



29 August 2018

Issue 1138

Welcoming another brother



Arlen Harris

We are happy to welcome Arlen Harris of the St. Mary Province as the latest addition to our formation team. Arlen serves on the postulancy staff at St. Conrad Friary in Milwaukee.

Arlen was born in Brooklyn in 1976, and was invested in 2001 as a novice for the St. Mary Province. He did his novitiate in Mt. Calvary WI at St. Felix Friary. After professing his first vows, he studied theology at the former Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge MA. Arlen professed his perpetual vows in 2005, and was ordained a priest in 2008.

Since then, Arlen has ministered at parishes in New York City and East Patchogue NY. He also served at NY Presbyterian Hospital as chaplain. He served the Secular Franciscan fraternities as spiritual assistant, and was local minister in his community in New York. He was also one of many Capuchin friars appointed by Pope Francis to serve as “missionaries of mercy” during the recent Jubilee Year of Mercy. *Welcome, Arlen!*

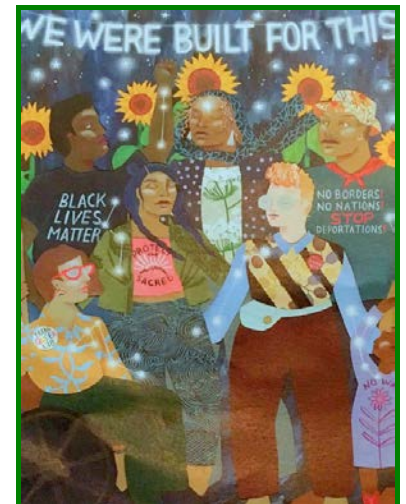
8th Day Center for Justice Closing Celebration

by David Hirt

On Saturday, August 18th, the 8th Day Center for Justice, a ministry founded by several Catholic religious orders in the early 70s, closed its doors after decades of work. For many years, friars from the province worked and ministered with 8th Day. More recently, Jim Zelinski was part of their coordinating council for many years and I did a year long internship with them from 2011-2012. I went to the closing celebration at Loyola to remember the many years that 8th Day and the province worked together.

Though 8th Day is closing its doors, the many staff people will still be doing work for justice in many capacities. Also at the end of their time, the center discerned what to do with their remaining funds and divided it among the following ministries to support their work: American Friends, Service Committee, Arab American Action Network, Arise Chicago, Chicago Religious Network, Chicago Freedom School, Chicago Torture Justice Center, Corporate Accountability Lab, Crossroads Fund, Organized Communities Against Deportation, Puerto Rican Cultural Center, School of the Americas Watch, Transformative Justice Law Project, Voices for Creative Nonviolence, and Youth Empowered Performance Project.

I am grateful for the impact 8th Day had on my formation. When I realized I didn't understand justice ministry and that I had negative attitudes toward “justice people,” I decided to put myself in the lion's mouth and experience



what I didn't understand. It was a transformative year for me and I'm grateful for all the people I worked with in that year and the things they helped me understand better. I am the friar I am today, in good part, because of their influence.

David Hirt ministers in Milwaukee as director of postulancy for the St. Joseph, St. Mary and Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd Provinces. He also serves on the province's Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Commission.

Devastating Floods in Kerala



At least 324 people have been killed in flooding in the southern Indian state in what local officials say is the worst flooding in 100 years. Several of our Indian brothers are from this province. Capuchins in Kerala have suspended normal operations and devoted all available friars to the relief of people affected by the historic flooding. In particular, they are helping area residents clean up their houses, and distributing food. A couple of Capuchin houses have been closed because of serious damage. However, they have opened up other Capuchin communities as temporary shelters.



"Season of Creation" Begins September 1st

Four years ago Pope Francis proclaimed a "World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation," which is celebrated annually on September 1st. The observance begins the *Season of Creation*, which ends on October 4th, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology in many traditions.

The *Season of Creation* is an opportunity to worship the Creator and protect the good gift of creation. From mountain villages in Peru to bustling downtown streets in the Philippines, Christians of all denominations are uniting to pray and act for our common home.

There is an urgent need to find solutions to the crisis facing our common home. Together, let us fulfill our role as stewards of God's creation.



Brothers Professed...Brothers Ordained



L-R: Antony Julius Milton, Michael Sullivan and Anthony Kote-Witah

St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit was the scene of two recent provincial celebrations: the perpetual profession of our brothers Antony Julius Milton and Anthony Kote-Witah, and the presbyteral ordination of Vito Martinez and the diaconate ordination of Anthony Kote-Witah.

Michael Sullivan received the perpetual vows, and David Zywiec (Capuchin bishop) was the ordaining prelate.

re:Cap offers prayerful best wishes to our brothers!



L-R: Vito Martinez, David Zywiec and Anthony Kote-Witah



Pho in Crow

Tien Dinh's parents and family recently visited the friars at in Crow Agency, Montana, and treated the brothers to Vietnamese noodles. Bill frigo's cousin from Georgia also shared in the feast. (*Pho* is a Vietnamese soup consisting of broth, rice noodles called *bánh pho*, a few herbs, and meat, primarily made with either beef or chicken.)



Pope Addresses Pennsylvania Scandal

In a recent letter to the People of God, Pope Francis acknowledged the failure of the Church in regard to sexual misconduct. "It is essential that we, as a church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable," the pope said. "Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion."

Bishops and other leaders of the Catholic Church in Pennsylvania covered up child sexual abuse by more than 300 priests over a period of 70 years, persuading victims not to report the abuse and law enforcement not to investigate it, according to a searing report issued by a grand jury on 11 August 2018.



- Patti Gamelin, sister of former friar Dick Boyak, died recently.
- The maternal grandmother of Antony Julius Milton died recently.
- Kay Hartman (sister of Ben Markwell) died recently; her husband suffers with dementia.
- Tom Clark (brother of Keith Clark) has been diagnosed with bladder cancer.
 - Tom Schmied has ceased all treatment for cancer.
- Pat Giffer (affiliate of the province) recently underwent heart catheterization.

Overheard...

"There is a common temptation: to reduce religion to just following the laws, projecting onto our relationship with God the image of the relationship between slaves and their master. Slaves must do the tasks their master has assigned in order to receive his favor." — Pope Francis, *Angelus fervorino*, 8/5/18

As imperceptibly as Grief
 The Summer lapsed away —
 Too imperceptible at last
 To seem like Perfidy —
 A Quietness distilled
 As Twilight long begun,
 Or Nature spending with herself
 Sequestered Afternoon —



August

- 29 José Vera (B)
- 30 David Schwab (B)
- 31 Raymond Meier (N)

September

- 1 Alphonse Pushparaj (B)
 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 3 James Leary (B)
- 5 Bertin Samsa (B)
- 6 Anthony Julius Milton (B)
- 7 David Heffron (B)
 Adrian Staehler (N)
- 9 Robert Malloy (B)
- 12 Richard Hart (B)
 William Cieslak (B)

The Dusk drew earlier in —
 The Morning foreign shone —
 A courteous, yet harrowing Grace,
 As Guest, that would be gone —
 And thus, without a Wing
 Or service of a Keel
 Our Summer made her light escape
 Into the Beautiful.
 ~ Emily Elizabeth Dickinson

