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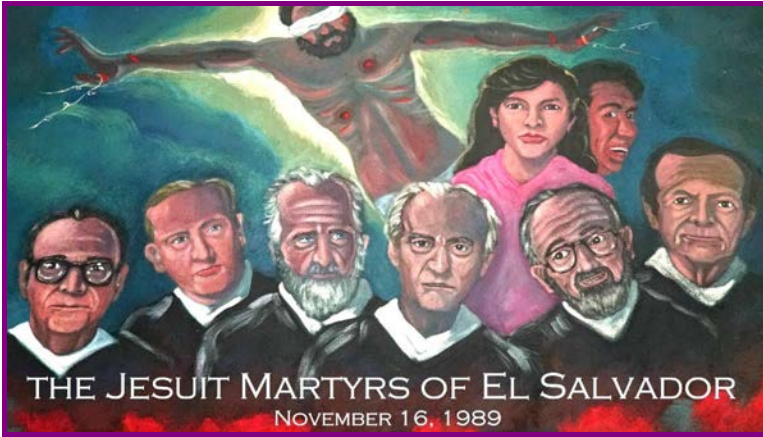
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## 30 Years Later...



So it came to be that in the early morning hours of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1989 at the University of Central America (UCA) in the city of San Salvador, American-trained Salvadoran soldiers massacred this group of eight, adding them to the list of over 75,000 victims of a civil war that raged for over twelve years.

Let us remember the names of all six Jesuits who were killed, their cook and her daughter: Ignacio Ellacuría, S.J., Ignacio Martín-Baro, S.J., Segundo Montes, S.J., Amando López, S.J., Joaquin López y López, S.J., Juan Ramón

Moreno, S.J., Elba Ramos, and Celina Ramos. These UCA martyrs are inspirational examples of integrating faith into the activity of everyday life, including the very functioning of the university where they worked.

The target of the state military-led attack was Ignacio Ellacuría, the Jesuit rector of the University. He had been outspoken on defending the rights of poor majority of the country and criticizing the military dictatorship. The oppressive government viewed him as subversive and a threat to their control. But Ellacuría could not separate his faith from his work as university rector. His faith compelled him to speak out against injustice, proclaim the Gospel, and make this central to the mission of the UCA. He experienced the fullness of that persecution with his own martyrdom.

*Let us pray that, inspired by the UCA martyrs, we might place God at the center of our lives, and allow that to inform our life and work.*



Celebrating Native American Heritage Month involves taking the time to recognize the rich diversities of the cultures that existed in America before it became the world power it is today. There are hundreds of tribes across the nation, but most people are only capable of naming a few, and even fewer are represented in the media of the day. If you live in the Americas, Native American Heritage Month is a great opportunity to research your local history and discover which tribes called the land you now live on home.

## Otto Retires



The weekend of Aug. 17-18 was bittersweet, with both celebration and goodbyes, for the people of Good Shepherd Parish, Rib Lake, as they bid farewell to their pastor, Capuchin friar Otto Bucher.

Saturday Mass was celebrated with Bishop James P. Powers, who expressed his thanks to the retiring priest for the years of service, both at Good Shepherd and in many other parishes in the diocese. Concelebrating was Aaron Devett, one of the temporary priests now serving at Good Shepherd. Powers also acknowledged Sept. 10 would be Bucher's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination.

"Of the many places I have served, this one is dearest to my heart. I love it here, but it is becoming more difficult for me, and it is time to retire," said Otto, who turned 86 in June. At his final Mass, he shared the story of his religious vocation, starting with his studies in eighth grade at St. Lawrence Seminary in Mount Calvary. He later joined the seminary at St. Anthony in Marathon City; following that, he began his Capuchin novitiate in Huntington IN. He recalls times spent with Solanus Casey there. Otto's studies took him to the Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and the Biblicum in Rome. The friar's other service included teaching at the major seminary in Milwaukee and at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners. Otto has now retired to St. Fidelis Friary in Appleton.



Otto Bucher

## Two Friars Join CSK Staff



Faris Najor

Two Capuchin friars, Faris Najor and Nicholas Blattner, have joined the Capuchin Soup Kitchen staff. Faris Najor, a native of Farmington Hills MI, is the new director of volunteers for Detroit-area Capuchin ministries. Faris will work closely with volunteer coordinators at Capuchin Soup Kitchen sites, as well as at the Solanus Casey Center and Capuchin Retreat. Faris will be working to enhance the volunteer experience. In improving the volunteer experience, he hopes to make the guest experience better, as well. "Happy volunteers means happy guests," said Faris. Longer-term, Faris hopes to leverage the skills of volunteers to address the root causes of poverty and inequality in our communities.

