

Graymoor Today

News from the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

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Glad Tidings with Fr. Bob

by Fr. Bob Warren, SA

Yes, Lent arrived on March 5. As we look around our world, we still see turmoil, strife and many hardships at home from unemployment to homelessness. These times are not easy for many people.

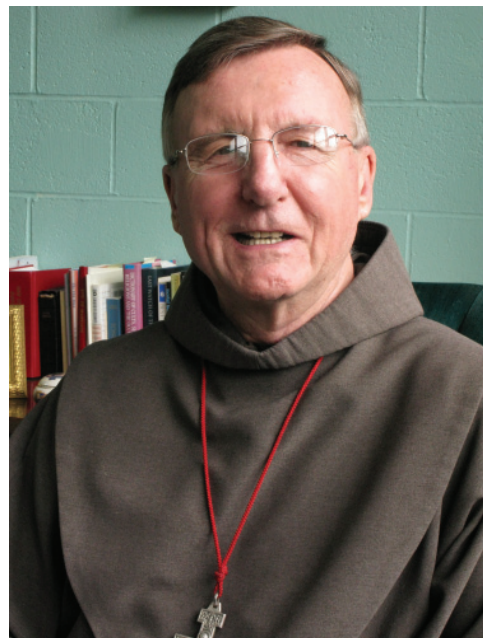
So let us take time during this holy season of Lent to pause and take stock of our lives and rethink our values. Perhaps, we need to take to heart the motto that we put on our money—"In God We Trust." We can expect, with confidence, that no matter what happens now or in the future, God will be here for us.

A story is told of the man who returned home to find his house ablaze. His terrified wife was standing outside pointing up to a window where the son was crying. His father shouted up to him, "Jump, son! Jump!" The boy cried, "But Daddy, I can't see you." "I know," his father answered. "I know, but I can see you!"

As Christians we know that we do not go through our trials and tribulations alone. God sees us. God knows our name. Lent is a good time to renew our trust and confidence in a loving God. Then we can say with the psalmist, "Even though, I walk through the darkest valley, I feel no evil, for You are with me." (Ps 23.4)

And that is **Glad Tidings**.

Pray with Fr. Bob- AtonementFriars.org/Pray



The popular *Ave Maria Hour* was aired over 350 radio stations and the Armed Forces Radio Service from 1935 until 1969, encouraging, inspiring and entertaining millions of listeners. Recorded in a studio in New York City and on the grounds of Graymoor, these historical dramatizations received many awards for religious radio programs sponsored by the American Exhibition of Educational Radio and Television programs of Ohio State University. It received the Golden Bell Award in 1959, presented on live television by Mr. Ed Sullivan.

The library of existing *Ave Maria Hour* broadcasts holds over 2,500 recordings on 12" and 16" vinyl records. This treasure of broadcasting history is stored in a climate-controlled environment at our Archive/Record Center at Graymoor. In 2008, we began restoring and converting the recordings into a digital format, starting with the much-in-demand series *The Life of Christ* (44 shows) which we now rebroadcast weekly on Internet Radio and iTunes. Each show is introduced by Fr. Bob Warren, SA, and runs about 30 minutes

Listen each Friday at 10am ET on Blog Talk Radio or visit a digital archive of shows or download a podcast. www.BlogTalkRadio.com/fr-bob-warren

Cover photo: Donna Shelley-Baumler, RKG

A reproduction of Michelangelo's 'Pieta' stands atop the Holy Mountain overlooking our Founder, Father Paul Wattson's tomb.

Our Lady of the Atonement

Father Paul Wattson, founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, had a long and deep devotion to Mary, Mother of Christ. Even before he was received into the Roman Catholic Church, Fr. Paul and Society of Atonement co-founder, Mother Lurana White, established the Rosary League of Our Lady of the Atonement. In 1903, he enclosed a pamphlet in the first issue of his publication, *The Lamp*, encouraging devotion to Our Lady by praying the Rosary.

