



# The Porter

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

## Council

<b>Minister</b>	Patrick Tyrrell	(410) 721-7308	<a href="mailto:jpatricktsfo@gmail.com">jpatricktsfo@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Minister</b>	Mary Henry	(443) 949-0600	<a href="mailto:mhenry933@gmail.com">mhenry933@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Joan Faltot	(410) 969-6354	<a href="mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net">jd6bouv@verizon.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathleen Sievers	(410) 544-0618	<a href="mailto:esievers@verizon.net">esievers@verizon.net</a>
<b>Formation Director</b>	Denise Miante	(410) 643-2782 (h) (410) 253-5555 (c)	<a href="mailto:rubob903@gmail.com">rubob903@gmail.com</a>
<b>Counselor-at-Large</b>	Judith Tyrrell	(410) 721-7308	<a href="mailto:judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com">judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com</a>
<b>Spiritual Assistant</b>	Br. James Watson, OFM Cap	(301) 777-1750(w)	<a href="mailto:jwatson@capuchin.com">jwatson@capuchin.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 May issue is May 9th. 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

**PLEASE NOTE: We are meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month:**  
**Saturday, April 8, 2016**  
**St. John the Evangelist, 607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146**  
**8:30 Mass -- Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth room**



### Refreshments

Glen Burnie/Pasadena. 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

Quid est veritas? (What is Truth?)  
Dr. Christopher Yeung, will speak about teachings of the Church on Social Justice and the “Common Good” with the issue of immigration as the main focus. It is too difficult to find unbiased truth within any media source, but it is most important to understand the truth regarding what the Church actually teaches about the issues. In that way, we can identify false information being presented through the media.

### Liturgy

Annapolis/Eastern Shore.  
Morning Prayer: Saturday, Fifth Week of Lent. Psalter: Week 1.  
Welcoming Ceremony: Joe McHugh, Toby Harkleroad, Shannon Payne, Ann Marie Pessagno, Nina Teti



### Prayer Requests

*Please pray: For the repose of the soul of:* Salvatore Cicero (Mary’s father), and Jim Breheny (brother of Mary Henry)  
*For our sick and/or homebound members:* (Please help us update this list.)  
Mandy (Kathleen Sievers’ niece) who has a paralyzed GI tract and is unable to eat normal food due to a stomach virus which attacked the nerve.  
Teri Egan, Br. Walt Robb OFM Cap, Michael Benso (Laura’s husband), Emily McGeady’s son Matthew, Denise Miante, Jude Dodge, Kathy Duffy’s daughter Lynne, Sister Mater Mundi (missionary in Mexico), Capuchin Bishop William Fey, Msgr. Jeremiah Kenney

<b>Birthdays</b>	Br. James Watson – 4/09 Santa Ragot – 4/21 Catherine Gonzalez – 5/04	Audrey Donnelly – 5/06 Carmen Delgado – 5/07
<b>Profession Anniversaries</b>	Jenny Moreira – 05/08/1979 Audrey Bushee – 05/08/1979 Jean Catrow - 05/08/1979	Ed Wilbourne – 05/15/1976 Jeanne Wilbourne – 05/15/1976 Marie Shelton – 05/19/2000
<b>Treasury</b>	Common Fund balance: \$1,157.71	
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Lighthouse Shelter: Lunches</b> will be assembled on Thursday, April 20, 9:30 a.m., at home of Joan Kvetkas. Contact Denise if you plan to come. <b>Phoenix Academy:</b> Student backpacks will be filled on Wednesday, April 26, at 12:30 p.m. at the Academy. Contact Denise for additional information	
<b>Council Meeting</b>	To be determined	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>		
<b>April</b>		
<b>22</b>	<b>Earth Day.</b> See pg. 5 for info about C4C's participation at Earth Day at Our Lady of the Fields as well as many other local events	
<b>28-30</b>	<b>Regional Retreat</b> April 28-30, 2017. Regional Secular Franciscan Retreat, Priest Field Retreat Center, Kearneysville, WV Registration form was in the February Regional Newsletter, Up to Now.	
<b>July 21-23</b>	<b>SECULAR FRANCISCAN CONFERENCE:</b> The Development of the Franciscan Person PRESENTER: Fr. David B. Couturier, O.F.M., Cap. St. Bonaventure University, 3261 West State Road, St. Bonaventure, NY 14778 <a href="http://www.sbu.edu/academics/schools/franciscan-studies/summer-2017-conferences">http://www.sbu.edu/academics/schools/franciscan-studies/summer-2017-conferences</a>	
<b>July 27-30</b>	<b>Animate Peace Gathering.</b> Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis Missouri Addition information at <a href="https://sites.google.com/site/jpic4ofs/home">https://sites.google.com/site/jpic4ofs/home</a>	
<b>October 6-8</b>	<b>Formation Directors Weekend</b> October 6-8. Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, MD	

