

The Porter

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

Council

Minister	Patrick Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	ipatricksfo@gmail.com
Vice Minister	Mary Henry, OFS	(443) 949-0600	mhenry933@gmail.com
Secretary	Joan Faltot, OFS	(410) 969-6354	jd6bouv@verizon.net
Treasurer	Kathleen Sievers, OFS	(410) 544-0618	esievers@verizon.net
Formation Director	Denise Miente, OFS	(410) 643-2782 (h) (410) 253-5555 (c)	rubob903@gmail.com
Counselor-at-Large	Judith Tyrrell, OFS	(410) 721-7308	judithtyrrellofs@gmail.com
Spiritual Assistants	Br. Diogo Escudero, OFM Cap. Br. Saul Soriano, OFM Cap.		friardiogoofmcap@gmail.com 39sorianorodriguez@cua.edu

Volunteers

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

The Porter deadline for the February issue is February 8. 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, January 20, 2018
St. John the Evangelist, 607 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146
8:30 Mass – Church. Meeting 9:15 – Youth Room

Special Collection

At our meeting, we will have a collection of items to help support Mary's Center, Annapolis.

Following items are needed (new or gently used):

- Similac Advance and Similac Sensitive
- Baby food – all stages and juices
- Disposable diapers – all sizes and wipes
- Infant and toddler clothing to 6T – only every day wear (we have no need of dress up clothing)
- Warm sweaters, blanket sleepers, snowsuits, hats, mittens – Infant through toddler sizes
- Maternity clothing – especially sizes extra-large up to 3X
- Crib sheets and warm blankets
- New plastic baby bottles

See Page 3 for additional information about Mary's Center

Refreshments



Annapolis/Eastern Shore. Bowie/Crofton/Severna Park will be next, so please arrange to take the supplies home and restock if necessary. *Please remember to bring your own cup!*

Liturgy



Morning Prayer - Saturday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time, Week 2

Program

Small group discussions on the Rule; Extraction of Saints;
 Recommitment to our Life as Secular Franciscans
 Completion of Vision Questionnaires

Outreach

Phoenix Academy Backpack Program: Thursday, January 18 at 2:15 p.m.
Lighthouse Shelter Lunches: Sandwich-making will be Thursday, January 25, 9:30 am, at home of Catherine Gonzalez. For more information, contact Denise.

Prayer Requests 	<i>For our sick and/or homebound members:</i> (Please help us update this list.) Mary Musselwhite, Joan's husband Bill Kvetkas, Mandy (Kathleen Sievers' niece),Teri Egan, Denise Miente, Jude Dodge, Pat Troup, John Hoppa, Liz Spears, Jackie Moritz (Susan Burn's sister), Shelby Alexander (Joan Faltot's niece)		
Birthdays	Tessie Chitty – 01/21 Shannon Payne – 01/25	Kathleen Sievers – 02/10 Mary Jo Johnson – 02/10	Joan Kvetkas – 02/11 Nina Teti – 02/19
Profession Anniversaries	Margaret Jackson – 02/08/1998 – 20 years. Congratulations!		
Treasury 	<p>Common Fund balance: \$587.75</p> <p><u>REMINDER</u> - 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common Fund (this covers fraternity operations and the Sabu family in India),• Phoenix Academy (for student weekend food backpacks), and• Tokens (bus tokens for the Lighthouse Shelter). <p>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.</p>		
Council Meeting	February 3, 2018, after the planning meeting at Cap College (Mass at 8:30)		
Upcoming Events			
January 19	11am Capuchin Mass before the March for Life in the Crypt Church of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC		
March 3	39 th Annual Social Ministry Convocation at Mercy High School. Unable to find any online info yet. Stay tuned to https://www.facebook.com/Baltimore-Catholic-Campaign-for-Human-Development-CCHD-138162302898468/?hc_ref=ARSIRqKCvaHLDXff_LYChNQBdav-s352Wka_DmDt1-T5e9ShYHFQhqH23RaZN6y3Ql8		
April 21	Regional Elections. Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, Washington, D.C.		
June 29-July 1	Chapter of Mats. Priest Field Pastoral Center		

