

Weekly re:Cap



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Social work, and maybe some gardening!



Zachary Angel

The Benedict Center in Milwaukee is an interfaith non-profit agency working with victims, offenders and the community to achieve a system of criminal justice that is fair, and treats every person involved with dignity and respect. At the Benedict Center, there are many ways for every person who champions human potential, human dignity, and human rights to make a personal difference. This is a place where a passion for justice runs deep, underscoring our belief that change is always possible and transformation a reality. And this is where Zachary Angel is ministering during his year of postulancy.

Zachary Angel came to the postulancy program from St. Joseph Seminary at Loyola University in Chicago. Zack, 23 years old, is originally from Clarkston MI, where his parents and his two younger brothers live. He graduated this past May, and has been interested in religious life for the past two years. He looked at a number of Franciscan orders on the Internet, and saw the web site for the Midwest Capuchins — and was impressed. His vocation director in Chicago recommended looking at the Capuchins, as well, and helped him get in touch with Bill Hugo. His discernment with Bill finally convinced him to apply to the postulancy program.

Zack says that one particular reason he felt called to religious life, as opposed to diocesan priesthood, was his need for community: “That’s why I left the diocesan program,” he said. He was also impressed with the Capuchins’ hospitality and the welcoming energies he felt from friars.

So far, he said, things are going well. He’s enjoying — and learning from — the community life at St. Conrad’s.

His attraction to the Capuchins was sparked by the ministries of the province, and looking ahead to his own possible future ministry possibilities, Zack would like to pursue social work. But, he added, he’d also be interested in gardening and various ways to contribute to sustainable living.



Advent: our time of waiting!



Friar wins "Heros 2016" Award



Wally Kasuboski wins the Heros 2016 Award

It's final: Wally Kasuboski has won the "Heros 2016" contest in Panamá for the important work he has been doing there since 1988. Wally's tireless efforts has built the infrastructure, protected watersheds, and conserved the rainforest during his 28 years in the Chepo area.

For the past six years, TVN (a popular TV station in Panamá) has held this contest which they named this year, "Heros 2016." The TVN committee invites all those living in Panamá who have social projects/programs in their communities to enter the contest. Each person presents their project to the committee

which evaluates each project for originality, social impact, number of persons involved and number of people benefitted, the possibility that the project continues in the future, even without the present leadership, and that the project is or will become auto-sustainable.

The committee chooses the ten best presenters/projects. The TV station announces the top ten as the final contestants. The public becomes involved voting for their favorite candidate possibly every hour. The final evaluation, done by the TVN station committee, takes into account the popular support valued at 25% of final decision; the other criteria are those mentioned above comprising the other 75%.

Each of the ten finalists is guaranteed a \$5,000 prize and the finalist, an additional \$25,000! All of the prize money must be used to benefit the project proposed. The TVN station committee will work with the project owners to help best use the new monies and even help to enrich the project, making it capable of a far- more reaching effect with a greater social impact.

In addition to his receiving the top finalist prize, a documentary about his work, titled *From Mass to the Mountain*, premiered at film festivals in a variety of locations this fall.

Prayerful congratulations to our brother!

Ecumenism alive and well in the Holyland

by Gary Wegner



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at St. Cloud Church

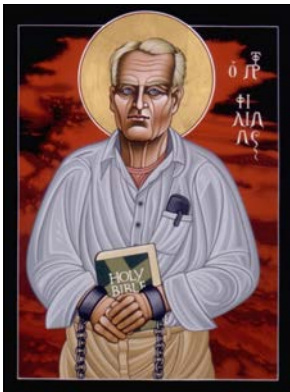
Interesting happenings in the "Holyland" (read: Mt. Calvary area) with regard to ecumenism. Last January, Gary Miller, the interim minister at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Malone preached in all three of our parishes during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This may have been the first time that the pastor of our neighboring church preached in our parishes. Gary Miller mentioned that it was the first time in 50 years as a minister that he had been invited to preach in a Catholic Church, and was quite moved. He had also been present at my installation as pastor of Saint John the Baptist and St. Mary parishes. This was the result of ground level ecumenism through the establishment of the Holyland Food Pantry. Sadly, Gary Miller died of a heart attack while driving home from preaching his last sermon in Waupaun, where he had been serving as the interim

minister. We lit a candle for him at our All Souls Day service, and about five of his parishioners attended. Gary had become a good friend of mine.

While these things have been very common for a very long time elsewhere, we had our first ecumenical Thanksgiving service on Thanksgiving morning, just prior to the Holyland Food Pantry Turkey Trot. Dave Damkot of Connections Church in New Holstein, Dan Schultz of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Malone, and myself presided at Saint Cloud Church.

I invited Dan Schultz of Saint Paul's to preach during Christian unity week this January, and I am asking him to highlight the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Remembering a peacemaker



Phil Berrigan died December 6, 2002 at Jonah House, a community he co-founded in 1973, surrounded by family and friends. He died two months after being diagnosed with liver and kidney cancer.

