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Capuchin Vocation Update Province of St. Joseph

7 New Novices!

Seven former postulants for the Midwest Capuchins were invested yesterday as novices with the Capuchin habit. The ceremony took place at the Franciscans' St. Francis Friary in Burlington, Wisconsin, which is being rented for one year by the North American and Pacific Capuchin Conference to accommodate moving up the beginning date of novitiate by four months. Todd Wieschowski already is a novice in Allison Park, Pennsylvania where he and his classmates began novitiate last December. The newest class of novices includes 26 men from Capuchin jurisdictions in North America, Guam and Australia. Vocation update asked our seven postulants how they were most changed during their just completed postulancy.

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"Postulancy has been a year of learning. New habits, new cultures, new identity and the development of a new self. You begin to understand St. Francis' charism of presence in which you serve others just by being who you are."

—Mark Romanowski



I changed so much since joining postulancy. But what changed me the most was my ministry experience. It boosted my confidence in many ways and made me a better person overall. I learned many new things from the people there and accepted people the way they are.

—Tien Dinh



Postulancy has been a time of greater awareness and appreciation. So, the biggest change I experienced during postulancy is that I have a greater appreciation of what I have in my vocation as a Capuchin.

—Mitchell Frantz



"Throughout the process of Postulancy, I have been growing into a deeper relationship with God through the help of the program. My vocation has become stronger with the help of Postulancy."

—Don Bosco Tran

Vocation Update



One thing that has changed me this year because I joined postulancy is a greater awareness of the social injustices in our society. Because of my ministry site, I was able to reach out to the poor and the homeless, those with addictions, people that have just gotten out of jail and prison and many more people who are asking and begging for help. It has strengthened my call to be a Capuchin because of my need to help others and also my spirituality. For I seek the poor and humble God and am able to see God in the people I meet at my ministry.

—Tom Nguyen



I've been a communal person. You know the saying about the village raising a child. That's true about Crow Indian culture. So now, I'm adding my Franciscan identity to the whole mix. And, well, it's great! It's all about family and community. I'm striving for sister-brotherhood, and to me that means focusing on *equality*, equality of all human persons and all creation. That's Crow! That's Franciscan! That's *community* and what I hope to be about!

—George Real Bird

Minh Tran began postulancy with this class in August of 2006. Minh has decided to attend Mundelein Major Seminary as a priesthood candidate for the Archdiocese of Chicago. We promise him our prayers and support as he tests this important vocation in the Church.



Taking an in depth look at the life and spirituality of Francis and reading some of St.

Bonaventure's writings have made the greatest impact on me. God's generous creativity and love for me amazes me and leads me to a fuller and deeper relationship to God, to others, and myself. God bending down low to the form of a human being sends me a powerful message of God's humility and poverty. Since we are created in the image and likeness of God, I can accept my humanity with both my strengths and weaknesses because God himself became human in the historical Jesus.



—Joseph Lindzius

Capuchin Candidates are invited to attend the 25th, 50th, and 60th jubilees of Capuchin Profession, including that of SLS faculty member, Fr. Gary Wegner.

Friday, August 3rd
St. Lawrence Seminary
Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin

- 4 p.m. Eucharist
- Banquet follows
- Reception of new Capuchin volunteers follows the banquet

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