



The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – January 2017
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

Council

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Volunteers

Historian	Marie Shelton	(410) 590-5570	marifrances@catholic.org
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The Porter deadline for the February issue is February 3rd. 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.



Fraternity Meeting

Saturday, January 21, 2016
St. John the Evangelist, 607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146
8:30 Mass- Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth room

Refreshments



Glen Burnie will supply refreshments. Annapolis/Eastern Shore will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home, restock if necessary, and return them at the next meeting.
Please remember to bring your own cup!

Program

EWTN DVD *Vulnerable - The Euthanasia Deception* followed by small table discussions
Completion of fraternity vision sheets; Extraction of Saints and prayer partners;
Recommitment prayer

Liturgy

Annapolis/Eastern Shore
Morning Prayer: Saturday, Second Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2

Treasury

Common Fund balance: \$436.71

Outreach

Women in Prison Collection (Held over from December)
Prison does not supply personal items to female detainees; they must be purchased. Some, especially those newly arrived, do not have any money. The Prison Chaplin at Jessup keeps packages of personal items packed by St. Lawrence Parish in Jessup. The packages have a dual purpose: the inmate receives needed items and the also gets an introduction to the Chaplin. Items needed: Shampoo (24 oz. or less), conditioner, toothpaste (regular size), toothbrush, hand and body lotions, deodorant, bars of soap. Not allowed: baby oil, powders. Items should be regular size bottles, not travel/trial-size.

Outreach	<p>Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Thursday, February 23, 9:30 am, at home of Joan Kvetkas. Contact Denise if you plan to come.</p> <p>Phoenix Academy: We'll be having our ongoing collection for the weekend food program. Please be generous! Student backpacks will be filled on Wednesday, January 25, at 12:30 pm at the Academy. Still waiting confirmation on this date, so contact Denise to verify if you plan to come help.</p>
Prayer Requests 	<p><i>Please pray: For the repose of the soul of:</i> Father Michael Scanlan, TOR and Mary Conlon, sister-in-law of Dennis Mallon.</p> <p><i>For our sick and/or homebound members:</i> (Please help us update this list.) Michael Benso (Laura's husband) Emily McGeady's son Matthew, Denise Miente, Susan Burns (hip replacement), Jude Dodge, Kathy Duffy's daughter- Lynne, Sister Mater Mundi (missionary in Mexico), Capuchin Bishop William Fey</p>
Birthdays	<p>Tessie Chitty – 1/21 Mary Jo Johnson – 2/01</p> <p>Kathleen Sievers – 2/01 Joan Kvetkas – 2/11</p>
Profession Anniversaries	<p>Margaret Jackson – 02/08/1998 Kathleen Sievers – 03/06/1994</p>
Council Meeting	<p>Saturday, February 4, 2017, following the friars' morning Mass, the council will meet all day at Capuchin College to pray and discern our fraternity's theme for the year and plan our meetings.</p>
Upcoming Events January	<p>March for Life – Friday, January 27th, 1pm on the Mall in DC. Join our Capuchin friars' for their annual Mass in the crypt church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 11am.</p>
February	<p>Care for Creation, "Building a Relationship with Others" February 4, 2017. 9:15 – 11:00 am Our Lady of the Fields Church, Millersville, MD Contact: Susan Burns, seburns318@comast.net</p>
March	<p>Care for Creation, "Building a Relationship with Nature" March 4, 2017. 9:15 – 11:00 am Our Lady of the Fields Church, Millersville, MD Contact: Susan Burns, seburns318@comast.net</p> <p>Social Ministry Convocation March 4, 2017, 8:15-3:30. Seton Keough High School, 1201 S. Caton Ave, Baltimore, see flyer below</p>
April	<p>Seventh Annual Day of Reflection for Inquirers, Candidates & Newly Professed April 1, 2017. St. Anthony Shrine, Ellicott City, MD</p> <p>Regional Retreat April 28-30, 2017. Regional Secular Franciscan Retreat, Priestfield Retreat Center, Kearneysville, WV Registration form will likely accompany the February Regional Newsletter, Up to Now.</p>
October	<p>Formation Directors Weekend October 6-8. Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, MD</p>

Did You Know ?

Deforestation is a significant factor in climate change.

