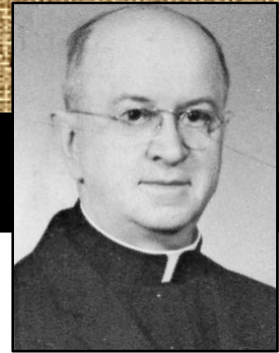


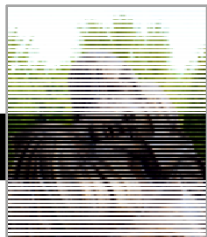
+James (Joseph) Fleischmann was born on 10 June 1898 and died on 01 February 1971 at the age of 72 in New York City.



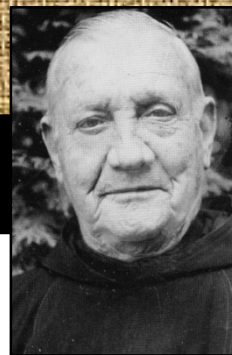
Our friar, born in Kötzing, Bavaria, who entered the Order in 1915, was the last surviving member of the Province of Saint Mary who had come from Germany to join the Capuchins in the United States. Ordained in 1922, he filled several provincial responsibilities, namely, professor and librarian in the houses of formation (the minor and major seminaries) which lasted eight years, and as provincial archivist from 1945 to 1951 in Detroit MI. He was appointed to the first definitory of the new Province of Saint Mary.

The most notable service of this gifted man was as guardian and pastor in St. Michael, Brooklyn, from 1932 to 1939 where he guided the varied ethnic elements toward one community, those of German origins who founded the parish and the newer parishioners that had arrived from Italy. He combined a kind and gentle personality with his language skills, namely, English, German and Italian. Recording the history of the Capuchin presence at St. Michael parish was his special project that gave a sense of pride to the parish. Later on these same qualities of gentleness and concern for all his parishioners would benefit the people of Our Lady of Sorrows NYC where he was pastor and guardian from 1951 to 1955. Originally built by German immigrants in the latter part of the nineteenth century and by 1910 was composed mostly of families from Italy, the parish was now welcoming new people from the island of Puerto Rico. James invited a Capuchin from Spain to assist him, and from whom he himself learned to speak the Spanish language. All the languages he spoke had a touch of his German accent.

In 1955 he moved to Our Lady Queen of Angels in East Harlem NYC, contributing his talents as a confessor for the elderly Italian parishioners, helping with Spanish liturgies, and directing the fraternity of the German Third Order, whose members returned to their old parish each month from far and wide. In September 1960 a girl's home in Peekskill NY needed his special language gifts as chaplain, but that lasted only until March. He returned to East Harlem, where as community vicar he added a tranquil presence to the diverse community, with his delightful reminiscences about friars from the early days. He kept up on current events and was willing to discuss just about anything that someone might find interesting. Keeping the house chronicle up to date and lending assistance in parish administrative details filled his time. This quiet and prayerful man inspired friars and visitors with his pleasant ways and fraternal interest in the community. He died well-prepared for his journey into eternal life.



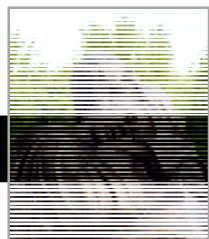
+Harold (Francis) Higgins was born on 03 February 1903 and died on 01 February 1989 at the age of 85 in Yonkers, New York.



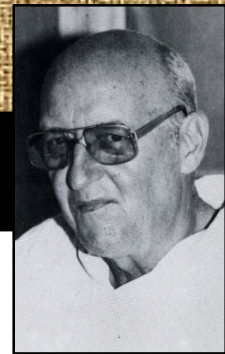
This very affable and easy-going friar began his Capuchin journey from Yonkers NY, attended the minor seminary in Mt. Calvary WI, joined the Order in 1923 at Detroit MI, took philosophy and theology in Marathon WI, and was ordained in 1930. After that he traveled far but never often. His first place was the new novitiate in Huntington IN, as assistant to the novice master. Next stop was in Garrison NY as the first director of the Third Order Villa, where for eleven years he was the benevolent custodian of the elderly retirees, and at the same time a part-time professor at the minor seminary. In every area of ministry he was steadfast, always reliable, and ready to be of service -- even if he could not be considered a bundle of energy.

In 1945 our country squire went to the sidewalks of New York, bringing his delightful presence to the people of the inner-city at Our Lady Queen of Angels, East Harlem NY, as assistant pastor and vicar of the community. Teaching catechism to the students of the parish school brought him particular joy. Then in 1949 he went west, laboring at the St. Labre Indian Mission in Montana, at the farthest end of St. Joseph Province. In 1952 to fill an emergency personnel need in the mission our willing friar stayed on for two more years. Next we find him at the most northwestern part of the new Province of Saint Mary, in Interlaken NY, where he remained for twenty-five years. The atmosphere of this rural setting fitted his easy-going nature well. During seventeen of those years he served as chaplain at a VA hospital, but also as guardian of the community, benevolent pastor of a local parish, and then remained in residence for six years. During this period his depleting energies still allowed him to take care of the rather expansive property, especially the lawns and the area near the lake front.

In 1979 this friendly friar became the 'elder statesman' of the community in Garrison NY, enjoying his retirement, and regaling one and all with his commentaries on the state of the world, the church, or the Order. This depended on whether anyone was willing to listen, since his nature was more accommodating than aggressive. He was never known to get angry or overly upset with anyone, or to make a 'big deal' about anything. Faithful to prayer and every aspect of community life, he spent his time reading and, if he could get a ride, visiting old friends. Eventually, his failing health necessitated a move to St. Clare Residence in Yonkers where he could receive regular care. Back in his home neighborhood, his final joy was to receive visits from old friends, until the divine call came to depart for his eternal rest.



+Antonine (Robert) Zimmerman was born on 15 November 1919 and died on 02 February 1988 at the age of 68 in Agaña, Guam.



