

# St. Anthony of Padua (Lisbon)



## June 2017 Benefactor's Appeal



Capuchins of Central Canada  
2100 Jane Street  
Toronto, ON M3M 1A1  
Province of Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd



June 2017

Dear Friends;

Summer is almost here but we still, on some days, walk around feeling like winter. Brother Sun and Sister Water have been good to us by warming our days and awakening life in nature which surrounds us. We all look forward to enjoying the warm, sunny and more restful days ahead. This is the time to connect to friends, make gardens and have some spicy barbecues with the family at home, cottage or in campgrounds. We Capuchin brothers wish you all much fun and joy during summer. We also think of others who are less fortunate than some of us.

Let us also find time to reflect upon our lives and bring our concerns to God through the intercessions of the many Capuchin Franciscan saints. I am grateful to God, to the Capuchin brothers and to all of you for your kindness and generosity. Last year at this time I was elected as the Provincial of the Capuchins of Central Canada and now at the completion of one year I am filled with loving gratitude.

As summer arrives it is time for us to renew ourselves together with our Mother Earth which has come to life around us. This is the time to begin anew, a time to renew, and a time to hope for new beginnings in life.

Our brothers in formation also experience change as they move forward. Br. Michael Mascarenhas made his solemn vows in June 24, 2016 and has successfully completed his first year of Theology studies at St. Peter's Seminary in London. Br. Akram Esho made his first profession on July 16, 2016 and is now completing one year of post novitiate formation in Blenheim and is currently preparing to begin Philosophy studies in St. Peter's Seminary in London. Br. Sunil D'Costa is completing his novitiate and will profess temporary vows in July, 2017. Mr. Martin Ngo has been accepted into our postulancy program and will move to Milwaukee, WI in August 2017. Rejoice with us as these young men bring joy to the Capuchins of Central Canada and hope to the Capuchin Order around the world.

As always we seek your help, both spiritual and financial to continue forming these young men in their pursuit of religious vocation. We invite you to be part of this great cause through your spiritual and financial support so that we can accept those young men knocking at our door, and not have to turn anyone away for lack of finances. Your generosity will help us to continue our Vocation work and to continue our promotion of Capuchin Religious life, your financial support is essential to the formation of our Postulants and Novices for their eventual work in the church. Please be as generous as you are able and know that we promise to hold you in prayer and remember your intentions in our prayers.

I remain your little brother in Christ, In St. Francis and St. Clare.

*Br. Henry Alva OFM. Cap.*

"The Lord bless you and keep you.  
May He show His face to you and have mercy.  
May He turn His countenance to you and give  
you peace. The Lord bless you."







My Novitiate year at San Lorenzo seminary has been full of learning. I have seen myself grow ever since I started living in community with the Capuchin brothers over two years ago. My discernment of living a life as a Capuchin friar has been validated and reaffirmed all along the way. Every step of the journey, I felt reassured and blessed; through the graces of God, He showed me the way and I simply followed.

My prayer life has been my anchor over this period. I have dwelled deeper and gained more strength in this aspect of Capuchin Franciscan life that is the contemplative side of praying and meditating both communally and personally. I have allowed my affective nature to bloom, a goal that I had set for myself ever since joining the Capuchin Franciscans was to make the shift from the head to the heart. Both my ministry and prayer lives have contributed significantly towards this besides the fraternal interactions.

I feel at ease living out the three vows of obedience, poverty and chastity as a Capuchin Franciscan friar. In the Novitiate, the sessions on obedience and poverty provided meaningful insights on how poverty and obedience are viewed as a Capuchin friar. The obedience of Christ to undergo His passion and death as a sign of His love towards His Heavenly Father as well as a love for us by sacrificing His life for all humanity was a fundamental model for obedience that I can use for myself. Similarly the session on chaste life along with reading chapter four of Pope Francis' encyclical *Amoris laetitia* provided an insight into how to live the chaste life with love as the basis of it all. Christ provides me with the model of how I am being called to live the Christian life to both my religious brothers and to everyone else.

One aspect in which I had to grow, was more engagement in fraternal life. Accepting feedback from some of my brother novices I began to change my behaviors to be more present to them during games and activities at community social times. However, there is still further growth for me in learning about the give and take of community living.

