

# the Capuchin Journey

ISSUE 2 · 2019



**Ordination Day!**

## Province Mission

The needs of the poor and the demands of justice shape our every ministerial endeavor. We attempt to promote the equality of all people within our fraternity, in the churches dedicated to the gospel of Christ, and in the larger world. Capuchin friars minister in a wide variety of settings. Service to people of a variety of cultures in North America and around the globe have allowed us to witness God at work in countless ways.

Here in the Northeast United States, the Province of St. Mary serves through any number of institutions dedicated to the service of real human needs and the proclamation of God's love. Urban, suburban, and rural; poor, blue collar, and middle class; Latino, Asian, and English-speaking - the friars can be found living amid all these diverse circumstances.

## Capuchin Charisms

**FRATERNITY** of the friars joins them in their common goals and taps into their unique talents to most efficiently operate their own community as well as the communities they serve.

**MINORITY** has enabled them to walk with the people they serve and be accepted as one of their own.

**CONTEMPLATION** requires they set aside time to reflect upon the progress and direction of their mission and to listen to God's guidance in their mission.

**MINISTRY** has led the Capuchins to appeal to and often allay the hunger, despair, and loneliness of those among whom Christ would have walked.

**JUSTICE, PEACE, AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION** are uniquely Capuchin because an essential part of the mission of St. Francis was to strive for all of God's creation to live in peace and harmony.



**CAPUCHIN FRANCISCANS**  
PROVINCE OF ST. MARY



## From Our Provincial

**P**ace be with you! I hope and pray that each of you are having a beautiful summer with plenty of time to relax and to vacation with loved ones. I am writing this at the time of High School Graduations. Speaking with some of my married friends, they are exhausted from helping their sons and daughters get ready for Prom, hosting graduation parties, and going to graduation ceremonies. One mother shared how tired she was feeling and how amazed she is at the energy of her daughter. She said something like, "My daughter and her classmates have been moving from one celebration to another for weeks. I thought they would all be exhausted by now, but they just keep going!"

Although one can say that perhaps too much emphasis is put on celebrations like these (and too much money is spent), I also stand in awe of the capacity of the young to celebrate. High School and College age young people need no excuse to make a party. I think that is an attitude for every Catholic to emulate. As we age, the seriousness and sacrifices of life necessarily take a front seat, but that doesn't mean we should lose our joy. In our faith, sacrifice and joyful celebration are not mutually exclusive; rather they are interconnected! Our Savior Jesus Christ sacrificed all He had out of love for us, and never lost His joy. Even the night before He was

unjustly condemned and crucified, He gathered His disciples together and celebrated with a meal.

St Francis of Assisi, who wanted nothing more than to be like Jesus, had the same exuberant attitude. Although suffering near the end of his life from a serious eye illness that forced him to live in a cave and avoid the sunlight, St Francis wrote the joyful Canticle of the Creatures in which he praised God for Brother Sun and Sister Moon and all the gifts of creation.

As Catholics, we need to continue that behavior today. Our Eucharist is the epitome of a "joyful celebration"! As brothers and sisters in faith we are at our very best when celebrating the Sunday Mass. So we ask ourselves, do we approach this with youthful enthusiasm? Can we look forward to the Sunday celebration like a High School student looks forward to prom or a graduation party? My prayer for myself and all of you is to say Yes to joy, Yes to the Eucharist and Yes to all of life like Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus as He faced the Cross.

Pax et Bonum,

*Fr. Michael J. Greco, OFM Cap.*

Fr. Michael J. Greco, O.F.M. Cap.  
Provincial Minister



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*The Capuchin Journey* is our way of letting you know how the Province of St. Mary fulfills its mission. You, as part of our community, share this vision of service to those in need. Through this publication, we want you to see how we use the resources you so generously provide to us. We hope the contents of *The Capuchin Journey* will convey a sense of the work we do and how valuable your contributions are to this work.

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**Cover:** Provincial Minister Fr. Michael Greco, newly ordained Fr. John E. Koelle, and Bishop Wayne Berndt, Bishop of Diocese of Naha, Okinawa.

**Opposite:** Friars gather at the reception following Fr. John Koelle's ordination.

# Around the Province

## ‘Conversations’ Engage Province Communities



“Conversations with the Capuchins” guests with Bishop Wayne Berndt, Bishop of Diocese of Naha, Okinawa, Japan.

Continuing our “Conversations with the Capuchins” series, on May 7, 2019, **Fr. Jack Rathschmidt** gave a talk on the Legacy of St. Padre Pio to a group of 20 friends and supporters on Staten Island, NY at St. Joseph Retreat Center. Fr. Jack spoke of Padre Pio in terms of three “R”s . . . **Realization** – the point in our lives when “the light goes on” like the calling from God to religious life or marriage; **Reconciliation** – acknowledging that we take too much for granted and failing to take time each day to ask ourselves “Was I grateful today for the things I have in my life or to be able to unburden myself for the things that are terribly heavy?”; and **Readiness** – the acceptance and willingness to do what God has in store for me.

