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CAPERONE

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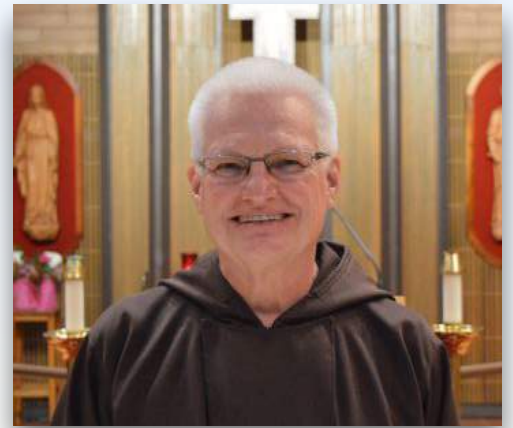


FORMATOR'S CORNER

I believe I can say with all certitude that it has been a well-known fact among the novices over the years that I take great pride in my desire to embrace the virtue of humility as a Franciscan lesser brother who just happens to have high level responsibilities in the life of our community.

One of the hallmarks of our life is our brotherhood. One of the essential goals of the novitiate program has been to focus on this Franciscan facet of our life to the “neglect” of how God has called the novices to later en flesh their talents and abilities in service to the kingdom. As in the past, I have already informed this year’s novices that, at this point in their formation, I don’t care if they are hoping to be ordained to the priesthood, become great missionaries, or seek professional degrees in any field of study. Rather, what I am concerned with is helping them discern if they have been called by God to religious life as a member of our Capuchin-Franciscan brotherhood. Do they have what it takes to live in community?

It gets somewhat tricky therefore when more than one of us are gathered in a social setting and I am asked (as an attempt to distinguish all the brown robes in the room) “Are you a brother or a priest?” My “cute” answer has always been “Yes”. I know this duality of my response can be confusing (if not downright irritating) to others but it resonates within me at the core of my personal identity as a friar. I love to celebrate and preside at the Eucharist, I love to be invited into the blessed moment of a person’s sacramental confession and offer forgiveness on behalf of our loving God, and I am both energized and challenged by presenting a homily; but above it all I am a lesser brother within the Franciscan family. A fact that I am extremely proud of – in all humility.



**Br. Frank Grinko,
OFM Cap.**



SAN LORENZO SCOOP



A few of our brothers went hiking in Gaviota Pass.



Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish with Bishop Robert Barron!

The class enjoyed the vineyard's second year of harvest!



A St. Francis moment with Brother Brian...



Friar Babs' Day was officially established on September 18th, 2016.

Brother Mike or Tony Hawk?

THE GALA

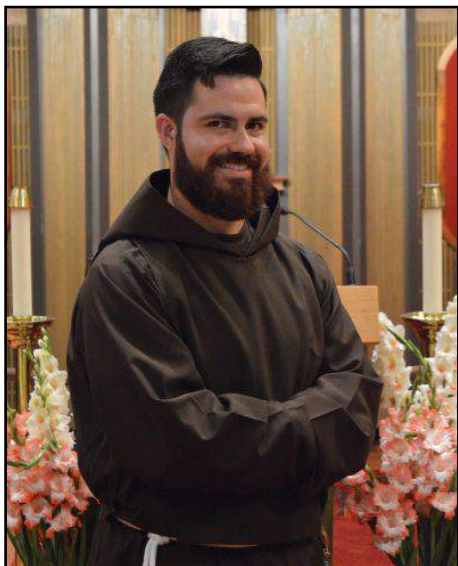
On September 10th, we celebrated the Foundation's annual San Lorenzo Seminary Gala. The theme was "A Night in Argentina" and the activities included live music from the friars, a silent auction, appetizers & drinks, an old-fashioned live auction, and a parade of cultural desserts made by the novices...





We hope to see you next year!

NOVICE HIGHLIGHTS



Br. FRANCISCO SERRANO Province of St. Mary

Hometown: Middleton, NY (originally from Jalisco, Mexico) **Age:** 29

Name a song that you think describes you:

My favorite song is in Spanish: "Que detalle Señor has tenido conmigo".

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I was with the Vincentians for three years. I was in a discernment house in Queens, NY and at the same time taking some philosophy classes at St. John's University. Before that, I was in charge of a crew working in construction (masonry).

What brought you to the Capuchins?

