




# The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD  
 Secular Franciscan Order – April 2024  
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for next issue is May 7. Please send news, events, prayer requests, poems, or any interesting items that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 8217 Grainfield Rd, Severn, MD 21144, or send by email to [jd6bou@verizon.net](mailto:jd6bou@verizon.net).

 <p><b>Fraternity Gathering</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Saturday, April 20, 2024</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Gather in the Parish Office (old Convent) following Mass at 8:30 AM</b></p> <p align="center"><b>St. John the Evangelist</b></p> <p align="center"><b>689 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, Md. 21146</b></p> <p><b>Remember:</b> There is a men’s group in the Parish Office prior to the 8:30 am Mass. Fraternity members should avoid entering the Parish Office until <u>after</u> the 8:30 am Mass.</p>
<p><b>Refreshments</b></p> 	<p>Glen Burnie/Pasadena <i>Please remember to bring your coffee cup and appetite.</i>        Annapolis/Eastern Shore will be next</p>
<p><b>Prayer</b></p>	<p>Annapolis/Eastern Shore - LOH: Morning prayer. Saturday. 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Easter.</p>
<p><b>Outreach</b></p>	<p>For the sailors stuck in port: At the April meeting, we will be collecting recent magazines, books, puzzle books (word-finds). Denise will deliver the items to Apostleship of the Sea in Baltimore.</p>
<p><b>Program</b></p>	<p>Speaker: Dan Mislech, founder of the Catholic Climate Covenant</p>
<p><b>Prayer Requests</b></p> 	<p><b>For the soul of:</b> Dianne Douglas  <b>For physical and spiritual healing of:</b> Genny Wilborne, Audrey Donnelly, Jeanne Wilbourne, Michael Huether, Evelyn Jones’ son Jimmy, Audrey Bushée, Lita Milan, Bill Chitty, Jerry Mianté, Kathleen Sievers, Jude Dodge, Carole Marsh’s sister, Harry Thompson, Jackie Chaplin (sister of Kathleen Sievers), Gertrude Shelton (Marie’s mom), Ed Sievers (Kathleen’s husband), Evelyn Jones, Tessie Chitty, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Evelyn Jones’ niece, Jimmy Wilbourne, Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Malka (sister-in-law of Genny Wilbourne)</p>
<p><b>Birthdays</b></p>	<p>Santa Ragot – 4/21        Catherine Gonzalez – 5/4        Br. Connor Banon – 5/6        Audrey Donnelly – 5/6</p>
<p><b>Profession Anniversaries</b></p>	<p>Audrey Bushée – 5/8/1979        Jeanne Wilbourne – 5/15/1976</p>
<p><b>Council Meeting</b></p>	<p>Friday, May 3, at 7:00 pm via Zoom</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p>	<p><b>April 13, 2024. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Ministry Convocation, 9:00am -3:00pm</b> at Calvert Hall High School in Towson. MD. Theme: Call for Justice. <a href="https://cchdbaltimore.org/">https://cchdbaltimore.org/</a></p>

<p><b>Upcoming Events (cont'd)</b></p>	<p><b>July 17-21, 2024.</b> Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.  <a href="https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/">https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/</a></p> <p><b>September 6-8, 2024. 2024 Chapter of Mats.</b> Claggett Center, 3035 Buckeystown Pike, Adamstown, MD 21710. <b>REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. Scholarship money is available.</b>  <b>Early bird rates available until April 30<sup>th</sup>... so register NOW.</b></p>
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## Minister's Minute:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Do you have a favorite Season of the Year? I have decided mine is Spring- the joy of new life, the hope of the bulbs coming up, the love of the birds singing and building nests (the sparrows and the bluebirds are competing for the birdhouse again this year) and of course the blessings of Holy Week liturgies and the finale of the Easter Vigil and the Resurrection and the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Don't you love the Readings at Mass this time of year filled with the Apostles renewed Faith and Trust in God and their powerful witness even in the face of persecution filled with the Spirit and zeal to share the Good News of the Gospel. Jesus is Risen, He loves YOU, He died for You so that You can have eternal life (John 3:16). He truly is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!!!

Thank you for the new life you have brought to the fraternity with your Vision Responses- so many wonderful ideas that the Council will try to implement this year. We have a proposed calendar of meetings that we are working on. Joe McHugh, our JPIC representative, has asked Dan Mislech, the founder of Catholic Climate Covenant to speak to the fraternity at our April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It's a very timely topic as April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day. (See Joan's article in this Porter about recycling etc and limiting PLASTICS). For more info go to earthday.org. The fraternity will be renewing our Laudato Si pledge to care for creation and the poor.

I will miss the meeting but Ruth Shea our Vice Minister will take the lead. As Minister I will be voting at OLF on the 20th for the new Regional Council. Please pray for God's will to be done. Please pray also for a new location for our meetings starting in September. We will no longer be able to meet at St. Johns due to construction projects.

Please sign up for the Chapter of Mats in September and get the discount by the end of April. It's always a wonderful gathering and a time of Franciscan fellowship. Let's try to carpool our members. See above info.

