

The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – April 2018
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>




Council


Minister	Patrick Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	jpatricktsfo@gmail.com
Vice Minister	Mary Henry, OFS	(443) 949-0600	mhenry933@gmail.com
Secretary	Joan Faltot, OFS	(410) 969-6354	jd6bouv@verizon.net
Treasurer	Kathleen Sievers, OFS	(410) 544-0618	esievers@verizon.net
Formation Director	Denise Miante, OFS	(410) 643-2782 (h) (410) 253-5555 (m)	rubob903@gmail.com
Counselor-at-Large	Judith Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com
Spiritual Assistants	Br. Diogo Escudero, OFM Cap. Br. Saùl Soriano, OFM Cap.		friardiogoofofmcap@gmail.com 39sorianorodriguez@cua.edu

Volunteers

Historian	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	marifrances14@outlook.com
Infirmarian	Evelyn Jones	(410) 827-9023	evelyn88jones@yahoo.com

The Porter deadline for the February issue is April 11. Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting things that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 8217 Grainfield Rd, Severn, MD 21144, or send by email (address above).

 Fraternity Meeting	NOTE THE CHANGE Saturday, April 21, 2018 NOTE THE CHANGE St. John the Evangelist, 607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146 NO MASS SATURDAY. Meeting 9:30 – Youth Room, School		
Program	Judith and Joan F. will speak on St. Conrad of Parzham's life and ministries, as this is his feast day and this year is the 200th anniversary of his birth (Dec 22)		
Liturgy	Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park – Feast of St. Conrad (Common for Holy Men; religious). Copies will be provided; no need to bring your Liturgy of the Hours or Book of Christian Prayer.		
 Refreshments	Annapolis/Eastern Shore. Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary. <i>Please remember to bring your own cup (and plate and silverware, if possible).</i>		
 Prayer Requests	<i>For the souls of:</i> Jennifer Fales (Susan Greif's great niece), her husband and 3 ½ yr old daughter, who were killed in a car accident in Pennsylvania in March <i>For our sick and/or homebound members:</i> (Please help us update this list.) Jeanne Gaes (sinus surgery), Jude Dodge, Genny Wilbourn's granddaughter Jessica, Al Gigel (regional councilor), Mary Musselwhite, Joan's husband Bill Kvetkas, Mandy (Kathleen Sievers' niece), Teri Egan, Denise Miante, Pat Troup, John Hoppa, Liz Spears.		
Outreach	For more information, contact Denise. Phoenix Academy Backpack Program: Wednesday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Thursday, April 26, 9:30 am, at home of Joan Kvetkas.		
Birthdays	Santa Ragot – 4/21 Catherine Gonzalez – 5/04	Audrey Donnelly – 5/06 Carmen Delgado – 5/07	

Profession Anniversaries	Jenny Moreira—05/08/1979 Jeanne Catrow—05/08/1979 Audrey Bushee—05/08/1979	Jeanne Wilbourne—5/15/1976 Ed Wilbourne—5/15/1976 Marie Shelton—5/19/2000
Treasury 	<p>Common Fund balance: \$ 646.75. Per capita tax (first half = \$575) has been paid to the Region. REMINDER - Please remember to use the memo line of your check to designate how you wish your contribution to be directed. There are 3 possible designations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India), • Phoenix Academy (for student weekend food backpacks), and • Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter clients). <p>You can write one check and direct your contribution to any or all three areas. Example: \$20 Com / \$10 Phoenix / \$5 Token. None of these amounts should be interpreted as being what is expected from any particular member. Cash contributions are also acceptable, but checks are preferred.</p>	
Council Meeting	Friday, May 11 at 9:30 am at the Tyrrells	
Upcoming Events		
April 21	Regional Elections. Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, Washington, D.C. Pat, as Minister, will attend to vote. Please pray for the nominees.	
June 29-July 1	Chapter of Mats. Priest Field Pastoral Center. Details and registration form are in the February issue of the Regional newsletter <i>Up To Now</i> emailed to you on or about Feb 16.	
July 12-15	8 th Summer Seminar for OFS, Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA “Francis the Troubador: How Can I Keep From Singing” presented by Jerry & Cricket Aull, OFS and Br. Bob Herrick, OFM Cap. Registration deadline: June 25. https://www.francis.edu/News/2018/02/Secular-Franciscan-Summer-Seminar/	
July 13-15	OFS Conference at St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY July 13-15, 2018 Becoming Prayer, Becoming Presence: A Workshop for Secular Franciscans Cost for conference, three nights lodging and all meals on campus, approx. \$400. More info and registration at http://www.sbu.edu/about-sbu/sbu-campus-maps-directions/franciscan-institute/summer-Fall-2018-programs	
Sept 1	Our Spiritual Assistant, Br. Saùl Soriano, OFM Cap. has requested that he be ordained to the Diaconate on September 1 at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in DC. More info to follow later.	