Through reading on the history of Franciscan life, the history of the Franciscan movement, and the history of the Capuchin reform within the Franciscan movement, I have been able to gain further knowledge about the Capuchins. In addition, I completed a comparative analysis of the Capuchin Constitutions from 1536 to 2013, allowing me to learn more about the various elements that govern Capuchin life. Yet, I still have further reading to accomplish on the Capuchin saints as they lived their lives; this will be one of my goals during my post-novitiate life.

In the short-term, I see myself studying philosophy and theology by working towards ordination, besides living in community as a brother. Thereafter, depending on the needs of my province and the order, I will serve in capacities expected of me. I look forward to spending time in various houses and ministries. This will help me connect with and get to know the brothers more closely as well as gain insights into the various ministries and the people we minister to in Canada.

For more than two years I have discerned my call to religious life with the Capuchins. Throughout this period I have reflected on the seriousness of the commitment to this vowed life that I am about to make. The vow of chastity enables me to be more inclusive rather than exclusive in my love to all. The vow of poverty helps me to be free from attachments and possessions so as to make me more available and present to others. The vow of obedience, facilitated by the working of the Holy Spirit, allows me to listen to my seniors and peers.

I feel graced to be a witness to living a life based on Gospel values and counsels and provide a role model to others by the way I live my religious vocation as a friar. I feel confident and assured to take first vows, as it is a continuation of my formation journey. I look forward to it.

Blessings,

*Bro Sanil D'Costa, orm, cap.*



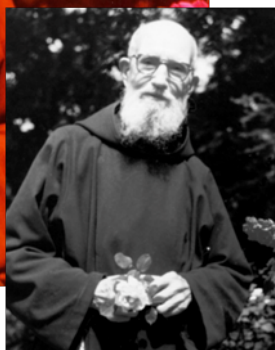
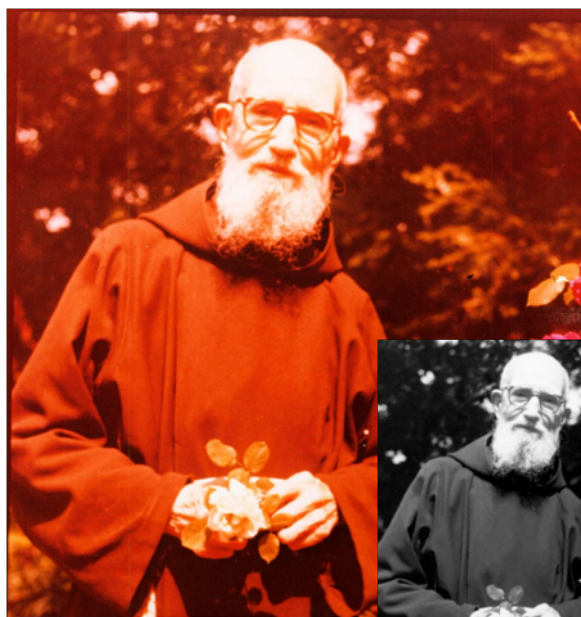
## Benefactor's Appeal Report Jan 01, 2017—June 01, 2017



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Name	Amount
100 St Philip Neri CWL Burse	\$500.00 ( 3 )
112 William J Whyte Sr Memorial Burse	\$50.00 ( 1 )
19 Blonde Family Burse	\$15.00 ( 3 )
203 Gilda and Raffaele Gaglione Family Burse	\$50.00 ( 1 )
250 Christine Wilcox Memorial Burse	\$100.00 ( 1 )
277 BR John Corriveau Burse #2	\$500.00 ( 1 )
334 Marie Van Boxtel Memorial Burse	\$100.00 ( 1 )
382 Klein Family Burse #2	\$50.00 ( 1 )
411 Joseph & Bridgett Heffernan Memorial Burse	\$195.00 ( 8 )
416 St. Alphonsus Parish Burse #5	\$53.00 ( 2 )
426 Br. Paul Duplessie Burse#7	\$500.00 ( 1 )
476 Br. Paul Duplessie Burse #8	\$700.00 ( 2 )
479 Br Aurele Prefontaine Memorial Memorial Burse #5	\$100.00 ( 1 )
483 Br. Louis Mousseau Burse #6	\$75.00 ( 2 )
484 Br. Otger Devent Memorial Burse#3	\$50.00 ( 2 )
489 St Jude Burse #3	\$120.00 ( 2 )
496 Gasperino and Elena De Gasperis Burse #	\$700.00 ( 3 )
497 Maria Van Massenhoven Memorial Burse #2	\$146.50 ( 2 )
498 Charles P. Sherren Memorial Burse #2	\$50.00 ( 1 )
500 Padre Pio Burse #4	\$10.00 ( 1 )
504 St Philip Neri CWL Burse #2	\$60.00 ( 2 )
505 Seminarists Burse #24	\$2,190.18 ( 44 )
514 Devotees Of Daily Mass & Rosary	\$125.00 ( 3 )
95 St Joseph Burse #2	\$50.00 ( 1 )
General Campaign	\$540.00 ( 1 )





