



The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
 Secular Franciscan Order – February 2025
<http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/>

The Porter deadline for next issue is March 5. Please send news, events, prayer requests, poems, or any interesting items to: Joan Faltot, 715 Maiden Choice Ln, Apt CC122, or send by email to jd6bouv@verizon.net.



Fraternity
Gathering

Saturday, February 15, 2025
St. John the Evangelist – Parish Activities Center
Severna Park, Maryland

½ Day of Recollection -- 8:30am – 12:30pm
with the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy
Topic: Hope – Trust
Speaker: Sister M. Donata Farbaniec,
Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy

**Program
Schedule**

8:30 am – Mass (Activity Center) Registration already made by fraternity
 9::00 am – Continental Breakfast No charge, but free-will offering accepted
 9:45 am – Talk “Hope & Trust” followed by Eucharistic Adoration

**Weather
Policy**

Our fraternity gathering will be CANCELED whenever Anne Arundel County cancels school activities for that Saturday. Beyond that individuals should also trust their own judgement if conditions are unsafe for them. So if you are unstable on your feet, and wind is gusting at 50 mph, you should consider staying safely anchored at home.

Prayer Requests



For physical and spiritual healing of: Jude Dodge’s niece (ICU), Catherine Gonzalez’s mother (broken shoulder joint), Ruth’s daughter Kate, Jessica (Ruth’s friend), Monica’s daughter, Dave Weir, Jude Dodge, Margaret Jackson, , Audrey Donnelly, Jerry Miantie and Denise, Tessie Chitty, Jeanne Wilbourne, Michael Huether, Evelyn Jones’ son Jimmy, Audrey Bushée, Lita Milan, Bill Chitty, Kathleen Sievers, Carole Marsh’s sister, Harry Thompson, Jackie Chaplin (sister of Kathleen Sievers), Ed Sievers (Kathleen’s husband), , 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

Tessie Chitty – 1/21 Mary Jo Johnson – 2/10
 Fr. Patrick Monahan – 1/31 Joan Kvetkas – 2/11
 Kathleen Sievers – 2/10 Linda Haney – 2/16

**Profession
Anniversaries**

Margaret Jackson – 2/8/1998

Council Meeting

?????????? Friday, February 28, OR March 7, at 7:00 via Zoom.

March 29, 2025, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Day of Reflection for Inquirers and Candidates

Upcoming Events	Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, 1400 NE Quincy St., DC. Presenter: Br. Michael Meza, OFM Cap. Lunch is included.
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Minister's Minute

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy feast of St. Bakhita, patroness of traffickers and the Sudan. She is a Conossian nun the same Order as our Sisters in Kerala. We spoke of her in our fraternity years ago when we first were praying for the people of the Sudan. May she continue to pray for them, the abused, and our families and Sisters in India.

As you can read in this Porter the fruits of our Annual Planning Session with the Council sharing and discussing the results of the Vision responses that you gave to us at the last meeting. I will include these in this Porter. Summary sheet by topic. Please note we are hoping for more active Area Groups to meet the desire to gather together more often and to study, see DVD's, and discuss current Franciscan issues, while socializing and getting to know each other better. Please try to work out a plan for this to happen in the new year. Thanks for your cooperation to all and the wonderful thoughtful responses given.

Unfortunately the forecast for next Saturday is for SNOW. So please pray for God's will but see the info from Anne Arundel if we have to cancel.

Thanks to Ruth Shea for the meditation books for Lent from Bishop Barron. May the heart of all we do be rooted in prayer.

Peace, love and joy, Judith

Evening Prayer via Zoom

Pope St John XIII Fraternity (Davidsonville, MD) invites you to join its evening Liturgy of the Hours prayed daily on Zoom. Open a Zoom.us session and JOIN the meeting.

Meeting id: 88305033327

Sunday through Friday meetings are at 4:30 PM

Saturday meeting is at 3:30 PM.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

LIBRARY OF CONRAD BOOK CLUB

Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, so this month meeting is on **Tuesday, February 18 at 2:00pm**. Location will be at Audrey's home in Annapolis. We'll be discussing chapter 6 of ABBA'S HEART by Neal Lozano. Contact Denise for more information.

