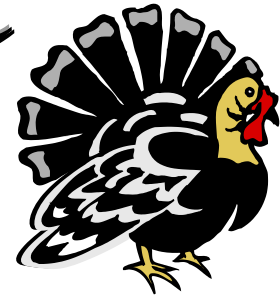


St. Anthony Journal



St. Anthony of Padua Province

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A THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

Lord, so often times, as any other day
When we sit down to our meal and pray
We hurry along and make fast the blessing
Thanks, amen. Now please pass the dressing
We're slaves to the olfactory overload
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold
But Lord, I'd like to take a few minute more
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for
For my family, my health, a nice soft bed
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head
I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those
Whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly know
Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond measure
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure
That You, dear Jesus, reside in that place
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace
So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've provided
And bless each and every person invited. Amen!

--Scott Wesemann

Provincial Unity Prayer

Most High and Good
Lord, we praise and
thank You for our
many blessings.
You have chosen and
called us to live and
labor among Your
people as followers of
Francis of Assisi.
As part of this call,
You now lead us to
blend our two
Province histories
into one new
Franciscan Province.
Bless our efforts with
gifts of openness,
generosity, growth in
personal holiness,
and provide us with
new energy in the
work You gave our
Father Francis as
builders of Your
Church. Amen.
**Immaculate Mary,
Pray for Us
St. Anthony of Padua,
Pray for Us**

MAY GOD BLESS YOU...

May God bless you with discomfort.

Discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

Amen

May God bless you with anger.

Anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

Amen

May God bless you with tears.

Tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

Amen

May God bless you with foolishness.

Enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

Amen



DIACONATE ORDINATION

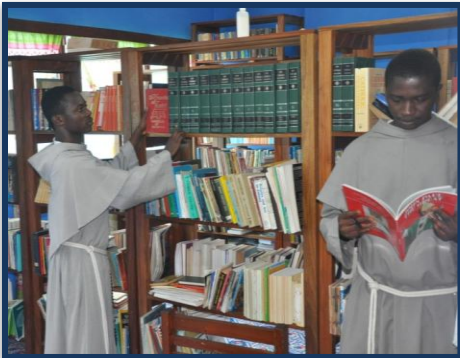
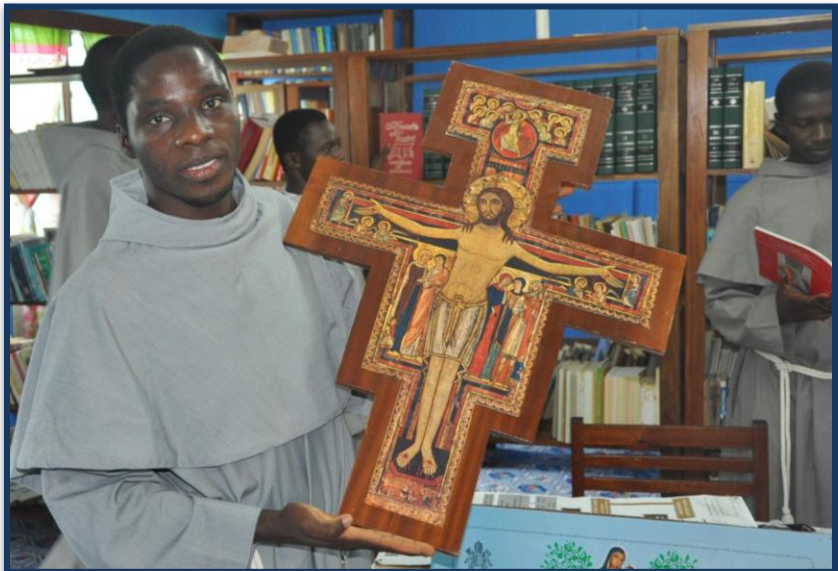
On Saturday morning, November 12, 2011, Bishop Edward Grosz, Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo, Ordained **PETER TREMBLAY** to the Transitional Diaconate in the Chapel of St. Francis High School, Athol Springs, NY. We believe that this is the first ordination to have ever taken place in the high school chapel. Peter is alumnus of St. Francis and some of his classmates were in attendance. His nephew, also named Peter Tremblay, is a senior there this year. In his instruction during his homily, Bishop Grosz stated that if Peter ever doubted what a deacon was to do, he should return to the prayer for deacons; to be of service and care, there is no greater mission statement than that. Bishop Grosz went on to say that as ministers of the gospel we are to “love the people of God, just love them.”



**ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
INCLUDING PETER TREMBLAY'S
CLASSMATES AND NEPHEW.**

FRIARS IN FORMATION

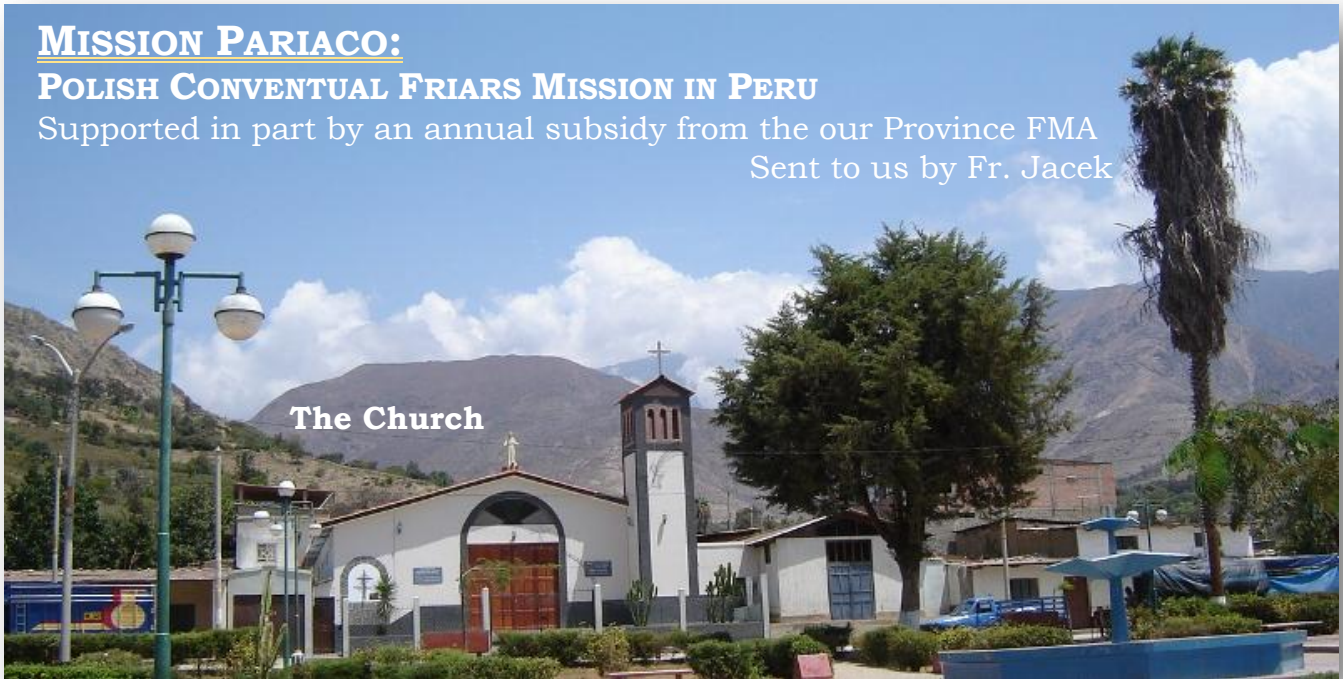
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI NOVITIATE
SALTPOND, GHANA, WEST AFRICA
A grant from our province helped further stock
the shelves of their library.



MISSION PARIACO:

POLISH CONVENTUAL FRIARS MISSION IN PERU

Supported in part by an annual subsidy from the our Province FMA
Sent to us by Fr. Jacek



The Church



The Cemetery



The Children



**The Postulants
in the Chapel**



DAVID STACHURSKI

Congratulations to David, who was recently elected to the Presbyteral Council in the Diocese of Trenton.



TIM KULBICKI

While serving on the Religious Liberty Task Force Tim, was involved in the drafting of a recent statement by the Maryland Catholic Conference entitled *The Most Sacred of All Property: Religious Freedom and the People of Maryland*. In addition, Tim's third and final installment of "Conventual Franciscans and the Common Life" appears in the latest issue of *Miscellanea Francescana* and online at: www.mdccathcon.org/library/resources/RLLaunch/ReligiousLibertyStatementbyMdBishops.pdf

Did a Franciscan Friar celebrate the first Thanksgiving Mass, followed by the "real" first Thanksgiving Feast? You decide...



Father Juan de Padilla, OFM, is the first Martyr on U.S. soil.

He died while evangelizing the native people in present day Kansas on November 30, 1544.

<http://www.amarillodiocese.org/index.cfm?load=page&page=240>

The first recorded "Thanksgiving" on North American soil actually occurred on May 29, 1541. Catholic explorer Francisco Coronado, his men and accompanying missionaries held a celebration in thanksgiving for the conversion of the Jumano Indian tribe. Father Juan Padilla, O.F.M. (fated to become the first martyr for the Faith in North America) offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. A Thanksgiving feast followed. Spanish and Indians shared a sumptuous meal contributed to by both groups. The setting was Palo Duro Canyon in what was to become the Texas panhandle. It happened 80 years before the "celebrated" Plymouth event in 1621.

www.examiner.com/roman-catholic-in-anaheim/believe-it-or-not-the-first-thanksgiving-was-catholic-1