

Good News Report

Secular Franciscan Order Trillium Regional Fraternity



Number 49

Winter 2008



Minister's Letter Dec. 2008

The Trillium Regional Council was happy to meet on Monday, November 17th at St. Bonaventure's Church, on the Feast of St. Elizabeth, and at a time when the

General Chapter was holding its elections for a new council. Our new Formation Director, Les Alberti, is planning to meet with Formation Directors across the region through the year. One meeting was already held in London on November 8th. Joining Les at these meetings is our new Youth Coordinator, Silvana Loughheed, who will talk to Formation Directors about younger members, reaching out to youth, being a Christian presence in Youths' lives.

The elections for the General Chapter were held on Wednesday, November 19th. Please note the photos of three of those elected: Encarcion del Pozo of Spain was re-elected Minister for a six year term; Doug Clorey from PEI was elected Vice Minister; Tibor Hauser from Hungary was elected Presidential Councilor for English speaking fraternities in North America and Europe. Some of you may remember Benedetto Lino who came as International Visitor to our National Elections in May 2006, and made a presentation for the Trillium Fraternity on Formation Regional Bonaventure's at that time. Benedetto has been reelected Presidential Councilor for Italian speaking fraternities. For more information, check out the web-site at www.ciofs.org.

The regional council is working on appointing Area Councillors for two areas, the St. Catharines-Hamilton Dioceses and the area East of Toronto which covers Scarborough East to Madoc. We still need fraternities to nominate people for these areas. It is our hope that we can continue to provide Fraternal Visitations to the fraternities on a regular basis. Please prayerfully consider this role or nominate someone whom you think would be able to fulfill it.

There are three trips to Assisi in 2009 in the offering. One is a Youth Gathering in Assisi from August 2 to August 9th. This event is for Catholic Youth who desire a firmer foundation of their faith. The cost for registration is roughly around 210 euros, which includes all meals, the pilgrimage to Rome to see the Pope and return to Assisi, and printed handouts that include English. Cost of travel to Italy is not included. If you have a youth group, or know young people who may be interested, contact Silvana Loughheed at silvana rossi@sympatico.ca.

A pilgrimage is being organized by Brother Alan Gaebel, OFM Cap for October 2-15, 2009. Bro. Alan has conducted many pilgrimages to Assisi. For information: www.tourdesign.ca.bro.alan@capuchinscanada.com

Franciscan Pilgrimage to Italy with SFOs from Canada. Led by Bret Thoman, SFO

Join Secular Franciscans from Canada on a Pilgrimage to Italy led by an experienced local Franciscan guide where you will visit hidden places known only to locals. Pray in Assisi on St. Francis Feast day. Visit all Franciscan sites in Assisi plus LaVerna. Also visit Holy House of Mary like Camerino and San Severino in the Marches. Alsothe best ofin Loreto, and discover unknown places Rome - St. Peter and St. Paul's, St. John's, and Catacombs.

For more info, contact: Bret Thoman, SFO Tel:770-402-4335 <u>www.stfrancispilgrimages.com</u>

As we prepare our hearts for Christ this Advent, may His peace find a permanent home in your hearts!

Prayers and blessings to all,

Debbie Tessier, ofs



the Secular Franciscan Order, Trillium Region. We aim to publish it in the middle to the end of **September**, **December**, **March & June**.

Any items you wish to include are warmly welcomed and will be published, space permitting. Articles may be sent by the 8th of the month of publishing, to Newsletter Editor, Cathy Kruger, ofs at 782 Cope Road, Welland, ON L3B 5N7 905-732-7479 or ckruger@iaw.com E-Mail is preferred. Please Note: If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter,

Please Note: If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please let me know as above.



Spiritual Assistant's Letter. Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv.

Profession of Secular Franciscans and their Sense of Belonging: was the theme of the International Chapter in Hungary.

Profession and a Sense of Belonging are two fundamental intertwined elements to fulfill our mission, without which the Order does not and cannot exist.

What authentic awareness do we have of the fact that Profession has constituted us in the state "*Professed*" in the body of the Secular Franciscan Order?