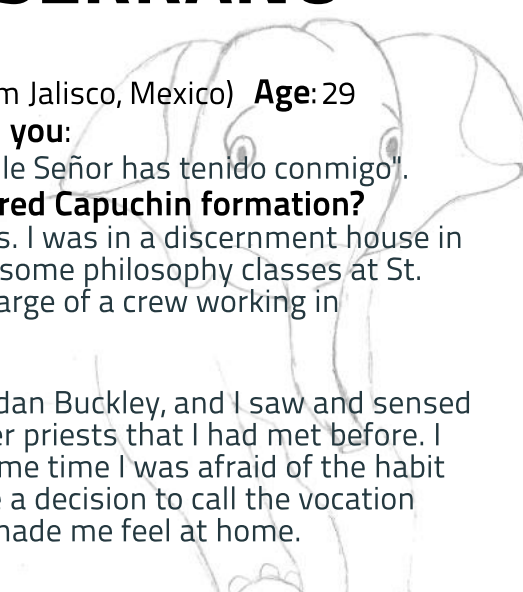
In 2010, I met my first Capuchin, Fr. Brendan Buckley, and I saw and sensed something different in him from the other priests that I had met before. I always admired St. Francis, but at the same time I was afraid of the habit and the commitment. But in 2014 I made a decision to call the vocation director. I met the brothers and they all made me feel at home.

What kind of ministry do you enjoy doing (and why)?

I have enjoyed all of them so far from nursing homes, soup kitchens, teaching catechesis, youth groups, and now the hospital. They each have challenged me to grow in a different way, and they all have their ups and downs. But for me I would say more ups than downs.

What is something that our readers probably don't know about you?

I like to be creative and I can't stay still. Also, I'm not a good dancer, but I love to dance.



Hometown: Adrian, MN

Age: 37

Br. MIKE DORN Province of St. Joseph

Name a song that you think describes you:

"Lord I'm Ready Now" by PLUMB

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I worked as an employment readiness instructor for people who were either in recovery from addiction, homeless, or had been incarcerated.

What brought you to the Capuchins?

Ministry to the marginalized of society along with the Capuchin tradition of contemplative prayer.

What kind of ministry do you enjoy doing (and why)?

Working with folks in recovery from substance abuse, because they have been the most aware of God's grace and mercy at work in their lives.

Who, in particular, has influenced your life / spirituality?

My parents, my uncle who is a priest, and Mohandas Gandhi.

What is something that our readers probably don't know about you?

I grew up on a family farm in rural Minnesota.



WISE WORDS

a Q&A with the friars

Q: Out of all of the Franciscan charisms, which is the most central to our identity?



Br. Bill Hugo (SJ)

A: Sister-brotherhood is the glue that holds the Franciscan world together.

Other Franciscan charisms—poverty, minority, humility, etc.— make sense when we see each as a means to building the types of redeeming relationships initiated by Jesus, whose poverty, minority and humility were ways through which he entered into a saving relationship with all humanity.

Calling us a sister-brotherhood is to use a metaphor that strives to express a truth difficult to communicate through other forms of language. St. Francis used the metaphor in two ways. The most popular would be the sister-brotherhood of All Creatures, visible in the realization that we all come from the same creator, making us sibling creatures. St. Francis' *Canticle of the Creatures* is the best Franciscan expression of this use of the metaphor.

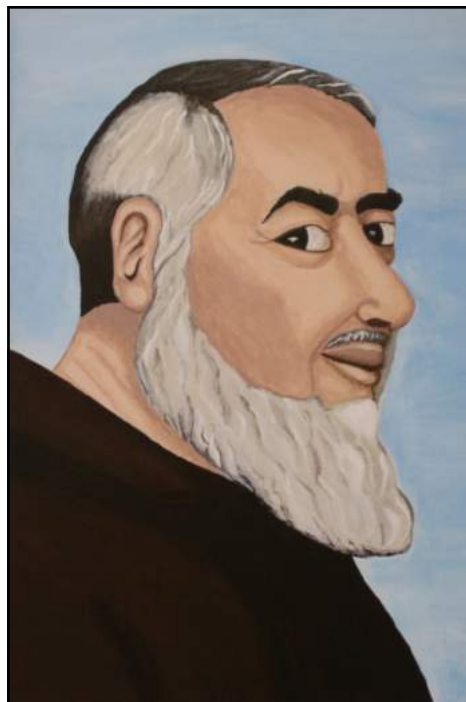
The second use of the metaphor is the sister-brotherhood in Christ. We are all sisters and brothers to Christ when we do the will of the same Father (*Letter to the Faithful*). Christ-like obedient service is the means to redeeming relationships.

CREATIVE CAPUCHINS

Photo by:
Br. Jacob Stanley-Yarbrough (SJ)



Portrait of St. Padre Pio by:
Br. Francisco Serrano (SM)



"Orderly! Chaos?" by:
Br. AJ Lezcano (SM)





PAX ET BONUM

ABOUT US

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