

The Porter

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







Council


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Volunteers

Historian	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	mariefrances14@outlook.com
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The Porter deadline for the October issue is October 6th. 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 to jrgofs@gmail.com

Fraternity Meeting 	Saturday, September 19th. at St. John the Evangelist Church, 607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146 in the Youth Room. Meeting will begin at 9:15am with refreshments, followed by a presentation about Bl. Junipero Serra and preparation for the visit of Pope Francis.
Refreshments 	Glen Burnie/Pasadena will supply breakfast. Please remember to bring a coffee cup! Annapolis will be next to take the supplies home, restock if necessary, & return them at the next meeting.
	Hope for All: Urgent needs of the homeless are constantly changing. We'll be having a collection basket each month for Hope for All (just as we do for the bus tokens we supply to the Lighthouse Shelter.) Thank you for your generosity!
Light House Shelter 	Shelter Lunch-making gathering will be on Thursday, Sep 24, at 9:30 a.m. at Joan Kvetkas' home. More dinners are planned but the dates are not yet finalized.
Liturgy	The Annapolis group will lead our prayer.
Council Meeting	Friday, October 9, 2015 at 7pm at the Tyrrell's
Prayer Requests 	For 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).
Birthdays 	9/3 - Denise Miente, 9/10 -- Mary Rita Rossi, 10/ 1 – Evelyn Jones, 10/8 – Brigid Cobb 9/25 Francis Proctor 9/14 Mary Rohde

 Profession Anniversaries	Carmen Delgado, Bob and Sarah Ranke- Sept. 11, 1986; Jean Gaes- Sept. 17, 1987; Genny Wilbourne, Mary Hannon, Denise Miante, Rita Rossi- Sept. 18, 2010; Joan Robinson-Oct. 4, 1971; Joan Kvetkas- Oct. 4, 1979; Louise Ryan- Oct. 4, 1982; Pat Tyrrell, Mary Cicero, Pat Troup- Oct. 10, 1996; Tessie Chitty- Oct. 11, 1998; Joan Faltot- Oct. 16, 1991
Treasury	Common Fund balance \$ 1703.00
Calendar September 19 September 20 September 22-27 September 22-25 October 3 October 17	FRATERNITY MEETING- TOPICS: JUNIPERO SERRA, POPE FRANCIS' VISIT REGIONAL PICNIC AT THE SHRINE OF ST.ANTHONY ELLICOT CITY MD –STARTS WITH MASS AT 12N VISIT OF POPE FRANCIS TO USA/ CANONIZATION OF JUNIPERO SERRA WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS 7pm at FRANCISCAN MONESTARY, QUINCY ST. NE, WASHINGTON, DC FRATERNITY MEETING/OPEN HOUSE

Minister's Minute

Brothers and Sisters of Penance, Happy Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. We rejoice today at the victory of Jesus over sin and death. It was a time of prayer for St. Francis this week as he did penance and suffered in the cave as he sought the Lord in deep prayer and he was blessed to receive the stigmata, the wounds of Christ which we remember on this Thursday. Let us join him in a spirit of prayer as we prepare for the visit of the Holy Father Pope Francis. May St. Francis pray for him as he carries the cross of the Church and is filled with the Spirit and the message he has to share with the people of the United States of America. May we have ears open to hear and hearts willing to obey the call to radical gospel living without compromise. He is also going to canonize Junipero Serra, the Franciscan missionary of California. Did you know there is a statue of him in the Capitol? Jeanie will be sharing with us about both of these events on Saturday.

At our Council meeting this past week our Spiritual Assistant Fr. Anil Gonsalves shared his need to pass the baton on to some new assistants who also joined us at that meeting. They are Br. James Watson who has visited our fraternity previously as you recall and Br. Tage Danielson. Both of them hope to join us at our fraternity meeting Saturday. They are both enthusiastic and willing to provide assistance in whatever way it is needed. We praise God for them.

Our fraternity rejoices at the many anniversaries of profession we have this month and pray for more vocations to the OFS. We hope that you have begun to invite people who may be drawn to follow St. Francis to our Open House in October. Please use OFS brochures you already have or look for more at the fraternity meeting to place in your church pamphlet racks with permission of your pastor (good opportunity to share with him what's going on in our fraternity). We will be sending out a letter to your parish asking for an announcement to be put in the bulletin. Please followup with your encouragement to get a pulpit announcement or other ways with poster, bulletin boards etc to get the word out. You might think about showing a St. Francis video for the feast, join in the pet blessing, adorn the statues of St. Francis with flowers, get the word out to celebrate St. Francis to CCD, have an OFS Parish Visit etc. Use your imagination.

