



Province of Our Lady of Consolation

ASSOCIATION OF FRIARS & FORMER STUDENTS

NEWSLETTER

2022

Published by the Friars of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation



Congratulations & Condolences

Experiencing New Life

Dear Former Students,

A friend of mine, a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, upon hearing that I had been elected to serve as the province’s next Minister Provincial, offered me his congratulations—and his condolences. I appreciated the wisdom of his comment. Congratulations were in order for the fact that in this new ministry I will be able to experience from a unique perspective many elements of the life of the friars that are quite profound: receiving friars into the novitiate or into the vowed life, for example or being a party to significant conversations about the life and ministry of an individual friar or a local community. I appreciate having the opportunity to add my gifts to the ongoing development of the order, and I can see why someone would congratulate me for all that. I feel especially honored by the trust the friars have placed in me by voting me into this office.

Condolences are in order, too, however. Having experienced from the position of Vicar Provincial these past four years Fr. Wayne’s tireless investment of himself in the life of our community, I recognize that serving in the capacity of Minister Provincial can be quite costly. Particularly when I think of the friars who died during these past four years, and all the efforts Wayne undertook to journey with them in their last days, I know he suffered for that. There was a lot of grief and loss involved. Sister Death is a constant companion in our fraternity, and she helps keep things real.

Remembering Sister Death leads me to know better than to think these next four years will be simply about moving from one success to another. The role is really about witnessing to the paschal mystery, the deepest reality of every life and of our life together. The only way this ministry can really work is if it is an occasion for embracing the cross of Christ so as to experience the new life that comes from his resurrection.

The cross and the resurrection will undoubtedly make their presence felt in these next four years—to all of us in some form. From that perspective also, the excitement I feel about starting out on a new endeavor is tempered by a sober acknowledgement that participation in the cross of Christ, as costly as that is, is the only means by which we can enter the joy of life made new, and measure our service in this world.

So, congratulate me if you will, but pray for me if you please. And by all means join with me in the embrace of the paschal mystery. I’m not expecting a raft of miracles to take place in the coming weeks and months, but I do take great consolation in Francis’s last admonition, a paraphrase of St. Paul’s ending to the letter to the Galatians, “Brothers, while we have time, let us do good.”

Peace and all Good!

Fr. Martin

Fr. Martin Day OFM Conv.
Provincial Minister

Reflections of St. Bonaventure



St. Bonaventure Friary
Photos courtesy of Province Archives



St. Bonaventure Friary St. Louis 1978-1979 bottom: Bob Roddy, Tony Henry, Rick Raymond, Mike Cheney, 2nd row: Dan Manger, Stephen Montgomery, Ken Davis, Jimi Worchuck, Joseph Anthonyraja, Conrad Sutter, Top Row: Paul Faroh, Jim Ringlein, Steve McMichael, Randy Kin, Vince Petersen, Bob Wheelock OFM Cap, Dennis McGill, Xavier Goulet, John Columban Sattler, John Adams, Stephen Chesser, Rick Kirsch

St. Bonaventure: My Gateway to the Conventual Franciscans

friar Bob Roddy, OFM Conv. (St. Bonaventure '78-80)

Forty-five years ago, in October of 1977, I walked into St. Bonaventure Friary in St. Louis for the first time. I had asked friar Daniel Manger, who happened to be a student in one of my English Composition classes, if I could “check out” his community, and he invited me for Mass, dinner, and evening prayer. The person who was supposed to give me a ride to the friary backed out on me, so I had to walk from my apartment behind the New Cathedral to St. Bonaventure’s. (For those who lived at St. Bonaventure’s in the ‘70s and ‘80s, the neighborhood was not an area where one would choose to walk.) After Mass and dinner, I felt an immediate connection with the friars and candidates who lived there. They welcomed me and made me feel so at home that I knew that God’s hand had led me there. I formally entered the community as a Candidate, the term that we used to use for Postulants, in the fall of 1978.

When I think of St. Bonaventure Friary, I think of the strong sense of fraternity we shared; we prayed, worked, studied, laughed, argued, and recreated together. I think of the beautiful and prayerful liturgies that we celebrated, not only among ourselves but with a large community of men and women who would join us on Sundays. I remember our dear friends, Jim and Betty Donahoe, Chris and Carol Brescia, Chris and Nancy Weigel, and numerous others who not only encouraged and supported us, but looked to us for inspiration.

I recall the strong sense of **hospitality** and **welcome** instilled in us by our initial formation directors:

Wayne Hellmann, Xavier Goulet, and Ron Mrozinski. I can still hear Wayne telling us, “when the family member of a friar or candidate visits, we need to treat them as one of our own family.” I remember how my late Mom felt so welcome and at home when she visited.

