



the Seraph

NEWS and NOTABLES of
SAINT BONAVENTURE
PROVINCE January 2014

EPIPHANY WINS OVER THE POLAR VORTEX!

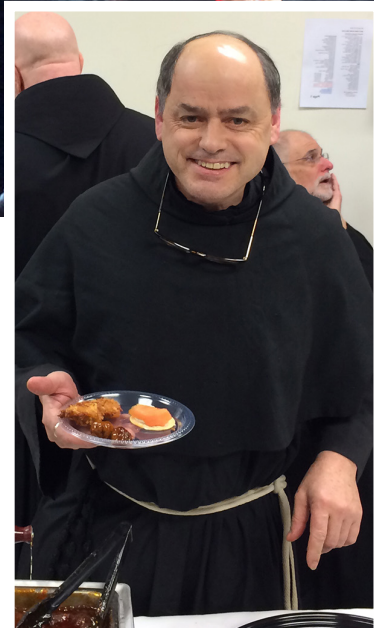
Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night could keep the Epiphany party from taking place at Marytown in Libertyville, Illinois. According to meteorologists a rare "polar vortex" dipped down from the arctic on the eve of January 5th, bringing sub-zero temperatures and blustery snow falls. The weather event forced many to stay at home and not risk the roads with white-out conditions. The friars that could make it, celebrated our fraternity and the extractions for the new year.

Top photo: Friars gather in the rec room, from l. to r.: Fr. Bernard Geiger, Fr. Robert Joseph Switanowski, Very Rev. Stephen McKinley, Br. David Wagner and Fr. Edmond DesForges.

Bottom row of photos from l. to r.: Br. Augustine Kelly, Fr. Patrick Stoffer and Fr. Bob Cook pose for the camera;

Postulants Luke Fonkalsrud and Dale King share with Br. Charles Madden;

Br. Don Thielsen helps himself to a plate at the buffet.



Photos continued on page four.

MERRY CHRISTMAS IN MILWAUKEE

It was a white Christmas this year at the Basilica of St. Josaphat with almost a foot of snow the weekend before the Nativity of the Lord. Cold temperatures kept the snow on the ground for the solemnity. The friars gathered to enjoy a tapas type meal.

Pictured at right, from r. to l.: Fr. Alejandro López, Fr. Paul Langevin, Friar John Clote, the Very Rev. Michael Glastetter and Fr. Pio Alves.



The friary patio decked in snow!



Even the exterior was decorated for Christmas.



The high altar decorated for Christmas at the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee, WI.



The Grand Pulpit.

HOLY FAMILY HAPPENINGS

The shrine project at Holy Family Catholic Church (in Peoria, Illinois) recognizes the various cultural and religious traditions that make up the parish. Throughout this coming year, different images reflecting their diversity will be formally blessed and enshrined in the Church. The different saints and their respective cultures are: Blessed Marie Clementine, the Congolese and other first generation immigrants from Africa; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Hispanics; El Santo Nino, the Filipinos; St. Rafqa the Lebanese; Our Lady of La Vang the Vietnamese; Our Lady of Vailankanni, the Indian culture; Our Mother of Africa the African-American culture; and the existing statue of the Immaculate Conception, all the cultures tracing their roots back to Europe.

Clockwise from right: Procession to re-enshrine the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Diocesan Deacon Joe LaHood enshrining the image of Blessed Marie Clementine in her permanent location.

Holy Family's Nativity scene for Christmas.



Friars from the Holy Family Friary in Peoria, IL, enjoy fraternity during a meal prior to hearing confessions at Holy Family's Advent Reconciliation Service. Pictured from l. to r.: Fr. John Grigus, Fr. Luke Poczworowski, Fr. James P. Henning, Fr. Hans Flondor, Fr. Paul Schneider and Fr. Anthony Labedis.





From l to r: Friar Giles Gilbert, Friar Thomas Fetz, Friar Jerome Westenberg, Cardinal Francis George, Friar Arturo Felix and Fr. Anthony Lajato.

BLESSED MEETINGS

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, the Simply Professed Community of Marytown had the privilege of assisting at the Jubilee Mass of His Eminence, Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago. The anniversary Mass in thanksgiving for 50 years of priestly ministry was celebrated at the monastery of the Colettine Poor Clares in Palos Park, Illinois. At the reception dinner the Cardinal chatted with the friars about their studies at Mundelein Seminary. On behalf of St. Bonaventure Province, their formation director, Fr. Anthony Lajato expressed gratitude for all his support and encouragement and assured him of our continual prayers. *Ad multos annos!*

Continued from page one.



Above: the students in initial formation helped with extractions, from l to r: Friar Jerome Westenberg, Friar Giles Gilbert, Friar Arturo Felix, Postulants Dale King, Christopher Thigpen, Luke Fonkalsrud and Friar Thomas Fetz. Right: Christopher and Jerome enjoy appetizers.

ORDINARY PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2014

First session: April 28-May 2, 2014
Second Session: July 7-11, 2014

May 24 Priesthood Ordination
Basilica of St. Josaphat, Milwaukee
11am

75th Anniversary of St. Bonaventure Province

Provincial Chapters

	First Session	Second Session
SB	Apr. 28-May 2	July 7-11
IC/SA	May 5-9	Aug. 4
OLC	May 12	July 28
SJC	May 19	July 14



A translation of a letter sent to the Provinciate: "Esteemed brothers in Christ of St. Bonaventure Province: with this letter I wish to express my fraternal gratitude on behalf of the Province of Mexico, "Our Lady of Guadalupe," for all the spiritual and financial support that you have given us recently. Thank you to you friar Patrick Greenough, minister provincial, for your support and to your predecessors and to each of the brothers who make the province of St. Bonaventure. We feel indebted to each of you. May God repay you infinitely, as only He knows how! Peace and All Good, Fraternally, Friar Francisco Díaz Valdez, Minister Provincial."