

# *THE THIRD ORDER*

## *Australian Province Newsletter,*

### *PNG & East Asia*



Dear sisters and brothers,  
Your Chapter met in Adelaide at the end of April for three days of meeting. We prayed together, we enjoyed each other's company; we worshipped together at St Peter's Cathedral on the Sunday morning with the Adelaide Tertiaries.

We praised God for the way the Province has grown: we declared Popondetta and Dogura to be Regions (up until now they were 'Regions in Formation'), and we congratulated their Regional Ministers Harold and Anselm on the purchase of the dinghy that was launched with great ceremony by Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews on May 16.

The PNG Tertiaries asked for approval to use the name 'Franciscans in Mission' as an umbrella for their evangelistic and pastoral work in PNG. Chapter applauded the initiative.

PNG see themselves as a Province in Formation and seek our support and blessing as they work towards this. They have set a goal of being formed a Province by IPTOC (the Inter-Provincial Third Order Chapter) in 2017. As part of this process, PNG need to show that they are able to contribute financially to the whole Order. They plan a sponsored walk of part of the Kokoda Track in September to raise money for the Province. Please let me or Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews know immediately if you would like to participate in the walk.

If you are moved to send money either for this walk or for the ongoing costs of the dinghy, please send donations to our Provincial Treasurer. Geoff will batch them up to the Third Order accounts in PNG as it is too expensive to send individual donations.

We also praise God for the 13 others elected to Profession. Their names are printed on a later page of the newsletter.

The theme of the 2010 Chapter was how we express our obedience to God's authority. We recalled how Francis did not like lords, secular or ecclesiastical. His vision was of a community of little brothers and sisters. The leaders were Ministers, not Abbots. Jack Winslow, Dorothy Swayne and Fr Algy SSF who wrote our Principles took care to keep this Franciscan spirit.

Our obedience to God is expressed not through our Ministers, but through our Spiritual Advisers. Please give thought to your Spiritual Adviser. If you have one, then at least annually check that she or he is still the right guide and companion for you. If you don't have one, I urge you to take steps to remedy this: having a Spiritual Adviser is both required and advised. It is not easy to find the right person, so please don't hesitate to ask your Regional Minister for help in finding one.

Diane Bradley, an accredited Spiritual Director, gave Chapter some helpful information about Spiritual Directors including resources to help you find a Spiritual Adviser.

Chapter also launched a new group of people who want to stay connected to the Third Order and to Franciscan spirituality. These will be called "Associates of the Third Order". The Associates may be individuals or institutions like retreat houses. Individual Associates may be exploring whether a vocation to the Third Order is right for them, or may simply want to support the Third Order through prayer and presence.

Your Regional Minister has more details on Chapter meeting.

With every blessing

**Ted Witham**  
**Minister Provincial**

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## From Franciscan Documents Australian Tertiaries' Lives Reflect their Rule

By: Ted Witham

Earlier in 2009, I invited fellow Tertiaries around Australia to respond to a questionnaire which sought to identify the involvement of Tertiaries in social justice and interfaith activities. I asked them whether they believed there was a distinctive Australian quality to their ministry as Franciscans.

Out of a possible 200 Tertiaries, 32 questionnaires were returned. It is likely that these respondents were highly motivated Tertiaries, possibly longer professed than others, and almost certainly involved in leadership in the Third Order.[\[2\]](#)

These 15% who responded to the questionnaire present a picture of Tertiaries highly engaged in active ministry in the community. One, for example, teaches health to Indigenous students. Others are prolific writers of letters to editors. Several are involved in formal ministry to the marginalised through the Mission to Seafarers, prison and hospital chaplaincies. Others are heavily involved in activism on behalf of the environment, signing petitions, writing letters to politicians and attending rallies. Many are involved in their local parishes as teachers, encouragers, and leaders in prayer.