“For Padre Pio, that light went on when God asked him to bear the wounds of Jesus on his body,” Fr. Jack said. “But Pio immediately covered them up saying that he would accept the pain and suffering but he didn’t want the fame associated with it. He was willing to accept the suffering that came to him like

Jesus did for the sake of the Church but he didn’t want people to focus on that. He wanted the focus to be on the Christ who called him to be a friar and a priest.

“As a Capuchin Friar”, Fr. Jack continued, “I look to emulate Padre Pio by committing myself each day to realize how much God loves me; how good God’s people are; to ask for reconciliation when I take things for granted and to get ready for the things God asks me to do each day.”

During the evening of May 21, 2019, **Br. Francisco Serrano**

discussed his vocation journey during a “Conversation” event attended by parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Br. Francisco lives in Jamaica Plain, MA where he is going through the Capuchin formation program, studying at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. He is spending the summer months at Our Lady of Sorrows where he is being educated in pastoral care.

On June 7, 2019 donors were invited to “Breakfast with a Capuchin Bishop” hosted by the fraternity of St. Clare Friary, Yonkers, NY. The day began with Mass celebrated by **Bishop Wayne Berndt** in the Blessed Solanus Casey Chapel at Sacred Heart Church. Bishop Wayne is a Capuchin friar from the Province of St. Mary who has been serving in our Custody in Okinawa, Japan as a missionary since 1981. In December 2017, Pope Francis appointed him Bishop of the Diocese of Naha – Japan’s southernmost islands. He is the first foreign-born bishop in Japan since 1941.

# Rest in Peace, Fr. Knute Kenlon



Father Knute Kenlon (1928 - 2019)

We mourn the death of our brother **Fr. Knute Kenlon**, who died on March 18, 2019 in Dobbs Ferry, NY at the age of 90.

Joseph A. Kenlon was born to Francis X. and Marie Burke-Kenlon on June 8, 1928 in Mt Vernon, NY. He attended Our Lady of Victory Grade School, Mt. Vernon [1934-42]; Cathedral College HS, NYC [1942-42]; Blessed Sacrament HS, New Rochelle, NY [1943-46]; Iona College, New Rochelle, NY [1946-47] and Glencllyffe Seminary, Garrison, NY [1948-49]. Joseph entered the Capuchin Novitiate at Huntington, IN on August 31, 1949 where he received the name “Knute”. Following novitiate, Fr. Knute resided at Mary Immaculate Friary, Garrison, NY [1950-58] where he received his B.A. in Philosophy [1954] and his M. Div. in Theology [1958]. He pronounced his solemn vows at Mary Immaculate Friary on September 1, 1953 and was ordained to the Priesthood on June 21, 1958 at the Monastery Church of the Sacred Heart, Yonkers, NY. In 1967, Father received a M.A. in Educational Administration from the Catholic University of America.

Following his ordination,

Father Knute ministered as an associate at Sacred Heart, Yonkers where he also served as a teacher in Sacred Heart HS [1958-1960]. Father then served as an associate at St. John the Baptist, NYC [1960-63] where he also worked with the Catholic Information Society. Beginning in 1963, Father Knute would spend the next 23 years as a missionary in the Mariana Islands. Father served as a teacher, Principal, and Administrator of Fr. Duenas Memorial HS and Pastor of several parishes in Agat [1970-71] and Mangilao, Guam [1976-79] and Chalan Kanoa [1971-76] and Garapan, Saipan [1979-80]. Upon returning to the States in 1980 Fr. Knute ministered as an associate at Our Lady of Sorrows, NYC [1980-86]; a chaplain at Wallkill Correctional Facility with residence at St. Joseph Friary, New Paltz, NY [1986-1999]; and in the preaching ministry with residence at St. Michael Friary, Brooklyn [1999-2001].

In his senior years, Father served as a parochial vicar at St.

Joseph, New Paltz, NY [2001-02]; fraternity member of St. Michael Friary, Brooklyn, NY [2002-06]; and in supply ministry at St. Fidelis Friary, Interlaken, NY [2006-07]. Fr. Knute joined the senior fraternity of St. Clare, Yonkers, NY where he also served as chaplain of the Franciscan Sisters of Hastings [2007-09]. Father continued his residence at St. Clare until his death at Cabrini of Westchester, Dobbs Ferry, NY.

Father Knute is survived by his sister Mary Thompson [Jacksonville, NC]; his sister Jane Wands and supported by several loving nieces and nephews.