During my first year as a Candidate, a Capuchin Friar, friar Bob Wheelock, who served as Chaplain of the extensive medical and health sciences campus, lived with us. One evening in February, friar Bob told the community the powerful impact living with us had on his life and vocation. ‘You have renewed my faith in religious life and Franciscan life, in particular. This year, my time with you has been such a blessing for me.’

We were blessed with marvelous musicians and singers, talented artists and activists (we made the front page of the St. Louis Post Dispatch and a local news channel when we called out the city for failing to clean up the alley behind the Friary). The year before I moved into the Friary, the community fed and sheltered numerous bus passengers stranded at the bus station because of severe weather. Our door ministry, where we handed out soup and sandwiches for a couple of hours in the afternoon daily, brought us into regular contact with people in our neighborhood. Our most senior member of the Friary community, Fr. Angelus LaFleur, immersed himself in community activities, even taking on a regular housework job. I still can see him waxing a bathroom floor on his hands and knees to a brilliant shine.

I returned to St. Bonaventure Friary for a year after my novitiate year and also from 1999 to 2000. I was present when we sold the Friary building to Saint Louis University, and the three of us had to move into two apartments near Tower Grove Park. I remember walking through 4012 a day before the University changed the locks on the doors; I wanted to make sure that we hadn’t left anything

of value behind. I feared that it would be a very emotional moment for me, but as I walked through the building, I was not overwhelmed. 4012 Washington Boulevard was now just a building to me; the Friary continued for another six months at 4416 Botanical. The moment that did overwhelm me was in mid-August when Paul Clark, Steve McMichael, Randy Kin, William Pineda, and I gathered in our small kitchen to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of our Friary community, a community that stretched back to the mid-‘60s and was now coming to an end.

St. Louis will always hold a special place in my heart and the hearts of countless other friars and former postulants and friars. In many ways, St. Bonaventure Friary in St. Louis was the source of countless stories and anecdotes over its 35-year history. The Friary served as an anchor for our neighbors, an outpost of hope and joy. I remember how one of our neighbors, whose name was Mary, came to Mass one Sunday with another of our neighbors, Ernestine. Mary told friar Steve that she was on the front porch of the apartment house she lived in, and she was contemplating going to her apartment, turning the gas on her stove, and ending her life. “I was just getting ready to leave the porch when friar Steve walked by in his habit; he stopped to talk and listen to me, and I realized that there was at least one person on the planet who cared about me; who made me feel that my life was worthwhile, so I didn’t go through with my plan.” St. Bonaventure was a lifeline for many people, and I was proud of the difference our community had made.

Reflections of MOUNT ST. FRANCIS



Left to Right: Charles Bappart, Ken Miller, Ken Bartsch, Ken Gehring, Gary Obst, Peter Damian Massengill. Photos courtesy of Province Archives

We need your help!

Ken Miller is our current editor for the Association of Friars and Former Student Newsletter. Now that we are sending this out to all former students we would love to have as broad of representation as possible through support from additional volunteers. We need help writing an occasional article for the newsletter and someone to write the “Thought you would like to know” column. We also need someone to help update and maintain the membership directory.

Benefits include:

- Staying in touch with your former classmates
- Work from home – can be completed via the internet
- God’s Blessings in abundance!

If you would like more information or to volunteer please contact Ken Miller at kenmiller648@gmail.com or millerkp@uthscsa.edu.

E Pluribus Unum: Our Transformational Awareness

Ken Miller (Mount Saint Francis ‘62-66)

Mt. St. Francis Seminary High School once served as the primary source of vocations for the Conventual Franciscan Friars of Our Lady of Consolation (OLC) Province. With the closure of the high school in the mid-1970s because of declining enrollment, those who graduated from there and chose a different pathway in life sought a venue for keeping in touch with our former classmates and friars. From this was borne the Association of Former Students of Mt. St. Francis. We had a newsletter and met at the Mount every two years to renew old friendships and catch up on what was happening in the Province. While ALL former students, including collegiate, theological and professed friars, were welcomed to the event and participated in submitting articles for the Newsletter, very few were aware of it. Hence, we invite ANY student who studied with us in ANY of our houses of formation to become active members of the Association of Friars and Former Students of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation. Our outreach is congruent with the encyclicals of both Pope St. John Paul and Pope Francis, who encourage us to be “one fraternity.” This fraternity is universal and includes our international student friars who currently, or soon, will reside at San Damiano Friary in San Antonio, Texas. This friary represents the “melting pot” for student friars from Mexico, Zambia (2023), Vietnam, Cameroon, Togo, and El Salvador. (The latter four friars are students from other U.S. Provinces). So we have indeed followed the exhortations of our past and present Popes and have genuinely become “Out of many, one:” *E Pluribus Unum*.

