



# The Porter

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

The Porter deadline for next issue is March 8th. 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 [jd6bouv@verizon.net](mailto:jd6bouv@verizon.net).



Fraternity  
Gathering

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**  
**Gather in the Parish Office (old Convent) following Mass at 8:30 AM**  
**St. John the Evangelist**  
**689 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, Md. 21146**

**OUR MEETING WILL EXTEND TIL 1PM WITH SHARINGS FROM THE COUNCIL INCLUDING BROTHER CONNOR. THE COUNCIL WILL REMAIN TO DISCUSS VISION RESPONSES. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND.**

**Remember:** 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 after the 8:30 am Mass.

Refreshments



Bowie-Crofton-Severna Park  
*Please remember to bring your coffee cup and appetite.*  
Glen Burnie/Pasadena will be next

Prayer

Glen Burnie/Pasadena LOH: Morning prayer. Saturday. 4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent.

Program

Our Fraternity's Vision for 2024 (see page 3 for details & homework)

Prayer Requests



**For the soul of:** Dianne Douglas  
**For physical and spiritual healing of:** Genny Wilborne, Audrey Donnelly, Jeanne Wilbourne, Michael Huether, Evelyn Jones' son Jimmy, Audrey Bushée, Lita Milan, Bill Chitty, Jerry Miente, 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)

Birthdays

Joseph McHugh – 3/19                      Jean Gaes – 3/25  
Sarah Ranke – 3/19                         Mary Gemmell – 4/06  
Susan Burns – 3/20                         Susan Greif – 4/07

Profession  
Anniversaries

Dennis Mallon – 4/6/1955

Council Meeting

Friday, April 5, at 7:00 pm via Zoom

<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p>	<p><b>April 13, 2024. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Ministry Convocation</b>, 9:00am -3:00pm 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.</b></p>



## Minister’s Minute:

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Penance (Rule 7)

When you look at the cross and reflect on the Passion and Death (and Resurrection) of Christ what do you see? I see the LOVE of Jesus poured out on the cross for ME, for US and for all the world. Our Franciscan vision gives us eyes to see Christ suffering in the homeless on the streets in makeshift shelters, in the beggar on the corner, in the destruction of our planet when we see our streams and rivers and ocean dumping garbage on our shores and strangling our turtles and birds with fishnet and coke tabs, in the starving moms and children(men too) in Gaza etc etc and we cry out when will it STOP. When will there be Peace, Justice, Care for Creation and the Poor, the Sick, and the Marginalized?

Let us recommit to doing our part as so many of you are doing with your prayers, works of charity and justice and peace actions. But let us with new eyes look for more opportunities and share those with the fraternity on Saturday as we look to creating Our Fraternity Vision for the coming year.

Two articles in this month’s St. Anthony Messenger speak to this desire. The first “The Work of Justice....” Justice involves putting into action our respect for the dignity of every person because we are all made in the image of God. Justice works to secure the God-given rights of all so that every person has an equal opportunity to live the life God intends for them....” <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/st-anthony-messenger/richard-rohr-modern-day-mystic>

The second article about Richard Rohr --Modern –Day Mystic closes with the answer to what his “love language” is. Words, touch, quality time, gifts, and acts of service all had their place but what matters most to him is when people care about the things he cares about and join in that good work.” <https://emagazines.com/expresslibrary/8069bcce-73bd-48e1-8e13-1db36945e8ca>

May this prayer by ST CLARE OF ASSISI be ours---“Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bend our knees and we ask through the prayers of the glorious Virgin Mary, the holy mother of Christ and by Father Francis and all of the saints, may Christ who has given us bountiful beginnings, increase our efforts more and more and guide us to persevere in that original spirit.” P143 The St. Clare Prayer Book listening for God’s leading by Jon Sweeney Paraclete Press

Peace and all good, Judith

**PS Look forward to seeing you on Zoom March 12, 7pm to discuss Instrumentum Laboris!**

For an excellent article on Franciscan Values on the Franciscan Action Network web page go to <https://franciscanaction.org/franciscan-values-guiding-fan>

## DIANE DOUGLAS

Harry Thompson, first let us know that Dianne Douglas passed away at home in Lewes, Delaware, a few weeks ago (we do not know the exact date and we only learned today of the memorial Mass scheduled as shown below). Pat checked the web for obituaries since then and Monday, we saw her name in the St. Mary's/St. John Neumann bulletin and called St. Mary's this morning. Judith spoke to Dianne's sister Kathy this afternoon.

