



Sandal Prints



Newsletter of the Capuchin Mission Office
PO Box 153 Leichhardt NSW 2040

Autumn 2023



CAPUCHINS IN AUSTRALIA AND MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD



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Welcome to the Autumn Edition, 2023 of the Sandal Prints. Having journeyed through the forty days and forty nights of the Lenten Season with special emphasis on prayer, penance, and almsgiving now we find ourselves amid Holy Week. Soon we will be at the doorsteps of the Easter (Sacred) Triduum, the celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For us here in the Southern Hemisphere, the Lenten journey towards Easter is always a transition from Summer to Autumn. Thus, the daylight hours are shortened, and the hours of the dark night are prolonged. Even the activities and life cycle of some plants and animals are slowing down and heading towards dormition and hibernation. The contrast is experienced in the Northern Hemisphere where day light hours become longer, and dark night hours are shortened. New life and new birth of plants and animals begin to develop and flourish. The natural nature symbolism of the Northern Hemisphere coincide beautifully with the meaning of Easter. But, what about for us here in the Southern Hemisphere?



The Resurrection of Jesus at Easter is the celebration of New Life, New Hope, New Beginning, and New Creation because Jesus rises from the dead. He is Alive! He restores the dignity of our humanity and won for us eternal salvation. Easter is also the celebration of Christ as the True Light of the world. Where there is darkness, the Light of Christ shines forth more brightly and vividly. We are called not only to follow the Light of Christ, but also to embrace and be bearers of His Light amid the many challenges, difficulties and uncertainties that is around us, and in the world today.



Over the centuries, the Capuchin Missionaries seek to bring the Light of Christ and the Good News of His kingdom to all people throughout the earth. Today the Friars continue this same missionary spirit reaching out to the poorest and remotest areas of the world. The Capuchin's General Secretariat for Missionary Evangelization, Animation and Cooperation together with the International Commission for Economic Solidarity of our General Curia is currently supporting various Capuchin missionary projects throughout the world including countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.



New Capuchin presence – South Sudan, Br. Augustyn Chwalek, member of the fraternity in South Sudan



(From Left: Fr. Artur Ziarek, Fr. Augustyn Chwalek, Bp. Stephen Nyodho, Fr. Robert Wieczorek)

On February 2 this year, the Capuchin Friars Minor of the Krakow Province opened a new community in South Sudan. This is the first Capuchin presence in the country, and the second Franciscan, as there are already Friars Minor in Juba. Our community is made up of three brothers: Robert Wieczorek, Artur Ziarek and I, Augustyn Chwalek.

We arrived in the world's youngest country (existing since 2011) at the invitation of Bishop Stephen Nyodho of the Diocese of Malakal. It is the largest diocese in South Sudan. There are more than a million Catholics there and only 22 priests. We have been asked to look after the Rubkona parish in Unity state, in the north of South Sudan.

Dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, Rubkona parish is the oldest in the region. It was founded in 1925 by the Comboni fathers. The church and religious house they built were destroyed in the 1980s during the war in Sudan. Plans were made to rebuild the church for the parish's centennial.

The 2021 overflow, which covered the entire region with water, has hampered that plan for now. Parts of Rubkona and Bentiu (the country's capital) were saved only because the UN people strewn the dykes around the two towns. When we wanted to see the ruins of a 1925 church and house on January 25, we had to use a boat to get there.



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish exists because there are people who belong to it. Some of them live in the surviving part of the town of Rubkona and pray in the makeshift chapel. However, most parishioners live in the camp for internally displaced persons, which is located 5 kilometers north of Rubkona.

It is the largest camp of its kind in South Sudan. Up to 170,000 people can live there in a very small area. They have been staying there since 2013, due to the security problem caused by the civil war, which began 2 years after the separation from Sudan.

To be closer to our parishioners, we have established our community in this camp. It's only two weeks as we are here. Of course, compared to Western standards of living, our settlement is very simple, built with clay, virtually no internet or electricity (we have a small solar panel to charge our cell phones during the day), simple food, what is available here.



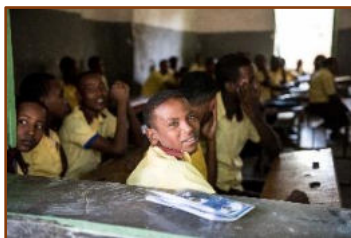
However, looking outside our compound, we see people living in worse conditions than us: provisional tents next to the tent, no privacy, food provided by UN organizations, children playing in the drainage ditch along the road.... And the smell... This is the first impression one has when arriving at this place.