## COMMUNITY



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

Secular Franciscans...should: seek to encounter the living and active person of Christ in their brothers and sisters (Rule 5)...; seek out ways of **unity and fraternal harmony** through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon (Rule 19), [and] let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do (Rule 8). The bolded words above are our fraternity's theme for this year.

I read the extracts above from our Secular Franciscan Rule and remember spending an entire weekend with Fr. Joe Nangle, OFM, at a Regional retreat several years ago hearing him put flesh on the scripture Micah 6:8: You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: "Only to **do justice** and to **love goodness**, and to **walk humbly with your God.**" In addition, I remember the wonderful Year of Mercy in 2016, where the entire Church was focused on understanding and practicing mercy, and the year or two before that when the NAFRA-USA theme for the year was "Be the merciful presence of God." Let us learn from our founder St. Francis, who tells us in the beginning of his Testament: "The Lord gave me, Brother Francis, thus to begin doing penance in this way: for when I was in sin, it seemed

too bitter for me to see lepers. And the Lord Himself led me among them and **I showed mercy to them.** And when I left them, what had seemed bitter to me was turned into sweetness of soul and body.

At this month's meeting, I ask you to keep this Scripture and these and other elements of our Rule in mind as we hear from Dr. Christopher Yeung, from the Archdiocese of Baltimore, who will speak about Church teaching on Social Justice and the "Common Good," with immigration as a focus. By learning what the Church actually teaches about this and other issues, we can identify false information being presented by individuals or groups and through the media.

Finally, I am glad to report that Br. Walt Robb is out of rehab and back in the friary in Cumberland with Fr. John Paul and Br. James, but still suffers from weakness in his left hand. His address again is 301½ East Oldtown Rd, Cumberland MD 21502.

In Christ & St. Francis, Pat

### Update

*Congratulations!!!* **Br. James Watson, Br. Jonathan Ulrick, and Br. Al Carver** all passed their "Priest boards" and will be ordained to the priesthood in Pittsburgh June 10.

## CARE FOR CREATION

Below is a write up on the presentation the *Care for Creation Ministry* made at the 3 pm St. Francis Stations of the Cross at Our Lady of the Fields. Submitted by Susan Burns, OFS

Please close your eyes and recall a time in nature with a loved one. Got it? Now bring Jesus into the memory as you read the following Scripture.

A reading from the Book *Song of Songs* 2: 8-14 – A Tryst in the Spring.

Hark! My lover – here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks, he says to me, "Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the dove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.

Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff,

Let me see you, me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

I'm thinking maybe your tryst in nature was in a pristine environment; maybe a waterfall refreshingly clear, clean and vibrant, maybe lots of wild flowers with butterflies and bees leaping from one to the other, maybe a grassy area where you can recline and ponder the song of the dove taking in the sweet fragrance of your surroundings.