If US Colleges & Universities used 100 percent recycled paper for their alumni publications, each year we could save the following resources used in the production of new paper:

- 792,891 trees
- 83,776,524 pounds of CO₂ emissions
- 376,445,100 gallons of water
- 14,600 tons of solid waste

For more info, visit betterpaper.org.

COMMUNITY



Minister's Minute: Dear Brothers and Sisters of Penance,

This month's meeting will feature a DVD presentation about euthanasia. We traditionally have a pro-life topic at our January meetings; abortion and euthanasia form the bookends to all the pro-life issues in life. "The bottom line, in other words, is life. Any issue is important because life is important. Why should we be concerned about unemployment? It is a concern because people have a right to make a living. Why do they have a right to make a living? Because they have a right to live! Why is poverty also an important issue? It is important because people have a right to food, clothing and shelter. Why do they have a right to these things? Because they have a right to live! It all comes down to life. That's why abortion is the key issue. Deny that a person has the right to live, and you undercut the importance of every other issue. It is impossible to coherently speak up about any issue impacting human life if you are allowing the life itself to become a disposable item."¹ We all have a right to dignity and a right to live from conception until natural death. As you will hear in the DVD, euthanasia is not just a slippery slope; legalizing euthanasia puts us half-way down the slippery slope.

It is expected that a euthanasia bill (also known as physician-assisted suicide bill) will be introduced at this year's session of the Maryland legislature, which began last week; a bill was introduced last year the bill but didn't make it out of committee. Let your legislators know about your opposition to such a bill at the legislature's official web site <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frm1st.aspx?tab=home>. Go to the bottom left of the page and click on "Voice my opinion." Enter your address and it will pull up all your representatives. You can email one or more or all at once. In addition, see the Maryland Catholic Conference's web site for a complete look at the issues they will be promoting or opposing this session <http://www.mdccathcon.org>. Hope to see you Saturday. Pat

From India: Jancy Sabu wrote, among other things and said: "We know that you are taking great effort to help us and we have only our humble prayers to give in return." Next month, her older daughter Sanitha will be taking an exam to try to get a job in the government. The younger daughter Sabitha is in the 11th grade. Jancy's mother-in-law needs prayers for her health, but her father-in-law is doing well.

JUSTICE

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the Unborn, provided by Judith

Our Lady of Guadalupe, we turn to you who are the protectress of unborn children and ask that you intercede for us, so that we may more firmly resolve to join you in protecting all human life.

Let our prayers be untied to your perpetual motherly intercession on behalf of those whose lives are threatened, be they in the womb of their mothers, on the bed of infirmity, or in the latter years of their life. May our prayers also be coupled with peaceful action which witnesses to the goodness and dignity of all human life, so that our firmness of purpose may give courage to those who are fearful and bring light to those who are blinded by sin.

Encourage those who are involved in the pro-life movement; help them to walk closely with God and to give voice to the cry of the oppressed, in order to remind our nation of its commitment to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all people. O Virgin Mother of God, present our petitions to your Son and ask Him to bless us with abundant life. Amen.

¹ Extract from *Are You a Single-Issue Person?* by Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life at <http://www.priestsforlife.org/articles/4374-are-you-a-single-issue-person>

2017 March for Life – January 27th

St Philip Neri	Cost: \$10 donation; Children under 13 are free Charter buses leaving from St. Philip Neri Contact the Parish Office for questions & to reserve a seat at 410-859-0571, ext. 220 8:30 AM - Mass at St. Philip Neri followed by light refreshments 10:00 AM - Bus departs 11:00 AM - Visit to Basilica of the Immaculate Conception 12:30 PM - Arrive at Mall in DC; 1:00 PM - March begins; 3:30 PM - Return to bus 5:00 PM - Arrive at St. Philip Neri
Our Lady of the Fields	Our Lady of the Fields will have a bus to take folks to the March leaving about 10:30am and returning to OLF about 5pm. Join the many thousands of people from all across the country as they peacefully stand up (and march!) for life. For details about reserving your spot on the bus, contact Lynn Watts at 410-451-6778 or watts.lynn@gmail.com .
St. John the Evangelist	The Knights of Columbus and the Respect Life Committee will be providing a bus to the March for Life in Washington, DC. We will leave St. John's parking lot at 11 AM and will return between 4:30 – 5 PM. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by one of their parents or a STAND trained adult with a permission slip. Every individual/group must have a cell phone. To register, contact Sharon at 410-647-5214.

