



The Porter

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

The Porter deadline for January is the 14th. 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 align="center">Saturday, December 17, 2022</p> <p align="center">Mass at 8:30 AM at the Chapel on the Hill</p> <p align="center">Sacred Heart, 16501 Annapolis Rd, Bowie, MD 20715</p> <p align="center">Meeting & Party at 9:00 – noon *** Whitmarsh Hall (by the chapel)</p> <p align="center">Friends & Family are invited to Party with us</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>It's Party Time 🍩🍩🍩 Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite; however to insure that we do not end up with 4 dozen hard boiled eggs, please signup via email with Joan Faltot at jd6bouv@verizon.net or call 301-655-3876.</p> <p><i>Please remember to bring your coffee cup.</i></p> <p>Annapolis/Eastern Shore will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary.</p>				
Liturgy	<p>Annapolis/Eastern Shore - Bring your Liturgy of the Hour/Christian Prayer book</p>				
 Prayer Requests	<p>For physical and spiritual healing of: Bill Chitty, John Corbis, Jerry Miante, 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	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Marie Shelton – 12/26</td> <td>Ed Wilbourne – 01/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George Ryan – 01/07</td> <td>Tessie Chitty – 1/21</td> </tr> </table>	Marie Shelton – 12/26	Ed Wilbourne – 01/16	George Ryan – 01/07	Tessie Chitty – 1/21
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Profession Anniversaries	<p>Harry Thompson – 1/10/1991 Lita Millan – 1/10/2002</p>				
Council Meeting	<p>Friday, January 6, 2023 Zoom at 7pm</p>				



Minister's Minute

What is your favorite Christmas tradition? How does St. Francis inspire your prayer and actions? Which are his prayers relating to this season that speak to your heart?

I believe that we can find Jesus in each of our traditions and the people we meet each day. He is there when we cook and bake for our loved ones. He is there with the generous heart when we give food and clothing to the needy poor. He is there with compassion when we weep for those who are no longer with us. He is there when we pray before the manger and thank God that He sent a Savior-- a Savior who continues to be with us, to feed us in the Eucharist and to model for us the simplicity, poverty, and humility we are called to live as Secular Franciscans. "Behold, each day He humbles Himself as when He came from the royal throne into the Virgin's womb; each day He Himself comes to us, appearing humbly; each day He comes down from the bosom of the Father upon the altar in the hands of a priest." (Admonitions I)

May you all have a Blessed Christmas. Peace, love and joy, Judith

Congratulations to Our New Council

In case you were not able to attend the council election at our last meeting, below is our new council which will serve until November 2025.

Minister	Judith Tyrrell
Vice Minister	Ruth Shea
Secretary	Joan Faltot
Treasurer	Joe McHugh
Formation Director	Denise Mianta
Councilor	Mary Anne Novak
Councilor	Catherine Gonzalez
Spiritual Director	Fr. Patrick Monahan



Patricia Boyle Troup Obituary (professed in our fraternity October 10, 1996)

With heavy hearts, we announce the death of Patricia Boyle Troup (Annapolis, Maryland), who passed away on October 27, 2022 at the age of 85. Family and friends can [send flowers](#) and condolences in memory of the loved one. Leave a sympathy message to the family on the memorial page of Patricia Boyle Troup to pay them a last tribute.

She was predeceased by: her parents, Charles Boyle and Ruth Marguerite Boyle; and her siblings, Charles, John and Elizabeth.

She is survived by: her children, Ruth Ann, Charlene (Stephen) and Raymond Walter (Stephanie); her grandchildren, Henry (Kiersten), Catherine (Matthew), Crista, Scott, Joseph, Elizabeth, Mary (Alex), Michael, Andrew, Bernadette, Benedict, John and Dominic; and her great grandchildren, Aidan, Madison, Guinevere and Jesse.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!

Below is the Treasurer's Report as of December 2, 2022

October Balance		\$4,087.90
FFA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,987.90
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,887.90
Elections:		
Bob Longo-Region Minister	(\$100)	\$3,787.90
Br. Michael Meza-Friar Witness	(\$100)	\$3,687.90
Nov. Deposit	\$686.00	\$4,373.90

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.)

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – DENISE MIANTE

Shelter Lunches -- Next sandwich-making is scheduled Thursday, December 22nd, 9:30am, at the home of Catherine Gonzalez. For additional information, contact Catherine at cmgonzalez59@outlook.com.

Bus Passes – 200 all-day bus passes will be purchased and delivered to the Light House this month.

Phoenix Academy – “Backpacks” will be filled on Wednesday, December 21 Those wishing to help pack the food “backpacks” will meet at the school at 9:30 am.