Unfortunately, in today's reality, this is not the

environment most would experience. Most likely there is trash, plastic bags blowing in the wind, and dog poop on the walkway – which attracts rats. The waterway, most likely, has a display of trash plus an unhealthy pollution of insecticide, pesticide, fertilizer, car oil blotches. There are fewer butterflies from the elimination of their milkweed food source. There are fewer bees primarily attributable to the use of

insecticides/pesticides. Instead of a sweet fragrance, the odor is more pungent possibly from rotting garbage. We have taken the gift of Creation God has provided and turned it into a dump. But we are a Resurrection people and hope abounds. Everyone can do something and so can you. Most of you are here today because you don't like driving at night. If that's why you are here, you can't be expected to help in the straw-bale garden or with the bees. But there is plenty you can do to aid in the restoration of God's Gift of Creation.

1. You can pick up trash and dog poop and dispose of it properly; recyclable, compostable or trash. If you are unsure of what can be recyclable, call the Department of Waste Management for Anne Arundel County. They will also give you, free of charge, supplies for composting – or you can pick them up at the OLF Earth Day celebration April 22nd. You can strive to make your recyclable trash at your curbside greater than 50% of total trash and you could strive to improve the ratio each week. At Our Lady of the Fields, there are 3 composting bins down by the straw-bale garden. The dumpster by the water pump house is for recyclable material. Soon it will be labeled as such. You can be the leader for the environment at any gathering by seeing to it that everyone separates their trash appropriately. If there is no recycle bin available, gather the recycle in a trash bag and dispose of it properly.

2. Nearly 50% of roadside trash is Styrofoam. Styrofoam has low level carcinogenic components and it never decomposes. It is better to recycle by using biodegradable paper products; even clam shell take home products are available in biodegradable material. It is best to reduce your food purchase to what you can consume, thereby eliminating your need for containers. It is best to use reusable eating utensils and dishes. For that reason, C4C volunteered to do the dishes at soup supper. You can be a leader for the environment and show the way to not use Styrofoam. At Our Lady of the Fields you, too, can use the dishes and dishwasher at your ministry meetings and events. When someone offers you a hot drink in a Styrofoam cup, please ask for a biodegradable cup instead or refuse the drink. Best would be to always bring your reusable travel mug wherever liquid refreshment is served, and use it. Panera, McDonalds, most of the fast food places no

longer use Styrofoam take-out. Chic-fil-a on the other hand continues to use a Styrofoam cup, at least that's what I've been told. If you go there, why not take your own reusable mug or let them know why you aren't buying a drink. When you do have Styrofoam please drop it off in the Styrofoam collection bag in the OLF kitchen. Dave Demers takes it to a Styrofoam reuse facility in Crofton.

3. Water is life – everyone can contribute towards protecting our watershed, the Chesapeake – There should be no fertilizing of your lawns if rain is expected within 48 hours. You can let some weeds grow in the cracks of your driveway to assist in the filtering of the water runoff. You can plant pollinator trees and shrubs for the bees and to filter the runoff. And, finally, you can refrain from the use of pesticides/insecticides.

4. The use of pesticides/insecticides is the primary source for the decline of bees. Worker bees pollinate 71 of the 100 major crops that make up 90% of what we eat. Besides not using insecticides/pesticides on a personal level, you can purchase organic. Increasing the demand for organic, decreases the demand for non-organic which decreases the amount of pollution seeping into the water table. Yes, organic costs more but cost should be only one of the factors in becoming a responsible steward of Creation.

5. Pope Francis tells us to Care for the Earth and to Care for the Poor. Buying Fair Trade at Our Lady of the Fields addresses both. Fair Trade provides fair prices to the small co-op farmers. Fair loans are provided for the farmer's growing season. Fairness is provided in partnerships for community projects, i.e. water purification and sanitation. Fair Trade Farmers agree to abide by all labor laws which means no slave children work in their fields. The Fair Trade products we sell at Our Lady of the Fields are organic and the coffee is also shade grown. Green Mountain sells Fair Trade coffee and Newman, Harvest, and Starbucks sell organic. The coffee, tea, and chocolate sold at OLF are both. Yes, Deans Beans coffee cost more than the Folgers many ministries place in the OLF kitchen, but again, cost should be only one of the factors in becoming a responsible steward of Creation.

