

The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
 Secular Franciscan Order – October 2022
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for November is the 4th. 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	<p>Saturday, October 15, 2022</p> <p>Mass at 8:30 AM at the Chapel on the Hill Sacred Heart, 16501 Annapolis Rd, Bowie, MD 20715</p> <p>Meeting at 9:00 – noon *** Whitmarsh Hall (by the chapel)</p> <p>If you are ill, have been exposed to COVID, or have other concerns you can attend via a Zoom session. Zoom information will be sent Friday evening.</p>
Refreshments 	<p>Annapolis/Eastern Shore is responsible for the refreshments. <i>Please remember to bring your coffee cup.</i></p> <p>Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary.</p>
Liturgy	<p>Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park: Rosary for Peace</p>
Prayer Requests 	<p>For physical and spiritual healing of: Bill Chitty, John Corbis, Jerry Miente, Kathleen Sievers, Judge Dodge, Carole Marsh's sister, Harry Thompson, Jeanne Wilbourne, Ed Wilbourne (rehabilitation), Jackie Chaplin (sister of Kathleen Sievers), Audrey's daughter Diane (COVID), Encarnacion del Pozo Martínez (former Minister General of the OFS, hospitalized due to a stroke), Joan Kvetkas, Gertrude Shelton (Marie's mom), Ed Sievers (Kathleen's husband), Evelyn Jones, Tessie Chitty, Jan Parker (National Minister), Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Bill Mulqueen, Ruth Shea's husband, Evelyn Jones' niece, Jimmy Wilbourne, Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Malka (sister-in-law of Genny Wilbourne)</p> <p><i>(Please help update this list by sending changes/additions/deletions to jd6bouv@verizon.net)</i></p>
Birthdays	<p>Margaret Jackson – 10/22 Patricia Troup – 10/24</p> <p>Emily McGeady – 11/01</p>
Profession Anniversaries	<p>Chris Grubach – 09/21/2019 Joe McHugh – 09/21/2019 Joan Kvetkas – 10/04/1979 Louise Ryan – 10/04/1982 🎂 40th Pat Tyrrell – 10/10/1996 Patricia Troup – 10/10/1996</p> <p>Mary Cicero – 10/10/1996 Tessie Chitty – 10/11/1998 Joan Faltot – 10/16/1991 Mary Jo Johnson – 10/19/1988 Santa Matarazza – 11/01/1992 🎂 30th George Ryan – 11/11/1984</p>
Council Meeting	<p>Friday, November 4th at 7:00pm via Zoom</p>



Minister's Minute

First: Many thanks to everyone who planned, volunteered, and in everyway contributed to our wonderful 50th anniversary celebration! I won't name anyone for fear of missing someone since I think everyone in the fraternity had a hand in it one way or another. I will make exceptions to name Pat & Judith Tyrrell, who accepted the job of overseeing the event, and Fr. Patrick Monahan, OFM Cap. who gave us a beautiful Mass, and who continues to help guide and inspire our fraternity.

Just a short note since there are a lot of interesting things to read in this *Porter*- I hope everyone will make a special effort to make it to our fraternity meeting this Saturday. This meeting will focus on our priorities for this 51st year and subsequent years. We'll discuss what changes and improvements we would like to see for our fraternity in the future. Thanks to Pat Tyrrell for finding the following prayer and passing it on:

Canticle of Fraternity

Praise be You, My Lord, through Sister Brokenness
who reveals to us Your healing and Your
wholeness.

She is tender and fragile and invites us
to share our poverty with one another.

Praised be You, My Lord, through Sister Forgiveness
who reveals Your unconditional love and
tender mercy.

She is gentle and asks for poverty of spirit as
she seeks to be both freely given and freely
received in fraternity.

Praised be You, My Lord, through Brother Conversion
who reveals Your radical Gospel call and the
heart of the paschal mystery.

He is violent and requires uprooting, letting go,
emptying and comes to us through self-emptying
fraternal experiences.

He is a mirror of true Eucharist.

Praised be You, My Lord, through Sister Joy
who reveals your fullness and the life of your
Trinitarian love.

She is carefree. She is loving. She is genuine.
She is Beatitude. She is gift coming from You
through sharing Your presence with one another.

Most High, all powerful and good Lord,
Yours are brokenness, forgiveness, conversation
and joy.

We praise and bless You, Lord, and give
You thanks for fraternity.
All praise be yours O Lord.

Poem by Renita Brunner, OFS

<http://franciscanseculars.com/join-us>

Members on the Mend

- Jerry Miente is on the road to recovery at home and starting to resume activities.
- Evelyn Jones had another fall, but she's OK.
- Please keep them both in your prayers along with everyone else on our prayer list.

