



27 January 2009, #177

Capuchin Vocation Update Province of St. Joseph

2009 SLS Alumni Candidate Weekend

(St. Lawrence High School Seminary in Mt. Calvary Wisconsin has been operated by Capuchin-Franciscan Friars and dedicated partners for nearly 150 years. Mt. Calvary has historical significance in that it was one of the original sites for continued Capuchin ministry in North America.)

The 5th annual SLS Candidate Weekend recently took place at St. Lawrence Seminary with 22 participants including candidates, postulants and friars in temporary vows. In addition to these folks, various friars and friends dropped in throughout the weekend.

The SLS Candidate weekend was started in January of 2005 to encourage graduates of SLS who were looking at the Capuchins as candidates. The idea was to bring these young men back to the hill to see old friends and new friends while continuing to look at the possibility of joining the Capuchins.



Candidates Nick Crane, Alberto Gomez and Josh Drees



Joe (left): "Hey, say what?" Candidates Sheldon Fernandez, Vito Martinez and Julio Gallegos



Werner Wolf in the friary: "Pizza here!"

The weekend has always envisioned generous blocks of free time for personal reflection, recreation and discussion. A big shift occurs for the new candidates as they are invited into the friary, most for the first time, for the meals and socials of the weekend. Always a high point is the Sunday Eucharist celebrated in the seminary chapel with the SLS student body. The weekend concludes with a brunch in the friary. The current seniors, who are considering joining the Candidacy program following their graduation, are invited for this meal.

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Vocation Update



Candidates Steve Konstantin and Ed Colosky



Candidates Sheldon Fernandez, Alphonso Ruelas, Quang Nguyen and Capuchins Mitchell Frantz and Tom Nguyen



Capuchins Moisés Villalta, John Holly and Dennis Druggan



Anthony Horzen, Nick Crane, and Quang Nguyen

This year we welcomed Capuchin Fr. Moisés Villalta from the St. Augustine Province. He is one of the vocation directors for his province and he's a native of El Salvador, currently living in Washington, D.C. Through three presentations on Saturday, Moisés helped us to look at our own call from God and

our response followed by simple ways of further reflection and prayer. He also led us in prayer with the seminary community on Sunday morning.

This weekend is always one of the biggest on the yearly vocation office calendar. It's only possible with the help of so many at SLS, including the Seminary Rector Fr. Dennis and his staff in the kitchen and guest house. Fr. Werner and the friars always welcome us in their home throughout the weekend. Werner makes sure that we have lots of pizza and popcorn each night!!



Capuchin friars Neal Plale, Jerry Higgins and Jerry Campbell. Neal is praying about more chocolate cake.



Candidates Elias DeAndrade, Tom Do-Vi Nguyen, and Ed Colosky

Wisconsin Ministry Weekend for Candidates and Inquirers

February 20-22, 2009
Milwaukee and Mt. Calvary
Wisconsin

Reservations are required to attend the weekends.

New inquirers are welcome!

Contact Fr. John Holly 920-915-4400

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Br. Jerry Johnson 773-475-6206

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Academic Dean Dave Bartel drilling candidate and alumnus Bryant Romero with old Calculus questions. Ah, the memories! How can it get more fun than this!