

The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – March 2015
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

Council

Minister	Judith Tyrrell	(410) 721-7308	tyrrell@annapolis.net
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Volunteers

Historian	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	mariefrances14@outlook.com
Infirmarian	Evelyn Jones	(410) 827-9023	edjones56@verizon.net

The Porter deadline for the February issue is April 4th. Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting things that you think other members may enjoy to: Jean Gaes, 1824 Lang Drive, Crofton, MD 21114 or send by email.



Fraternity Meeting

**Saturday, March 14th. at St. John the Evangelist Church,
607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146
All are invited to attend the 8:30 Mass in the church.
Meeting will begin about 9:15am with refreshments.**

Refreshments



Refreshments will be provided by Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park. Remember to bring your own coffee cup! **Davidsonville will be next. Please take supplies home.**

Program



PROGRAM: HONORING THE DIGNITY OF LIFE IN SICKNESS AND DEATH

We have an 80-minute video presentation on the dignity of life in sickness and death which covers three major aspects:

Church Teachings by Fr. Daniel Mindling, OFM Cap.

Medical Care by Joan Panke – PC Provider and Nurse Practitioner

Legal Preparedness by Burke Balch – J.D., Director, Power Center for Medical Ethics

We encourage you to bring along your spouse/relative who may be involved in making these decisions.





Outreach Light House Shelter

Next Light House Shelter Lunch-making will be on Friday, March 13th. at 10:00AM at Joan Kvetkas' home in Annapolis. If you wish to join us, please contact Denise Miente by email or phone above. *Ongoing collection of money for bus tokens, diapers (sizes 4 and 5), flash drives, canned tuna or chicken, gift cards such as Target.*

Liturgy

Please bring your **Office Books!** We'll review how to pray Morning Prayer in common. Please see Minister's Minute for explanation of renewed effort to pray the Divine Office.

Prayer Requests 	Please pray our sick and/or homebound members: Jennifer (Mary Jo's daughter- in- law), Brigid Cobb, Joan Robinson, Pat Troup, Emilie (Genevieve Wilbourne's niece), Theresa Lawrence (Marie Shelton's sister), Pat Troup's grandson and granddaughter, grand-niece of Genny Wilbourne, Emily's grandson, Mary Cooke, Rita Rossi, Eileen, Mari, Dan, Tom, Brian and families (Mary Henry) Evelyn Jones (recent fall)
	March 4 – Joan Faltot, Br. John Paul Kuzma, Mary Henry, March 5 – Harry Thompson, March 19 – Sarah Ranke, March 20 – Susan Burns, March 25 – Jean Gaes, March 26 – Mary Cooke, April 6 – Mary Cicero, April 7 – Susan Greif, April 21 – Santa Ragot
Profession Anniversaries	Kathleen Sievers Mar 6, 1994
Treasury	Common Fund balance: 1122.16
Council Meeting	March 10 th .
Calendar March	Annual Recommitment to the OFS by all professed members and our affiliate. 9 th . Maryland March for Life- Annapolis see http://www.marylandmarchforlife.org/ 14th Our fraternity meeting (rescheduled to avoid conflict with Regional Chapter of Mats) 20-22 Regional Chapter of Mats at Priest Field (see November <i>Up to Now</i> for registration)

COMMUNITY

Minister's Minute: Brothers and Sisters of Penance (Conversion), As I look out at the beauty and purity of the white snow that is covering the yard I am thinking of the hope and the promise of the Spring that is soon to come. After this cold icy winter there will be the warmth and sunshine and new life of Springtime; after a long Lent there will be Easter. This promise of tomorrow gives us strength and courage to face the sorrows, disappointments, tragedies and the fears of today. Our TRUST is in HIM. Jesus is the source of all of the conversions we long for. We hear of the persecuted Christians and we remember St. Paul and what he did to Christians and how he was converted and became a Christian himself and we have hope. We see the life of St. Francis whose conversion story we read in the Testament (Ritual p.76) "The Lord granted me Brother Francis, to begin to do penance in this way: While I was in sin, it seemed very bitter to me to see lepers. And the Lord Himself led me among them and I had mercy upon them. And when I left them that which seemed bitter to me was changed into sweetness of soul and body;" and we see the hope for conversion in our own lives and we rejoice.

