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9 Accepted for Candidacy Program 5 Postulants Accepted for Novitiate



Trungtin Pham



Thien Tran



Jefferson Covey



Eric Ortiz



Jairo Galan



Zachary Lynn



Luis Farias



Erik Rodriguez



Austin Figueroa

Nine recent graduates of St. Lawrence Seminary High School in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin have been accepted as non-resident Capuchin Candidates. Also, five men currently in the Postulancy Program at St. Conrad's Friary in Milwaukee have been accepted to continue their Capuchin formation in the Novitiate Program near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

As a part of the life and training at St. Lawrence Seminary (one of the few high school seminaries left in the United States) these nine recent graduates have made known their desire to continue to discern a life as a Capuchin Friar. Many of these young men have engaged in ministry experiences with the poor and excluded of Fond du Lac and Milwaukee. Through these experiences and the gentle environment formed by the dedicated faculty, staff, parents, and friars, these young men see the religious form of life as a real attraction.

Here is what some of the young men said:

"I like the sense of brotherhood that I feel in the presence of the friars. I also like the sense of helping others as a priority very compelling."

"The Capuchins at SLS are so giving and helping yet they ask nothing in return. They are also happy and simple. They inspire me because they do so much for others without asking for anything in return."

"They serve others and have fun doing so. They are very friendly and act as brothers to each other."

"Friendship, dedication, love, brotherhood."

"I have experienced a great brotherhood that inspires me. Also, I have engaged in a lot of different ministry opportunities which I would like to continue."

"I like the way the students of SLS and the Capuchins are able to interact with each other. The Capuchins are open to speaking with the students."

"Through the Milwaukee Experience, I have seen how the friars there serve those in need."

"I have witnessed how everyone at St. Lawrence Seminary is very close, friendly, and respectful."

"The Capuchins help guide the students at SLS by teaching and doing ministry work. In the end, the students leave St. Lawrence a better person."

These young men will go to the college of their choice but continue their discernment by attendance at vocation weekends and regular visits from vocation directors John Holly or Jerry Johnson. We all wish them the best as they embark on this new stage in their lives.

(Photo Credits: Quick & Smart Photography)

Five Postulants Accepted for Novitiate!

Over the last few weeks the five men in postulancy have completed many types of evaluations in order to find ways to continue to grow spiritually and to be more sensitive to the people with whom they minister. These five have been living in a friary for 10 months and have been participating full-time in the life as a friar. (Postulancy is the next stage after Candidacy.) The men try to continuously get feedback so they can grow in the areas of community life, spiritual life, ministry, personal balance, and in sensitivity with regards to crossing cultural boundaries.

The one-year Novitiate Program begins in August. For the months of June and July, these five men will be participating in a special formation program at a St. Conrad's Friary in Victoria, Kansas. Once there, they will meet the postulants from the other Provinces and Vice-Provinces of North America including Australia and the Vice Province of Marianas-Hawaii Islands. This two-month program, which is called the Investiture Program, normally includes 15 to 25 men. Its intention is to provide a healthy environment where the guys from the different provinces can begin to come together as a group before they enter the intense period of Novitiate. In between the highly structured program of prayer and ministry, the guys will share their life stories and struggles. Classes would include such topics as conflict management, prayer forms, personality inventories, Franciscan Spirituality, cultural sensitivity, and tornado evasion.

Best of luck to these men as they embark on a long journey!



Quan Nguyen



Vito Martinez



Ken Cole:
English speaking
Canadian Province



Parker Tiffany



Rich Reinhardt

For more information about the process to become a Capuchin, visit www.CapuchinFranciscans.org

Or

Contact Fr. John Holly 920-915-4400

jholly1953@yahoo.com or

Br. Jerry Johnson 773-475-6206

vocation@capuchinfranciscans.org