COMMUNITY



Minister's Minute: *Dear brothers and sisters in the LORD,*

January is a month of looking forward and looking back. I ask you to do that in preparation for the council meeting on Saturday, February 3, at Capuchin College to plan our year of programs and continuing formation. Looking back and forward is appropriate, as long as you don't let one or both overcome the present. It is not the way to live life or the Rule. These should be lived in the present—the only moment we have to “Make Christ the inspiration and center of our lives with God and people.” See Rule 4.

Have you had a chance to consider, as I suggested in the last issue, making a resolution to Live our Rule of Life—which means to live the Gospel by loving God and neighbor, by being Christ for others, by looking for and finding Christ in others, by building relationships? Have you had a chance to read the Rule and the Rite of Profession, the 17 Essential Elements of Secular Franciscan Spirituality folder, and the Vision questionnaire? I hope you'll have some time this week before the meeting. If not, however, we will provide time at the meeting to complete the questionnaire. We take seriously your comments and opinions. Also, at our meeting Saturday, we will have time to consider a few of the Rules in small-table discussions. Perhaps that exercise will begin to motivate us to take more seriously our resolution to live the Rule. As St. Francis said, “Let us begin again, for so far we have done little.”

Who goes to MARY'S CENTER? By Mary Henry, OFS

Mothers in desperate need of assistance of essentials for their babies and toddlers from every type of socio-economic background and those who seek free pregnancy tests ... women between the ages of 18 and 25 years. Mary's Center is there to help woman and teens in crisis pregnancies, to carry their baby to term, and to provide material assistance throughout the infant and toddler years. They provide maternity, baby, and toddler clothing, distribute emergency baby formula, diapers and other necessary items, including cribs, Pack-n-Plays, high-chairs and car seats ... when available. They're a visible sign of the Catholic Church saving babies from abortion and operate under the guidance of our Blessed Mother Mary, ... Jesus, Mary's Son is their 'center.'

In addition to their ongoing needs, which are the focus of our special outreach collection this month, there is always need for new and used cribs and car seats in excellent condition that meet the current safety standards, and financial donations throughout the year are ALWAYS welcomed for this work.

If you have any questions about donations to Mary Center, in Glen Burnie, talk to Mary Henry who will be happy to assist you. Financial donations can be mailed to MARY'S CENTER , Inc., PO Box 1804, Pasadena, MD 21123-1804.

Fraternity End of Year Donations

Each year the council reviews our treasurer and donates any surplus to charities. At the January Council meeting, the council decided to donate a total of \$700 dollars to be distributed to the following charities:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. \$100 - Poor Clares | 6. \$50 - Mission of Mercy |
| 2. \$100 - Franciscan Center | 7. \$50 - Amazon Relief |
| 3. \$100 - Birthright | 8. \$50 - Ixcan Ministries |
| 4. \$100 - Capuchin Province | 9. \$50 - Glenmary Missionaries |
| 5. \$100 - Franciscan Mission Service | |

JPIC -- JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION

Animator Judith Tyrrell, OFS

Pope Francis began this year on January 1st with the World Day of Prayer for Peace asking us to pray and to act on behalf of the 250 million migrants and 22.5 million refugees throughout the world. He expressed in his Christmas message (Urbi et Orbi) his heartfelt concern for the children suffering throughout the world "where peace and security are threatened", like the infant Jesus whose parents had to flee to Egypt after his birth in a stable because there was "no room in the Inn. Jesus surely understands the plight of these suffering children and longs for us to open our hearts to them and to their parents. This week is ending but the need for prayer for migrants and refugees is ongoing. May St. Juan Diego, St. Bakhita and St. Francis Cabrini, pray for them.

