



the Seraph

NEWS and NOTABLES of
SAINT BONAVENTURE
PROVINCE August 2012

CELEBRATING TOGETHER

Earlier this month, our minister provincial celebrated the union of our province with the friars in Australia. Pictured, left to right: Fr. John Vayalilkarottu, Fr. Tony Fox, Fr. Benedict La Volpe, Fr. Patrick Greenough, Fr. Adrian-John Robson, Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, Fr. Paschal Corby, Fr. Joseph Nguyen Xuan Truong and Fr. Christopher Shorrock, the provincial delegate.



HOT OFF THE PRESSES!

The installation of air conditioning at the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee continues to move forward. As you can imagine, this is a major undertaking. Since the air vents will be installed in the floor of the Basilica, the ductwork to feed those vents will run along much of the ceiling downstairs in the Undercroft. This has therefore necessitated some reworking of the ceiling and has become the impetus for further work downstairs to enhance the Lower Church and the adjacent social space.

The familiar pipe-and-drape that delineated the spaces was intended to be a temporary solution several years ago, but will

now finally be replaced with walls. A new electrical system and a sacristy will increase functionality. New and refurbished light fixtures will further enhance the Undercroft. The project is expected to be completed by mid-October.



Pictured above is a sample of one of the grill covers that will be installed under the pews in the Basilica.



SMILE! YOU'RE IN UGANDA by Friar John Clote

Our Relief Trip was an **enormous** success! The needs of the poor in Uganda are staggering! Our friars and the dental team from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill performed more than 275 badly needed dental procedures and distributed more than 400 packages of medicine. Additionally, we gave away more than 1000 toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, and dental floss packages. All this was integrated with patient education sessions on dental hygiene at the friars' schools and sub-parishes. The UNC-Chapel Hill Dental School has already decided to make the trip an annual university sponsored project planning to be back next year.



It was an incredible experience. Any friar from our province might consider going for a few weeks next year. The friars in Uganda are most appreciative and offer thanks for St. Bonaventure's fraternal support and prayers.



Father Anthony Lajato (pictured below, left with some retreatants at Marytown) assisted at some of the MI retreats over the summer. The spiritual events took place in Libertyville, IL and Seattle, WA and in several locations in Oregon. The theme, "Rejoice in the Lord Always", came from Pope Benedict's letter to youth in preparation for the next World Youth Day. The retreats were grace-filled and action packed. To see more visit: <http://miyouth.org/index.cfm?load=page&page=24>





INVESTITURE & PROFESSION

On Thursday, July 19th three of our men were invested in the habit of our Seraphic Father to begin their novitiate in Mishawaka, IN. On the following day, Friday, July 20th two of our novices professed their first vows. Fr. Justin Biase, Minister Provincial of the Immaculate Conception Province, presided. Reflecting on the first reading of the Profession Mass from the Song of Songs, he commented that such a reading is so appropriate for this special day because it is about falling in love. And that is what our religious vocation is about, falling in love with the Lord, and then trying to keep that love alive throughout our religious lives.



Above: **First Profession**, left to right: Arturo Felix (SB), Andrew Burkholder (IC), Matthew Bond (AP), Benedict Abugu (AP), Emanuel Vasconcelos (SA), Moises Avila (SA), Thomas Fetz (SB).

Inset: **Investiture**, front row, left to right: Fr. Christopher Dietz (SJC), Fr. James McCurry (SA), Fr. Patrick Greenough (SB), Fr. Justin Biase (IC), Fr. James Kent (OLC). Back Row: Colton Rodgers (SA), Don Bassana (OLC), Patrick Roth (SA), Gregory Westenberg (SB-Australia), Marcin Czechowicz (SB), Alfred Soliman (SB-Australia), Thomas Gia Hoang (SJC), David Kearns (SJC), Israel Arauz-Rosiles (SJC).