Have you seen the movie "War Room?" A young man wielding a knife approaches to rob an older woman of deep faith. The woman points her finger at the man and confidently proclaims, "In the name of Jesus, put down that knife."

In the name of Jesus – pick up that trash  
In the name of Jesus – stop using Styrofoam  
In the name of Jesus – protect the watershed  
In the name of Jesus – purchase organic and Fair Trade  
In the name of Jesus - Care for the Earth, Care for the Poor, Care for Creation. AMEN!!



<http://www.earthday.org>

- Earth day is officially Saturday, April 22
- It was first celebrated in 1970 and spearheaded by Denis Hayes
- Today events in over 193 countries are coordinated by the nonprofit Earth Day Network
- Environmental groups seek to use this as a day of action to change human behavior and provoke policy changes.

**Maryland Earth Day Celebrations** - submitted by Pat Tyrrell OFS

#### Earth Day Fair - 2017

April 21. Learn about recycling, renewable energy and eco-friendly living with educational displays and interactive demonstrations. Free. 11am-2pm. University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center, Glen Burnie. 410-787-4367, [mybwmc.org](http://mybwmc.org)

#### Celebrate Earth Day & Pollinators - 2017

April 21. Celebrate Earth Day with the Library & SoCoGrow; learn from naturalists & participate in activities focused on the importance of Pollinators. Free. 2:30-3:30pm. Deale Library. 410-222-1925, [aacpl.net/location/deale](http://aacpl.net/location/deale)

#### Care for Creation

April 22. Care for Creation will participate with other ministries at Our Lady of the Fields in celebration of Earth Day. There will be a viewing of the interior of a honey bee hive, mason jar herbal gardening, tours of the bees and gardens, commercial shredding equipment, information about waste management, reduce, reuse, recycle, watershed protection, lots of information about the environment. Come and enjoy and have a good time in God's Creation.

#### Run for Nature Earth Day 5K - 2017

April 22. 5K course through wooded parkland. Walkers and children welcome. Pets and strollers permitted. Event benefits the Friends of Quiet Waters Park Nature Center campaign. Registration required. \$20-25. 9am. Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis. [fqwp.org](http://fqwp.org)

#### Greenscape - 2017

April 22. City-wide beautification, clean-up and planting project with materials provided by the city. Free. All day. Locations throughout Annapolis. [annapolis.gov/403/GreenScape](http://annapolis.gov/403/GreenScape)

### Anacostia River Clean-Up and Celebration - 2017

April 22. Join volunteers to clean along Anacostia River Watershed, then attend celebration at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium. Free. Clean up from 9am-noon, celebration from noon-2pm. Various venues. [anacostiaws.org](http://anacostiaws.org)

### Celebrate Earth Day - 2017

April 22. Celebrate Earth Day with stories, songs, and a craft. Free. 10am. Severn Library. 410-222-6280, [aacpl.net/location/severn](http://aacpl.net/location/severn)

### Severna Park Earth Day Festival - 2017

April 22. Festival that aims to educate and engage the community in a fun and meaningful way. Interactive activities for children, as well as materials and information for home owners striving to increase their understanding and make improvements in their homes that are eco-friendly. Free. 10am to 1pm. Severna Park High School.