Later, this devotion led Fr. Paul to give the title 'Our Lady of the Atonement' to the Blessed Mother. He felt that the Society of Atonement's goal to re-unify Christians could not be accomplished without the help of prayer and the intercession of Our Lady.

He wrote an editorial in *The Lamp* in March of 1910, "God forbid that the Children of the Atonement should ever be strangers to the passion and crucifixion of Jesus Christ." He adds, "The very name Atonement is a perpetual reminder of the Cross. Our Lord hanging there in mortal agony; Our Lady standing by, the sword, foretold by Simeon, piercing her heart. This is the central scene in the mystery of the Atonement."



Fr. Paul believed that her claim to this high title rests most solidly on the fact that she consented to become the Mother of the Redeemer and that she suffered with Jesus during the Passion. In the September 1932 issue of *The Lamp*,

Father Paul wrote, "When we, therefore, give to our Blessed Mother the title of 'Our Lady of the Atonement', we mean 'Our Lady of Unity.'"



Our Lady of the Atonement Stained Glass Window, St. Francis Chapel, Graymoor Photo: Br. John O'Hara, SA

To learn more about Our Lady of the Atonement, whose feast day is July 9, and to pray Father Paul's special prayer with Father Bob Warren, SA, visit: AtonementFriars.org/OurLadyoftheAtonement

Source: Gannon, David. *Father Paul of Graymoor*, New York: Macmillan, 1959.

Called and Gifted

by Father Dennis Polanco, SA



Brother Johnny Aloysius, SA, who professed his vows as a friar in September 2013, with Br. Gregory Lucrezia, SA.

Celebrating Baptism in a parish is always a wonderful event.

There's so much joy and happiness on the faces of the sponsors, parents, brothers, sisters and, especially, grandparents. The local faith community and wider Christian community welcomes a new disciple called by God. It is the duty of the People of God to lead him/her, by word and example, to Christ

and to serve others most in need. How can we make our homes and parishes places where they learn about God's Call to Servant discipleship? Answer: Lots of families and parishes have started something called: *Parish Vocation Committees* (PVC).

Requests for parish information displays and Parish Ministry Fairs from several PVC's both nearby

and as far away as California come to our Vocation Office. Some of the PVC's most favored activities are: prayer-related activities, promoting vocations during National Vocation Awareness Week (Fall) and World Day of Prayer for Vocations (Spring); visit religious houses and seminaries, hold parish vocation retreats, sponsor altar server outings and conduct "Called by Name" for young adults. (Serra International, a lay ministry that supports and promotes vocations to religious life, permanent diaconate and priesthood, is a resource.) www.serra.org/serrausa/serra_vocation_programs.htm.

Three ways to begin a Parish Vocation Committee

1. Identify needs: Check out what other agencies and programs are already in place, what the diocesan vocation office may suggest and what resources and talents committee members have.

2. Concentrate your efforts: Think of individuals and groups. Some possibilities are: students in grade school, high school, youth ministry and college, parish religious education programs, possible permanent deacons, military personnel, young adult ministry programs, pre-

theology – college –theology seminarians in your parish as resources to speak to others. Enlist the help of Serra Clubs and the Knights of Columbus.

3. Consider your parish's uniqueness: Every parish has its own special gifts, history and culture. Build on this treasure. College campuses in the area are great places to begin an outreach to college youth. Identify these young people in your parish. Gather them together for a nice meal and chat.

For a list of campus ministry best practices for vocations, consult the Catholic Bishops website: www.usccb.org (in Search box, type: campus ministry best practices)

4. Great Ideas:

Traveling crucifix or chalice: A family is presented this weekly at the Sunday Eucharist and asked to pray, journal and talk about their threefold Baptismal vocation: being a Priestly person; being a Prophetic person and being a Royal (Shepherding/ leader) person. How have you experienced these in your life? What do they mean to each of you? What do you need to learn about each of these three gifts given by God to make you a New Creation? What life path interests you now? Why? What about service in the Church someday? What opportunities attract you?

