

Servites Today



“The Order of Friar Servants of Mary is a community of men gathered together in the name of Jesus the Lord. Moved by the Spirit, we commit ourselves, as did our First Fathers, to witness the gospel in fraternal communion and to be at the service of God and all people, drawing abiding inspiration from Mary, Mother and Servant of the Lord. “

Servite Constitutions, #1

When you write or review your will, please consider making a charitable bequest. Your bequest to the Servants of Mary will help us spread devotion to the Blessed Virgin; serve the Church in parishes, schools, hospitals, and foreign missions; train future priests and brothers; and provide for the elderly religious. Your charity will be a lasting memorial that will grow and prosper in the minds and hearts of all who are touched by the work of the Servants of Mary.

For more information, please contact Fr. Lawrence at the Servite Development Office: 1439 South Harlem Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402, 708-795-8885 or visit www.servite.org (the Gifts/Giftshop link).

From the Editor

Since his election in 2013, it is apparent that Pope Francis is shaking things up in the Church. Even the secular world has sat up and taken notice. Hardly a week goes by that a statement or action from His Holiness is (accurately or inaccurately) reported in the press.

In an interview last fall with an Italian newspaper, the Pope stated, “We have to be a leavening of life and love and the leavening is infinitely smaller than the mass of fruits, flowers and trees that are born out of it. I believe I have already said that our goal is not to proselytize but to listen to needs, desires and disappointments, despair, hope. We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor.”¹

The sentiment at first sounds very Franciscan. And so it is. But it is also very Servite. The culture of compassion alluded to by Francis (both the Saint as well as the pope) has been nurtured by the Servite family for the last 800 years and, God willing, will continue for the next 800. Servites model their lives after the example of Mary, Mother and Servant of the Lord. Hospitality, compassion, prayer, strength in the midst of great sorrow, and faithful love mark her life and therefore must also mark the lives of her Servants. Living such a life is not popular or easy in today’s society, but it has its reward in a deep sense of joy (another common theme of Pope Francis) and satisfaction.

We extend our thanks to our many friends and benefactors who help us in our mission to bring hospitality and compassion to those in need. You are remembered daily in our prayers.

¹http://www.repubblica.it/cultura/2013/10/01/news/pope_s_conversation_with_scalfari_english-67643118/?ref=HREA-1

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James Foerster, Editor

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The National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother (The Grotto) in Portland, Oregon, is honored to win a 2014 Certificate of Excellence from TripAdvisor. TripAdvisor.com is a travel website providing directory information and reviews of travel-related content. The site operates in 39 countries worldwide, reaching nearly 260 million unique monthly visitors, with more than 150 million reviews and opinions covering more than 4 million accommodations, restaurants and attractions. This award recognizes businesses that consistently earn top ratings from TripAdvisor reviews, and rate in the top 10% of all reviewed destinations.

