on a wooden chest. She injured four ribs, three in front and one in back. After day and a half in Anne Arundel Hospital, she returned home and has her daughter and son taking turns to care for me. Please pray for a speedy recovery.

HAPPY NEWS!

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII FRATERNITY
OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Cordially invites you to the Profession Ceremony of

JOANNE BRYANT THERESA TUCKER
EUGENE (DUKE) JONES KRISTEN WOOD
JOSEPH O'DEA

On
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022
10:00 A.M.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH
826 West Central Avenue
Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

Please join us as we welcome our candidates into our Fraternity and continue to do the work of rebuilding our Church as our Father, Saint Francis, did.
Reception immediately following the ceremony

(Please respond to laurambenso@gmail.com by February 21, 2022)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for your continuing generosity-

January Balance		\$2,502.90
Franciscan Ctr	-\$1,000.00	
FFA	-\$ 100.00	
SA Stipend	-\$ 100.00	
Ending Balance.		\$1,302.90
February Deposit	+\$ 855.00	
Current Balance		\$2,157.90

Council will be suspending additional donations to charities until our annual Fair Share bill is paid to the region in April.

Fraternity contributions should be mailed to:
Joe McHugh
1740 Tedbury St
Crofton, MD 21114

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

- COM - Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India)
- BUS - bus tokens for the Light House shelter clients
- Phoenix – Phoenix Academy 'backpack' food program

HELP WANTED: Our region is looking for accountants. Fraternities are now required to have their treasury records audited before the fraternity elections, preferably 4-6 months prior to elections (i.e, May-July 2022 for our fraternity). The "Auditor" must be someone outside of the fraternity and need not be an OSF. The Region is planning to compile a list of people within the region who can do audits. Please let Joan Faltot know of anyone you think would be interested in being added to this list. There will be financial compensation. The records that each fraternity keeps are fairly simple.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – DENISE MIANTE

Phoenix Academy "Backpacks" – 24 food bags were packed on January 19th. The next opportunity to help is scheduled for Feb. 16th. Contact Denise for more information at Rubob903@gmail.com

Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: The lunch crew meets on 4th. Thursday of each month, so February 24th will be the next meeting. Members get together at Catherine's House at 9:30AM to make 25 sandwiches, and they bring the extra items. Contact Catherine for more information at mcmgonzalez59@outlook.com

Collection for February - Mary's Center: At our February fraternity meeting we will be collecting the following items:

- Diapers size 1-6 (please NO preemie) & pull-ups all sizes
- Similac Advance, Pro-advance & Similac Sensitive



Don't Miss Your [Virtual] Opportunity to participate in Catholic Advocacy Day in Annapolis on February 16th.

(click here)

<https://www.mdcatholic.org/advocacyday>

Issues include:

- EDUCATION:** Catholic schools/education
- RESPECT LIFE:** Abortion, adoption, bioethics, disabilities, domestic violence, human trafficking, physician-assisted suicide, pregnancy support
- JUSTICE:** Juvenile justice & restorative justice
- SOCIAL JUSTICE:** Dignity of work, environment, health care, immigration, paid family leave, poverty, public safety, racial justice
- TEXT ALERTS:** Receive text alerts on the topics you selected

JPIC -ADVOCACY: PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE — Jean Gaes

Jean Gaes of St. Conrad (Annapolis) has made us aware of an opportunity for advocacy on an issue related to JPIC, and one very important for all Catholics: Assisted Suicide. I am repeating below the text of Jean's email. While this particular matter may be more important to residents of Maryland, there may be similar legislation under consideration in other nearby states and jurisdiction. Thus, it is important that all of us become more aware of this issue.

Powerful, well-funded lobby groups are again pushing to legalize assisted suicide in Maryland, even during this continuing time of crisis. Because of restrictions on in-person lobbying and gatherings, the bill may be quickly introduced and passed without debate. Concerned citizens are most likely to stop it by writing to their elected officials before it comes to the floor. Catholic Advocacy Day in Annapolis is on February 16th. Click here for details and how to participate: <https://www.mdatholic.org/advocacyday> The Maryland Catholic Conference has an excellent site with multiple resources on end of life issues here: <https://www.mdatholic.org/pas>

I found this form letter, which is simple to send on the MDRight to Life site. Please act and forward it to your friend and pastors. I have so much more information about this, and about care at the end of life so please email me back and I'll send you links. However, this is the FASTEST and easiest way to make sure the legislators from all over Maryland hear opposing voices today.

