

# Weekly re:Cap



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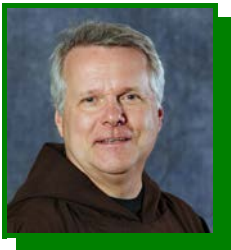
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## A silver anniversary!

St. Fidelis Friary celebrated its silver jubilee on Friday, September 15. The celebration began with an outdoor mass and a blessing of the St. Fidelis relief statue that was designed and constructed by Michael Gaffney. This was followed by a cook-out prepared by the friary cooks. During the meal, Mel Hermanns entertained everyone with a humorous "Friar Roast." It was well received by the brothers, and they were grateful to share this special celebration with family and friends. Much of planning of the event was coordinated by Sally Maas, friary nurse.



We asked Mark Joseph Costello to reflect on his designing of the building:



Mark Joseph Costello

"Its hard to believe that St. Fidelis — that is the friary — is turning 25. I was asked to work on the creation of a "senior" friary by then provincial minister Ken Reinhart. When we thought of naming it I suggested *Fidelis*; not only because it is a traditional Capuchin name, but I liked the idea centered in the name — faithfulness. I had the fireplace mantle engraved with the phrase from revelation — "Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life." One thing I remembered about that design element was that when I went to the sign company to see about getting this done, the owner, when learning that it was for a Capuchin friary, became very animated. It seems he was helped in his recovery by the Villa Hope program in Appleton — initiated by Timon Costello in 1970. That was for me, just one of the connections that our community's many ministries and friars have forged in the region.

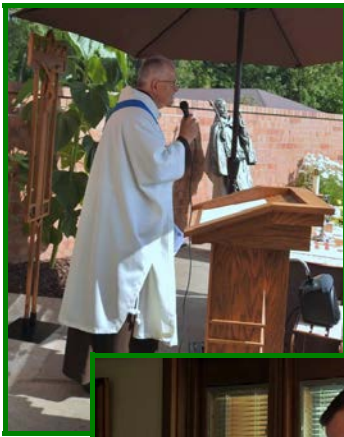
"Allen Birschbach, from Appleton, was the architect for the project. I designed the interior spaces and much of the furniture. We tried very hard to create a space that was simple, but comfortable for its then intended purpose — to be a friary for retired — but independent — friars who would be encouraged to pray and live in the community while reaching out with perhaps a more limited ministry and work schedule. We engaged with gerontology experts to design a place that would not promote dependence while hopefully creating a pleasant environment for healthy living. While its purpose has evolved over the years, this was the original intent of the friary.

"I chose the arts and crafts furnishings and designed many elements to reflect this as it is a simple, straightforward American style that also seemed to be in harmony with early Capuchin friaries. This project was helped by the fact that a large number of old etchings from St. Lawrence that were saved by Michael Gaffney from their possible destruction in the 1970s were made available to me for framing and placing in the friary. I also rescued the rather fine Stations of the Cross that were originally in the parish church at Mount

Calvary and, at that time, in a laundry cart in a storage room. These now are on the walls outside the friary chapel. We sought out art by friars and also incorporated some the crosses from the Crown Point collection into the building.

“It was a work of love, begun right after my "exit" from initial formation, and as I began working in the area of liturgical consultation and design. A few years later I had the opportunity to work on a second provincial project — a formation community in Chicago. Now that 25 years have passed, my hope is that for the five friaries that I have helped shape, a simple sense of design at the service of communal living and praying marks those places and contributes to our community life.”

## *We saw you at the celebration...*



## *CMSM sick with grief and disgust!*

“As Catholic religious leaders in the U.S., the Conference of Major Superiors of Men is sick with grief and disgust at the recent decision by the administration to put children and young people in abrupt uncertainty by ending DACA. The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program provides work authorization and temporary protection from deportation to about 780,000

people who were brought to the United States as children. We have already heard reports of DACA students so disoriented by this decision that they have risked suicide. Further, the decision not only puts these children of God at risk of deportation in the near future but also even death in unknown, often dangerous countries.”

“Over 90% of these youth have graduated high school and nearly 90% are employed. If a legislative fix is truly desired then the administration should work with Congress rather than throw these children and young adults into turmoil. Our leaders should be asking what is justice rather than exact a narrow obsession with the



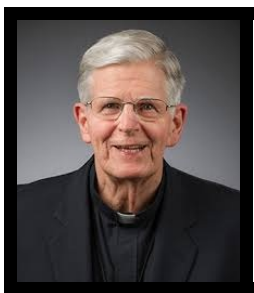
apparent rule of law. It is simply not justice to further marginalize the vulnerable. God calls us to care for immigrants and treat them “no differently than the natives born among you.” (LV 19:34).