Fr. Rufin Kuveikis and Fr. Knute Kenlon.

# CYFM, Then and Now



**Present and former Cap Corps Volunteers were honored at CYFM's Annual Dinner Dance.**

Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries (CYFM) honored 25 years of Cap Corps Volunteers (CCV) at its Annual Dinner Dance in May, recognizing over 100 young men and women who gave a year of service to the Capuchins as youth ministers in the Hudson Valley. That same weekend was also the launch of the CYFM Alumni Association and the beginning of discussions about a Secular Franciscan group for alumni of CYFM.

## **'CYFM: There for you then...and NOW'**

CYFM dates back to 1973 and the first Day by Day Agape (DDA) retreat. That retreat has become the cornerstone of a youth and family ministry center that has served tens of thousands of teens since then. In 2019, CYFM formed the CYFM Alumni Association to reconnect those who have encountered Christ in Garrison for nearly a half-century.

On June 4, the Association's chairwoman, Stephanie Licata, hosted a CYFM first: an online, mini retreat to bring CYFM community across the country together in prayer

and reflection. A total of 30 people tuned in from the Hudson Valley to Virginia, and California. The retreat involved friars, CCVs, recent college graduates, people involved as teens decades ago, and even parents who were involved when their kids were at CYFM.

Many future events are on the horizon to continue fostering community across generations and around the country. In addition to an alumni BBQ on Saturday, July 20, more online retreats are being planned.

## **Fostering growth in Franciscan spirituality**

From a preferential option for the poor to focus on contemplative prayer, CYFM has formed generations of youth and their families in the way of St. Francis. One such youth was Kelly Moltzen, OFS, who attributes her years on retreats and mission trips with CYFM with leading her to the Secular Franciscan Order. Now, she sees possibilities for more teens and adults to follow that path through Franciscan Youth (YouFra) and the

Secular Franciscans. The former is a group within the Order of Friars Minor (OFM). According to the OFM website, "YouFra walks in the light of the message of St. Francis of Assisi... It belongs to the Franciscan family as an integral part of the OFS and considers the Rule of the OFS its inspirational document." It only makes sense that CYFM is a place it could take root in the United States.

Moltzen met with **Fr. Erik Lenhart, Fr. Hugo Mejia, Br. Lake Herman**, and a few CYFM community members in May to introduce the Secular Franciscan Order and begin discussions of starting a YouFra group in the Hudson Valley.

## **Support in this growth**

An additional new endeavor is the Fr. Fred Club, a donor campaign launched in June 2018. The generosity of so many involved in the ministry makes the work possible. These new initiatives begun this spring are signs the growth is not slowing down. Please support CYFM, by going to <https://capuchin.org/cyfm-donate> today.

## Affiliate Alice Sim Travels the World to Give Back

Alice Sim, affiliate of the Province of St. Mary since 2004, this year traveled to Sri Lanka immediately after the bombings on April 21, 2019. On Easter Sunday, a number of terrorist attacks were carried out in the greater Colombo area against churches, hotels, and housing complexes. Upon hearing the news, Alice rushed to the nearest airport to travel to the affected area. Alice's history in Sri Lanka stretches back decades, as it is a location central to her business. Her factory on the outskirts of Colombo employs over 300 Sri Lankans. Some even attend one of the churches that was bombed, the 'Church of Miracles' known for its shrine to St. Anthony. It is where the attacks began and many of those attending Easter Services lost their lives. The building itself

was severely damaged, losing most of its roof, not to mention the interior.

Alice liaised with local officials to determine how best to be of assistance. Prayers and donations were desperately needed. She was able to make a direct donation that helped the shrine start to rebuild almost immediately. After investigators had finished their work, the community came together to determine how best to move forward. There was no question the rebuilt Shrine should include a memorial for all lost. In a moment of God's grace, the parishioners and church leaders decided to include the bomber's name on the list of those who died.

Alice later returned to Colombo to attend the reopening of the shrine to parishioners and tourists. "To see the solidarity of the Church with this small community was grace in action.



Provincial Minister Michael Greco and Affiliate Alice Sim outside of St. John the Baptist Church in Manhattan, NY.

