Nine brothers celebrate diamond jubilees

Weekly re:Cap congratulates our nine brothers who are celebrating 60 years of religious life. More friars will celebrate diamond jubilees this year (65 and 70 years) as well. We’ll introduce you to them in our next issue.
Remembering (and honoring) Martin Luther King

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a vital figure of the modern era and a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights Movement. His lectures and dialogues stirred the concern and sparked the conscience of a generation. His charismatic leadership inspired men and women, young and old, in this nation and around the world. Following in the footsteps of his father, in February 1948, at the age of 19, Martin Luther King, Jr. entered the Christian ministry and was ordained at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. We celebrate Martin Luther King Day as a federal holiday each year on 18 January.

King was arrested 30 times for his participation in civil rights activities. While King preached about justice, empowerment, love and peace, in the final months of his life his attention was turned to fighting poverty. Sadly, more Americans live in poverty today than during King’s lifetime. Forty-seven million Americans currently fall below the poverty line.

King was shot while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee and died on April 4, 1968. He had gone to Memphis to help lead sanitation workers in a protest against low wages and intolerable working conditions.

King believed in a nation of freedom and justice for all, and encouraged all citizens to live up to the purpose and potential of America by applying the principles of non-violence to make this country a better place to live—creating the Beloved Community. The MLK Day of Service is a way to transform Martin Luther King, Jr.’s life and teachings into community action that helps solve social problems. That service may meet a tangible need, or it may meet a need of the spirit. On this day, Americans of every age and background celebrate King through service projects that strengthen communities, empower individuals, bridge barriers, and create solutions.

As we reflect on the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., let us call to mind that, like generations of peacemakers who preceded him, he prayed with hope. His prayers affirm his faithfulness to black and oppressed cultures. He prayed with the hope that all oppressed people would be delivered from the Egypt of slavery and from the wilderness of segregation, and that they would one day reach the promised land of freedom, justice, human dignity, and equality of opportunity.

May we never stand on the sidelines as we witness injustice done upon our sisters and brothers, but walk with eyes open to the needs of our communities, with ears open to the needs of our world, and with hands open in helpful service to our neighbors. Then we will not only be blessed, but be a blessing to our world.
Milwaukee friars and partners
“send off” Isidore!

In 1988, Isidore Herriges was transferred to Milwaukee to serve in maintenance ministry, and during those 28 years, he served the Milwaukee friars and communities and — in the winter months — traveled to Nicaragua to build and repair structures in our ministries there. Now, although officially “retired,” Isidore is moving to Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin where, we are willing to bet, he will undoubtedly continue to respond to maintenance needs of the friars there.

Before he left Milwaukee, friars and Capuchin partners gathered at the House of Peace to share a final meal with him, and to offer grateful prayers for his consistent service!
Bernard Schenk, father of Mark Schenk (general counselor), died on 5 January.

Luke Kolbe, cousin of Andre Weller, underwent heart surgery on January 6th to remove scar tissue from a previous valve implant.

Chris VanAkkeren, grand nephew of Andre Weller, had heart surgery on January 7th to repair damage from previous procedures.

Men in brown...

Last week, 8 candidates joined the 9 postulants and the St. Conrad Community for a “Discovering Postulancy” vocation event.