Our History – A letter from the past. Written by Jenny Moreira

Genevieve “Jenny” Mary Moreira (Dec 31, 1932 - May 31, 2022)

She was a member of St. Conrad Fraternity (Annapolis, MD), professed May 8, 1979, and served the fraternity on the council: formation team (1984-1995), Minister (2005-2008), and Vice Minister (2009-2010).

March 24, 1988

My Dear Fraternity Sisters and Brothers,

What year do I put as the start, the beginning of our St. Conrad's Secular Franciscan Fraternity? To me it has no date. It began so long ago.

I like to think God was sitting on a rock but that was not so. There were no rocks before the world began. Oh, how God missed out being alone. No wonder He made the world. God sits on many rocks now with you and me.

God gave us a start with a thought from His heart. Then the world began. How else could our fraternity be?

God made light and how that light shined on St. Conrads. The light that gave us nice days for our picnics.

There was darkness but God kept it so we know we have to go home after our meetings. We so desire never to leave.

Then God divided the water that was there. The water above to be heaven. Heaven gave us our goal to reach.

The water under heaven, God brought together to make land. The land to build St. Conrad's Friary for this special group God saw ahead. A place to meet.

Oh, can't you see we started so long ago!

Then the day God made trees, and plants was the day God wanted beauty for us to see. The daffodils so they could grow on the hill. The trees so one could shade us on our picnic day.

All the beauty we surely have seen. Not only from the land but looking out over the water. Seeing the light shine and looking up into the darkness, at night, seeing the stars sparkling so bright.

God made the water creatures. Oh, those crabs! What a lovely gift God made for us, His special group. The birds that gave us added beauty. The Squirrels gave so much joy to see around St. Conrad's Friary.

Then God saw it was good. God, also, saw the group, of special people, did not look like anything He made.

God made man, then woman. God said, "This group is so special. They are all so different in so many ways. Yet, they will have one goal in common. I will still plan far ahead."

God allowed sin, that keeps us on our toes. It keeps us reaching to God so we can reach our goal.

The world grew and grew!

Then God knew that these people would need help. They could not make it alone. God sent His son, His son was born. He was named Jesus. He grew and died for us, for our sins. God knew we would be sinners and wanted us to be free to come home to Him.

Then there was a need for one to start. God saw Francis, a little man. God called and Francis answered. Oh, how Francis answered!

This little man began to build a life so we could be told how to follow God's son, Jesus.

This Franciscan life crossed the waters. It grew and grew. Finally God saw one of His special people walking around. He called and was heard. God saw another and another. Each were called and each heard.

God could not stop calling. He was always heard. Our fraternity grew. We grew in size and God knew we needed another kind of growth, detachment.

Sadness came. Some left. God knew, so long ago, this would be. If God knew, we should never be upset when someone leaves. That someone may be taking our life to another place.

Oh, our fraternity had to find another place to meet. St. Conrad's, where all the beautiful flowers, the beautiful people were, was sold. We had to meet at another place. We knew it was what God wanted, yet, the pain was still there. We, also, knew that a Franciscan must move to grow and to take our life elsewhere. Yet, how our hearts were sad!

To find another place to meet! How different will it be? We had to remember the special group would be there, you and me. We found Manresa. A lovely place God had in mind so long ago.

God sees other special people. He wants our fraternity to grow. Keep it alive. Let it live.

God tells my heart not to worry about the size in number. Worry about the size of our hearts.

Let our hearts help each other to reach our goal. Let our hearts tell others that God has a place, has a call and a goal. If they see it in our hearts, they will surely hear and answer God's call.

When I am in pain and I see no faith, no hope and no love, I begin to see the word "Franciscan" go deeper and deeper into my heart. For you see, there is no faith, no hope, and no love, if there is no Franciscan within me. Franciscan is my goal, the road to perfect joy, Jesus Christ, our Lord, God's son!

St. Francis' perfect joy is not the same as mine. Each one of us must picture their own perfect joy. Yet, it still means the same joy. The perfect joy on earth leads to the perfect joy in heaven, seeing the face of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

May God bless our fraternity with growth of our hearts, mind and soul, to help us grow in size, so, as members leave, there will always be a St. Conrads Secular Franciscan Fraternity.

A fraternity sister,

Jenny Moreira

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – DENISE MIANTE

Shelter Lunches -- Next sandwich-making is scheduled for October 27, 9:30am, at the home of Catherine Gonzales. For additional information, contact Catherine at cmgonzalez59@outlook.com.

Bus Passes – 150 all-day bus passes were purchased and delivered to the Light House on Oct. 6.

Phoenix Academy – Denise met with Mrs. Renee Beasley, the new Community Program Manager at the Phoenix Academy, over lunch. They set up a tentative date to start filling food bags (backpacks) on November 16. She prefers the 3rd Wednesday. School starts at 9:15AM now, so the best time to start packing is about 10:00 - 10:30.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!

