

The Porter

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

Council

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Volunteers

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

The Porter deadline for the September issue is August 30. 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, August 18, 2018

St. John the Evangelist, 689 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146

8:30 Mass – Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth Room, School

Program

Beth Hadley will talk about the Samaritan Women ministry, a healing and restoration program for victims of domestic sex trafficking.

If you don't think sex trafficking is a problem in Maryland, see the article at

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/md-politics/hogan-announces-funds-efforts-to-address-human-trafficking/2018/08/09/9492e99e-9bd4-11e8-8d5e-c6c594024954_story.html?utm_term=.e3ecf6c949cf

It concerns recent increased funding from the Governor for treatment of victims and crack down on the criminal elements.

Special Outreach

Collection of school supplies for Phoenix Academy. See page 3 for list of items that the teachers have requested.

Liturgy

Glen Burnie/Pasadena.

Refreshments



Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park. 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).*

Prayer Requests




For our sick and/or homebound members: (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 Miante, Pat Troup.

Birthdays

Bob Ranke – 8/22
Mary Rita Rossi – 9/01

Denise Miante – 9/03

Profession Anniversaries	Bob Ranke – 9/11/1986 Sarah Ranke – 9/11/1986 Carmen Delgado – 9/11/1986
Treasury 	Common Fund balance: \$1,025.82. 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India), • Phoenix Academy (for student weekend food packs), and • Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter clients). 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.
Outreach	For more information, contact Denise. Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Thursday, August 26, 9:30 a.m. at Joan Kvetkas' home. Phoenix Academy: off for the summer till September. Fraternity donations will be used by Denise to purchase food for the Academy's food bank.
Council Meeting	There will no council meeting in September.
Upcoming Events	
Sept 1	Br. Tage's ordination to the diaconate at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the Crypt Church, 10am Mass
Sept 16	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. 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.

COMMUNITY



Minister's Minute:

Last Saturday, on the Feast of St. Clare, about a dozen of us celebrated Mass with three of the four Poor Clares at Carroll Manor in DC (Sr. Seana Marie wasn't feeling well) and then provided them lunch. Frs. Bob McCreary and Brian Newman, OFM Cap, concelebrated the Mass along with Fr. Donald Brice, a priest of the Washington DC diocese, who lives in the adjacent home for retired priests, and who attended the Capuchin minor seminary in West Virginia over 70 years ago, about four years ahead of Fr. Newman. A Sister of Life (that order purchased the Poor Clare convent) arrived at lunchtime with a gift of cookies. In addition, two Dominican priests who had ministered to the Poor Clares when they were still in their convent, arrived after lunch for a visit.

I wish I could relate adequately how exuberantly the sisters thanked us for our visit. This was the third time a group of us visited them, and they said it was the best! We didn't do anything differently, except arrange for a Capuchin priest to celebrate the Mass. I think the presence of clergy and religious made it more festive and interesting. Although the fraternity has visited them annually for years—on a Saturday close to the Feast of St. Clare—this was the first time we had visited them on the Feast day. They loved Fr. Bob's homily and couldn't stop thanking us for all the effort made on their behalf. It really was fun. Thanks to all who helped provide food and drink and setup.

Sister Inez shared with us her most recent project: a gift to her 13-year-old grandnephew of a wooden "book" containing a secret compartment that was given to her grandfather, who lived in Crimea, when he was 10 years old in about 1860. The "cover" art on the "book" is done with wood-burning tools. The Polish writing refers to the Wilderness (Puszcza or

primeval forest) of Białowieża, located in what is now southeastern Poland and neighboring Belarus, according to my research on the Internet. In addition, Sister composed a genealogy of her nephew's ancestors and has drafted him a letter asking that he honor the obligation accompanying the gift to make sure it is handed down to his descendents.

I hope you'll try to come the next time we visit them. We have been visiting about every six months, but I'm sure they would enjoy a visit of one or a few of us at a time—almost anytime. They attend daily Mass at 11 and have lunch after, so almost any other time would likely be convenient. Phoning ahead would be most considerate; let us know if you want Sr. Inez' phone number.



PHOENIX ACADEMY SCHOOL SUPPLIES WISH LIST (Updated: August 2017)

Our fraternity will be having a special collection for school supplies for the Phoenix Academy. Please bring your items to the fraternity meeting. I suggest you try to gather in the parking lot and transfer your items to Denise's car prior to our meeting. It will save time and our backs if we don't carry items back and forth from the classroom.

Post-it notes: different sizes and colors.

Also, ones with lines-4"x6" and 3"x3"

Pens (Black and Blue)

Lined Paper – both wide and college ruled

Tons of Pencils – NOT mechanical)

Markers

Colored Pencils

Glue Sticks

Dry Erase Markers

Binders – (1" and 1-1/2")

Plastic Folders

Composition Books

Spiral note books (one subject)

Boxes of tissues

Paper Towels

Hand Sanitizers

Large erasers

Peanut Butter/Squeeze-bottle

Jelly (Grape and Strawberry)

Misc. Snacks

Used books to give to the children

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

Pope Francis said Sunday to a group of 90, 000 youth in St. Peters Square quoting Saint Alberto Hurtado : "It is good not to do evil but it is evil not to do good." ... Because evil spreads where there are no daring Christians to oppose with good". Today (8/14), we celebrate the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe (see his shrine at St Anthony's in Ellicott City) who opposed evil with his life, laying it down that another, a family man, might live. He opposed the evil of the prison with song, and prayer and the sacraments giving hope to those in despair.. Our father Francis did the same thing. "Francis was made captive with several others and endured the squalors of prison. His fellow captives were consumed with sorrow, bemoaning miserably their imprisonment Francis rejoiced in the Lord, laughed at his chains.. Freed from his chains a short time later, he became more kindly toward the needy. He now resolved not to turn his face away from any poor man who in begging asked for the love of God."

