



The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
 Secular Franciscan Order – September 2024
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for next issue is September 11. Please send news, events, prayer requests, poems, or any interesting items that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 715 Maiden Choice Ln, Apt CC122, or send by email to jd6bouv@verizon.net.

 Fraternity Gathering	Saturday, September 21, 2024 Mass at 8:30 in Chapel followed by Gathering in the Annex NEW LOCATION: Christ the King Annex 126 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD next to Monsignor Slade Catholic School Directions & map on page 2
Refreshments 	Annapolis/Eastern Shore area group <i>Please remember to bring your coffee cup and appetite.</i>
Prayer	Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park – LOH Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and evangelist
Program	Discussion: OFS – Who We Were, Who & Where We Are Today, Where Are We Headed
Prayer Requests 	For physical and spiritual healing of: Jude Dodge (stroke & moving in with family in Minnesota—address pending), Evelyn Jones (recovering from a fall), Margaret Jackson, Ginesa Madar (Joe McHugh’s niece, Audrey Donnelly, Jerry Miantie and Denise, Tessie Chitty, Jeanne Wilbourne, Michael Huether, Evelyn Jones’ son Jimmy, Audrey Bushée, Lita Milan, Bill Chitty, Kathleen Sievers, Carole Marsh’s sister, Harry Thompson, Jackie Chaplin (sister of Kathleen Sievers), Ed Sievers (Kathleen’s husband), Evelyn Jones, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Evelyn Jones’ niece, Jimmy Wilbourne, Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Malka (sister-in-law of Genny Wilbourne).
Birthdays	Christopher Grubach – 09/15 Evelyn Jones – 10/01 Lorraine Colletta – 09/20 Brigid Cobb – 10/08
Profession Anniversaries	Jean Gaes – 9/17/1987 Joan Kvetkas – 10/04/1979 45 yrs !!!!! Denise Miantie – 09/18/2010 Louise Ryan – 10/04/1982 Genny Wilbourne – 09/18/2010 Pat Tyrrell – 10/10/1996 Ruth Shea – 09/18/2021 Mary Cicero Gemmell – 10/10/1996 Chris Grubach – 09/21/2019 5 yrs!! Tessie Chitty – 10/11/1998 Joe McHugh – 09/21/2019 5 yrs!!
Council Meeting	Friday, Oct 4 at 7:00 pm via Zoom



Legend: A – Annex (where our fraternity gathering will be,
 C – Chapel (Mass at 8:30, enter from the parking lot)
 P – Parking lot

Directions

Traveling South from Baltimore

From I-695 south (Baltimore Beltway)
 After Camp Meade Exit, the Beltway splits;
 use left 2 lanes to continue onto I-97
 Take Exit 16 - Ferndale
 Bottom of ramp, turn Left onto MD-648S/
 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd
 Pass Cromwell light rail station on your right,
 then turn Right onto Dorsey Road west
 Go past Monsignor Slade Catholic School on
 your right
 Turn right on Holy Cross Road
 Follow Road around past Annex to Parking lot
 on right

Traveling North from RT 50 or RT 2

Take I-97 North
 Take Exit 15A to Dorsey Road east
 (Pass Sawmill Park tennis courts on right)
 Across from the Pascal Senior Center on right,
 turn left onto Holy Cross Road
 Follow Road around past Annex into Parking Lot
 on right



Minister's Minute:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Driving up to St. Anthony's Shrine today on the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross I couldn't help but notice the first signs of autumn, the first red leaves I've seen on the trees along the highway. The Season is changing and so are we.

We have a new location for our meeting this month. See the great map Joan found to highlight the entrance off of Dorsey Rd onto Holy Cross Rd follow the arrow to the parking lot (see Legend) or turn at the first right on Holy Cross Rd into the Office parking lot where there is a wheelchair ramp if you cant manage a couple of stairs inside to the chapel.

Our new chapel centers our attention on the Cross of Christ as the priest mentioned today and in both cases it's the San Damiano Cross which is over the altar. Fr. Vinnie mentioned the upcoming parish trip to Jamaica that our Genny Wilbourne had gone on in the past.