Standing Rock – Abstracts from an article in *Green American* newsletter, Winter 2016 provided by Joan F.

Standing Rock Sioux Reservation has been the scene of a large protest movement to block the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). On September 8th, Obama halted the progress while further review was completed and possible rerouting the pipeline away from Standing Rock. Construction continues on private lands. This protest movement has both an environmental and a justice component.

The DAPL would connect the Bakken oilfields in North Dakota to Patoka, Illinois. The pipeline will run underneath parts of the Missouri River which is the water source for 2.5 million people. That and the continued emphasis on fossil fuels (a cause of climate warming) have environmentalists at the protest. The pipeline would also run through traditional Sioux territory and this is concern for social justice. Originally this segment of the pipeline was to cross the Missouri north of Bismarck, ND, but the Army Corps of Engineers rerouted it to protect municipal supply water wells according to the *Bismarck Tribune*.

Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 (which established the boundaries of the Stand Rock Sioux territory) and Article 32 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples specify that States are obligated to obtain Indigenous Peoples' free, prior and informed consent before development of their land or resources. The question is the right of the Sioux people to this land. In 1862, the US government went to war with the Sioux and Cheyenne to retake the Black Hills because they contained gold... or so they thought. The Native Americans lost and were forced to cede their land to the US or face starvation.

In 1980 the Supreme Court ruled the action of the US was unjust and ordered the US government to compensate the Sioux. The tribes declined payment and sought to have their land restored. (And there is no gold.)

The Standing Rock Tribe sued the Army Corps of Engineers in general court for failing to obtain their consent before approving the route of the pipeline. The current route passes over land the Sioux consider sacred and includes burial sites. Moving the graves is against Sioux beliefs: if you disturb the burial sites, their ancestors on their "walk to the spiritual world" will get lost and roam between two worlds.

The following article was published in *St. Anthony Messenger* magazine (January 2017 issue, p. 25) and is used with permission of Franciscan Media. www.FranciscanMedia.org.

EDITORIAL: TEN WAYS TO HEAL OUR NATION

Mr. President-elect, tear down these walls. We, the people—red, blue, or other—have had at least two years of accusations, name-calling, hate statements, distrust, and suspicion before November’s election. With your inauguration January 20, Donald John Trump, we need to move forward together— without the walls.

We’re not all going to agree with your policies— about half of us will go each way, it seems, all the more so with the strong, controversial appointments you’ve made to your Cabinet and staff. But great democracies, such as ours, move forward with unified purpose. We *all* must find a way to move ahead. Here are 10 areas that demand your leadership.

Appeal to our best instincts. We are not a hateful people, but we saw plenty of people stepping out of bounds, especially as the political race became heated. Where on earth did people get the notion that it is all right to be disrespectful of people of a different ethnicity, race, country, religion, or sexual orientation? We have a way to go, but tolerance of people not like us is one of the hallmarks of our already-great America.

Promote the sanctity of human life. Use your Supreme Court appointments, when they come up, to appoint justices who will not be afraid to revisit abortion, but who also will honor human life in all its other stages. Use your influence with a sympathetic Congress to promote laws that protect us from physician-assisted suicide. We Catholics, among other people of good will, honor life from conception to natural death. Lead us in ways that affirm that.

Emphasize equal rights for women. Let’s put the excesses of campaign revelations behind us. Show respect for women. Our society, our government, needs to ensure that every woman is valued as a full citizen, a full human being, with a right to lead in any forum that a man can. All our institutions, Church and State, have some work to do here. We want our leadership to tune in to the good sense of the people.

Heal racial divisions. Many Americans nurtured the fantasy that racism was behind us. Not so. Honorable police feel betrayed by public horror at the misdeeds of their cohorts. African American citizens fear for their lives when being stopped for traffic violations. Any number of ethnic groups are feeling singled out. Racism breeds in a climate of anger and distrust. We Americans need strong, clear, correct signals from the highest levels of government that racism is a plague we must eradicate.

Address the growing gun violence in our country while protecting our Second Amendment rights. Yes, in some rural areas, there are dangerous animals to contend with. Gun enthusiasts love the sportsmanship of hunting or practicing marksmanship. But the presence of semiautomatic weapons, or guns available to children, or guns flooding our streets, must stop. That means restrictions, whether the National Rifle Association likes it or not.