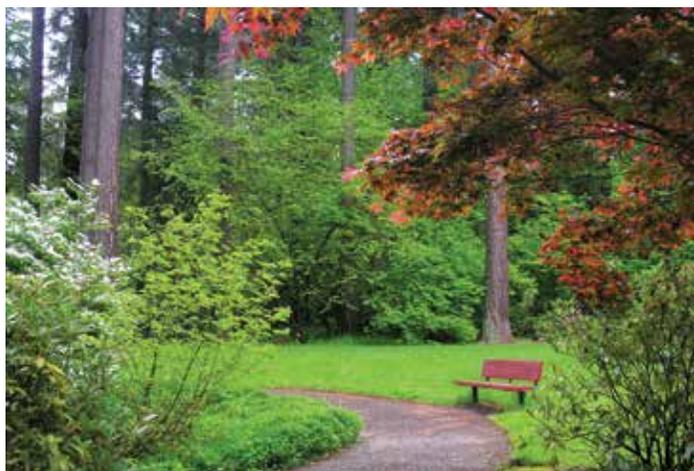
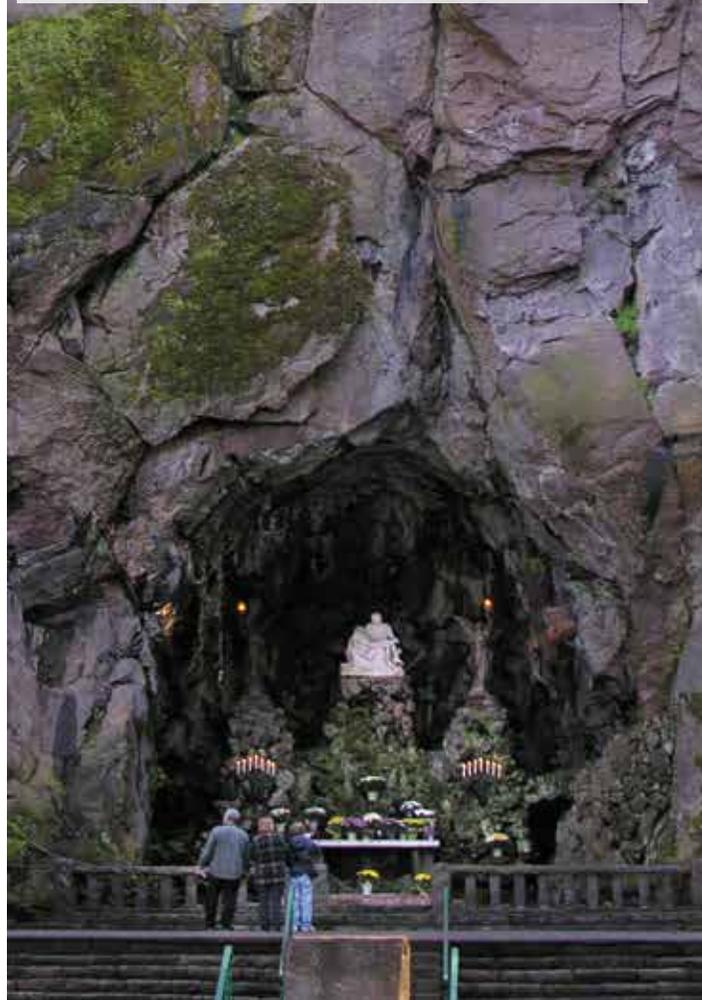
Competing with powerhouse destinations such as the Columbia River Gorge and Mt. Hood, The Grotto, a 62-acre Catholic shrine and sanctuary located in the middle of the city of Portland, currently ranks #11 out of 302 regional destinations, due to the steady stream of visitors who are overwhelmed by the serenity and beauty of The Grotto. Founded in 1924 by Servite priest Ambrose Mayer, OSM, this shrine and botanical garden provides a spiritual and peaceful retreat for more than 200,000 visitors each year of all faiths. The Grotto also offers comfort, support, and healing through The Grotto Counseling Center and The Grotto Spirituality Program. The heart of the shrine, Our Lady's Grotto, is a rock cave carved into the base of a 110 foot cliff. A life-size replica of Michelangelo's Pieta is featured in its center.

As one reviewer on TripAdvisor stated:

"Tranquility in the City - Walking the grounds allows one to reflect on life and the solace of knowing a calmness in our chaotic lives is possible. Spiritual, tranquil, beautiful ... and a million other ways to describe this wonderful place of peace. You will come away refreshed! May 20, 2014" - Eric M., Colorado Springs, Colorado, via TripAdvisor



THE GROTTA RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FROM TRIPADVISOR





TREATING THE WHOLE FRIAR

Bro. Bonfilus McGovern, OSM, has his blood pressure checked by Ramute Kemeze, RN, BSN.

Readers in the Chicago metro area most likely have heard the phrase “*We treat the whole person.*” It is the motto of Loyola University Health System and graces their radio, television, and print ads. The slogan has a second part: “*We also treat the human spirit.*” These concerns are not limited to the Jesuit health system only. It is also something the Servites are deeply committed to in their charism of compassion. With this common focus, the Servites have partnered with the Loyola University Health System in a pilot wellness program at Our Lady of Sorrows Monastery, Chicago, IL.