Our new room in the "garage" annex lends itself nicely to our panel discussion of the questions from the Chapter of Mats that EIGHT members of our fraternity attended. I am sure they will be eager to share with you their excitement and enthusiasm from the Chapter and hear from you about "Who we were, Where We are Today and Where we are Headed" as a Secular Franciscan Order.

Our Porter is filled with new opportunities for growth in our Franciscan spirituality through zoom and webinar programs. Please check them out. See you soon.

Peace, love and joy, Judith

LIBRARY OF CONRAD BOOK CLUB

Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, so this month meeting is on September **17** at 2:00pm. Location will be at Audre's home in Arnold. We'll be discussing chapter 2 or ABBA'S HEART by Neal Lozano. Contact Denise for more information.

TREASURER'S REPORT – JOE MCHUGH

Thank you for your continuing generosity! ! !

July Balance		\$3,667.45
FFA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,567.45
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,467.45
St. John's Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,367.45
August Deposit/Balance	\$715.00	\$4,082.45

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 (includes Sabu family)

BUS - bus tokens for the Light House shelter clients

Phoenix – Phoenix Academy 'backpack' food

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – Denise Miente

Phoenix Backpacks: Startup date will be in October around the 16th. The school coordinator has asked if we could increase our "backpacks" from 20 to 24. She would like to split the bags between the Phoenix Academy and a sister school at Mary Moss at J. Albert Adams Academy (Clay Street, Annapolis). Bags would still be filled at Phoenix, and the coordinator would transport bags to Mary Moss at J. Allbert Adams Academy. Denise would like input from the fraternity to determine if we are interested in continuing this apostolate or wish to try something else.

Light House Shelter Lunches: Made 50 sandwiches on Thursday August 22nd at Catherine's and Paul's home. Next scheduled sandwich-making is on Thursday, September. 26th same time, same place.

Shelter Bus Passes: Next schedule purchase and delivery is for September 26th. Please continue to contribute monthly as our target is to purchase 150 all-day passes for the Lighthouse residents.

QUESTION 1
WHAT DOES IT REALLY SAY?

Elizabeth Kirk, J.D. Erika Bachiochi, J.D.

Webinar on the Reproductive Freedom Amendment
Sept. 23 | 8 p.m.
mdcatholic.org/voteno

MARYLAND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Join our experts for a live webinar, Question 1: What Does It Really Say?, on **Monday, September 23, at 8 p.m.** Learn more about the reproductive freedom ballot question that voters will face in the coming election and what it means for Maryland.

Panelists:

Elizabeth Kirk, J.D.

Assistant Professor of Law | Columbus School of Law
Co-Director | Center for Law and the Human Person

Erika Bachiochi

Fellow, Ethics & Public Policy Center
Senior Fellow, Abigail Adams Institute

Get the link (and recording after the live event):

www.mdcatholic.org/voteno

HIS PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I do not forget You. You know how easily I abandon You.

Stay with me Lord, because I am weak, and I need Your strength, so that I may not fall so often.

Stay with me Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervor.

Stay with me Lord, for You are my light, and without you, I am in darkness.

Stay with me Lord, to show me Your will.

Stay with me Lord, so that I hear Your voice and follow You.

Stay with me Lord, for I desire to love you very much, and always be in Your Company.

Stay with me Lord, if You wish me to be faithful to You.

Stay with me Lord, for as poor as my soul is, I want it to be a place of consolation for You, a nest of Love.

Stay with me, Jesus, for it is getting late, and the day is coming to a close, and life passes, death, judgment, eternity approach. It is necessary to renew my strength, so that I will not stop along the way and for that, I need You. It is getting late and death approaches. I fear the darkness, the temptations, the dryness, the cross, the sorrows. O how I need You, my Jesus, in this night of exile.

Stay with me tonight, Jesus, in life with all its dangers, I need You.

Let me recognize You as Your disciples did at the breaking of bread, so that the Eucharistic Communion be the light which disperses the darkness, the force which sustains me, the unique joy of my heart.

Stay with me Lord, because at the hour of my death, I want to remain united to you, if not by Communion, at least by grace and love.

Stay with me Jesus, I do not ask for divine consolation because I do not merit it, but the gift of Your presence, oh yes, I ask this of You.

Stay with me Lord, for it is You alone I look for, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more and more.

With a firm love, I will love You with all my heart while on earth and continue to love You perfectly during all eternity. Amen.