One respondent reported that she or he incorporated Franciscan spirituality in everyday life by:

“Involvement in and work for organisations concerned with social justice, the environment and peacemaking: Oxfam, Amnesty International, Asylum Seeker Support Network, Australian Conservation Foundation and Pax Christi; living in the present moment, trusting ‘all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well’; beginning each day with a time of prayer.”

The lifestyle of these Tertiaries reflects their Franciscan calling. Most choose simplicity in their clothing, buying only what is necessary and buying where possible from charity shops. Many have been reducing, reusing and recycling everyday supplies, long before this became popular in the community. These Tertiaries are careful in their use of money. They recognise the danger in the affluent Australian community of buying their way into consumerist attitudes.

One Tertiary Wrote “I have frequent cupboard cleanouts, and pass on to op shops all that I no longer need. For me the discipline is not to buy the things I do not need. ... I own only a few clothes and shoes, many of which I have bought at op shops. ... As I do not have a car, I walk or use government transport; or travel with a friend. Many of these Tertiaries direct gifts of money to carefully chosen agencies in the developing world and those who work with Indigenous Australians.

Tertiaries with natural contact with members of other faiths have become deeply involved in interfaith work. Some are members of formal committees; others are involved in caring for Muslim or Hindu refugees. This ministry tended to relate to context: in places where there were no newcomers, Tertiaries had not met people of other faiths, nor sought them out to be involved in interfaith ministry.

This activism is grounded in an understanding of Franciscan spirituality as being “seriously joyful” in living the Christian Gospel. They speak of passionate love for Christ, of care for people and creation, of simplicity and humility.

“Franciscan spirituality is a creation-centred, reflective spirituality that embraces the Divine Love of God; and its beauty is in its simplicity. Franciscans show their love for God through their affinity with and care of all of creation: nature, animal kingdom, humanity, and all that is animate and inanimate.”

In the words of another, Franciscan spirituality is: “The wholeness and balance of living both in the desert and the marketplace.” One Tertiary summed up her Franciscan life in these words:

“May I grow in His love  
To love others  
May I serve Him in all Humility  
To lovingly wash other’s feet  
May I seek His Heavenly gifts  
To give to the needy in love  
May I follow Him in the Way of the Cross  
To show others that Way of love  
May I do all things in His strength  
To help strengthen the weak  
My God and my All.”



Reading about the courage and energy Tertiaries are investing in ministry, especially in social justice and environmental activism was awe-inspiring.

## A Visit to the Little Brothers

By: Terry Gatfield - Brisbane

It often pays and rewards those making a visit to the dentist, doctor and optometrist. It richly paid and rewarded me making my first visit to the Little Brothers of St Francis.

The three Little Brothers of St Francis live in a time-forgotten, granite rock strewn gully, deep in the heart of NSW about 250 clicks from Brisbane. It is a barren land where even the visiting rock wallabies are told to bring their own picnic lunch. This is indeed desolate countryside which has a long history of bankrupt farmers and graziers as well as stories of the survivors of severe droughts and bushfires. Tabulam, the local one horse town some 10 or so four-wheel-drive kilometre distance, is one of those places that is passed through on a journey from Casino to Tenterfield which is not stopped at, even for petrol. This has been for the past twenty-three years the territory and home of three Franciscan Brothers – the Little Brothers of St Francis – Brothers Wayne, Geoffrey and Howard. It is a community of Brothers given to prayer, contemplation, sustainability and love, passion and care for God's creation through living a hermitage lifestyle.

But don't be fooled by the camouflage of this thinly vegetated, desolate, granite countryside. Rosemary and I recently visited the Brothers as privileged guests staying in their hand-crafted, stone-built cottage. The visual feast, the peace, tranquillity and beauty were a constellation of delights to the senses. The Brothers have crafted from the massive water-cascading, rock-strewn gully three small hermitages, a prayer chapel, a communal kitchen, a guest cottage, a large workshop, an intimate library, an open-air canter-levered dining area and luxurious habitats for their rabbits, goats and sheep. Let me not forget the library-sized toilet replete with a stained glass window and its panoramic view which could eclipse Sydney Harbour's. These are not low-budget, humpy lean-to shelters but beautifully hand created buildings, fashioned almost exclusively from local granite stone with polished timber adornment. They are pieces of art. It is hard to believe that the Brothers arrived two decades earlier with only a leaky tent, no material resources and virtually no practical building skills: wonderfully, though, they had abundant faith, passion and a call to follow God in the footsteps of St Francis on the road of prayer and contemplation.