From United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Migration and Refugee Services

January 7-13, 2018 - Many Journeys, One Family

For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims and survivors of human trafficking. The theme for National Migration Week 2017, "Many Journeys, One Family," draws attention to the fact that each of our families have a migration story, some recent and others in the distant past. Regardless of where we are and where we came from, we remain part of the human family and are called to live in solidarity with one another.

Unfortunately, in our contemporary culture we often fail to encounter migrants as persons, and instead look at them as unknown others, if we even notice them at all. We do not take the time to engage migrants in a meaningful way, as fellow children of God, but remain aloof to their presence and suspicious or fearful of them. During this National Migration Week, let us all take the opportunity to engage migrants as community members, neighbors, and friends.

Please download the [National Migration Week Toolkit](#).

Prayer Resources

- Please download a digital copy of the [National Migration Week 2018 Prayer Card](#).
- Use this [collection of prayers](#) for use in your National Migration Week celebrations.
- This [sample homily](#) helps to define migration and its longstanding significance in the Church's moral tradition.
- Please use these [petitions](#) at your National Migration Week Mass, or during any celebration that reflects on the situation confronting migrants.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY-JANUARY 18-25,2018 *The theme this year is based on the Scripture from Exodus 15-1-21---Ex 15:6 "Your right hand O Lord glorious in power "is being sponsored by the Christians of the Caribbean from the song of Moses and Miriam as a song of triumph over oppression. Poverty, injustice, violence and addictions continue to challenge human dignity but God is planting seeds of freedom, hope and love that give courage to Christians of the Caribbean and to oppressed peoples everywhere. May we be messengers of that joy and hope. Adapted from Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity at Vatican.va. See also Prayer for Christian Unity-Franciscan Friars of the Atonement.—atonementfriars.org*

The most consequential environmental stories of 2017, Washington Post, January 2,
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/12/27/the-most-consequential-environmental-stories-of-2017/?utm_term=.db363a837a90

CARE FOR CREATION

REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE by Susan Burns, OFS

Did you watch the MPT program Sultan and the Saint? Years ago I participated in a book study on The Saint and the Sultan by Paul Moses. I just looked for it to share with you, but I must have given it to someone else as I can't find it. Anyway, Paul Moses was one of the contributors as were a number of Franciscans, but there were also numerous Muslim contributors to the program including professors in Islamic studies. It was very good. Gave me a lot to think about.

I sometimes get so frustrated with friends, family, parish, and SFO fraternity and their lack of enthusiasm about caring for creation. This movie, in thinking about Saint Francis and his response of love, helped me to reflect more on developing that relationship with God first, loving all where they are and being less judgmental, and being more patient and persistent in proclaiming the Gospel message to Care for all God has created.

So now I am asking everyone to contribute to the sustainability of the environment God has placed in our care. There are a few things we can do right now in our fraternity that could readily play forward to our homes and families and to others. Pope Francis tells us in Laudato Si, paragraph #21, "The earth, our home, is beginning more and more to look like an immense pile of filth." By having a 3Rs mentality, REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE, we can, as a

community, make an impact.

Let's first look at our trash management, look into the trash barrel at our meetings. What can we do? We can simplify. We can reduce the amount of paper generated by providing hard paper copies only for those who cannot communicate electronically. Each secular can create their own notes of presentations instead of depending on handouts, besides God may be sending me a very different message from the one He is sending you in the same presentation.

Over the years our breakfast snack has grown to a hearty breakfast. Shouldn't our meals be simplified? Or maybe we should each bring our own snack or not have food or something in between? When there is food trash after our meetings, we could have a container for the food trash that can be taken to a compost, i.e. raw fruit and vegetables, eggshells, tea bags, coffee grounds, Deans Beans coffee bags (minus the plastic button insert). Is there a compost at St. John's? Do you have one at home and at your parish?

