



The Porter

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

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The Porter deadline for the February issue is March 8. 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

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Day of Recollection with St. Francis Fraternity

Led by: Brothers Dave Domanski, Diogo Escudero & Saül Soriano, OFM Cap.

Capuchin College, 4121 Harewood Rd NE, Washington, DC.

Bring your Ritual Book, Bible, & Liturgy of the Hours

8:30 Mass & morning prayer with reflection from friar after communion (Talk #1)

Breakfast & social to follow

10:00 Eucharistic Adoration and Talk #2

12:00 Lunch provided by St. Francis fraternity

1:00 – 2:00 Talk #3 and discussion

Refreshments



Our fraternity (Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park) will provide juice, muffins, yogurt, cookies, and fruit as requested by St. Francis Fraternity, which will provide coffee, tea, and snacks and a simple lunch. Glen Burnie/Pasadena will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary. *Please remember to bring your own cup (and plate and silverware, if possible).*

Liturgy

Morning Prayer will be incorporated into the Mass. Pages for the 4-volume will be posted on the left wall of the Chapel. Presumably Saturday after Ash Wednesday, Week 4

Prayer Requests



For our sick and/or homebound members: (Please help us update this list.)

Mary Musselwhite, Joan's husband Bill Kvetkas, Mandy (Kathleen Sievers' niece), Teri Egan, Denise Miante, Jude Dodge, Pat Troup, John Hoppa, Liz Spears, Jackie Moritz (Susan Burn's sister)

Outreach

Phoenix Academy Backpack Program: Thursday, February 15 at 2:15 p.m.

Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Sandwich-making will be Thursday, February 22, 9:30 am, most likely at home of Joan Kvetkas. For more information, contact Denise.

Birthdays	Susan Burns—03/02 Joan Faltot—03/04 Mary Henry—03/04	Harry Thompson—03/05 Anne Marie Passagno—03/14 Adam Jentilet—03/14
Profession Anniversaries	Kathleen Sievers—03/06/1994	
Treasury	 <p>Common Fund balance: \$837.75 <u>REMINDER</u> - 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). <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	Monday, March 5 at 1:00pm at Tyrrells	
Upcoming Events		
March 3	39 th Annual Social Ministry Convocation at Mercy High School, Baltimore; 8am – 4pm. More info below or https://www.eventbrite.com/e/39th-annual-social-ministry-convocation-tickets-42435861805	
April 21	Regional Elections. Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, Washington, D.C.	
June 29-July 1	Chapter of Mats. Priest Field Pastoral Center. Details and registration likely in the Regional newsletter <i>Up To Now</i> , normally issued in the middle of February.	
July 12-13	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/	

COMMUNITY



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

Thanks for your prayers for the council’s planning session on February 3, at Capuchin College. Our theme for this year is *Called to Live the Rule*, which was inspired in part by the National Fraternity’s similar theme for the year. We have obtained extra little red rule books (which are now orange) for your use and I previously sent a pdf or link to printable Rule cards to use as a daily reminder to read the Rule. That pdf is attached to the email version of this Porter. The more you get to know and understand the Rule, the more you can live the Rule. So, while our schedule for the year will not have very many sessions devoted just to the Rule (you had one already in January and will learn about the history of our Rule in June), your knowledge of the Rule will help you see how you might live the Rule more fully and appreciate how good works grounded in the Will of God can help bring about His Kingdom in our midst.

I don’t know about you, but I thought January sped by more quickly than many past ones, but not as fast as December did. Advent was as short as it possibly can be—three weeks and a day. And now we are going right in to Lent on Wednesday! I’ve often heard that Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I’m going to pray for good use of my time. We can fast from food, but we can fast from other things that free up time. So, what will I fast from to give myself more time to pray? What will you fast from to give yourself more time to pray?

God loved us first and a daily personal prayer time is one way we can return that love. Prayer deepens our relationship with God. He's always calling us back into relationship. "Remain in Me," he says (you will hear more about this from Br. Diogo at our March meeting), but we stray and He calls and we return. One of the best ways to return to Him is to pray, that is, spend time with Him. Rule 8 says, "...let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all [you] are and do." And as Franciscans we know that daily conversion requires us to turn back to Him each and every day (see Rule 7: "Human frailty makes it necessary..."). Fasts can also give us time for other forms of prayer including the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass (see another part of Rule 8). And among other things, fasting can provide us more time to build the Kingdom of God (Rule 14), promote justice (Rule 15), and seek and find Him in others (Rule 13). In other words, the fasts of this kind can give us time to look at the Cross, live our Rule, and love our neighbor.

I hope to see all of you Saturday at Capuchin College for our Lenten Day of Recollection, hosted by St. Francis fraternity.
Pat



DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE LARGE BOWL IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH?