Nick Blattner, a native of Sheboygan Falls WI, is a kindly presence behind the counter at On the Rise Bakery and Café, a program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Nick is ministering both at the bakehouse, as well as going out to Metro Detroit churches and businesses to sell bread, baked goods, and other items. "I'm looking forward to getting to know the guys in the program and then seeing them graduate and move on," said Nick. "That makes it all worth it." In addition to his role at On the Rise, Nick is working with the Capuchin Development Office. He is also working toward a degree at Villanova University.



Nick Blattner



## Postulants Attend Voces Gala

The province supported our local Voces de la Frontera ministry by purchasing a table for their annual gala. Attending the event were our five postulants (at left) who seemed to enjoy the festive atmosphere at the Harley Davison Center in Milwaukee.

## *A Program of Healing and Recovery*

*By Jerome Johnson, executive director of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen*



*Jefferson House*

With a view to the context of 800 years in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, we continue to take a look back at the 90 years of Detroit's Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Today, our Jefferson House Program for formerly homeless men seeking to reclaim their lives from addiction is under the very skilled and caring hands of manager Amy Kinner along with Don Benner and the rest of the Jefferson House staff. The length of the program (6 - 9 months), the skill of the treatment (C.A.R.F. accredited treatment program), and the caring community that pervades the entire program are central features that assist the men in the program to make progress on issues that have been covered up by addiction for so many years. The concepts for the Jefferson House

program go clear back to the late 1960s: a time when caring people were considering creative ways to support others by addressing underlying issues that contributed to suffering.

Responding to the needs of the times, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen began to expand its services. In 1970, the soup kitchen hired professional counselors, organized neighborhood youth activities, and started self-help groups. Friars such as Albert Sandor, Rock Janowski, Ignatius Milne, and Philip Naessens helped rehab a nearby house and used it as a half-way house program called "Meldrum Manor" for men coming out of prison. Because the building was in such poor condition, this program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen was reorganized in 1976 into "Jefferson House" at its current location at the corner of East Jefferson Avenue and Seminole Street.

Sue Lane and Bob Skeris were the main designers of the program. At this time in the history of the Province of St. Joseph, friars were getting more specialized training for ministries. Bob had a master's in social work and Joe Monachino was trained at Hazelden and holds a master's in clinical psychology. Current manager Amy Kinner continues this line of trained professionalism and combines the Franciscan values of recognition of the uniqueness of each person with a deep respect for human dignity. As a former Jefferson House resident remarked: "They love us until we learn to love ourselves." My appreciation goes out to the thousands of people who, one way or another, have helped shape this program of healing and recovery.

## *Regionals Focus on Chapter Prep*



*L-R: Jerry Smith, Jerome Schroeder and Kent Bauer were among 21 friars attending the recent Milwaukee regional gathering.*

The five "regions" of the province are currently holding meetings to reflect on a revised pastoral plan, as well as submit suggestions for the provincial chapter agenda. A presentation on the proposed renovation of the St. Francis Capuchin Center is also on the agenda for all of the Fall regionals.

The chapter is scheduled to begin on 1 June 2020, and conclude on 5 June. St. Xavier University in Chicago will once again be the site of the triennial gathering.

Before the end of the year, friars will be offered an opportunity to submit "proposals" (or "resolutions") to be voted on by the chapter capitulars.

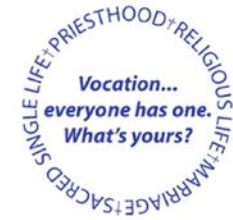


- James Magnan, who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer, is expected to enter hospice care.
- Rosalee Pang, sister of John Scherer, is undergoing chemotherapy for uterine cancer.
- Rick Erickson, principal emeritus of the Mt. Calvary area Catholic schools, died recently.



November

- 6 ..... **Ralph Fellenz (B)**
- 7 ..... **Javier Rodriguez (B)**
- 8 ..... **JPIC Commission Video Conference**
- 12 ..... **Investment Commission Teleconference**
- 14 ..... **Wilbert Lanser (B)**
- 16 ..... **International Day for Tolerance**



## International Day for Tolerance

16 November



This day was created to encourage mindfulness and faith in human rights – in order to encourage equality and diversity across the world, the United Nations introduced The International Day for Tolerance in 1996. It followed the UN’s Year for Tolerance, which was 1995, in order to observe its teachings annually.

There’s no doubt that a world free of tolerance would not be a good place to be. It is the belief of those supporting this day that such a world should never exist – and that everyone has a right to their expression, religion, and their conscience without fear of bias or ridicule. In addition, it teaches that a person’s racial or religious background is inconsequential to the potential for tolerance and friendship.

The UN defines tolerance as respect, appreciate and acceptance of the diversity of the world’s cultures and all the ways that we are human. It is a human right to receive, and should be expected to be practiced by not just individuals, but groups and states. Human rights is the core of this thought – as such, it supports the notion that humanity has the right to live in peace.

The International Day for Tolerance supports the notion that education is a key factor in preventing intolerance across the human race. On this day, we are encouraged to educate and learn how to practice solidarity between ethnic, social and cultural groups.