CMSM executive director, Capuchin John Pavlik, proclaims, “The president and congress are playing the welfare and the lives of children, young people, and families against legislators who have shirked their responsibilities to provide the citizens of the United States an immigration policy worthy of the principles on which our society and our government are based. The moment to act justly and rightly is now.”

“We see once again that we can no longer rely solely on phone calls, emails, statements, meetings with politicians, and spirited vigils or rallies. We need to tap further into the creativity of prayer driven nonviolent resistance. In accord with our recent CMSM resolution on Gospel nonviolence, we lift up our commitment to “solidarity and protection through accompaniment and nonviolent resistance for vulnerable immigrants.”

## *Don McNeill inspired students to care about social justice*



+ Don McNeill, CSC

The founding director of Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns, Don McNeill, CSC, died on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He was 81. Thousands of students were inspired by McNeill and the Center he co-founded 34 years ago. Those students, many of whom have gone on to full-time work in social justice or service, have benefitted countless other lives. “The extent of his ministry is pretty profound,” said Margaret Pfeil, who, inspired by the priest, got involved in the Catholic Worker movement and now teaches theology at her alma mater. “No one — other than former ND president Theodore Hesburgh — has had a bigger impact on the modern Notre Dame,” said Melinda Henneberger, who graduated in 1980 and studied with McNeill. “Catholic social teaching was Don’s life’s work,” she said. “He really made that an important part of life at Notre Dame.”

The center’s current acting directory, Kevin Sandberg, says at least 12,000 students have been involved in the center over the years. He recalls McNeill as a leader in bringing the message of Catholic action to the campus. McNeill stressed “that justice is constitutive of the Gospel,” which challenged students who saw the church as focused only on charity or interior spirituality, said Sandberg.

McNeill was born in a wealthy Chicago suburb. His father and namesake was a radio personality, whose “Breakfast Club” show was the longest-running program in network radio history. As an undergraduate, McNeill became friends with Henri Nouwen, who taught briefly at Notre Dame and encouraged McNeill to pursue doctoral studies at Princeton Theological Seminary.

At his funeral mass, held August 30<sup>th</sup> at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Notre Dame’s campus, homilist Claude Pomerleau said McNeill’s reach went far beyond the campus. Among his contribution “was his focus on the need for the church and for our ministries to listen to those with little power and limited formal roles in the church, especially women,” he said.

*Ed. note: The above was excerpted from The National Catholic Reporter.*



~Paul VI



Nicholas Widhammer was hospitalized recently after suffering a stroke

William Rahlf (brother-in-law of Elroy Pesch); Raymond Merling (brother of Richard Merling); Dien Nguyen (uncle of Truong Dinh); Margaret Stewart-Clomax (mother of former friar Ken Stewart) died recently.

The mother of Anthony Kote-Witah is very ill

I had my post operational doctors visit and I'm cancer free- so far. ( I go for more tests in October) I sincerely thank all the people who prayed for me in devotion and those communal prayers that were offered. I have seen many of you during this year and I appreciate of your continued support, concern and prayers. ~ Ron Hunter

On behalf of myself and my family, I want to thank all who have supported us during the past year and a half as my husband, David, battled leukemia. We prayed and as many other did that the stem cell transplant of July 2016 would be successful, Dave was in remission for almost a year. In early July the leukemia returned. Dave again had chemotherapy. Due to complication from the treatment, Dave passed away on August 17. The prayers, email message, concern and support during Dave's illness and at the time of his death have meant so much to us. The words, thank you, do not seem adequate. Please know of our gratitude and appreciation. God bless you.  
~ Virginia Schmitz

Thanks to all who prayed and who wrote messages of condolences for my family on the death of my brother Martin. His children and grandchildren were especially touched by the outreach to them.  
~ Michael Sullivan

## September

- 27 ..... JPIC Zoom/Video Conference  
**Robert Wheelock (B)**
- 29 ..... **Michael, Archangel (F)**  
**TL Michael Auman (N)**  
**Michael Zuelke (N)**



- 2 ..... **John Scherer (B)**
- 3 ..... **Transitus of Francis**  
**Ronald Smith (B)**
- 4 ..... **Francis of Assisi (F)**  
**Francis Eichhorst (N)**  
**Francis Dombrowski (N)**

## My Autumn Leaves

*By Bruce Weigl*

I watch the woods for deer as if I'm armed.  
I watch the woods for deer who never come.  
I know the he's and she's in autumn  
rendezvous in orchards stained with fallen  
apples' scent. I drive my car this way to work  
so I may let the crows in corn believe  
it's me their caws are meant to warn,  
and snakes who turn in warm and secret caves



they know me too. They know the boy  
who lives inside me still won't go away.  
The deer are ghosts who slip between the light  
through trees, so you may only hear the snap  
of branches in the thicket beyond hope.  
I watch the woods for deer, as if I'm armed.