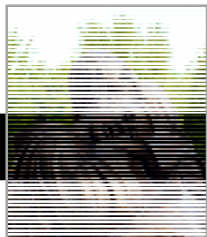
A Brooklyn native, our friar came to us from St. Michael parish, studied at the minor seminary in Garrison, and entered the Order in 1938. His responsible nature had been called upon in his high school years to take care of whatever was needed to keep order within the student community. Not the least was being manager for the student commissary in his senior year. His musical talents were displayed regularly on the kettledrums in the school band and orchestra. Nor was he anybody's fool on the ball field or the basketball court.

He maintained a scholarly but unassuming attitude in his preparation for ordination on June 5, 1946. Except for the first two years spent as prefect and professor at Mt. Calvary WI, he would go on to serve almost his entire priestly ministry as a missionary in the Mariana Islands, mostly on Guam.

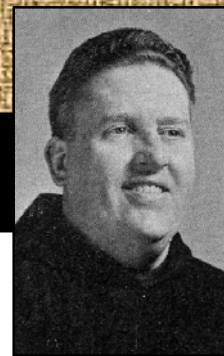
His soft-spoken but conscientious manner in the diligent fulfillment of his responsibilities, gained the respect of his fellow Capuchins, his professors and lectors during studies, and especially the people he served in various parishes in the mission territory. This quiet and simple man was totally dedicated to his priesthood, as a witness and exponent of the truths of the faith, an example of reverence in the administration of the sacraments, and the true expression of a Christ-like spirit in dealing with the people of God. His gentle approach made him a successful professor of mathematics on the faculty of the Fr. Duenas Memorial School, and the director of the minor seminarians. He found great relaxation in watching a Sunday night ball game, especially to root for his students.

More to his own amazement than that of anyone else, this very reserved friar received an appointment in 1961 from the minister general to assume the position of superior regular of the mission, which he exercised faithfully until 1964. His virtue was tested, but never challenged, for he took up his responsibilities with prompt obedience and fortified by prayer. No one would describe him as a forceful leader, but everyone saw him as a caring person who inspired everyone by his kindness and humble manner in dealing with them. He served well, and yet willingly relinquished the position at the next selection of a superior. A valuable contribution to his successors was the assistance he continued to give in the area of financial accountability.

Antonine was never thought to be sick, but one day he was discovered in his room unconscious from either a stroke or heart attack. His death brought much sorrow to the island for a friar so respected and loved, whose students continued to remember him in their generosity to the mission.



+Declan (James) Finn was born 08 November 1918 and died on 03 February 1970 at the age of 51 in Yonkers, New York.

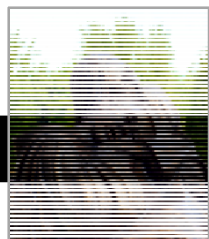


This amiable and gentle friar had graduated from Haaren High School NYC but had to help support his family for several years before pursuing his desire to become a priest. One position that he held was sacristan at St. Patrick's Cathedral. His return to studies began at St. John Seminary of the Atonement friars in Graymoor NY where he repeated two years of high school and then took two years of college. His mediocre grades indicated that he might have great difficulty with graduate studies, and he was not allowed to continue. His persistence took him to the Salvadoran seminary at St. Nazianz WI and then to the Capuchins at Mt. Calvary whose rector in 1947 recommended that he be received into the novitiate that year. His determination to reach his goal overcame any difficulties with philosophical and theological studies. In 1954 his dream of priesthood was fulfilled at the age of 36.

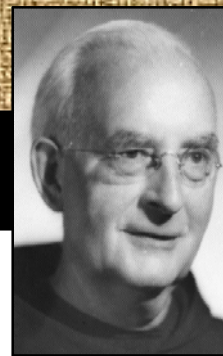
One year as assistant to the novice master in Milton MA preceded five years of happy and dedicated sacramental service to those who attended St. John Church NYC. His talents did not include any distinctive administrative ability or unique pastoral vision that would prompt a pastor to call upon him for the leadership of special projects. He could, however, always be counted on to fulfill faithfully and conscientiously anything that was asked of him, and certainly everything that pertained to his priestly responsibilities. In every way his congenial disposition enhanced the spirit of every community to which he was assigned and among the people he served.

Parish work, especially celebrating the Sunday Eucharist and being able to administer baptism and officiate at marriages, proved to be his natural milieu and gave him a sense of closeness to the everyday family life of the people. This began when he went to Yonkers for two years as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Church. A one year stay at St. Michael, Brooklyn, proved to be difficult because he lacked any special language skills that would have helped greatly in this multi-cultural parish. In 1964 he was pleased to return to Sacred Heart, where his special joy was to teach catechism to children, who found this friendly and easy-going friar their special friend.

As the proud son of Irish immigrants, he was always willing to lend his lyrical tenor voice to entertain friars and parishioners, singing ballads from his parent's homeland and, despite his size, stepping out to a lively Irish jig. This soft-hearted and compassionate priest found personal and spiritual consolation in hearing confessions. While exercising this ministry at a sisters' convent, this robust friar died suddenly of a heart attack in 1970.



+Pancratius (Joseph) Krieg was born on 09 October 1899 and died on 03 February 1976 at the age of 76 in Brooklyn, New York.

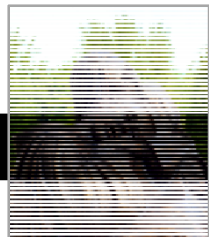


Our friar died at his home parish of St. Michael's, Brooklyn, where he had been retired for five years. The circumstance of the death of one who had been involved for so many years with the spiritual development of young people was both ironic and tragic. Surprised on the second floor of the friary by a young man intent on robbery, he vehemently informed him that he had no business being there. Not noticing the gun, he advanced with intensity and the panicked youth shot him several times. Others were holding the office staff and several friars at gunpoint on the lower floor, but after the shooting they all fled, empty-handed.

Ordained in 1924, he taught young seminarians for one year in Wisconsin and then eleven years in Garrison NY, where he carried a schedule of twenty-one classes a week, including German, Latin, religion, and biology. In 1936 he began a parish ministry that would last for most of the next nineteen years, going from Sacred Heart, Yonkers, as assistant pastor, to Our Lady of Sorrows NYC as pastor and guardian, and then to St. Michael's as assistant pastor. In Yonkers he organized several scout units, and in Our Lady of Sorrows encouraged varied youth activities and the establishment of the Sea Scouts for young adults. In Brooklyn he took special interest in the Squires, the junior Knights of Columbus. In 1955 we find him as an elder among the young friars at the novitiate in Milton MA. He served as confessor to the novices and in service to parishes and houses of religious women in the Boston Archdiocese.

