

Weekly re:Cap



Published for the Friars of the Capuchin
Franciscan Province of St. Joseph

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Friars who celebrated our 46th provincial chapter at St. Xavier University in Chicago recently. The event was held from 5-9 June. 104 of the brothers attended.

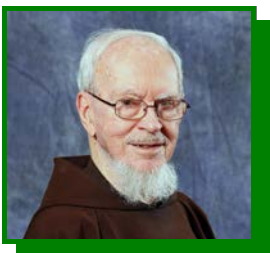
Three brothers celebrate 70 years as Capuchins

Nine friars will celebrate their religious jubilees on 21 July at St. Lawrence Seminary in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin. Three of those brothers, listed below, will be honored for 70 years as members of the community. We'll feature our other jubilarians in forthcoming issues.

Fabian Fehring began full-time ministry as a faculty member at St. Lawrence Seminary in 1954. From 1955-1958, he ministered in Nicaragua. He also served as chaplain at St. Benedict Hospital in Milwaukee, and at St. Joseph Boys Home in Jackson MI. In 1961, Fabian began his long ministry in Montana, first at St. Labre in Ashland, and finally pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Hardin, where he served for 46 years. He retired from active ministry in 2013. Due to his health, Fabian will not be attending the jubilee celebration.



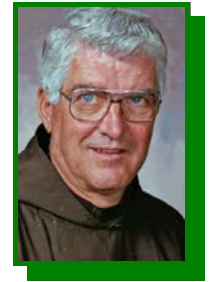
Fabian Fehring



Reynold Rynda

In reflecting on his jubilee year, Reynold Rynda told us: "With a deep sense of gratitude, I look forward to celebrating 70 years as a vowed member of the Capuchin family. I never had a blood brother; but during all these years, I have discovered many, many who are truly brothers to me, and have treated me as such. These are the men who have been and are approachable...and sincerely interested in me. They are inspiring, sincerely devoted to Jesus, and seeking, like Francis, to promote His kingdom and the welfare of others. I am blessed in this way even beyond our own province and our own country, having lived and studied or ministered in a number of provinces here and abroad."

Vernon Wagner said that “In many ways, my vocation to the priesthood and religious life came as a complete surprise, not only to me, but to the members of my home parish. I was the first priest ordained in 104 years from our little mission parish of St. Matthias in Nabob. The ways of God are indeed mysterious. How odd — of God — That He — chose me.”



Vernon Wagner

Weekly re:Cap offers prayerful best wishes to all of our jubilarian brothers!

Affiliate and his new spouse “honeymoon” at the monastery!

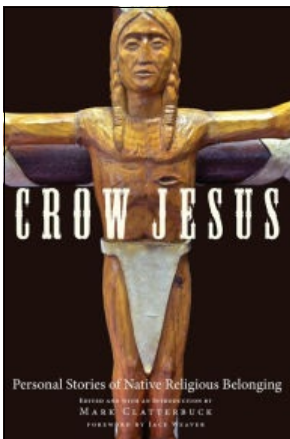


Gerada and Brian Joseph

Provincial affiliate Brian Joseph and his fiancé Gerada Tobin were married recently at St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit. Gerada’s brother, Joseph Tobin, presided at the ceremony. Joseph Tobin is the cardinal archbishop of Newark NJ. Brian and Gerada are regular visitors to the monastery, and Brian actually proposed to Gerada after dinner one night in the friary dining room.

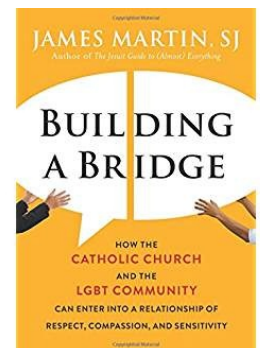
Since our provincial chapter was scheduled for the week after their wedding, they volunteered to “house sit” at the monastery while the friars were in Chicago for that week. We can’t think of a more perfect spot for a honeymoon! ~Prayerful best wishes to our affiliate and his lovely bride!

A couple of brief book reviews...



Crow Jesus: Personal Stories of Native Religious Belonging, edited by Mark Clatterbuck, tells a complex story of Christian faith and Native tradition combining and reshaping each other to create a new and richly varied religious identity. Interviews with 15 Crows and three non-Native missionaries, including one with Randolph Graczyk entitled “The Sun-dancing Franciscan Linguist.” This collection tells the story of a tribe that has adopted Christian beliefs and practices in such a way that simple, unqualified designations of religious belonging — whether “Christian” or “Sun Dancer” or “Peyotist” — are seldom, if ever, adequate.

Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter a Relationship of Respect, Compassion and Sensitivity, by James Martin, SJ.



Richard Hart wrote that “Since he has been involved with the LGBT community for a number of years, James Martin graphically describes some of his experiences. Martin was frustrated that after forty-nine people were killed at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando FL in 2016, most bishops remained silent about the tragedy, so he offers a passionate plea for Catholic leaders to relate more compassionately to the LGBT community. He advocates healing the divide which has become contentious at times by building a bridge so that both sides, the institutional church and the LGBT community can show respect, compassion and sensitivity to each other. It is a ground-breaking new book which offers scriptural passages and penetrating questions which he has found helpful in dealing with the LGBT community.

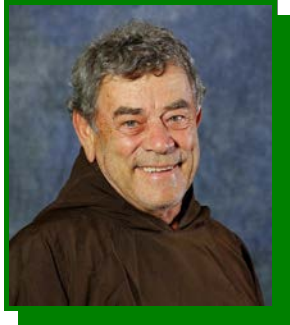
Solanus Center gets a surprise visit

“Is that who I think it is?” That was whispered by staff and visitors when the Rev. Jesse Jackson walked into the Solanus Center in Detroit recently. Having business in the Detroit area, and hearing about the forthcoming beatification of Solanus Casey, Jackson decided to visit the center.

Jackson is pictured at right standing next to the statue of Martin Luther King inside the main area of the center.



Friar receives honorary Doctor of Humanities



Villanova University recently bestowed an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree on Wally Kasuboski, who “serves as an inspiration for how one can live out his or her faith,” said Augustinian Peter M. Donohue, Villanova president.

Wally, who ministers in Panamá, directs a number of infrastructure and social development projects for the poor and disenfranchised. He’s worked in the Alto Bayano region of Panamá for the past 28 years, and is an advocate for the impoverished communities, spearheading a vast array of projects that have helped improve the region’s access to clean water, education, health and infrastructure.



For his humanitarian efforts, Wally has received numerous recognitions and awards, including the Distinguished American Award, given to American citizens who live in Panamá and present a positive image of the U.S. to Panamanians; the Vasco Nunez de Balboa Award, the most prestigious award a civilian can be given in Panamá; and the 2016 Hero of Panamá Award. Wally’s work shares a personal connection with the Villanova community. For the past 25 years, Villanova engineering students and faculty have traveled to Panamá to assist on numerous projects related to Wally’s mission to improve the lives of Panamanians.

We saw you at chapter...





Tom Knaffla (brother of former friar Terry Knaffla) recently died after being diagnosed with brain cancer. Terry is grateful for the prayers of the friars, and asks that they continue to remember the family in prayer.

I am most sincerely grateful to the friars and friends for your kindness in remembering me in prayer. I finished 37 radiation treatments in March; after more tests in May, my radiation oncologist advised that my cancer was "almost undetectable" and then asked if I was willing to participate in a new "trial drug" study program re: prostate cancer treatment. I readily agreed, began last month and conclude in late August...keeping me "active in retirement!" Again, thank you.

~ Darren O'Rourke in Sydney

Commemorating the Civil Rights Act of 1964

The bill was called for by John F. Kennedy in his civil rights speech of June 11, 1963, in which he asked for legislation "giving all Americans the right to be served in facilities which are open to the public—hotels, restaurants, theaters, retail stores, and similar establishments", as well as "greater protection for the right to vote." Kennedy delivered this speech following the immediate aftermath of the Birmingham campaign and the growing number of demonstrations and protests throughout the southern United States. Kennedy was moved to action following the elevated racial tensions and wave of black riots in the spring 1963.

Emulating the Civil Rights Act of 1875, Kennedy's civil rights bill included provisions to ban discrimination in public accommodations, and to enable the U.S. attorney general to join in lawsuits against state governments which operated segregated school systems, among other provisions. However, it did not include a number of provisions deemed essential by civil rights leaders including protection against police brutality, ending discrimination in private employment, or granting the Justice Department power to initiate desegregation or job discrimination lawsuits.



- 28 PR Zoom Conference
- 29 **Bernard Wagner (B)**
- 30 Formation Council Conference



- 1 **Oliver Bambenek (N)**
- 2 Civil Rights Act, 1964
- 4 **Steven Kropp (B)**
- 5 PR Zoom Conference
Paul Reichling (B)
- 6 **Joan Wilichowski (B)**
Tien Dinh (B)
- 7 **David Preuss (B)**
- 8 **Chris L'Esteve (B)**
- 9 **Richard Merling (B)**
- 10 **MJ Groark (B)**
- 12 PR Zoom Conference
Kateri Tekakwitha (F)