Does this sense of *belonging to the very same body* (the Order) surpass the boundaries of states, of languages, of social classes, of cultures in order to make of us one single invincible body, for the spreading of the Gospel and the restoration of the Church in Christ and the restitution of a world redeemed to God the Father?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Does the Fraternity help you to remain faithful to your Profession and to give you a *sense of belonging*? To what extent do you yourself work to help the brothers and sisters of your Fraternity to achieve these very same goals?
- 2. How can we as a regional council help our brothers and sisters in the local fraternities to more fully understand their profession and Sense of belonging?

Peter Knaapen, OJM Conv.

Editor's Note: How about some responses for inclusion in the next newsletter? Send your reflections to ckruger@iaw.com

Another Note: Be sure to check out the Trillium website. www.secularfranciscanstrilliumregion.com



YOUTH NEWS

by Silvana Loughheed, ofs Youth Coordinator Trillium Regional Franciscan Fraternity

Dear Franciscan Sisters and Brothers,

Jesus gave St. Francis a directive "Go rebuild MY Church." It became Francis' mission and so it is must be OUR mission- one person at a time! In the last newsletter I encouraged you to identify the youth and youth adult leaders in your community circle. Know them by name, show an interest in their lives and build relationships!

Let us consider St. Francis and the tradition of the Creche. How many youth know that Francis created a live nativity scene in the tiny town of Greccio in 1223? The beautifully illustrated book entitled "A Gift From Saint Francis", written by Joanna Cole and illustrated by Michele Lemieux (Canadian!) tells of Francis' idea, which has spread all over the world and continues to be a visible sign of hope, peace and joy. Consider buying and donating this book as a gift from your fraternity to the local Catholic elementary school, your church Youth Group or Children's Liturgy leaders. Read it to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews or offer to read it to a class. Let them know that St. Francis is your Holy Hero and your friend! (Kids Can Press Ltd./Toronto; ISBN 0-921103-59-X)

It was wonderful to speak to so many Ministers by phone! The purpose was to express the need for each Fraternity to have a **Youth Contact**. This person's role is to present information and suggestions from the Youth Commission and this newsletter on how to be a visible Franciscan presence to Youth and Youth Leaders. Dialogue and deciding on what is doable for your fraternity is necessary if we are to encourage youth to be disciples of Christ in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare.

Our **Youth Commission** now has four people: Louise Arruda, Gail Barrett, Colleen MacAlister and myself. It is not too late to join! Any gentlemen available? Let's brainstorm and plan simple and concrete steps to assist our fraternities in attracting young people to friendship with Francis and Clare.

There will be about **500** Catholic Christian young adults attending the **RISE UP CCO**

(Catholic Christian Outreach) CONFERENCE in Toronto from Dec. 28th to Jan. 1st, 2008. It is a 20th anniversary celebration of youth evangelizing youth on university campuses across Canada. Catholic media will be giving full coverage to this event. I have secured a table to promote Franciscan spirituality and vocations. The theme will be "ARE YOU FRANCISCAN AT HEART?" The display will include info on Francis and Clare, missions run by Franciscans such as CCFC (Canadian Food for Children), St. Francis Table, Franciscans and Friends and FrancisCorps as well as the 5th International Gathering for Youth in Assisi in August 2009. I will also be showing the "Come and See" DVD created by our own SFO brother Marzio Apollini. Let us pray in hope and expectation because these young adults are going to be the yeast and leaders in their local parishes where Franciscan seeds can take root!

In closing, my friends, **please pray** at each meeting and in your own personal prayer time for young people. Here is a prayer that you can copy and give to each member:

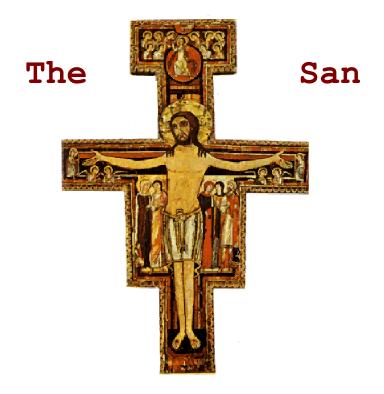
Prayer For Our Youth

God of all ages, You send out your Spirit To touch the heart's of our Youth So that they may believe in You And in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on all our Youth As they try and listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to your Spirit And bring to fulfillment the good work You have begun in them.