In 1962 Pancratius returned to Saint Michael's as assistant pastor, where he would also serve as the chaplain to the women's auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, known as the Columbiettes. Zeal for the Franciscan way of life motivated his faithful service each month to St. Monica's Secular Franciscan Fraternity which met at Presentation parish in Jamaica, NY. Indeed, during his period of retirement in Brooklyn the work being done by the young friars with whom he lived and the happenings in the community were always of interest to him, about which he readily shared his opinions with grace. In the early years his personality and style was said to reflect at times his surname, for *krieg* means *war* in German. In his last years, however, his mellowed presence gave the community an atmosphere of gentility.

Fifty-two years after his First Mass our faithful friar was buried from the same church, surrounded by an overflowing crowd of laity, four bishops, some seventy diocesan clergy, innumerable friars, and his surviving siblings.



+Damian (Alphonse) Niedhammer was born on 24 November 1907 and died on 04 February 1972 at the age of 64 in Yonkers, New York.



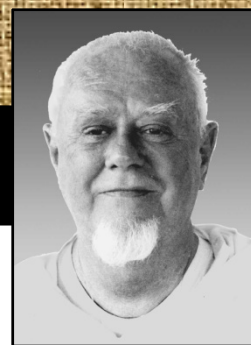
From East Harlem, NY, our friar entered the novitiate in 1926 and joined his brothers already in the Order. Cosmas, the oldest, was inclined to the serious side. The youngest with his good sense of humor was more like the second brother, Matthew, later a bishop in Nicaragua. Ordained in 1933, Damian would begin his priestly service as a professor in the minor seminary for three years. He began six years as assistant pastor in several parishes. Although lacking any semblance to an imposing military figure, he is best remembered for his service as a chaplain during the Second World War, mostly in the Pacific theatre. Discharged from active duty after nine years, he continued to serve eight more years at a veteran's hospital and several other institutions. On his return to the province and assigned to St. John's NYC in 1962, this easy-going man found that the adjustment to life in community would take some effort. His sometimes humorous comments about the mannerisms of those with whom he lived could give the impression that he took nothing seriously. On the contrary, his observations, when he cared to share them, revealed an astute and spiritually sensitive spirit.

In many ways Damian could be a delightful presence in a community, but he had his traits which could amuse or aggravate depending on one's own temperament. Guardians did not always appreciate his disregard for order. For example, he had a fondness for cats and would occasionally entice a stray one back to the friary. The cups used for the tea that he enjoyed each evening in his room were allowed to accumulate there. The last assignment of this droll friar was to Sacred Heart, Yonkers, where he found special delight in handing out candy to the grade school children at recess.

Damian seemed to enjoy creating an aura of mystery about himself, revealing little of his true depth. So the manner and timing of his death might, in a sense, fit his personality. On any day that he was free from parochial responsibilities, he would often pick up his favorite meal to eat privately that evening in his room. On a particular morning that followed his time off, he was on call to speak with anyone who wished to see a priest. He seemed to be ignoring the bell that was summoning him to the parish office. After a while a perturbed guardian went to find him. He knocked at his door, received no answer, and entered to discover our good friar lying dead on the floor. There may even have been a divine premonition. In that same house and five days earlier, another friar had died who was just three years older. Since that funeral Damian had been observed to be very pensive and prayerful.



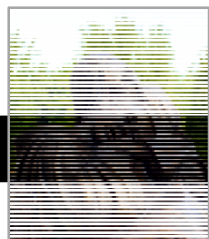
+Lee (Michael) Friel was born on 28 July 1929 and died on 04 February 2007 at the age of 77 in Agaña, Guam.



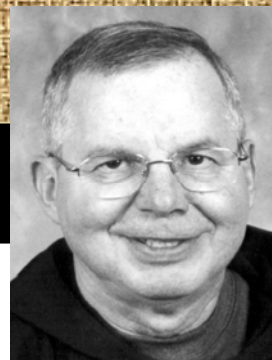
Our friar was born in the South Bronx NYC of Irish immigrant parents, and graduated from St. Jerome school with some idea of entering the priesthood. After two years of high school, he transferred to the Salvatorian Seminary in Wisconsin. Providentially, in 1947 while returning home by train, he met two other New Yorkers who told him of their plan to join the Capuchins that August. Visiting his friends at the novitiate in Huntington during his Easter break from the seminary convinced him that he himself should apply to the Capuchins. He entered the Order in 1948 and impressed all with his earnest and conscientious demeanor, and revealing an enjoyment of sports and other outdoor activities. His philosophical and theological studies were completed at Mary Immaculate in Garrison NY, where his cheerful outlook about the future was often expressed by his rallying cry of **Better Days Ahead**. Very humorous commentaries on student life would often punctuate his conversations. After his ordination in 1956, that cheerful personality and zeal would make him a very popular missionary among the people of the Marianas, where he would spend his entire priestly life.

Immediately on his arrival his work in parish ministry began, becoming responsible for two mission chapels attached to St. Jude in Sinajana. For the next five years he worked in the Northern Marianas on Saipan at Chalan Kanoa, until he became pastor on the island of Tinian at San José. After five years, he returned to Guam for service in Merizo and Umatac parishes. In 1970 he was back on Saipan for two years as pastor and principal at Mt. Carmel School. By this time he had become well-versed in the Chamorro language, and a mutual fondness grew between him and the people. He was respected for his unpretentious and simple life-style, and appreciated for preaching direct and understandable homilies, touched with humor. Young people valued his interest in organizing sports for them. After fifteen years on Guam as pastor of Merizo and Umatac, he moved to Blessed Sacrament in Agaña Heights, admitting that the frequent travel between the churches was tiring him. He quipped that it was better to leave his parishioners crying and cheering than throwing rocks at him.

