

# The Porter

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

The Porter deadline for next issue is December 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](mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net).

<p><b>Fraternity Gathering</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Saturday, November 23, 2024</b>  <b>Mass at 8:30 in CHURCH followed by Gathering in the Annex</b>          The CHURCH IS LOCATED AT 7436 BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD, GLEN BURNIE  <b>Christ the King Annex is at</b>  <b>126 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD</b>          (Next to Monsignor Slade Catholic School)</p>
<p><b>Refreshments</b></p>	<p>Glen Burnie/Odenton/Pasadena area group  <i>Please remember to bring your coffee cup and appetite.</i></p>
<p><b>Prayer</b></p>	<p>Annapolis/Eastern Shore – LOH Saturday, 32<sup>th</sup> week of Ordinary Time.</p>
<p><b>Program</b></p>	<p>End of Life Issues <b>(WAKE AND BURIAL WISHES FORM INCL WAKE SERVICE INFO)</b></p>
<p><b>Prayer Requests</b></p>	<p><i>For those traveling to and from the CIOFS General Chapter from November 9-16, 2024 and for the success of the Chapter.</i>  <i>For physical and spiritual healing of:</i> Jude Dodge (stroke), Margaret Jackson, Ginesa Madar (Joe McHugh's niece, Audrey Donnelly, Jerry Mianta 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).</p>
<p><b>Birthdays</b></p>	<p>Jeanne Wilbourne – 11/12          Genny Wilbourne – 12/5</p>
<p><b>Profession Anniversaries</b></p>	<p>Susan Greif – 11/16/1997</p>
<p><b>Council Meeting</b></p>	<p>Friday, December 6<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm via Zoom</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p>	<p><b>March 29, 2025, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Day of Reflection for Inquirers and Candidates</b>          Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, 1400 NE Quincy St., DC.          Br. Michael Meza, OFM Cap will be the presenter. All are invited, especially those who are in initial formation— inquirers and candidates. Lunch is included.</p>



## Minister's Minute

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Praise God for the gift of Creation, the sun, the moon, the wind, the water, the fire and Mother Earth and all the colorful flowers and herbs. Have you ever thought about how many of St. Francis prayers are about PRAISE. This month we even are "praising God for our Sister Bodily Death, from who no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin, Blessed are those whom death will find in your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm." The Cantic of the Creatures by St. Francis.

At our fraternity meeting on Saturday we will be remembering our beloved dead whose names are listed in the Porter. Sometimes people don't like to talk about death, even avoid it, but being prepared for our own death can be helpful for family and friends and so at this meeting we will give you an opportunity to fill in or take home an OFS form entitled Wake and Burial Wishes. Did you know there is a Wake Service for Secular Franciscans? Do you have an Advanced Directive?

As we remember those who have gone before us we are thinking of the many widows and widowers in our Order. One of those we celebrate this month is our patroness, St. Elizabeth of Hungary whose feast is November 17<sup>th</sup>. She became a Secular Franciscan after becoming a widow. <https://www.franciscantradition.org/blog/saint-elizabeth-of-hungary-patroness-of-secular-franciscans-yzhxjj>

This theme of Rebuild My Church was the focus of some sharing at our last meeting that was a followup to the Chapter of Mats encouragement to think about our Mission as a fraternity. So when you think of following in St. Francis' footsteps as he was called to Go Rebuild My Church how do you think our fraternity is doing that? That was the question that was posed and these are some of the answers that were given...: we are active in our own parishes (11!!!) as lectors, LEMS, catechists. Prayer leaders, Bible studies, RCIA, food bank, homeless meals, PARISH VISITS, etc, etc.; we live our vocation with integrity with generosity to the needy: outreach to Light House, Phoenix Academy, street people, boxes to Seafarers; we are "lights" like Clare praying and supporting others; we are people of Hope and Joy in the world reaching out especially when down ourselves; we are understanding and listening because we don't know what burdens others are carrying and as Marie S. said "we pray like crazy etc etc. See the article Rebuild My Church in St. Anthony Messenger <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/st-anthony-messenger/faithfully-catholic-authentically-franciscan>

We agreed to close every meeting with the Prayer on p. 59 new Ritual book (from a Letter to the Entire Order) with renewed commitment to go forth empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Peace, love and joy, Judith

**ALMIGHTY, ETERNAL, JUST AND MERCIFUL GOD,  
GIVE US MISERABLE ONES THE GRACE TO DO FOR YOU ALONE WHAT WE KNOW YOU WANT US TO  
DO AND ALWAYS TO DESIRE WHAT PLEASES YOU. INWARDLY CLEANSED, INTERIORLY ENLIGHTENED  
AND INFLAMED BY THE FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY WE BE ABLE TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTPRINTS  
OF YOUR BELOVED SON, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND, BY YOUR GRACE ALONE, MAY WE MAKE  
OUR WAY TO YOU, MOST HIGH, WHO LIVE AND RULE IN PERFECT TRINITY AND SIMPLE UNITY,  
AND ARE GLORIFIED GOD ALMIGHTY, FOR EVER AND EVER.**

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, A LETTER TO THE ENTIRE ORDER IN FA:ED 1:120-121**

## DECEASED FRATERNITY MEMBERS

“Welcome, my sister Death! “

The celebration of the death of a Franciscan shows forth the same faith as that which Francis possessed: our belief that death is the gateway to total union with God.