All friars and former students of the Province are automatically members of the Association of Friars and Students of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation. Please get in touch with me, Ken Miller, at kenmiller648@gmail.com or notify the Mission Advancement Office (812) 923-5250. If you would like to update or make corrections to your information for the Directory and Newsletter, please contact Charla Perez at c.perez@franciscansusa.org or (812) 923-5250.

What's Old is New Again

**friar Paul Schloemer OFM Conv.
Formation Director
(St. Bonaventure '94-96)**

When I took over the formation program in San Antonio, TX back in August of 2014, I was supposed to be the Associate Director. I had only 6 days of workshops on how to do formation, but that seemed like plenty; after all I was going to be working with one of the more seasoned formators in the US! Then shortly before my arrival, that friar got pulled away to another ministry. Suddenly I had the whole program dropped into my lap and had to work fast to learn on the job. At that time, both Postulancy formation, as well as Post-novitiate formation took place there, so I had two programs to get up and running. Eventually one of our Franciscan Saints, Fr. Ivan Rohloff, returned from the Russian mission to help, but that first year was one of complete grace (and fear.)



Friar Paul Schloemer (middle, green) takes a moment to pose with the Minister General, Carlos Trovarelli, Assistant General, CFF, Jude Winkler and current members of the San Antonio Community.

This coming August I will be returning to San Antonio with a bit more experience, an Associate Director, Br. Frank Grimaldi, and a smaller community to deal with (only 9 students and 3 additional friars for now.) Br. Frank is new to Formation Ministry, but has extensive experience in social work, which will translate nicely. On the surface, this should be an easy, ho-hum transition. However, after getting somewhat comfortable doing four years of Post-novitiate formation here in Silver Springs, MD, with family and friends from kindergarten through graduate school very close by, I'm starting to get excited about a new challenge. Yes, there will be a bit of familiarity, but also some new opportunities. We've recently completed a new 12 bedroom extension to the friary. It will have great gathering space (something that was sorely lacking) as well as the smart classroom technology installed to provide the resources necessary for 21st century Formation. We'll have a student from the Observant branch of the Franciscan family, as well as a student from the Mexican Province. Soon an additional Formator from Zambia will arrive, followed closely by what we hope is a steady stream of Zambian Conventual students. After years of Archbishop Gustavo asking us to do so, we're finally in a situation to take on a nearby parish, which will provide a ready ministry site for our students and lots of additional resources to be managed, and a large plant to keep clean.

But these types of transitions are life-giving for me. The itinerant part of the Franciscan journey has always been exciting. Even with a familiar ministry, new faces, new challenges, and (as we used to say in the Navy) new opportunities to excel, make life fun. With a new Novitiate class of 6 (?) in Arroyo Grande, CA beginning in July, next year our numbers will again start to grow. And when that annual new challenge commences I will, once again, thank the Lord that I get to be the guy who guides those young friars to grow and fulfill their own vocations.

Projects of INTEREST



Fr. Phil Ley and Br. Randy Kin hold the ribbon tight as representatives from Samtech Cares and Caesars Foundation of Floyd County cut the ribbon with Fr. Wayne Hellmann.

MARY ANDERSON CENTER GALLERY EXPANSION

What a joyous occasion at the ribbon-cutting for the newly renovated and expanded Mary Anderson Center Gallery at Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality! The rain stopped, and we celebrated our gallery, currently featuring our friars' exhibit "Proclaiming the Beautiful." Thanks to generous donations from Samtec Cares and Caesars Foundation of Floyd County for making this a wonderful reality. The exhibit runs from April 24th through Monday, June 13th.



Left Top: Friar Richard Kaley's carving of St. Francis sits in the middle of the gallery. Friar Ken Bartch talks shop with photographer, Daniel Dempster, in the back of the new expansion.



Left Bottom: Minister General, Carlos Trovarelli admires friar Charles McCarthy's artwork.

ACCESSIBILITY WITH STYLE!

It's here! Thanks to all the donors who gave during last year's Give for Good Louisville, the friars at Mount St. Francis, Indiana recently took our newly arrived custom electric cart out for a spin! During Give for Good, we asked for donations to purchase an electric cart that would provide accessible campus transportation for our senior friars and other visitors.

"I really am looking forward to coming down to the lake again for Mass on the Grass. It's nice to feel the air by the water. Being down by the lake brings back memories from when I was younger and in seminary. Mount St. Francis was our natural park and we knew all the paths and places to explore."

Fr. David Lenz



Fr. John Elmer, Fr. David Lenz, and Br. Bob Roddy explore the Mount on a beautiful spring day.