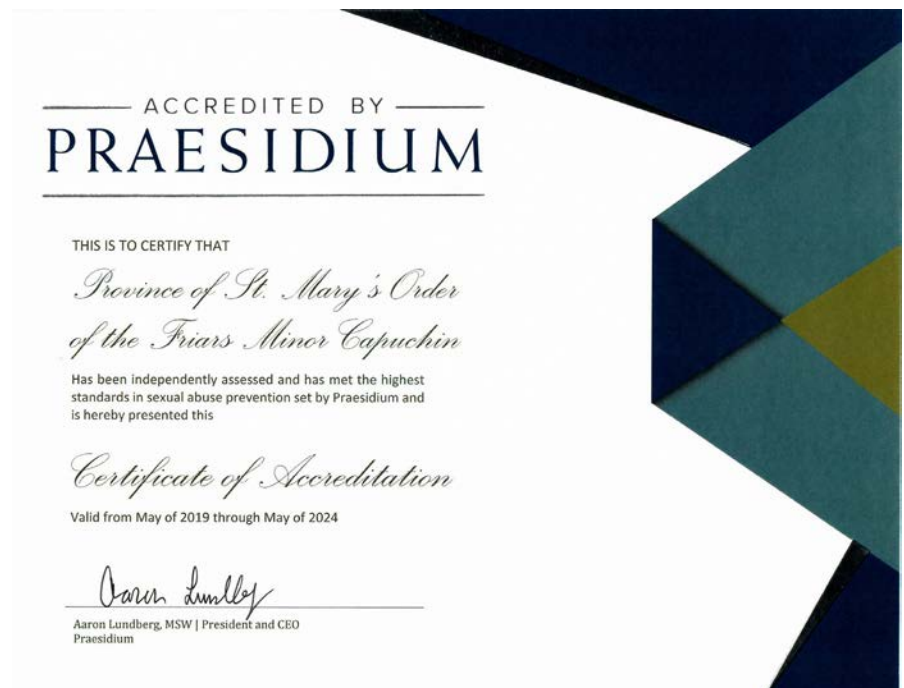
Sri Lanka is like my second home. It is a small country, the attention it receives is not the same as other places around the world, so to be able to help meant everything to me."

## Province Earns Accreditation

The Province of St. Mary is proud to announce it and all of its members have been awarded Praesidium's Certificate of Accreditation after having been independently assessed and judged to have met the highest standards in sexual abuse prevention.

Praesidium is the accrediting body for Religious Orders. It created standards for preventing and responding to incidents of abuse. The Province of St. Mary has been accredited since 2008. The dedication of the entire Province was necessary to accomplish this achievement.

We especially thank Br. John Shento for his excellent leadership in the area of Safe Environment.



The Praesidium Certificate of Accreditation.

## Province Welcomes New Postulant

The Province recently observed the World Day of Prayer for Vocations and reflected on Pope Francis' message published on the occasion. He observed that, "The Lord's call is not an intrusion of God in our freedom; it is not a 'cage' or a burden to be borne. On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a greater sea and an abundant catch."

We are proud to announce that Christopher Woods has been accepted into our Postulancy Program, beginning this August in Milwaukee, WI. The Province of St. Mary is proud to participate in an inter-provincial Postulancy Program with several other Capuchin provinces, demonstrating collaboration and solidarity within the Capuchin Order.

For more information about vocation events and to inquire about Capuchin life, contact Br. Paul Crawford at (603) 836-4063 or paul.crawford@capuchin.org.



Francis > Messages > World Day of Prayer for Vocations >

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### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 2019 WORLD DAY OF VOCATIONS

#### *The courage to take a risk for God's promise*

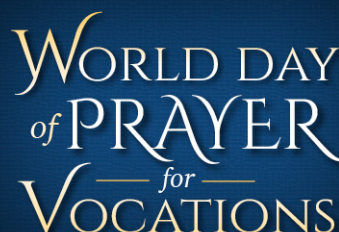
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After the lively and fruitful experience of the Synod devoted to young people last October, we recently celebrated the Thirty-fourth World Youth Day in Panama City. These two great events challenge the Church to be attentive both to the voice of the Spirit and to the life of young men and women, their questions and concerns, their problems and their hopes.

Building on what I shared with the young people in Panama City, I would like to reflect, on this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, on how the Lord's call makes us bear witness to his love. I will do this by reflecting briefly on the calling of the first disciples by Jesus.

Two pairs of brothers – Simon and Andrew, James and John – were busy with their fishing nets. They had a demanding work, they had to defy the elements, and their work was not sufficient to fill their hearts.

Much of life is like that. Each day we seek to enrich, and we put out on a "sea" of happiness. Sometimes we enjoy a moment of joy, or we are frustrated at seeing our



As with every call, the Gospel speaks of an encounter. Jesus sees those fishermen, and walks up to them... The same thing happened when we met the person we wanted to meet. We first felt the attraction of a life of consecration: we were surprised by an encounter, and at that moment we glimpsed a joy capable of bringing fulfillment to our lives. That day, by the sea of Galilee, Jesus drew near to those fishermen through the "paralysis of routine" (*Homily for the XXII World Day for Consecrated Life, 2 February 2018*). And he immediately made them a promise: "I will make you fishers of men" (Mk 1:17).

