

# The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD  
Secular Franciscan Order – September 2021  
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for the next issue is October 8. Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting items that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 8217 Grainfield Rd, Severn, MD 21144, or send by email to [jd6bouv@verizon.net](mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net).



**Fraternity Meeting**

**Rite of Profession for Ruth Shea**  
**Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**  
**Capuchin College**

**4121 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC 20017**

Parking available behind the building. **Bring your mask!**

**Refreshments**



Buffet Luncheon follows the Rite of Profession. Pot Luck signup list was distributed via email on Monday, 9/12. For additional information, please contact Denise Miante at [rubob903@gmail.com](mailto:rubob903@gmail.com). We are having a cold buffet this time. Tape any preparation instructions on the dish covering. Sandwiches are preferable to deli platters to limit the amount of food handling. Please drop off your food at the kitchen door by 10:45a.m. There will be helpers at both the front and rear doors. If you are parking in the rear lot, which is best, you will pass by the kitchen door on the way down the driveway. Remember to label your dishes and serving utensils with your name; and take any leftovers home -- unless you specifically ask the friars if they'd like to keep them. Chris Grubach, his wife, Violetta, and Denise will be there by 8:00 a.m. to set up and clean the tables. Many hands make light work – and we'll need help after the event, too!!

**Prayer Requests**



**For the soul of:** John Gemmell and the comfort of this family at this time  
**For physical and spiritual healing of:** Katie Miante, Joan Kvetkas' daughter, Mary & husband Gary Faldasz (COVID), Judith Tyrrell, Gertrude Shelton (Marie's mom), Ed Sievers (Kathleen's husband), Fr. Paul Dressler's sabbatical, Evelyn Jones, Tessie Chitty, Jan Parker (National Minister), Ed Wilbourne, Susan Greif, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Joe McGeedy, John McHugh (brother of Joe), Bill Mulqueen, Ruth Shea's husband, Evelyn Jones' niece, Jimmy Wilbourne (son of Genny), Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Melka (sister-in-law of Genny Wilbourne)  
*(Please help update this list by sending changes/additions to [jd6bouv@verizon.net](mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net))*

**Birthdays**

Evelyn Jones – 10/01  
Brigid Cobb – 10/08

**Profession Anniversaries**

Jean Gaes – 9/17/1987	Joan Kvetkas – 10/4/1979
Denise Miante – 9/18/2010	Louise Ryan – 10/4/1982
Genny Wilbourne – 9/18/2010	Pat Tyrrell – 10/10/1991 -- Happy 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Christopher Grubach – 9/21/2019	Patricia Troup – 10/10/1996 – Happy 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Tobias Harkleroad – 9/21/2019	Mary Cicero – 10/10/1996 – Happy 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Joseph McHugh – 9/21/2019	Tessie Chitty – 10/11/1998

**Don't forget**

**October 1-3, 2021.** For those who have preregistered and paid their deposit, Fall Retreat under the direction Fr. Brian Stacy at Claggett Retreat Center, 3035 Buckeystown Pike, Adamstown, MD.

<b>Save the Date</b>	20th Quinquennial Congress on August 3 – 7, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona. For more information: <a href="https://secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/1-General-Information.pdf">https://secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/1-General-Information.pdf</a>
<b>Council Meeting</b>	Monday, October 4th at 1:00, location TBD.



## Minister's Minute

**Glad Tidings of Great Joy** as we join together to celebrate the Profession of Ruth Shea – on September 18 at Capuchin College. The Guardian at the college, Fr. Brian Stacy, will celebrate the Mass with us. It will be a good chance to meet him. We will also be joined by St. Francis fraternity members who have their fraternity meeting that morning. So that all can feel

comfortable in the chapel, please wear a mask. We will have a luncheon in the Refectory; weather permitting, we will also spread out in the courtyard adjacent to the refectory. There are picnic tables there. We can add some plastic chairs from the conference room beneath the chapel (where there are also three bathrooms in addition to the three on the first floor). It's hard to eat with a mask on, but by expanding the dining area, we should be able to maintain better social distance.

Now for the not-so-great news... our normal meeting place, St. John the Evangelist Church, is undergoing major renovations. The rectory is being remodeled so that the priests can return and live there... which forces the parish offices out. These will move into the convent building once it is renovated to support offices, but at present meeting space is hard to find. For us there is no consistent Saturday, nor any location there, which could accommodate our meeting. This is judged to be a temporary problem. Hopefully next year we will return to the youth room.

