

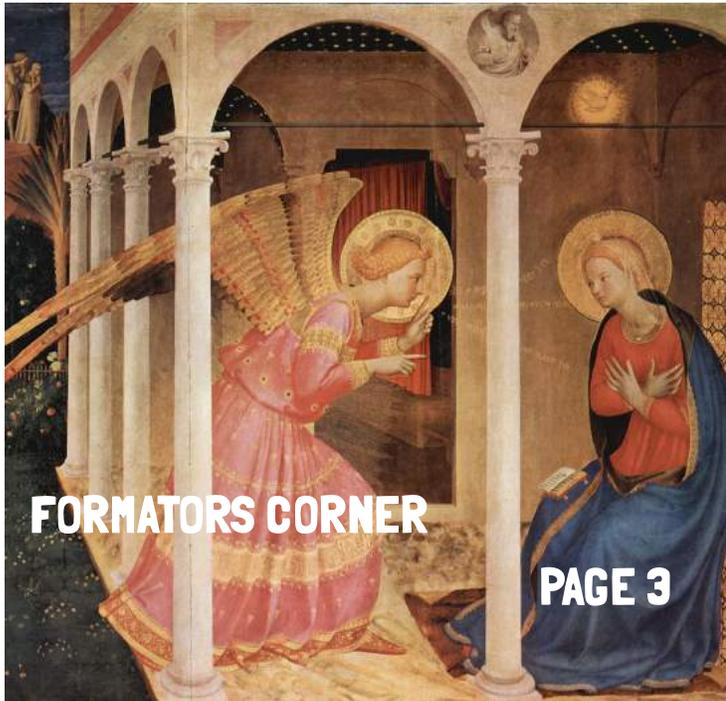
DECEMBER/JANUARY 2017

CHRISTMAS
CAPERONE



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FORMATORS CORNER

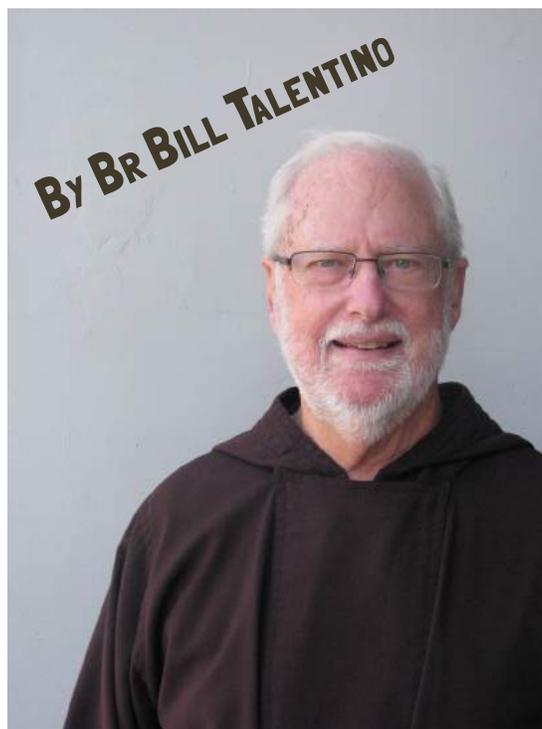
"And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

WHY WOULD THE WORD, DWELLING IN THE SERENITY OF ETERNITY, WANT TO ENTER THIS WORLD, MARKED BY SO MUCH VIOLENCE, WAR, HATRED AND DEATH? THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE ANSWER — LOVE. TO BRING US THE LOVE OF THE TRINITY, WHICH WAS THE ONLY THING THAT COULD SAVE US. THE ACT OF THE INCARNATION IS MORE ELOQUENT THAN ANY WORDS JESUS SPOKE. HE CAME IN LOVE TO BE WITH US. DESPITE THE MESS WE HAVE MADE OF THE WORLD, GOD'S LOVE FOR US HAS NEVER WAVED. THERE IS NOTHING THAT GOD WILL NOT DO TO BRING US TO A MORE ABUNDANT LIFE.

AND THERE IS MORE. THE WORD BECAME HUMAN TO LAY DOWN THE PATH BY WHICH WE MAY BECOME DIVINE. IN THE WORDS OF ST. ATHANASIUS, "GOD BECAME HUMAN SO THAT WE MIGHT BECOME

GOD." THROUGH THE INCARNATION, WE ARE BEING DRAWN INTO THAT SPHERE FROM WHICH THE WORD DESCENDED, THAT IS, INTO THE VERY HEART OF THE TRIUNE GOD.