Celano Second Life 10-11

Have you heard the story or seen the movie 'Dead Man Walking' the true story of Sister Helen Prejean who befriends Matthew Poncet, a man convicted of a horrific crime, after he writes a letter seeking help? She brings to him the unconditional love of Jesus and the hope for his repentance. Will he repent before execution or will he die and we will lose another soul to capital punishment? Do you remember the prisoner's soul saved by the prayers and sacrifices of Therese of Lisieux? What about the Saint who forgave and had mercy on the soul of the man who raped and killed her, Saint Maria Goretti? He later repented and attended her canonization! These Saints teach us the dignity and value of all life which is what Pope Francis is calling us to acknowledge in his recent teaching on the death penalty. He calls the death penalty "inadmissible". He has ordered a revision in the Catechism to assert "the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person and to commit the Church to working toward its abolition worldwide." In addition Pope Francis noted that "human justice is imperfect" and said the death penalty loses all legitimacy in penal systems where judicial error is possible." This article in the Catholic Standard August 9, 2018 further explains Pope Francis' teaching : <http://www.cathstan.org/Content/News/Homepage-Rotating-Articles/Article/Pope-revises-catechism-to-say-death-penalty-is-inadmissible-/2/409/8630>

Prayer to St. Maximilian Kolbe

St. Maximilian, amidst hate and imprisonment, you brought love into the lives of fellow captives and sowed the seeds of hope amidst despair. You bore witness to the whole world by word and deed that "love alone creates."

Heavenly Father, You inflamed St. Maximilian the friar and priest with love for the Immaculate Virgin, and filled him with zeal for souls and love of neighbor.

Through his prayers, grant us to work strenuously for Your glory in the service of our sisters and brothers, and so be made conformable to Your Son until death.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Franciscan Friars Conventual
Our Lady of the Angels Province
12300 Folly Quarter Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042
www.olaprovince.org



Reliquary of
St. Maximilian
Kolbe

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Have you been to the Museum of the Bible in DC? It is a wonderful experience. There is an excellent exhibit there in the Bible in the World section on prisoners and "restorative justice", an active effort to bring healing and reconciliation between prisoners and those they have injured.

"Hate destroys, Love alone creates"—Maximilian Kolbe

STYROFOAM COLLECTION

Don't forget to bring your Styrofoam to the fraternity meeting so it can be recycled in Crofton. See the recent editorial in this week's Capital Gazette on banning plastic foam (we can't find it on line) and this recent Sun article about a sculpture from beach trash collected on Kent Island:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/arts/ac-cn-trash-art-0807-story.html> . See also the Watershed Stewards Academy on taking action for healthy rivers at www.aawsa.org.

CARE FOR CREATION

Plastic Foam Lives on in Anne Arundel County

Several attempts to ban polystyrene containers have gone down to defeat.

A state-wide effort failed in committee but will be refiled on the first day of the next legislative session.

Anne Arundel County conceded defeat after County Executive Steve Schuh vetoed the bill on June 25. The proposed bill would have banned restaurants and other food service businesses from using containers made of polystyrene foam. The bill passed the county council on a vote of 4-3 on June 18. To override Schuh's veto required a minimum 5-2 vote. The Councilman Christ Trumbauer tried hard to find one more vote but couldn't do it by the deadline on July 2. Voting against the ban were three Republicans: Councilman Derek Fink, R-Pasadena; Michael Peroutka, R-Millersville and Jerry Walker, R-Crofton.

In vetoing the bill, Schuh wrote: "By no measure — human health risks, FDA approval status, environmental impact, recycling potential, landfill impact, and cost to the community — does the proposed ban on foam food containers warrant the exercise of the coercive power of government as contemplated by [this] bill." Opponents of the ban still consider polystyrene safe enough for use and a cheaper product for smaller businesses. Opponents included the Anne Arundel County Public Schools system, plastic industry lobbyists and the Restaurant Association of Maryland.

Supporters of the ban point to the brittle nature of polystyrene which breaks down into tiny little pieces that do not decompose. Animals think they are food and consume the tiny particles. This include fish, which we then consume. Unfortunately there is no method for recycling polystyrene at the Anna Arundel county landfills.

Fortunately many restaurants and companies are voluntarily swapping foam products for paper. McDonald's and Dunkin Donuts have announced plans to switch to responsibly sourced paper products.

Annapolis has an Environmental Stewardship program for area businesses. As part of this certification, restaurants agree switch from plastic foam to paper. To see the current list of all Annapolis businesses with an environmental steward program see

<https://www.annapolis.gov/409/Certified-Environmental-Stewards>

These certified businesses also receive a certificate and window stickers, so look for the sticker when you in Annapolis.

Elsewhere efforts to ban polystyrene have been more successful:

The Mayor of Baltimore City signed a bill in April 2018 banning plastic foam containers, giving Baltimore businesses 18 months to stop using carryout containers made from polystyrene foam or face \$1,000 fine for violations. Nearly 22,000 containers are collected monthly from the harbor.

In Maryland, Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties, prohibited foam food containers in 2016.



As a fraternity member, you can help.

- Bring your clean polystyrene packaging material (including the molded inserts used to product furniture or electronics) to the fraternity meeting and Pat and Judith will take them to a business in Crofton which will reuse the material. Typically the small beads can be remolded into new packaging material.
- Polystyrene peanuts and bubble wrap... collect it in a plastic bag and deliver it UPS Mailbox storefronts. They will gratefully reuse the material for packing their shipments.