

# The Porter

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




## Council


<b>Minister</b>	Patrick Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	<a href="mailto:ipatricktsfo@gmail.com">ipatricktsfo@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Minister</b>	Mary Henry, OFS	(443) 949-0600	<a href="mailto:mhenry933@gmail.com">mhenry933@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Joan Faltot, OFS	(410) 969-6354	<a href="mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net">jd6bouv@verizon.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathleen Sievers, OFS	(410) 544-0618	<a href="mailto:esievers@verizon.net">esievers@verizon.net</a>
<b>Formation Director</b>	Denise Miente, OFS	(410) 643-2782 (h) (410) 253-5555 (m)	<a href="mailto:rubob903@gmail.com">rubob903@gmail.com</a>
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	Judith Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	<a href="mailto:judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com">judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com</a>
<b>Spiritual Assistant</b>	Br. Diogo Escudero, OFM Cap.		<a href="mailto:friardiogoofmcap@gmail.com">friardiogoofmcap@gmail.com</a>

## Volunteers

<b>Historian</b>	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	<a href="mailto:marifrances14@outlook.com">marifrances14@outlook.com</a>
<b>Infirmarian</b>	Evelyn Jones	(410) 827-9023	<a href="mailto:evelyn88jones@yahoo.com">evelyn88jones@yahoo.com</a>

The Porter deadline for the July issue is July 14. 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).

 <b>Fraternity Meeting</b>	<b>Saturday, July 21, 2018</b> <b>St. John the Evangelist, 689 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146</b> <b>8:30 Mass – Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth Room, School</b>		
<b>Program</b>	Report on the Regional Chapter of Mats (June 29-July 1) with small group discussions about living the Rule (see Pat's Minister's Minute on the next page) <b>PLEASE BRING A COPY OF THE RULE</b>		
<b>Liturgy</b>	Bowie/ Crofton /Severna Park: Saturday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time, Week 3 Also St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest, OFM, Capuchin, Doctor of the Church, 1559-1619 <a href="http://catholicism.org/saint-lawrence-of-brindisi-apostolic-doctor.html">http://catholicism.org/saint-lawrence-of-brindisi-apostolic-doctor.html</a>		
 <b>Refreshments</b>	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>		
 <b>Prayer Requests</b>	<i>For our sick and/or homebound members:</i> (Please help us update this list.) Susan Burn's son Michael, Jude Dodge, Evelyn Jones' niece, Genny Wilbourne's granddaughter Jessica, Al Gigel (regional councilor), Mary Musselwhite, Joan's husband Bill Kvetkas, Mandy (Kathleen Sievers' niece), Teri Egan, Denise Miente, Pat Troup.		
<b>Birthdays</b>	Santa Matarazzo – 7/20      Jude Dodge – 7/29 Pat Tyrrell – 7/24      Toby Harkleroad – 7/30 Teresa Shenk – 7/25      Sarita Palmer – 8/10 Kathy Brady – 7/28      Br. Saúl – 8/19 R.I.P. Sandy Horvath – 7/29		
<b>Profession Anniversaries</b>	Brigid Cobb – 8/3/1983 – 35 years!		

<p><b>Treasury</b></p> 	<p>Common Fund balance: \$1,400.82 <u>however</u>, this month we will be paying the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of our <i>Fair Share</i> to the region (\$575) and a donation to the Province in memory of Br. Saúl towards the rebuilding the churches in Papago, New Guinea, which were devastated by the earthquake (\$200). So our balance will soon be \$625.82.</p> <p><b>REMINDER</b> - 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"> <li>• Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India),</li> <li>• Phoenix Academy (for student weekend food backpacks), and</li> <li>• Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter clients).</li> </ul> <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>
<p><b>Outreach</b></p>	<p>For more information, contact Denise.</p> <p><b>Lighthouse Shelter Lunches:</b> Thursday, July 26, 9:30 a.m. at Joan Kvetkas' home.</p> <p><b>Phoenix Academy Backpack Program:</b> off for the summer till September. Phoenix Academy will be having an open food bank on July 17 from 10-12:00 for the community. Denise will purchase food to donate using recent donations made by fraternity members for the Academy.</p>
<p><b>Council Meeting</b></p>	<p>August 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Tyrrell's house (tentative)</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p>	
<p><b>Sept 16</b></p>	<p>Multi-Fraternity Mass and Franciscan Picnic at the Shrine of St. Anthony, 12290 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042, sponsored by the St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity.</p> <p>Mass at noon in the Chapel followed by picnic from 1-4:00 PM. Food will be provided, but if you wish, feel free to bring a dish to share.</p>