Expansion of the House of Formation in San Antonio

San Damiano Friary in San Antonio celebrated the dedication of its new Residence Hall on Saturday, April 23, 2022. Our Minister General, friar Carlos Trovarelli, as well as friar Jude Winkler, Assistant General for the CFF, friar Ferena Lambe, Minister Provincial of the Province of the Protomartyrs in Zambia, friar Mario Castro Martínez, Minister Provincial, Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, Mexico, and friar Wayne Hellmann, Minister Provincial of Our Lady Consolation Province were present. Community leaders and benefactors were also on hand to celebrate this dream becoming a reality.

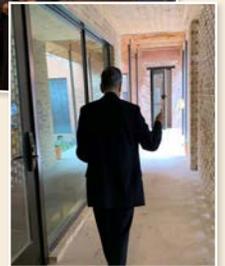
Thanks to the generosity of donors like yourself, this addition to the friary will add twelve bedrooms, a laundry room, and a large living/recreation room that will accommodate the 19 friars living in this friary. Seven provinces are represented in the friary: Our Lady of the Angels Province (OLA) in the East, Saint Bonaventure Province (SB) in the Midwest, Our Lady of Consolation Province (OLC) in the Midwest, Saint Joseph Cupertino Province (SJC) in the West, Our Lady of Guadalupe Province (OLG-M) in Mexico, Our Lady of Guadalupe Province (OLG-OFM) in New Mexico, and Holy Name Province (HN) in the East. Currently, the friar students are from Vietnam, Cameroon, Mexico, Togo, and across the United States.

Now, we will be able to open our doors to additional friar students from around the world. This will also allow us to welcome friars from other cultures into our formation team. The presence of international student friars will give our students from the United States a stronger sense of the global reach of the Franciscan Order. This will allow our province to invest financially with these other provinces that are rich in vocations but cannot fully finance the education of all their friar-students who desire to continue the mission of Saint Francis of Assisi in rebuilding the Church.

San Antonio, Texas, was selected by the friars as a site for a House of Studies because of the vast education opportunities at various Catholic and private colleges and universities. Our students can utilize the Oblate School of Theology to prepare for the priesthood or other pastoral ministries.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been part of this dream. The funding we needed for the new residence hall, our formation program, and our friar-students' education comes from you, our faithful donors and friends. We ask you to continue your prayerful and financial support as we move forward as a global House of Studies. May God bless your generosity. We are so grateful to the movement and gift of the Holy Spirit, who reminds us the Church is about people and not buildings.

See Video, Photos, and the letter from the Minister General about the celebration at:
<https://www.franciscansusa.org/san-damiano-friary-expansion-dedication/>



Top: Friar Alex Gould cuts the ribbon on the new expansion. Middle: Minister General, friar Carlos Trovarelli talks with friars at the celebration. Bottom: San Antonio Archbishop, Gustavo García-Siller blesses the expansion.

In Memory

By: Fr. John Elmer, OFM Conv. ('59-63)

**“Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”
-Matthew 25:34**

Let us remember our brothers who have gone before us. May their memory be eternal.

Mr. Charles Zeller	7/2/20	Mr. Thomas Knight	6/25/21
Mr. Jerry Bouvier	7/3/20	Mr. William McIlwee	6/28/21
Mr. Thomas Lehman	7/25/20	Mr and Mrs Robert Roth	12/9/21
Fr. Stephen Chesser	9/1/20	Mr. Edward F Tormay	12/9/21
Mr. Joseph Frederick Hundley	9/19/20	Mr. Bernard Brown	1/27/22
Mr. John Elmer Mate	11/21/20	Mr. James Leonard Fox	4/12/22
Fr. Anthony Labedis	2/8/21	Mr. Gerard Stanley Gavlinski	4/14/22
Mr. Richard Claude Gosche	5/14/21	Rev. Donald Hill	4/14/22
Mr. Robert Dorff	6/18/21		

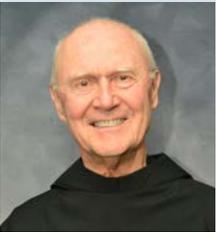


+Br. John Mauer OFM Conv.

Brother John Maurer always made time for the people most others ignore. He could be frank in describing life experiences that prepared him for his dedicated service as a Conventual Franciscan. But one of his Franciscan brothers said that Br. John's deep faith and profound prayer life formed the bedrock of his personality and his ability to understand those on society's margins.