We intend to stay here only for a while (a year or two?). There are two important conditions: First, the water will flow into the Nile and the area will be ready for the reconstruction of the 1925 church; second, the security issue will improve. We and the people will feel safe enough to return and rebuild homes and buildings. For now, we are humble students of the culture (we are learning the Nuer language) and the Church that lives here, its traditions and faith.



Orphanages "St. Clare and St. Anthony", Ethiopia: Currently there are forty-six Ethiopian children included in the reception project in orphanages, thirty-six children at the "Santa Chiara" orphanage and ten in the "Sant'Antonio" complex of the Catholic Church of Harar, both under the responsibility of the Apostolic Vicariate. Most of the children come from rural areas where people live in extreme poverty, such as in Chalenko, Caramile, Ejersara, Ejafara, Chiafe, Jilbo, Debito, Legarba and Midagdu. In these villages, adults are not only unable to help the children who have been left without parents, but unfortunately, they are not able to support their own children.

(Orphanages "St. Clare and St. Anthony", Ethiopia – Capuchin Missionaries (missioni.org))



You can support the Capuchin Missions through the Mission Office by the following means:

Enrolment to the Seraphic Mass Association – for your loved ones (living or deceased – special intentions, occasions, anniversaries); Those who are enrolled receive the graces, blessings and spiritual benefits from the prayers, Masses and good works of the Friars.

Seasonal Cards - Spiritual Bouquet of Prayers and Novena Masses – Those receive these cards will be included in the Spiritual Bouquet of Prayers and the Novena Masses celebrated by the Friars for the occasions of Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Christmas.

Special Masses Intentions – Requests of specific Masses to be offered by the Friars for your intentions: For Holy Souls (deceased), the recommended offering is \$20/Mass. For any other requests, special favours or intentions, the recommended offering is \$10 per Mass.

Donation by EFT – BSB: 062005 Ac No.: 1105 5931, please reference "Mission".

Donation by CC Online - www.capuchinfriars.org.au (Donation to the Mission)



Fr. Christopher Maher was Ordained a priest in the Good Shepherd church in Plumpton on 17th November 2022. The Capuchin Bishop Don Lippert from Mendi in Papua New Guinea ordained him. We are grateful to Bishop Don Lippert for his



generosity in coming from a busy and demanding position that he took the time to ordain Fr. Christopher. It was a beautiful ceremony attended by many of the friars in the province and Christopher's family and friends. We wish Fr. Christopher all the best as he begins the journey of his priesthood in the Capuchin friars in St Francis parish in Newton, Adelaide, as assistant priest to Fr. Eldridge.



Br. Matthew Timonera has completed his pastoral year in our parish, Plumpton with Fr. Vincy and is now living in the Student House in Hawthorn, Victoria, where he has commenced full-time studies to complete his studies for the Priesthood. He is also preparing for his Solemn Profession later in the year and is currently involved in the youth ministry. Br. Matthew also cooks for the friars weekly and is the Sacristan for our friary Church, St. Anthony in Hawthorn.



Br. Duy Tran has commenced a Pastoral year in South Melbourne, where he will assist Br. Michael with the Outreach program there. A Pastoral year plans to allow the student to experience the Capuchin life and ministry in a different fraternity and pastoral setting from the student house. The year will give Br. Duy the opportunity and the challenge to develop and deepen the gifts and talents he brings to the Order.



On the other hand, **Br. Isaac Seraphin Webb** has just started the journey of his studies for the priesthood in February. He is also helping the Capuchin outreach in South Melbourne. One day a week, he has ministry at the Australian Catholic University, where he prepares the students to sing at the Mass and assists the chaplains in their ministry to the staff and students. Br. Isaac also shares his talent as a musician by playing the organ for our Sunday evening Mass. Like Br. Matthew, Isaac also takes his turn in cooking for the friars once a week.

Please keep our students **Br. Matthew (left)**, **Br. Duy (center left)** and **Br. Isaac Seraphin (center right)**, and newly Ordained **Fr. Christopher (right)**, in your prayers, as they begin this year with new challenges and continue to pray for vocations to the Capuchin Friars here in Australia.