The Lord's call is not an intrusion of God in our freedom; it is not a "cage" or a burden to be borne. On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a

## Enroll in the *Capuchin Mission Association*

An enrollment in the Capuchin Mission Association is an offering given in faith in honor of a loved one to support the Capuchin Friars caring for the poor around the world. In gratitude, the 12,000 Capuchin Friars throughout the world remember in prayer those who generously sacrifice to help spread the Word to the People of God in mission lands.



Capuchin Mission Association Members share in:

- Monthly Novenas in devotion of St. Padre Pio and St. Anthony
- Daily prayers of Capuchin Franciscan Friars
- Special Novenas throughout the year
- The blessings of helping do God's work through the Capuchins' missions.

To enroll in the Capuchin Mission Association, call the Office of Mission and Development at (212) 564-0759 Ext. 259



# RISING TO SERVE: THE ORDINATION OF FR. JOHN E. KOELLE

On June 8, 2019, our brother John E. Koelle completed the long road of his formation in his ordination ceremony. He becomes the newest priest in the Province of St. Mary, a blessing we are still celebrating today. Father John's ordination was celebrated by Bishop Wayne Berndt, who was last year installed as the first foreign diocesan bishop in Japan since 1941. The ceremony marked the first ordination Bishop Wayne

presided over in Japan or the United States. Father John was invested with the Capuchins in November of 2005 and spent the last year serving as a Deacon in Boston, Mass. He celebrated his first Mass as a priest at St. Joseph Church in New Paltz, NY, where he has been assigned as Parochial Vicar. Father John shared the story of his return to the Church some twenty years ago, "I came back to the church around the beginning of 1999. At

the time I was working in banking, in credit and collections. I began receiving the Eucharist every day. Normally during my lunch hour I would go to the Capuchin parish of St. John the Baptist in midtown Manhattan, where I got to know the friars. One in particular, Brother Sal Patricola, sensed that I was trying to find my way, and offered to listen if I wanted to talk." The rest, as they say, is history.



Fr. John Koelle lies prostrate on the church floor as the Assembly asks God's blessing upon him as he is ordained.



Ordination concelebrants look on as Bishop Wayne Berndt prays over Fr. John Koelle.

On the celebration of his ordination, Father John penned this letter of thanks,

### In Gratitude

I am exceedingly grateful to all present here today as I celebrate my ordination to the sacred order of priesthood. I sincerely want to thank all of you who have supported me with prayers, kind words, and love over the years. I extend my thanks to the many people who have made this day such a beautiful and prayerful experience.

I give thanks to Almighty God for the gift of vocation in the Capuchin Franciscan Order and to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. I

am grateful to our brother, Bishop Wayne Berndt, who flew from Naha, Japan to confer this most holy sacrament upon me today. My heartfelt gratitude goes to my brothers in the Province of St. Mary who have supported me on my journey. I also want to thank my parents, Francis and Lois, for instilling in me the Catholic faith and my uncle Carl (Casey) Koelle who invited me back to the faith after a period of absence. Additionally, I would like to mention my sister Kerriane, her husband Douglas and my three nieces who have walked with me throughout this journey along with my wonderful aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

I acknowledge my parish,

St. Joseph in Astoria, where the seeds of my faith were nourished. I'm also grateful to St. John the Baptist/ Holy Cross church where I was welcomed and grew close to Christ during my years before entering the Order. I also want to mention the faculty and staff at St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts where I was formed intellectually.

I'm grateful to the many priests who have modeled for me what being a priest truly is. I thank my director of priestly formation, Fr. John Tokaz, for his love and support. A particular word of gratitude to the Reverend Brian Clary, who had to put up with me for four of the six years of pastoral formation and to the

Reverend Robert Connors, who has allowed me to minister as a Deacon my last year. To the holy people of God at St. Mary of the Assumption-St. Lawrence parish in Brookline, Massachusetts; St. Anne-St. Brendan Collaborative in Dorchester, Massachusetts, St. Anne-St. Augustine in Manchester, New Hampshire and

St. Joseph in New Paltz, New York for their loving patience.

Finally, I owe a debt of gratitude to the many benefactors of our Province for their continuing prayers and material support to make possible for our friars to continue to serve the people of God wherever they are. I hope we have been faithful

servants of the gifts entrusted to us.

Please continue to pray for vocations to religious life and the priesthood. I will continue to pray for you all!

Peace,  
John.



**Bishop Wayne Berndt presents chalice and paten needed for the celebration of Mass to Fr. John Koelle.**



**Bishop Wayne Berndt and Fr. John Koelle embrace.**



**Fr. Joe Flynn lays hands on Fr. John Koelle to bestow the Holy Spirit and confer the Order of Presbyter upon him.**



Father John gives a blessing to the Briggitine Sisters.