BLESSED SOLANUS CASEY, NOVEMBER 25, 1870 – JULY 31, 1957

From Catherine Gonzalez, ofs

We probably remember the great excitement around the Beatification of Venerable (July 11, 1995), Fr. Solanus Casey, OFM, Cap, in Detroit, Michigan on November 11, 2017. He lived and served most of his decades as a priest at St Bonaventures in Detroit.

However, I am getting ahead of myself. He was born into a very devout Catholic family, his parents were Secular Franciscans, it is very possible that Bl. Was as well. They were a very devout, simple, poor, hardworking, supportive family with FOURTEEN children. Two of his brothers were also priests of different denominations. These three brothers were very close. Bl. Solanus was also noted to have all of these family traits within himself, especially daily reception of Communion;

“Frequent Communion brings peace into a family and into the soul. It also fosters faith in God and heavenly relationships with all God’s dear ones in heaven”.

Daily Communion was such a driving force in his life. He was discerning to which order to apply. His call to the priesthood came from Mary following a novena to seek Our Lady's help. It was December 8, she said "Go to Detroit", which he knew meant the Capuchins. His grades stumbled in the seminary and he was considered academically not fit to be ordained. By the way, instruction was only in German. He did receive the Franciscan Habit as well as the tonsure. He was ordained a priest on July 24, 1904 as a 'simplex priest', one who may not hear confessions or preach doctrinal sermons. His simplicity was quickly recognized in his service for soup kitchens, non-Catholics, people of other races, the imprisoned, the poor, children and all who came to him. He delighted in serving as a sacristan where he was always close to our Lord. His humility is amazing from his two habits which he mended to mixing up the food on his plate into one and eating it as a penance for all that he received.

"If our love of God were really genuine, we would quite naturally love our neighbors as ourselves"

So, what about the porter job? Bl. Solanus served at other Capuchin parishes where he did open the door and had conversations with those who came seeking advice, before returning to Detroit. He would council the people to enroll in the Seraphic Mass Association (SMA) with a small donation which supported foreign missions under the care of the Capuchins, as well as to do something for the Lord. Bl. Solanus became so busy talking to people that a helper porter put a sign on the door in Detroit: Walk In. Bl. Solanus would bless the person and answer their prayer often with complete healing and bring them closer to God and the Catholic faith. There are many more of these healings.

When the epidemic of Polio struck many were cured, following a blessing and encouragement to do something for the Lord. some even before the person requesting healing returned home.

Six women came to Bl. Solanus who wanted to enter a religious novitiate. The superior decided that they needed to be a group of 12. Soon after more applied as postulants, and before the end of the year, 12 novices were invested.

Bl. Solanus could also comfort and always told what he knew to be truth. A wife came to see him and asked for prayers for her hospitalized husband. Bl. Solanus called the man's room and offered prayers of comfort. He then told the man "Now John I will be praying for you this evening. I am going to pray for a happy death". The following day the man died a happy, peaceful death, and his wife and family found peace, also. He was very prophetic.

"If you can honestly humble yourself, your victory will be certain"

An important step in the Cause for Canonization is the exhumation canonical of his body. After 30 years of burial his body was found to be 95% intact. Clothed in a new habit, his body is interred in a cement crypt beneath the floor, covered by glass. At St. Bonaventure's Church. Pilgrims have been coming ever since.

The quotes are from Bl. Solanus. I read two books about Bl. Solanus: 'Meet Solanus Casey' by Bro. Leo Wollenweber, OFM, Cap. This is a shorter, easier read. Another published by the Father Solanus Guild in 1968, it is titled 'The Porter of St. Bonaventure's', and written by James Derum. This book contains first-hand accounts of blessings by Bl. Solanus as well as more details.

"We want to be Christians –spouses of Jesus—risen glorified, of course, but without the cross"

UPCOMING ITEMS OF INTEREST

Franciscan Action Network (Fan): Webinar on September 19th

Please join Franciscan Action Network (FAN) for the first webinar of our 2024 Environmental Justice series, "Protect Oak Flat: Preserving Sacred Sites in Arizona from Mining" on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 7pm ET / 4pm PT.