In the meantime, Pat has been in contact Our Lady of the Fields (OLF) parish; they have offered the use of Room 100 on the third Saturday of each month. This is an interior room (no windows) and has no sink. The council is concerned about the lack of ventilation. Without a sink we would need to cut back on refreshments (which will be beneficial to my diet). If you know of a space in your parish that might be available and suitable for our meeting, please email me at [jd6bouv@verizon.net](mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net). While weather remains good, we will probably use OLF picnic pavilion, and perhaps discuss our relationship with the creation around us. 😊

**Our Fraternity Family:** Keep up the prayers for:

John Gemmell – who lost his battle with cancer on August 20<sup>th</sup>. His wife, Mary (Cicero), has received much support from both her family and John's; however, she is feeling lonely. She enjoys getting mail, so send her a card: Mary Gemmell, 12750 Millstream Dr, Bowie. MD 20715-1637.

Fr. Paul Dressler, OFM Cap – that his spiritual sabbatical will renew him and provide direction on his spiritual journey  
Toby Harkleroad as he prepares to sell his house, move, and start a new job.



**Good News !!!** from Catherine Gonzales

IT'S A BOY! My son Andrew (in Iowa) and his wife, Abby, had their 4th child, a boy, born into their family on September 4<sup>th</sup>. He was a day shy of 2 weeks late, weighed in at 9lbs 7oz and he is 22" long. They are deciding on the perfect name. Mom and babe are healthy, and the entire family is so happy. God is so good.

*Fraternity members please send me more good news to share!*



Reminder: the Poor Clares in DC would like to receive some large-print books. If you have some that you think they would enjoy reading, please bring them to the August meeting as well.

## **OUTREACH** — *From Denise Miante*

### **A Thank you from the Light House Shelter: “Back to School Donation Drive”**

***“Our Back-to-School donation drive was a Huge Success. Thanks to the support from our community, over 125 backpacks, plus tons of additional school supplies and uniforms were donated!!! We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated. Your support will provide both our young residents, and the greater Light House community children, with the Back-to-School gear needed to have a successful 2021-2022 school year!”***

Our fraternity was part of this effort. Thanks to all who brought backpacks, supplies, and uniforms to our fraternity meeting last month. And special thanks to Denise and Catherine who organized and delivered our donated items.

**Light House -- Lunches** -- In lieu of sandwiches, Annapolis/Eastern Shore group will continue providing a monthly donation to the Light House.

### **Phoenix Academy Apostolate -- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

As many of you remember, our Fraternity participated in the Academy's food backpack program until the practice was ended with the onset of the COVID pandemic. The coordinator of the Program emailed Denise to see if we could resume this year. The Academy is a transitional school for students with physical and emotional needs. The “backpacks” are actually brown paper bags packed with food to ensure that students have nutritious food to eat over the weekend. Our fraternity provided the food and packed 24 bags for one weekend each month. Denise managed this outreach in the past. She will need five volunteers to help shop and to go to the school to fill the bags there each month. Volunteers would arrive at the school after lunch is served and pack the bags in the cafeteria. Please let Denise know if you can help support the program. Her email is [rubob903@gmail.com](mailto:rubob903@gmail.com), or call 410-253-5555

### **Treasurer’s Report**

July's ending balance		\$3,679.69
Donations		
from Fraternity meeting/mail	\$ 835.00	
August Expenses		
Franciscan Family Apostolate	\$ 100.00	
St. Francis International School	\$ 310.00	
August ending balance		\$3,924.39

The council approved making donations to disaster relief in Haiti (\$500) and Louisiana (\$500).

If you have a suggestion for a charity that the fraternity might support, please let one of the council members know and provide the full name of the charity and its address.

*Fraternity contributions can be mailed to: Joe McHugh at 1740 Tedbury St, Crofton, MD 21114*

**Remember, when making your donation to the fraternity, you can use the memo line of your check to designate where you wish your contribution to be directed. There are three possible designations:**

- **COM - Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India)**
- **BUS - bus tokens for the Light House shelter clients**
- **SFIS - St. Francis International School**
- **Phoenix – Phoenix Academy ‘backpack’ food program**



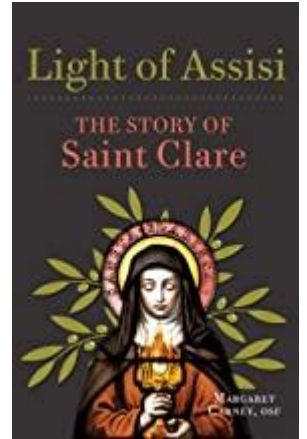
## **The Light of Assisi - The Story of Saint Clare** **by Margaret Carney, OSF**

*From Denise Miante*

I haven't read this book yet, but I want to share this recently published story.

The author says in the forward, explains that "the purpose of the book is simple: to introduce St. Clare of Assisi to those who do not know her and those who wish to know her better. Clare's story shows us that we need only have the courage to unlock what is within us, to spend our days powered by the graced anointing that we already possess."