Friends from all parts of his life came to join in Father John's celebration. He embraces Jonathan Goldwasser as Br. Mario Guerrero looks on.



Newly ordained Fr. John Koelle poses in front of Sacred Heart Friary with family.



Father John poses with the celebration cake prepared for his ordination. "God bless you, Father John!"



Father John blesses the ordination reception in Sacred Heart High School's cafeteria.



## MOTHER FRANCES AND FATHER FRANCIS RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES SERVING ONE ANOTHER

As well known as the Capuchin Franciscans are for their ministry serving those most in need, another aspect of life often unknown is their service to fellow religious communities.

Since the early 1970s the priests at the parish of Our Lady of Sorrows in the Lower East Side of Manhattan, NY walked fifteen minutes southeast to St. Rose's Free Home for Incurable Cancer, (now the Sacred Heart Convent) to visit the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne residing there and the hospice patients in their care. The congregation moved north to its Motherhouse

in 2008 and the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus leased it to house their senior and infirmed Sisters the following year.

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini was born in a small village near Milan, Italy and founded her congregation with the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1880. Aiming to evangelize in China, her plans changed upon her audience with Pope Leo XIII. The Pope instructed her and the seven women with whom she founded the Institute to go, "not to the East, but to the West."

Thus she traveled to New York. The 'Cabrini Sisters' became known worldwide for their passion to educate and care for immigrants and orphans. The women now living at Sacred Heart Convent in New York City spent their lives as missionaries around the globe. They lived and served in Brazil, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nicaragua, and several other countries. They held positions as school principals and presidents to heads of administration for hospitals and leaders of foundations.

Father Thomas (Tom) Faiola was pastor at Our Lady

of Sorrows in 2008 when the Sisters of Hawthorne began to close down the hospice. As they said their goodbyes, Father Tom made the humble request for the departing Sisters to please let any incoming religious community know of the Capuchin's desire to continue ministry. Father Tom always found the opportunity to serve as Chaplain for other religious to be very spiritually fulfilling. "Capuchins have a very unique understanding of communal life and spirituality, since we are a religious community, like the Cabrini Sisters." Father Tom received permission from then-Provincial Minister Fr. John Gallagher for the Province of St. Mary to serve the Cabrini sisters as a Provincial ministry. As he shared more time and prayer with them, he began to learn about St. Frances Cabrini and her zeal for immigrants. This reminded him of the Capuchin charism of working with the poor and immigrants that, "it made perfect sense for us to be associated with them."

Celebration of Mass for the Sisters became a part of the daily schedule for the friars at Our Lady of Sorrows. Instead of a second parish Mass, priests shared the schedule of walking the mile and a half to the convent to celebrate Mass for the Sisters at 11:30am. Notably, Fr. Benedict Ayodi, now the Capuchin's international secretary for the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Commission, ministered to the sisters while he lived at Our Lady of Sorrows and studied at The

New School in New York, NY. In the course of getting to know the Sisters, Father Tom visited Cabrini Immigrant Services often. He eventually became a member of the board for the nonprofit agency that provides a broad range of culturally and linguistically appropriate services to immigrants, refugees, asylees, and their families.

These days, Father Tom serves the people of Inwood, NY, at Good Shepherd Parish slightly north of his old home at Our Lady of Sorrows. Looking back on the time spent with the sisters, Father Tom remembers, "both of our communities are so relationship oriented. We live around the people we work with and serve. I think that we learn how to live with each other and we learn what it means to form those relationships with somebody you might not necessarily have met if not for the religious communities we inhabit."

When Father Tom's assignment took him north, Fr. Thomas McNamara moved from Garrison, NY and Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries, back to New York's Lower East Side to assume the role of Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows. It was a return for Father Thomas, as he had spent time in the parish as an Associate Pastor. Returning with the opportunity to celebrate Mass for the Sisters was an incredible blessing, especially as he learned more about each resident at the convent. "It's fascinating for me to meet every sister because their lives have taken them so many places. Many have been administrators of hospitals, schools, churches, and nursing homes. Their lives have come full circle as they moved back to our neighborhood to retire at the convent." Father Thomas is invaluable in many ways to the Cabrini Sisters. Outside of Sacred Heart Convent, a small



garden borders the building. He has a particular talent for landscapes and gardening, and helped plan out a lovely green space the Sisters enjoy. They enjoy it so much that they ordered a special garden stone to recognize his contribution. For Father Thomas, it was a beautiful surprise. "They had a very special meal and a spread of desserts out for lunch one day, and then told me there was a surprise in my honor. They revealed the stone they had made me and it took me a moment to read the inscription. At first I thought it was a memorial stone! When the sisters began to thank me for all the help I had given them in planning the garden, I laughed with relief. I was just doing for them what I do at my own home. I design and plant our parish garden at Our Lady of Sorrows on my days off, for fun. To be able to do the same for another community in the neighborhood was a joy."