- **St. Francis**, may the Youth in our communities be inspired by your example of gospel living and your love for all of God's creation.
- **St. Clare**, may your life encourage youth to see and love Jesus with the eyes of their hearts and to worship and praise Him in the Blessed Sacrament and at Mass.
- **St. Elizabeth of Hungary** and **St. Louis, King of France** pray that we as Secular Franciscans be infused with the desire to embrace our **mission** of rebuilding Your Church by inviting Youth and their families to discover and use their God-given gifts for the good of all, as did young Francis and young Clare.

Silvana Loughheed, ofs



Damiano Crucifix

Prayer is love, and this is a picture to pray before. Learn its story and then live its prayer with Francis and Clare

This is the second part of the article used with kind permission of the Colletine Poor Clares in Wales, and will be concluded in the next Good News Report

The Third Day

You might, at first, take the black box behind Jesus' outstretched arms to be the cross beam, but it is in fact the tomb. Traditional icons show the tomb, not as a cave alone, but as a long stone box. At either end of the tomb are Peter and John suspended in the act of running to Calvary on Easter morning. They look in at either end and see that the tomb is empty. Two angels greet them on either side. The red draped angels are the tomb angels, their hands point to Jesus, and they look towards the holy women who are simultaneously under the cross and in the garden, saying: "He has risen, he is not here." **King of Kings**

The two green draped angels, one hand up, one down, are the angels of the Ascension. They say: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up?"

For above them is Jesus, robed and carrying the victorious cross, in a circle of vermilion (the red circle is the traditional iconographic representation of Elijah's fiery chariot - the Old Testament type of the Ascension.) He is entering heaven where he is greeted by angels. These are the ten angels of the Covenant. The Covenant that Christ fulfilled in his Paschal mysteries. That is why two of the angels are in white - they represent the two commandments of the old law which are directed to God alone. The others wear red drapes because they represent the commandments that govern the covenant between a person and his neighbour, which can only be fulfilled by participation in the Passion.

The Stone that the Builders Rejected

Christ's feet rest against the symbolic rock that stands for Daniel's vision, which, in classical icons is shown under the feet of Christ, and of Mary, and of the Trinity, when they sit enthroned. Christ is the foundation stone, the corner stone which, being torn from the mountain of God has destroyed the old and is the foundation of the new.

The New Anastasis

Beneath the stone, kissed away by the devotion of ages, should be the traditional iconographic representation of the Anastasis, the harrowing of hell. But here it is Christ's blood from his wounded feet which descends into a Sheol, occupied not only by the Fathers of the Old Testament, but by all of us, washed and redeemed by his precious blood and armed with anticipatory halos.

The Pillar of Cloud

The whole cross is surrounded by what, on the original, is a separate piece of wood, decorated with a rippling shell pattern - the Romanesque artistic shorthand for clouds. For this is the cross of the Exodus, and Christ is not only the new Elijah at his ascension. He is the new Moses, striking water from the rock and sprinkling the people with the blood of his sacrifice. So, by implication, this stupendous image is not only the crucifixion - and the resurrection - and the ascension, it is also the transfiguration, cloaked in the cloud of the Divine presence. Yet, like the disciples, we look up and see only Jesus, we look up and see in his face love, forgiveness, peace, suffering, consummation.

To be continued...



Trillium Certificates

For Trillium Certificates to mark professions, anniversaries of profession & Service Recognition for Spiritual Assistants, (usually 5 year milestones) please contact:

Cathy Kruger, ofs 782 Cope Road Welland, ON Phone# 905-732-7479

or

ckruger@iaw.com

L3B 5N7

Since certificates are signed by both the Minister and Spiritual Assistant, please apply in good time if you wish to have them on the profession day or anniversary date.

Advent Prayer

Henri J.M. Nouwen

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus! Amen"

http://www.cin.org/liter/advnouw.html

Retreats

Mount Carmel

"Walking with St. Bonaventure" Brother Ignatius Feaver, OFMCap February 6-8, 2009

Cost: \$300.00

Saint Bonaventure articulated well the spirit and intent of St. Francis in his radical gospel living. Come walk the spiritual path with Bonaventure and capture the Franciscan spirit with a knowledgeable guide, Brother Ignatius.

Lenten Retreat:

St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity will host their annual Lenten Retreat at...

Holy Rosary Parish in Thorold, Friday, March 20, 2009 at from at 9:30 a.m. to about 3:00 p.m.