BUT BEFORE WE CAN TAKE THE FINAL STEP INTO DIVINE LIFE AND LOVE, WE MUST FIRST ALLOW GOD TO DWELL IN US. MEISTER ECKHART, A GERMAN MYSTIC OF THE LATE 13TH AND EARLY 14TH CENTURIES, ASKS US A CHALLENGING QUESTION: "WHAT GOOD IS IT THAT CHRIST WAS BORN ONCE OF MARY IN BETHLEHEM, IF HE IS NOT BORN AGAIN IN ME?" AND, WE MIGHT ALSO ASK, IF HE IS NOT BORN THROUGH ME INTO THE WORLD? THIS BIRTH THAT HE SPEAKS OF COMES ABOUT IN US IN THE DEPTHS OF OUR SOUL. "OF HIS FULLNESS WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED, GRACE UPON GRACE." IF WE WANT TO COME



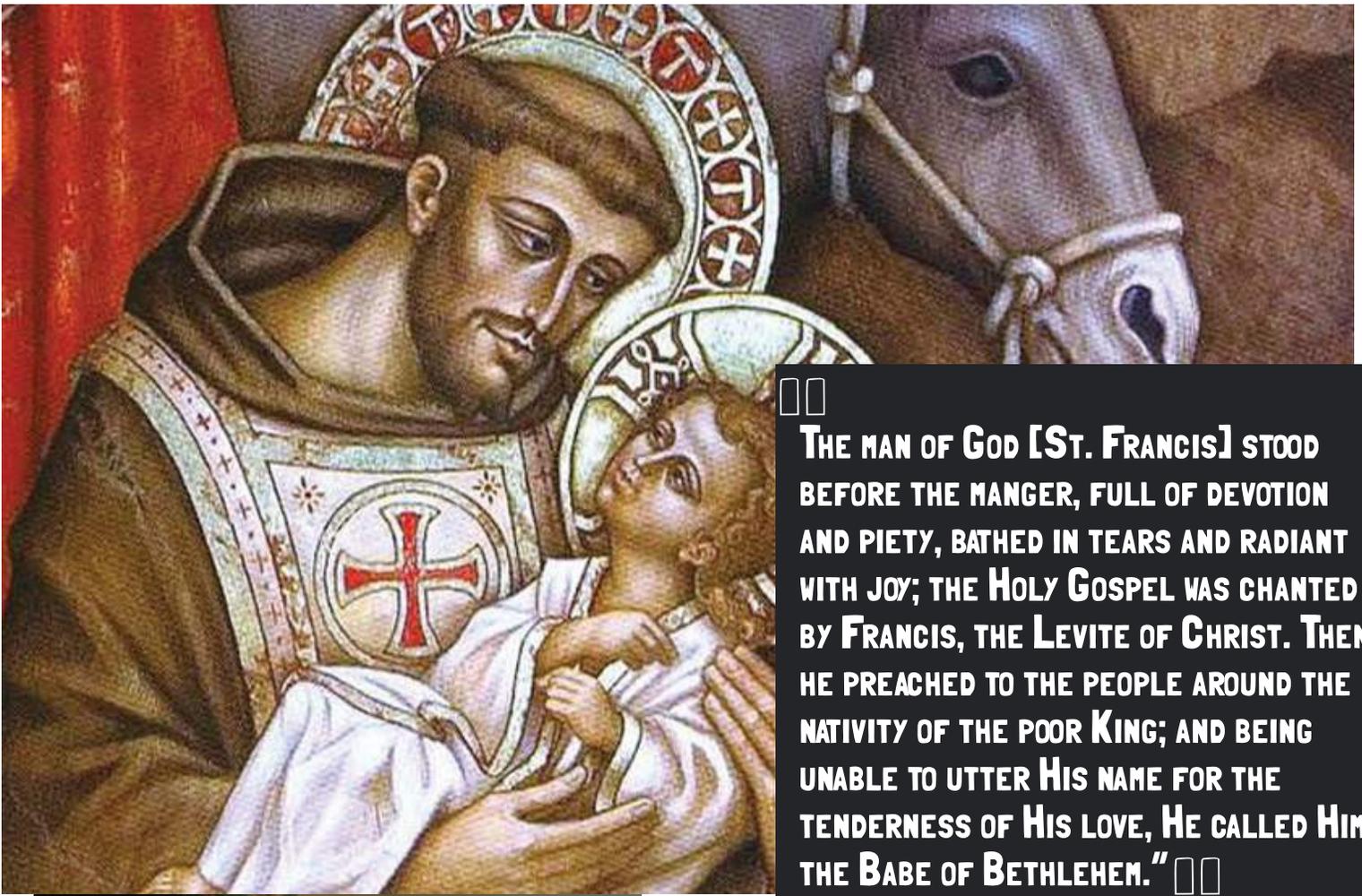
TO KNOW JESUS WITH MORE THAN OUR INTELLECT OR EMOTIONS, WE MUST ENTER THAT PLACE WHERE HIS BIRTH OCCURS IN US. THIS WE DO IN SILENCE AND STILLNESS. IN THIS WAY, WE WILL COME TO KNOW, NOT ONLY JESUS, BUT ALSO OUR TRUE SELVES.