We seem to be doing pretty well at utilizing reusable mugs for coffee/tea. What do you think about bringing your own plate and utensils as well? How about using cloth napkins and tea towels instead of paper napkins and paper towels?

After reducing and reusing, there still is trash, but we could try to make as much as possible of the leftovers in the trash be recyclable trash. Make sure we only use biodegradable paper products. If it's biodegradable, it will say so on the packaging and/or on the bottom side of the product. Empty your cups of liquid down the drain and remove leftover food from your plate into the trash or compost container before putting biodegradable paper products in the recycle. NEVER use Styrofoam or those plates that look like hard plastic. They may cost the least monetarily, but cost the most to the earth. Styrofoam

never decomposes. It often breaks into smaller pieces that create an eyesore along our roads and waterways and are ingested by animals causing harm, disease, and even death.

Care for all God has created. Recyclable items should be loose in the recycle container as items in plastic bags are discarded at recycle facilities as trash. Plastic bags should be collected and returned to the grocery store and not placed in the trash. Paper towels and napkins are not recyclable and should remain in the trash. What are your ideas?

Franciscan Family Apostolate

The Franciscan Family Apostolate was founded as response of the Secular Franciscan Order to the plight of the poor in the Third World. Following its founder, Saint Francis of Assisi, the poor Christ is found in the faces and lives of the poor and oppressed of the world. The Franciscan Family Apostolate's mission is to encourage a witness to the Gospel life preached by Jesus – the care and concern for the stranger in need regardless of race, color, religion or country of origin.

For more information: <http://franciscanfamilyapostolate.org/>

Our Fraternity is current sponsoring the Sabu Family in Alleppey. We recently received a letter from both Jancy Sabu and also Bishop Stephen Athizpozhiyilm, Diocese of Allepey, Kerala, India, dated December 2017.

From our sponsored family in Alleppey

Dear loving friends,

Hope and pray to find you in good health. Let us take this opportunity to wish you the blessings of Christmas and the New Year. May the Infant Jesus bless you with love, peace and joy. Be sure of our special prayers for you and your family members during the mid-night Holy Mass.

We request our fervent prayers for our country, when we are facing a great disaster. A cyclone named "Oackie" attacked our costal belt and huge area is devastated. Many families are shifted to refugee camps. Our fisherfolk lost their boats and even life. It will take time to put everything to order.

Received your timely assistance and thank you very much for the same. I am discontinue the work in the hospital. My mother-in-law is completely bed ridden and she needs someone help to move. SO I am caring her. I am happy to inform you that my elder daughter's marriage is fixed. We are planning to conduct it on April. Date is not fixed. The bridegrooms name is Biner and he is a mason. My second daughter is studying in the 12th grade. My father-in-law is keeping well.

Once again thanking you for your love and concern towards us. Give our loving regards to all your dear ones. We are remembering all in our daily prayers.

Jancy Sabu

Dear Friends,

Greetings of Love and Peace of Our Lord From Bishop's House, Alleppey.

With the season of advent setting in, the festive of Christmas begins to fill the air and I take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas and a grace filled New Year. It is indeed very appropriate to remember you and wish you all the poor people of this Christmas season. Your care and concern for the poor people of this diocese is really an act of mercy. I know that it is from your limited source of income that you are helping our poor people through Franciscan Family Apostolate.

I am happy to say that many beneficiary families here make the best use of the help they get from you. In some families the children get chance to study for professional course like medicine, engineering, post graduation in different subjects, and also in different types of vocational training and thus they could find suitable jobs to sustain their families. Some families get involved in self venture like garment sale, running petty shops, goat rearing, coir spinning, fish vending and some fishermen even have their own fishing crafts with the help of micro credit loan from FFA. In some cases the sponsors were extra ordinarily generous in supporting the families in settling girls in marriage, building strong houses with partial help from the government too. Sr. Helen and the staff, I must say, are doing their level best to help the poor people by making arrangements for reaching out the poor in their need.