- The day will include a talk by Father Peter Knaapen, topic yet to be announced.
- Holy Hour, reconciliation and Mass.
- A bring your own bag lunch. (Beverages will be provided).



Formation Corner

Renewal of Fraternity life involves not only the periodic renewal of leadership but also the attraction and formation of new members. It was the example of Francis' life that drew men to

follow him. Once no longer by himself Francis became solicitous in providing for his brothers conversion by appreciating the difficulties of a life long conversion in solitude. And so he encouraged them to be helpmates to each other. Fraternity formation programs are never a solitary affairs.

From the presentation of NAFRA we find that persons responsible for formation of a new member are the Holy Spirit, the candidate, the entire fraternity, the Minister with the Council, the formation director, spiritual assistant, the sponsor and the higher levels of fraternity. It is in recognizing this responsibility that plans were put in place to hold four sub regional meetings with Ministers and Formation Directors in the Trillium Region during the first year of elections.

Within the Trillium Region the attraction of new candidates remains a challenge in certain areas. And so we are invited to pray for vocations to St. Padre Pio –

St. Padre Pio, the Sacred Heart of Jesus has chosen you as an exceptional witness to His love and mercy. Please pray to this infinite source of grace that He may grant us health of body and soul. May we, with the help of your intercession, become like you, a living image of the Lord's goodness. Amen. St. Pio, help us to attract new members. - 3 times

As for material, audio lecture courses by some of the best teachers in the world are available at www.NowYouKnowMedia.com Debbie passed this on with her recommendation and the discount

code of F72. If you use this service please give Debbie Tessier's name in the comment box.

As Franciscans we are always on the road of conversion and learning. This site will help achieve those goals while in the car or on the subway. This may even help with the on-going formation presentations or with the Fraternities' lending libraries.

May the Lord bring His light into all our lives at this spirit filled Christmas tide and may your New Year be a prosperous and happy one in the Lord.

Les Alberti, ofs



"What It Means To Be A Secular Franciscan In The World Today".

Notes from Irene McEvers on some practical ideas/actions for how to live out our Franciscan calling.

In April 2008 St. Angela Merici Fraternity in Oshawa had a day of recollection. The theme centered on "What it means to be a Secular Franciscan in the world today". Paul Nicholls and Irene McEvers did some preparation. Irene took some points from a Franciscan conference CD, loaned by Debbie Tessier; then Paul got some additional material from the internet with which to flesh out a presentation.

As the day of recollection progressed, it became clear that we had to act, not just listen. Irene then came up with the idea of splitting the group of 18 into three, depending on where their interests led them. We would look at "timely issues", and see what could be done.

There were a number of events happening at the time. One Church was having a fundraiser for Africa; vocation support was suggested. Allen Frank was fighting a toxic waste dump, etc. We had about seven ideas.

The three groups consisted of pray-ers, letter-writers, and projects. The members of the prayer group were to pray each day for the aims of the other two groups, particularly on Sunday morning.

The letter-writers, headed up by Margaret Maines, would monitor the news and our projects, and write letters to the appropriate parties. For example, a student group promoting life issues was being discriminated against. They received a letter of support from our fraternity. Rogers Cable TV raising rates on Internet customers; the company was asked to discount seniors. A gracious replied was received that this was being looked into.

Allen's anti-toxic waste group received a support letter as well, with copies to the environment Ministry. This was promised to bring about a meeting between the Ontario government and all involved parties. In December 2008 the owner of the property was sent to jail.

There were many more letters, including the protest of Henry Morgentaler's Order of Canada. Our MP, Colin Campbell called to say that he was against it, but his hands are tied. Where appropriate, we sent copies to our local paper and any government offices, including these notations in the original letter; to show we meant business.

Regarding projects, we went through each idea, asking for support from fraternity members investigating each idea to see what it involved and how we could act upon it.

More ideas and concerns about our aging members as they decline in health will probably bring about changes again.

Praise God for a very competent council who make things happen. Ideas are great but seeing them through is another thing.

Trene McEvers, ofs

Editor's Note: Richard Boileau, ofs is a Deacon from Montreal whom some of you may remember from the National Chapter at Mount Carmel in 2006.