While on home leave in 1998, he suffered a stroke that affected his mental perceptions and presented physical difficulties. After two years under special nursing care, his earnest request to return to where he had spent forty years was granted, even though it meant a complete retirement and full-care outside the friary. After seven emotionally difficult years, he died peacefully.



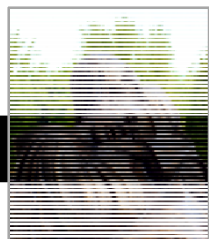
+ James W. Jones was born on 30 July 1942 and died on 09 February 2008 at the age of 65 in Castlepoint, New York.



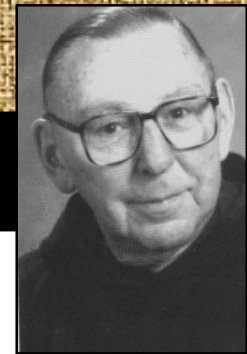
Our friar was born in Washington DC, where his father was stationed on an army base. His father's career meant that young James attended his elementary school years in different places throughout the United States, in Japan and in Germany. He was able, however, to attend and graduate in 1961 from New Dorp High School, Staten Island, New York before enlisting in the army for three years. His military service was on the Headquarters staff as a civil affairs and public information officer in Germany, followed by three years in the reserves. He joined the secular work force for two years and then, feeling a call to the priesthood in a religious order, enrolled in 1966 at the Franciscan seminary, Callicoon, NY. His lack of Latin studies prompted a change to a seminary for belated vocations in Boston, where in time a Capuchin vocation director befriended him. He entered our novitiate in 1968 at the age of 26.

The seminary rectors both attested to his cooperative spirit. One wrote the following: "(Jim has) a mature, reliable, solid, well-balanced personality with a quiet but effective sense of leadership." He went on to receive degrees in philosophy at St. Anselm College, Manchester NH, and theology at Maryknoll School of Theology in Ossining NY. His gentlemanly disposition showed itself in the most pressure-filled circumstances. Later he obtained degrees in Pastoral Counseling (Iona-1980) and Science and Engineering (NYU-1981). In view of his expressed interest for chaplaincy service in the military after ordination, he had been allowed to complete in 1973 an advanced course for prospective chaplains. After ordination in 1977, he would first serve at St. John's NYC for one year, St. Joseph in Patchogue NY for one year and as a vocation director for two years before joining the military in 1981.

For twenty-three years his military career took him to various parts of the world. His exemplary zeal for the spiritual welfare of the troops brought him frequent praise from his commanding officers and the head of the Military Ordinariate. Retirement became necessary in 2004, however, when a chronic medical condition surfaced that affected the energies that had propelled his success. His joyful Franciscan spirit remained steadfast for the three years of special care at St. Lawrence in Beacon and continued into his final year of almost total debilitation at Castlepoint VA Hospital. Displaying no sense of self-pity, his totally prayerful and cheerful demeanor edified friars and staff alike as he awaited the embrace of Sister Death with a joy that reflected the love of St. Francis for the Crucified. Ever the smiling gentleman, he was quick to express his appreciation for the support he received.



+Justin (John) Joos was born on 10 September 1912 and died on 11 February 1998 at the age of 85 in Newburgh, New York.

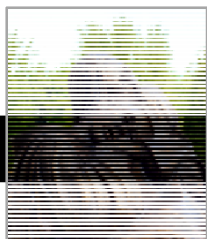


Our friar, who entered the Order in 1929, was the younger brother of a deceased cleric friar, Romuald, who had died in 1924 at Marathon WI. At the time his father had expressed to Solanus Casey, then serving in his home parish of Our Lady Queen of Angels that he had hoped to have a priest son. Solanus assured him that he still would. Young John was then twelve years old. Ordained in 1936, Justin began a very dedicated ministry as a parish priest at which he served zealously for the next twenty-eight years, being deeply respected by the people for his dedication and as someone on whom they could always rely to do as he promised. His most notable contribution was his nine years at St. Michael, Brooklyn NY, first as assistant and then pastor for six years. During his tenure he directed the building of a girl's high school, which in short order developed an excellent reputation.

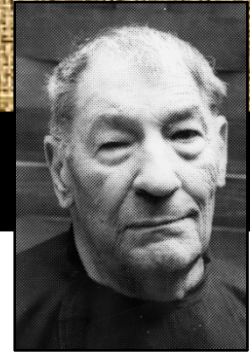
Justin was a no-nonsense priest, with himself and with others. You were expected to be faithful to what you had begun. From 1962 to 1968 he ran the St. Francis Retreat House in Garrison NY and presumed those who came had the intention to make a retreat. One time he packed up the belongings of a priest who was not respecting the prayerful atmosphere, and placed his luggage on the porch. Those who knew Justin's distain for slackers had no trouble accepting the story's truth.

His most totally satisfying priestly experience seems to have been his time as chaplain at North Shore Hospital in Manhasset, NY-- work which he shared with another friar. His ability to organize helped them to cover the nursing home across the street and the Manhasset Medical Center as well. His zealous and generous response to the needs of people earned the respect of staff and patients alike. He knew that friars needed to balance work with an occasional break from the employee's cafeteria and their own hospital quarters with some quality time together at a nearby restaurant.

His first assignment in 1937 had been at St. John NYC and so he was pleased to return there in 1982 with a light schedule. Besides morning Mass, he was archivist, chronicler, and faithful confessor of priests. His friendly presence served the friars well, as an ambassador of good will to friary visitors, neighborhood shopkeepers, vendors, and others. Old friends from former day would call and take him out to dine. In time his health became precarious and demanded a permanent stay at the infirmary in Beacon NY, where in a severely depressed state he was sustained only by his devotion to the Blessed Mother and Solanus Casey as he longed to be called to the Lord.



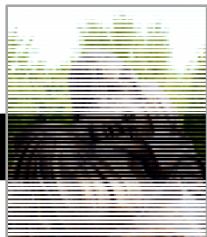
+Blase (Clarence) Minnich was born on 10 October 1892 and died on 13 February 1978 at the age of 85 in Kingston, New York.