As usual this year too we celebrated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 3rd with Holy Mass at the Cathedral church. I was blessed to be the Main Celebrant and was joined with by the Vicar General and the Executive Director of Alleppey Diocesan Society. Your country, families and all your good intentions were remembered and thanked for during the Mass and almost all our families attended the Holy Eucharist.

I take this opportunity to express our deepest love and gratitude towards Mr. Alan J. Ouimet and the members of the Board of Directors and each and every one of you for your goodwill and generosity in supporting a good number of families here. Wishing you A Very Happy & Blessed Christmas and A Prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely in Jesus
Bishop Stephen Athipozhiyil

December 2017

Pray More Novenas

Kathleen discovered this new website where you can sign up to have novena prayers delivered to your inbox. You can then join the other 282,262 people in prayer (as of 1/13/18). In addition to the email subscription, check the website for a list of all the novenas.

<http://www.praymorenovenas.com/>

Anne Arundel County Animal Control

Animal Control is in need of donations. Some of the more common items are:

Towels	Metal Bowls	Food Unopened - Canned Food & Dry Food
Wash Cloths	Toys	Petsmart/Petco gift cards
Blankets	Leashes	

For their complete list of items accepted for donation, please visit their website at

<http://www.aacounty.org/departments/animal-control/donations/index.html>



CAPUCHIN FRANCISCAN FRIARS

PROVINCE OF ST. AUGUSTINE

220-37TH STREET • PITTSBURGH, PA 15201

800-224-0330 • 412-682-1300

WWW.CAPUCHIN.COM • FRIARJOHN@CAPUCHIN.COM

Dear Mr. Tyrrell,

It's amazing what you are doing!

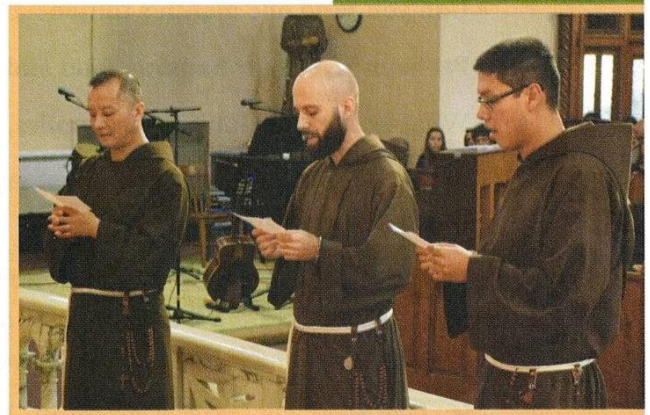
Thank you for helping our seminarians on their way to the priesthood. I know I can count on you for your continued support, as even more young men are choosing the Capuchin way of life.

This year, three young friars were ordained to the priesthood in June, and in December, two more Capuchin friars were ordained to serve the Church. And you helped make it happen! God bless you for your wonderful prayers and faith-filled generosity.

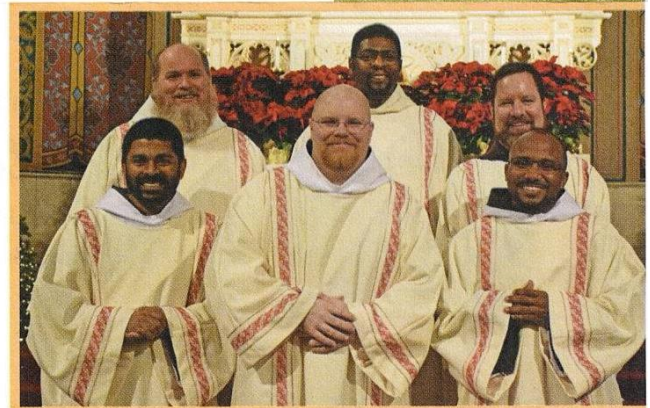
Let me tell you the plans for Father Roshan Anthonypillai and Father Reynaldo Frias who were ordained on December 9th.

