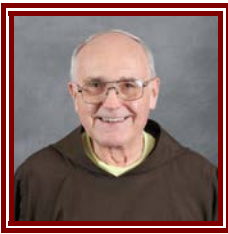


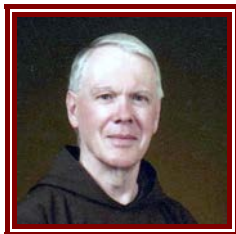


Religious jubilees 2018

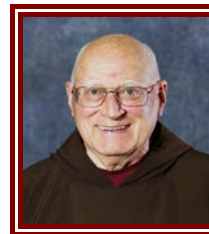
We salute our brothers whose religious jubilees will be celebrated this year. In this issue, we offer prayerful best wishes to those celebrating 60-65 years (diamond).



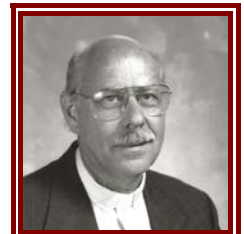
John Kocian



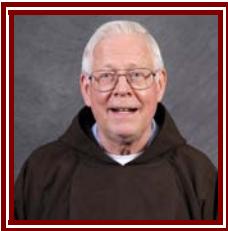
Edward Hagman



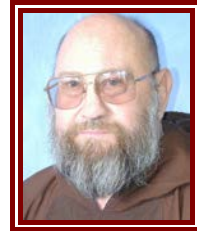
Lawrence Abler



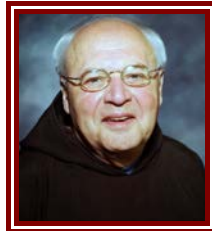
Paul Reichling



Kenneth Smits



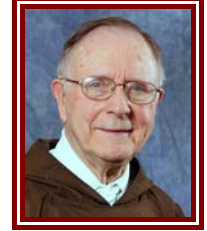
Robert Wheelock



Paul Hanisko



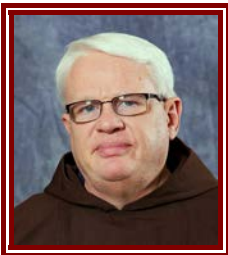
Glenn Gessner



Martin Pable

SLS and Catholic Schools Week: 28 Jan-3 Feb

By Gary Wegner



Gary Wegner

The baptism of a child is my favorite sacrament. It is also the only sacrament that begins with a question. Parents are asked the name of their child and what they ask for their child. The answer to the first question obviously varies from child to child. The answer to the second question should always be the same: "baptism."

Each time a child is baptized, I am tempted to interject that the admonition to "love our neighbor" can be a challenge. How to love our neighbor is at the heart of the ethics and morals that parents teach their children at home and a reason why they bring them to church at a young age. As they grow older, the challenges become more complex. Many parents enroll their children in a Catholic school, such as St. Lawrence, with the hope that the ethics and morals talked about at home and in church are reinforced in the classroom.

St. Lawrence Seminary helps parents by integrating faith into education and academics. At St. Lawrence, teachers are not only at liberty, but encouraged to emphasize a faith perspective. For example, in an American Government class, students not only learn about the First Amendment right to freedom of religion, but can

also discuss how this has both helped and challenged the practice of faith. A faith-based education can encourage critical thinking that not only seeks knowledge and understanding of the science that explains our world, but also analyzes and questions how this knowledge could — or should — be used in the light of faith.

Faith in education encourages the development of the whole person. We need engineers who know how to build a bridge over which we drive our cars; but we need engineers who have been formed with a conscience as to whether a given bridge ought to be built and how its construction may affect various communities. This does not just happen. Year after year, the student in a faith-based school will be challenged to ask the “why” questions and not just “what, when, where, and how.” Not only will he or she be encouraged to ask “why,” but to do so from a framework of faith. The ones who can ask “why” are the ones who will be leaders.



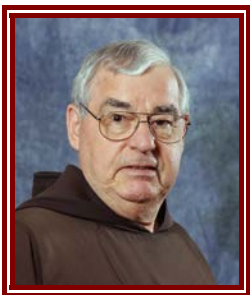
Parents are the first teachers of their children, and at their baptism we pray that they will be the best teachers. By enrolling their sons at St. Lawrence, parents know that our Catholic faith is at the core of the curriculum and that we will give them the support they need as their sons’ teachers.

Parents of our students at St. Lawrence Seminary High School can be sure that the teachers, supervisors, and friars are committed to reinforcing promises parents made at baptism to “bear witness to the faith by what they say and do.” They help parents keep this promise *every* day and *all* day, whether in the classroom, in the dormitory, or on the playing fields. Wherever an SLS student goes, the faith is sure to follow.

Ed note: Gary Wegner was on the faculty of St. Lawrence Seminary for more than 20 years. He is currently pastor of St. Isidore the Farmer Parish and its satellite parishes in the Mt. Calvary WI area.

World Inter-Faith Harmony Week: 1-7 February

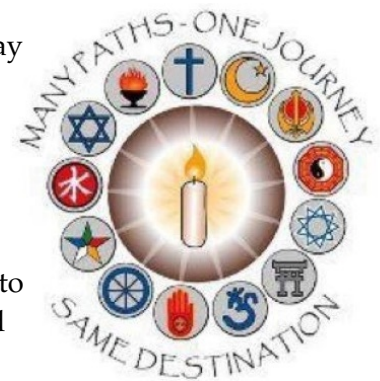
by Thomas Zelinski



Tom Zelinski

One of the saddest realities for me as a person of some religious interests is the tragic story of how religion has been used as an excuse for hatred and violence throughout history. This ugly reality has risen up in many different religious traditions and continues today.