Make environmental care a top priority. Listen to Pope Francis’ lead here. His teachings, especially “*Laudato Si’*,” show us how clearly the state of the environment, which has a profound effect on people worldwide, cries to be taken seriously.

Alleviate college debt. A businessman such as you gets this: our young people deserve to aspire to greatness without being saddled with excessive debt.

Make progress for everyone. A massive employment program could rebuild our nation’s infrastructure. This will need to be more than trickle-down. We need to find a way to share the wealth of this land beyond the billionaires.

Reform the Affordable Care Act. Most of us know this act needs to be fixed, not abandoned. Affordable health care is a basic human right, welcomed now by millions.

Cultivate a culture of civility and respect for all people. If one characteristic were to mark your presidency, Mr. Trump, oh, that it would be this one. The others will follow.

CREATION

The Resurrection of Creation: Building a Relationship with God

C4C Presentation by Susan Burns at Our Lady of the Fields Church in Millersville, MD, on January 7, 2017

Below are notes to the first of three presentations on the Resurrection of Creation. This presentation is "Building a Relationship with God." February 4 will be "Building a Relationship with Others" and March 4 will be "Building a Relationship with Nature".

Video: [Franciscan explains "Laudato Si"](#) (4min 18sec)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvBUswFA5bw&feature=player_embedded#t=0

In the Birth of Creation we learned about God's call to responsible stewardship and being tillers and keepers of God's Gift. We learned that Laudato Si tells us of the death of creation by environmental issues of pollution and climate change, the inability to provide everyone their right to sustainable water sources, and the lack of biodiversity. We show complete disregard for God's Gift of Creation with our excessive behaviors (exploitation without limitation), excluding the needs of the poor in decision making, choosing the accumulation of power and possessions no matter the cost to the sustainability of the earth for future generations.

Video: [CRS Care for God's Creation](#) (3min 4sec)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSnXuCxiHXE&list=PLt5PsPjJAK0b9BYRHUAxnlKMIv7qyZca&feature=player_detailpage

We, as Catholic Christians, a Resurrected people, know hope blooms eternal. This presentation will cover 3 major points:

1. *"No storm can shake my inner most calm, when to this Rock I'm clinging"*
2. *"We are Called to Act with Justice, to Love Tenderly, to walk humbly with God"*
3. *Stop and smell the roses*

1 – Laudato Si tells us that everyone can do something to assist in the Resurrection of Creation; i.e. buy and use Fair Trade, reduce, reuse, and recycle. But sometimes it feels like we are beating our heads against the wall to no avail. The election of a President and appointments diametrically opposite to the statements of Pope Francis in Laudato Si is a major upset to our inner peace. But the Pope responds: *"The God who created the universe out of nothing can also intervene in this world and overcome every form of evil. Injustice is not invincible."* Laudato Si 74 Pope Francis tweeted: *"May we make God's merciful love ever more evident in our world through dialogue, mutual acceptance and fraternal cooperation."*

The Pope reminds us to look at the lumber in our eye instead of the splinter in our brother's eye. We need to be non-judgmental and be elated that every trip to the grocery store reveals greater access to organic and some fair trade products. We need to be more like the old woman and the judge and demonstrate persistence, continually seeking ways to assist in educating about God's Call to till and keep Creation. We need to seek areas of collaboration with our adversaries of the environment and speak out to them to Care for Creation in the truth of the Gospel with the prophetic voice of our baptismal promise. There are multiple ways to cling to the Rock, to let hope bloom eternal, to bring peace internally so you can bring peace to all.

2- The videos and presentations have indicated various spiritual values, pleasing to God; values that we can strive for and utilize in making our personal decisions about Caring for God's Creation: responsible stewardship, till and keep, hope, peace, non-judgmental, persistence, collaborating, creativity, prophesize. Many more spiritual values can be found in Scripture: 1Corinthians 13: 4-7 and Matthew 25: 42-45. Love, Patience, Kindness, Not Jealous, Not Pompous, Not Egotistical, Not Rude, Not Self-centered, Caring to the poor and marginalized.

Unfortunately, these Spiritual Values have been virtually ignored by decision makers when it comes to exploitation of

the Gift of Creation. In the next videos, we'll witness the result of not clinging to God's Values, but giving too much value to possessions, power, pride, and profit.