In November, we take time to remember those in our fraternity family who have been born to eternal life.

1973	Fr. Edwin Dorzweiler, first Spiritual Director 1971-Nov 1972	2014	Mary Jeanette Hannon
1983	Carolyn O'Neil	2015	Helen Bradford
1991	Ed Walcsak	2016	Mary L. Cooke
1993	Joanne Patmore	2016	Anne Mercer
1998	Nancy Holthaus	2018	Barbara Elaine Petrisko
2002	Janet Kuebel	2018	Br. Saùl Soriano, our Spiritual Assistant at time of his death
2003	Dan Kuebel	2019	Jane Donohoe
2005	Paul Ralph	2019	Mary “Rita” Rossi
2006	Anne O'Donnell	2020	James Edward Holthaus
2008	Mary Ellen McGeehan	2021	Mary Henry
2008	Genevieve Welle	2021	Joan Robinson
2008	Pat Donahoe	2022	Genevieve Mary Moreira
2008	Sherry McGurk	2022	Patricia Troup
2008	Marshall Love	2023	Stephen John Corbis
2010	Marie Morris	2023	Edward F. Wilbourne
2012	Mary Ann Ellinghausen	2023	Carmen Delagado
2013	Linda Coyne	2024	Dianne Douglas
2013	Herman Ellinghausen	2024	Fr. Frank Yacobi, SA 1995-2001
2014	Joan Cornell Leckinger	2024	Evelyn Jones (affiliate)

## LIBRARY OF CONRAD BOOK CLUB

Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, so this month meeting is on **Tuesday, November 12 at 2:00pm**. Location will be at Audrey's home in Arnold. We'll be discussing chapter 4 of ABBA'S HEART by Neal Lozano. Contact Denise for more information.

## TREASURER'S REPORT – JOE MCHUGH

Thank you for your continuing generosity! ! !

There is one change from last month's which affected the ending balance. I had a \$100 payment with the label "Need Info". Since that payment was never sent, I added the \$100 back into the ending balance as reflected below.

September Ending Balance		\$3,647.45
FFA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,547.45
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,447.45
Catholic Charities	(\$250)	\$3,197.45
SFO Ashville, N.C.	(\$234)	\$2,963.45

**October Deposit/Balance**      **\$964**      **\$3,927.45**

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – Denise Miente

Phoenix Backpacks: Filled 24 bags on Tuesday, October 15th. Next bag-filing date is tentative on November 20th.

Light House Shelter Lunches: Made 50 sandwiches on Thursday October 24th at Catherine's and Paul's. Next scheduled sandwich-making is on Thursday, DECEMBER 26th. We do not make sandwiches in November due to Thanksgiving.

Shelter Bus Passes: Bought and delivered 200 all-day bus passes to the Lighthouse Shelter on Sept. 26th. Next Scheduled purchase and delivery is for December 26th.

*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

## CHARITY CORNER – WELLS4AFRICA

“Wells4Africa” was born in 2018 as a project of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European OFS-YouFra Congress. It’s mission: ensure the human right to water by drilling boreholes in poor African areas where the Franciscan Family is present. Thanks to the effort of the whole Secular Franciscan Order and additional benefactors, as of the end of 2022, 11 water projects have been fully implemented. One of the more recent projects is the Kanafa water project in Ethiopia.

Kanafa St. Francis parish is located 385 km away from Addis Ababa (capital of Ethiopia) with a population of more than 1,000 people. Ethiopia does not yet have a national level OFS and YouFra but Kanafa has a local OFS fraternity with the assistance of the Capuchin Province. Safe potable water was limited and most were forced to retrieve water from ponds. The poor quality of the water and lack of sanitation made the population, especially the children extremely vulnerable to diseases (diarrhea, typhoid, intestinal parasites). During the dry season, the ponds dry up and people were forced to travel 10-15 km to fetch water often of poor quality.

The goal of the Kanafa water project was to drill a 65-meter deep well, construct a hand pump, and fence the water point for hygienic reasons (to protect it from animals). The community established a WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) committee to mobilize the community to promote hygiene and sanitation and protect the water supply.

