



18 July 2018

Issue 1135

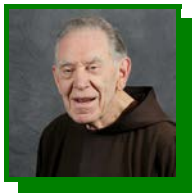
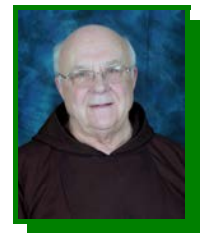
Jubilarians Reflect on Religious Life

As we gather in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin to celebrate our brothers' anniversaries of Capuchin life, we asked them to briefly describe their journeys:



Ambrose Simon (75 years): I am deeply grateful to God for drawing me to the Capuchins. Living with the frati has been a source of encouragement and inspiration. The blessings I have received of being with them ministering in the church and beyond, especially after Vatican II, are good memories. My faith has been strengthened and deepened all these years in this way of life.

Jerome Higgins (70 years): It's hard to believe that I am now celebrating 70 years as a Capuchin friar. It has been a good time. For a person who did not have brothers or sisters, it has been a good life with my Capuchin brothers from the time of my entrance to the time of this celebration!



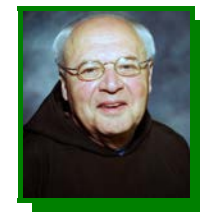
Richard Hart (70 years): It is overwhelming to believe how 70 years have melted together mixed with so many blessings from a loving God. Francis, Clare and Solanus continue to inspire me to live my Capuchin brotherhood to the fullest, accepting the challenges of growing older gracefully in a spirit of profound gratitude to God and our Capuchin Province of St. Joseph.

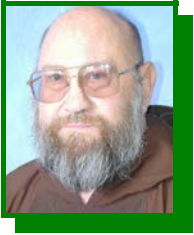
Martin Pable (65 years): I am profoundly grateful for my vocation to serve God and the human family as a Capuchin friar. I have been inspired by the example of Francis of Assisi to live the Gospel of Jesus in our own times. It has been my great privilege to belong to this brotherhood and to serve God's people in so many different ways.



Isidore Herriges (65 years): Working with our hands was an important aspect in the life of Francis. He urged his followers to do the same. I am glad that I could serve God's people by using the talents he gave me to design and build and "fix" things. My vocation to the missions came from listening to the friars who ministered in Nicaragua.

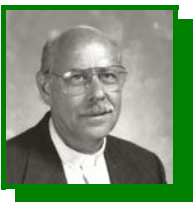
Paul Hanisko (65 years): I thank God for the call to consecrated religious life. My response was "here I am Lord, I am ready to serve." I thank God for the years of my formation which helped me to be ready to serve in God's church.





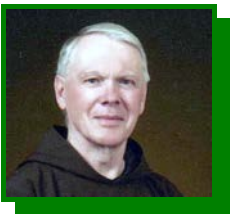
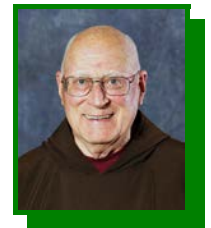
Robert Wheelock (60 years): When I arrived at St. Lawrence Seminary, a big change happened in my life. The school had so many friars and over 300 really great guys who were students. It did not take long for me to feel I had died and gone to heaven. The friars were happy, joyful men who clearly got along with each other. These men had something I knew I wanted but did not know if I could be like the friars I so much admired. Now, 60 years later, I feel it would take eternity trying to thank God that he called me to be a Capuchin. Being a Capuchin has let me know and love thousands of people. What can I do to thank the Capuchins for that opportunity?

Kenneth Smits (60 years): Originally from St. Mary's parish in De Pere, I joined the Capuchin-Franciscan Order with the adolescent desire to follow Jesus and to find community. I found ample support for these goals in initial formation, a splendid education, ordination to the priesthood, and ministry as a seminary professor, retreat houses, and a host of other ventures. The People of God and the years have been kind to me.



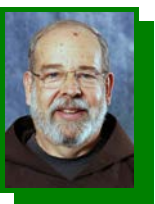
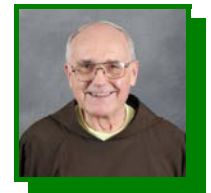
Paul Reichling (60 years): I was drawn to Capuchin life through the influence of relatives in the priesthood and religious life. The Agnesian Sisters also supported and inspired me. I am grateful for these many years in the community. Persons that I particularly remember as significant are Gerald Walker, Bernard Burke, my brother David, and Marty Pable. My Capuchin brothers in Montana, who accompanied me in ministry there, also stand out in my life. I thank God for these many years of grace and inspiration.

Lawrence Abler (60 years): I joined the order due to the example of brotherhood of the Capuchins that I experienced at St. Lawrence. I was not sure I wanted to be a priest, but I knew I wanted to be a Capuchin. The province has given me a great variety of ministries during the past 60 years that have taken me from Montana to Detroit, from Chicago to Baraga, Michigan. I am especially grateful to the brotherhood in constantly challenging me. Thanks to the challenges of my brother and sister Franciscans, I kept seeing new possibilities.



Edward Hagman (60 years): Growing up as I did in the pre-Vatican II church, I can only speculate what direction my life might have taken were it not for the Second Vatican Council. The reform and renewal it brought to the church and to the Capuchin Order, particularly as we rediscovered and strove to live the fuller meaning of the Franciscan charism, have been the major influence on my vocation. Through the love and support of many Capuchin brothers, the grace of God has come to me abundantly and been my strength these past sixty years."