Video: [The Dry Corridor of Guatemala](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNliCJP_EIE&feature=player_detailpage) (4min 44sec)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNliCJP_EIE&feature=player_detailpage

Video: [Light Your Water On Fire from Gas Drilling](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LBiSXWQRV8) (1min 22sec)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LBiSXWQRV8>

3 – Read the following Gospel: Luke 9:1-6 of Jesus sending out the disciples taking nothing with them. They were forced to lead a life of simplicity relying, as the poor do, on the gifts from the earth as a source of food, water, clothing, medicine, bathing/hygiene, waste disposal, tools, raw materials and building materials for homes, firewood for cooking and warmth, and sellable goods (like fruits, wicker baskets and clay pots) for participation in the economy. They encountered God in all things.

In the movie [War Room](#), an elderly woman has such great faith that when she is confronted with a potential thief wielding a knife she says, "In the name of Jesus, put down that knife." Lord, remove my unbelief, increase my faith to proclaim:

In the Name of Jesus – clean up that land fill

In the Name of Jesus – reduce, reuse, recycle

In the Name of Jesus – Show that God's values are part of decision making

In the Name of Jesus – Heal the earth

No storm can shake my inner most calm, when to this Rock I'm clinging – Pray for God to open your heart to His peace, peace to share with all

We are called to act with justice, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with God – Pray that all decision makers use God's Values in their decision-making process

Stop and smell the roses – Pray for simplicity in life, to utilize all the gifts God has provided freely and heal the earth.

Thank God for our faith, hope blooms eternal.

Video: [How Wolves Change Rivers \(Sustainable Human\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysa5OBhXz-Q) (4min 33sec)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysa5OBhXz-Q>

AMEN



Recycle Right. We all know that the act of recycling is important. But did you know that HOW you recycle can be equally as important?

One of the challenges of single stream recycling (paper, plastic, metal and glass in one container) is keeping the wrong items out of the yellow bin. If the item you wish to dispose of isn't made of paper or plastic, or isn't a container made of metal or glass, it doesn't belong in your yellow recycling cart. Other items made of metal or glass, such as metal pipe, frying pans, umbrellas, or cloth –all made from recyclable materials -should be recycled at one of the Anne Arundel County's three Recycling Centers.

The recycling process uses a mix of people and machines to sort then purify recyclables according to type. Excess debris in the recycling container requires extra time and energy to clean and remarket. Recyclables should be left loose when placed inside the recycling container instead of enclosed in plastic or paper bags. Bundled materials are

difficult to separate. These items may not get recycled if they cannot be separated from a closed bag. (Personally, I collect all my paper, magazines, and junk mail in a paper bag. When full, I place in my recycle bin, but now I make sure to rip one side of the paper bag to make sure everything will be loose when it gets to the recycle plant.)

Recovery Brothers. Check out fun videos of the *Recover Brothers*, puppets which provide up to date information on recycling in Anne Arundel County. <https://www.facebook.com/annearundelrecycling/videos/>

REGISTRATION BROCHURES WILL BE MAILED IN JANUARY

QUESTIONS? Contact: Rachael Martines, rmartines@cc-md.org/ 667-600-3354

ADDITIONAL INFO at: <http://www.cchdbaltimore.org/>

38th Annual **SOCIAL MINISTRY CONVOCATION**



**MARCH 4,
2017**

**Seton Keough
High School**
1201 S. Caton Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21227

Racism and Economic Justice
El racismo y la justicia económica

Keynote Address:

Rev. Andrew Foster Connors

**Senior Pastor, Brown Memorial
Presbyterian Church and
Co-Chair, Baltimore United
for Leadership Development**

WORKSHOPS

**Racism, War and Economic Justice:
The "Riverside Church" Speech of MLK**

**Living Global Discipleship:
The CRS Parish Ambassador Corps (PAC)**
Ministros de la Solidaridad de CRS:
Brindando esperanza para la parroquia y el mundo

Housing: An Opportunity for Justice

Conozca Sus Derechos!

Parish Social Ministry 101

**By Their Works: Worker Justice in
Catholic Institutions**

A Time for Healing: Bridging the Racial Divide

**Free Your Voice: Environmental
Justice in Curtis Bay**

Building Peace and Power in West Baltimore

Amplifying Our Voices: Legislative Advocacy

Women, Work, and Economic Justice

Welcome Home from Prison