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Capuchin Vocation Update

Province of St. Joseph

Italian friends studying English with Chicago Capuchins

The Capuchins are a world-wide order in the Catholic Church. So, when someone joins the Midwest Capuchins, he is really joining Capuchins in every corner of the world. This global brotherhood puts us in contact with others in ways almost unimaginable for most people.

These global Capuchin connections put the Chicago friars, once again, in a role of hospitality for two Italian visitors referred by Capuchin Gianluigi Pasquale who himself once studied English in Chicago. Gianluigi is president of the Capuchin Theological Center in Venice, Italy and preached our Triduum Retreat this year.



Gianluigi Pasquale

The new visitors include Carlo Broccardo who is a diocesan priest teaching New Testament at La Facoltà Teologica delle Tre Venezie (The Theological Faculty of the Three Venices) in Padua.

Originally from Piovene Rocchette just below the famous Altiplano de Asiago, Carlo was ordained in 1997 after which he studied the Scriptures for six years in Rome. He knows many Capuchins from the Veneto-Friuli Province, whose best known city to Americans would be Venice.

It is only coincidental that our second guest this summer, Giovanni Rigon, will begin his third year of theological studies at the same school this fall. Having won a scholarship to study English abroad, Giovanni chose to study in Chicago at the suggestion of Gianluigi. Giovanni also knows Capuchin Lucio Saggiaro who studied in Chicago a few summers ago. They are part of a group working to establish a lay ecclesial community that will reach out to people estranged from the church, especially young people.



Carlo Broccardo and Giovanni Rigon

One of the privileges and joys of being a Capuchin is having so many contacts around the world. During the next two years, Capuchin Kalist Tesha from Tanzania will live with the friars in Chicago while working on a doctor of ministry degree at Catholic Theological Center, where the Midwest friars in postnovitiate formation also study theology. Further, in late August, Capuchin Juan Carlos Vivanco from Peru will spend three months studying English in Chicago. Our own Midwestern Capuchin Tien Dinh is currently in Juan Carlos' home Peruvian province studying Spanish for the summer. We will introduce you to Kalist and Juan Carlos in future *Vocation Updates*.

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If you're interested in joining a world-wide Catholic religious order like the Capuchins, contact
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and click on <How to Begin>.