God has supplied abundantly. The rocky wilderness has been transformed through years of patience, tenderness, love and a deep commitment to their calling. It is now an oasis of feathered and woolly flocks that boasts a large organic garden, a goat-herd and mountain sheep, large families of rock wallabies plus rabbits for the occasional pot, fruit trees and a number of bee hives. Some of their surplus they bottle and their honey and jams are distributed widely amongst the Christian community. The proceeds are used to partly fund their ministry along with the sale of carved hand-held crosses and printed cards.

They are indeed rich; but rich in faith, obedience and prayer. The material side of life is important but this is subordinate to their ministry of prayer and contemplation. The life of the Brothers is prayer and this is the single focus of their being. Prayer starts at the break of day and continues in six episodes long after the sun sets.

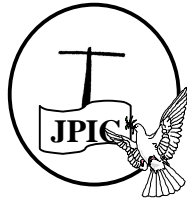
It is possible that few will be able to make the visit to the Little Brothers but to those who do will engage in a wonderful journey of the senses and the soul. I will return again when I need that refreshment of peace, tranquillity and the harmony of creation that flows from the prayer-soaked land of the Little Brothers.

### **Congratulations to those elected to Profession:**

Popondetta:	Joseph Ko Winifred Talanoa
Dogura:	James BudiBudi Emily Kamokaba William Yababana
QLD-A	Graham Miller
QLD-B	John Tyman Terry Gatfield
NSW-A	David Craig Cathy Mathews
NSW-B	Robyn Jenkins
VIC/TAS	Jeanne Norris
SA	Norma Kent Eric Cameron

**JUSTICE, PEACE &  
INTEGRITY of CREATION  
(JPIC)**

By: Glenys McCarrick



Greetings from the JPIC  
Commission,

When Colin, Monica and I were asked to look after the JPIC Commission, I was inundated by the amount of information out there. So it is with a smile that in this Newsletter article I ask you for more information.

Now that Bangkok office has reopened we have been asked to respond to a Universal Periodic Review, carrying our concerns to the highest level at the United Nations. Below is part of an email about this gathering information:

*Greeting from the Asia Pacific Programme Officer in the Advocacy Term here in Geneva! I am delighted to know that our UPR process for Australia is getting underway to the ground. This is precisely the basis of our Advocacy work at the UN- that our advocacy work originates from grassroots members and all initiatives have therefore the support of grassroots Franciscans. This is for the following reasons:*

- *Responding to Franciscan 'grassroots' concerns is an organic process with FI:*
- *Need to take into account the impact of our work in the lives and well-being of the most vulnerable.*

*As our submission will be presented and discussed with the Australian mission here in Geneva before the review, there are a couple of points that I would like us to bear in mind:*

- *Implications of publishing incorrect data which is not supported by FI as a whole, or presenting material that does not correspond to available facts or is not accurate on technical matters;*
- *Need to avoid misunderstandings about what FI actually does at the UN;*
- *May compromise FI's work with other NGOs, Franciscans, etc.*
- *Need of coherence between our statement and our advocacy initiatives.*

This review needs to be back to Franciscan International by early June. Yes, most of you will not get a chance, this time, to respond. To prevent this happening again we must organize a list of the Tertiaries who work at the grassroots level. This way when we are asked for information we can get to the Tertiaries who are well-informed in that field. If interested, please send your details and interests to my address or my email below.