2025 FRATERNITY ANNUAL PLAN – FIRST DRAFT

On February 1, the council met and tried to map out a plan for our 2025 Fraternity Gatherings. Needless to say, this is a first draft and many details need to be attended to before a firm? plan can be made. Of course nothing is ever firm, and modifications may be made to meet any special needs or events that arise in the future. But with this, at least we have a starting point.

2025 ANNUAL PLAN – ST. CONRAD’S SFO, ANNAPOLIS					revised: 2/1/2025
Proverbs 29:18 - <i>Where there is no vision, the people perish.</i>					
Month	Program	Prayer/Outreach	Food	Pray	
Jan 18	Judith Tyrrell: Fraternity vision survey Prolife update: Genny Wilbourne & Jeanne Gaes	Saturday 1 st week Ordinary	Ann/ES	B/C/SP	
Feb 15	<i>Location change: St. John the Evangelist, parish activities center</i> ½ Day of Recollection with Divine Mercy.	<i>St. Margaret of Cortona – 2/16</i> Saturday 5 th week Ordinary	XX	XX	
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday – Lent begins				
Mar 8-14	Match 8-14: National Catholic Sisters Week				
Mar 15	Speaker: Marty Mitchell, author of <u>The Capillaries of Christ. Understanding the Part You Play in His Body.</u> ??? short presentation to our Fraternity OR ??? day of recollection possibly with Pope St. John XIII fraternity	<i>St. Agnes of Prague 3/2</i> Saturday 1 st week Lent	B/C/SP	GB/P	
Mar 29	Regional Annual Day of Reflection for Inquirers & Candidates at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land				
Apr 12 **	** Date changed to avoid Holy Saturday Speaker: Dan Misleh - Founder, Executive Director of Catholic Climate Covenant	<i>Feast--St. Conrad 4/21</i> Saturday 5 th week Lent Welcome Ceremony: Antoinette DeWayne			
April 20	Easter Sunday				
May 17	Musical presentation of <i>St. Francis and the Wolf</i> , presented by Monica’s third grade class. Location TBD	Saturday 4 th Week Easter			
June 8	Pentecost Sunday – followed by 10 th week of Ordinary Time				
June 21	Jubilee of Hope – Through the Door Julia Greeley – secular Franciscan Servant of God Location: (?)Sacred Heart, Bowie – Mass in Chapel w/ Fr. Patrick	<i>St. Anthony of Padua 6/13</i> Saturday 11 th week Ordinary			
July 19	Canticle of the Creatures Speaker Toby Harkleroad, Regional Councilor Fraternal Visitation	Saturday 15 th week Ordinary			
Aug 16	“St. Michael’s Lent” (Aug 15 to feast of St. Michael (Sept. 29) Speaker – Fr. Jude Winkler ??	<i>St. Clare of Assis 8/11</i> Saturday 19 th week Ordinary			
Sept 20	Light House tour/picnic	Saturday 24 th week Ordinary			
Oct 18	Servant Leadership – preparation for Fraternity Elections	Feast of Saint Luke			
Nov 15	Fraternity Elections	Saturday 32 th week Ordinary			
Nov 30	Advent begins				
Dec 20	Fraternity Christmas Party	Saturday 3 rd week Advent	Pot Luck		

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES – Denise Miente

Phoenix Backpacks: Filled 24 bags on Wednesday, December 18th. No bags were filled in January due to illnesses and shopping difficulties. Tentative next bag-filling date is set for February 19th. Denise is need of additional help with the shopping. Please contact Denise if you can help. She can supply of list of items and qualities needed.

Light House Shelter Lunches: Made 50 sandwiches on Thursday January 23rd at the home of Joan Kvetkas. Next scheduled sandwich-making is on Thursday, February 27th. Location TBD but probably at Joan Kvetkas home. Catherine is currently spending much of her time looking after her mother and making sure she does her exercises to regain use of her injured shoulder.

Shelter Bus Passes: Bought and delivered 200 all-day bus passes to the Lighthouse Shelter on December 26th. Next scheduled purchase is in March.

TREASURER’S REPORT – JOE MCHUGH

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!