Thanks to a grant from the National Religious Retirement Office, Fr. Michael Guimon, O.S.M., the Senior Care Minister for the Servite US Province, and Dr. Mary Capelli-Schellpfeffer, Medical Director of Loyola Occupational Health Services, worked together to create a program that seeks to bring health and wellness coordination services to the friars at Our Lady of Sorrows with the goal of maximizing their wellbeing. After a lifetime of service to the Church and community, it is the desire of the Servites to keep the friars in a religious community setting and to minimize hospital and nursing home stays. Some of the program’s aims

in assisting the retired friars to live happy and healthy lives are: coordinated and centralized keeping of medical records; nutritional assessments and appropriate meal planning; and onsite visits by an exercise physiologist to help develop individualized exercise and movement programs. A highlight of the program is the presence of a nurse five days a week. Ramute Kemeza, RN, BSN, a nurse specializing in occupational health, moved into her office at Our Lady of Sorrows in April of this year. Conducting wellness physicals for both the Archdiocese of Chicago and Diocese of Joliet, she has many years of experience working with priests. Ramute records vitals daily and assists with medications as well as coordinating appointments with the friars’ various primary care physicians. It didn’t take her long to adjust and she feels very much a part of the Our Lady of Sorrows family. Her presence is also much appreciated by the friars.

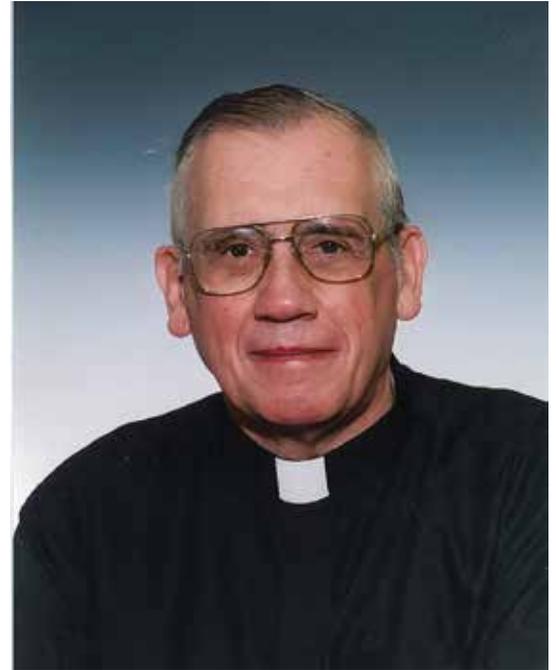
It is hoped that once successfully established, the program will spread to other communities in the Chicago area and then broaden to the province at large.

SERVITE FRIAR HONORED WITH PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Servite friar and priest, John Pawlikowski, O.S.M., received the most prestigious award granted by the Catholic Theological Society of America. The John Courtney Murray Award is bestowed annually for lifetime contributions to study and research in theology. Fr. Joseph Cheah, O.S.M., and Fr. Michael Pontarelli, O.S.M., were present at the award banquet held in San Diego, CA, June 7, 2014.

John Courtney Murray, a Jesuit priest, was known for his efforts to guide the Church in a modern, pluralistic society. Murray was particularly celebrated for his theological work on religious liberty and American constitutionalism. He played a key role during Vatican II persuading the adoption of the Council's Declaration on Religious Liberty, *Dignitatis Humanae (Of the Dignity of the Human Person)*.

Fr. Pawlikowski is a professor of social ethics and the Director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. His scholarly interests include the theological and ethical aspects of the Christian-Jewish relationship and public ethics. A leading figure in the Christian-Jewish dialogue, he was the two-term President and Chair of the Theology Committee of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ). He remains on ICCJ's board as immediate past president. Pawlikowski is the author/editor of more than fifteen books and is also a contributor to many journals and has served on the editorial boards of numerous publications. Congratulations, Fr. Pawlikowski!



MARY'S ASSUMPTION

Mary's assumption, body and soul, was more than a resurrection of her body alone or of her soul alone. She was taken "up" to be with Christ in the joyful presence of the Trinity and all that that means, body and soul. ...If we go to her life we might find the reason for the details and the immediacy of what happened to her at her Assumption. And what we find should be a model for us in our life.