Peace, love and joy, Judith

## TREASURER'S REPORT – JOE MCHUGH

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!

The March report is as follows:

February Balance		\$3,624.45
FFA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,524.45
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,424.45
St. John's Stipend	(\$100)	\$3,324.45
Monastery of the Holy Land	(\$250)	\$3,074.45
March Deposit	\$1,477.00	\$4,551.45

*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 (includes Sabu family)

**BUS** - bus tokens for the Light House shelter clients

**Phoenix** – Phoenix Academy 'backpack' food

Donations approved:

- To help the sailor stranded in Baltimore: Apostleship of the Sea - \$250
- To help support the families of those who lost their lives in the Bridge collapse Sacred Heart in Highlandtown - \$250

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – Denise Miante

**Phoenix Backpacks:** Filled 20-plus bags on Wednesday, March 20th. Next Bag-filling on April 17 provided Denise can find someone to do the shopping. Contact Denise if you would like to help.

**Light House Shelter Lunches:** Made 50 sandwiches on Thursday, March 28th at Catherine's. Next scheduled sandwich-making is on Thursday, April 25th at Catherine's and Paul's.

**Shelter Bus Passes:** Purchased and delivered 150 all-day passes to the Shelter on Thursday, March 28th.

## CONTEMPLATION CORNER -- From Joan Faltot

I have difficulty reading sometimes. Other times, an author's sentence structure is so concise the metaphoric that is the written work reads like poetry. Such was the following except expressing the need to forgive. It is from a letter by Saint Francis of Paola (1416-1507). It appears as part of the Office of Readings, Second Reading for April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Pardon one another so that later on you will not remember the injury. The recollection of an injury is itself wrong. It adds to our anger, nurtures our sin and hates what is good. It is a rusty arrow and poison for the soul. It puts all virtue to flight. It is like a worm in the mind: it confuses our speech and tears to shreds our petitions to God. It is foreign to charity: it remains planted in the soul like a nail. It is wickedness that never sleeps, sin that never fails. It is indeed a daily death.*

## **REDUCE ... REUSE ... RECYCLE ( AND AVOID PLASTIC): THE MILLERSVILLE LANDFILL AND BEYOND**

The Millersville Landfill & Resource Recovery Facility is the only active municipal solid waste landfill owned by Anne Arundel County. It opened in September 1975 and is located on more than 565 acres in Severn. Within a landfill are individual waste-holding “cells” which are large excavated basins lined with an impermeable barrier.

At Millersville, 8 disposals cells have been filled. Garbage is currently being dumped in cell 9—the LAST cell currently permitted for waste disposal. It actually has subcells. Subcell 9.1 went into use in January 2017. Subcell 9.2 went into use March 2022. Future subcell construction activities will be completed on an “as needed” basis. It is estimated that subcell construction activities will take place every 5 -7 years, depending upon the incoming waste volumes.

At this point, the county is trying to extend the life of the Millersville landfill as long as possible. Recycling rate has increased to 37%. The county is also diverting waste to other facilities such that today, the majority of residential waste is disposed of outside the county. Following this strategy, the county hopes that cell 9, the final cell, will not be filled until 2048.

For years, America sold millions of tons of used yogurt cups, juice containers, shampoo bottles and other kinds of plastic trash to China to be recycled into new products. All together 70% of the world’s plastic was sent to China. However, in 2017 the Chinese government cut way back on plastic trash imports and only took in 1% of its 2016 total. Now trash is going to Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia. Recycling plants in many of these areas can’t handle the volume, so it may be dumped in the countryside or burned. Vietnam and Malaysia now limiting in imports. In the US, some areas have resorted to storing it in trailers.

It’s easy to understand why there are large islands of plastic floating in the oceans. These islands consist primarily of suspended microplastics ("fingernail-sized or smaller"—often microscopic—particles).

I’ll cut this horror story short but just mention that you can’t escape micro- & nano-sized plastic. Plastic breaks up but doesn’t disappear. It is in marine life, the soil used for growing crops, our drinking water, the food we eat, and inside our bodies and blood. My take on this problem: wherever possible buy items in glass or paper and avoid plastic.

And kudos for the Millersville landfill. In the upper recycling area, there is a dedicated container for clean glass and another for clean cardboard (no food waste). This results very efficient recycling for materials that are far more recyclable than plastic.

Suggested viewing: PBS Frontline, The Plastic Wars

[https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-trp-001&ei=UTF-8&hsimp=yhs-001&hspart=trp&p=frontline+plastic+wars&type=Y21\\_F163\\_204855\\_043022#id=1&vid=d13ee419eae98348444f26cfa6206660&action=click](https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-trp-001&ei=UTF-8&hsimp=yhs-001&hspart=trp&p=frontline+plastic+wars&type=Y21_F163_204855_043022#id=1&vid=d13ee419eae98348444f26cfa6206660&action=click)