Fr. Mike Vricella, the Guardian at Our Lady of Sorrows, also celebrates Mass with the Cabrini Sisters. "In addition to celebrating there, I am invited to stay for lunch to visit with the Sisters and catch up with what's going on in their lives. The way they have served marginalized and neglected people who needed them over the years inspires me." In fact, Father Mike grew up in Mother Cabrini Parish in Brooklyn, NY. He remembers hearing about the missionary travels the sisters embarked upon and recognizing its importance even at a young age. Nowadays, he hears the

stories of those travels over a hot meal on the third floor of Sacred Heart Convent. "As I continue to learn more about the work they've done and the people they've served, the more I see the similarities in our mission. Ministering to those often looked over in our society is what God has called us to do," he says.

Sr. Lucille Souza led the Cabrini Sisters of the Guadalupe Province for five and a half years. She now serves as the administrator of Sacred Heart Convent and thanks the Capuchins for being a part of their community every day. "We wouldn't be the same without the nourishment of the Blessed Sacrament the Capuchin Fathers provide us with each day. Welcoming them into our home for lunch following Mass is another way we share our lives." Sister Lucille recognizes

in the Capuchins the same care for people in need of the Lord that drives her and her sisters. She explains, "we have always looked for those on the fringes. Capuchin ministry mirrors that."

Sister Lucille noted that there is no cookie-cutter Capuchin, each friar brings a unique gift. "Father Tom really helped us as he juggled his schedule to be there for our community. He not only celebrated Mass, but attends our assemblies every year. Father Thomas has enriched our lives in the beautiful ways of the Lord, outside, in our garden, and by bringing his guitar and singing songs with us here at home. Father Mike always has a joke on hand and relates his homilies to our lives in a way that illuminates the Gospel." The partnership the communities share represents the best part of religious life for all present.



**Fr. Mike Vricella and Sr. Lucille Souza stand with Mother Frances Cabrini's statue at Sacred Heart Convent.**

# Traveling Abroad to Better Serve Those at Home

Almost 4,000 miles south of the Province of St. Mary, friars travel to learn the Spanish language in the middle of the Bolivian Andes. Studying at the Centro Misionero Maryknoll en América Latina, founded and operated by the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Capuchin Friars live for three to six months in the Franciscan friary in the city of Cochabamba to take language classes and minister to the community. Because there are multiple Hispanic parishes throughout the Province of St. Mary, the need for Spanish-speaking friars is great. Knowing the first language of parishioners is paramount in effectively serving them and guiding their spiritual lives. The Province of St. Mary is grateful for the partnership with Maryknoll that allows our friars to learn and grow in

new ways so they can follow in the footsteps of St. Francis and serve those most in need.

Currently, two brothers are living in Cochabamba and attending classes at the Centro Misionero Maryknoll en América Latina, Br. Anthony Zuba and Br. Scott Leet. Brother Anthony felt the call to study Spanish after being assigned to Good Shepherd Parish in Inwood, NY. The community in Inwood is largely Hispanic. It is known for its Dominican enclave, and the neighborhood also includes Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, and natives and descendants of other Latin American countries. Brother Scott is currently in formation and indicated a desire to learn the language and about Latin culture so he could one day serve a parish that ministers to immigrants and Latin Americans.



**Br. Anthony Zuba attends a Spanish-language class in Bolivia.**



**Br. Scott Leet shows off his Latin cooking skills after preparing Bolivian cuñapés.**



**The Franciscan monastery in Cochabamba, Bolivia, where friars live as they study.**



**The symbol of the Centro Misionero Maryknoll en América Latina.**



# Upcoming Events

## Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries

### Friday, July 19

Cap Corps Volunteer Send-Off  
Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

### Saturday, July 20

CYFM Alumni Picnic  
Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

### Sunday, July 28-Saturday, Aug. 3

CLASP (Catholic Literature & Arts Summer Program)

Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

### Friday, Aug. 23-Sunday, Aug. 25

Capuchin Youth Leadership Training  
Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

### Friday, Aug. 30-Sunday, Sept. 1

Renew & Refresh  
Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

For more information on CYFM events, contact Tom Brinkmann at (845) 424-3609 or [tom@cyfm.org](mailto:tom@cyfm.org).

## Vocation Ministry

### Friday, Aug. 16-Sunday, Aug. 18

Candidate Discernment Weekend  
St. Lawrence Friary  
180 Sargent Avenue, Beacon, New York 12508

For more information about vocation events and to inquire about Capuchin life, contact Br. Paul Crawford at (603) 836-4063 or [paul.crawford@capuchin.org](mailto:paul.crawford@capuchin.org).