Father Roshan lived in northern Virginia for many years and worked as a highly accomplished and very well-paid computer specialist. He gave up a great career path in the world to follow Christ as a poor, obedient and chaste Capuchin friar. He was making great money, but Father Roshan knew God was calling him to something better, something holy. After prayerfully searching, he found the Capuchins and wanted to be a friar with all his heart. He is bright and on fire with love for God and the Church.

Father Reynaldo, born in the Dominican Republic, moved to Maryland a number of years ago, where he attained a Masters degree in library science. His first job – librarian in a theological library – would be his first contact with a Capuchin friar. The rest is history. The more he learned about the Capuchin way of life and met the friars, the more he knew he was called to follow Christ in the spirit of St. Francis. Like any librarian, Father Reynaldo pays attention to details, and in every detail of his life, he heard God calling him.



BR. KEON TU, BR. DIOGO ESCUDERO AND BR. SAUL SORIANO TAKING PERPETUAL VOWS

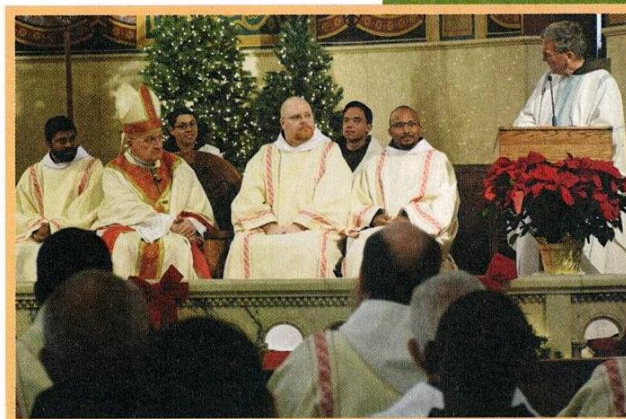


1ST ROW FR. ROSHAN ANTHONYPILLAI, BR. PHILIP WHITE, FR. REYNALDO FRIAS, 2ND ROW FR. AL CARVER, FR. JAMES WATSON, FR. JONATHAN ULICK

0006125

Father Reynaldo will be assigned to parish work here in the United States, while Father Roshan will be sent to the missions in Papua New Guinea. They can't wait.

These are the young men you have supported through their priestly education and training. Yes, it certainly costs a lot, but it's all worth it. And there are more young friars, priests-in-the-making, who need your support now.



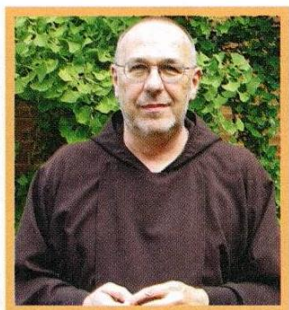
Will you help us prepare even more young friars for the priesthood?

Your generous donation will be a big help.

- **Can you fund one month's tuition? That's \$2,000.**
- **Perhaps \$1,200 for housing, food and medical insurance for three months.**
- **What about \$500 for books, supplies, and other educational necessities?**
- **Or \$100 for one month of personal expenses, like transportation, phone, internet, and hygiene necessities?**

Perhaps you are on a fixed income or limited budget, and even though you would like to help more, you can't. A gift from the heart of any amount will be a great blessing, and like the woman Jesus noticed in the temple, God will know your sacrificial generosity.

May God bless you for your generosity. Be assured that we Capuchin friars will keep you, your loved ones, and all of your special intentions in our prayers.



Gratefully yours in Christ and St. Anthony,

Father John

Father John Pfannenstiel, OFM Cap.
Director

P.S. With your help let us continue to support our seminarians in their vocations with prayerful, generous gifts from the heart. Please take a look at the enclosed seminarian brochure.
Praise God, there are 40 men in formation! We are truly blessed!