COMMUNITY



Minister’s Minute: *Dear brothers and sisters in the LORD,*

Lent is gone and Easter came and continues until Pentecost launches us back into Ordinary Time. But Ordinary time can become extraordinary time if we seek to do God’s will by being Jesus for others and seeing Jesus in others and serving all our sisters and brothers. Our way to holiness is how we live our journey. I hope you’ve had a chance to read some of Pope Francis’ new Apostolic Exhortation, *Rejoice and Be Glad*. He makes lots of sense and tells us how simple holiness can be.

“We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case.... Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife.... Do you work for a living? Be holy by laboring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority?

Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain (14). Your identification with Christ and His will involves a commitment to build with Him that kingdom of love, justice and universal peace (25). We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action, and to grow in holiness by responsibly and generously carrying out our proper mission (26). Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest self. To depend on God sets us free from every form of enslavement and leads us to recognize our great dignity (32). Do not be afraid to set your sights higher, to allow yourself to be loved and liberated by God. Do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit. Holiness does not make you less human, since it is an encounter between your weakness and the power of God's grace. For in the words of León Bloy, when all is said and done, "the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint" (34).

I won't see you at Saturday's meeting, but please pray for the Regional Council Election I will be attending that day at the Franciscan Monastery. At the fraternity meeting, you will be hearing about St. Conrad of Parzham, our patron namesake. His Feast is that day and this year we celebrate the 200th anniversary of his birth on December 22. Also at the meeting, the fraternity will be bidding farewell to Susan Burns (at least temporarily), who has recently reported that she is leaving Maryland on May 2, and will be in South Dakota for six months, followed by six months in Florida. We thank Susan for her devotion to caring for Creation—both the FAN C4C course she offered at Our Lady of the Fields and for her many submissions to the Porter on C4C issues—as well as establishing a garden at OLF which provides large amounts of fresh vegetables to the poor in Baltimore, and establishing a ministry at OLF to market fair-trade coffee, tea, and coffee. We also want to remember the way she always challenged us to live lives that are more gentle to Sister Earth and all Creation. Pat

JPIC -- JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION

Animator Judith Tyrrell, OFS

There are several JPIC issues that come to mind as I start to share with you today. I think about the attack on Syria to end/deter the atrocious chemical warfare and the plight of the Syrian refugees and I pray this prayer for peace from JP II "Mary Queen of peace save us all who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred and oppression. Make us learn to live in peace and educate ourselves for peace, do what is demanded for justice and respect the rights of every person so that peace may be established. Amen."

I think of Martin Luther King's 50th Anniversary of his assassination and thank God for the opportunity to share in the Ecumenical and Interfaith Prayer Service held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen this week. MLK had said "I can only close the gap in a broken community by meeting hate with love." Our community of Baltimore is broken and needs healing. May Peace flow like a River through our streets. Archbishop Lori said, "Hope conquers fear. We need a city of great neighborhoods not violence." See his Pastoral Letter on the Enduring Power of Dr. King's Principles of Nonviolence. Pastor Warnock from MLK's church said, "You cannot blame the poor for their poverty. If you can't love the poor you can see, how can you love the God you cannot see." "We are brothers and sisters called to dwell together in unity."

April 22 is EARTH DAY and I am thinking about how am I going to celebrate that day. Check our email for the Earth Day events this week BEFORE EARTH DAY and on Earth Day (Sunday) at Quiet Waters 10-4. Often Pat and I have gone to local exhibits, the NASA one at Union Station (19th 9-5 and 20th 9-4pm) focuses on changes in the planet globally with talks on the hour and engaging in hands on activities like making a cloud, footprint chart, UV beads and handy sack for the info sheets etc , or to Ft. Meade (19th 10-1 at Pavillion on Burba Lake) with its hands-on and creature displays-the oysters, the snakes and bee exhibit even a parade of costumes using recyclables, or in Annapolis Quiet Waters Park (10-4) natural habitat and this year with live wildlife and 20 "green" organization booths, trash to treasure yard sale and invasive plant removal info and native plants info and then there is the Care for Creation garden at Our Lady of the Fields, Millersville. I read an article in the Post entitled "Studies find weaker Atlantic currents" that spoke of changes in the ocean's circulation affecting weather patterns (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2018/04/11/the-oceans-circulation-hasnt-been-this-sluggish-in-1000-years-thats-bad-news/?utm_term=.f5c682e8f58b). It was a bit disturbing since it sounded like the movie *Day After Tomorrow* come to life. How are you contributing to global warming? How are

you Caring for Creation in your neighborhood? Bags, bottles, fertilizer, water use, land use, etc.