## Mission and Development

### Wednesday, July 31, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Donor Event: Boat Trip to Bannerman Island  
Departing from Beacon, NY

For more information about this and other donor events, contact George Vogel at (212) 564-0759 ext. 284 or [gvogel@capuchin.org](mailto:gvogel@capuchin.org).

## Province Wide

### Saturday, July 27

Annual Glenclyffe/St. Mary's Seminary 2019 Reunion  
Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries  
781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY

For more information, contact Bert Donley at [bertdonley@gmail.com](mailto:bertdonley@gmail.com).



SAVE THE DATE  
OCTOBER 29, 2019



CAPUCHIN FRANCISCANS  
PROVINCE OF ST. MARY

# Annual Capuchin *Benefit*

Tuesday, October 29, 2019  
Glen Island Harbour Club  
New Rochelle, NY

For more information, please contact:  
George Vogel, (212) 564-0759, ext. 284,  
[gvogel@capuchin.org](mailto:gvogel@capuchin.org)

# Province Directory

## New York

### St. Joachim Friary

61 Leonard Street  
Beacon, NY 12508  
Phone: 845-838-0000

### St. Michael Friary & Parish

282 Warwick Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11207  
Phone: 718-827-6990

### St. Joseph The Worker Friary & Parish

510 Narragansett Avenue  
East Patchogue, NY 11772  
Phone: 631-286-7921

### Capuchin Youth & Family Ministry

781 Route 9D; PO Box 192  
Garrison, NY 10524  
Phone: 845-424-3609

### St. Fidelis Friary

7790 County Road 153  
Interlaken, NY 14847  
Phone: 607-532-4423

### St. Joseph Friary & Parish

34 South Chestnut Street  
New Paltz, NY 12561  
Phone: 845-255-5635

### St. John the Baptist Residence

213 West 30th Street  
New York, NY 10001  
Phone: 212-564-9070

### Holy Cross Residence & Parish

329 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036  
Phone: 212-246-4732

### Good Shepherd Friary & Parish

608 Isham Street  
New York, NY 10034  
Phone: 212-567-1300

### Our Lady of Sorrows Friary & Parish

213 Stanton Street  
New York, NY 10002  
Phone: 212-475-2321

### St. Conrad Friary & Provincialate

30 Gedney Park Drive  
White Plains, NY 10605  
Phone: 914-761-3008

### Capuchin Development Office

110 Shonnard Place  
Yonkers, NY 10703  
Phone: 212-564-0759

### Sacred Heart Friary & Parish

110 Shonnard Place  
Yonkers, NY 10703  
Phone: 914-375-8230

### St. Clare Friary

110 Shonnard Place  
Yonkers, NY 10703  
Phone: 914-423-2392

## Massachusetts

### San Lorenzo Friary

15 Montebello Road  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
Phone: 617-983-1919

### St. Francis of Assisi Friary

46 Brookside Avenue  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
Phone: 617-522-6469

## Connecticut

### St. Pius X Friary & Parish

310 Westfield Street  
Middletown, CT 06457  
Phone: 860-347-4441

## New Hampshire

### Capuchin Vocation Office

383 Beech Street  
Manchester, NH 03103  
Phone: 603-623-8809

### St. Anne-St. Augustin Friary & Parish

383 Beech Street  
Manchester, NH 03103  
Phone: 603-623-8809

## Maine

### St. Gregory Residence

24 North Raymond Road  
Gray, ME 04039  
Phone: 207-657-7075

## Vermont

### St. Peter Friary & Parish

134 Convent Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701  
Phone: 802-775-1994

## California

### San Lorenzo Friary

1802 Sky Drive; PO Box 247  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460  
Phone: 805-688-5630

## Custody of the Star of the Sea

### St. Fidelis Friary

135 Chalan Kapuchino  
Agaña Heights, Guam 96910  
Phone: 671-472-6339

## Custody of Japan

### St. Francis Friary & Parish

1 Aza Oroku  
Naha City, Okinawa  
Japan 901-0152  
Phone: 011-81-98-857-3795



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## Capuchin Mission & Development Office

The goal of the Capuchin Development Office is to fund the domestic and international mission of the Province of St. Mary. That mission ranges from support for our own Provincial members ministering here in the United States, to providing assistance to Capuchins serving worldwide. The Province of St. Mary is a leader in generating support for the works of justice and mercy undertaken by Capuchin friars across the globe.



**If you are interested in supporting our mission, please contact Pat Moore at (212) 564-0759 ext. 215 or [pmoore@capuchin.org](mailto:pmoore@capuchin.org) or visit our website at [www.capuchin.org](http://www.capuchin.org).**