



Fraternitas

OFM International News

POPE FRANCIS' VISIT TO ASSISI



On the Feast of St. Francis, on October 4, Patron Saint of Italy, Pope Francis made a pastoral visit to Assisi. The main stages of the visit were:

- Meeting with disabled children and the sick of the Seraphic Institute of Assisi
- Private visit to the Shrine of San Damiano, welcomed by the Minister General, Br. Michael A. Perry, OFM, and the Fraternity of the Convent.
- Meeting with the poor assisted by Caritas in the Hall of Dispossession of the Bishop of Assisi.
- Private visit to the Upper Basilica of St. Francis and to the crypt in order to venerate the tomb of St. Francis.
- Holy Mass in the Square of St. Francis of Assisi.
- Lunch with the poor assisted by Caritas in downtown at the Donegiani Square in St. Mary of the Angels.
- Visit to the Carceri Hermitage and private prayer in the cell of St. Francis; moment of welcome by the Franciscan Fraternity .
- Meeting with the Clergy, Persons of Consecrated Life and Members of the Pastoral Councils of the Diocese in the Cathedral of St. Rufino in Assisi.
- Veneration of the body of St. Clare in the crypt of the Basilica of St. Clare and silent prayer before the Crucifix of San Damiano in the Chapel of the Choir of the Basilica of St. Clare, where at the end Pope Francis, accompanied by the Cardinals, met the Poor Clares of the Monastery to whom he addressed a spontaneous greeting.
- Visit and silent prayer in the Portiuncula of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, where he was welcomed by the Guardian and the Fraternity of the Franciscan Convent and met with the youth of Umbria in the square of the same Basilica. In the center pages you find out more about the visit at: <http://www.ofm.org/ofm/?p=5761>

Spiritual Exercises , COMPI



The COMPI Spiritual Exercises for friars preparing for Solemn Profession took place from August 17-27, 2013, at the Convent of Santa Maria della Spineta (Fratta Todina, Perugia). They were led by Br. Andrea dall'Amico of the Seraphic Province of Umbria; it was entitled, "At Your Word, I Will Let Down the Nets." Through some passages in the Gospels and some witnesses of holiness (both Franciscan and not) of the 1900s, the friars were able to reflect on the relationship with the Lord and how his call becomes incarnate in the life of the minor. In addition to meditation, the Friar had the opportunity to hear Fr. Horace Pepe (an Official of CIVCSVA) and Msgr. Guido Marini (Master of Papal Liturgical Celebrations). The Exercises were enriched further by two pilgrimages to both Assisi and Orvieto.

Franciscan Festival in Rimini (Italy)



The Franciscan Festival was held in the historic center of Rimini from September 27-29. Now entering its fifth year, it wished to bring the Franciscan message into the streets and squares, in order to reach people in the places where they pass-by and meet. The theme was that of "journey". All possible means of communication were used: meetings of spirituality and witnesses, outdoor conferences, shows, booths of various Franciscans activities, moments

of worship, public prayer, etc. During the Festival, the passage of St. Francis in Valmarecchia 800 years ago was recalled as well as the figure of Saint Anthony of Padua, a preacher at Rimini.

Assisi, Monastery of St. Quirico



Acknowledgements to Clarissa Josephine Bivigli. The Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem has conferred the title of "Righteous Among the Nations" to Sr. Josephine Biviglia (1897-1991), the-then Abbess of the Monastery of San Quirico, for having saved many Jews in the Monastery of San Quirico (World War II).

Transitus and Feast of St. Francis-General Curia



On October 3 and 4, the General Curia celebrated the Feast of St. Francis. On October 3, we celebrated the Transitus, presided by Br. Vincent Zungu, OFM, Definitor General. In the church of Santa Maria Mediatrix were present several sisters of various Institutes, the local fraternity of OFS, and friends. On October 4, the feast day was celebrated with a solemn Mass, presided by the Dominican P. Bernardino Prella, as it is done by tradition on this day.

New Bishop

The Holy Father appointed Br. João Inácio Müller, OFM, as Bishop of Lorena, Brazil. The bishop-elect was born in 1960 in Santa Clara do Sul (Brazil),

New Visitors General

Br. Gilberto Soracchi of the Prov. *Christi Regis* ITALY, Visitor to the Prov. *Seraphica S. Francisci* Assisi, ITALY

Br. Luigi Recchia of the Prov. *Petri et Pauli* ITALY, Visitor to the Prov. *Francisci Stigmat*, ITALY.

Br. Guido Santiago Zegarra of the Prov. *SS. XII Apostolorum* PERÚ, appointed to the Prov. *N.D. de Guadalupe*, GUATEMALA.

