

The Porter

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

The Porter deadline for the next issue is January 7. 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.

 Fraternity Meeting	Saturday, December 18, 2021 Mass at 8:30 AM at the Chapel on the Hill Sacred Heart, 16501 Annapolis Rd, Bowie, MD 20715 Meeting at 9:00 – noon *** Whitemarsh Hall (on the hill) Bring your mask (required in the Chapel and during the meeting).
Refreshments 	Glen Burnie/Pasadena Annapolis/Eastern Shore will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary. <i>Please remember to bring your own cup!</i>
Liturgy	Glen Burnie/Pasadena: Prayer for deceased members of our fraternity.
Outreach	Apostleship of the Sea – Shoe Boxes (see information on page 4.)
Prayer Requests 	For the soul of: Joseph McGeedy, and comfort for his family For physical and spiritual healing of: Joan Kvetkas (outpatient surgery), Judith Tyrrell, Gertrude Shelton (Marie’s mom), Ed Sievers (Kathleen’s husband), Evelyn Jones, Tessie Chitty, Jan Parker (National Minister), Ed Wilbourne, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), 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) <i>(Please help update this list by sending changes/additions to jd6bouv@verizon.net)</i>
Birthdays	Marie Shelton – 12/26 George Ryan – 01/07 Jenny Moreira – 12/31 Ed Wilbourne – 01/16
Profession Anniversaries	Harry Thompson – 01/10/1991 Lita Milan – 01/10/2002 (Happy 20 th anniversary!)
Save the Date	March 5, 2022: Day of Reflection for Inquirers and Candidates. Topic: “Yes, this is what I want” presented by Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conv. 9:00 am-4:30 pm, at the Shrine of St. Anthony, Ellicott City, MD. Registration: \$55, deadline: February 20, 2022. See Denise Mianta for more information. May 13-15, 2022: Regional Retreat at Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House in Faulker, MD. All rooms are single rooms. Cost for the weekend is \$250. August 3-7, 2022: 20th Quinquennial Congress in Phoenix, Arizona. For more information: https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/ and click on the 20 th Quinquennial Congress icon to download all 4 pages of information. Early-bird discount ends December 31.
Council Meeting	Friday, January 7 via Zoom



Minister's Minute

First, many thanks to our Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Patrick Monahan OFM Cap, for celebrating Mass for us in the historic Chapel on the Hill at our November fraternity meeting and for agreeing to celebrate Mass again at our December meeting.

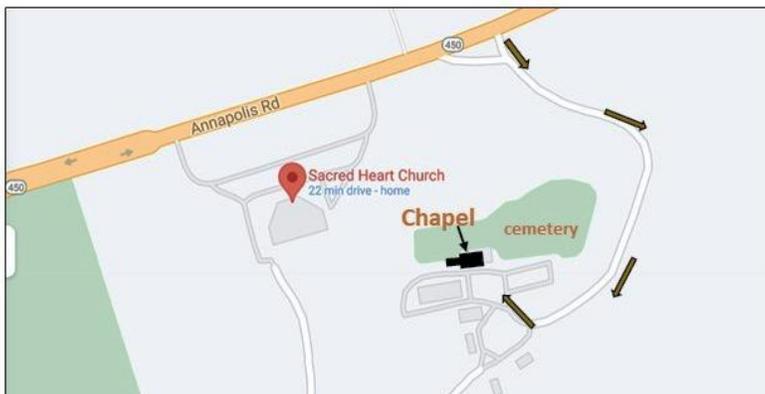
This December, the format will be a bit different. We will, of course, have coffee and refreshments, but we will not have our typical holiday party. Instead, Ruth Shea will be bringing the 1st order relic of St. Francis that she received as a gift following her profession. So the center of our meeting will be the relic. Expect to hear not only the story of this relic from Ruth, but also to learn more regarding relics in general during our formation and discussion time. This will be followed by silence for reflection and prayer in the presence of the relic.