## COMMUNITY



### **Minister's Minute:**

As we continue to celebrate this year of our Rule, at Saturday's meeting we will hear about the recent Regional Chapter of Mats where about 60 members of the Order discussed the parts of the Rule that they found challenging, how to address those challenges, and how to live the Rule after the weekend. How will we face the individual challenges of living the Rule in our secular world? What concrete actions can we take to live the Rule more faithfully?

I ask you to prepare for the meeting by reviewing the Rule and picking out parts that are a challenge to you. We will take some time at our tables to consider the challenges you see, discuss how to deal with them, and how to live the Rule more fully and faithfully. Please bring a copy of the Rule with you to the meeting. We will have some extras for those who don't have one, couldn't find one, or forgot to look.

Also, attached to the email sending you this newsletter are some meditation questions on Praying the Rule distributed at the Chapter and statements about praying the Rule from Regional Minister Bob Longo's talk.

## JPIC -- JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION, Animator Judith Tyrrell, OFS

Happy Feast of St. Bonaventure,

At the Chapter of Mats I was asked about the significance of the wooden ladders on the altars and I was reminded of this quote from St. Bonaventure: "In beautiful things he (Francis) saw beauty itself and through vestiges imprinted on creation he followed his Beloved everywhere, making from all things a ladder by which he could climb up and embrace Him who is utterly desirable." Franciscan Prayers, TAU Publishing. What would you put on the rungs of your "ladder"?

From Rule 11: Trusting in the Father, Christ chose for himself and his mother a poor and humble life even though he valued created things attentively and lovingly. Let Secular Franciscans seek a proper spirit of detachment from temporal goods by SIMPLIFYING their own material needs..... Have you thought about how much trash you and your family produce? Recently the advocates of the ZERO WASTE movement have said "live simply and take a stance against needless waste. Their efforts focus on 5 R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot (compost). Bea Johnson who is credited with founding the organization says she and her family of four fit an entire year's worth of trash into a PINT jar. Interested in how she did it? Read more in [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/i-tried-reducing-my-trash-you-can-too-start-by-examining-it/2018/07/06/e8dce620-7885-11e8-80be-6d32e182a3bc\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.a8c54a861698](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/i-tried-reducing-my-trash-you-can-too-start-by-examining-it/2018/07/06/e8dce620-7885-11e8-80be-6d32e182a3bc_story.html?utm_term=.a8c54a861698)

"China which for decades has accepted much of the world's recyclables to fuel its manufacturing industries is in the process of banning and reducing its solid waste imports including household plastics, mixed paper and metals." In this article about a plastic addict's kitchen makeover you can find hope that you too can change. I hope that you will share your ideas that you are already doing so that the rest of us can be inspired to make the effort to use less plastic, foil etc. One way we are using fewer plastic bags at the commissary is by bringing our own green bags for veggies and reusing them when possible.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/voraciously/wp/2018/07/09/how-to-break-the-plastic-and-foil-and-paper-habit-in-the-kitchen/?utm\\_term=.d4efd848a793](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/voraciously/wp/2018/07/09/how-to-break-the-plastic-and-foil-and-paper-habit-in-the-kitchen/?utm_term=.d4efd848a793)

Have you been trying to not use plastic straws as part of this Year's project for Earth Day? We found out that the Dough Roller in Ocean City are reducing the number they are distributing and have a poster up to remind people of one of the reasons—straws in the sea turtles. Let's keep spreading the word about plastic straws. We found a bunch of paper straws at Target and spread them around to relatives. And see below the comic reminds us to look for all those things we can refuse... a friend brings her own doggie bag for leftovers for herself. Let's cut back on paper too.