A video about the project can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ba9B34A0qtA>

For more information about Well4Africa see

<https://ciofs.info/2023/03/19/well4africa-news-and-annual-report-2022/>

## SECULAR FRANCISCANS HOLDING GENERAL CHAPTER IN ROME NOVEMBER 9-16, 2024

News / By [robert](#) / November 5, 2024

<https://ciofs.info/2024/11/05/secular-franciscans-holding-general-chapter-in-rome-nov-9-16/>

ROME, ITALY — Members of the Secular Franciscan Order from around the globe will meet in Rome from Nov. 9 to 16 for the order’s General Chapter.

“The theme of the Chapter is ‘You Are Love’, and based on that and other activities, we will establish priorities for the order for the next three years,” noted Minister General Tibor Kauser, OFS.

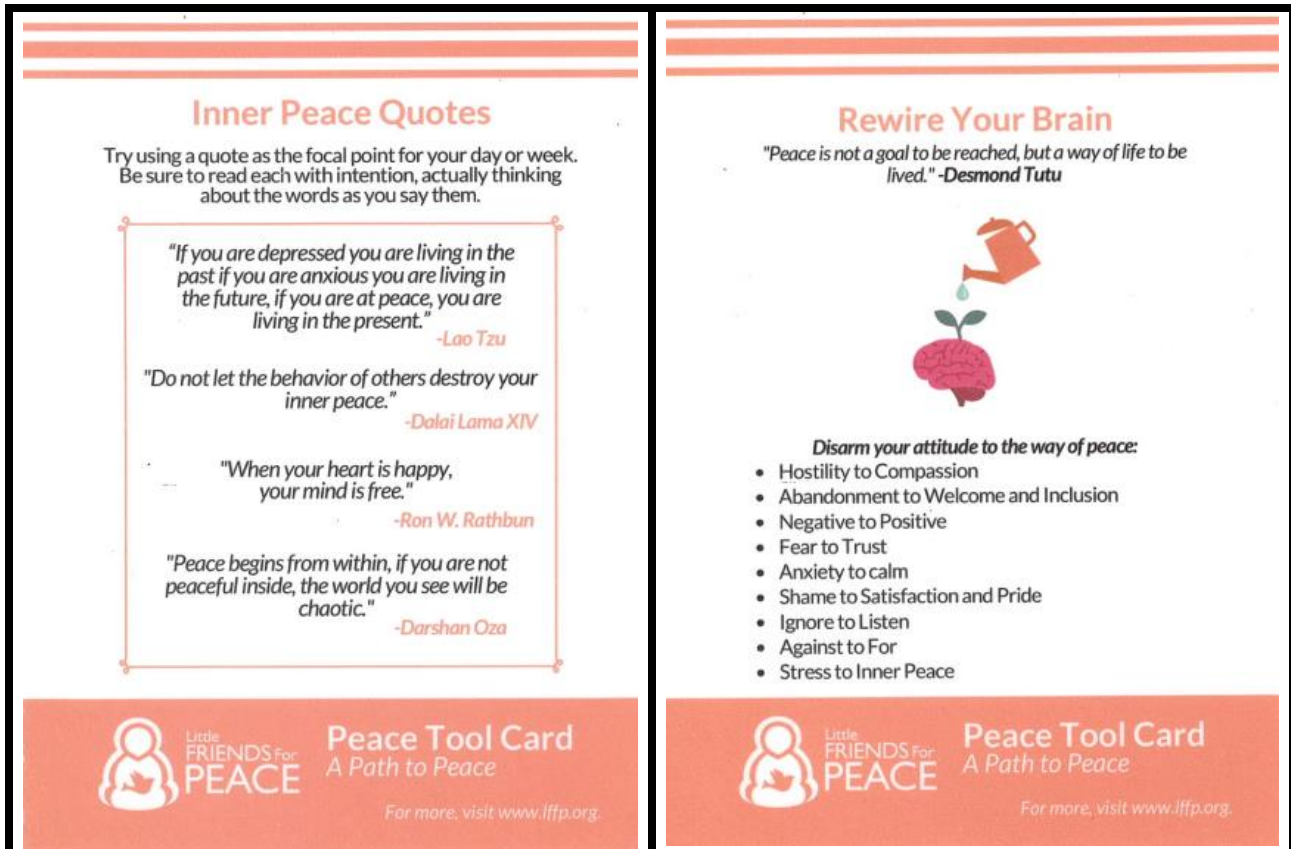
Delegates and observers from some 70 countries are expected to participate in the General Chapter, which is convoked every three years. Friars and religious sisters who serve as spiritual assistants to the order’s national and international fraternities will also be in attendance.

They will discuss the state of the Order, debate the direction of the Order for the next three years, vote on the Order’s updated international statute, listen to reports and inspirational messages, and break into various small groups to tackle action items.

Among a variety of presenters and panelists, Michèle Altmeyer, OFS, a theologian and catechist from France, will be the featured speaker on the central theme of “You Are Love.”

*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.



**The Buttermilk Prayer**

A pastor asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

"Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.

The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned.

Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