As in past years, we will be collecting shoe boxes for the Apostleship of the Sea at the meeting. We need a volunteer to help get the boxes to Baltimore! COVID has been very hard on the merchant seafarers over the past 20+ months. While we were locked down in our homes watching TV and catching up on our reading, the seafarers were marooned onboard ships. Ports receiving ships refused to allow the sailors to come ashore. Maritime Labour Convention restricts the maximum time sailors can be at sea to 11 months, which requires crew rotations. COVID made rotations impossible. At the peak of the COVID shutdown 400,000 seafarers were stranded on ships around the world, for as long as 20 months. Unwinding the backlog in shipping may take 5 years. So try not to gripe if something you wanted this Christmas is not available. I plan to include a Christmas card box with a big thank you note in my box.

Also our St. Margaret of Cortona Region is gathering a Spiritual Bouquet to End Abortion in the US. This bouquet will consist of pledges by fraternity members who will sign up to offer Hours of Adoration, Masses, Rosaries, Acts of Secret Service, and Pro- Life Witness. These will start on, or before, January 6, and end on January 22. The signup sheet will be at the fraternity meeting. Genny Wilbourne is coordinating this for our fraternity, sending in a summary of what we pledge to do. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can contact her at gmawjmi@verizon.net or (410) 255-8839. She will answer questions, or add your offering of "flowers" to the spiritual bouquet.

And some good news:

Susan Greif is on the mend, back in her apartment and has completed physical therapy for her broken hip... and sounding rather chipper when I spoke to her.



Directions to Sacred Heart Church in Bowie

The church is located on Route 450 west (Annapolis Rd) just west of Route 3 (Crain Highway). The church is visible from the road. If you see the church, then you have passed the driveway to go up the hill behind the church where we meet.

To reach the buildings on the Hill, turn left on lane **PRIOR** to the Church entrance/exit roads. If you miss it, use the church parking lot to make a U turn. Once back on Route 450 take the turn off on

the right. There is parking by the chapel and cemetery. We will meet in the chapel at 8:30AM. After the Mass we'll proceed to Whitmarsh Hall in the basement of the Hogan Center across from the chapel.

Treasurer's Report – from Joe McHugh

November Balance		\$ 3,297.00
December Deposit	\$787.00	\$ 4,084.00
Expenses		
FFA	\$ 100.00	
SA book	\$ 22.00	
Phoenix/Bus (Oct-Dec)	\$ 340.00	
Ruth Shea (Tau)	\$ 50.00	
Current Balance		\$3,572.00

Additional expenditures authorized by council:

Sacred Heart	\$ 150.00
Fr. Patrick stipend	\$ 75.00
Franciscan Center	\$ 200.00
Amazon Relief	\$ 200.00
Casa Franciscana, Guymas	\$ 300.00
Franciscan Mission Service	\$ 100.00
Capuchin Province	\$ 200.00

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

Remember, when making your donation to the fraternity, 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
- Phoenix – Phoenix Academy 'backpack' food program

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Apostleship of the Sea – our collection will be at the December fraternity meeting. See the next page for instructions.

House on the Hill – a ministry Sacred Heart Church which provides items at no cost to the needy. There is a shed near our meeting place where one can donate items. Accepted items include:

gently used and new winter clothing	bed linens
shoes	towels
baby items	small household items (no electronics)
outer wear	

The House is staffed by parish volunteers and is open limited hours during the week. For more information look under 'ministries' on the Sacred Heart web site. <https://www.sacredheartbowie.org/>

Catherine Gonzalez will also try to answer general questions: mcmgonzalez59@outlook.com

Phoenix Academy "Backpacks" – Wednesday, December 15 at 9:45am. Contact Denise for more information at Rubob903@gmail.com

Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Thursday, December 30 at 9:30am at Catherine's house. Contact her for more information at mcmgonzalez59@outlook.com

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX

In December, our fraternity has traditionally put together gift boxes for merchant seafarers who visit the Port of Baltimore. We did this because they were often far from home on Christmas; and now with the pandemic, cannot even come ashore for shopping. We are reviving this Apostolate this year.