January report is as follows:

2024 Year-end Balance		\$4,686.45
SA Stipend	(\$100)	\$4,586.45
FFA Stipend	(\$100)	\$4,486.45
Catholic Charities*	(\$610)	\$3,876.45
January Deposit/Balance	\$870.00	\$4,746.45

* - Fraternity Donations \$500; Member Donations \$110

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

Additional Donations: February 1, 2024, the council decided to pare down our Treasury and to donate \$2,300 to the poor and other Franciscan organizations. The following 10 charities were selected to each receive \$230.

1. St. Vincent de Paul, St. Josephine Bakita Conference (Glen Burnie) - currently serving a large high immigrant population.
2. Franciscan Center
3. Little Portion Farm, 12290 Folly Quarter Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21042
4. Amazon Relief
5. St. Augustine Province
6. Little Friends for Peace
7. Franciscan Mission Service
8. Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land
9. Maryland Food Bank
10. Franciscan Action Network

**St. Conrad Fraternity (Annapolis) #571105, Secular Franciscan Order
Calendar-Year 2024 Annual Treasurer’s Report to the Membership**

Beginning Balance as of 01/01/24		\$3,854.45
Income		
Contributions from members	+ \$11,992.00	
Income Total		\$15,846.45
Expenses and Donations		
	See Itemized Lists attached	
Total		\$11,160.00
Year-End Balance as 12/31/24		\$4,686.45

Submitted by Judith M. Tyrrell, OFS, Minister Judith M. Tyrrell
and Joseph B. McHugh, OFS, Treasurer Joseph B. McHugh, OFS
Approved by the Council on Feb. 1, 2025 / Judith Tyrrell
St. Conrad of Pangborn / Annapolis

- *Support Kommandy family #1178 in India, through the Franciscan Family Apostolate.
- +Donated funding through Denise Miente, OFS monthly.
- ^Purchased tokens for residents at the Annapolis Lighthouse Shelter.

Calendar-Year 2024 Annual Treasurer’s Report to the Membership (continued)

2024 Expenditures to Organizations or Charities

Organization or Charity	Amount
Franciscan Family Apostolate*	\$1,200
Spiritual Assistant Stipend	\$1,350
St. John the Evangelist Church	\$ 800
Monastery of the Holy Land	\$ 250
Sacred Heart of Jesus – Key Bridge	\$ 250
Apostleship of the Sea – Key Bridge	\$ 250
Check Stop Payment – 2 Checks	\$ 70
Fair Share to the Region	\$1,380
Our Lady of the Fields – Pavillon	\$ 100
Catholic Charities – Hur. Relief	\$ 250
St. Clare’s Fraternity – Hur. Relief	\$ 404
Phoenix Academy – Denise+	\$2,725
Lighthouse Bus Tokens – Denise^	<u>\$2,131</u>
	\$11,160

Thank you for your continuing generosity !!!

ANNAPOLIS WATCH – MARYLAND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Physician Assisted Suicide Bill - Visit <https://www.mdatholic.org/pas/>

Senator Will Smith, chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, has introduced a bill to legalize physician assisted suicide (PAS). Senate Bill 926, the “End of Life Option Act,” currently is scheduled for a hearing by Smith’s committee on March 5.

What actually happens in a physician-assisted suicide?

A doctor prescribes a lethal drug cocktail that is picked up at the local pharmacy. The time of death is unpredictable and can take hours or even days. Plus, there are no requirements for a witness or notification of family. Assisted suicide isn’t dignified, it’s deadly.

Physician-assisted suicide incentivizes denying cancer treatment

In states where assisted suicide is legal, insurance companies have turned down coverage for cancer treatment but offered to pay for suicide drugs instead.

Physician-assisted suicide urges suicide for elderly

Elderly in Maryland have a higher rate of suicide than any other age group – double the teen suicide rate. Yet a proposed physician-assisted suicide bill would not require any mental health evaluation to screen for depression. Assisted suicide isn’t dignified, it’s deadly.