The memorial Mass for Dianne will be on Saturday, April 6 at 10:30 am at St Mary's (there will be a private interment and no reception).

On May 8, 1979, Dianne was the 43rd person to be permanently professed in the first decade of St. Conrad fraternity. Dianne served as the secretary/administrative assistant at St. Mary's Parish for many, many years. In October, 2011, she transferred to St. Clare fraternity in Delaware after she and her husband Jerry Barbacano moved there. Jerry died in 2023. Some of you may only remember Dianne if you met her at our fraternity 40th- and/or 50th-year celebrations in 2012 and 2022. The attached photo is at the 2012 event.

Please pray for the repose of Dianne's soul and for her survivors.

## OUR FRATERNITY'S VISION FOR 2024

Hopefully our third try to discuss our vision will bear fruit and the weather will not interfere as it has for the last two months.

During our gathering on March 16th our main focus will be on defining... brainstorming... ??? ... imagining... reflecting on what we as a fraternity wish to accomplish this year.

To help organize our thoughts we will focus on the following four questions during the meeting:

1. What suggestions do you have for programs, speakers/books for our meetings?
2. How do you serve in your parish? How would you like to serve with your gifts in our fraternity?
3. What suggestions do you have for Area Group activities? i.e., skits, saints, testimonies? monthly breakfast foods?
4. What changes would you like to see in meeting time, prayer, apostolates, food, etc.?

However, don't feel yourself bound by these four questions. Write any ideas you have on the paper provided during the meeting.

So please spend some time praying on this prior to the meeting. Consider:

- Meditating on our Rule and identify which Franciscan values our Fraternity needs to improve upon and how we might put that into action. <https://franciscanaction.org/franciscan-values-guiding-fan>

## TREASURER'S REPORT – JOE MCHUGH

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!  
Starting balance for this month has been modified due to two old outstanding checks which Joe has now cancelled.

1/30/24	\$160.00	\$4,254.45	January Balance
2/14/24	(\$100)	\$4,154.45	FFA
2/14/24	(\$100)	\$4,054.45	SA Stipend
2/26/24	(\$335)	\$3,719.45	Phoenix Academy
2/26/24	(\$305)	\$3,414.45	Lighthouse Tokens
2/27/24	\$210.00	\$3,624.45	February Deposit

*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  
food program

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – Denise Miente

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As coordinator for both the Light House Bus Passes and the Phoenix Academy food bags, I would sincerely like to thank you for your generosity during the past year. I would also like to assure you that 100% of your donations have been used to fund these two Fraternity Apostolates.

The Bus Passes are used every day for folks going to work and for Dr. Appointments, thus saving part of the Light House budget which would have to be used for this purpose.

At the Phoenix Academy, the once-a-month food bags (20-24) are well-appreciated and the staff tells us how the children look forward to them. Other students want to be added to the list. We invite you to come to the filling of these bags at least once and experience the joy of giving to children in less-fortunate circumstances.

If anyone would like to help with these programs, please let me know by email at [rubob903@gmail.com](mailto:rubob903@gmail.com)

With warmest regard, Denise

**Phoenix Backpacks:** Filled 20-plus bags on Wednesday, February 28th (a week later due to the "snow"). Next Bag-filling is Scheduled for **Wednesday March 20**. We meet at 10 a.m. in the cafeteria. Denise wants to continue to the end of the year or hopes to rely on Catherine to do the shopping for this. Denise's vision is limiting her ability to drive.

**Light House Shelter Lunches:** Made 50 sandwiches on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Audrey's home. She's getting stronger and was even getting around with a walker! She would love to have the sandwich making meet at her house. Next scheduled sandwich-making is on **Thursday, March 28**. Location TBD.

**Shelter Bus Passes:** Next batch is due in March.

### From Celebrating the Gift of the Stigmata

**In the Centenary of the Gift of the Stigmata as a Franciscan Family we are invited to restore the dimension of prayerful and contemplative silence in our daily lives, the silence that places us before the essential that lets us recognize our desire for the infinite resides in our hearts, that allows us to listen to ourselves, to others and to God. In face even today, the Poverello is presented as a person who made listening a way of life; Saint Francis heard the voice of God, he heard the voice of the poor, he heard the voice of the infirm and he heard the voice of nature. He made them a way of life. My desire is that the seed that Saint Francis planted may grow in the hearts of many. (Fratelli Tutti)**

## 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>**