Let's be Environmental Witnesses to protect the gift of Creation that lifts our hearts to God.





## PRAYER FOR SIMPLICITY

Blessed are you Lord, God our Father, for you free us to receive your goodness. You have given us Jesus Christ, the Word-Made-Flesh, who became poor for our sakes. You have set the Little Poor Man of Assisi, Francis, and the Poor Lady of San Damiano, Clare, in the midst of your church to rebuild it. Now you call us by the power of your Holy Spirit to embrace in spirit and in deed the simple living of the gospel. Take our lives and transform them. Free us from a slavery to possessions and power that we might empty ourselves of our selfishness, use what we have for the glory of your name, and see you alone through every creature and event. All praise be yours O Lord, now and forever. Amen.

# KNOW *before* YOU THROW

A recent sort of Anne Arundel County recyclables showed incorrect items in curbside recycling carts and bins. Here's what to keep OUT of your recycling container and what to put IN it:

## OUT

- Plastic Bags & Wrap\*
- Construction Debris\*\* (wood, ductwork, pipes, gutters)
- Cords, Cables, & Wires
- Mirrors & Window Glass\*\*
- Ceramics & Drinking Glasses
- Appliances/Electronics\*
- Pool Items (vacuum, pumps)\*\*
- Motor Oil Containers
- Soiled Paper Products (napkins, tissues, towels, plates)
- Chip Bags & Snack Wrappers
- Carpets & Rugs
- Anything that needs a power source to operate
- Clothing & Textiles\*
- Garden or Shop Tools
- Pet Food Bags
- Lattice - All Types\*\*
- Filters - All Types
- Food
- Microwaves\*\*
- Car Parts\*\*
- Hoses & Ropes
- Batteries
- Styrofoam®
- Tarps - All Types
- Wire Hangers\*

\* this item can be recycled at our Recycling Centers, check the back of this card for more information, otherwise place item at the curb for trash collection

\*\* this item cannot be placed at the curb and must be taken to a Recycling Center for proper disposal

## IN

Place all items loosely in your container, do not bag.

### PAPER

• boxes (cardboard, cereal, frozen food, shoe, pizza), books, shredded paper (secured in a paper grocery bag), copy paper, junk mail, newspaper & inserts, magazines & catalogs, file folders, envelopes, beverage cartons & boxes, wrapping paper

### METAL

• aluminum foil & foil pans, aluminum cans, tin/steel cans, empty aerosol cans  
**NO Scrap Metal or Large Metal Items\***

### PLASTIC

• bottles, jars, jugs, tubs, trays, cups, plates, utensils, buckets, storage totes, flower pots (no dirt), furniture, trash cans **NO Plastic Bags, Film, or Wrap\***

### GLASS

• all bottles & jars (any color)

**NO SORTING.**

**RINSE IF PREFERRED.**

**LEAVE LIDS & LABELS ON.**



## TAU

TAU, as a symbol of sanctity, comes from Ezekiel 9:4, "Go through the city of Jerusalem and put a TAU on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it." It is the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet and looks very much like the letter "T".

Pope Innocent III opened the Fourth Lateran Council of November 11, 1215, with these words: "I have desired with great desire to eat this Passover with you." (Luke 22:15) Innocent announced that for him, for the Church, and for every Catholic at the time, the symbol they were to take as the sign of their Passover was the TAU Cross.

He incorporated into his homily, the statement from Ezekiel 9:4 that the elect, the chosen, those who are concerned will be marked with the sign of the TAU.