Create a Collage: photos of Seminarians, Sisters, Brothers,



World Prayer Day for Vocations is observed Sunday, May 11, 2014.

Priests, Deacons and laypeople who are a part of your parish. Discover the giftedness in your own local Community.

Eucharistic Adoration: celebrated on a certain day with a focus on our Baptismal vocation and prayer for vocations.

Adopt a seminarian or Religious in training: Greeting cards can be sent at holidays, exam times, birthdays or ordinations. To learn how you can support the Friars' vocation program, call the Mission Support Office, (888) 720-8247.

Prayer for Vocations

*We stand before You, God, hopeful and willing,
ready to go wherever You send us.
No matter what our vocation, we know if we follow
Your path our hearts will be filled with peace.
In You we experience real love.
In You we find our truth, our light.
Help us to bring your love and Your light out into the
world, so that all may be one in You. Amen.*

In 2014, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement will sponsor several 'Come and See Weekends' at Graymoor for single young men between the ages of 18 and 40 considering a call to religious life. Dates are: April 4-6, May 16-18 and October 3-5. Reservations can be made by contacting the Vocation Director, (800) 338-2620, ext. 2126 or emailing VocDirector@AtonementFriars.org.

Reflections on Nelson Mandela's Legacy of Reconciliation and At-One-Ment

An interview with Father Martin Carter, SA

Nelson Mandela died in December and many reflected on his legacy of ending apartheid in South Africa. He grew up in a totally segregated area of Soweto, and when he went to Johannesburg, he began to see the devastation of apartheid. He became an activist to effect change in his country. He was imprisoned for 27 years, and an international effort for his release changed the history of South Africa. He was elected that country's first Black president, and in that role he worked toward long awaited peace and reconciliation for all South African people.



Fr. Martin Carter, SA, former pastor of Our Lady of Victory in Brooklyn, met Nelson Mandela in 1983. Photo: Br. John O'Hara, SA

Father Martin Carter, SA, as a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement sees the connection to the friars' charism of unity and atonement. "Nelson was living the Gospel, despite the fact he was not a religious man," said Fr. Martin. "He stood for unity and atonement. He sought peace and reconciliation. He insisted on forgiving those who persecuted him." Throughout his imprisonment, Nelson Mandela focused on a poem by English Victorian poet, William Ernest Henly, to give him strength to stand tall in prison. The poem called "Invictus" says "... my head is bloody but unbowed."

"I first met Nelson in 1993 in Brooklyn after he got out of Robben Island. He came to New York, and the Ministerial Association of Manhattan asked me to write a two minute piece for a rationale as to why Americans should donate to Mandela's South African election fund," said Fr. Martin. "He had a strong hand shake and would look you in the eye and talk to you as if he knew you your whole life."

"Before I met Mandela, I was part of the anti-

apartheid ministry with Randall Robertson and others in New York who were working to trying to get Nelson out of prison as he served his long sentence," he added.

"In 2007 a group of educators, politicians and business people came from South Africa to promote business, and I was asked to address them. They then invited me to South Africa to speak to university students and community leaders, and I was to see him at that time, but he was too ill for visitors," said Fr. Martin.

"It had to be At-One-Ment to drive him to do what he did," said Fr. Martin. "He lived the experience of a man of Christian faith. As the poem "Invictus" says, "It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll. I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul."

Father Martin Carter, SA, has served in many ministries including as the first Director of Office for Black Ministry and Evangelization in the Diocese of Raleigh, NC which was founded in 1983. In 1995, Father Carter was appointed the first black pastor in the 126-year history of Our Lady of Victory, in Brooklyn. Today, he lives at Graymoor in Garrison.