The ministry of the Open House in South Melbourne is back providing meals and food parcels after the Christmas break. This year we have added a new service – monthly free haircuts for our guests. We have also partnered with Albert Park College and now provide weekly lunches to students participating in their “Pathways Programme”. We are blessed with a large group of generous volunteers and benefactors. This year Br Duy has joined the Capuchin community in South Melbourne and is assisting in the Open House ministry. We are grateful for the financial and prayerful support of the readers of Sandal Prints.”



DONATIONS TO THE MINISTRY TO THE POOR ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Phone: (02) 9569 1880 or 0480 161 411

E-mail: mission@capuchinfriars.org.au

Website: www.capuchinfriars.org.au (Donation to the Ministry to the Poor)

OUR EASTER AND MOTHER'S DAY BLESSINGS



On behalf of the **Capuchin Franciscan Friars**, we wish you a renewed faith and may the Spirit of our Risen Lord live in your heart now and always. **Have a Blessed Easter!**

Please be assured of the Friars' prayers for you and the **Easter and Mothers' Day Novena Masses** will be celebrated for your intentions.

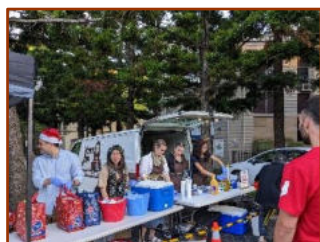


Blessings to all Mums in Australia and Happy Mother's Day!

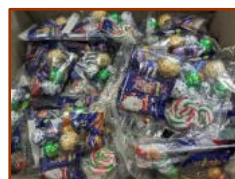
The Friars' Van Ministry of the Leichhardt's Fraternity – The Christmas Carol 2022 by the Friars' Van event was a joyous occasion. Many volunteers were present and shared their gifts and talents through music, singing, serving, and engaging with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



Over 80 Christmas hampers were prepared and distributed on the night, thanks to the generous donations from the parishioners of St. Fiacre's (Leichhardt) and The Good Shepherd's (Plumpton) Churches, including the St. Fiacre Catholic Primary School Community (Leichhardt).



A very special thanks also to the Sweet Chocolate Warehouse company , <https://sweetchocolatewarehouse.com.au/> who generously donated over 100 packets of individually packed mixed Christmas chocolates and candies for our brothers and sisters in Christ in the city area of Sydney.



We had a break over the Christmas and New Year. The Friars' Van resumed operation from the beginning of February 2023. We also have had an Induction Program since then. The Induction Program was well attended with young men and women from different areas of Sydney. We are now in full operation and will continue through the Holy Week and Easter. We are excited to share the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



The SMA was founded in 1899, under the patronage of St. Fidelis, a Capuchin missionary priest and the first martyr of the Propagation of the faith. The aim of the Association is to meet the material needs of foreign missions operated by the Capuchin Friars.

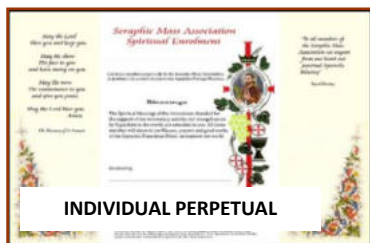


What does Membership in the SMA mean?

As a partner in the missionary work of the Capuchins, you are remembered daily in the Masses, prayers and good works of the Friars and those you enrol are also remembered in this way. Supporting the Seraphic Mass Association is a practical way of sharing in the life and ministry of the Capuchin Friars around the world.

SMA Conditions of Membership

Membership in the SMA maybe either, **Perpetual** (forever) or **Annual** (1-year). Enrolments of a living or deceased person, for **Individuals** or a **Family** (parents & children). A **Membership Certificate** is extended to the members.



Suggested offerings (membership card & postage)

- **Individual Perpetual** (21x29 cm): **\$20**
- **Individual 1-Year Membership** (21x14 cm): **\$ 10**
- **Family Perpetual Membership** (21x29 cm): **\$35**
- **Family 1-Year Membership** (21x29 cm): **\$17**

Offerings can be made by: cash/cheque/deposit in

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Capuchin Friars

BSB No: 062005

Account No: 11055931

For credit card donations: please contact us.



Details for Enrolments can be sent by mail, email or on-line:

Name/s for enrolment (Indicate: living /deceased)

Enrolled by: Who is offering the enrolment

Address to be posted (e-cards available)

Contact us for all artworks available.