Br. John Richard Maurer OFM Conv. passed away on September 10, 2020. He was born July 7, 1939, in Lansing, Michigan, to John and Joy Maurer, the oldest of 10 children. He entered the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in 1975, professed Simple Vows on August 5, 1978, and Solemn Vows on August 7, 1981. Before entering the Franciscan Order, he had been married and the father of four children. He had served in the US Army, worked as a truck driver, and served as a union foreman while working at an automotive manufacturing plant.

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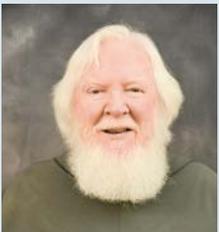


+Fr. Edmund Goldbach OFM Conv.

Friar Edmund Goldbach OFM Conv. lived with a quiet, peaceful certainty that God would guide him to where he was needed, where God wanted him to be. A profound prayer life reinforced his faith and trust that God would always provide.

Friar Edmund passed away on March 14, 2021, in Edina, Minnesota. He was born Clarence George Goldbach, Jr. to Clarence and Mary Regina (Clinton) Goldbach in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 29, 1938. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother Dennis, and is survived by his sisters Nancy Jean Engle (+Don) and Barbara Ann Lesniak (+Don), 10 nieces and nephews, and nearly 40 great-nieces and -nephews.

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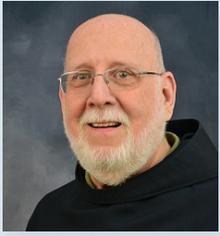


+Fr. Maurice Hayes OFM Conv.

White hair and beard, western hat and boots – Friar Maurice Hayes could be mistaken for Santa Claus or a retired cowboy. But as a Franciscan, he devoted himself to the Gospel Life, ministering quietly and humbly, always finding new ways to spread the message of God's love to the people he served.

Friar Maurice died on July 14, 2021, in Louisville, Kentucky. He was born Charles Conrad Hayes on February 12, 1943, in Sunfish, Kentucky, to Thomas Millard and Ruth Ann (French) Hayes. He was predeceased by his parents and by his brothers Thomas Melvin, James Anthony, Pius, Marion Patrick, and Paul Howard Hayes, and by his sisters Ethel Justice, Mary Charlene Olivastro, Lucy Ellen Cullins, Elizabeth Hayes, and Agnes Lucille (Pigg, Snyder) Warren. He is survived by Theresa Veronica (Weyer) Ketzner, Angela Marie Cullins, Helen Frances Reynolds, Lois Gertrude Bridges, and several nieces and nephews.

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+Fr. Dismas Veeneman OFM Conv.

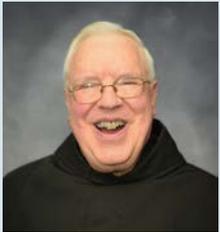
Fittingly, Friar Dismas Veeneman belonged to the Conventual Franciscan Province of Our Lady of Consolation – his special gift was consoling people in times of sorrow. He embodied the charism of Consolation, bringing Christ's Peace to the bedside of a dying person, or the living room of a grieving family.

Friar Dismas died September 18, 2021, in Louisville, Kentucky. He was born Jerome John Veeneman in Louisville on February 20, 1942. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph Aloysius and Virginia Marie (Ward) Veeneman, and his sister, JoAnn Marie Beatty. He is survived by his brother, Jude.

He graduated from St. Xavier High School in 1960 and later that year entered St. Anthony Novitiate in Angola, Indiana. He professed Simple Vows on July 13, 1961, at St. Anthony Church in Angola. He attended Our Lady of Consolation Seminary in Carey, Ohio, where he professed Solemn Vows on July 13, 1964. After graduation, he completed his studies for the priesthood at Assumption Seminary in Chaska, Minnesota, and was ordained on January 4, 1969, at St. Paul Church in Pleasure Ridge Park, Kentucky.

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<https://www.franciscansusa.org/fr-dismas-veeneman/>



+Fr. Pius Poff OFM Conv.

From his own deep treasure of talents and interests, and modeling his service on the example of the Good Shepherd, Franciscan Friar Pius Poff poured his generous heart into parish communities across the Midwest. He greeted all with a smile or a laugh, but for those in need

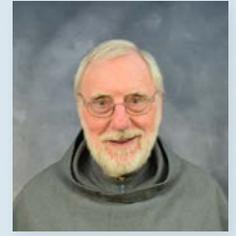
he was always ready to listen, assist, or console. One Friar noted that "he was a pastor until he died, and active until about two weeks before his death. He gave it all and took nothing."

Friar Pius Poff OFM Conv. died on March 16, 2022. He was born Robert Joseph to Julius and Catherine (Batliner) Poff on November 6, 1934. He was predeceased by his parents Julius and Catherine (Batliner) Poff; his brothers Carl and Bernard and brother-in-law, William E. Reed. He is survived by his sisters Mary Ann Reed and Kathy Wesson (John); brothers James (Charlotte) and Dennis (Rita); sisters-in-law, Betty Poff and Barbara Poff; several nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and loving extended family members.