This straightforward biography tells the story of this medieval woman from her birth to her death and canonization. Carney draws special attention to Clare's significant contribution to the Franciscan world in the many years following Francis' death. Far from merely reflecting Francis' light, Clare had her own charism, "a gift bestowed by the Spirit of the Lord and given to her in a fullness and forcefulness that was hers alone."



**Published by Franciscan Media and available at Amazon in new, used, Kindle, Audiobook formats**



### **PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH – From Denise Miante**

To you, O blessed Joseph, we have recourse in our affliction. And having implored the help of your thrice-holy Spouse, we now, with hearts filled with confidence, earnestly beg you to take us also under your protection.

By that charity with which you were united to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God, and by that fatherly love with which you cherished the Child Jesus, we beseech you and we humbly pray that you will look down graciously upon that inheritance which Jesus Christ purchased by His Blood and will help us in our need by your power and strength.

Defend, O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, the chosen off-spring of Jesus Christ. Keep from us, O most loving Father, all blight of error and corruption. Aid us from on high, most valiant defender, in this conflict with the powers of darkness. As you once rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now defend God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. Shield us ever under your patronage, that, following your example and strengthened by your help, we may live a holy life, die a happy death, and attain to everlasting bliss in Heaven. Amen.

**MANY THANKS TO THE FRATERNITY MEMBERS  
WHO CONTRIBUTED MATERIAL TO THIS NEWSLETTER**  
*especially*  
*Denise Miante*

**EVERYONE -- Please send me interesting items/news/poems/articles to add to *The Porter***

AN INVITATION .....

## FEAST OF SAINT PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA

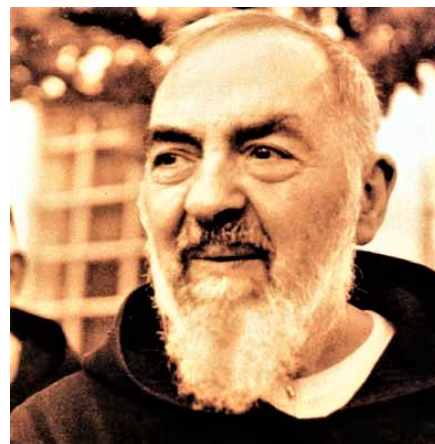
Our Lady Queen of Angels in Lancaster, PA fraternity cordially invites you to join some of our fraternity members at an event being held at The National Centre/Shrine for St. Pio. Feel free to bring your family and friends as well to honor this great saint!

**When:** Thursday, September 23

**What:** Feast Day Celebration for St. Pio

**Where:** The National Centre for Padre Pio, 111 Barto Road, Barto, PA 19504

**Details:** Both the Rosary at 11:30 am, and the Mass at noon, will be held in the Chapel on Thursday, September 23 to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Pio.



**Costs:** Travel expenses, plus any items purchased in the gift shop. There is an onsite mini cafe with coffee and baked goods which is open some days (not all). There are also restaurants nearby should you choose to eat out, and of course cost depends on what you order. For example, close by is the Americana Diner, 682 PA-100, Bechtelsville, PA 19505 – it is 2.9 miles from the Centre. However, we encourage you to pack a lunch to eat with other OFS members for more time for fellowship.

**Other info:** There is a museum and gift shop there, as well as the chapel. The museum is free of charge and has many wonderful artifacts from the life of St. Pio. The gift shop has many wonderful items for sale – books, rosaries, candles that can be lit at the shrine, statues, etc. People should pack their own lunch. There are some benches/picnic tables, but you could also bring your own lawn chair/blanket.

If there are enough people going, Jackie Holzel (OFS) could possibly arrange a tour of the Shrine by a shrine employee for us. Please RSVP if you are planning to attend to Jackie Holzel, [jholzel@yahoo.com](mailto:jholzel@yahoo.com) by **September 5** so this can possibly be arranged. It may be more difficult due to the Feast Day celebrations, but we can try if we have enough people interested in attending.

## 20<sup>TH</sup> QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS IS COMING !!!

IT'S OUR JUBILEE ... THE 800<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF OUR ORDER AND  
THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATIONAL QUINQUENNIAL CONGRESS  
**August 3 – 7, 2022 D Sheraton Phoenix Downtown**  
**3rd Street Phoenix, AZ 85004**

So why all the hoopla now??? **Registration started August 1, 2021 & the early birds get discounts.**

a Special group room rate is \$89 plus tax, per night but is only available until January 31, 2022  
a Quinquennial “early bird” registration is \$175 until December 31st ...  
or wait until May 28, 2022 and pay the “late owl” rate of \$250

So check out the information at:

<https://secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/1-General-Information.pdf>