Much Franciscan scholarship points to St. Francis as being present at the Fourth Lateran Council and that he heard the words of Pope Innocent III when he said, "The TAU has exactly the same form as the Cross on which our Lord was crucified on Calvary, and only those will be marked with this sign and who have mortified their flesh and conformed their life to that of the Crucified Savior will obtain mercy."

From then on, the TAU became Francis' own coat of arms and he often used it in his writings as his personal signature.

St. Bonaventure (feast day on July 15) said, "This TAU symbol had all the veneration and all the devotion of the saint: he spoke of it often in order to recommend it, and he traced it on himself before beginning each of his actions."

Thomas of Celano, another Franciscan historian and biographer of Francis, writes, "Francis preferred the Tau above all other symbols: Be utilized it as his only signature for his letters, and he painted the image of it on the walls of all the places in which he stayed."

In the famous blessing of Brother Leo, Francis wrote on parchment, "May the Lord bless you and keep you! May the Lord show His face to you and be merciful to you! May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace! God bless you Brother Leo!" Francis sketched the head of Brother Leo and then drew the TAU over his portrait.

## ONE PEOPLE, ONE NATION by Susan Burns

Workcamping at Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation this summer season, I am learning so much about the indigenous people of the area, the suffering they have incurred at the hands of Euro-Americans and Christian white people. Scripture tells us we cannot worship God and manna, and these white folks worshipped manna; money, power, possessions, and are prideful of their "accomplishments." Following is a series of true stories about the discrimination of American white people against not only the Native American, but other minorities; Blacks, Immigrants and Refugees.

As a child, Chief Standing Bear was ripped from his parents from the Brule Lakota tribe in Western South Dakota near present day Pierre. He, along with several other Native American children, were sent to boarding schools across the country where they were "Americanized", or as it seems to me to try to make them white. Chief Standing Bear was sent to the Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, Pa. He was stripped of! his clothing, forbidden to speak his language, his hair was cut, and he was given a new name, Henry. Chief Henry Standing Bear did not respond with violence to these violations, but remained humble, peaceful, simple, and quietly introspective continuing his education working at Sears. He decided he could best help his people through education, that education was the path to understanding, respect, and reconciliation between the Native Americans and Whites leading the way to becoming one people, one nation. Chief Standing Bear became an activist for his people founding the Society of American Indians and the



Due, no doubt, in large part to Francis' own affection for and devotion to the TAU, it has been a well-recognized and accepted Franciscan symbol among Franciscans of various denominations and of all orders within those denominations for centuries. It remains so today. The TAU carries with it all of the symbolism of the Cross of Christ as well as Francis' ideal of life and dream for himself and his followers.

The TAU is the distinctive sign of membership in the Secular Franciscan Order of the United States. Nat'l Stats Art. 16.4

National Congress of American Indians. He actively participated in obtaining Native Americans the right to vote. In 1939 he and the elders of the tribe approached Korczak Ziolkowski asking him to sculpt a mountain of Crazy Horse to show the white man that the red man had heroes too.



*Completed Crazy Horse Memorial, 4-yr accredited university on the left Medical Center and Hospital on the right*

One day, from a wagon train traveling west, an old cow wondered from its Mormon owner. The cow wondered into an Oglala Lakota community who tried to frighten the cow away, but the cow persisted and the tribe killed it and ate it. The Mormon owner went to the Fort. The designated spokesman for the tribe, Conquering Bear, went to the fort and explained they had not known where the cow had come from and offered a young horse to the Mormon as retribution for the old cow. The offer was refused, Officer Fleming demanding to know who stole the cow. The next afternoon, Officer Grattan approached the camp with 2 wagons and 2 wagon guns. They shot indiscriminately, mortally wounding Conquering Bear. The Native Americans responded in kind killing many soldiers including Grattan. Nearly a year later, General Harney lead



a retaliatory attack searching for the “thief”. He killed or held captive everyone in the Little Thunder camp, primarily women and children as the men were hunting away from camp.