After graduating from the minor seminary at Mount St. Francis, he entered the Conventual Franciscan novitiate in 1952. He professed Simple Vows on July 12, 1953, and Solemn Vows on July 14, 1957. He was ordained a priest on February 19, 1961, at St. Paul Cathedral in St. Paul Minnesota. After ordination, he served in pastoral ministry in Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana.

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+Fr. Ivan Rohloff OFM Conv.



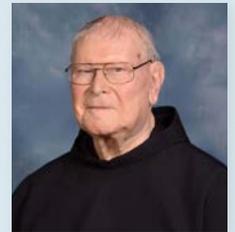
Taking nothing for his journey except a passion to share the Good News of the Gospel, especially its message of peace, Franciscan Friar Ivan Rohloff's 23 years of missionary service took him to Central America, Uzbekistan, and eventually to Russia, fulfilling his lifelong dream.

Friar Ivan Rohloff OFM Conv. died on March 6, 2022 in Mesilla Park, New Mexico. He was born John Anthony Rohloff on May 27, 1937, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to Edward and Marion (Wernette) Rohloff. He was predeceased by his parents; his brothers Joseph, Carl, Thomas, and James; and his sister Elizabeth Bond. He is survived by his brother Robert and more than 40 nieces and nephews.

He professed Simple Vows on July 21, 1957, and Solemn Vows on July 23, 1960. He was ordained in Rome, Italy, on February 16, 1964, after earning a License in Sacred Theology at the Pontifical University of St. Bonaventure (Seraphicum). Initially, he served in pastoral assignments in Lorain, Ohio, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and as a professor at Bellarmine College (Louisville, Kentucky) and Assumption Seminary (St. Paul, Minnesota). In breaks between missionary service, he earned a Ph.D. in historical theology.

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+Fr. Wilfred Logsdon OFM Conv.

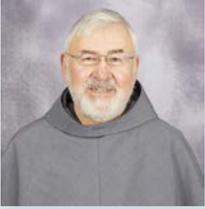


Raised on a farm in northwest Ohio, Franciscan Friar Wilfrid Logsdon's great size and strength were outweighed by his gentle nature and the compassion with which he served. Hearing of Friar Wilfrid's death, a member of St. Paul's Chapel (Clear Lake, Indiana) said: "He had the big hands, strong arms, and broad shoulders of a farm boy – and he would let you lean on them."

Friar Wilfrid Logsdon OFM Conv. died on March 3, 2022, at the friars' residence in Angola, Indiana. He was born Clarence Wilfrid Logsdon to Wilfrid and Emma (Reinhart) Logsdon on August 25, 1932, in Salem Township, Ohio. He was predeceased by his parents and his brothers Eugene, Edmund, James, Herman, Harold, Patrick, Lawrence, and Joseph, and by his sister Elizabeth Powell.

After graduating from minor seminary at Mount St. Francis, Indiana, in 1950, he professed Simple Vows on July 6, 1951, and Solemn Vows on July 11, 1955. He was ordained a priest on February 22, 1959, at St. Paul Cathedral (Minnesota). Although Friar Wilfrid served mostly in parish ministry, he also provided service as a chaplain in hospitals and correctional facilities. Over the years his ministry took him to Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nebraska, Indiana, and Georgia.

Page link: <https://www.franciscansusa.org/fr-wilfred/>



+Fr. Don Adamski OFM Conv.

While working as a pastor early in his Franciscan ministry, Friar Don Adamski developed a deep love for God’s people and a wide appreciation for their different cultures. “He was happiest when working with people,” a Friar said. “He always had an easy way of being with them, and they

always brought out the best in him.”

Friar Don Adamski died on March 28, 2022, in El Paso, Texas. He was born Donald Joseph Adamski in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 17, 1948, to Donald and Eleanor (Bogaski) Adamski. He was predeceased by his parents, and is survived by: sisters Carol Anne Bricker and Diane Eileen Kent; brother David Michael; brothers-in-law John Kent and Bob Bricker; and sister-in-law Rose Adamski.

After graduating from the Minor Seminary at Mount St. Francis, Indiana, he entered the Conventual Franciscan Novitiate in 1966. He professed Simple Vows on July 15, 1967, and Solemn Vows on September 4, 1971. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 24, 1975, in Carey, Ohio. He served in pastoral ministry in Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, New Mexico, and Texas. He had also served for a time in both hospice and retreat ministry.