Our job is to get information from you and to you. One answer is to put enough information (with internet linkage) in our Newsletter as possible... Another is, that if you know of a fellow Tertiary who does not have a computer, please share your information with them. A phone call and chat will save a tree and still get the information out there without printing lots of paper. It doesn't matter who rings whom – if you want to know, you can ring too. Presently we are not all at the same level of knowledge in Social Justice Issues. Some are at University doctorate levels and others, like our Area, are still novices in JPIC issues. I cannot, nor should I, expect that, at this point, everyone study the same work at the same level. We recommend that your Region forms your own JPIC group for **local** issue identity, study and local application. We ask these more well informed in JPIC matters to please share their research with our Province.

At 2009 Conference, some Tertiaries volunteered to be their Region's JPIC contact: to receive and forward on JPIC information. I have some information on CD and collected DVDs to distribute. Some material is provided to start us thinking and some is from Franciscans International. Last month, at 2010 Chapter these packages were given to your Regional Minister to pass on to these Regional contacts. Please check with your Regional Minister if you don't have the information packages yet. Would these Regional JPIC contacts, please email me as soon as possible. Thank you.

By educating ourselves in JPIC matters, our Australian Province can step up to Chapter's expectations and Global standard: so much happening out there that we need to know about and act upon.

Glenys McCarrick tssf,  
tssf JPIC Educator, Australian Province,  
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**Bishop Tony dedicates the dinghy**

*I love you when  
you bow in your  
mosque, kneel in  
your temple, pray in  
your church. For  
you and I are sons  
and daughters  
of one religion,  
and it is the spirit.*

*By: Kahlil Gibran*



**“The Regional Ministers,  
Harold Joinoba (left) and Anselm Rupusina.”**

***For the Society  
of Saint Francis***

Holy Spirit of God, renew the hearts and minds of our brothers and sisters, that they may be joyful channels of your grace, and so bring others to the knowledge of your love and truth: through Jesus Christ our Lord . Amen.

Lord without you our labour is wasted, but with you those who are weak can set out in strength. Pour your Spirit on the Society of Saint Francis. Give your labourers a pure intention, patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the joy of serving you in heaven: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Newsletter  
articles  
wanted***

## ALL FRANCISCAN SAINTS

Excerpts:

“A History of the Church of England”,

J.R.H.Moorman, Adam and Charles Black, 1961.

The Community of St. Francis, a community of active, First Order sisters, was founded in 1905 by Rosina Mary Rice. After six sisters joined the Roman Catholic Society of the Atonement in the U.S.A. in 1910, Helen Elizabeth Christmas was elected mother for the three remaining sisters. She guided the community for many years. The Second Order of enclosed sisters, the Community of St. Clare, living the contemplative life, was founded in 1950. Algy, David and Lothian of S.S.F. were closely involved in assisting the development of this new venture as it adopted an appropriate manner and rule of life. There were also foundations in the U.S.A. On Holy Cross Day, 1919 Joseph Crookson began the Episcopal Church, Order of St. Francis. In 1967 this community joined and became the American Province of S.S.F. Sister Mary Christine took her perpetual vows in the Poor Clares of Reparation and Adoration on 16 April, 1924, and became their first mother. Never a large group the last living sister of this foundation died in January, 2000.

Members of S.S.F. and the two women's communities each take the evangelical vows of poverty, chastity and obedience for life. The Third Order S.S.F., for clergy and laity, men and women, living with a Rule of Life under vows, that are renewed annually, was duly established. St. Francis had seen the need for people wishing to live in the spirit of poverty, chastity and obedience under his inspiration in their daily lives. He began the Order of Penitents which is, today, the Third Order. Along with the professed members of the three other communities, Third Order members share as Notes of their Order, humility, love and joy. With the Aims of making the Lord Jesus known and loved everywhere, spreading the spirit of love and harmony and living simply and, the Ways of Service of prayer, study and work, an outline of their life is complete.

Today, the Society of St. Francis is established in many parts of the Anglican Communion with brothers in the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe, Korea, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand in addition to England and U.S.A.