This bowl has been a stowaway in the containers used to transport out fraternity supplies for the past few months. Joan F. will have it them at our fraternity meeting. Please see her or contact her if you recognize the large bowl. Unclaimed item will be donated to Goodwill if not claimed by the meeting date.

JPIC -- JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION

Animator Judith Tyrrell, OFS

EWTN: BAKHITA-PATRONESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY

Dramatic life of Josephine Bakhita, Sudanese-born slave who became a nun in the Order of the Cannossian Sisters and was canonized by Saint John Paul II.

Part 1: Saturday 2/17/2018 8:00 PM; repeats Monday 2/19/2018 1:30 AM

Part 2: Saturday 2/24/2018 8:00 PM; repeats Monday 2/26/2018 1:30 AM

VIOLENCE ENDS WHERE LOVE BEGINS----HAPPY ST. VALENTINES DAY—MAY WE SPREAD CHRIST'S LOVE AND PEACE EACH AND EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR. ST. MAXMILLIAN KOLBE SAID "HATE DESTROYS LOVE CREATES" MAY WE LOOK FOR CREATIVE WAYS TO BRING THAT LOVE IN A WORLD HUNGERING FOR IT. MAY WE BE THOSE PEACEMAKERS THAT OUR BISHOPS CALLED US TO WITH THESE PEACE THOUGHTS:

Respect for human life is the starting point for confronting a culture of violence.

We believe our faith in Jesus Christ gives us the values, vision and hope that can bring an important measure of peace to our hearts, our homes and our streets.

Peacekeeping and peacemaking are the most urgent priorities for a new world.

We must confront this growing culture of violence with a commitment to life, a vision of hope and a call to action.

Violence is overcome day by day, choice by choice, person to person. All must make a contribution.

People can become peacemakers in their homes and communities.

The family is the key to the development of positive values including peacemaking.

Families need to talk about how violence affects each member, the family itself and their neighborhood and to discuss ways of responding in a nonviolent manner.

The best antidote to violence is hope. From the Bishops Pastoral message "Confronting a Culture of Violence"

See the documentary provided by Br. Diogo about child slavery in sugar production: *The Price of Sugar* at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=id7ugtEyl_8

39th Annual Social Ministry Convocation (SMC)

Sat, March 3, 2018
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM EST
Mercy High School
1300 East Northern Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21239
Cost \$15 includes lunch



The theme *Justice and Mercy: NOW!* exemplifies the sense of urgency we all feel and is a call to act **now**. Start with attending the SMC and let it inspire your next steps towards justice for all.

Workshops will be available in English and Spanish, and include topics such as exploring parish social ministry, finding common ground between Pro-Life and Pro-Peace advocates, immigration, tools for advocacy, and more!

Schedule

8am-9am Registration, Awards Breakfast,
& Social Ministry Fair
9am-9:30am Welcome & Opening Prayer
9:30am-10:45am Keynote Address
10:45am-12pm AM Workshops
12pm-1pm Lunch & Social Ministry Fair

1pm-2:20pm PM Workshops
2:20pm-3:30pm Awards Ceremony &
Closing Prayer Service
3:30pm-4pm Optional Solidarity Demonstration
(weather permitting)

Workshops

For Full workshop information:

<http://www.catholiccharities-md.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/PSMConvocationSeminarBrochureMailer2018.pdf>

#1 Pro-Life and Pro-Peace Advocates in the Parishes: Exploring Common Ground John Whitehead, Consistent Life; Joanna Coughlin, Archdiocese of Baltimore Respect Life Office; AM only: Bishop Mark E. Brennan

#2 Inmigración y Sus Derechos 2.0 (por la mañana/AM only) Mikhael Borgonos, Catholic Charities Esperanza Center; Giuliana Valencia-Banks, Catholic Charities Esperanza Center

#3 Immigration 101 (PM only) Mikhael Borgonos, Catholic Charities Esperanza Center; Giuliana Valencia-Banks, Catholic Charities Esperanza Center

#4 Concentrations of Under-Resourced Communities – Why? What can we do? Rev. Derrick DeWitt, Rev. Clyde Harris, and Fr. Ray Bomberger, Clergy United for the Transformation of Sandtown

#5 LGBT and the Welcoming Church Fr. Joe Muth, St. Matthew; Fr. Jim Casciotti, St. Ignatius

#6 Understanding Implicit Racial Bias Sr. Gwynette Proctor, SND, Archdiocese of Baltimore Office of Black Catholic Ministries

#7 Reviving an Old Alliance: Baltimore Catholics and Organized Labor Fr. Ty Hullinger, Interfaith Worker Justice; Terry Cavanagh, SEIU MD/DC

#8 Navigating Politics Today Dana Davenport, Catholic Charities Parish Social Ministry

#9 Salt and Light: The Glue between Social Justice and Outreach (AM only) Allison Stone, Catholic Charities Mission Integration