Capuchin Friars  
across  
North America  
Rejoice and anticipate with  
great joy, the upcoming  
Beatification  
of  
Ven. Solanus Casey, ofm, cap.  
in November 2017.  
(Date To Be Announced)  
Be sure to join us in prayer,  
or in Detroit, Michigan!



**DETROIT** — Sixty years after his death, Venerable Fr. Solanus Casey is on his way to sainthood.

Pope Francis announced May 4 that Detroit's beloved Capuchin friar has met the requirements for beatification and will be named "blessed" — the second U.S.-born man to achieve such a designation and the first person from Michigan.

Although Fr. Solanus was born in Oak Grove, Wis., in 1870, he spent most of his adult life and ministry in Detroit, caring for the sick, poor and downtrodden and lending a listening ear and caring heart to the thousands who came to him for counsel, wisdom and aid. Among the hundreds — if not thousands — of healings attributed to Fr. Solanus during and after his lifetime, Pope Francis recognized the authenticity of a miracle necessary for the friar to be elevated from "venerable" to "blessed" after a thorough review by the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints, including panels of doctors and theologians, was completed earlier this year.

"The beatification of Fr. Solanus Casey is an incomparable grace for the Church in the Archdiocese of Detroit and for the whole community of Southeast Michigan," Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron said in a statement. "He is an inspiration to all us Catholics - and to all - of the power of grace to transform one's life."

The archbishop was greeted with whistles and loud cheers when he announced during a 10:30 a.m. news conference at St. Bonaventure Monastery that the Holy Father had affirmed the miracle through Fr. Solanus' intercession, "and now he's on his way to beatification."

According to Fr. David Preuss, OFM Cap., director of the Solanus Casey Center, the miracle needed to raise Fr. Solanus to "blessed" involved a woman with an incurable genetic skin disease. The woman was visiting friends in Detroit and stopped at Fr. Solanus' tomb to pray for others' intentions. After her prayers, she felt the strong urging to ask for the friar's intercession for herself, too, and received an instant and visible healing. The miraculous nature of her cure was verified by doctors in her home country, in Detroit and in Rome, all of whom confirmed there was no scientific explanation.

In May 2017, Pope Francis signed a decree declaring Fr. Solanus to be "blessed" and clearing the way for a beatification ceremony in Detroit in November, 2017. (Date to be announced)

<http://www.themichigancatholic.org/2017/05/pope-francis-announces-fr-solanus-to-be-declared-blessed/>

<http://www.solanuscenter.org/>



## Our Lady Undoer of Knots Pray for Us

### Unfailing Novena to the Virgin Mary, Undoer of Knots

How did this devotion start?

To show us the mission granted to the Virgin Mary by her Son, the artist Johann Melchior Georg Schmitdner painted "Mary Undoer of Knots with great grace. Since 1700, his painting has been venerated in the Church of St. Peter in Perlack, Augsburg, Germany. It was originally inspired by a meditation of Saint Irenaeus (Bishop of Lyon, martyred c.202) based on the parallel made by St Paul between Adam and Christ. St Irenaeus, in turn, made a comparison between Eve and Mary, saying "Eve, by her disobedience, tied the knot of disgrace for the human race; whereas Mary, by her obedience, untied it".

Ahh, the knots of our life! How they suffocate the soul, beat us down and betray the heart's joy and separate us from God. Day after day, more and more, Christians are kneeling to pray to Her as soon as they meet the Mother of the Fair Love. Many families have become reconciled! Many diseases have been healed! Many spouses have returned to their faith and the Church! Many jobs have been given! Many conversions have taken place! Many Catholics have been on their knees in prayer and gratitude for the graces received from our sweet Mother.