AND WE WILL KNOW HOW TO TRULY LIVE. WE WILL KNOW WHAT JESUS WANTS OF US,

AND OUR HEARTS WILL BE BONDED TO HIM. THEN ARISING FROM THIS CONVICTION, WE WILL RESPOND TO HIM AND DO WHAT HE ASKS, NO EXCUSES. THUS, LIKE MARY, WE WILL BIRTH CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, NOT ONLY ONCE, BUT EVERY DAY OF OUR LIVES. THIS IS WHAT JESUS WANTS OF US UNTIL HE COMES AGAIN IN GLORY.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM SAN LORENZO





☐☐
THE MAN OF GOD [ST. FRANCIS] STOOD BEFORE THE MANGER, FULL OF DEVOTION AND PIETY, BATHED IN TEARS AND RADIANT WITH JOY; THE HOLY GOSPEL WAS CHANTED BY FRANCIS, THE LEVITE OF CHRIST. THEN HE PREACHED TO THE PEOPLE AROUND THE NATIVITY OF THE POOR KING; AND BEING UNABLE TO UTTER HIS NAME FOR THE TENDERNESS OF HIS LOVE, HE CALLED HIM THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM. ☐☐



DECORATING AT SAN LORENZO





NOVICE HIGHLIGHTS



Br. Collin Mary Brown **Province of St. Conrad**

Hometown: Houston, Texas

Age: 20

Name a book, movie, or song that you think describes you:

The Long Meter tune "Jesu Dulcis Memoria".

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I graduated from Strake Jesuit College Preparatory School.

What brought you to the Capuchins?

I discovered them on the internet.

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

Teaching, because it is a blessing to share what I know with others, and then learn exponentially more from them.

Who has influenced your spirituality the most?

St. Ignatius of Loyola through studying him at the Jesuit High School I went to.

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

I was in the engineering club in middle school which included Gene Kranz, the NASA Flight Director for the Apollo missions.

Br. Collin Kourtz **Province of St. Augustine**

Hometown: Fairfax, Virginia **Age:** 27

Name a book, movie, or song that you think describes you:

I think that I could be described, at least in part by the book "The Hobbit"

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I was an engineer and volunteered with Mercy Corps in Baltimore, Maryland in a hospital.

What brought you to the Capuchins?

I was introduced on the internet and fully found my vocation during Postulancy with the Capuchin's.

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

My favorite part of any ministry, are the days when people stop and they recount to me all of the times that God acted in their lives. The emotions they feel as they tell these stories are often varied, but there is a power and beauty in witnessing these lived experiences of God's presence. I've been blessed to encounter people at these intense and revelatory moments most often in healthcare settings, so I would say that is my favorite ministry setting.

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

Saint John of God has been my constant companion but I believe my spirituality is influenced primarily by the little bits of wisdom and love that people have given me throughout my life.

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

I did a polar plunge in the Antarctic Ocean.



NOVICE HIGHLIGHTS



Br. Daniel Uremovic

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Province

Hometown: Sydney, Australia

Age: 19

Name a book, movie, or song that you think describes you:

The Confessions by Saint Augustine.

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I was studying Theology and Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame in Sydney, Australia. Meanwhile I was also working in a kitchen.

What brought you to the Capuchins?

Through the example of Friars and a deeper discovery of faith.

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

Capuchin's have a lot of work with the poor, but I've found work with the intellectually disabled especially enjoyable and powerful. Just starting work at the prison, I've already come to love it there and look forward now to each visit

Who has influenced your spirituality the most?

