



the Seraph

NEWS and NOTABLES of
SAINT BONAVENTURE
PROVINCE May 2012



Above, a triple blessing! At the reception following the ordination, Rev. Hans blesses (l. to r.) Br. Charles Madden, Rev. Bernard Geiger and Br. Martin Schmitz.

CONGRATULATIONS, HANS!

Friar Hans Ward Peter Flondor was ordained to the presbyterate on May 26th at the Basilica of St. Josaphat by the Most Reverend William P. Callahan, OFM Conv.

From top right, clockwise: Rev. Hans poses with (l. to r.) Deacon Paul Schneider, Rev. Alejandro López, Bishop Callahan, Very Rev. Patrick Greenough and Very Rev. Michael Glastetter; Fr. Hans poses with the flowers; a picture with all the concelebrants; Bishop Callahan lays his hands on Hans, calling down the Spirit; a special moment at the Altar of our Lady of the Rosary.





G'DAY TO ALL!

The friars of St. Bonaventure Province gathered on May 15, 2012 for an Extraordinary Chapter to pray and vote on proposals concerning our brothers in Australia. The Very Reverend Jude Winkler, Vicar General attended on behalf of the Very Reverend Marco Tosca, Minister General of the Order.

Two votes were taken:

1) To welcome the friars and friaries of Our Lady Help of Christians into the Province of St. Bonaventure. Of the 35 legitimate voting members present (being a quorum of the 40 eligible voters), 34 voted in the affirmative, 1 voted negative. The motion passed.

2) To establish the Provincial "Delegation" of Australia as a Provincial "Custody" by January 13, 2014. Of the 35 legitimate voting members present (being a quorum of the 40 eligible voters), 34 voted in the affirmative. 1 voted negative. The motion passed.

Pending the rescript from the Holy See, (by June 1, 2012) the General Definitory will vote to confirm the vote of St. Bonaventure Province and



will suppress Australia as General Custody. On June 12, 2012 the Definitory of St. Bonaventure Province will meet to create Australia as a Provincial Delegation, and will appoint a Provincial Delegate.

At Evening Prayers, Friars Paul Langevin and Giles Gilbert renewed their vows.

Top: Friars of St. Bonaventure Province gathered in Extraordinary Chapter at Marytown on May 15.

Middle Photo: Friars in the Chapter Hall.

Bottom Left: Friar Paul renews his vows.

Bottom Right: Friar Giles signs the Book of Profession.

50 YEARS AND COUNTING On May 3, 2012, Br. Paschal Metzger celebrated his 50th anniversary of first vows with a Mass and luncheon at Marytown. Anticipating the actual date (May 6), the friars of the province gathered with some of his family members to rejoice with Br. Paschal. May God continue to inspire vocations to our way of life.



CONGRADUATIONS!

On May 4, 2012, Fr. Hans Flondor graduated from Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wisconsin (southwest of Milwaukee). The ceremony took place during Solemn Vespers officiated by the Very Reverend Thomas P. Cassidy, S.C.J., president of the school and provincial superior of the Priests of the Sacred Heart. The school awarded Fourteen Master of Divinity degrees and two Master of Arts degrees. With an M. Div. in hand, we wish Hans well in his first official assignment (see the story that follows).

NEW PARISHES IN PEORIA Bishop Daniel Jenky of the Diocese of Peoria, has offered St. Bonaventure Province two additional rural parishes (St. Anne's in Toluca, IL and its mission church, Sacred Heart in Rutland, IL) to be administered by Fr. Luke Poczworowski as of June 13, 2012. Our newly ordained confrere, Fr. Hans Flondor will reside in Wenona with Fr. Luke and Deacon Fran McGann as of June 16.

FORMATION NEWS On May 14, 2012 the Minister Provincial and his Definitory approved the requests of our two postulants to enter the novitiate, Marcin Czechowicz and Alex Rasmussen. The two postulants from Australia, Alfred Soliman and Gregory Westenberg, will be approved by the Custody of Australia. Novices Thomas Fetz and Arturo Felix were approved to profess first vows. Finally, the three friars in formation needing to renew their vows were also approved: friars John Clote, Paul Langevin, and Giles Gilbert.

PEACE & JUSTICE

Almighty God, Father of all nations, For freedom you have set us free in Christ Jesus (Gal 5:1). We praise and bless you for the gift of religious liberty, the foundation of human rights, justice, and the common good. Grant to our leaders the wisdom to protect and promote our liberties; By your grace may we have the courage to defend them, for ourselves and for all those who live in this blessed land. We ask this through the intercession of Mary Immaculate,

our patroness, and in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.—USCCB *Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Freedom, "Our First, Most Cherished Liberty—A Statement on Religious Liberty," March 2012. For the full text visit www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/our-first-most-cherished-liberty.cfm*



ORDINARY PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

Please note the date change for session one of the 2014 Chapter:
First session: April 28-May 2, 2014
Second Session: July 7-11, 2014

DATES

- June 12 Definitory, 1 p.m.
(to establish Australia as a Provincial Delegation)
- July 19 Investiture, Mishawaka, 5 p.m.
- July 20 First Profession, Mishawaka, 11 a.m.
- Sept. 4-5 Definitory, Chicago, 11 a.m.
(to conclude at noon on Sept. 5)
- Sept. 7 Holy Hour in preparation for the Solemn Profession of Friar Pio Alves, Marytown, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 8 Solemn Profession, Friar Pio Alves, Marytown, noon
- Sept. 16-21 General Definitory, Chicago
- Sept. 21-28 General Definitory and CFC, Marytown
- Oct. 8-12 Province Retreat (Mon-Fri at Marytown). Former Archabbot Lambert Reilly, speaker.
- Oct. 13 Loaves and Fishes Gala, Basilica of St. Josaphat, beginning with Mass, 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 29-30 Definitory, Chicago, 11 a.m.
(to conclude at noon on Oct. 30)

2012 ANNIVERSARIES

- 800th Anniversary of the foundation of the Poor Clares
- 160th Anniversary of the Conventual's presence in North America
- 140th Anniversary of the establishment of the First North America Province (Immaculate Conception)
- 100th Conventual presence at Our Lady of Consolation, Carey, OH
- 100th St. Stanislaus Parish, Rockford, IL



Eternal rest grant unto him,
O Lord; and let perpetual light
shine upon him.
+Br. Hilary Wasilewski, OFM Conv.
June 17, 1919 - May 28, 2012