Five Things About Ecumenism

by Rev. Elias Mallon, SA

The Second Vatican Council (11 October 1962 – 8 December 1965) issued the Decree on Ecumenism (*Unitatis Redintegratio*) on 21 November 1965. In the decree the Council stated: “The restoration of unity among all Christians is one of the principal concerns of the Second Vatican Council” (par. 1). This decree made ecumenism an integral part of the work of the Catholic Church.

Thirty years later in his encyclical *Ut Unum Sint (That They May Be One)* of 25 May 1995 Blessed John Paul II declared: “Thus it is absolutely clear that ecumenism, the movement promoting Christian Unity, is not just some sort of ‘appendix’ {the Holy Father’s emphasis} which is added to the Church’s traditional activity. Rather, ecumenism is an organic part of her life and work, and consequently must pervade all she is and does...” (par. 20).

Regarding other Christian Churches the Council stated: “Moreover, some and even very many of the significant elements and endowments which together go to build up and give life to the Church itself, can exist outside the visible boundaries of the Catholic Church...” and “the separated Churches and Communities as such, though we believe them to be deficient in some respects, have been by no means deprived of significance and importance in the mystery of salvation. For the Spirit of Christ has not refrained from using them as means of salvation which derive their efficacy from the very fullness of grace and truth entrusted to the Church” (par. 3).

The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity is part of the Roman Curia and is responsible for maintaining relations with non-Catholic Christian Churches and communities and for sponsoring dialogues with them. Its current president is Cardinal Kurt Koch, former bishop of Basel, Switzerland.

The Joint Working Group between the Roman Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches (Geneva, Switzerland) engages in discussions with Orthodox and Protestant Christians who are members of the World Council of Churches. An international working group between the Faith & Order commission and the Pontifical Council prepare the texts for the annual celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January). The Week of Prayer is observed by Christians all over the world. The observance of this week was started in 1908 by Rev. Paul Wattson (d. 1940), founder of the Friars of the Atonement and influential in the founding of The Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Gaudium evangelii* (24 November 2013), Pope Francis stressed that ecumenism and striving for Christian unity is not merely an academic exercise: “It is not just about being more informed about others, but rather about reaping what the Spirit has sown in them, which is also meant to be a gift for us” (Par 246). Neither is ecumenism limited just to inner church circles but is rather “a contribution to the unity of the human family.” (Par. 245).



Fr. Elias Mallon, SA, is engaged in issues of interreligious cooperation, conflict transformation and peace building. He contributes to the Jesuit publication *America Magazine*. His most recent article, “Democracy is not enough: Arab states need a sense of citizenship first,”

appeared in the November 16, 2013, issue. He is External Affairs Officer for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA). In January, he represented CNEWA as part of an interfaith panel discussion at the US Mission to the United Nations on the topic of the rising tide of religious restrictions.

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center



Spring is a time for reflection and renewal.

Come to Graymoor Spiritual Life Center for a retreat and open the window to refresh yourself spiritually.

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center sponsors and hosts retreats, conferences, days of renewal and recollection, meetings and other events throughout the year. People from every walk of life are welcome—families, married couples, seniors and singles. It hosts weekly holy hours, Bible study, a Centering Prayer group, and Charismatic Prayer Meetings. Sunday Mass is offered at 11am in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Atonement, and all are welcome.

For the complete schedule of upcoming retreats, including those especially created for those in recovery, visit GraymoorCenter.org. For more information and to request a brochure for 2014 Graymoor Spiritual Life Center Retreats, call (845) 424-2111.