Those who attended last year's Transitus (Oct 3rd) at the Franciscan Monastery say don't miss it!!! See info in the Porter. Let's carpool to get as many as possible to this celebration of St. Francis transition from death to life. The service begins in the church and ends with a candlelight procession to the Portiuncula, weather permitting. Our Brother James in on the Transitus committee.

See you this Saturday,

Pax et bonum, Judith

Ps. Did you know that the new chapel in the St. John Paul II Center is opening this month ?

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS: 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 Denise shared with us a project being done by Seculars at the World Meeting of Families for the persecuted Christians. Let us keep this effort in our prayers.



Did you know there is going to be a special environmental rally on the MALL on the day the Holy Father visits the Capitol, September 24th?

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/08/25/for-pope-franciss-d-c-visit-environmental-rally-of-up-to-200k-planned/>

<http://www.moralactiononclimate.org/>



Pope Francis is on his way! He visits Cuba Sept. 19-22 and the US Sept. 22-28.
Please keep him and his journey in your prayers. You learn about his agenda and follow his visit on these websites:

<https://walkwithfrancis.org/>

<http://www.popefrancisvisit.com/>

<https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/travels/2015/outside/documents/papa-francesco-cuba-usa-onu-2015.html>

***World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation
September 1, 2015
Our Lady of the Fields***



Pope Francis called for September 1 2015 to be a World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation. In support of the Pope's

request, there was a prayer service at Our Lady of the Fields. Deacon Tony Grillo presided. We were blessed with music, a cantor, and a lector and a number of participants. The readings were as follows:

Genesis 1: 1-28 – The Story of Creation – “God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.”

Psalms 145 – “Our God is compassion to all creation.”

Matthew 6:25-34 – Jesus does not deny the reality of human needs, but forbids making them the object of anxious care and, in effect, becoming their slave. (New American Bible, Saint Joseph Edition)

In his homily, Deacon Tony said that Jesus tells us to be more like the birds and the flowers that God created. We cannot improve upon the gift of Creation, it is perfect. But yet we seem to not be able to refrain from making our own mark on creation; using insecticides/pesticides, killing animals for sport, eliminating garden pests. Deacon Tony likened life on earth to a spaceship. We, all humans, are the passengers and we can only function as one, helping each other in life support, power, control and communications. St. Francis, Patron Saint of Ecology, lived that we are each part of one creation, that we all belong together, that God and man must work together, that we love all creation – God’s gift of love. No strange coincidence that our Pope took the name of St. Francis. We prayed together St Francis’ Canticle of the Sun and Prayer to Care for Our Common Home based on Pope Francis’ Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home

Canticle of the Sun

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord!
All praise is Yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.

To You, alone, Most High, do they belong.
No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all Your creatures,
especially through my lord Brother Sun,
who brings the day; and You give light through him.
And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor!
Of You, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars;
in the heavens You have made them bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,
and clouds and storms, and all the weather,
through which You give Your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Water;
she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom You brighten the night.
He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth,
who feeds us and rules us,
and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of You;
through those who endure sickness and trial.

Happy those who endure in peace,
for by You, Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Bodily Death,
from whose embrace no living person can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!
Happy those she finds doing Your most holy will.
The second death can do no harm to them.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give thanks,
and serve Him with great humility.

Prayer to Care for Our Common Home

Father of all,
Creator and ruler of the universe,
You entrusted your world to us as a gift.
Help us to care for it and all people,
that we may live in right relationship--
with You,
with ourselves,
with one another,
and with creation.

Christ our Lord,
both divine and human,
You lived among us and died for our sins.
Help us to imitate your love for the human family
by recognizing that we are all connected—
to our brothers and sisters around the world,
to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation,
and to future generations.

Holy Spirit,
giver of wisdom and love,
You breathe life in us and guide us.
Help us to live according to your vision,
stirring to action the hearts of all—
individuals and families,
communities of faith,
and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home.

Amen.

Don't forget the Transitus on 7PM Saturday Oct. 3rd. at the Franciscan Monastery in Washington DC!