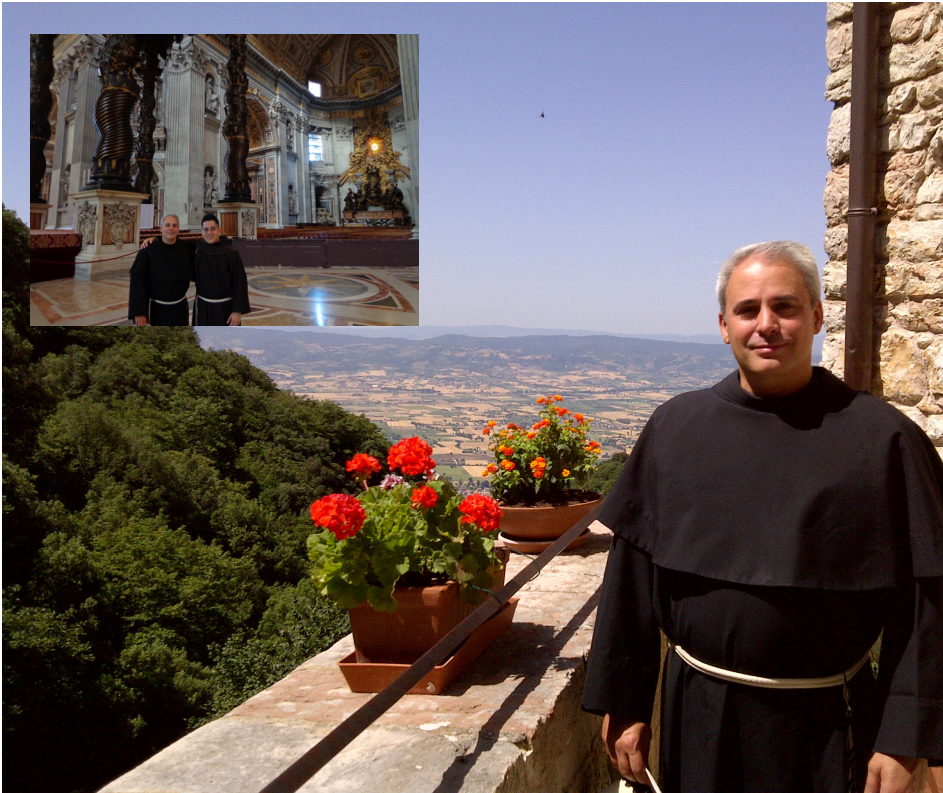
PEACE & JUSTICE

We are a nation of immigrants, struggling to address the challenges of many new immigrants in our midst. We are a society built on the strength of our families, called to defend marriage and offer moral and economic supports for family life. We are a powerful nation in a violent world, confronting terror and trying to build a safer, more just, more peaceful world. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty

and lack health care and other necessities of life. We are part of a global community facing urgent threats to the environment that must sustain us. These challenges are at the heart of public life and at the center of the pursuit of the common good.— “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,” para 2, USCCB. For the full text see: <http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/>



SEMINARIANS AND THEIR SUMMERS...



FRIAR PIO ANTONIO ALVES WRITES: This summer I was able to spend five weeks in Italy: one week visiting family and four engaged with the Franciscan Pilgrimage Program. Visiting the various Franciscan sites instrumental in the life and ministry of Francis was a special period of growth for me in my Franciscan life, a perfect prelude to my impending profession of Solemn Vows. The pilgrimage afforded me the opportunity to experience the Order on an international level, allowing me to expand my own vision and understanding of the Franciscan Order. I am grateful to the Province for this opportunity to continue growing in my vocation, in the Province and in the Order.



FR. PAUL SCHNEIDER WRITES: This summer I had the opportunity to spend six weeks in Costa Rica living with our friars there and studying Spanish. As the Costa Ricans say, it was ¡Pura Vida! (Life is good!) The classes were intense, as I attended school from 8:00 in the morning until noon, Monday through Friday. My classes were conducted in Spanish and I was the only student! We covered more information in six weeks than

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FRIAR PAUL JOSEPH LANGEVIN WRITES: I was in Chicago completing one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) as part of my studies. This was an 11-week intensive immersion program as a hospital chaplain intern at Northwestern Memorial Hospital—a level 1 trauma center located in downtown Chicago, Illinois. I engaged in providing pastoral care and counseling to patients, their families, and hospital staff. I was one of nine other student chaplains in the program, who promoted the

well-being of persons from diverse faith traditions during times of stress and crisis. Additionally, I received individual and group supervision. From this summer experience, I take a deeper awareness of myself as a minister of care and of the



ways my ministry is influenced by my faith and theological understanding, my own attitudes, values, assumptions, strengths and growing edges, as well as by our Franciscan heritage.

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

- 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,
NOTE TIME CHANGE: 7 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 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



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in a year and a half of Spanish classes at the Seminary. Talk about having a headache for the first several weeks!

The studies were balanced with life in the friary. I lived with five friars and a lay volunteer from the United States. They were extremely welcoming and patient with my broken Spanish. Even though they all understood and could speak English, they usually spoke to me in Spanish. Even though there were a few cultural differences, the Conventual lifestyle was quite similar to ours here in the States.

While I was in Costa Rica, formation directors from all over Central and South America attended a meeting in Costa Rica. Speaking with them and listening to the different accents and dialects of Spanish was another interesting experience.



But it was not all classroom studies while I was there, as I had a couple of free days to visit the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Angels (the

patroness of Costa Rica), the Arenal Volcano with its hot thermal baths, and the beach along the Pacific Coast. The highlight of my time in Costa Rica was being able to assist at Mass as a Deacon and proclaim the Gospel in Spanish. On my last Sunday there I was able to give a short farewell to the parishioners. Once I am ordained a priest, I hope to be able to hear confessions and preach in Spanish.

