

The Porter

St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, MD
Secular Franciscan Order – October 2026
http://stconradannapolis.sfousa.org/

The Porter deadline for the November *Porter* is November 11th. **Please send news, prayer requests, poems, or interesting items** that you think other members may enjoy to: Joan Faltot, 715 Maiden Choice Ln, Apt CC122, Catonsville, MD 21224, or send by email to jd6bouv@verizon.net.

Fraternity Meeting	**Saturday, October 17, 2026** **Mass at 8:30 AM at Our Lady of the Fields** **1070 Cecil Avenue South, Millersville** **Followed by Fraternity Gathering in Classroom 203/204**
Program	Rule: Chapter 3. Life in Fraternity (Rule
Special Outreach	Gabriel Network (see page 4)
Liturgy	Rite of admission for Cynthia Fowler and Nancy Poniatowski Crown Rosary Group A (first name between (A-Jo)
Refreshments	Group B (first name between (Ju-Z)
Prayer Requests	***For physical and spiritual healing of:*** Brigid Cobb, Bob & Sarah Ranke, Teresa Booher (Ruth's daughter), Ed Sievers (Kathleen's husband), Margaret Jackson, Tessie Chitty, Al McGee (Ruth's brother-in-law), Ed Shea (Ruth's son), Emily McGeady, Jerry Miante, Dr. Alex Demyan, Jude Dodge's niece, Monica's daughter, Jude Dodge, Audrey Donnelly, Audrey Bushée, Bill Chitty, Harry Thompson, Kellie Eye (granddaughter of Susan Greif), Jimmy Wilbourne, Gerard Malka (brother of Genny Wilbourne), Carolyn Malka (sister-in-law of Genny Wilbourne). *Please help keep this list current. Additions and changes should be sent to Joan at jd6bouv@verizon.net*
Birthdays	Cynthia Fowler – 10/06 Brigid Cobb – 10/08
Profession Anniversaries	Jean Gaes – 09/17/1987 Genny Wilbourne – 09/18/2010 Ruth Shea – 09/18/2021 Joe McHugh – 09/21/2019 Joan Kvetkas – 10/04/1979 Louise Ryan – 10/04/1982 Pat Tyrrell – 10/10/1996 Mary Cecero Gemmell – 10/10/1996 Tessie Chitty – 10/11/1998
Council Meeting	In person, Saturday, October 3, 10:30am at home of Mary Anne Novak

Upcoming Events	**August 26-Februry 7, 2027**: The Walters Gallery in Baltimore, MD will publicly display the St. Francis Missal. Centre Street Building, Level 3, Manuscript Gallery https://thewalters.org/exhibitions/st-francis-2026/.



Minister's Minute

My dear Franciscan Brothers and Sisters,

We have a very special event taking place at our October 17th meeting. The Rite of Admission will take place for Nancy Poniatowsky and Cynthia Fowler. Please pray for them as they continue to discern the Secular Franciscan vocation.

Our monthly donations this month will be gifted to Gabriel Network. For over 30 years, the Gabriel Network has served women and children in Maryland and Washington, D.C. Through their network of Christian Churches and their volunteer teams, sometimes called "Angel Friend Teams", they provide comprehensive, compassionate support to pregnant and parenting moms and their families.

October is such an important month for Franciscans. Perhaps you can take one name from calendar below and learn more about her/him.

Pax et Bonum, Ruth

October – Month of the Holy Rosary and the Holy Angels

1. Bl. Nicolas of Forca, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1449
2. Bl. Antoine Chevrier, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1879
3. St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, Patron of France; St. Marie-Joseph Tossello, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1880
4. Solemnity of our Seraphic Father St. Francis, d. 1226, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
5. Commemoration of the establishment of the 3 Orders/ Blessed Felicia Meda, Order of Poor Clares, d. 1444
6. St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular
7. Feast of the Holy Rosary
8. St. Bridget of Sweden, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
9. Bl. Marie-Angele Truszkowska, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1899
10. St. Francois Borgia, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1572; and St. Daniel and Companions, Religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyrs, d. 1227
11. Feast of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady
12. St. Seraphin of Montegranaro, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1604
13. Bl. Pacifique de Valence, lay brother, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
14. St John of Dukla, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1936
15. Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
16. Bl. Anicet de Dbrzno, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr, 1941
17. Bl. Balthassar of Chiavari, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1490
18. Bl. James of Strepar, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1409
19. St. Peter of Alcantara, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1512
20. Bl. Contardo Ferrini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1902