This week Brother Kip Ledger OFM Cap and Patrick Martin, Regional Minister, were present in Davidsonville for the Pastoral and Fraternal Visitation of the Newly Forming Group. They will both be at the Chapter of Mats March 20-22 and I hope you will keep all those attending in your prayers. The Formation lesson from the Journey was on the Prologue (Exhortation) to the Rule and Francis' challenge to us to choose a life of Penance or not, a life of unselfishness and love rather than the opposite.

Denise suggested to the group the Praying of the Office of the Passion, the Geste of the Great King, by Gallant and Cirino during Lent. Do you remember our Regional Workshop on this Office given by Fr. Andre Cirino OFM at OLF?

We will wish to begin our fraternity Program about End of Life issues promptly so we can have time for discussion following the DVD so we will eat during the presentation and close the meeting with the Office. We will be using OUR OFFICE BOOKS as this was requested by some of you on your Vision sheets and the Council agreed. We will use the format Br John Paul shared with us. pax et bonum, Judith

ps. See calendar for March for Life Annapolis (March 9th) information.

Praying for Peace! Pope Francis has said,

“We will not resign ourselves to imagining a Middle East without Christians.” Also there was an urgent recent appeal from the Guardian of the Franciscan Monastery: “Pray for the survival of Christianity in the Holy Land and for Christian communities there for whom life is often a daily struggle and peace elusive. Pray for the Sacred Places where Our Lord was born, lived, died, and rose again to be reserved.”

http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2014/07/13/pope_francis_appeals_for_peace_in_the_holy_land/1102837



The Fraternity Council is asking all of us to pray the Angelus together in spirit, each day at noon, to pray for peace. Our

Peace Cross is also continuing to circulate! Please make sure all materials are passed along– a new Pope Francis prayer has been enclosed. The Davidsonville group will be circulating the Cross after Annapolis.

PLEASE PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS:

Our Lady of the Fields had a Prayer Service for Persecuted Christians and we will be including those prayers with the Peace Cross. We just celebrated Paul Miki and companions recently and there were 15 Secular Franciscans among them. We also learned recently of two Polish Conventuals, Michal Tomaszek, Zbigniew Strzalkowski and a diocesan priest, Alessandro Dordi who have been approved to be Blessed Martyrs of Peru by the Cardinals' Committee and only await Pope Francis' approval.

C4C Care for Creation by Susan Burns, seburns318@comncast.net 410-245-0890

Plans are underway to expand the straw-bale garden at Our Lady of the Fields parish in Millersville. **The next meeting of C4C will be March 7, 9:15 am after the 8:30 am Mass.** Would you like to help with the garden, with the hives and honey extraction, or be a member of a garden team? Or maybe you would like to make a donation? The estimated cost is approximately \$2,000.

CALENDAR: MD MARCH FOR LIFE: MARCH 9, 2015

4:30pm Youth Rally with Kristan Hawkins, Students for Life

5:15pm Nondenominational Worship Service & Catholic Mass at St. Mary's Church, Annapolis MD

6:15pm Assemble in St. Mary's parking lot for march

6:30pm March through Annapolis

*** There is a shuttle available for those unable to walk**

7pm Rally at Lawyer's Mall

*** Signs with poles or sticks are not permitted**

8pm Chick-fil-A and fellowship back at St. Mary's

“LORD, TEACH US TO STEP OUTSIDE OF OURSELVES. TEACH US TO GO OUT INTO THE STREETS AND MANIFEST YOUR LOVE.” POPE FRANCIS