



6 May 2008, #162

Capuchin Vocation Update Province of St. Joseph

7 New Postulants Accepted for 2008

On May 2nd, Provincial Minister Daniel Anholzer accepted 7 candidates into the postulancy class for 2008. They will begin their postulancy on August 17th at St. Clare of Assisi Friary in Chicago. We congratulate those who will enter postulancy this year and offer you some information on each.

Daniel MacDonald. Age 45. From Wayne MI

“The Capuchins put emphasis on utilizing one’s personal strengths and personality to tailor a specific vocational purpose for each brother. I love how they truly live and act as equals to all people. Every Capuchin I have met has a peace about them that is most welcoming. They take seriously the brother-sisterhood that Francis embraced!” Dan sees being a Capuchin as giving him the capacity to fully live out his mission as a Catholic Christian. He loves being of service and appreciates the contemplative/ministry blend of the Order.



Vito Martinez. Age 33. From Grand Rapids MI

“Initially, I was just looking at other orders. However, after I learned more about the Capuchin charism, the life of St. Francis, and the work of the Midwest Capuchins, I knew this was the place for me.” An important experience in Vito’s discernment was his experience of the ROPE program at Detroit’s Capuchin Soup Kitchen, a program Vito believes gives people hope. “The Capuchins changed their world, gave them a chance when no other would. Bro. Ray hugged them as brothers. I knew then that this is where I could do the most good for people.”



Quan Minh Nguyen. Age 22. From Palatine IL



Quan has wanted to be a priest since being a little boy. After attending St. Lawrence Seminary in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, he also came to understand the Capuchin vocation and discovered a call to both vocations. The community and brotherhood of the Capuchins caught his eye. He also loves to serve and help people however he can, and he believes the Capuchins will give him many opportunities to do that in a variety of ways. Quan is grateful to his many friends who helped him sort out his feelings about a church vocation. They have stuck with him through good and bad times, and were there when he wanted to talk about his future vocation.

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Quang Anh Nguyen. Age 22. From Glendale Heights IL.

Quang has been considering a vocation as a Capuchin and a priest for some time. Though he has considered many things over recent years, he has always come back to his desire to serve God's will. Quang has often turned to God for help with positive results and now wants to respond in kind. His experiences have taught him hope and perseverance. He loves the Franciscan way of praying and finds God present in the natural world around him. Quang comes from a traditional Vietnamese family that has handed on to him a profound sense of God's presence in the world. Many of his friends have told him he's cut out for a religious vocation. Now he wants to try it.

Richard Reinhardt. Age 19. From West Chester PA via Boston MA

Rich comes to postulancy from a Catholic Worker Community in Boston where he has learned to love the blend of social action with contemplative prayer. He is attracted to the province's harmonization of justice ministry, outreach to the poor, both liturgical and contemplative prayer, and community life. In the March 11th issue of *Vocation Update*, Rich explained how liturgical and personal prayer makes the stressful ministry of a meal program possible. He believes eucharist transforms participants into a reconciled community. Thus, Rich loves sitting at both the table of service and the eucharistic table.



Stanley Sobo II. Age 27. From Oakland MI.

The strong Capuchin sense of community and brotherhood, prayerful lifestyle, and devotion to the needs of others attracted Stanley to the province. He believes the Capuchin lifestyle gives members the religious strength needed to respond to the challenges they address in the world. "I hope that joining the Capuchins will allow me to be myself, all the while bettering myself, in order to be what God wants me to be." Stanley was born in Fort Lauderdale FL and later returned to FL to complete an MBA. His desire to be of service to others while living in community pointed Stanley in the direction of the Capuchins.

Parker Tiffany. Age 21. From Traverse City MI.

Parker feels a "fit" with the Capuchins that involves Capuchin ministries, spirituality, brotherhood and life style. The Capuchin Order is a place where he believes he can express himself and follow through with what God has planned for him. Living in closer affiliation at St. Clare of Montefalco in Chicago has been especially important in his discernment. "There is a feeling inside of me that wants to be touched and I feel that this can best be done through joining the Capuchins and experimenting with what it is that fulfills God's will."