Below is the Treasurer’s Report as of October 7, 2022.

August Balance		\$3,488.90
Alex Ashman	(\$150)	\$3,338.90 (Music)
Shirley Sciortino	(\$ 25)	\$3,313.90 (stream Mass)
FFA	(\$100)	\$3,213.90
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,113.90
Phoenix	(\$320)	\$2,793.90
Tokens	(\$246)	\$2547.90
Peter Noyes	(\$120)	\$2427.90 (minister mtg)
Deposit//Balance	\$705	\$3132.90

Fraternity contributions can 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 (money collected will be held until program restarts in October.)



Yes, this is a plug for Matthew Kelly’s book, Rediscover the Rosary: The Modern Power of an Ancient Prayer, published November 2017. Hardback and Kindle versions are sold by Amazon, and on the Dynamic Catholic website:

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/rediscover-the-rosary-and-wood-and-cord-rosary-bundle/RROS-ROSA-BDL-22-ENG.html> It is 288 pages long with a 5-star review rating. I am not a proficient reader. I read a different book by Matthew Kelly and totally enjoyed it. His writing style is simple and clear, but insightful. --Joan

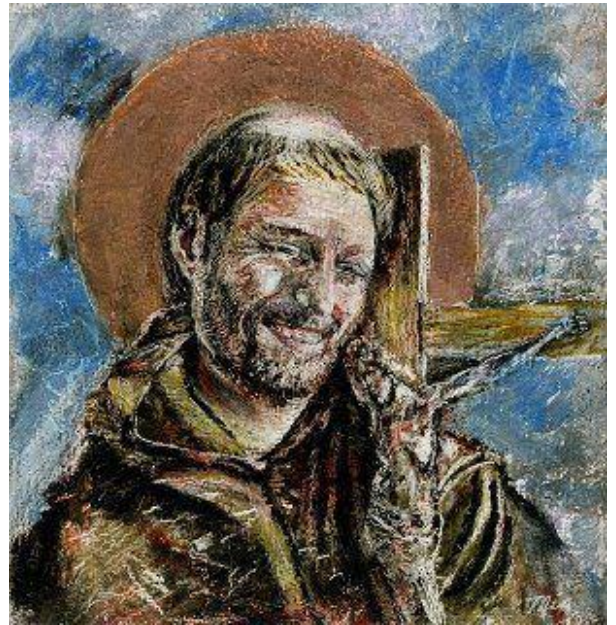
A FRANCISCAN BLESSING

Ruth Shea received this from a cousin who is a secular in Massachusetts.

I do not know the origin of this 'Franciscan' blessing but, as we celebrate the feast of St Francis, it is a good counterbalance to the cozy 'Francis of the birdbath' spirituality!

At the heart of Francis' Gospel vision is delight in the Lord. However, Francis understood most clearly that if our joy in the Lord is to be authentic it must lead to compassion that flowers into action.

May this uncomfortable invocation open us to a more profound Gospel life.



May God bless you with discomfort,
At easy answers, half-truths,
And superficial relationships
So that you may live
Deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger
At injustice, oppression,
And exploitation of people,
So that you may work for
Justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears,
To shed for those who suffer pain,
Rejection, hunger and war,
So that you may reach out your hand
To comfort them and
To turn their pain to joy

And may God bless you
With enough foolishness
To believe that you can
Make a difference in the world,
So that you can do
What others claim cannot be done
To bring justice and kindness
To all our children and the poor.
Amen

**PRAYER FROM HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR THE 108TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2022
(25 September 2022)**

Lord, make us bearers of hope,
so that where there is darkness,
your light may shine,
and where there is discouragement,
confidence in the future may be reborn.

Lord, make us instruments of your justice,
so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish,
and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow.

Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom,
together with migrants and refugees
and with all who dwell on the peripheries.

Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is
to live together as brothers and sisters. Amen.

Pope Francis,
Rome, Saint John Lateran, 9 May 2022

CHECK IT OUT

Seminar: Bonaventure - Tree of Life with Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conv

Saturday, October 22, 10:00am to 3:00pm,

Shrine of St. Anthony, Ellicott City MD.

Cost: \$40

This information came from the regional formation director. I cannot find anything on the Shrine's website.

If you are interested, keep checking their website.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Annapolis Cross Walk

Join Us As We Pray and Carry 63 Crosses From St. Paul Lutheran Church To The MD Fire-Rescue Services Memorial And Back - Each Cross Representing ONE MILLION Babies Lost To Abortion Since 1973.



Here's how to participate in the Cross Walk

- Starting location: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 31 Rowe Blvd, Annapolis, MD
- Schedule: Saturday, October 15, 12:00-3:00 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



Scheduled in conjunction with Chesterton Academy of Annapolis

Join us to remember and honor those babies lost to abortion!