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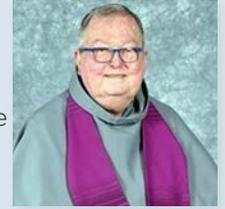
Fr. Louis Manna

Rev. Louis M. Manna, 76, of Clarksville, Indiana, passed away on Thursday, December 23, 2021. He was born on September 16, 1945 in Louisville, Kentucky to the late Louis and Pertonilla (Hutchins) Manna. He attended high school at Mt.

St. Francis in Indiana, followed by a year at the St. Anthony Novitiate in Auburn, Indiana, where in 1964 he made a simple profession in the Order of Friars Minor Conventual. He continued his education and formation at Our Lady of Carey Seminary in Carey, Ohio and St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1967 he made solemn vows in the Order of Friars Minor Conventual at St. Bonaventure Friary also in St. Louis. He completed his seminary formation at Assumption Seminary in Chaska, Minnesota and the Divinity School at St. Louis University. Fr. Manna was ordained to the priesthood for the Franciscan Province of Mount St. Francis on July 28, 1973 at St. Anthony Church, Lorain, Ohio by Bishop William Cosgrove, auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland.

His assignments for the Mt. St. Francis province included: 1973, retreat ministry at Prior Lake, Minnesota; 1975, associate pastor of Our Lady of Mercy, Potomac, Maryland; 1976, associate pastor of St. Anthony, Grand Rapids, Michigan; 1977, associate pastor, Broken Bow, Nebraska with mission churches in Ansely and Mason City; 1979, associate pastor of St. Benedict, Terre Haute, Indiana; 1982 associate pastor of St. Anthony of Clarksville, Indiana; 1988, pastor of Broken Bow, Nebraska, with mission churches in Ansely and Mason City.

+Fr. John Curran OFM Conv.



For Franciscan Friar John Curran, an early love of words and language blossomed into a life of service to those who struggle to be understood or hear the Good News of God’s Eternal Word. He spent 35 years of his ministry in the southwestern United States, bringing his gifts to the people and immersing himself in their language and culture.

Friar John Curran OFM Conv. died on April 28, 2022, in New Albany, Indiana. He was born John William Curran to John Leonard and Helen Elizabeth (Doerr) Curran on May 2, 1941. He was predeceased by his parents. After graduating from St. Xavier High School and Bellarmine College in Louisville, Kentucky, he entered the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in 1965. He professed Simple Vows on July 15, 1967, and Solemn Vows on October 3, 1970. He attended Assumption Seminary in Chaska, Minnesota, and was ordained to the priesthood on March 13, 1971, at St. Anthony Church in Louisville.

Friar John taught at the Friars’ minor seminary at Mount Saint Francis, Indiana, then was assigned to pastoral ministry in the southwestern US. From 1974 until 2001, he served in parishes in New Mexico and Texas. He spent a decade serving in Louisville and southern Indiana before being assigned again to El Paso, Texas in 2010. For health reasons, he returned to Mount Saint Francis in 2018.

Page Link: <https://www.franciscansusa.org/fr-don/>

Ray McCall



Patrick Raymond McCall, 90, died Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Altercare of Bucyrus after months of failing health.

He was born August 31, 1931 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to the late Harold W. and Veronica A. (Drajna) McCall. After graduating from Central High School in Minneapolis in 1949, Ray worked for The Dayton Co. (parent company of Target Stores) until 1958 when he became a Franciscan Brother. He moved to Bucyrus in the late 60s and became employed at United Church Directories/Lifetouch where he worked for 28 years before retiring on December 20, 1996.

Ray was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church where he sang in the choir and was a member of the Resurrection Choir for many years. He was the wedding coordinator at the parish and assisted many brides over the years with planning their wedding ceremony. He was a former member of the diocesan music committee of Toledo in the 1980s. He was on Holy Trinity’s Liturgical Committee for over 30 years. Ray assisted each pastor that was assigned to the parish and taught Parish School of Religion classes for about 10 years during the pastorate of Fr. Tim Downey.

The Tradition Continues

New Friars Grow
Towards God's Light



OLC Welcomes New Novices

The province is thrilled that Colden Fell, Andre Miller, and Bob Moynihan will be invested with the habit on July 11th and begin their novitiate year on July 13th at the Novitiate in Arroyo Grande, CA. Please keep them, and the novices from our other provinces, in prayer during the next 12 months as they discern their calling to Franciscan life.



Colden Fell (26) was born in Monroe, Louisiana and is the son of Patrick and Lisa Fell. He is the oldest brother of Tyler and Jacob Fell. Colden was homeschooled from second grade through high school and graduated in 2014. After high school, Colden attended River Parishes Community College where he graduated in 2017 with an associate degree in General Studies and Humanities. Colden along with his family were part of non-denominational churches and eventually made their way into the Catholic Church.