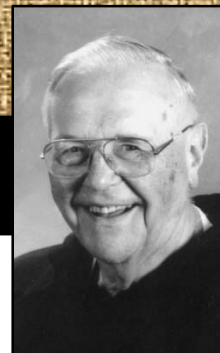
Our brother Blase made profession in the Secular Franciscans on September 17, 1919, on his discharge from the United States Army after serving for 14 months in France during the First World War as a motorcycle driver. In 1939 he asked to join the province as a Third Order brother and was received. His service to the Order for the next thirty-nine years would bring him to many friaries, but always with the same responsibilities. He did everything and anything that made the house livable and the lives of the friars comfortable. His disposition was always pleasant even when his observations concerning the behavior of others were less than flattering. Still, his generous nature could be depended on to help anyone who needed him, and he gave his best to all the work for which he was responsible.

Although he was born in Fort Wayne IN, he decided at the division of the province in 1952 to remain in the east, and for most of the time thereafter served at friaries in New York City. Although reserved by nature, Blase was well-aware of the affairs of the day and could engage in extensive conversations, but he did so rarely and usually with no more than one other person. His faith was simple and direct, and his prayer life was noticeably contemplative. He sometimes entertained himself in the privacy of his room with his violin, which he did not play very well. One Christmas the pastor acceded to his request to play at the crib before the Midnight Mass. Concerned that this action might be construed as irreverence by the parishioners, some friars were less than pleased. Fortunately, the pastor knew the people better. Overall, this good man was very content with his status as “one who serves” and was pleased when asked to give a hand at any task. His prompt obedience to directives of a superior was exemplary, but his judgments on the less than perfect obedience of others could be harsh.

As he grew older, he made a conscious determination to prepare others and himself for his death, especially after he had moved to a nursing home. A short time before he gave detailed instruction for his funeral, even naming the undertaker and asking for a very simple white coffin. He wanted the white rosary that he had saved from the day of his First Holy Communion to be clasped in his hands. A request that was more of a plea directed that his surviving siblings should not be notified of his death until after the burial. They were elderly and would find the long and expensive trip from Indiana a great hardship. He was sure that the entire family would gather later at their home parish for a memorial Mass.



+Armand (Theodore) Dasseville was born on 25 December 1920 and died on 13 February 2006 at the age of 85 in Ringwood, New Jersey.

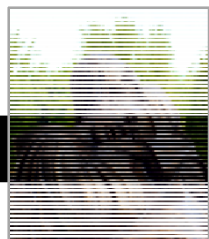


In addition to being a zealous promoter of the Franciscan way of life during forty years assisting Secular Franciscan fraternities, our friar was an unbelievably hardworking priest in many other ways and all pertained to the spiritual growth of individuals seeking holiness. He was born in New York City, son of immigrant parents from Belgium, whose mother took him as a little boy to visit the church of St. John where he would later work most of his priestly life. The family returned to Belgium where young Teddy graduated from elementary school and attended two years of high school in Antwerp. At fifteen he entered the Capuchin minor seminary in Lommel, Belgium. With a threat of invasion by Germany, the boy and his mother returned to the United States in 1937.

Speaking only Flemish and French, our future Capuchin began high school over again at the minor seminary in Garrison NY and joined the Order in 1941. After ordination in 1949 his first years were spent at Sacred Heart, Yonkers, first as assistant pastor and then as pastor and guardian until 1961. He affirmed later that he found great fulfillment in administering the sacraments, visiting the sick, teaching high school religion, hearing confessions, and preaching. At Saint John the Baptist NYC his work would assume a wholly new dimension. The church where he had offered his first Solemn Mass would be his home for the next forty years.

To four fraternities of the Secular Order he was their teacher of Franciscan spirituality. Visiting the sick members in their homes was his own personal expression of the spirit of St. Francis. In addition, he conducted holy hours twice a week, and for thirty-two years conducted a monthly all-night vigil in honor of Our Lady of Fatima from Friday evening until morning of the First Saturday. The vigil consisted of Mass at the beginning, confessions, and at the end, several processions with the Blessed Sacrament. The Franciscan Seculars provided refreshments during the night for those desiring a respite. Armand also gave parish missions and conducted lectures on scripture and promoted devotion to the Holy Angels. In 1996 he received an appointment as National Coordinator of Padre Pio Prayer Groups, several of which he was the director. In addition, several pilgrimage groups asked him to accompany them as director on visits to shrines in Europe.

Ill health necessitated retirement in 2001 at St. John Friary, and then in 2004 the Ringwood NJ nursing facility, where he cheerfully awaited the call of the Lord he had served faithfully for many years.



+Warren (Barry) Smithbower was born on 06 August 1916 and died on 16 February 2005 at the age of 88 in Ringwood, New Jersey.



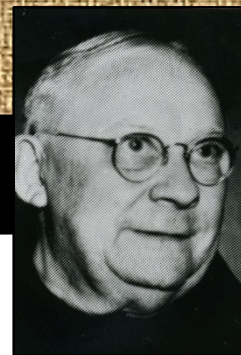
A gregarious man, our friar could do anything well that could be spoken or sung. His powerfully resonant voice was his trademark and made him one of the most renowned preachers in the province. All this happened in spite of his weak eyesight, which became a case of 'tunnel vision' that grew worse with each successive year until his condition reached total blindness. Warren was born in Hamilton, Ontario, but moved to Buffalo NY after graduating from Cathedral High School. Before entering the Order in 1938, he managed a restaurant for two years while attending Canisius College to study Greek and Latin. Ordained in 1945, his first assignment was at the minor seminary in Garrison NY, where among other subjects he taught speech and debate.

His preaching ministry was begun in earnest out of Sacred Heart, Yonkers NY from 1948 to 1955 with retreats, parish missions, conferences and other forms of spiritual discourse. He was in great demand and his preaching continued even when he became lector of homiletics at the house of theology. His failing eyesight demanded a change of responsibility, so for six years he served as spiritual director at the minor seminary, and then six more in charge of the newly-ordained priests in what was known as their 'fifth year' of study. His preaching resumed when he adjusted to a total loss of vision. At Mary Immaculate Friary in Garrison on familiar terrain, he was driven by car to his assignments, or placed on a train or bus. To keep up on new spiritual books, he would ask others to read them to him, and in preaching at a new place would be led through the sanctuary or hall area ahead of time to become familiar with the location of chairs, lecterns and microphones. His determined sense of independence and zeal for God's word was an inspiration. He would join the other friars at prayer in the morning and evening, and in his turn even celebrated the community Mass. Any friar who greeted him with just a few words was easily recognized by his voice.