Mary lived a life of compassion for others. She visited Elizabeth in compassion. She was at Christ's side when He died for us out of compassionate servanthood. She had compassion on the people without the wine of the Spirit at Cana. She models for us the compassion of Jesus who imaged the compassionate love of God for us. The details and immediacy of her Assumption show us what can happen if we live lives of compassion and love. Such an image of Christ and God was given immediate glorification. If we live compassionately for others, will this happen to us too? Is this what she models for us? Mary was the Mother of God, so her Assumption showed this great dignity and privilege. But God's grace extended to her life, modeling for us how to live. This was part and parcel of her dignity and Assumption too.

- from the writings of Fr. Walter Brennan, O.S.M.

PILGRIMAGE TO NGOME

Every year the Servite Secular Order in Zululand organizes a pilgrimage to the principal Marian Shrine in South Africa. It is dedicated to Our Lady the Tabernacle of the Most High and located at Ngome. The pilgrimage departed from Mtubatuba at 6:00AM, just as the sun was rising. The party included the Servite Friars, members of the Secular Order and some Children of Mary. The route passed through the famous Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Park, home to many species of wild animals. In fact one of the pickups met an elephant right in the middle of the road and had to halt for twenty minutes (African elephants are particularly aggressive).

The shrine of the Our Lady of Ngome rests on a large smooth rock on the top of a mountain 3281 feet high. Here in 1955, Our Lady appeared to Sr. Rheinolda, a German Benedictine Sister. As proof of the graces which she wished to bestow on the place, she had three springs of fresh water appear not far from there. This in itself was a miracle in such a remote, high and dry area. Today the custodians are three priests of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI) and a small community of local Benedictine Sisters.

The pilgrimage itself began with an introduction by the Prior of the Secular Order, Mr. M. N. Nkabinde, OSSM,

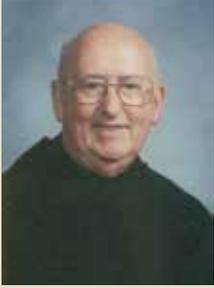


a warrant officer in the S. African army. He is also a lay minister who conducts Sunday services when the priest is not present. There followed a penitential rite conducted by Mr. V. M. Dlamini, OSSM, with individual confessions to the Servite priests. The pilgrims then processed down the hill to the springs while reciting the Rosary of Our Lady of Sorrows, led by Sr. F. Ngema, OSSM (a nurse). And at the springs, a healing service was held following the rite of St. Peregrine. All the priests present (including the visitors) laid hands on the people. Many of the pilgrims were carrying plastic containers of various sizes so as to bring Ngome water back home to their families. At 1:00pm, Mass was celebrated by Fr. Thulani Ntsele, O.S.M. Fr. Sifiso Mchunu, O.S.M., a young Servite who had just been

ordained one year ago, preached. Fr. Mel Loftus, Provincial Delegate of Zululand, and seven Servite students also participated in the Mass.

The vibrant liturgy was a cause of great emotion: everybody sings, not only in full voice but in perfect harmony of many voices, often accompanied by rhythmic dancing. It was truly a colorful and festive atmosphere – the joy of having the opportunity to be celebrating together. At the end of the day we returned home enriched by this experience, the fruit of the vitality of this fraternity of the Secular Order, which may be far from us in geographical distance, but very close in Servite Spirit.

- Lino Pacchin, O.S.M.