Physician Assisted Suicide must not be legalized in this time of crisis in Maryland! Vulnerable people (the poor, the aged, the sick, the developmentally disabled, the mentally ill, those with addictions) are already under stress, as are our medical providers. Legitimizing suicide at this time would compound their problems. It also would put dangerous drugs into homes in Maryland without adequate oversight. Legalization in other states and countries has demonstrated that what is billed as a "safeguard" today is criticized as a "roadblock" tomorrow. What is today promoted for those near the end of life is soon advocated in many other situations.

Maryland Right to Life Action Alerts web page:

<http://www.votervoice.net/Shares/BgMzEAqkACUJWak32hZ7FAA>

has a form letter which you can use to send to your Maryland legislators

- Lawmakers nationwide reject PAS. The Maryland General Assembly has rejected some form of this bill at least five times. Your peers made their legislative intent very clear that Assisted Suicide is a criminal act and should remain so.
- Maryland's leading disability rights groups recognize the many dangers the bill poses to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- There is no standard requirement that each patient receives mental health screening and counseling. No family notification is required.
- One in three patients who fill the lethal prescription—typically 100 pills, decide against taking it. There are no safeguards to ensure the unused drugs stay out of the hands of children and prescription drug dealers. This is particularly irresponsible, as we are experiencing an opioid crisis nationwide.
- No doctor or nurse is required to be present when the patient ingests the lethal dose. If something goes wrong, any physical or emotional complications must be handled solely by the patient and those witnessing the death.
- PAS laws make suicide socially acceptable. States which have legalized assisted suicide have experienced increased suicide rates.
- Taxpayers foot the bill to pay for the lethal drugs and doctor visits.

The Serenity Prayer

The Serenity Prayer is actually deeper and longer than the one we often see. It's beautiful and so very Franciscan in spirit!

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can; and
Wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with
Him forever in the next. -- Amen



20th Quinquennial Congress

3-7 August 2022

REGISTRATION & GENERAL INFORMATION



Please read all 4 pages below before registering

Registration opens August 1, 2021

Q Registration Cost:

Full "Early bird" *	\$ 175	August 01- Dec. 31, 2021
Full Regular *	\$ 205	January 01 - May 27, 2022
Full "Late Owl" *	\$ 250	May 28 - July 1, 2022
One day only "Early bird" **	\$ 83	August 01 - Dec. 31, 2021
One day only **	\$ 100	January 01 - July 01, 2022

Young adults (Age 18-35) Scholarships available, please email:
ofsusa.qcongress@gmail.com

* Includes meal plan: 4 dinners, 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches, beginning with dinner on Wed. Aug.3

** Includes 1 lunch and 1 dinner

Meals on your own Sunday, Aug.7

Registration closes July 1, 2022. We cannot accommodate walk-ins

BEFORE REGISTERING: please read all 4 pages of information provided on the regional website at <https://saintmargaretofcorona.org/upcoming-events/> -- click on the 20th Quinquennial Congress icon to download all 4 pages of information.

FRANCISCAN FAMILY APOSTOLATE

Operated by

Alleppey Diocesan Charitable and Social Welfare Society Reg. No- A.141/78

BISHOP'S HOUSE, Post Box. 4804, Alleppey - 688 012. Kerala, S. India. Ph: 9188027279

Christmas 2021

Our dear loving friends,

Once again the World is getting ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ amidst the pandemic. Let us hope and pray that the struggle of the humankind due to this pandemic will come to an end with the closing of this year and we will be having a more safe and



peaceful life in the coming year. At the start of the year 2020, little did we know that how unusual and challenging the year would turn out to be? Since 2020 it has been a tough year for the whole world. COVID-19 has had a disruptive impact on all of our lives, many of our beloved ones lost their lives. The great dilemma was that the relatives lost the chance to offer homage to the departed ones as they were cremated lonely by the covid task force. Due to the timely interference of our Bishop His Excellency Rt. Rev.