There is prospect of another house being established in Sri Lanka. The Third Order is continuing to spread more widely than the houses of the brothers and sisters of the First and Second Orders.

With a brief record of the lives of some Franciscan saints of the past, this account has given an outline of the growth and development of Franciscan life in the recent history of the Anglican Communion. The contributions of some of those people involved in re-establishing the religious life in the Anglican Church have been touched on. It has also given an outline of the Third Order and its relation to Franciscan witness.

All Saints-tide with the celebration of All Franciscan Saints, gives us an opportunity each year to revisit our roots. The history of the Franciscan Movement and particularly its development in the Anglican Communion in recent times challenges us to once again, deepen our commitment to following our Saviour Christ in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare. This following is in company with the many women and men who have lived for God through the Christian era. The people we have mentioned, along with other Franciscans, have been inspired by the commitment to God and the lives of Francis and Clare of Assisi and those who have followed them in God's service over many centuries.

### *The Latest Address & Prayer Cycle*

From: David White

Provincial Secretary

When you receive this Newsletter, you will have received the latest Address Book and Prayer Cycle. The new edition has a couple of changes to the existing one:

1. The Community Obedience is included
2. The Principles for Daily Reading are included with the prayer points for each day.

This means that you will not need to carry your Manual and the Address Book to be able to complete the Community Obedience.

At the recent Provincial Chapter meeting, we discussed the **JPIC booklet Day by Day**, which includes “daily reflections to aid Franciscans in deepening their awareness of our call to do justice, to be peacemakers, and to live in harmony with all creatures.” We have printed 200 copies of Day by Day, which are available for a donation of \$5 to cover the printing costs. This can be sent to the Provincial Treasurer, Geoff Jordan when you next send money to him (probably next year if you have already sent this year's subs).

## ***Novice Counselling***

By: Fr. John Gibson tssf NSW B.

**Introduction:** My own time as a novice was a very positive experience. In the early eighties the late Fr Thory Bonsey was my novice counsellor and I still have my roneoed formation notes. Thory led by example and was a great encourager.

**Beginning:** Last year I was invited to be a novice counsellor and was excited and challenged by the prospect as well as being aware of the responsibility to God, the Order and the person who was to be my novice. I met with my novice for coffee in one of our large shopping complexes. We simply chatted and got to know each other and something of our walk with our Lord. Then the next month we met again and I suggested how we might proceed. This was agreed upon with the understanding that it was open to discussion at any time and any necessary changes or adjustments would be made. It was a clearly defined process but not set in concrete.

**Our Mutual Approach:** There were two factors that I was very conscious of. The first was that my novice was a mature Christian in a lively relationship with our Lord and a wealth of experience. I had as much to learn from my novice as they did from me. Secondly, I did not have expectations of my novice that did not equally apply to me.

**The Arrangement:** We meet monthly over coffee in a large shopping complex. My novice works in the complex and is able to take lunch break at 2pm when the rush hour in the coffee shop is over. The space is sufficient for confidentiality. It is only a 12 kilometre return trip for me so travel or distance is not an issue for either of us.

**Formation Notes:** We take two months to complete a study. We each independently do a written response (usually no more than one A4 page) first to the questions in the “preparation,” at the beginning of each study and in the second month to the “questions” at the end of each study. We each provide a copy of our notes for each other and this becomes the basis for our sharing and discussion. To see our similarities and differences and even on some occasions a different approach to a question is enriching for us both. Also there can be difficulties and challenges which come before us which we share together.

Often we will look at the question from the viewpoint of how it impacts on our home, work, church family, community groups we are associated with, friends and those we come into contact with.

This helps keep us grounded and is a constant reminder of our three aims: - to make our Lord known and loved everywhere. To promote the spirit of love and harmony. To live simply.

In each of my my responses I try to relate back to one of the The Principles so that my novice has some concrete building blocks to live and serve “after the example of St Francis.” It also sharpens my own response.

There is sufficient privacy in the coffee lounge for prayer which on occasions has been a part of our time together.

