



Franciscan Friars
Holy Name Province
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For Immediate Release

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Holy Name Province Franciscans Choose Provincial Leaders
The Rev. John O'Connor and the Rev. Dominic Monti Re-Elected

NEW YORK — Jan. 19, 2011 — Holy Name Province of the Order of Friars Minor has announced the re-election of the Rev. John O'Connor, OFM, as provincial minister at its province-wide meeting Jan. 3 to 7 in Cambridge, Md.

The Franciscans also re-elected the Rev. Dominic Monti, OFM, as provincial vicar, and voted on six new Holy Name Provincial Council members at their provincial chapter, or assembly, attended by 225 friars.

Both Fathers O'Connor, a native of Queens, N.Y., and Monti, of Bradford, Pa., are serving three-year terms, from 2011 to 2014, as follow-up to initial six-year terms.

The priests and brothers elected provincial councilors are:

- The Rev. William Beaudin, OFM, a staff member at Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y.
- Brother Brian Belanger, OFM, of Siena College
- The Rev. Thomas Conway, OFM, of Silver Spring, Md., who was first elected to the council in 2008
- Brother F. Edward Coughlin, OFM, of St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, N.Y., who has served on the council since 2005
- The Rev. Lawrence Hayes, OFM, of St. Camillus Parish in Silver Spring
- The Rev. Joseph Nangle, OFM, of Washington, D.C., former director of the Franciscan Mission Service

The chapter of the 110-year-old province is held every three years to elect leaders and to consider issues of importance to the mission and structure of the community. Friars came from up and down the eastern seaboard, and as far away as France, Italy, Japan and Peru for this year's gathering, whose theme was "Crossroads 2011: Where our deep longing meets the world's great need."

Father O'Connor, who resides at St. Francis Friary in New York City, had a rich vocation in campus, parish and chaplaincy ministry before being elected provincial minister in 2005. After earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and a master's degree in theology from Washington Theological Union, in Washington, D.C., he joined the Franciscans in 1968 and was ordained a priest in 1973.

He serves on the boards of trustees of St. Bonaventure University, Siena College, Washington Theological Union and St. Francis Friends of the Poor in New York City.

He previously served on the board of directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, was chair of the Catholic College Committee of the National Catholic Campus Ministry Association, and was a consultant on campus ministry to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Father Monti, who is widely respected as a Franciscan history scholar, also lives at St. Francis Friary in New York. He has largely devoted his life's work to educational ministry, teaching theology at SBU, Washington Theological Union, Wesley Theological Seminary, and Howard University, all in Washington and Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Pa. He has authored or translated more than 50 published works, his most recent, *Francis and His Brothers: A Popular History of the Franciscan Friars*, in 2009.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from SBU and a bachelor's degree in sacred theology from The Catholic University of America. He earned a master's degree in sacred theology from Union Theological Seminary in New York City and a doctorate with a concentration in the history of Christianity from the University of Chicago's Divinity School. He was ordained in 1971.

About the Franciscans

Holy Name Province is one of seven provinces in the United States that belong to the Order of Friars Minor. Holy Name is the largest U.S. province, with ministries in 12 states along the East Coast. Its more than 350 Catholic priests and brothers serve in colleges, parishes, urban ministry centers, and a wide variety of social ministries as well as in overseas missions.

The Order was founded in 1209 by St. Francis of Assisi, who, today, remains one of the most widely known saints, revered for his affection for nature and care for creation. His feast day is Oct. 4.

Information about Holy Name Province can be found on www.hnp.org.

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