Through it all he maintained his remarkable sense of humor. His hearty laugh could be heard from the friars' recreation room when he and others joined in a game of cribbage. A special set of cards was required and his companions had to call out each play. Nothing stopped him until a stroke led to total debilitation and constant care in several nursing homes. Shortly before his illness, he was publically honored by the province for twenty-five consecutive years of offering the annual retreat to each novitiate class. During his ten years in nursing homes, this prayerful friar practiced faithfully what he had so often preached, maintaining a cheerful disposition throughout his sufferings and cooperating in his care with holy patience.



+Crispin (William) Marschhaeuser was born on 28 December 1883 and died on 17 February 1971, at the age of 87 in Garrison, New York.

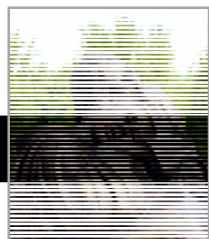


Our friar entered the Order out of New York City in 1903, and for the first nine years after first profession of vows his responsibilities centered on the kitchen as cook in Milwaukee and Detroit. A doctor advised that he discontinue this form of community service, not because of any belated awareness of incompetence but seemingly because of a difficulty with his legs that precluded standing for long periods. So the rest of his life this friendly friar would bring his cheerful personality to assignments that brought him in direct contact with the people, serving as porter or sacristan and sometimes both in many places.

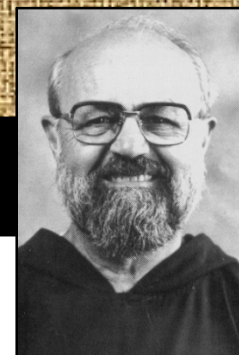
Until the division of the province in 1952, he was sent back and forth between friaries in the west and those on the east coast. First there was Sacred Heart for six years, St. John for seven years, and St. Michael for two years. He ministered one year in Milwaukee and back to Our Lady of Sorrows NYC eleven years. Milwaukee beckoned again (St. Elizabeth) for thirteen years. By 1952 he had already served thirty-nine years as porter or sacristan. The longevity of this demanding responsibility in so many places speaks well of his dependability, efficiency, and congeniality. After 1952 his travels between assignments was a matter of going from the east side of Manhattan (Our Lady of Sorrows) where he spent three years and then at the age of seventy-three to the west side at St. John for fifteen years. During this time he began to become somewhat feeble, so he was relieved of major responsibilities. After that, his contributions to the community were varied, usually in 'lending a hand' to others. On his own he would do what he saw needed to be done, especially in the kitchen and refectory area on the first floor. His room was nearby to make it unnecessary for him to climb stairs.

At this time of his life Crispin became very contemplative. He had lived his life as a lesser brother, always in service to others, so it was now a matter of waiting to be called home. Friars who visited that 'old' St. John's would gravitate to the kitchen on the lower level and drop in on Crispin to enjoy some delightful conversation. In his last years, having passed his eightieth year, he enjoyed listening to sport broadcasts on his small radio. He rarely left the friary.

By 1970 a 'new' St. John's was in the offing, so Crispin was sent to full retirement at Mary Immaculate in Garrison NY, where his very presence was an inspiration to the student friars. They had the example of a friar who suffered peacefully and awaited his death with a joyful spirit.



+Jeremiah (Daniel) Cassidy was born on 05 February 1930 and died on 17 February 2000, at the age of 70 in Futenma, Okinawa.

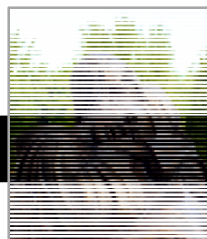


Our friar, born in Delaware, entered the Order in 1948 from Queens NY. Naturally given to academic excellence, he completed his first year in the minor seminary at the top of his class, although he had begun only in February. His very best effort was put into any undertaking, from studies to sports to physical labor to operating machinery. His abundant talents were generously used in the mission field of Okinawa, Japan, where he spent his entire priestly life.

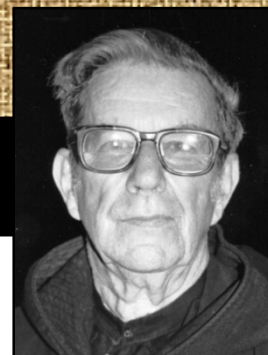
Both during studies and throughout his mission experience, he would conscientiously continue to perfect his language and pastoral skills with the determination to do everything the best way possible. His motivation could be summed up in the words of Saint Paul: "*Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel.*" In conversation about things spiritual, fraternal, or pastoral, he never left any doubt as to his viewpoint, but he could disagree with amazing charity and respect. From the beginning of his service in Okinawa, the other friars easily recognized his devotion and intelligence and elected him councilor to the superior regular over and over again. That service revealed a spirit of grace and humility, but was a challenge to his intent always to remain a sign of contradiction as a lesser brother among the Japanese people.

His congenial personality and wit were a ready favorite at parish parties. A big hit was singing *Danny Boy*. Before beginning, he would strike a chord in the Okinawan heart, deeply attached to family and ancestors, by recalling his Irish roots and speaking affectionately about his father and mother. The warmth and determination in his voice would be carried over into the song. The people knew by instinct his great love for them and their culture, which was revealed in the new church of the Holy Family that he had built in Koza, central Okinawa. The architecture was replete with Japanese motifs. A new parish hall was later named in his memory.

Jeremiah was also a very zealous, but cautious, spiritual director for the Okinawa Charismatic movement. To direct its spiritual life more efficiently, he left the warm climate of the mission to attend a conference in damp and very cold Tokyo in February 2000. A bad cold and a high fever accompanied him home, but his determination to carry on kept him out of bed. A few mornings later, still over-doing it, he returned from opening the church and died of a heart attack. The angels, possibly singing *Danny Boy*, took this holy friar to eternal life the way he would have preferred it.