As we complete one study I have the next study ready to give to my novice. I do not give out the complete set.

**Concluding Remarks:** The above outline is not ‘a blue print’ for all circumstances. It is one that seems to be working well for us. The key factors are that we both are comfortable with preparing some written material and making a copy available to each other and we are conveniently close to each other and we do not have to contend with the tyranny of distance. I also know that as a novice counsellor I have the support and backup of my regional minister. Being able to attend our recent conference and chapter in Sydney which included a coming together of novice counsellors was most helpful and particularly strengthened my sense of community. I also take the opportunity of keeping my novice up to date generally with Franciscan news and particularly with regional happenings and gatherings. I encourage attendance at these and our annual retreat and giving practical help with transport etc if necessary.

### ***Brothers and Sisters***

#### ***This is Your Newsletter***

The Newsletter is a wonderful vehicle of communication in sharing our experiences, strengths and hopes, along with our journey in Franciscan Spirituality. You are welcomed and encouraged to submit articles for possible inclusion. When sending articles please send unformatted material on Microsoft **Word doc, and not doc x**, as this makes it easier for me to work with. Thanks, I do appreciate this. I can be contacted by email on:

**gloria@radiantpathways.com.au** or by phone on **07 33710265 or mobile 0412 400374**. For those without internet access, my address is: 26 Fairley Street, Indooroopilly. 4068 Qld.

Looking forward to receiving your contributions for the next Newsletter at Stigmata/Francistide.

Pax et Bonum

Gloria Malouf-Marsh (*Newsletter Editor*)

# Report on Provincial Chapter 2010

Provincial Chapter met in Adelaide; superbly organised by Anne Kotze. For the first time, Chapter members were billeted by local Tertiaries, resulting in a significant cost saving.

## Provincial Minister's Report

Ted spoke of the call to be Seriously Joyful and Joyfully Serious; Francis' vision of a community without lords; Spiritual Advisors; finances and a comparison of Doctor Who and St Francis.

## Provincial Chaplain's Report

Advisory Council on Religious Life Report– that the Third Order are valued as participants with observer status, even though as a religious order living in dispersion, we do not fit well.

## Provincial Secretary's Report

The first print run of 200 copies of *Franciscan Gold* sold out in March 2010. A second print run of 50 copies has been produced, funded from the profit (\$590) from the first print run. All Novices should have now received a copy of *Franciscan Gold* and this will be included with the Novice Kit in future.

## Treasurer's Report

Significant changes were adopted regarding payment and collection of subscriptions. From 2011, The Provincial Treasurer will send out invoices to all members annually in January. These are to be paid to the Treasurer by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Members having difficulty in making payment are to discuss this with their Regional Minister, as is current practice. Subscription rates for 2011 are essentially unchanged, but rounded to \$90 single and \$150 for couples. The subscription form will also include an option to subscribe to the UK journal, *The Franciscan*. The Sydney General Chapter and Conference returned significant funds to the Treasurer. Of this, \$3203 was returned to the working account and \$2447 to the Developing Regions Reserve fund. Distribution of the tithes was approved: \$1000 to Franciscans International (in addition to our annual commitment); \$200 to the First Order and \$239 to the Developing Regions Reserve Fund.

## Regional Matters

Tony Hall-Matthews' appointment as PNG Administrative Liaison Officer was confirmed and extended until General Chapter 2012.

## Popondetta

Harold Joinoba thanked the Order for the tremendous effort in the Dinghy Appeal, and shared photos of the Dinghy and details of the blessing and launch in May, which was attended by an official representative. Chapter welcomed the concept of **Franciscans in Mission** using the Dinghy, but reporting to the Mission and Evangelism group in the Diocese of Popondetta. The initiative for a walkathon along the Kokoda Trail at Francistide this year to raise funds for **Franciscans in Mission** was commended.

If you wish to supporting the continuing operations of the Dinghy (and **Franciscans in Mission**), please forward donations to the Treasurer.

