



27 February 2009, #179

## ***Snow Doesn't Stop Capuchin Ministry Exploration***

On early Saturday morning, the snowfall became quite steady as 11 Capuchin candidates shared stories and explored Capuchin ministries in Milwaukee and Mt. Calvary Wisconsin. The candidate weekend began on Friday evening with a prayer service and meal lead by postulants (guys in first year Capuchin formation). After the home-made coleslaw, potato salad and pulled pork, candidates and a mix of friars in various levels of formation gathered to share stories of their own personal journey. From ballroom dance instructors to arc welders to college students to military veterans, a diverse and open-hearted group of guys began to experience a common thread in their lives with the honest sharing. Afterward, as the evening progressed, area friars began to gather for a nice social while snow clouds began to gather in the West. The following morning, the heavy snow did not deter the group from visiting the well-known Capuchin Milwaukee ministries of St. Ben's Meal Program, the House of Peace, and the Franciscan Center and Parish.



**Front Row: Jared Kasten, Phil Gardner, Vito Martinez (postulant), Lucas Smith, Nick Gerhartz  
Second Row: Mark Condon, MJ Groark, Parker Tiffany (postulant), Mike Bernhard,  
Back Row: Br. Jerry Johnson (Vocation Director), Fr. John Holly (Voc. Dir.), Chuck Mattingly, Stephen Warzecha, Justin Bronson, Jerry Cornish**



**St. Ben's Meal Program. Friars also minister at the County Jail in the left background**



**Postulant Vito Martinez and St. Ben's director Br. Dave Schwab team up to explain their ministry.**

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# Vocation Update

After a treacherous snowy drive to St. Lawrence High School Seminary, candidates took part in a well prepared tour and history of the school by Capuchin rector Fr. Dennis Druggan. The school is preparing for its 150<sup>th</sup> year of operation and hopefully God will provide future Capuchins to work along with dedicated ministry partners to provide well rounded educational instruction to a diverse student population. Some time for personal reflection, a Holy Hour, followed by a social rounded out the night. This diverse, well grounded, and kind group of candidates exchanged stories with area friars who had many entertaining and profound stories of their own.

Students at St. Lawrence High School Seminary invited the group to mass in the large St. Lawrence Seminary Chapel on Sunday morning. Hearing so many young men sing and praise God brought joy and peace to those who participated. Bacon, sausage, eggs, and all things good for a person's health were shared by all at the St. Lawrence Friary to close out the weekend. ***Have a blessed and meaningful Lenten Season.***



Marty Pable and Jerry Cornish providing a nice service to the community at St. Conrad Friary.



Holy Hour at St. Lawrence Friary in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin



The director of the House of Peace, Br. Mark Carrico, presents one of the many food collection and preparation rooms.



The House of Peace Nursing clinic is staffed by nurses and students from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Nursing. The House of Peace was recently renovated to make room for more programs for people in need.

**Pre-Postulancy Weekend**  
for those applying to the Postulancy  
Program

**March 6-8, 2009**  
**Milwaukee**  
**Wisconsin**

**Triduum Retreat**  
**for Candidates and**  
**Inquirers**

**April 9-12, 2009**  
**Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin**

Reservations are required to attend  
the weekends.

New inquirers are welcome!

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