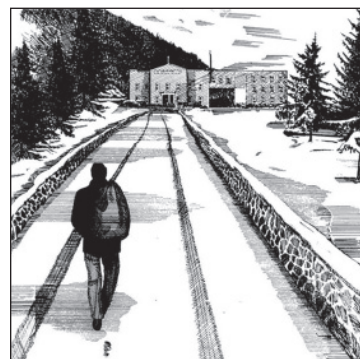
St. Christopher's Inn Residential Shelter and Substance Abuse Treatment Center

With all the high profile stories about drugs in the news lately, the importance of St. Christopher's Inn, a ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, cannot be understated. Dedicated to the rehabilitation of men in crisis, today the Inn shelters over 1,200 men per year, most suffering from homelessness, mental illness, alcoholism or drug addiction. The Inn's mission is to offer a continuum of quality health care services that facilitate physical, emotional, and spiritual healing by providing chemical dependency treatment, primary health care, and temporary housing.

The wealth of knowledge from these recovery experts is available to everyone via the St. Christopher's Inn Recovery Show on

BlogTalkRadio.com.

The St. Christopher's Inn podcast on the internet features a Friday broadcast of "Encouragement Radio" created to help people get through the weekend, when they may be struggling with doubts about their recovery.



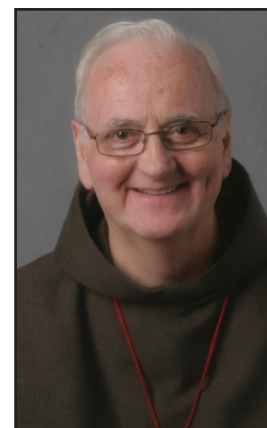
If you or a loved one is in recovery, you can find help and inspiration in these Recovery Radio shows. Listen or download a podcast at <http://www.BlogTalkRadio.com/StChristophersInn>

Bell Tower Notes

Fr. Dan Callahan, SA, Pastor of St. Joan of Arc parish in Toronto, Ont., and **Fr. Damian MacPherson, SA**, Director of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs for the Archdiocese, present awards to winners of the Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity student writing contest co-sponsored by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement and The Catholic Register. Students wrote essays on the chosen theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, "Has Christ Been Divided?" Left to right: Jim O'Leary, Publisher, The Catholic Register, first place winner, Nathan Ko, Fr. Damian, Lawrence P. Frainal, honorable mention winner, Fr. Dan, Kelly Cheung, second place winner and Daniela D. Tarza, honorable mention.



Rev. Joseph M. Scerbo, S.A., Ph.D., who is a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, contributed to a five-part television series, "*Serra: Ever Forward, Never Back*," that aired on EWTN Global Catholic Television beginning on November 20, 2013, in commemoration of the Blessed Junípero Serra's 300th birthday. Producer/writer James Kelty, experts from Spain, Mexico and the United States and Father Joseph collaborated to help create a docu-drama about the life and work of Blessed Junípero Serra, Franciscan priest and missionary.



May He Rest in Peace
Brother Pius MacIsaac, Age 84
Died December 11, 2013

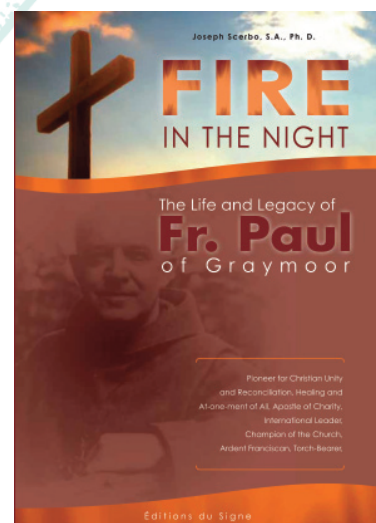


Rev. James Gardiner, SA, a 1960 graduate of All Hallows High School, Bronx, NY was inducted into their Hall of Fame together with (L-R) Michael Indiveri, EVP and CFO of the Hudson Valley Holding Corporation (parent of the Hudson Valley Bank); Terrence Martell, director of the Weissman Center for International Business at Baruch College (CUNY); and Hank Magnusen, retired from Management Recruiters of North Warren, an executive search firm he started.

Be inspired!