## Dogura

Anselm Rupusina reported a significant increase in enquirers with 6 new novices having been admitted.

Popondetta and Dogura were formally created as Regions with the Province.

## Vic/Tas

The planning for General Chapter and Conference 2012 is under way, headed by John Davis. Proposed dates are during the first or second week of July 2012, to be held at Trinity College, with theme "Being Bridges".

## Newsletter

Chapter confirmed Gloria Malouf-Marsh as Editor of the Newsletter. We are still looking for someone to assist in the printing and distribution of the Newsletter. If needed, the Order will provide a laser printer for this.

## Associates of the Third Order

Chapter approved the formation of "Associates of the Third Order", which can include individuals and organisations (such as retreat centres). Associates would be asked to agree to pray regularly for the Third Order; explore more deeply the spirit of St Francis of Assisi; and to grow their prayer life and love of others and all creatures.

## Attendance at General Chapter

Discussed the misunderstanding about who may attend General Chapter, which is formally a meeting of the Professed. For some years, in our province, Novices have been permitted to attend as observers.

## Novice Formation

The Novice Formation notes will be reviewed before Chapter 2011. In addition, Ken Reardon is developing a resource for all members – a Commentary on the Third Order Principles.

## Task Group on Sexual Diversity

Significant discussion on the importance of treating people with compassion as valid areas for study and investigation. This is a most significant issues in the church today. As Franciscans, we have an important role in the wider church. Emphasis to be the development of a resource for those who wish to make use of it.

## Spiritual Advisers

Diane Bradley provided information about Spiritual Direction.

## Facebook page

Ted presented a snapshot of the Third Order Facebook webpage, and statistics from the site.

## IPTOC 2011 (September 1-15, 2011, TBC)

IPTOC (Interprovincial Third Order Chapter) will be held in New York from September 1-15, 2011, in conjunction with FOC (First Order Chapter) and JOC (Joint Order Chapter). Each Province has three representatives: Provincial Minister (the Assistant Provincial Minister will attend as an alternate), Provincial Chaplain and one other representative. Chapter agreed to nominate one of the PNG Regional Ministers.

## Franciscan Aid

Part of the European Province, but for the whole order. Has been restructured with new criteria for projects that can be funded, including

1. For people in the greatest need.
2. Are not projects of the Third Order, but nominated by a Third Order person.
3. Must be approved by the Provincial Minister.

Chapter commended Franciscan Aid for the work they do, and is to request clearer communication regarding the conditions for making grants and details of actual grants made.

Further information will be distributed within the Province about the use of subscription payments for tithes and common funds.

## Association of the Society of St Francis Inc

Our representatives are the Provincial Minister and Rosemary Bradford was appointed.

## JPIC reports

Chapter agreed to produce copies of Day by Day, a commentary including JPIC issues. The JPIC committee was requested to prepare a monthly email digest of JPIC issues and articles for the quarterly newsletter.

## Chapter 2011

Will be held in SW Western Australia in May 2011, and will include the induction of new Regional Ministers.

## Elections

Regional Ministers completing their term in July this year were thanked. The nomination process is in progress, with nominations due by June 1. The returning Officer is the Provincial Minister. The new Regional Ministers will take office from 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Ted Witham will complete his second term as Provincial Minister next year and is not eligible for re-election. The election process will begin in July 2011 with a call for nomination, with the new Provincial Minister taking office from Advent Sunday 2011.

## Renewal of Vows

Discussed a suggestion that the Grace be added as optional at the bottom of page H4. Since this section is part of the prayers of the Regional Minister, they are optional and at the discretion of the Regional Minister. Decided not to reprint the Manual at this stage, but suggested this be added in future reprints. The Chaplain was requested to Chaplain publish resources in the Newsletter before Francistide to assist members preparing for their renewal.

## Promotion Materials

The need for posters and brochures was discussed and Ian Randall was commissioned to design a DL-size card and/or A4-size trifold leaflet in colour with details about the Third Order.