Dear Friends of Saint Francis,

In previous years, in the time of Advent, I have been associated with events that express solidarity with the poor, as this was one of the central preoccupations of Saint Francis. This year, as no event is planned, I take this opportunity to appeal directly for your participation in a program to assist vulnerable children in Malawi, among the poorest countries in the world.

Saint Francis was rich in generosity. At no time has generosity been more necessary than it is

today, or will it ever be more blessed. Those who have the least always suffer the most in troubled economic times.

The project

Malawi is a peaceful land of hope. With support and time, it can emerge from the jaws of extreme poverty. But the situation calls for immediate attention.

AIDS prevalence in the northern town of Mzuzu is among the highest of any city or town in the world. The northern region has always been considered to be the least developed part of Malawi and certainly Mzuzu is far behind the other two cities of Lilongwe and Blantyre both in terms of infrastructure and development opportunities.

The main driver of socio-economic development in any region of chronic poverty is education, particularly the education of girls.

In Mzuzu, where the Canadian *Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception* manage Marymount Girls' Catholic Secondary School, promising young girls are unable to complete their education for lack of money for school and boarding, which provides both security and a proper learning environment. They need and deserve the opportunity that you can provide.

A bursary of \$800 Canadian will brighten the future of one student and that of her community as well, by covering school and boarding fees for a year. *Crib and Cross Franciscan Ministries* (CCFM) plans to establish a fund that will enable as many industrious girls as possible to change the future of their country in small but meaningful ways.

You can participate

Support vulnerable children by your prayers and by your donations. Donations should be sent to the MICs who hold funds in trust for us. Please mark your check "CCFM Hope for Children Malawi Program." A tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$10 or more.

- Procure des Missions CCFM Hope for Children Malawi Program
- Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception 121 Maplewood; Montreal, QC H2V 2M2

Please note that I plan to visit Malawi, perhaps in May 2009 to audit projects that we have funded by CCFM in the past and evaluate potential new ones. A small percentage of your donation

would go toward expenses related to this essential aspect of good stewardship.

CCFM invites you to forward this message to friends and family.

Thanking you for reading it, I leave you with a prayer that I wrote for greater simplicity, gratitude and generosity. It is not brief, but nor is the joy that comes from God's merciful response. Fraternally,

Richard Boileau, ofs

crib and cross Franciscan Ministries www.cribandcross.com

Prayer for Simplicity, Gratitude and Generosity

In the name of God Father, Son and Holy Spirit I pray with all my heart that despite my sinfulness I be granted these gifts of great value.

First, grant me holy Simplicity O simple piety and pious simplicity! (Thomas of Celano)

Simplicity must be in the intention and purity in the affection. Simplicity aims at God; purity takes hold of Him and tastes Him. (Thomas A Kempis)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God (Mt 5:3)

My dearest Lord, I beg you to turn my heart, mind and soul to the simple things of life that in their purity they may serve as a mirror of your great mercy and love for me. Protect me, O God, from the temptation of paths that lead to undue complexity and goals that are self-serving. Make me to walk in simplicity because your grace is sufficient. (2 Cor. 12: 9)

Speak to my heart, my Lord, the meaning for my own life behind your challenge to the rich man, Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me. (Mk 10: 21)

Then, grant me joyful Gratitude Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honour, and all blessing (St. Francis)

We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost Gratitude (Acts 24:3)

He that desires to retain the grace of God let him be thankful for grace when it is given (Thomas A Kempis) Loving and most generous Lord, I give you thanks for the many ways in which you have blessed each second of my life. I thank you for the stars, the birds and the people who show me your radiant smile.

Make me ever more aware and grateful for the countless and often invisible blessings that I receive constantly from you and make me more mindful of the needs of others.

Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe (Heb 12:28) And finally, grant me loving Generosity Just as I have loved you, you should love one another (1 Jn. 3: 34)

Truly I tell you, what you did to one of the least of mine you did it to me (Mt 25:40)

Though St. Francis was poorer in wealth, he was richer in generosity (Celano)

Lord, teach me to be generous, teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save that of knowing that I do your will (St. Ignatius)

Lord, giver of life, grant that as the grace of gratitude grows within my heart, I may come to know that my life overflows with goodness from you. I believe, O lover of all creatures, that this abundance is not for me to hold but to share. In your great goodness, you share with me the delight of giving and loving without reservation. Amen.

Pilgrimages

5th International Gathering of Youth in August 2009 at the Basilica of St. Francis, Assisi, Italy.