Read *Fire in the Night: the Life and Legacy of Father Paul of Graymoor* by Rev. Joseph Scerbo, S.A. Ph.D.

This biographical book is published in honor of the 150th anniversary of the birth of **Fr. Paul Watson, SA**, Founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, Pioneer of Christian Unity

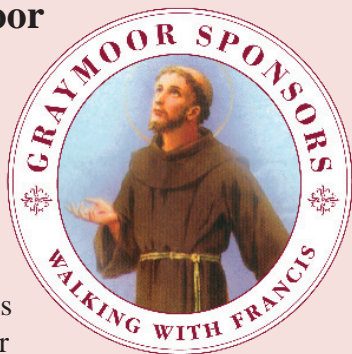


Order your copy by phone (888) 720-8247 or order online at AtonementFriars.org/FireInTheNight \$15+ shipping & handling

A Special Message from Father Bob

Walk with Francis... Become a Graymoor Sponsor Today

On the day that he was announced as Pope and took the name Francis to honor one of the world's most beloved saints, St. Francis of Assisi, our Holy Father asked us to do something...



"I want to ask a favor. I want to ask you to walk together and take care of one another."

Since then he has reminded us on many occasions to follow the example set by St. Francis and care for those less fortunate. St. Francis walked in the footsteps of Jesus and reminded us that Our Lord told us that our ultimate reward in eternal life will be determined by the frequency with which we feed the poor, shelter the homeless, give water to the thirsty, cloth the naked and visit the sick.

As Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, we are dedicated to following in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi. We work to reconcile the differences between Christians and other faiths, we work among the poor, the addicted, the broken, the oppressed, among the sick who are infected with HIV, the dying in hospitals and hospices and those locked away in prisons. It is only through the generous support of our benefactors that we can fulfill our Mission and continue our ministries.

A very special group of benefactors are our **Graymoor Sponsors**. These men and women have responded to Our Holy Father's request and committed to "*walking with Francis*" by providing a regularly scheduled gift (monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly via credit card or by sending a check) to the Friars to help us "*take care of one another.*" Through the ongoing support of **Graymoor Sponsors**, we can continue to be there for the men and women who reach out in search of physical, emotional and spiritual healing.

Sponsor Benefits

As a Graymoor Sponsor, you will receive many benefits including invitations to complimentary events, select recognition gifts and special remembrances in daily Masses and Novenas.

You're Invited to the 5th Annual Sunset on the Hudson

The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement are hosting their fifth annual Sunset on the Hudson cocktail party on Thursday, May 15 at 6:30 pm at Xaviars on the Hudson, 71 Water Grant Street, Yonkers, New York. This promises to be an "Extraordinary Evening" with outstanding hors d'oeuvres and dessert from the kitchen of acclaimed chef-owner Peter X. Kelly. Guests will enjoy dishes incorporating classic French technique with Italian and Spanish influences, and Asian embellishments, which create a wholly original cuisine unique to the Hudson Valley. A live band and incredible silent auction are also part of



the festivities. The evening's honorary chair is renowned author Mary Higgins Clark. Kacey Morabito, of Hudson Valley radio station WHUD, is the master of ceremonies.

Enjoy this exciting event and support the ministries of the Friars. Individual tickets for Sunset on the Hudson are \$175. Sponsorships are available. For reservations, call (845) 424-2137 or visit: www.AtonementFriars.org/Sunset

To Learn More

Will you consider walking with Francis and becoming a Graymoor Sponsor today? Even a small gift of \$8 a month (that's 25¢ a day!) will make a difference to someone in need of our prayers and our help.

It is easy-- call our Mission Support Office at (888) 720-8247 and we will assist you, or go online to www.AtonementFriars.org/GraymoorSponsors.

We would like to install you as a member of The Father Paul Wattson Heritage Society

...a special honor reserved for our Benefactors who have demonstrated their support in a significant way—either through a planned gift in life or through a bequest in their last will and testament.