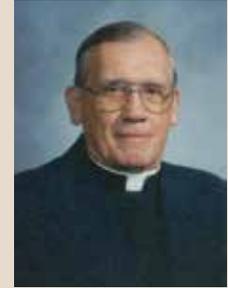
Bro. Gregory Atherton, OSM
60 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 19, 2014



Fr. Frank Falco, OSM
50 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 20, 2014



Fr. Anthony O'Connell, OSM
50 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 20, 2014



Fr. John Pawlikowski, OSM
50 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 20, 2014



Fr. Robert Zivkovik, OSM
50 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 20, 2014

US PROVINCE JUBILARIANS



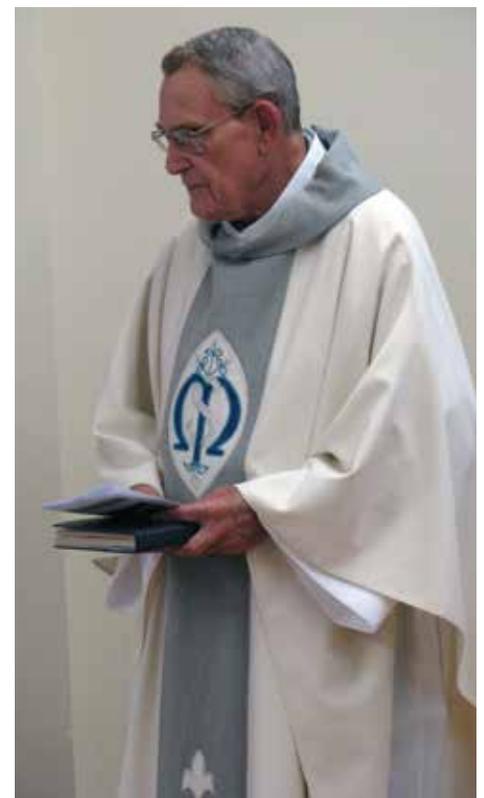
Fr. Carlo Marchetti, OSM
55 yrs Solemn Profession
Sept 20, 2014

REST IN PEACE

Fr. Carl M. Feil, O.S.M., a solemn professed friar and priest of the Order of Friar Servants of Mary, USA Province, died Sunday, March 30, 2014, at Our Lady of Sorrows Monastery, Chicago, IL. He was seventy-nine years of age and a priest for fifty-two years.

Fr. Feil was born January 27, 1935, in Evergreen Park, IL, the son of the late Lawrence and Elizabeth (Reitz) and baptized at St. Gerald Parish, Oak Lawn, IL. He entered the Servite Order at Mater Dolorosa Seminary, Hillside, IL on September 17, 1949. He professed solemn vows on November 1, 1958, and was ordained a priest on June 29, 1961. Fr. Feil was an instructor at St. Philip High School, Chicago, IL, and Mater Dolorosa Seminary, Hillside, IL. He served in the Servite Missions in South Africa as well as at Our Lady of Belen Parish, Belen, NM; Seven Holy Founders Parish, Affton, MO; St. Miguel Parish, Ribera, NM; and Our Lady of Grace Parish, Palm Bay, FL. He retired in 2001 with residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Melbourne, FL.

Visitation was Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, with interment in the Servite Section of Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, IL. Donations in Fr. Feil's name may be made to The Servite Friars-USA Province at 3121 W Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60612-2729.





Servites
Today

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Notes

from the National Shrine of St. Peregrine

The first Annual St. Peregrine Feast Day Mass and Celebration Luncheon took place May 4, 2014, and included a keynote speaker at the luncheon in addition to the glorious Feast Day Mass. Tere Macarol, from Advocate Health Care, a two time breast cancer survivor, gave a presentation titled, "Survivorship: You Are Not Alone," intended to open minds and hearts to better experiences for cancer survivors and their caregivers. Tere attempted to dispel the myths and fears surrounding cancer and replace them with facts, love, and hope from her personal experiences as a healthcare professional and cancer survivor. As she shared her story and pictures, one could feel the love that Tere has for life and her family. As she spoke about her career and colleagues, one could hear the passion she has for her profession. Her faith in God and her compassion for those who've been touched by cancer and other serious illnesses influenced her remarks and deeply touched the audience. Tere was also gracious enough to agree to make contributions to the *Friends of St. Peregrine Newsletter*. We look forward to hearing more from this inspiring woman.



At the National Shrine of St Peregrine (Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica in Chicago), a healing Mass and blessing with relic of St. Peregrine is celebrated at 11:00am on the third Saturday of the month. There is a healing Mass and blessing in Spanish on the second Saturday of each month, also at 11:00am.