Br. Ernesto Chambi (Assistant) of the Prov. *SS. XII Apostolorum* PERÚ, Visitor to the Prov. *N.D. de Guadalupe*, GUATEMALA.

Br. Bobby Vadakkal of the Prov. *S. Thomae Apostoli* INDIA, to the Cust. *St. Francisci*, PAPUA- NEW GUINEA.



he made his religious profession in the Order of Friars Minor in 1985 and was ordained a priest in 1988. Up to now he was Minister Provincial of the Friars Minor of the Province of St. Francis Assisi of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

Meeting of CIME

The COMPI (International Council SGME) gathered at "St. Francis Center" in Toronto (Canada) from September 22-29. Various positive and new experiences were highlighted as well as the difficulties that the friars and Provinces live in different countries of the world where they operate.



Greeting of the Minister General to Pope Francis

Your Holiness, Our Dear Holy Father Francis,

May the Lord give you peace!

These simple words of Francis of Assisi flowed from his heart pierced by the sufferings of humanity fallen prey to a spider's web of conflicts, wars, poverty and greed.

It was God who broke these chains of despair in the life of Francis through the embrace offered to him by Christ in the person of the leper and through Christ Crucified, who spoke to him three times from the San Damiano Cross, saying:

"Francis, go and repair my church which is in ruins."

As Your Holiness already knows, Francis made a further step in his journey of faith by undertaking a project of rebuilding that would begin only with bricks and mortar which still surround this small chapel. The call to simplicity of life inspired by the Gospel – *sine proprio* – lived with and among the poor allowed Francis and his



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brothers to decide to live a deeper and more prophetic forma vitae. This also meant the spiritual renewal of the Church, a pilgrim people of God, and through it, the renewal of the mission to proclaim a message of healing, reconciliation, and absolute dignity of every person, because of what God is and what He does both for us and creation in and through Jesus

We, his little brothers of the Order of Friars Minor, still and always promise obedience to You, Holy Father, as we try to participate in the renewal of the Body of Christ which is the Church. We commit ourselves anew to live the evangelical counsels of poverty through a radical life in fraternity, chastity, and obedience to the Father and Lord of life. We also promise to "make noise" and try always to announce prophetically the mercy, love, and reconciling peace of God with courage and joy!

We ask your apostolic blessing for the brothers who live in this holy place of San Damiano as well as for the novices, the Province of the Seraphic Father Francis, the entire Order of Friars Minor, and Franciscan family. We, too, today would like to offer you a special blessing:



BISHOP'S RESIDENCE



HOLY MASS IN ST. FRANCIS SQUARE



HOLY MASS IN ST. FRANCIS SQUARE



TOMB OF ST. FRANCIS



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May the peace of Christ which surpasses all human understanding, illuminate your heart, mind, and soul as you lead the Church and discern the path of the pilgrim Body of Christ, called to be a sacramental sign of the eternal love of God and of hope for the world! May the same words that Francis of Assisi received from the Lord Jesus hanging on the Cross of San Damiano inspire you while it challenges each of us, fellow disciples of Jesus and members of the Church, to believe, live, and bear witness to the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

“Francis, go and repair our church.”

Br. Michael A. Perry, OFM
Minister General



CARITAS



HERMITAGE OF THE CARCERI



ST. CLARE



SPECIAL - POPE FRANCIS TO ASSISI



BASILICA OF ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS



SQUARE OF ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS



MEETING WITH THE YOUTH OF UMBRIA



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FRANCISCAN BOOKMARK

Franciscan Books



Manhiça Alfredo M, OFM, The Processes of Democratization in Sub-Saharan Africa. The Armattan Italy, Turin, 2013, pp. 257.

The author, Professor at the PUA, describes and interprets the historical and political events linked to the difficulties of consolidation of the popular sovereignty in Africa and, from these analyzes, seeks to identify the future of the democratic model in the continent.

The Historical Archive of the Custody of the Holy Land (1230-1970)

The volumes are by Andrea Maiarelli (Milan, Edizioni Terra Santa, 2012, pp. 1,646) with the profiling of Maria Clara Cominacini, Tiziana Nandesi and Valeria Vestrelli. The origins of the monumental inventory go back to the very presence of the Friars Minor in the Holy Land, "inspired and promoted directly by St. Francis and his historic trip to this land" (cf. the article by Isabella Farinelli in "L'Osservatore Romano", October 12, 2013).



Alexandri de Hales Quaestiones disputatae quae ad rerum universitatem pertinent.