Growing up with the Croatian friars around, they definitely taught and instilled in me the Franciscan spirit. Sts Augustine and Edith Stein have been friends on the way and shaped my look at the world too.

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

(Remembering that I'm the Australian) I used to play baseball

Br. Jose Vera

Province of St. Joseph

Hometown: Greenbay, Wisconsin Age: 34

Name a book, movie, or song that you think describes you:

Not sure if I can think of one that can describe me.

What were you doing before you entered Capuchin formation?

I was a welder full time and riding horses on the weekends.

What brought you to the Capuchins?

At a friend's wedding I met a Capuchin. I then felt the call of God to enter while leading a young adult group.

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

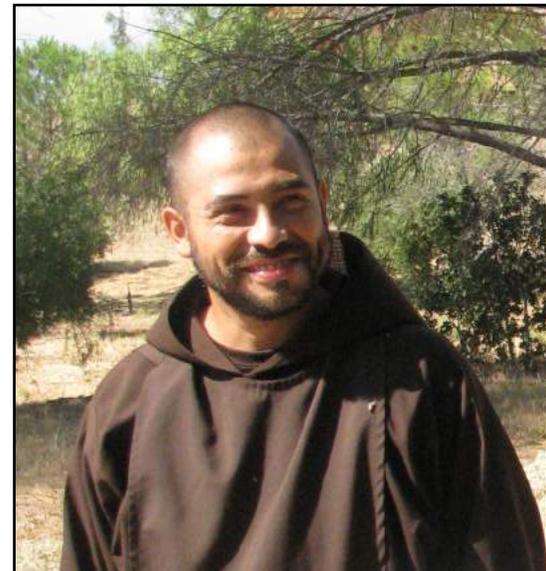
I like any ministry that allows me to have a personal connection with people.

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

Mother Teresa has always been an inspiration to me.

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

I think many people don't know that I have a twin brother.



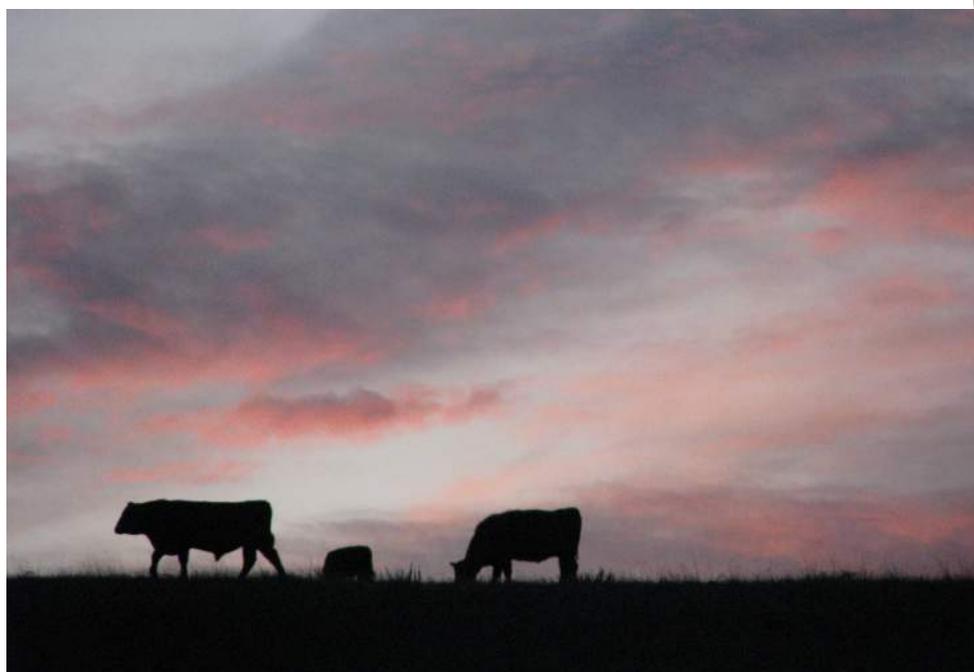
CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS



CREATIVE CAPUCHINS



Wood Carving by
Br Collin Kourtz (SA)



Photo's by
Br Mike Herlihey
(SA)



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



PAX

ET

BONUM

ABOUT US

CAPERONE is a bi-monthly newsletter produced and edited by the novices of the North American Pacific Capuchin Conference.

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