21. Bl. Martyrs of Polonais, d. 1941-42

22. Bl. John Baptist Bullaker, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1642

23. St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1870

24. Bl. Josephine Leroux, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, martyr 1794

25. Bl. Maria Veronica Masia Ferragut, Bl. Maria Felicidad Masia Ferragut, and Bl. Jesus Masia Ferragut, Virgins, Capuchin religious, Martyrs 1936

26. Bl. Martyrs of the War of Spain, 1936-37

27. Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1711

28. Bl. Anne-Eugenie Picco, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1921

29. Bl. Thomas of Florence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1447

30. Bl. Angelo of Acre, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1739

31. Bl. Christophe de Cahors, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1272

FRANCISCAN MONTH 2026 -- from Joan Faltot

https://www.franciscanmonth.org/

. . . . A month of renewal for your Franciscan spirit

Franciscan Month was launched in October 2023, after St. Francis College organized a series of daily Franciscan reflections entitled “All Good Things.” Br. Gregory took the lead in organizing The Month of St. Francis and expanding it beyond the College to the national collaboration and recognition it has today among Franciscans and Franciscan-hearted communities.

The Franciscan community has splintered in history into so many groups. This website seeks to share input from all the Franciscan groups in our huge family. Some of the organizations that have participated this year include the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities, Franciscan Action Network, Franciscan Federation, Franciscan Friars of the Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Order of Friars Minor, Capuchins, Order of Friars Minor, Conventuals, Poor Clares, the Secular Franciscan Order and many others.

The site includes videos, prayers, blogs (short articles), Readings (longer articles) activity calendar for October (like an advent calendar for October).

This month’s invitation is for people everywhere to discover that the story of St. Francis is a living example of how faith, simplicity, compassion, and joy can transform lives today. To learn more about Franciscan Month, visit Franciscan Month | Celebrating Saint Francis of Assisi, and discover why the example of St. Francis is timeless and relevant in today’s world.

By the time you get the Porter we will be entering the third week of Franciscan Month. The theme for the week 3: *Week III: Caring for the Earth, Our Sacred Home: “The unbreakable covenant between Creator and his creatures inspires our minds and galvanizes our hearts to care for our common home.” - Pope Leo XIV Inaugural Homily*

Daily activities available on the downloaded calendar (https://www.franciscanmonth.org/downloadable-calendar)

Sunday: READ and MEDITATE on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12).
Monday: NATURE WALK: Notice the colors, textures, and sounds around you.
Tuesday: "TRANSITUS" of Objects: Find ways to "pass on" or repair items.
Wednesday: REFLECT OR JOURNAL: How does God reveal His goodness to me through creation?
Thursday: CULTIVATE LIFE: Plant something or participate in "tilling and keeping" the earth.
Friday: CREATE a drawing or artwork inspired by the Canticle of Creatures.
Saturday: VIEW the Night Sky: Reflect on how you and the stars are both made by God.

My take: This is not a monthly website. It is an invitation to use the month of October to rediscover the Franciscan spirituality: simplicity, care for creation, peacemaking, the dignity and integrity of each person and service to the poor, marginalized and forgotten. There is a lot of material, but it is easy to get lost in the website. There is a video on the home page of the website that explains it's purpose. Take time to view it… it's less than 4 minutes. And according to our secular National website: Our ultimate goal is an official Vatican designation of October as Franciscan Month.

The Prayer before the Crucifix at San Damiano

Most High, glorious God,
enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith,
certain hope and perfect charity, sense and knowledge,
Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.

Please help us get to know each other better!

Some of us haven't met, especially excused members and those who have just started to come to our meetings. We're asking that you share part of your Franciscan journey as a note we can publish in the Porter. It could be a long paragraph, or just a couple of sentences. For example, what initially drew you to the order? Was there a fraternity ministry that you found particularly meaningful? Have you gone on a Franciscan pilgrimage? How has being a Franciscan changed your life? Thanks for helping us all to learn from each other. We are looking forward to hearing from you! Email it to Joan at jd6bouv@verizon.net or bring it to one of our fraternity gatherings.