Physician-assisted suicide tells people they're burdensome

In Oregon, data shows people request suicide drugs not for pain, but because they can't do the same activities that they could before, can't control bodily functions, feel they've lost dignity or feel they are a burden. Suicide drugs aren't the answer. Everyone deserves loving, supportive care, affirmation of their dignity, and to know that they are never a burden.

Physician-assisted suicide is dangerous for Maryland

If assisted suicide became legal, up to 100 pills would be prescribed to a person. These lethal drugs would then be dispensed at your neighborhood pharmacy. Data shows that where assisted suicide is legal, up to 40% of the drugs are never used – and there are no requirements for their disposal. They could end up in the hands of kids, in the trash or in a local creek or pond. We don't need that in Maryland. Assisted suicide isn't dignified, it's deadly.

Disability rights activists oppose physician-assisted suicide

Major disability rights groups including The Arc of Maryland and National Council on Disability oppose physician-assisted suicide. Disabled people already face prejudice from doctors and people who assume they're "better dead than disabled." Assisted suicide encourages this kind of prejudice. People with disabilities deserve care, not suicide.

Doctors oppose physician-assisted suicide

The American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, and dozens of other medical groups oppose physician-assisted suicide. The AMA says, "Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer." Physicians are entrusted with saving lives, not ending them. Tell your legislators:

Marylanders deserve excellent pain management, not physician-assisted suicide

Maryland has excellent, modern palliative care programs to alleviate suffering – no one's pain should be unmanageable in our state. Hospice care is paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. Marylanders deserve the best in pain management and quality care, not suicide drugs.

Join the Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network

Our state's General Assembly creates laws that affect us, our church, families, and vulnerable neighbors. The Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network keeps you informed and gives you a voice. You will receive action alerts on critical issues plus occasional email updates from the Maryland Catholic Conference: <https://www.mdccatholic.org/joincan> or text MDCATHOLIC to 52886.



Prayer against assisted suicide

Merciful God, we pray with thanks and gratitude for the great spiritual gift of Saint John Paul II's apostolic life and mission.

Through his heavenly intercession we ask for the defeat of the physician assisted suicide bill and that the infinite worth of each human person is upheld through proper investment in palliative care.

Grant also that we may grow in love for You and proclaim boldly the love of Jesus Christ to all people.

Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



November: [mdccatholic.org/pas](https://www.mdccatholic.org/pas) | Image: Basilica of the Assumption (Catholic Review)

IMMIGRATION & THE CHURCH

FACT SHEET

“The Church has always been a home for those in search of refuge and peace, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to welcome the stranger and embrace the vulnerable.” – Catholic bishops serving Maryland

1 The Catholic Church and immigration reform.

The Church’s position on immigration reform includes six key points: (1) targeted, proportional, and humane enforcement efforts; (2) humanitarian protections and due process; (3) earned pathway to citizenship for long-time residents; (4) family unity as a cornerstone of the U.S. system; (5) expanded, reliable, and efficient legal pathways; and (6) address the root causes of migration.

www.usccb.org/resources/immigrationreform.pdf

2 Catholic principles of immigration.

These principles are drawn from our Magisterial teaching: (1) Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland (i.e., the right not to migrate); (2) When the conditions necessary for a dignified life are absent, persons have the natural right to migrate to support themselves and their family; (3) More prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent able, to welcome those in search of the security and means of livelihood unavailable in their country of origin; (4) Countries have the right to maintain their borders and regulate immigration, consistent with the common good and with respect for the sanctity of human life; (5) Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection; (6) The God-given dignity and rights of undocumented immigrants should be respected; (7) Immigrants have a responsibility to respect the country that receives them. (www.usccb.org/resources/migrationandCST)

3 How the Church helps.

Parishes, dioceses and ministries support the dignity of the human person through pastoral and spiritual care, humanitarian aid, legal information and advocacy. (www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/what-we-do/immigration-services)



What the Church teaches

Catechism:

- “[p]olitical authorities are obliged to respect the fundamental rights of the human person” (2237)
- [M]ore prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the foreigner in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. Public authorities should see to it that the natural right is respected that places a guest under the protection of those who receive him.