We all know that song “Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me”. Our Holy Father in his new Apostolic Exhortation *Rejoice and Be Glad—a Call to Holiness in Today’s World*” is reminding us that the place to begin is with ourselves by growing in virtue and looking to the saints who are role models for us – and to those next door, in our families, in our parish. We say farewell to Susan Burns who has been such a model in the Care for Creation and is leaving the area. May God bless her in her new ministry.

From our Adopted Family in India (Franciscan Family Apostolate)

Dear loving friends,

First of all let us take this chance to wish you and your dear ones “A Happy Easter.” May the Risen Lord bless you on this auspicious day of Easter, and may it be a new beginning of greater prosperity, success and happiness.

Received your timely assistance and thank you very much for the same. I am happy to inform you that my elder daughter’s marriage is on 7th May. I am inviting you all for the wedding. Bridegroom’s name is Binu and he is a mason. I am going for menial works in a hospital. I am busy for the marriage, before the marriage I could arrange everything. The dowry is eight sovereigns of gold and five cents of land as gift. My younger daughter is in 12th grade and she is preparing for the annual exam. My father-in-law has old age sickness and mother-in-law is a filarial patient. [Filarial is microscopic, thread-like worms which infect the human lymph system.] Both of them are staying with us. The summer season has started and it is too hot.

Once again thanking you for your love and concern towards us. Give our loving regards to your dear ones. We are remembering you all in our daily prayers.

Jancy Sabu

Update on financial assistance for the wedding:

The cost of the dowry was discussed at our last fraternity meeting and whether additional financial assistance would be sent from our fraternity. Based on the input from fraternity members, the council has decided that no additional support will be sent by the fraternity from the common fund. Our fraternity will continue to send our normal \$100/month to Franciscan Family Apostolate (FAA) to support the family.

To date, we are aware that six fraternity members donated \$535 to FFA for wedding expenses. Since this is only about 10% of the needed amount, we ask that you consider supporting the family in this expense, too.

Those individuals who would like to extend financial assistance, either on a one-time or a continuing basis, can do so by making a donation to FAA and indicating that the donation is for **family #1178**. Mail your check to:

Franciscan Family Apostolate
93 Country Way
Madison, CT 06443

You can also donate via the website (PayPal) or call the FFA office in Connecticut and donate over the phone. These options are explained in greater detail at <https://franciscanfamilyapostolate.org/shop/how-to-support-a-program/>.

Just remember to indicate the donation is for family #1178. If you have additional questions, contact FFA: at **(203) 915-2837** or email at ffaindia@att.net.

What's Up in the Neighborhood and Elsewhere

Heavenly Earth: Images of St. Francis at La Verna - until July 8, 2018

National Gallery of Art, West Building, Ground Floor – Gallery 22 (just inside the 7th St entrance)

Exhibition of Franciscan imagery spanning the 15th through 18th centuries that showcases the *Descrizione del Sacro Monte della Vernia* (1612), a bound volume that depicts the monastery and rocky terrain of La Verna, the site where St. Francis received the stigmata. This exhibition contains approximately almost 30 paintings, drawings, and etchings of the experience of Saint Francis on Mount La Verna and other Franciscan subject matter. You can see more information and some of the images at <https://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/2018/heavenly-earth-images-of-st-francis-at-la-verna.html>.



Annual Multicultural Parish Festival at Our Lady of the Fields Parish

Sunday, June 3rd

Archbishop Lori is scheduled to celebrate the 12:30 Mass (Feast of Corpus Christi) followed by a procession of saints. Parishioners are encouraged to bring statues and pictures of favorite saints. International food will be available for purchase for late lunch outside at the pavilion.

St. Anthony Festival featuring Dr. Scott Hahn – June 9, 2018, 11:00am – 6:00pm

Shrine of St. Anthony, 12290 Folly Quarter Rd, Ellicott City, MD

The 8th Annual St. Anthony Festival will be held on Saturday June 9th from 11am.-6pm. The day includes talks, Masses, Confessions, Adoration, Food, children's activities, and more. Admission is free. The Featured Speaker is Dr. Scott Hahn. Don't forget your lawn chairs or blankets!

11:00am.	Dr. Scott Hahn, 1st Talk
12 noon	Mass (Outdoors)
1:00pm.-4:00pm.	Confession & Adoration (in the Shrine Chapel)
1:00pm.	Lunch available for purchase (or you may bring your own)
2:00pm.	Dr. Scott Hahn, 2nd Talk
2:00pm.-3:30pm.	Children's Activities
4:30pm.	Closing Vigil Mass with Eucharistic Procession

For further information please contact the Shrine office at 410-531-2800 or info@shrineofstanthony.org.

Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, June 19-27, 2020

Travel with Archbishop William E. Lori, Father Michael Foppiano and Father Jim Proffitt (Pastor at St. John the Evangelist where we meet) on a nine-day, seven-night pilgrimage to Austria and Germany, culminating in this spectacular performance in Oberammergau. The Passion Play is performed there every 10 years (and has been since 1634) in a continuing thanksgiving to fulfill a promise made after the town was spared from the Bubonic plague in 1633.

Land-only price is projected at \$3,399 per person, double occupancy. This price does not include airfare; group airfare rates will be offered when it becomes available. By paying a small deposit now, you will be guaranteed a reservation in November 2018 when the final land-only tour package price is announced and registration formally opens. Your \$200 deposit is fully refundable until Jan. 7, 2019.

For more information see: <https://www.archbalt.org/passionplaypilgrimage/>

Or call (866) 468-1420. In case the dates above aren't good for you, note that the Passion Play runs five days per week from May 16 to October 4, 2020 and there are many options for pilgrimages to the beautiful village of Oberammergau.

OFS Conference at St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY July 13-15, 2018

Becoming Prayer, Becoming Presence: A Workshop for Secular Franciscans

Facilitator: Br. Richard Hendricks, O.F.M., Cap., guardian of the Ards Friary and Retreat Centre in Donegal in the North West of Ireland.

Br. Richard, an Irish Capuchin Franciscan, for the past 20 years has taught the practice of meditation in the Christian contemplative tradition and has evolved a number of programs teaching meditation and mindfulness to young people through the Sanctuary Spirituality Centre in Dublin.

St. Francis is often described as one who not so much prayed as became prayer! Following this path is to walk the way of transformation through prayer as taught by Francis, Clare and so many of the Franciscan saints. This workshop will look at renewing our sense of the Divine Presence in our lives and practical methods for establishing contemplative space as Franciscans today.

Cost for conference, three nights lodging and all meals on campus, approx. \$400. More info and registration at <http://www.sbu.edu/about-sbu/sbu-campus-maps-directions/franciscan-institute/summer-Fall-2018-programs>

CARE FOR CREATION

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Days in Anne Arundel County

http://www.aacounty.org/services-and-programs/household-hazardous-waste-drop-off-days#HHW_Special_Note

Unless used and disposed of according to directions, household chemicals present a threat to the environment. Special handling is required to dispose of them properly. Materials collected are recycled or disposed in hazardous waste landfills or incinerators. A licensed private company under contract to the County provides these services.

New disposal chambers at the Millersville landfill, called "cells", are not only double-lined, but include a system that collects any liquids (leachate) which pass through the trash. This liquid still must be removed, treated, and disposed of at a County water reclamation facility. Despite advances in landfill management that minimize environmental risk, it is still important that the waste stream be rid of wastes that are hazardous.

- Drop-off hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (at all locations and all dates).
- For questions and comments on household hazardous waste drop-off days call (410) 222-7951.
- Be prepared to show an Anne Arundel County driver's license and registration.

5-19-18	Millersville Landfill & Resource Recovery Facility	389 Burns Crossing Road; Severn, MD 21144
6-09-18	Northern Recycling Center	100 Dover Road; Glen Burnie, MD 21060
7-21-18	Southern Recycling Center	5400 Nutwell Sudley Road; Deale, MD 20751
9-15-18	Millersville Landfill & Resource Recovery Facility	389 Burns Crossing Road; Severn, MD 21144

At the landfill, trained personnel will ask you to remain in your car while they unload the HHW from your trunk. To make unloading safe for staff and fast for you: Tightly secure all container lids to avoid leaks and spills then set your HHW in plastic totes or boxes to contain accidental spills during transport. Transfer large amounts of fuel into travel-safe gas cans so staff can empty them and return them back to the owner for reuse. Keep materials in their original packaging, when possible, and label any material that had to be packed in alternative containers. Never mix different types of HHW in one container. Secure your material in your vehicle's trunk, backseat or truck bed, to keep it safely away from passengers during transport. Make sure items can be easily accessed.

Partial list of materials accepted:

Oil-based paints Staining agents Paint solvents Pesticides Pool chemicals	Household and automotive cleaners Motor oil (mixed with water, fuel or other product) Antifreeze (mixed with fuel or other fluid) Gasoline, Kerosene and other fuels Freon and other refrigerants	Mercury thermometers Button Batteries Fluorescent lights (tubes & bulbs) Mercury vapor lamps
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