Library of St Conrad

The Library of St Conrad meets once a month at Audrey's house. **On October 27 at 2:00-3:15pm**, we will be discussing Chapter 5 of The Capillaries of Christ, Understanding the Part You Play in His Body by Marty Mitchell. Contact Linda Haney for more information and let her know if you plan to attend so she can let you know of any last minute changes.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- JOE MCHUGH

The September report is as follows:

August Balance		**$4,090.76**
FFA Stipend	($100)	$3,990.76
OLF Stipend	($100)	$3,890.76
OLF Pavillon	($100)	$3,790.76
Sept Deposit/Balance	**$350**	**$4,140.76**

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

October Outreach – Gabriel Network - https://gabrielnetwork.org/our-impact/about-us/

For over 30 years, Gabriel Network has served women and children in Maryland and Washington, D.C. Through their network of Christian Churches and their volunteer teams, sometimes called "Angel Friend Teams", they provide comprehensive, compassionate support to pregnant and parenting moms and their families.

Due to consistent need for stable housing for pregnant mothers, the "Gabriel Project" (its original name) expanded to maintain maternity homes throughout Maryland. Beginning in 1998 and continuing to the present, Gabriel Network has operated maternity homes in Bowie, Silver Spring, Annapolis, Baltimore, Ellicott City, and Gaithersburg. Hundreds of women and children have been lovingly served through these homes in the last twenty years.

EVENTS OF INTEREST AROUND TOWN [please submit interesting events at your parish]

St. Anthony's Shrine

Spirituality of Caregiving -- Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Who are caregivers? What is the sacred dimension between caregivers and care-receivers. How can make this call spiritually meaningful? How can one receive support in this call so that one does not feel isolated or abandoned? This is a morning workshop with Fr. Jude Winkler, OFM Conv. and author Ruth Shea. Please RSVP so we can adequately plan for numbers.

Franciscan Pilgrimages of Hope: Rebuild My Church: A Franciscan Pilgrimage of Hope

Saturday, November 21, 9:30am – 2:30pm

Register at: https://shrineofstanthony.org/rsvp-rebuild-my-church

The final 2026 Franciscan Pilgrimage of Hope with a special emphasis on the San Damiano Cross. St. Francis of Assisi was praying before this cross when he received his instruction from God to rebuild His church.

I know there are other cooks and bakers out there. Please contribute your favorite recipes.



Franciscan Kitchen

Lady Jacoba's Almond Cookies*--From Ruth Shea*

Thomas of Celano's records St. Francis' fondness for these cookies brought to him by Lady Jacoba, AKA "Brother" Jacoba. She was present at his deathbed with a batch of cookies

Ingredients

- ½ c butter
- 1 c sugar
- 2 eggs, 1 whole egg & 1 yolk (save 1 egg white)
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 2 c flour
- 1 c almond flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 tsp water
- 1 c ground almonds

Directions

Cream butter and sugar, add 1 egg and egg yolk, add vanilla and almond extract.

Mix together flours, baking soda, salt, about ½ of ground almonds and add gradually to wet ingredients

Roll dough into 1" balls, dip in reserved egg white, and roll in ground almonds, place on slightly greased baking sheet.

325° bake 14-17 minutes, edges should be sightly brown.
Let cool 1 minute before transferring to cooling rack



Faith and Action

A Day of Sharing Our JPIC Journey

Saturday, December 5

11:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Saint John Paul II National Shrine,

Washington, DC

Leave behind all passivity and indifference. . . We cannot remain as unengaged spectators; rather, we must listen with our hearts, allow ourselves to be challenged, and become involved.

Pope Leo XIV

Come together to explore some of the charitable and advocacy efforts we are called to on the JPIC journey that lies at the core of our Franciscan spirituality. On the day's agenda will be:

- **Guest Speaker Dan Misleh, Founder of the Catholic Climate Covenant, followed by a discussion of actions we are able to take back to our own fraternities.**
- **A discourse on the roles played by Franciscan Justice Circles, including insights from FAN Executive Director Michele Dunne, OFS.**
- **A discussion of the realities and misperceptions around homelessness, including ways to become involved in existing apostolates that serve our region's homeless neighbors.**
- **And more. . . including updates on ways to respond to the OFS call to "accompany immigrants," and brainstorming our future involvement in peacemaking and other initiatives.**

$40 registration fee includes a light lunch. We regret that we are unable to accept unregistered walk-ins.

Early registration discount: $30 through November 5.

Register here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4DABAA2BAAFACE9-65634033-faith#/

Sponsored by the St. Margaret of Cortona Region JPIC team. For more information, contact Pat at pboye@secularfranciscan.org.