#10 Justicia Social en la Parroquia (por la mañana/AM only) Rev. Bruce Lewandowski, Sacred Heart of Jesus

#11 The Catholic Nonviolence Initiative and the Recent UN Nuclear Weapons Abolition Treaty Dr. Eli McCarthy, Conference of Major Superiors of Men

#12 The Kingdom of God on Earth: Building A New Society Brian Dolge, Catholic Community of Relay

#13 After Incarceration, Recovery, and Long-term Unemployment: A Fresh Start Anthony Thomas, University of Maryland Peer Recovery Specialist; Members of Turn-Around Tuesdays

#14 Advocacy: Let Your Voice Be Heard!/Abogacía: ¡Que se escuche tú voz! (English – AM/En Español por la tarde) Katharina Acosta, Maryland Catholic Conference; Dulce Gamboa, Bread for the World; Mary Beth Iduh, Catholic Relief Services

#15 Entrega de Vida Cristiana, en la mission por Cristo (por la tarde/PM only) Rev. Roger Brito, Hispanic Parochial Vicar

PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION

From Susan Burns

Go to cac.org/sign-up to receive sign up daily, weekly, or monthly, email messages from the *Center for Action and Contemplation*.

Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation, *From the Center for Action and Contemplation*

Week Six -- Sermon on the Mount

Blessed Are the Peacemakers -- February 6, 2018

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be recognized as children of God. —Matthew 5:9

In Jesus' teaching and in his life, we see modeled nonviolent, peaceful action. He encourages us to likewise "turn the other cheek" and not return vengeance with vengeance. There is no way to peace other than through peacemaking itself. But many think we can achieve peace through violence. We say, "We will stop killing by killing." Sadly, that is the way we think, and it is in opposition to all great religious teachers. Our need for immediate control leads us to disconnect the clear unity between means and ends.

American Christians supported the killing of two hundred thousand people in Iraq during the Persian Gulf War and still dare to call themselves pro-life. Many Christians support the violent, unjust Israeli occupation of Palestine. We name a missile that is clearly meant for destruction of human lives a "peacekeeper." I could list many other examples. The peace we are keeping is a false peace. Jeremiah the prophet would say to our "peacekeeping" wars what he said to the leaders of Israel:



. . . Peace! Peace!

Whereas there is no peace.

They should be ashamed of their loathsome deeds.

Not they! They feel no shame,

They do not even know how to blush. (Jeremiah 8:11-12)

Do we have any idea of all the slavery and oppression, all the killing, the torture, all the millions of people who have existed around the edges of every empire so those at the center of the empire could say they had peace? Every time we build a pyramid, certain people at the top will have their peace. Yet there will be bloody bodies upon which their security is built. Those at the top are usually blind to the price of their false peace.

War is a means of seeking control, not a means of seeking peace. Pax Romana is the world's way of seeking control and calling it peace. In ancient times, the citizens who lived in the city of Rome thought they had peace. Violence, you see, will always create more violence. It is not real peace.

As Pope Paul VI reflected, "If you want peace, work for justice." [1]

John Dear, an internationally known voice for peace and nonviolence, says that as Christians, "We cannot support war, participate in war, pay for war, promote war, or wage war." It is our responsibility to work to "end war and create

peace to be a peacemaker." [2]

How can we be peacemakers? It begins by being peace ourselves, by connecting with the source of peace within. It means standing up in nonviolent resistance to systems of injustice. It involves learning the skills of nonviolent communication and conflict resolution.

Gateway to Presence:

If you want to go deeper with today's meditation, take note of what word or phrase stands out to you. Come back to that word or phrase throughout the day, being present to its impact and invitation.

[1] Pope Paul VI, Message for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 1972. http://w2.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/messages/peace/documents/hf_p-vi_mes_19711208_v-world-day-for-peace.html

[2] John Dear, The Beatitudes of Peace: Meditations on the Beatitudes (Twenty-Third Publications: 2016), 89-90.

Adapted from Richard Rohr with John Bookser Feister, Jesus' Plan for a New World: The Sermon on the Mount (Franciscan Media: 1996), 139-140. [Available from Amazon.](#)

From Franciscan Media:

With the season of the resurrection upon us, we find ourselves asking "what should I give up for Lent?" As penance finds its way into our lives we think to give up things like chocolate, Netflix, or alcohol. While we are choosing what things to give up, let us also pray and reflect on the hope of the season ahead.

The hope of the Lenten season is that we will find our lives transformed by the many ways we encounter God's Word, by the richness of the Scripture readings chosen to encourage, to challenge, to confront, to comfort. Focusing only on the end goal would cause us to miss so much along the way.

Do something good for your soul. [Join us this Lent and sign up](http://info.franciscanmedia.org/) [http://info.franciscanmedia.org/] to receive a daily message of hope. Each day we'll offer wonderful ways to nourish your heart, mind, and soul.