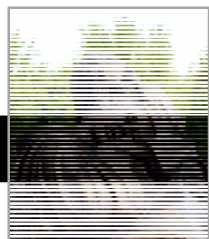
+Patrick (Austin) Nolan was born on 06 December 1916 and died on 22 February 1997 at the age of 80 in Yonkers, New York.



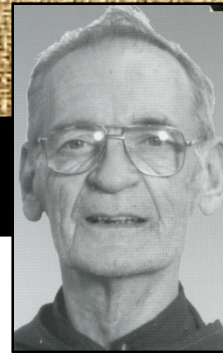
Our friar came to us out of Providence RI after graduation from LaSalle Academy, and entered the Order in Detroit MI in 1939. After professing first vows, he was assigned to Mary Immaculate Friary, Garrison, where he served as cook, and also took up sandal-making. The rest of his life, following his final vows, would be as a missionary on the islands of Guam, Saipan, and Rota. He accompanied the first friars who were able to return to the mission after the war, many of whom had been imprisoned in Japan for its duration. His dedication to hard work was a most effective supportive force toward the success of the mission in the Mariana Islands after the war, and well beyond. Among other things, he was the 'supply officer' *par excellence* who could be counted on to get from far and wide any materials, foodstuffs, furniture, etc., that were needed, and then meet the ships that delivered what he had ordered. His building skills helped construct a sister's convent on the island of Rota. He took upon himself the special mission to make visitors to Guam feel at home, making sure that everything they needed was available. The Jesuits from the other islands in Micronesia would often come to Guam for a rest, medical treatment, and new supplies. Brother Pat was their most generous host.

This intrepid missionary also had a head for finances and was a strong collaborator with the superiors of the mission in keeping cognizant of all fiscal matters. He was a cheerful companion on any venture, had a contagious sense of humor and could also turn out a most delicious meal. Everyone else was expected to work as hard as he did. Those who did not pull their weight could expect his Irish wit to prod them into action. Faithful to his religious commitment and visibly a man of prayer, he was always supportive of the priests in their service to the people, and would respond quickly to any request for his help. This does not mean that they were protected from an occasional practical joke inspired by his Irish impishness.

In 1980 Patrick suffered a stroke which forced a severe cutback in his work. His strong sense of brotherly service made him do his very best. Eventually, circumstances of health made it imperative that he be given more care and attention at St. Clare's Residence in Yonkers, NY. This difficult change for one who had labored in a place he loved for so long was softened as he joined several others there who had served closely with him in the mission. His humor and good will sustained him those last years, even as he prayerfully and serenely prepared for the reward of a faithful servant.



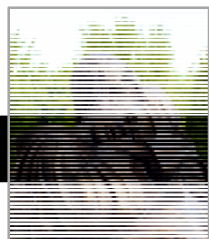
+Joseph Mullen was born on 21 March 1921 and died on 22 February 2002 at the age of 80 in Beacon, New York.



Our friar was meant to be a Capuchin from the beginning. His parents were married at St. John Church, W. 31st St., NYC. After young Joseph was born in Yonkers NY, the family moved back to NYC in 1929 (with a brief stop in Scranton PA) and the future Capuchin attended St. John's parish school. The saintly sacristan who was in charge of the altar boys made a deep impression, as did the kindness of the priests whom he assisted at the altar. He graduated from the minor seminary at Garrison in 1939 and enthusiastically entered the novitiate in Huntington, IN, receiving the religious name of 'Virgil'. At St. Felix, he was delighted to once again meet a friar who had inspired him greatly during his student days at St. John school. He was sure that this was the right place.

After ordination in 1947, his efforts went immediately into the study of Spanish for a missionary life in Nicaragua. Over a period of twelve years his priestly zeal, combined with a pleasant and playful disposition, served the poor people in the mountain villages. Unfortunately, health reasons forced a return to the province. He would spend eight years teaching Spanish to the minor seminarians in Garrison, at which time he resumed the use of his baptismal name. Then migrant workers from Latin America who worked the tobacco fields of Connecticut needed a priest to serve them. Joseph moved to the friary in Middletown, and was happy to minister. However this good and humble friar, who often seemed disappointed in himself, felt a need to live apart from the community for a while, so he was granted permission to work in various diocesan parishes from 1970 until 1979.

On his return to the province, his delightful sense of humor again became a welcome addition to the community at various Capuchin parishes for several years. Joseph assumed the responsibilities of guardian at St. Lawrence Friary in Abington MA, where he provided parochial assistance to the local parish in lieu of rent for the friar's use of the former convent. The year 1990 found him on a sabbatical year in Spain, and upon return spent the following two years at St. Francis Chapel in Springfield MA. His final assignment brought him back to St. John NYC, which had been so much a part of his vocation, and where he had a glorious celebration of his golden priestly jubilee in 1994. Eventually, sickness forced him to retire permanently at the Capuchin infirmary in Beacon NY. Only close friends would ever know what personal difficulties might be giving him pain or anxiety during that period, because he continued to spread joy among friars and infirmary staff alike.



+Edwin (Bernard) Modicowitz was born on 03 September 1906 and died on 23 February 1980 at the age of 73 in Interlaken, New York.

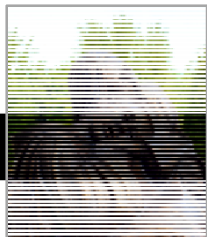


Our friar was a powerful man who was born in Borenia, Poland. His family settled in Most Holy Redeemer parish on the Lower East Side of New York. At the age of twelve he transferred to Our Lady of Sorrows School, where he became acquainted with the Capuchins, found himself drawn to these holy men and after graduation enrolled in their minor seminary. He waited two years before entering the novitiate in 1926 because the family needed him for support. His robust build served him well as a factory worker. His gentle nature could be provoked at times, and when he was unable to reply to some overzealous flippancy, he had only to seize the antagonist by the arm with his fantastic grip, and that would dispel any further hostility.