It is a sad history of using religion or belief in God as a way of dividing people. It becomes an egotistic exercise in pointing out how “our” side is right over against the wrong or evil of some other group. And sometimes that sense of righteousness leads to violence and destruction.



If we are ever to be reconciled among the various religious groups, we all need to stop worrying about who is right or who holds the truth, and look more toward treating all others with compassion. The direction is simply put in the Christian Gospel: that whatever we do to any brother or sister, we do for Christ, or for God. Other great Scriptures say something similar.

We have not always read our Scriptures very well, nor put them into practice.

Ed note: Tom Zelinski ministers at Capuchin Retreat in Washington MI.

Province hires new IT director



John Parker

The St. Joseph Province continues to take advantage of the ever-expanding technology, with most friars communicating with cell phones, ministries constantly updating their websites, and provincial files and archives becoming digitalized. It became obvious that this reality demanded more expertise in the field.

John Parker started at the Province of St. Joseph as director of information technology in December 2017. Prior to his role here, he was an associate manager at Accenture, a global Fortune 500 company specializing in IT outsourcing and consulting. John was with Accenture at Dow Chemical from 2005 – 2017, where he led multiple technology teams located in Michigan, Indiana, China, and India.

Prior to Accenture, John worked for over seven years as a senior support technician for a Detroit based national law firm. In total, John has 20 years experience in IT infrastructure design, implementation and support. In addition, John served three years in the US Marine Corps and one year in the Michigan Army National Guard where he specialized in communications – both radio and land (wire) based. After his honorable discharge from the military, John obtained a bachelor of science degree in computer systems management from Rochester College.

February 8th: International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8 as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8 is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000.

On February 8th, Catholics all over the world are encouraged to host or attend prayer services to create greater awareness about this phenomenon. Through prayer, we not only reflect on the experiences of those that have suffered through this affront to human dignity, but also comfort, strengthen, and help empower survivors.



A Prayer for the End of Human Trafficking

As shared by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J.

Gracious God:

We raise our voices in anguished prayer
for our sisters and brothers,
women and girls, men and boys,
who are modern day slaves;
They are your beloved daughters and sons,
exploited sexually or forced to work
because of human violence and greed.

Fill us with your holy anger and your sacred
passion that those who are trafficked might know
healing and justice; that traffickers will come to
repentance and conversion; that all of us might live
in such a way that others are not made to pay the
price for our comfort and convenience.

Amen. May it be so!



Our brother, Michael Drobnicki, died on 16 January at the age of 71. Michael was born on Oct. 29, 1946, the son of William and Lawrencia (née Majchrzak) Drobnicki. He was invested in the Capuchin habit in 1968 and perpetually professed in 1973. Michael was on the provincial vocation office staff from 1975-1979. He was on staff at Queen of Angels Retreat Center in Saginaw MI from 1979-1984, and again from 1992-1995. He spent a year in pastoral ministry in Fargo ND, and served in internal ministries in Detroit for 28 years until his retirement in 2016. Michael is survived by his sister, Deborah McNamee, and his brother David, as well as his many Capuchin brothers with whom he lived, prayed and ministered for more than 50 years.

- John Willger was recently hospitalized for weakness.
- Albert Sandor was scheduled for knee replacement surgery.
 - Thomas Siegel, nephew of Kenan Siegel, died recently.
- Robert Udulutsch was recently diagnosed with lymphoma.

Leo Petrimoulx's family is grateful to the Capuchin brothers and friends for their expressions of kindness, prayers, support and loving care that was given to their brother.



re:cap is grateful for a recent donation from Marion Rife.

JANUARY

- 24 SLS Video Conference
Ministry & Mission Zoom Conference
Public Relations Video/Zoom Conference
- 25 Preaching Video Conference
- 27 Int'l Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 28 **Walter Kasuboski (B)**
Thomas Zelinski (N)
Neal Plale (B)
- 29 **Joseph Maloney (B)**
Joseph Smetana (B)
- 30 Mission & Ministry Zoom Conference
- 31 Public Relations Video/Zoom Conference
Ana Martinez (B)



- 2 Candlemas
- 3 **Charles Robinson (B)**
- 4 Rosa Parks (1913-2005) (B)
- 6 **Mark Romanowski (B)**
- 7 **Jerome Higgins (B)**

Jan 25th: Int'l Holocaust Remembrance Day

"It would be a dangerous error to think of the Holocaust as simply the result of the insanity of a group of criminal Nazis. On the contrary, the Holocaust was the culmination of millennia of hatred, scapegoating and discrimination targeting the Jews and gays."

~ UN Secretary-General António Guterres

The legendary Acts of St. Blaise

Blaise, who had studied philosophy in his youth, was a doctor in Sebaste in Armenia, the city of his birth, who exercised his art with miraculous ability, good-will, and piety. In 316 the governor of Cappadocia arrested Blaise. As he was being led to jail, a mother set her only son, choking to death of a fish-bone, at his feet, and the child was cured straight away. Regardless, the governor, unable to make Blaise renounce his faith, beheaded him.



In many places on the day of his feast, the blessing of St. Blaise is given: two burning candles, blessed on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord ("Candlemas"), are held in a crossed position over the heads of the faithful or the people are touched on the throat with them.