During his nearly 40 years of resistance to war and violence, Berrigan focused on living and working in community as a way to model the nonviolent, sustainable world he was working to create. Jonah House members live simply, pray together, share duties, and attempt to expose the violence of militarism and consumerism. The community was born out of resistance to the Vietnam War, including high-profile draft card burning actions; later the focus became ongoing resistance to U.S. nuclear policy, including Plowshares actions that aim to enact Isaiah's biblical prophecy of a disarmed world. Because of these efforts Berrigan spent about 11 years in prison. He wrote, lectured, and taught extensively, publishing six books, including an autobiography, *Fighting the Lamb's War*.

Berrigan wrote a final statement in the days before his death. His final comments included this: "I die with the conviction, held since 1968 and Catonsville, that nuclear weapons are the scourge of the earth; to mine for them, manufacture them, deploy them, use them, is a curse against God, the human family, and the earth itself."

St. Nicholas' Day: 6 December

A prayer to begin the holiday season

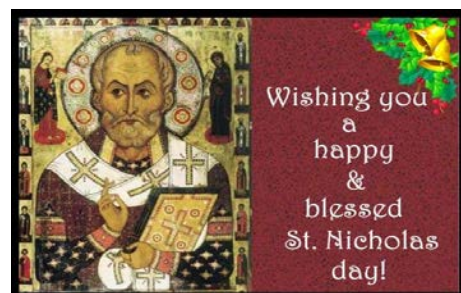
It is Christmas time again, help me this year to "season" the celebration with "reason." May I avoid the clutter that dims my vision and burdens my time.

Keep me mindful of my budget, and help me to remember that a gift selected with love tugs forever at the heartstrings. Shame me for past extravagance.

Remind me to decorate in good taste, treasuring all of the past, blending it with the new, but holding steadfast to "reason." Keep me, Dear Father, from strain, lest I stray from all thy teachings.

Guide me to the "light" of Christmas. Help me keep a candle's flame of that "light" as a constant reminder of my goal: eternity.

I pray for thy love and help, in the name of thy beloved son whose birthday we shall soon observe.
(Author unknown)





Our brother, Reginald Lawrence, died on 14 November at the age of 91.

Reggie was born on 12 July 1925, the son of Henry and Anna Lawrence. He was invested with the Capuchin habit in 1943, perpetually professed in 1947, and ordained a priest in 1951. He served in parish ministry in Milwaukee and Appleton, Wisconsin, and was a chaplain for the Secular Franciscans in Saginaw, Michigan. From 1963 to 1974, he ministered in parishes in Ashland and Colstrip, Montana. He was a member of the Capuchin preachers from 1974 to 1977, chaplain to a religious sisters' congregation from 1977 to 1979, and parish ministry in Denver, Colorado from 1980 to 1981. He retired in 1981.

Reggie is survived by two sisters: Deloris Peterson of Rochester, MN and Helen Asher of Elkhorn IN., as well as his Capuchin brothers with whom he lived, prayed and ministered during the past 73 years.

Friars are asked to set aside a day on which Reginald Lawrence will be remembered in their prayers.

Agnes Sobiech, mother of former friar Dennis Sobiech, Loren Burrows, brother-in-law of Leslie Burrows (provincial finance office), and Betty O'Connor, grandmother of Clint Evrard, died recently.

Ben Markwell has been hospitalized and will likely have heart surgery soon to address several blockages.

Bill Gano, nephew of Bob Wheelock, is facing amputation of his leg.

Thank you everyone for your prayers for my father. He had his valve replacement surgery on the 15th and is making a quick recovery. We hope to have him back home soon. From there the biggest challenge is keeping him off the ladder to put up the Christmas lights. ~ Nathan Linton

Thanks to all who prayed for my sister, Mary Ann. She continues on chemo treatments. ~ Michael Bergen



- 2 Preaching/Evang Commission Video Conf
Paul Yaroch (B)
Anniversary of the deaths of churchwomen
in El Salvador, 1980
- 4 **Paul Schmitz (B)**
2nd Sunday of Advent
- 5 Focus Group Video Conf
- 6 St. Nicholas' Day
Nicholas Widhammer (N)
JPIC Video Conf
- 7 **Jerome Campbell (B)**
Ambrose Simon (N)
- 8 Immaculate Conception (F)

Adult Advent Announcement

*O Lord, let Advent begin again in us,
not merely in commercials;
For that first Christmas was not simply for children,
but for the wise and the strong.
It was crowded around that cradle,
with kings kneeling.
Speak to us who seek an adult seat this year.
Help us to realize, as we fill stockings,
Christmas is mainly for the old folks —
bent backs and tired eyes need relief
and light a little more.
No wonder It was grown-ups who were the first
to notice such a star.*