There are 3 ways to help:

- (1) If you wish to fill a shoe box, you can bring it to the Fraternity meeting on December 18. Please remember that there are also women Seafarers as well!! See the list of possible items below.
- (2) You could send a check to the Apostleship of the Sea at 320 Cathedral Street; Baltimore, MD 21202.
- (3) You can order items in bulk (like socks, warm hats, or gloves) and bring them to the Dec. 18 meeting. We'll deliver them to Dundalk with the gift boxes.

*****Note>>** If you would like to volunteer to ride with Jerry to Dundalk for the delivery, please let him know at gpmiante@gmail.com.

Find a sturdy shoe box (but not a boot box), stuff it full of some of the items below, and wrap it with festive paper.

Suggested contents:

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, combs, nail clippers, mouthwash, shampoos, comb/brush, hand sanitizer, lip balm

Hair conditioners, soap, shaving cream, deodorant, Q-tips, disposable razors

Socks, gloves, scarves, knit "watch caps" that cover the head and ears

Ball caps, pens, pencils, writing supplies, English dictionaries, 2022 calendars, pocket-sized address books/planners

Scotch tape, playing cards, travel sized games, reading materials (magazines, paperbacks)

Non-perishable foods/snacks/candy (no chocolate- it melts!) and a small Christmas card or blessing signed from a member, or members, of the Fraternity.

***St. Margaret Of Cortona Region's
Franciscan Spiritual Bouquet
To End Abortion in the USA
January 6th to January 22nd***

At this critical time in our Nation's history, let us unite together as a Region unite to make a fragrant offering to the Baby Jesus of our collective Hours of Adoration, Masses (offered as a private Mass intention - not a paid offering), Rosaries, Acts of Secret Service, and Pro Life Witness asking Him to help us as a Nation put an end to surgical and chemical abortions.

Our offerings can begin anytime on or before January 6th, 2022, the Feast of the Epiphany, and end on January 22, 2022, the date designated by the United States Central Conference of Bishops (USCCB) as the "*Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Children*" (being the day after the annual January 21st Right to Life March in Washington D.C.).

A Bouquet Sheet containing the collective offering of the members of our Region's Fraternities will be brought to the Blessed Sacrament at 3PM on January 22nd, and offered interiorly to **BABY JESUS.**

Please take the Bouquet Offering Sheet back to your Fraternity and ask your members to participate. Any level of participation is appreciated and not all categories of offerings have to be offered. Any level of participation by any members of your Fraternity is appreciated.

Once completed, simply take a picture of your Fraternity's Bouquet Offering Sheet, and email it by January 6th, 2022 to SusanSFO@msn.com. You will also receive an email with these same materials.



20th Quinquennial Congress

3-7 August 2022

REGISTRATION & GENERAL INFORMATION



Please read all 4 pages below before registering

Registration opens August 1, 2021

Q Registration Cost:

Full "Early bird" *	\$ 175	August 01- Dec. 31, 2021
Full Regular *	\$ 205	January 01 - May 27, 2022
Full "Late Owl" *	\$ 250	May 28 - July 1, 2022
One day only "Early bird" **	\$ 83	August 01 - Dec. 31, 2021
One day only **	\$ 100	January 01 - July 01, 2022

Young adults (Age 18-35) Scholarships available, please email:
ofsusa.qcongress@gmail.com

* Includes meal plan: 4 dinners, 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches, beginning with dinner on Wed. Aug.3

** Includes 1 lunch and 1 dinner

Meals on your own Sunday, Aug.7

Registration closes July 1, 2022. We cannot accommodate walk-ins

- A non-refundable \$100 per person deposit is due at time of registration.
- One-day-only registration (\$83) is not refundable.
- After you register, you may log in to your account and make payments as well as add information such as flight arrival and departure times.
- Remaining balance will be automatically charged to your credit card July 1, 2022.

BEFORE REGISTERING: please read all 4 pages of information provided on the regional website at <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/> -- click on the 20th Quinquennial Congress icon to download all 4 pages of information.