Bishop James Raphael Anaparambil, people died of covid in our Diocese were cremated and buried in their concerned parish cemeteries themselves. Add to that there was great destruction due to natural calamities and Taute torrent. Especially in Kerala, the dams were opened many times due to over rain which caused floods and many families were shifted to camps and most of them fully lost their belongings. Still many families are in the camps due to unpredicted sea erosion and high tides. The fishermen families are banned for long time from going for work and the farmers faced great loss due to damage to their crops because of bund collapse.

We could help the families in distress with the covid fund granted by FFA USA, one of the most remarkable help of our beloved sponsors towards the support of the suffering brethren. The pandemic has shown us the value of partnerships and communities and how, together, we can make a difference to people's lives. It was so that our benefactors were ready to help us even when they were equally suffering due to the pandemic.

Thus our struggles taught us many lessons and we feel we will emerge from it strengthened and enriched. We take this opportunity to greet all our dear friends a Merry Christmas and a grace filled New Year. We extend our deep gratitude for all what you are doing for us. Take care and be safe!

Affectionately,

Sr. Elsy Chacko, Aniamma, Darley, Karoline, Soona & Sebastian



2022 Regional Retreat

May 13th to May 15th

Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House
9270 Loyola Retreat Rd, Faulkner, MD 20664
Phone: +1 301 392 0800

Our Weekend Facilitator will be
Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conventual

Weekend Theme—To be a Secular Franciscan, in These Changing Times

Weekend Retreat Information

Cost per person \$270 (all single rooms). Includes: Friday and Saturday evening dinner, Saturday and Sunday breakfast, and Saturday and Sunday Lunch

A non-refundable deposit Check for \$100, is required. Make check payable to **St. Margaret of Cortona Region**

The deadline to send your deposit check is **April 1, 2022.**

**Mail check to: Peter Noyes
P.O. Box 860
Burtonsville, MD 20866**

Day-trippers are welcome at \$90 per day (meals included)

If you have questions concerning cost or non-refundable deposits, contact Peter at: pnoyesofs@gmail.com



Stephen is a friar of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual. He has served in parishes and has taught high school, as well as serving in the initial formation ministry of the Order in the US and in England. He received a Masters degree in Franciscan Studies from the Franciscan Institute at Saint Bonaventure University, and a PHD in Christian Spirituality from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. His main interest are very early Franciscan sources and history and the presentation of early franciscan spirituality through iconography. He has taught Franciscan studies at the Franciscan International Study Centre in Canterbury, England. Currently, he is a member of staff at the Shrine of Saint Anthony in Ellicott City, Maryland.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

March 2 through April 10, 2022

HELP SAVE LIVES IN ANNAPOLIS!



You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired over 1,000, 000 volunteers in 64 countries.

With God's help, over 20,000 babies saved from abortion, 229 abortion workers converted, and 114 abortion centers closed.

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- **Vigil location:** |Planned Parenthood 929 West St., Annapolis, MD 21401
- **Vigil hours:** 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Daily
- **For more information:** www.40daysforlife.com/annapolis
- **Local contacts:** Becky Simpson, annapolis40daysforlife@gmail.com, 443-546-7895
Tony Martelli, tony@mdcoalitionforlife.com, 443-254-5433

Be a voice for the voiceless and save a life!
Pray just one hour a week for mothers, babies and workers.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

Saturday, March 5, 2022

Annapolis Cross Walk & Eucharistic Procession

Join us as we pray and carry 63 crosses from Planned Parenthood to Westgate Circle and back - each cross represents ONE MILLION babies lost to abortion since the tragic Roe v. Wade decision. Bishop Joseph Coffey will lead our Eucharistic Procession.



Here's how to take part in the Cross Walk

- **Starting location:** Planned Parenthood, 929 West St., Annapolis, MD 21401
- **Schedule:** Saturday, March 5, 2:00-3:03 PM
- **For more information:** www.40daysforlife.com/annapolis
- **Local contacts:** Becky Simpson, annapolis40daysforlife@gmail.com, 443-546-7895
Tony Martelli, tony@mdcoalitionforlife.com, 443-254-5433

Join us to remember and honor those babies lost to abortion