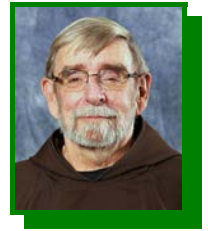
John Kocian (60 years): I was impressed by the simplicity and detachment (poverty) of the Capuchins I observed. Their joyfulness and detachment spoke to me of their spiritual centerness in the Lord. I have experienced God's blessings and peace!



David Preuss (50 years): I may die from several things, but boredom is not one of them. My life with the Capuchins has been exciting and fulfilling. I have been blessed to have my major ministries working with the African-American community for 37 years. And I have enjoyed living with some great friars.

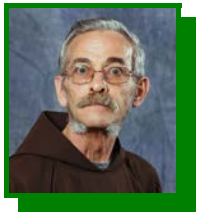
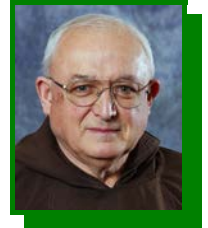


Carl Schaefer (50 years): I have been very blessed by the places I have worked and the people I have met. I have received back one hundred fold the services that I have rendered. I have a great sense of gratitude and a fondness for all those I have met along the way.



Walter Kasuboski (50 years): When I entered the Capuchin Order, I was inspired deeply by the friars' sense of poverty and humility. The life and witness of St. Francis and our missionaries in foreign countries helped drive me to try to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor; using all my talents and gifts to help people love each other and respect the absolute beauty of creation that we need to conserve. The Capuchin life has taught me to live simply so that others may simply live. I have been very blessed.

John Willger (50 years): These 50 years went by like a dream. It was marked by change initiated by Vatican II. Seeds of these changes were planted by dedicated role models. These role models empowered me to live and grow in a caring community. I am grateful to God and the brothers for supporting me during my 50 years of service to the community, which stresses hospitality to all. It is great to have Solanus for a role model of hospitality.



Neal Plale (40 years): As I look back on the last forty years, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude. I am grateful to the members of the province, and especially those of my local community for their challenges and support as together we live out the Gospel of Jesus and the ideals of St. Francis. I am grateful for my ministry and the people that I have had the privilege to partner with over the years at St. Lawrence Seminary. Finally, I am grateful to my family and friends who have always been there and stood by me over the years. I have been richly blessed.

Michael Sullivan (40 years): I have been truly blessed in my life in the order. My community life and my opportunities to minister to the poor and marginalized have been true blessings and challenges. The poor have taught me about faith in the midst of suffering and have been examples of joy as well. I'm truly grateful to be a Capuchin Franciscan. The example of Solanus Casey's humility and deep appreciation of every person he met inspire me daily.



TL Michael Auman (40 years): The last forty years have been very good for me. And I hope that my presence as a friar has been good for the fraternity. I've been supported in my life and ministry by my Capuchin brothers and by our partners-in-ministry. That support has made me a happy and fulfilled religious. I am so grateful!



***Prayerful congratulations to all of our jubilarians...
ad multos annos!***



- Joe Maloney was recently hospitalized with a bladder infection.
- Former Friar Nicholas R. Schaeve died on 29 June.



- Our brother, Glenn Gessner, died on 4 July at the age of 84. Glenn was born in Sheboygan WI in 1934. He was invested in 1952 and perpetually professed in 1956.

He was ordained in 1960. He began pastoral ministry at St. Elizabeth Parish in Milwaukee in 1962, and was assigned as a missionary in Central America, where he served from 1963 until 1972. He ministered as a hospital chaplain in Milwaukee for two years, and then served in Racine WI in pastoral ministry until 1986, at which time he returned to Nicaragua. He recently returned to the U.S., and retired at St. Fidelis Friary in Appleton WI.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Kurt (also a friar).

- Jim Maloney (brother of Joe Maloney) was hospitalized recently for heart problems.

July

- 19 Rob Roemer (B)
- 20 Provincial Celebrations, Mt. Calvary WI
- 22 Investiture of Novices, Santa Ynez CA
- 23 Public Relations Zoom Mtg
- 24 Finance Commission Video Conf
Raymond Stadmeier (B)
- 25 Public Relations Video Conf
James Zelinski (N)
James Wolf (N)
- 25 Wellness Video Conf
- 26 Joachim Strupp (N)
- 28 James Hast (B)
- 31 Development Video Conf
- 30 Pro Retreat, Libertyville IL
Mass for Feast of Solanus, Mt. Calvary WI
- 31 CMSM Nat'l Assembly, St. Louis MO

Vespers

by Louise Glück, 1943

In your extended absence, you permit me use of earth, anticipating some return on investment. I must report failure in my assignment, principally regarding the tomato plants. I think I should not be encouraged to grow tomatoes. Or, if I am, you should withhold the heavy rains, the cold nights that come so often here, while other regions get twelve weeks of summer. All this belongs to you: on the other hand, I planted the seeds, I watched the first shoots



like wings tearing the soil, and it was my heart broken by the blight, the black spot so quickly multiplying in the rows. I doubt you have a heart, in our understanding of that term. You who do not discriminate between the dead and the living, who are, in consequence, immune to foreshadowing, you may not know how much terror we bear, the spotted leaf, the red leaves of the maple falling even in August, in early darkness: I am responsible for these vines.