

## SFO Hawthorn –50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

30 May 2003

### Hawthorn Fraternity

On the 25th May – Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians seven members of the first English speaking group of Secular Franciscans at St Anthony's, Hawthorn, made their profession. Lucia Maria Crivera, Geraldine Dillon, Bruce and Ann Planck, Valerie Tang, Juliana Wang and Maired Whelan were received by Lucy De Summa, Minister of the local fraternity. The seven have a range of experience to bring to their new life of commitment to follow in the footsteps of Francis. With a variety of backgrounds in the arenas of domestic responsibilities, clerical duties, nursing, journalism, media, art, organization of pilgrimages, parenthood, religious and remedial education and the law, they are now looking forward to their life together in fraternity.



Father Julian Messina was the Principal Celebrant at the Mass, with Fathers Luciano Rocchi, Francis Merlino, Andrew Hrdina, John Spiteri and Dariusz Polak concelebrating and Father Denis Ward as Master of Ceremonies. Brothers Lam Vu and Luan Le served at the Mass.

[Profession of new English Group SFO – Hawthorn]

Father Julian initiated the new group of the Secular fraternity in December 2001, with the enthusiastic support of Fr Denis Ward and the whole Capuchin fraternity. Most of the newly professed had come to experience the Capuchin Franciscan charism through their attendance at the weekly Novena to St. Anthony at the Shrine. It was here that they witnessed the spirituality of the Capuchin friars and were happy to accept Father Julian's



invitation to make a deeper commitment in their lives in Christ through following the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi in the newly formed fraternity. The group seeks the prayerful support of their newly acquired Capuchin Franciscan family as they embark on their future life in fraternity and in their mission. The immediate tasks at hand are the election of office-bearers and the completion of formation of three young men who are more recent members and are preparing for profession.

[Eamonn Mathieson, SFO Novice, with baby Andrew]

