

Capuchin Franciscan Heritage Days Planned

St. Patrick's Day marks the official kickoff of *Capuchin Franciscan Heritage Days* (March 17-April 18, 2010). Highlighting this celebration period, California's Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, local city officials, and community organizations have issued proclamations urging the local communities to engage in activities and programs to recognize the Irish roots of the Western America Province set down in 1910, and pay tribute to a century of ongoing service of the friars to schools, hospitals, parishes, and the poor throughout the state of California and northern Mexico.

Pastors, school principals, parent clubs, church organizations, youth groups, and community members throughout the Province have been busy for months preparing events to commemorate the month long celebration. Planned activities include canned food drives for the poor, vocation awareness programs, social gatherings, banner displays, school campus events, and simple acts of appreciation for the friars who have served their communities.

During the finale of Capuchin Franciscan Heritage Days, the Order's Minister General, Fr. Mauro Jöhri, who will be visiting from Rome, plans to travel throughout the Province and participate in special Masses at St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish-Watts, St. Francis High School-La Cañada, Old Mission Santa Inés-Solvang, San Lorenzo Seminary-Santa Ynez, and Our Lady of Angels Parish-Burlingame. The Minister General's tour will be widely celebrated with a



Minister General, Fr. Mauro Jöhri (R), with Pope Benedict XVI.

“Call to Serve – Bell Ringing Ceremony” on April 11th. Bells at each participating location throughout the state of California and Mexico will ring simultaneously as a symbol of unity, bringing focus to the anniversary's mission theme to “create a culture of vocation awareness.”



Pilgrim Statue and Vocation Prayer Program

The cornerstone for the Province-wide centennial celebration is the Pilgrim Statue and Vocation Prayer Program. The pilgrim statue, *Our Lady of Angels – Mother of Vocations*, launched her 15 month long journey in October, 2009, commencing at St. Francis High School Chapel where she was blessed by Fr. Tony Marti, OFM Cap. Her itinerary includes planned visits to different pilgrim places of prayer throughout the Province each month.

Our Lady of Angels – Mother of Vocations Pilgrim Statue represents the need to pray for vocations. The program invites parish and church communities to join together on the first Tuesday of the month, or a designated date and time of choice, to pray the Rosary (and other devotional prayers) for vocations to the priesthood and religious-life, especially to the Capuchin Order. During this Anniversary year, it is the hope to create a greater realization of the power of collective prayer to promote vocations.

The statue, *Our Lady of Angels – Mother of Vocations*, is on a 15 month pilgrimage through the province.

Minister General Schedule Western America Province

April 11th
St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts, CA

April 12th & 13th
Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang, CA
San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez, CA

April 14th
St. Francis High School, La Cañada, CA

April 15th
Our Lady of Angels Parish, Burlingame, CA

Céad míle fáilte!



A Hundred Thousand Welcomes!

It is an honor to welcome you to the Centenary Celebration of the Irish Capuchin Friars on the West Coast with this traditional Gaelic greeting!

In 1910 the missionary

zeal of the Irish Capuchins took them to the Diocese of Baker in Oregon where they established friaries in Hermiston and Bend. Having heard the plea of Bishop O'Reilly of Baker City, our brothers, Fathers Thomas Dowling and Luke Sheehan arrived in the sparsely populated area of Eastern Oregon. One hundred years later that same missionary zeal established yet another friary, this time in Durango, Mexico, the province's Mission of Northern Mexico.

The words of Fr. Thomas to his provincial, Fr. Peter Bowe, OFM Cap, still stir the hearts of the Capuchin Friars – not only Irish, but now

American, Asian, African American, and Latino –

I believe that there is a great future for our missions in this part of the world; it is an opportunity for the development of our Province that may never be afforded again.

Over the past 100 years friaries, schools and churches between Hermiston, Oregon and Durango, Mexico have been built to assist the local Church with the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This is our heritage – this is our hope!

Over the next year I invite you to join us as we trace our 100 year journey – one that highlights our history in Eastern and Central

Oregon, the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area, the Central Valley and Coast down through Southern California to the Sierra Madres of Mexico.

