



# Franciscan Friars

## Third Order Regular

### Immaculate Conception Province, USA

### **NEWSLETTER • OCTOBER 2011**

*Before you speak, learn; before you fall ill, take care of your health.  
Before judgment comes, examine yourself; then at the time of  
judgment you will find forgiveness. Proverbs 18:19-20*

---

#### **NEWS FROM AROUND THE PROVINCE**

##### Pennsylvania

On October 8th, from 6 to 9 p.m. our annual Harvest Fest was held at St. Bernardine Monastery. The end of the growing season was celebrated by the local Friars and by over one hundred people who gathered in the Care for Creation Center on the Monastery grounds. There, we prayed, enjoyed donuts and cider, watched the children carving their pumpkins, and after the pumpkins were judged, we crossed Monastery Road to gather around the bonfire to sing and roast marshmallows, and enjoy the music of Sandy and Jerry of the Blue Grass Group. We are grateful to Brother Stephen, Patricia Trimble, S.F.O. and their committee who ran the whole event.







On September 19th our Province experienced the death of our second oldest member, Father Camillus. His Vigil Service, conducted by Father Carl, involved group reflections. Many aspects of Father Camillus' life surfaced, which turned out to be both a learning experience and source of entertainment. Father Patrick was the Presider at the Funeral Mass. Those who were present for the Funeral enjoyed Father Patrick's mixture of scriptural reflection as well as an informational story from Father Camillus' years in Minnesota. Even our four Friars from Washington D.C. was able to attend, and participated in the Mass.



Labor Day, found 15 members of Region 1, being hosted by Father Rod Soha and the Friars at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish in Windber, PA. Although a cook-out was planned, the weather determined that we celebrate a cook-in. The rain did not dampen the spirit of the gathering. Those who attended did not have other commitments, so we enjoyed each other's company for the whole afternoon.



On October 4<sup>th</sup>, 16 members of our Region gathered at Saint Bernardine Monastery for mid-day prayer followed by a period of socialization and then dinner prepared by Father Patrick and Father Carl and Brother Stephen. Our affiliate, Patricia Pyo was able to join us for the day.

On October 8th, our Region 1 was represented at the annual fundraising event of Saint Leonard Guest Home of Hollidaysburg. Our community has provided Mass for the residents of the Home since it was established in 1946. Our Father Leonard continues to celebrate Mass at the Home.

*Fr. Gerard Connolly*

---



On Saturday, September 10, Fr. William presided at the 4 pm Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church to celebrate his 50th anniversary of ordination. He was joined by the Minister General, friars from both Provinces and friends and members of Mt. Carmel Parish. A reception followed the Mass sponsored by the Parish.

---



On August 2nd, Bishop Mark Barchak presided at the 100th Anniversary celebration of the establishment of the Secular Franciscan Fraternity (Mary, Queen of Angels) at Mount Carmel, Altoona. Following the Mass, the Secular Franciscan Fraternity hosted a social in San Damiano Parish Hall. About 125 people attended the celebration.

On October 15th, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Altoona, hosted the Blair Concert Chorale. The Chorale performed Vivaldi's "Gloria." Also performing with the Chorale were the Altoona Area High School Chamber Orchestra and the Blair Concert Children's Choir. The "Gloria" was presented in memory of Jeanne E. Fiore. As a young woman, Jeanne served as organist for the Parish. As stated in the dedication page of the program "It was in this parish that she was baptized, schooled, began her musical training, and was married." Approximately 200 people attended the concert.

*Fr. Frank Scornaienchi*

---

## Florida

Lady Poverty SFO Fraternity joined with the friars at San Pedro in celebrating Transitus on Monday, October 3, 2011. More than fifty people were in attendance for the service.



Fr. Vianney Cunningham led the Transitus service.



Our postulant, Jesse Pellow carries a candle representing St. Francis during the service.





On Sunday, October 2 the annual Blessing of Animals took place at San Pedro Center. The blessing service began at 4:00 P.M. and the attendance was greater than last year. Mr. Frank Weber, a photographer for the diocesan/regional Catholic newspaper, *The Florida Catholic*, was on hand and kindly shared these photos with us.



Fr. Giles begins the service while one of the 'blessees' mugs for the camera.



Sprinkling with holy water...



Brother Tello with friends.



---

## ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE UPDATE

Fr. Carl Vacek

Fr. J. Patrick Quinn

Jesse Pellow

New telephone number:

Email address:

Email address:

814-215-4233

[jpquinn@tor@hotmail.com](mailto:jpquinn@tor@hotmail.com)

[jdpaugustine@gmail.com](mailto:jdpaugustine@gmail.com)

## Vocation Update

Everyone who is involved in vocation work knows that success cannot be defined by numbers but by relationships. Most inquirers into religious life do not respond to emails, phone calls, mailings, etc. Among those who do respond, the number who actually participate in a 'Come and See' weekend are small. This could easily be a gloom and doom scenario and yet there are a lot of hopeful trends for the Province.

First of all, we have more than twenty men who are in conversation with the Province about their vocation. What I said earlier about relationships is particularly important to serious discerners; the more we reach out to them, the more they respond. As we all know, in the space of fifty years things have changed dramatically where vocations to religious life are concerned. There are many options in life that are available to most people and forming good relationships with those in discernment can often make the difference for them as they struggle to know and follow God's will.

Second, about half of our inquirers are under the age of thirty, which is in line with national trends for most men's religious communities. The very fact that younger people would even consider religious life as a valid, life-giving option for them is extremely encouraging.

Last of all, we do have two men who are in the application process right now, Andrew-Paul Harrison and David Ratliff. There will most likely be at least one other person applying as well. Our next Discernment Weekend at San Pedro will take place in December, 2-4 and four men have already registered for it. May God continue to bless us with good and holy brothers.

---

## A Final Word

*Just as the sun rises over the world in God's heaven, so friars must let their light shine before all people so that they may see their good deeds and give praise to their heavenly Father. They have been placed here to care for others. Their own lives should be an example to others, showing how they must live in the house of the Lord.*

St. John of Capistrano, *Mirror of the Fraternity*  
Feast Day: October 23

---

*fine*