As a member of this very special society, you will receive the following perpetual spiritual benefits

- Recognition as a member—by name—on the Heritage Society Commemorative Wall on permanent display at Graymoor
- An enrollment Certificate Folder proclaiming your Membership and a special Lapel Pin designed exclusively for Society Members
- Daily remembrance in the Perpetual Novena to St. Anthony
- Remembrance in and an invitation to participate in the Annual Heritage Day Mass celebrated at Graymoor in June
- Perpetual membership in the Graymoor Spiritual Union with remembrance in Masses and Novenas celebrated by the Friars at Graymoor and throughout the world.



YES, send me Heritage Society Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Send to Fr. Emil Tomaskovic, Graymoor, PO Box 301, Garrison, NY 10524

2014 Annual Golf Classic

Franciscan Friars of the Atonement & St. Christopher's Inn

SAVE THE DATE
Monday, June 30, 2014

Westchester Hills Golf Club, White Plains, New York

St. Anthony's Corner



St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for his creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ready to offer on behalf of those in need. Encouraged by this, I ask you to hear my prayers.

Dear Friars,

Thank you so much for the beautiful St. Anthony House Blessing you sent me recently! It reminded me so much of a special framed blessing my mother used to have hanging in our hallway when I was a little girl. Whenever there was any challenge or difficulty, my mother would stand before the blessing and say a special prayer knowing Our Lord would take care of all things related to our home. I personally have had a special relationship with St. Anthony who has interceded on my behalf so many times. Imagine my delight when this beautiful blessing with my beloved St. Anthony arrived in my mail. I cannot express my gratitude enough. Please continue to pray for me, as I will continue to pray for you and all those whose lives you touch.

God Bless You!

LD

Pittsburgh, PA

If you would like to receive additional prayer cards, medals, or healing enrollment cards, please contact us. (888) 720-8247 ~ AtonementFriars.org/supplies

Go Mobile! m.AtonementFriars.org



Get a code reader:

iPhone AppStore: get "Scan"

Android Play Store: get "QR Droid"



GRAYMOOR CONTACTS:

Office of Mission Support	888-720-8247	Book & Gift Center	845-424-2100
GEII	212-870-2330	St. Christopher's Inn	845-335-1000
Spiritual Life Center	845-424-2111	Vocations	845-424-2126

Privacy Promise Statement: From time to time we make information about our lapsed or inactive donors available to other Catholic charities. If you do not wish your name shared, contact us and we will respect your wishes. If you no longer wish to receive requests for support from the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, please call 888-720-8247.

Graymoor Today • P.O. Box 301 • Garrison, NY 10524-0301 • 800-338-2620 • AtonementFriars.org

Events at Graymoor

Saturday, April 19

Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunrise Service at the Founder's Tomb

Thursday, April 10

Benefactor Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 4

Blessing and Planting of Wildflower Seeds

Thursday, June 5

Heritage Appreciation Day

(outdoor St. Anthony Shrine, weather permitting)

Sunday, June 15

Feast of St. Anthony of Padua Celebration

Thursday, September 4

Sponsor Appreciation Day

Thursday, October 30

Benefactor Appreciation Day

In the New York Area

Thursday, May 15

Sunset on the Hudson

Xaviar's on the Hudson (X20)

Yonkers, NY

Monday, June 30

Golf Classic – Westchester Hills Golf Club

White Plains, NY

Friday, October 3

Sharing Hope Celebration Dinner

The Pierre Hotel, NYC

Benefactor Appreciation Days

are held across the country. To find out when the Friars will be visiting your area, please call (845) 424-2137

GRAYMOOR TODAY

Publisher: Friars of the Atonement

Graymoor Today is a publication of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, a Roman Catholic religious community with social, ecumenical and pastoral ministries in the United States, Canada, England, Italy and Japan. Since 1898, they have worked for the reconciliation of men and women with God and each other as well as serving those in need.