A vision quest is one of 7 very sacred ceremonies among the Plains Native Americans. Crazy Horse participated in the vision quest when he was a teenager, going to Bear Butte where he fasted for 4 days, communing with the Spirit, and receiving a vision of 2 men rising from the water, unscathed by the onslaught of arrows, and then becoming one descending back into the water. This vision gave Crazy betrayed by one of his own. A young man I work with at the Welcome Center of the Crazy Horse Memorial from the Pine Ridge Reservation, told me of his personal vision quest. Vision quests are still performed at the sacred location of Bear Butte, which the white man changed to the name Harney Peak adding insult to injury. In 2016 the name of the Peak was changed to Black Elk, a Lakota holy man whose visions were described in the book *Black Elk Speaks*.

Last year when I was working at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, I visited Pipe Springs. This spring had nourished the Northern Arizona Paiute community for centuries until the Mormons garnered control of it to nourish the travelers and craftsmen on their way to build the temple at St George, Utah. The Mormons shared the water supply with the Paiute, but only with those that converted to Mormonism.

The concept of providing aid only to the converts is not an exclusive Mormon concept. Catholic Jesuits, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, provided aid to the Plains Indians, but only to those that converted to Catholicism.

At the Mashantucket Pequot Museum in Connecticut, I read journal accounts that the eradication of the Native Americans was “proof” that the Euro Americans were doing God’s Will.

Where did these false Christian values come from? I don’t know about other Christian religions, but here is what I learned about Catholics from the daily meditation of Richard Rohr OFM.

“Brian McLaren is not afraid to say directly that it is time for us to acknowledge Christianity’s past fraught with imperialism and colonialism: About forty years before 1492, Pope Nicholas V issued an official document called *Romanus Pontifex* . . . which serves as the basis for what is commonly called the Doctrine of Discovery, the teaching that whatever Christians “discover,” they can take and use as they wish. . . . Christian global mission is defined as to

“invade, search out, capture, vanquish, and subdue” non-Christians around the world, and to steal “all movable and immovable goods” and to “reduce their persons to perpetual slavery”—and not only them, but their descendants. And notice the stunning use of the word convert: “to convert them to his and their use and profit.” [1]

In addition to this doctrine, selective use and interpretation of the Bible was used to justify slavery for centuries. Scripture is still used by some today to exclude and judge LGBTQIA individuals, even though Jesus said very little about sexuality and a great deal about other things we conveniently ignore. How could we have twisted Jesus’ example and teaching into something so inhumane and unjust? But we did.” [2]

Recently, I viewed a 60 Minutes episode about the construction of a memorial, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, to the 4,000+ blacks who were murdered between 1865 and 1930, just for being black. There were few arrests and when a black was arrested they were hanged, or burned, or somehow murdered before being found guilty. At the lynchings, most of the community of whites in their Sunday best would come with their families including children to witness the spectacle of hanging, burning the corpse, and then dragging the body through the black community. Are these white, “Christian” values God’s values?

Today, immigrants and refugees, fleeing from violence and persecution, come to our “Christian value-filled nation” only to be subjected to other types of violence and persecution; separation of families, discrimination, imprisonment. Are these white, “Christian” values God’s values?

No, they are not. God calls on us to “love one another as God has loved us, to love our neighbor as ourselves.” And who is your neighbor? All of Creation is your neighbor. All of Creation is a Gift from God, ours to “keep and till,” (Genesis 2:15) to be good stewards of All Creation, to live in the Peace of Christ, to live as One Body although Many Parts. How are you providing food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, a welcome to the stranger, clothing to the naked, and care for the ill and imprisoned? (Matthew 25:42)

[1] Brian McLaren, *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World’s Largest Religion Is Seeking a Better Way to Be Christian* (Convergent: 2016), 76-77.

[2] Adapted from Richard Rohr: *Essential Teachings on Love*, Joelle Chase and Judy Traeger, eds. (Orbis Books: 2018), 74-75, 88. Joseph M. Marshall, *The Journey of Crazy Horse; A Lakota History*, Penguin Books, 2005