Political authorities, for the sake of the common good for which they are responsible, may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions... (2241)

Pacem in Terris:

- ...When there are just reasons in favor of it, [every human being] must be permitted to emigrate to other countries and take up residence there. The fact that he is a citizen of a particular State does not deprive him of membership in the human family, nor of citizenship in that universal society, the common, world-wide fellowship of men. (No. 25)

Caritas in Veritate (Pope Benedict XVI):

- Every migrant is a human person who, as such, possesses fundamental, inalienable rights that must be respected by everyone and in every circumstance. (No. 62)



Learn more: mdcatholic.org/immigration

Archdiocese of Baltimore | Archdiocese of Washington | Diocese of Wilmington | @mdcatholic

Answering violence with skills for peace since 1981

LFFP is dedicated to interrupting a culture of violence by teaching skills that prevent, resolve, and transform conflict. We believe that learning peace at any age can effectively counteract violence with tools for peace.

Stop. Think. Act.

Before taking action, allow yourself to go to your heart, disarm, and choose an action that shows care and compassion for everyone involved.



- Resist the reflex to retaliate.
- Reclaim your center.
- Release your anger.



- Think compassionately.
- Consider all perspectives.



- Use an I-message.
- Listen actively.



Little FRIENDS For PEACE

Peace Tool Card
Core Tools

For more, visit www.lffp.org.

Stop. Think. Act.

Regret is unnecessary. Think before you act.
- William Shockley

STOP

THINK

ACT



Most conflicts flow out of feelings of being abused or threatened and erupt before we take time to STOP and THINK before we ACT.



Little FRIENDS For PEACE

Peace Tool Card
Core Tools

For more, visit www.lffp.org.

SPECIFIC VISION SUGGESTIONS

PLACES TO GO

LIGHT HOUSE SHELTER.ANNAPOLIS
ST. FRANCIS GARDEN IWAY OF THE CROSS AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
LOCAL SHRINES DC/BALTIMORE ETC JUBILEE YEAR 2025.TO A DOOR

SPEAKERS

TOBY H TO SPEAK ABOUT THE CENTENARY OF THE CANTICLE
DAN MELISH.CLIMATE COVENANT.AGREED TO SPEAK IN APRIL
CAP CORPS
MARTY MITCHELL.CAPILLARIES OF CHRIST
AREA GROUP ON A SAINT
LOCAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION SPEAKER- GABRIEL PROJECT
BR. TOMMY PIALATA OR JAMES WATSON OFM CAP SPEAKERS

PROGRAMS

3rd GRADERS-MINIMUSICAL ABOUT FRANCIS AND THE WOLF
TRIVIA MEETING SAINTS
DVD'S JULIA GREELEY; SAINTS; INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITIES
LENTEN PROGRAM.HOW WE AS SECULARS CAN EVANGELIZE
LEARN ABOUT ST. MICHAEL'S LENT AND PARTICPATE IN IT
OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS STUDYEOPÉ AND BISHOPS
HELP CHILDREN FAMILIES AND PARENTS IN WAR TORN AREAS
PRAYER PARTNERS SHARING/ SAINT

RETREATS

ST FRANCIS AND CLARE WRITINGS AND APPLICATION TO US
DAY OF RETREAT ON PEACE, LOVE AND PRAYER
BEATTITUDES FRANCISCAN CROWN-MARY SITE?

BOOKS-READ AND SHARE

IN THE HOUSE OF BREDE, RUMOR GOLDEN
LEADING LIKE FRANCIS
CAPILLARIES OF CHRIST
BOOK ON SAINT CABRINI
BOOK ON ST FRANCIS-HOPE
BIBLE STUDIES ON GOSPELS/LITTLE ROCK
MINOR LEGEND BY BONAVENTURE

CHANGES

LIKE IT AS IT IS
CLOSER TO ANNAPOLIS/SEVERNA PARK MORE CENTRAL
LETTER WRITING TO ABSENT. MORE OUTREACH TO ABSENT
MORE SOCIAL EVENTS-POTLUCKS, STUDIES, DVDS WITH DISCUSSION
MORE TESTIMONIES; FAITH STORIES

MEDIA

USE ZOOM, PODCAST(ROSARY IN A YEAR.AMES CFR)