(His mother, Lisa, co-led the RCIA program when Colden was received into the Church. She is now the director of the RCIA in her local parish.) Colden was involved in children's ministry at his parish. He became drawn to the Franciscan Friars because of their service to the poor and the sick.



Andre Miller (21), was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Andre's mom is from Mexico City and his dad is from Los Angeles. "We love to travel and learn about cultures, traditions, languages and enjoy the local food." Andre enjoys playing the guitar, reading, and being outdoors (fishing, hiking, camping). Prior to postulancy, Andrew volunteered almost daily at a Catholic Worker House. "The time spent with the less fortunate has developed a deep fulfillment, which I credit for my desire to be

Franciscan. I am an instrument in the work towards peace and justice even when it might seem impossible to accomplish."



Bob Moynihan, (61) has connection to the friars since he was a student at St. Louis University and attended Sunday Mass at St. Bonaventure Friary in St. Louis. Bob has spent most of his life as a funeral director and owner of two funeral homes near Midway Airport in Chicago. He found himself connected to Our Lady of Consolation province by making retreats at Mount St. Francis, Indiana. Along with his service to the grieving, Bob spent a little over a decade in retreat ministry. During that time, he pursued

theological and ministerial education. Bob is a graduate of Catholic Theological Union with an M.Div. Bob received his D. Min in Preaching through the Association of Chicago Theological Schools. Bob feels drawn to OLC Province because of its ministries. He has always found the friars to be wholesome and down to earth. He is especially interested in retreat and mission preaching, mission advancement, and the pilgrim nature of the Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation.

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From Listening to Proclaiming: Parting Thoughts from Fr. Wayne

Dear Friends,

Following Easter, our Sunday Scriptures slowly and subtly led us forward to Pentecost Sunday. The Acts of the Apostles are filled with references to experience of the power of the Holy Spirit: from the bold preaching of Peter, to the preaching journeys of Paul, well beyond the Jewish perimeters of Jerusalem, even as far as Rome. Then, as new frontiers and new cultures beyond Judaism are reached, so, new questions and controversies.

To address the issues, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and a few others “should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about their question.” The apostles and the elders sent back their response: “It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and us not to place on you any burdens beyond necessities...” In Acts, the Holy Spirit is powerful in their preaching and in their resolution of disagreements.

St. Francis was so moved by these passages that he requested the chapters of the brothers take place around Pentecost. His brothers were not only to preach boldly, but also to make the decisions about their lives and resolve their differences in such a way that they too might proclaim: “It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us...”

That is what we friars are in the process of doing, meeting together to review our life and to discern new appointments of responsibilities among us. During the weeks of May 16th-19th at Mt. St. Francis, and July 18-21 at Holy Cross Retreat in Mesilla Park, NM, we gather together, trusting that our decisions are of the Holy Spirit, requiring thereby that we find the humility to truly listen to the other. Decisions of the Holy Spirit are not in majority votes but in major listening.

At this chapter meeting of friars, I completed my four-year mandate to serve as provincial Minister. Friar Martin Day has been elected to serve in this capacity for the next four years. As I leave this ministry to the friars, within that specific capacity, I thank all of you for your kindness to me personally and to all of us. Friar Martin will lead us forward, gifted with much pastoral experience and much wisdom. He will lead us well. Keep him in prayer.

During this time of Pentecost and beyond, we realize the Word of God engages us not only as hearers of divine revelation, but also as its heralds. We listen to proclaim. The Spirit of the Risen Lord makes all of us a part of his life and mission, not only of Paul and Barnabas, but importantly all of us share in the life and mission of the One Who Has Been Raised.

In the Gospel of John, Christ is the one who “tells us” about God. The Holy Spirit leads us to understanding, even in the tragic complexities of our own day.

Peace and all Good.

Friar Wayne Hellmann OFM Conv.



TIME FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL DUES

The OLC Association of Friars and Former Students is asking you to respond again with a membership fee of \$25.00 for the 2022 annual dues. The dues help defray the cost of operating the Association.

Your Name: First Initial Last

Spouse Name: First Initial Last

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____
9 DIGIT ZIP CODE

Email: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Phone: (_____) _____

I AM ENCLOSING A CONTRIBUTION OF \$ _____

Checks can be made payable to MSF Former Student Association

YOU CAN NOW PAY ANNUAL DUES ON OUR WEBPAGE:

<https://www.franciscansusa.org/former-students/>

OR SEND YOUR DUES TO:
Fr. John Elmer, OFM Conv '59-63
OLC Association of Friars and Former Students
103 St. Francis Blvd., Mt. St. Francis, IN 47146