SACRED HEART'S LITTLE HOUSE ON THE HILL – Since this will probably be our last meeting at Sacred Heart, please consider donating to their outreach. They are currently in need of winter clothes—all sizes, as well as blankets, quilts, and linens. And there is always a need for all sizes underwear, socks, sheets, pillow cases. Remember, the House on the Hill primarily gives away clothes. There is limited storage space, so they cannot accept large household items. Please take those items to Goodwill or another charity. Thank you for giving to others. There is always need all sizes underwear, socks, sheets, pillow cases.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX

In December, our fraternity has traditionally put together gift boxes for merchant seafarers who visit the Port of Baltimore. We did this because they were often far from home on Christmas; and now with the pandemic, cannot even come ashore for shopping. We are reviving this Apostolate this year.

There are 3 ways to help:

- 1) If you wish to fill a shoe box, you can bring it to the Fraternity meeting on December 18. Please remember that there are also women Seafarers as well!! Chose a sturdy shoe box (but not a boot box), stuff it full of some of the items below, and wrap it with festive paper. See the list of suggested items below.
- 2) You could send a check to the Apostleship of the Sea at 320 Cathedral Street; Baltimore, MD 21202.
- 3) You can order items in bulk (like socks, warm hats, or gloves) and bring them to the Dec. 10th fraternity meeting. We'll deliver them to Dundalk with the gift boxes.

Suggested contents:

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, combs, nail clippers, mouthwash, shampoos, comb/brush, hand sanitizer, lip balm

Hair conditioners, soap, shaving cream, deodorant, Q-tips, disposable razors

Socks, gloves, scarves, knit "watch caps" that cover the head and ears

Ball caps, pens, pencils, writing supplies, English dictionaries, 2022 calendars, pocket-sized address books/planners

Scotch tape, playing cards, travel sized games, reading materials (magazines, paperbacks)

Non-perishable foods/snacks/candy (no chocolate- it melts!) and a small Christmas card or blessing signed from a member, or members, of the Fraternity.

PRESS RELEASE from the National Council about our work with the United Nations and other international organizations through Franciscans International.

The press release below includes a photo showing the International Board of Directors of non-governmental organization of the United Nations, Franciscans International, meeting with the UN Deputy Secretary-General. In the photo, you will see national JPIC Animator Carolyn Townes standing to the right of the UN Deputy Secretary General.

**International Board of Directors of non-governmental organization
of the United Nations, Franciscans International,
meet with UN Deputy Secretary-General**



Credit: UN Photo/Evan Schneider

The International Board of Directors of Franciscans International (FI) met in New York City from November 15-20, 2022. On November 16th, we had the extraordinary opportunity to meet at the United Nations (UN) with Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed, in which she highlighted the important role played by faith-based organizations in promoting the rights and dignity of all people and respect for our common home.

The Deputy Secretary-General offered us an invitation: to help top UN level personnel connect with the local communities. Our response to her was the assurance of our help and support with those connections. Ms. Mohammed conveyed to us her deep faith in God as she navigates the difficulties of work and life.

FI works with Franciscans and other partners around the world to bring the local community voices to the UN, where we provide a platform to advocate for concrete and positive change.

We are challenged and motivated by our conversation with a person at the highest level of the UN system who allows her faith to inspire her service to the international community. We look forward to future opportunities whereby we might link the work of Franciscans on the ground with resources available within the UN for the promotion of human rights, integral human development, and care for creation.

YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED TO STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE IN MARYLAND!!

The Maryland Legislature has pre-filed a bill to legalize assisted suicide in the 2023 session. The aim of this bill is to actively allow a person with a 6-month prognosis, to kill themselves by overdosing on medication prescribed by a medical provider. There are many things inherently wrong with this bill such as

- no mandatory evaluation for depression
- a six -months- to- live terminal prognosis is not reliable
- pain is not the primary reason people are requesting to die-but rather disability issues: fear of loss of autonomy, quality of life, and dignity
- no medical oversight once the prescription is written and dispense

Do not hesitate to voice your concerns by emailing your legislators. As a constituent, your voice carries a lot of weight and will make a difference in how your representative will vote. Since the bill is pre-filed, it may move quickly when the legislative session begins in January, which is why we are asking you to contact them now. Visit the Maryland Right to Life Website at mdrtl.org. Go to the TAKE ACTION tab to send a message directly to your legislators asking them to vote against this bill. The Dignity Mandate (<https://thedignitymandate.org/>) is another great nonprofit dedicated to educating Marylanders about the dangers of assisted suicide. Be sure to watch the 30-minute documentary on their website detailing the some of the problems with the proposed Maryland bill. Visit their website at thedignitymandate.org.

Please forward this call to action to the people in your circle of influence. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Laura Jones
The Dignity Mandate

Please do these 3 things within the next week:

- Become educated -Watch the documentary if you have not done so already:
Shining the Light on Physician Assisted Suicide (<https://thedignitymandate.org/documentary>)
Learn the most effective arguments to use when discussing the topic of physician assisted suicide.
- Contact you Delegates and Senator to express your concerns about the bill and ask them to vote against it.
- Ask your church, civic, or professional community to put the email blast (featured below) in their bulletin or flock notes and then share it widely by forwarding this email to everyone within your circle of influence.