This is our heritage – this is our hope!

Know that as you join us, we will join you in our prayers and Mass intentions as we continue to encourage others to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Capuchin Franciscan Friars.

Let me close with the greeting of the Irish Capuchins as they would journey forth – *Dia is Muire Duit – God and Mary be with you!*

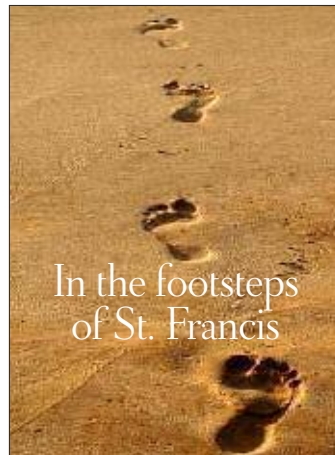
Fraternally,

Fr. Matthew G. Elshoff,

OFM CAP., PROVINCIAL MINISTER

Anniversary Youth Poster Contest

Over 10,000 students throughout California and Mexico received invitations to participate in the Capuchin Franciscan Western America Province Anniversary Poster Contest entitled *In the Footsteps of St. Francis*. The contest, commencing on the Feast of St. Francis, October 4, 2009, was open to all students in grades 4th – 8th. In art form, and using a standardized medium of crayons and plain poster paper, students were asked to reflect upon how the Capuchin Franciscan Friars have walked in the footsteps of St. Francis by living his message... “preach the gospel, if necessary use words.” Furthermore, they needed to depict how friars have contributed to their community, and to include at least one architectural detail that identifies the local area they are representing. The deadline to enter was January 30, 2010.



Entry submissions have spanned the entire Province from San Francisco to Mexico. Students in the poorer regions of northern Mexico were able to participate thanks to the efforts of local businesses in La Canada that solicited donations of crayons and poster paper supplies to help students who would not have normally been able to participate due to the lack of affordability of these materials.

On March 17, 2010, six finalists will be announced. The 1st Place winner will receive a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond and be honored publicly at a selected 100th Anniversary event. All finalists will have their artwork displayed on the CF-WAP Anniversary website, and showcased on the official Anniversary Commemorative Gift Card Set to be distributed throughout the Province.



Did You Know?

Upon arriving at Mission Santa Inés in 1924, the Capuchin Franciscans installed electricity and modern plumbing to improve the living conditions. The inner garden was given a formal appearance in 1926 with the planting of a hedge in the shape of a Celtic cross.

Province Calendar

2009

October

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** Blessing - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 1 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 4 **Feast of St. Francis**
- 4 **Poster Contest Kick-Off** - *In the Footsteps of St. Francis Poster Contest*

November

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - St. Bede Parish, La Cañada
- 3 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 9 **Vocations and Capuchin Friars** - St. Bede Parish - Religious Education Class, La Cañada

December

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts
- 1 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 22 **Journey to the Crèche** - Story of St. Francis' Gift to Christmas Tradition - St. Bede Parish, La Cañada

2010

January

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts
- 5 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 6 **Vocation Assembly** - St. Lawrence of Brindisi School, Watts
- 19 **Feast Day - St. Bernard of Corleone**, OFM CAP
- 30 **Entry Deadline - Youth Poster Contest** *In the Footsteps of St. Francis*
- 31 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Old Mission Santa Inés - Welcome Mass, Solvang

February

- 1-28 **Daily Rosary and Vocation Prayer** - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 2 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 4 **Feast Day - St. Joseph of Leonissa**, OFM CAP
- 12-13 **Come and See Vocation Weekend** - San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez
- 14 **100th Anniversary Canned Food Drive** - St. Bede Youth / St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 22 **Anniversary Art Exhibit** - *In the Footsteps of St. Francis* - Learning Ladder, La Cañada
- 24 **Soup and Cinema** - Year of the Priest and Capuchin Centennial - *Priesthood and the Capuchin Contribution to the*

Archdiocese of Los Angeles from 1923 to Present - Presented by Bishop Thomas Curry, Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang

- 26 **9:00AM - Father Michael Mahoney** is special guest on the **Archbishop's Hour** on **Immaculate Heart Radio**, 1260 AM. Rebroadcast 2/27 @ 9:00PM, 2/28 @ 11:00AM, and 3/1 @ 9:00PM.