Ordained in 1933, he spent two years in the novitiate at Huntington IN, and then after a year at St. Elizabeth, Milwaukee WI, was assigned to familiar ground at Our Lady of Sorrows NYC as an assistant pastor for the next ten years. That was followed by two years uptown in East Harlem. Parish work would be his arena of activity because he returned to Our Lady of Sorrows in 1950 for twelve more years. His responsibilities were fulfilled faithfully, although not with any notable flair, beyond his strong physical presence and booming voice that was anything but melodious. He did seem to enjoy teaching catechism to children. There was a respite for two years in 1948 at the novitiate, where his sermon on one special occasion was remembered for his strong staccato emphasis on a spiritual axiom.

For the friars in the parishes where he served, his delight was to prepare a festive Polish meal that often would take up the better part of his day to reach the desired perfection. He was always ready when the emergency arose to volunteer as the sacristan for long periods, and he enjoyed using his unique and elaborate penmanship to up-date the sacramental records.

In due time an illness forced him into less strenuous activity; although he was very helpful in the sacramental work of St. Francis Chapel, Springfield MA for one year, and then semi-retired at St. Joseph Friary in Fultonville NY, the home of the mission band. There he took full charge of all domestic responsibilities, since his community companions were often away on preaching assignments. In 1972 this friary was discontinued, so Edwin and the preachers moved to St. Fidelis Friary in Interlaken NY. He helped within the friary and occasionally gave pastoral assistance to neighboring pastors, until he took sick and died peacefully.



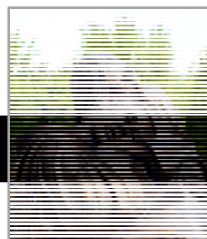
+Matthew (Anthony) Migan was born on 12 November 1888 and died on 27 February 1958 at the age of 69 in New York City.



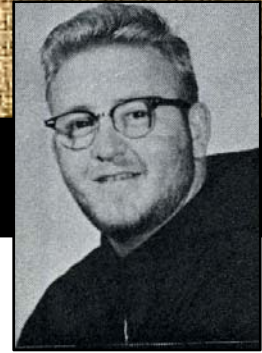
Our friar came to the province from Buffalo NY and was invested with the habit of the Third Order at the age of 45. Matthew began his service immediately in various friaries. First he worked at St. Bonaventure Friary in Detroit MI with overall care of the household (three years). Then he went to St. Benedict Mission in Milwaukee WI as porter where he showed a great willingness to be helpful in every possible way (three years). His pleasant personality and kindness to those who came to the door for assistance was a great asset to the mission's work in a largely non-Catholic neighborhood. In all ways he was proving to be a great addition to the province, very willingly to do any work toward house maintenance without needing direction. Everyone realized that he worked well when left undisturbed to concentrate on his work.

Having learned to speak Spanish during his extensive travels through Latin America as a merchant seaman, he asked to be given an opportunity to serve in the Nicaraguan mission. However, after two years this experience brought on some health concerns so a return to the province was advisable. His talents could be of greater use. He was assigned in Wisconsin at St. Francis Milwaukee as tailor, then briefly as cook at St. Joseph, Appleton, and as tailor once again at the minor seminary in Mt. Calvary. Twelve years followed at the various New York City friaries, St. John (then St. Fidelis) as general maintenance for three years, Our Lady Queen of Angels as sacristan for three years, Our Lady of Sorrows as cook for one year, and then at Mary Immaculate Friary, Garrison NY, for five years where he assisted in various ways, especially in general maintenance. He spent one entire summer painting all the windows in the large building that housed the minor seminary. At this time he was sixty-seven years old.

His simple faith was reflected from the beginning in his complete satisfaction to fulfill God's will for him as a brother in the service of his brothers in the Order. The final responsibility of his life was the two years he spent as sacristan in East Harlem NY, which brought him great spiritual consolation in service to his Eucharistic Lord, but which also enabled him to interact on a personal basis with the parishioners, so many of whom were Spanish-speaking. He was able to work almost to the end, but this faithful and serene servant of the Lord took to his bed on Christmas Day, and was taken to Garrison for a month's rest. Taken to the hospital in NYC, our holy brother, fortified by the sacraments, died peacefully.



+Quentin (John) Brennan was born on 20 November 1941 and died on 27 February 1965 at the age of 23 in Nashua, New Hampshire.



Our friar came to us from Rochester NY, where the Capuchins from St. Fidelis Friary, Interlaken, often assisted at parishes in that city. He was one of several students from that area who were enrolled at Saint Mary minor seminary, Garrison NY. Classroom work proved a little difficult for him and a repeat of his freshman year was required. His easy-going manner was not affected, and students and faculty alike respected his firm resolve to succeed at his studies. He graduated high school in June 1960 and entered the Order the following August. During the novitiate in Milton MA his intent to achieve became a full and unequivocal commitment to Capuchin fraternal life. As an only child with a strong sense of devotion to the parents whose faith was his life-long inspiration, he easily developed a strong desire to give himself in service of the people of God in the life he had vowed. As a student in philosophy studies at St. Anthony Friary, Hudson NH, his generous disposition and dedication to hard work impressed his professors and the other seminarians. Not only did his fellow students remember him as a jovial friar who enjoyed an impish trick, but also for his sometimes boyish delight in driving the seminary truck with the front end loader to push the snow around in winter time.

His strong hope was to become a fervent priest after the mind of Christ and to spend his life in the foreign missions as a faithful follower of Francis. But that was not to be. This very stocky and to all appearance very healthy friar became sick with the same flu that had brought down many of the brothers. He welcomed his visitors to the infirmary with pleasantries that indicated no awareness of what was coming. After eight days, his fever was not responding to the antibiotics, so the doctor ordered him into the hospital. There his condition seemed to have developed into pneumonia. His heart or his lungs must have been compromised because after two days he died, which cast an aura of disbelief over the student body and indeed throughout the province. The will of God just could not be helped.

Was he too good for us? Or perhaps he had already fulfilled his call to holiness? By every account of those who shared this Capuchin life that ended just five months after his profession of solemn vows, this young man would have made a great friar and a good priest. Instead, he serves as an example of the great mystery of God's relationship to us, the province and the Order. An eminent spiritual maxim reminds us: *"We live as well as we are able and for as long as God permits, but we will die when we can't help it."*