Then free from our knots — filled with happiness, we can be a testimony of the Divine Power in this world, like pieces of God's heart or small bottles of perfume exhaling mercy and love to our neighbour. Like ambassadors of Jesus Christ and the Virgin of the fair love, we can rescue those who cry without any consolation, those who are lonely, tied with knots, who have no God, not Father nor Mother.

The Capuchins of Central Canada  
are pleased to offer you  
this booklet

**Novena to the  
Virgin Mary, Undoer of Knots**

for a donation of \$10.00\*

(\* includes postage)

Please allow 3-4 weeks to print and  
mail your order

Quantity: \_\_\_\_ Suggested donation of \$10 incl. \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

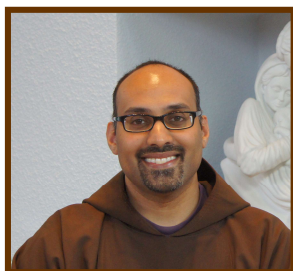
City: \_\_\_\_\_

Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ P/Code: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print your Name and Address clearly,  
or affix your mailing label.



# Please Pray for



Br Michael Mascarenhas  
Solemnly Professed  
in Priestly Formation  
London ON



Br Akram Esho  
Simply Professed  
1st year Post Novitiate  
Blenheim ON



Br Sunil D'Costa  
Novice  
Santa Ynez CA



Mr. Martin Ngo  
Postulant  
Milwaukee, WI

## Our Friars in formation

Please Support our Student Friars through your online donation at  
[www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-capuchin-foundation/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-capuchin-foundation/)

# THE CAPUCHIN LEGACY PROGRAM

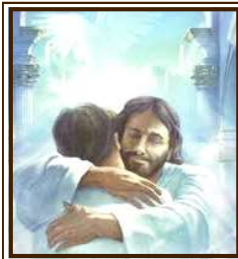


As Christians one of the most important tasks we have is that of faithful stewardship. This is beautifully expressed in St. Francis' "Canticle of the Creatures" which gives thanks for our interdependent relationship with all of God's creation, in which we all share.

This same spirit also finds contemporary resonance in a quote by the Venerable Fr. Solanus Casey, OFM, Cap (d.1957) who stated, *"The only science that gives purpose to every other science is the science of religion – the science of our happy relationship with, and our providential dependence on God and our neighbour."*

One of the most important and faith filled acts of stewardship that you can do is to make certain that you have a current will. It is your loving remembrance for others and your love is returned a hundred-fold in your reaching out and assuring "*new life*" for others.

**Have YOU considered what your legacy will be?**



Not only can you leave a gift of financial remembrance but gifts of Life Insurance, Stocks, Bonds or Property may also be gifted through your will.

For further information contact:

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416.241.3101 ext.245  
[bro.alan@capuchins.ca](mailto:bro.alan@capuchins.ca)

## OUR CAPUCHIN BURSE PROGRAM

The Capuchin Burse Program exists to fund our participation in the Capuchin Initial Formation Programs. These programs consist of three elements, Postulancy, Pre-Novitiate and Novitiate, in which our men receive their initial training and education in the Capuchin Franciscan way of life.

Our Postulancy Program is a collaborative effort between the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph (Detroit) and ourselves, and is currently based in Milwaukee, WI. The Pre-Novitiate and Novitiate programs have an international reality in which the Capuchin provinces of the United States, Australia, Canada (English), and Guam participate, by sending their members to our Intercontinental Novitiate based in California. During this time our men begin studying the life of St. Francis of Assisi as well as Capuchin and Church history.

The goal of our programs is to provide solid religious foundations for our young men, which are world-class, informative, enlightening and which emphasize that their vocations are not only to the local, but also the worldwide Church.

The current costs from Postulancy through Novitiate are approximately \$100,000.00 (CDN) per person. Your donations to our Capuchin Burse Program directly enable our men to participate in these Capuchin Initial Formation programs and thereby provide the Catholic Church with men who are well formed in Capuchin Franciscan spirituality and prepared for active ministry within the Church..

***PLEASE be generous and THANK YOU for your Financial Support and Prayers!***