[spearthdayfestival.weebly.com](http://spearthdayfestival.weebly.com)

### GreenFest - 2017

April 22. Activities, exhibits, demonstrations, giveaways, workshops and more. Free. 10am-4pm. Howard Community College, Columbia. [hcgreenfest.org](http://hcgreenfest.org)

### Quiet Waters Earth Day Expo - 2017

April 22. Local vendors, demonstrations, activities for children and adults, nature exhibits and more. Park entry is free during the event. 10am-4pm. Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis. 410-222-1777

See more at <http://www.chesapeakefamily.com/fun/seasonal-events/194-spring/3178-celebrate-earth-day-in-maryland>

### Saturday, April 29 - People's Climate Mobilization March in Washington, D.C.

The People's Climate Movement grew out of the largest climate march in U.S. history in New York in September of 2014, creating a groundbreaking coalition of climate and environmental justice groups, labor unions, faith, students, indigenous peoples and civil rights groups working to build bold solutions to tackle the climate crisis, rooted in economic and racial justice.

With a 100 days of action culminating in mass mobilization on April 29, the 100th day of the Trump presidency, this coalition will leverage their power once again to resist the Trump administration and corporate interests' efforts to thwart or reverse progress towards a more just America.

The Sierra Club of Anne Arundel County is sponsoring a bus trip on April 29th to the March. Cost is \$10 per person. It will depart from the Park and Ride, Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, at 8 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. To view schedule and ticket information, [click here](#).

March with Fellow Catholics – sponsored by:

- Franciscan Action Network
- Catholic Climate Covenant,
- Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach
- The Global Catholic Climate Movement

March with your fellow Catholics at the People's Climate March on April 29, and attend Catholic Climate Covenant's free **Lobby Day Training** the morning before on April 28. The Lobby Day training will take place at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, right behind the Supreme Court at 212 East Capitol Street, NE; Washington, DC 20003-1036

Breakfast will be provided at 8:30am; the training will start at 9:00am. Participants are encouraged to visit their representatives directly after the training. Register for the Lobby Day Training at

<https://catholicclimatecovenant.salsalabs.org/climate/march/index.html>



## The Saint and the Sultan

An interfaith exploration between Christian and Islamic Faiths  
based on the encounter between  
**St. Francis of Assisi and Sultan Malik al-Kamil of Egypt,**  
providing a foundation for fostering mutual understanding

**Saturday, May 6, 2017**

**10 am to 1:30 pm**

**St. Bernadette Catholic Church  
801 Stevenson Rd., Severn, MD 21144**

### Presented by:

**Imam Mohammad Bashar Arafat, President of The Civilizations Exchange and Cooperation Foundation (CECF)**, has an extensive background in Islamic Studies and teaching. Since moving to Baltimore in 1989, he has been deeply involved with interfaith work, both nationally and internationally, promoting better understanding between Muslims and other Faith Traditions. He also conducts programs on *Islam in America* through the International Speakers Program of the United States Department of State.

"In 1996 after I migrated from Syria to America, I heard and read about the fascinating story of the interaction between St. Francis and the Sultan. Since then, I always thought that it was important to search for the followers of those two blessed men and walk their path of outreach that was welcomed and led to better understanding. Almost 800 years ago, St. Francis and the Sultan operated in a time that was filled with loud voices of hate, wars and killing. Our time is not that different and we are all invited to walk their path and sing the songs of peace, love and harmony."

**Rev. William A. Au, Pastor of The Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Baltimore** has been very involved in interfaith and ecumenical work throughout his ministry, including Muslim-Christian dialog since 2007. He has participated in interfaith clergy education programs sponsored by the CECF in Egypt, Jordan and Morocco. He also authored "A Common Word" as a Christian response to the "A Common Word" statement issued by Muslim Scholars and the "Amman Message" of King Abdullah of Jordan.

"I have committed myself to interfaith work and Muslim-Christian dialog because of a profound conviction that there can be no peace in the world without peace between the religions of the world. Embracing the religious Other is both a spiritual necessity for fidelity to our religious traditions and a necessary prerequisite for establishing the human climate in which a peaceful world is possible."

REGISTER TODAY [www.stbernadette.org/register.htm](http://www.stbernadette.org/register.htm)