FAN will welcome Vanessa Nosie of Apache Stronghold for a discussion about the religious tradition based in Oak Flat (AZ), the Apache experience with the Sacred, and how their nonprofit, Apache Stronghold, has built a legal case with religious communities across the nation to protect Oak Flat, a case which they are petitioning to the US Supreme Court. There will be time for Q&A and we will provide advocacy actions for you to take.

Registration for this event is free. If you are able, we ask that you please consider donating \$10, \$25, \$50 or any amount to help support FAN's continued environmental justice work. Thank you for your generosity!

The event will be recorded and sent to all who register.

800th anniversary of St. Francis' receiving the Stigmata.

Celebrate it by attending a national Zoom meeting:

Date: Sunday, **October 6, 2024**

Time: 3PM Eastern/2PM Central/1PM Mountain/Noon Pacific

Duration: 60-75 minutes

The Zoom meeting will include a talk on the Stigmata by Dr. Darlene Pryds, Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality and History at the Franciscan School of Theology, and a panel discussion featuring members of our national leadership. This will provide us with multiple perspectives on how Francis' experience connects to our lives as Secular Franciscans today.

The invitation to register for the Zoom event will be sent out **about September 15** so watch your email for additional information.

OCTOBER 12: WINE AT THE SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY, ELLICOTT CITY

Festivities will run from 1 pm to 6 pm and include a fun day of sampling beer and wine, live music, food trucks, hay rides, tours of Little Portion Farm, cooking and wine demonstrations, pumpkin picking and painting, and more! All proceeds from the event benefit Little Portion Farm and the Franciscan Center of Baltimore. Over the last five years, over 95,000 pounds of food have been harvested on the farm and donated to the Center to be used in their kitchen that serves hundreds of meals every day to those most in need. Your attendance at this event directly supports our continued collaboration!

For Tickets information and additional information including volunteering to help, see:

<https://www.wineattheshrine.org/>

OCTOBER 13: FRANCISCAN ACTION NETWORK'S 2024 FRANCISCAN JUSTICE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:

ACTING FOR PEACE, PEOPLE, PLANET

This is a half-day hybrid interactive program on Sunday, October 13 from 12:30-5:00pm EDT (9:30am-2:00pm PDT). The limited in person conference spots filled in no time at all but we're pleased to be able to offer a live-stream option so that you too may join this gathering of people across generations, the country, and the larger Franciscan family on October 12-15, 2024 in Washington, D.C.



CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT

2024 Feast of St. Francis Program

<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/programs/feast-of-st-francis/>




The Catholic Climate Covenant has compiled resources and materials from their valued partners and friends to assist you, your family, and

community are to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on October 4th (or another date that works for you and your community) with our 2024 Feast of St. Francis program, "Let Us Sow Hope." It's a 90-minute prayer and education program designed to inspire climate action, as it's the best path to sow climate hope. The program includes prayers, readings, small-group discussion questions, a suggested activity, and a short video. If you have any questions or need clarification on any aspect of the Feast of St. Francis program or on the Season of Creation resources, please contact Paz Artaza-Regan (Paz@CatholicClimateCovenant.org).

MJ PARKER'S *LITTLE FRIENDS FOR PEACE* <https://www.lffp.org/>

Answering violence with skills for peace since 1981

LFFP is dedicated to interrupting a culture of violence by teaching skills that prevent, resolve, and transform conflict. We believe that learning peace at any age can effectively counteract violence with tools for peace.

<p style="text-align: center;">The Peace Train</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Health is a state of body. Wellness is a state of being.</i> - J. Stanford</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">  Little FRIENDS For PEACE Peace Tool Card <i>Conflict Resolution</i> <small>For more, visit www.lffp.org.</small> </p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Using the Peace Train</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 1: Love Respect the one you struggle with.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 2: Stop Take time to cool down; get space if you need it.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 3: The Problem Both say the problem out loud. You may not have the same problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 4: Think Brainstorm different solutions. Think outside the box; no idea is bad at this point.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 5: Check Feelings See how each solution makes each person feel.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 6: Agree Use the solution that meets everyone's needs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Car 7: Celebrate Celebrate successful problem solving!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  Little FRIENDS For PEACE Peace Tool Card <i>Conflict Resolution</i> <small>For more, visit www.lffp.org.</small> </p>
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