Mail: POBox 153, Leichhardt NSW 2040

E-mail: mission@capuchinfriars.org.au

On-line: www.capuchinfriars.org.au

Phone: (02) 9569 1880 or 0480 161 411

The offering made for enrolments is not for Spiritual Benefits derived from the Association, but it is a free-will offering made for the purpose of supporting the Capuchin



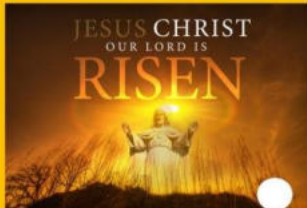
The Capuchin Mission Office - Padre Pio Centre of Australia

Mail Address: PO Box 153 – LEICHHARDT – NSW 2040 - AUSTRALIA
 (02) 9569 1880 - Mob: 0480 161 411 - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
 Email: mission@capuchinfriars.org.au - Website: www.capuchinfriars.org.au



Easter Spiritual Bouquet Cards

This **Easter** give your friends and relatives a remembrance in our **Novena of Masses** to be offered during the **Easter Season**. Each person who receives a card is automatically included in the Novena of Masses. The deceased will be included by you sending us your list of names. The cards may be obtained by forwarding us this completed form.



Donations by Cheque, Cash, Deposit **Commonwealth Bank**

Capuchin Friars BSB No. 062 005 - A/C No. 11055 931

For Credit Card contact us or visit: www.capuchinfriars.org.au

ITEM	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
PACK of 5 Cards \$13 (per pack, postage included)		
INDIVIDUAL Cards \$ 3 ea. (postage included)		

General Donation (Optional) _____ \$ _____

TOTAL _____ \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR LIST OF MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE NOVENA

Post this completed form to : **Mission Office - PO Box 153 - Leichhardt NSW 2040**

OR Scan & send completed form by e-mail to : mission@capuchinfriars.org.au



The Capuchin Mission Office - Padre Pio Centre of Australia

Mail Address: PO Box 153 – LEICHHARDT – NSW 2040 - AUSTRALIA

(02) 9569 1880 - Mob: 0480 161 411 - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Email: mission@capuchinfriars.org.au - Website: www.capuchinfriars.org.au



Give your relatives and friends a remembrance in our **Novena of Masses** to be offered for **Mother's Day**. Each person who receives a card is automatically included in the Novena of Masses. The deceased will be included by you sending us your list of names. The cards may be obtained by forwarding us this completed form.

Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet Cards



A Mother's Day Prayer
Queen and loving Mother
Mother of Jesus
and our Mother
pray for all mothers
on this special day
Amen



Happy Mother's Day



Donations by Cheque, Cash, Deposit **Commonwealth Bank**

Capuchin Friars BSB No. 062 005 - A/C No. 11055 931

For Credit Card contact us or visit: www.capuchinfriars.org.au

ITEM	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
PACK of 3 Cards \$ 8 (per pack, postage included)		
INDIVIDUAL Cards \$ 3 ea. (postage included)		

General Donation (Optional) _____ \$ _____

TOTAL _____ \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR LIST OF MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE NOVENA

Post this completed form to : **Mission Office - PO Box 153 - Leichhardt NSW 2040**

OR Scan & send completed form by e-mail to : mission@capuchinfriars.org.au



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Fr. John Nguyen OFM Cap
96 Catherine Street,
Leichhardt NSW 2040
Phone: 0480 261 261
e-mail: vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au

MISSION OFFICE

96 Catherine St.- Leichhardt NSW 2040
Phone: (02) 9569 1880 or 0480 161 411
Br. Stephen Tran OFM Cap
e-mail: bursar@capuchinfriars.org.au

ST FRANCIS FRIARY

96 Catherine Street
Leichhardt NSW 2040
Phone: (02) 9569 5747

ST FIACRE'S PARISH

98 Catherine Street
Leichhardt NSW 2040
Phone: (02) 9550 9448
e-mail: fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

136 Hyatts Road
Plumpton NSW 2761
Friary: (02) 9675 7685
Parish: (02) 9832 4461 - 9677 0483
e-mail: parishpr@tpg.com.au

ASSUMPTION FRIARY

245 Gladstone Road, Dutton Park QLD 4102
Phone: (07) 3160 1730

ST MARY'S PARISH

20 Merivale St, South Brisbane QLD 4101
Phone: (07) 3844 3806—(07) 3844 2744
e-mail: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au
web: www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au

GUARDIAN ANGEL PARISH

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e-mail: stspeterandpauls@gmail.com

ST ANTHONY FRIARY

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e-mail: stanthonyhawthorn@gmail.com

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web: <https://stfrancisnewtonparish.com>