De aeternitate, aevo et tempore. De duratione mundi seu de materia prima. De duobus principiis. De malo. De oppositione mali. De modo, specie et ordine, critice editae a Hyacintho Matthaeo Wierzbicki OFM. Editiones Collegii S. Bonaventurae ad Claras Aquas (Disputed Issues regarding the universalities of things: eternity and time, duration of the world, that is, of the material first: evil and the resistance of evil, manner, kind, order, critically edited by Hyacinth Matthew Wirzbicki, OFM) - Grottaferata (Rome) 2013, pp. 493. (Bibliotheca Franciscana Scholastica Medii Aevi - Tom. XXIX. ISBN 978-88-7013- 291-5). Sales Office: quaracchi@ofm.org

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CD Rom

Br. Giambattista Montorsi

- Presence of the Friars Minor in Emilia -Romagna
 - The Friars Minor Observant and reformed in Emilia -Romagna
- santuariograzie@rimini.com



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Saint's Day of the Minister General



On October 1, at the General Curia, the Saint's Day of the Minister General, Br. Michael A. Perry, OFM was celebrated. At 18.00 there was a Eucharistic Celebration presided by the Minister, while the homily was given by Br. Julio Bunader, Vicar General.

Meeting of the North/South Slavic Conference

The meeting of the two Slavic Conferences of Provincial Ministers took



place in the House of Peace at the Franciscan Convent of Rama/Šćit (Bosnia and Herzegovina) from September 23-25.

Merging of Entities



In the presence of the Vicar General, Br. Julio Bunader, the Custody of Brother Luis Bolaños in Paraguay, dependent on the Province of Arantzazu in Spain, merged with the Assumption Province in Argentina.

Agenda of Minister General

November:

- 1: Palestrina
- 3: San Romano Valdarno
- 4-15: General Definitory Meeting
- 8: Antonianum - Scotistic Day
- 9: Day – House Dependent on the Minister General
- 10: Brussels - Missionary Mandate
- 16-30: Poland - PCO

VATICAN CITY – ARCHIVE AND NEW EVANGELIZATION

On the occasion of the Year of Faith, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, with the collaboration of various ecclesiastical institutions in Rome, organized a conference entitled: *Memoria fidei*: Ecclesiastical Archives and New Evangelization, which took place from October 23-25, 2013, in the Hall of St. Pius X at the Vatican. The conference will consist of three days on 1) Church archives between tradition and innovation; 2) Comparing experiences (speeches by archivists); and 3) The pastoral and evangelizing function of historical research. Expected among the speeches of the archivists is that of Br. Pedro Gil, OFM, former Archivist General and member of the Sinica Commission. For more information, go to www.memoriafidei.it

ROME - VII INTERNSHIP OF ARCHIVAL

The School of Medieval Studies (PUA) is organizing the seventh stage for archival workers in the archives of the Franciscan Family. The internship will take place on November 18-21, 2013, at the headquarters of the School. There will be guided visits to plac-

es of archival interest and artistic preservation of the city of Rome. To find out more, write to antonianums-ssmf@ofm.org

JERUSALEM : ATS DELIVERS 35 HOUSES TO VULNERABLE FAMILIES

Thanks to the project "Emergency and Social Housing in the Old City of East Jerusalem", ATS Pro Terra Sancta has restored and handed over 35 houses to Local Christian families.

SHRINE OF THE NEW CHURCH - ASSISI

Sergey Matvienko of St. Petersburg decided to finance the renovation of the New Church, the Franciscan Friary, the family home of Francis of Assisi.



Beatification of the Martyrs in Tarragona, Spain



A new group of martyrs belonging to the Order of Friars Minor and the Secular Franciscan Order was added to the Franciscan martyrology. The new blessed are part of a larger group of 522 martyrs who were beatified in Tarragona (Spain) from October 13, 2013. They offered their heroic witness of faith in the course of the bloody religious persecution in Spain in 1936. These are: Br. Antonio López Faúndez, Br. Buenaventura Muñoz Martínez, Don Pedro Sánchez Barba, and Don Fulgencio García Martínez.

Sr. Mary of St. Francis Wilson

On October 9, 2013, the Pope received in private audience Cardinal A. Amato to authorize the promulgation of the decree of the heroic virtues of St. Mary Francis Wilson, Foundress of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of our Lady of Victories.

From the General Curia

1. *Br. Philippe Schillings* of the Province of St. John Duns Scotus, Belgium, from September 15 is part of the fraternity of the Lateran as Penitentiary. He received the papal appointment on August 22. Br. Philippe continues to translate into the French language.

2. *Br. Giovanni Rinaldi*, of the Province of St. Charles Borromeo in Italy, since September 1 is the new Particular Secretary of the Minister General.

3. *Br. Priamo Etzi* of the Custody of Holy Mary of the Graces, Italy, since September 1 is the new Archivist of the General Curia.



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editor: Fr. Joseph Magro OFM

eMail: comgen@ofm.org

tel: +39 0668491 339

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