<h3>How to Be an Earth Keeper</h3> <p><i>When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves.</i> -David Orr</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invest in green energy.</li><li>• Pick up litter.</li><li>• Save paper.</li><li>• Minimize plastic use.</li><li>• Walk or bike when possible.</li><li>• Cut down on the air conditioning.</li><li>• Compost.</li><li>• Reduce. Reuse. Recycle</li><li>• Plant trees.</li><li>• Try public transit.</li><li>• Turn off lights when leaving a room.</li><li>• Conserve water; be mindful of your usage</li></ul> <p> Little FRIENDS For PEACE <b>Peace Tool Card</b> <i>Our Earth</i> For more, visit <a href="http://www.lffp.org">www.lffp.org</a>.</p>	<h3>Earth Quotes</h3> <p><i>"When I look at our planet I don't see any borders. So I see you as a citizen of Earth just like me, this is who we truly are."</i> -Roxana Jones</p> <p><i>"The Earth is what we all have in common."</i> -Wendell Berry</p> <p><i>"Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better."</i> -Albert Einstein</p> <p><i>"Try to leave the Earth a better place then when you arrived."</i> -Sidney Sheldon</p> <p><i>"The earth does not belong to us. We belong to the earth."</i> -Chief Seattle</p> <p> Little FRIENDS For PEACE <b>Peace Tool Card</b> <i>Our Earth</i></p>
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## Register **NOW** for St. Margaret of Cortona 2024 OFS Chapter of Mats

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for our **September 6-8, 2024 Chapter of Mats** to be held at the beautiful **Claggett Center** in Adamstown, Maryland. Under the theme of **The Next 800 Years**, we will explore where we have been, where we are now, and where we are going.

**How are we as Secular Franciscans poised to bring Christ to our world?  
What unique gifts do we have to offer?**

**Register between NOW and APRIL 30 to receive the early-bird rate.**

**This discount is a gift from the region to assist you in participating in the Chapter of Mats.**

### **Deadlines:**

Early-bird discount	Submit online registration form	<b>Due by April 30, 2024</b>
Non-Refundable Deposit	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>Due by June 1, 2024</b>
Full remaining balance	Based on housing selection	<b>Due by Aug. 1, 2024</b>

**Note: See payment options on page 2. After August 1, all reservations are final and non-refundable.**

### **Housing Options:**

Housing options will include single and double hotel-like rooms with private baths in the, **Christiane Inn** in close proximity to the dining room and meeting rooms. Accommodations are also available in cottages, downhill from the dining and meeting space. **Cottages** have two twin beds per room and shared baths down the hall. Map and more explanation of housing can be found on the regional website.

### **Event Costs:**

All meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast) and registration fees are included in the cost of the rooms. The lodging cost is based on the type of housing selected from the options below. There are no additional fees.

- Inn – single room/1 queen bed for 1 person (\$265 by April 30/\$315 after May 1)
- Inn – 2nd person in single room/1 queen bed for 2 persons (\$208 per person by April 30/\$235 per person after May 1) – must designate roommate
- Inn – double room/2 queen beds for 2 persons (\$225 per person by April 30/\$275 per person after May 1) – roommate may be designated or assigned (\$200 per person by April 30/\$230 per person after May 1) – must designate roommates
- Inn – double room/2 queen beds for four persons (\$188 per person by April 30/\$210 per person after

- May 1) – must designate roommates Cottage – two twin beds per room for 2 persons (\$185 per person by April 30/\$235 per person after May 1) – roommate may be designated or assigned (**no single rooms in cottages**)

**PLEASE NOTE: Single rooms are limited and available on a 1st come, 1st served basis. If you want a single room, or to reserve any other room of your choice, we encourage you to register and pay the \$150 deposit ASAP.**

**Payment Options: Payment can be made via check or credit card (subject to 3.5% fee).**

- Checks should be made payable to **St. Margaret of Cortona Region**, and mailed to **Peter Noyes, 1904 Atkisson Road, Joppa, MD 21085-1811.**
- If you wish to pay by credit card (with additional 3.5% fee), mark that box on the registration form
- and you will receive an invoice and payment instructions from Peter Noyes.

To enhance the participation of all our brothers and sisters, **disability and dietary accommodations**, and **language interpretation/translation** will be available throughout the Chapter of Mats. Please indicate your requests on the registration form.

### **WE NEED YOU!**

To make our upcoming OFS Chapter of Mats memorable, we wish to include in the planning fraternity members willing to share their talents by working with the subcommittees in the various capacities listed below. Please indicate on the registration form the subcommittee(s) for which you would like to volunteer:

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| • Program                               | • Liturgy and Environment |
| • Publicity                             | • Access                  |
| • Registration and Welcome              | • Social                  |
| • Onsite volunteer (usher, guide, etc.) |                           |

**If you have any questions or need help with registering, email Peter Noyes at [pnoyesofs@gmail.com](mailto:pnoyesofs@gmail.com) and to Janice Benton at [jbentonsfo@gmail.com](mailto:jbentonsfo@gmail.com).**

**NOTE: Please indicate on the form whether paying by check or credit card. (Reminder: credit cards are subject to a 3.5% fee)**

**For up-to-date information, visit the St. Margaret of Cortona website's Events page <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/>.** There are also links to a map and photographs of the campus that can be viewed from the website.

**To Register, a fillable registration form link is available on the website. <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Registration-for-Mats-2024-.pdf>**