March

- 2 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 3 **Soup and Cinema** - Year of the Priest and Capuchin Centennial - *The Life of St. Francis* - Presented by Br. Robert Barbato, OFM CAP - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 7 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Procession and Mass - San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez
- 10 **Soup and Cinema** - Year of the Priest and Capuchin Centennial - *Vocations* - Presented by Fr. Peter Banks, OFM CAP - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 14 **Capuchin Franciscan Heritage Days Kick-off Dinner** - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 17 **Capuchin Franciscan Heritage Days Begin** (March 17-April 18, 2010)
- 17 **Anniversary Irish Potato Bake** - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 17 **Province History Trivia Contest Begins** - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 17 **Anniversary Poster Contest** - Province Winners Announced
- 17 **Soup and Cinema** - Year of the Priest and Capuchin Centennial - Old Mission Santa Inés *Fr. Albert Bibby the first Capuchin pastor of Old Mission Santa Inés* - Presented by Fr. Gerald Barron, OFM CAP - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 18 **St. Patrick's Faculty Appreciation Lunch** - Alumni Mothers - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 24 **Soup and Cinema** - Year of the Priest and Capuchin Centennial - *Capuchin Mission in Mexico* Presented by Fr. Miguel Angel Ortiz, OFM CAP - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 24 **Blankets for Mexico** 100th Anniversary Community Service Project - St. Bede / St. Lawrence Jr. High, La Cañada

- 27-28 **Come and See Vocation Weekend** - San Lorenzo Seminary - Santa Ynez

April

- 1 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Mass and Welcome, Burlingame
- 4-12 **Pilgrimage to Assisi 2010** - St. Francis High School / Assisi, Italy
- 11 **Call to Serve Bell Ringing Ceremony** - Western America Province
- 11 **Mass and Reception** - Minister General - St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts
- 12 **Friar Gathering** - Minister General - San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez

- 13 **Mass and Dinner** - Minister General - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 14 **Mass and Activities** - Minister General - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 15 **Mass and Reception** - Minister General - Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame
- 21 **Feast Day - St. Conrad of Parzham**, OFM CAP

May

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - OLA School, Burlingame
- 2 **St. Francis High School Alumni Mother's Luncheon** - *Women Who Serve* - Honoring past Mothers' Guild Presidents - Guest Speaker - Dr. Mary Poplin, Author of *Finding Calcutta* - St. Francis High School, La Cañada
- 4 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 11 **Feast Day - St. Ignatius of Laconi**, OFM CAP
- 12 **Feast Day - St. Leopold Mandic**, OFM CAP
- 18 **Feast Day - St. Felix of Cantalice**, OFM CAP
- 19 **Feast Day - St. Crispin of Viterbo**, OFM CAP
- 31 **Memorial Day Parade** - Anniversary Parade Entry - *Inspired by the Past, Committed to the Present, and Dedicated to the Future*, La Cañada

June

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - OLA Friary, Burlingame
- 1 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary

July

- 1 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - St. Conrad Friary, Berkeley
- 4 **Anniversary Float Entry** - 4th of July Parade, Solvang
- 21 **Feast Day - St. Lawrence of Brindisi**, OFM CAP
- 31 **Feast Day - Br. Solanus Casey**, OFM CAP

August

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Beunaventura Friary, San Francisco
- 3 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary

September

- 7 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 11 **An Evening with the Capuchins Gala** - San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez
- 18 **Anniversary Float Entry** - Danish Days, Solvang
- 20 **Feast Day - St. Francis Mary Camporosso**, OFM CAP

- 23 **Feast Day - St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina**, OFM CAP

October

- 3 **Transitus of St. Francis** - St. Francis High School Chapel, La Cañada
- 4 **Feast of St. Francis**
- 4 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- 12 **Feast Day** - St. Saraphin of Montegranaro, OFM CAP

November

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Queen of Angels, Lompoc
- 2 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary

December

- 1 **Our Lady of Angels Pilgrim Statue** - Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang
- 7 **First Tuesday** - Province Vocation Prayer and Rosary
- TBD **Journey to the Crèche** - St. Bede Church, La Cañada

Pilgrim Statue Schedule

October 2009

St. Francis High School, Chapel, La Cañada

November 2009

St. Bede Parish Center Lobby, La Cañada

December 2009

St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts

January 2010

St. Lawrence of Brindisi Parish, Watts

February 2010

Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang

March 2010

San Lorenzo Seminary, Santa Ynez

April 2010

Our Lady of Angels Parish, Burlingame

May 2010

Our Lady of Angels Parish, Burlingame

June 2010

Assisi Friary, Province Office, Burlingame

July 2010

St. Conrad Friary, Berkeley

August 2010

St. Buenaventura Friary, San Francisco

September 2010

To be scheduled

October 2010

To be scheduled

November 2010

Queen of Angels, Lompoc

December 2010

Old Mission Santa Inés, Solvang

At the conclusion of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, the Pilgrim Statue will have a permanent home at Old Mission Santa Inés in Solvang.

Hearing the Call

Vocation story by Brother Joseph Seraphin Dederick, OFM CAP.

For men who come to service Jesus Christ as Capuchin Franciscan Friars, there is always a moment they remember "hearing the call." While living and excelling in secular life pursuits, Brother Joseph Seraphin recalls the unexpected moment that transformed his life.

"One of the decisive moments was actually up on stage at the world famous Roxi Night Club in Hollywood, CA. The music was going well; the band was really clicking. I recall there were a lot of people out in the audience... That was nice... but was that all that life had to offer? It was around this time when I was pondering the meaning of my life with the question: what will happen when I die? Will I tell God, "I just played music" and "the base-lines were good?" Was there something more that God wanted from me?" Brother Joseph Seraphin questioned.

He further recalls, "I was practicing mu-



Br. Joseph Seraphin Dederick

sic four or five hours a day...playing shows. I was not sure if this is what God wanted me to do. One day I was strolling through a used book store in LA, and found a biography of Saint Padre Pio (a Capuchin Franciscan Friar who died in 1968) and read it over and over; it was very inspirational. After much prayer and meeting the friars of the California Province, I was (and still am) impressed with their prayerful and simple lives, reflected in their style of loving ministry. It was at

that point that I prayed to God for greater understanding and clarity. During this period of discernment, I prayed to God that if music was not my calling, to please take the desire away." And in response to my prayer, my desire for music decreased while my desire for God and His Church increased.

Br. Joseph Seraphin soon embraced his calling and speaks of the joy it has brought to him. "We meet so many nice people and are brought into the intimacy of their lives. I would have never had that as a base player," he concluded.

Western America
Province Vocation Prayer

*Lord Jesus Christ,
you called St. Francis
of Assisi to follow you
in living the Gospel life.
You inspired others to
follow him by the power
of his example.*

*We ask you to increase
vocations to the Church,
to the Capuchin Order,
and especially to our
own Province.*

*Inspire young men to
devote their lives in your
service by following the
Capuchin Franciscan
vocation.*

*This we earnestly
petition through our
Seraphic Father
St. Francis and Our Lady
of Angels, Patroness
of our Province.*

Amen

Is God Calling You?

To find out if you have a calling to religious life we are offering an opportunity for vocation discernment. We welcome you to come and experience contemplative prayer with Capuchin brothers and priests, reflect on the life of St. Francis and witness the sharing of vocation stories at San Lorenzo Prayer Center in Santa Ynez, California.

If God is calling you to serve Him, consider the work of the Capuchin Franciscans. Our Vocation Director, Fr. Peter Banks OFM CAP., is happy to meet with you and arrange your attendance at a "Come and See" weekend. Call for info: (805) 686-4127.

Inspired by the past...committed to the present...dedicated to the future.



For more information about becoming involved in the 100th Anniversary Celebration please contact:

Lori Shackel, Mission Coordinator, (818) 957-6977 • anniversary@olacapuchins.org

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