August 2- 9, 2009 For young people from 17 - 30 years. For all details contact Friar Ed Debono: eddebono@aol.com or TRF Youth cocoordinator Silvana Loughheed, ofs silvana rossi@sympatico.ca.

Encourage/assist young people you know.

Franciscan Pilgrimage to Italy with Franciscan Seculars.

- -An exciting 11-Day Franciscan Pilgrimage to Central Italy is slated for Sep./Oct. 2009.
- -This event will be led by Bret Thoman, sfo.
- -The price is estimated at \$2,490.
- Bret can be contacted at 770-402-4335 or www.stfrancispilgrimages.com

A pilgrimage to Assisi is being organized by Brother Alan Gaebel, OFM Cap for October 2-15, 2009. Bro. Alan has conducted many pilgrimages to Assisi. For information: www.tourdesign.ca

bro.alan@capuchinscanada.com

Local Fraternity Bulletin Board

Professions

Praise God for the many recent professions. Heartiest congratulations to all 35 of you!

St. Clare of Assisi, Midland, Oct. 4th

Lisa Theriault, ofs

St. Peter, Woodbridge, Oct. 4th

Antonia Aiello Panzini, ofs

Domenico Caputo, ofs

Maria Caputo, ofs

Luigia Cianfarani, ofs

Emilia Francone, ofs

Giovanna Gallo, ofs

Maria C. Margherita Mitri, ofs

Natalina Sestito, ofs

Bruno Simone, ofs

Luisa Tashos, ofs

St. John Vianney, North York, 12th

Regina Myong Za Lee, ofs

Clara Jung Jae Song, ofs

Michael Wan Ho Song, ofs

Elizabeth Hyung Ju Hong, ofs

Maria Myung Ok Won, ofs

Benedict Jin Kook Lee, ofs

Gemma Hae Kyung Song, ofs

Immaculate Conception, Toronto (Italian) Oct. 17th

Nancy Sorbara, ofs

Virginia Lecce, ofs

Mount Alverno (emerging fraternity) Oct. 23rd

Dolores Dunn, ofs

Debi Golden, ofs

Bruce Golden, ofs

Jayne Kulikauska, ofs s

Janet McKay, ofs

Sharon Robinson, ofs

Kevin Spurling, ofs

Laurie St. Pierre, ofs

Dan St. Pierre, ofs

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Mississauga (Polish) Dec. 7th

Anna Ivanescu, ofs

Helena Klej, ofs

Justyna Królik, ofs

Wacław Romaniewicz, ofs

Elżbieta Sobiecka, ofs

Wojciech Szelag, ofs

Obituary

Laurent (Larry) Quennevile, ofs, went home to the Lord on Dec. 11, 2008. For many years Larry was the Formation Director of St. Anne Fraternity, Tecumseh. May he enjoy the vision of God and rest in peace.

About This Page

Local fraternities, please send us notice of events (past or upcoming). This is **your** page.

Elections: Congratulations to those serving their Local Fraternities.

St. Peter Fraternity, Woodbridge, Nov. 16th

Tony Tarantini, ofs Minister Rosanne Zeppieri, ofs Vice-Minister Luisa Tashos, ofs Secretary

Treasurer Mary Filangi, ofs

Formation Director Rose Tarantini, ofs

International Councilors



On the first round of balloting, with an overwhelming majority. Encarnacion del Pozo of Spain was re-elected general minister of the world-wide Secular Franciscan Order Nov. 19 during the Order's 12th General

Chapter being held near Budapest, Hungary. By accepting she will serve for a six-year



Doug Clorey of Canada is the new vice minister of the Secular Franciscan Order, elected by a majority vote on the second round.

Clorey was previously a Presidency councilor for English-speaking countries group 1 (North America and Europe), and before that, he was Canada's international councilor. Clorey by avocation is a musician and song writer who sang one of his original compositions to the assembly when he was introduced candidate as a



Tibor Kauser, the international councilor for Hungary and a host for the general chapter, is the new Presidental councilor for Englishspeaking area 1 (N. America and Europe).

Your Editors, Cathy & Maurice, take this opportunity to thank all our contributors, including Trillium members who give lots of copy, as we join with them in wishing our readers and everyone a Holy and Blessed Christmas.