



Franciscan Friars
Holy Name Province
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THREE MEN PROFESS VOWS AT HOLY NAME PROVINCE OF FRANCISCAN FRIARS

NEW YORK — Aug. 17, 2009 — Three Franciscan friars of Holy Name Province, the largest Franciscan community in the country based here, will profess their final vows on Aug. 22, at a Mass celebrated by Provincial Minister Fr. John O'Connor, OFM, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Midtown Manhattan.

Brothers Lawrence Anderson, OFM, Fred Dilger, OFM, and Juan de la Cruz Turcios, OFM, will make their Solemn Profession of Vows at 11 a.m., which means they pledge to live their life according to the teachings of St. Francis, the founder of the Order of Friars Minor, or Franciscans, for the rest of their lives.

The three friars have varying educational backgrounds and vocations, hail from up and down the East Coast, and vary in age, from 29 to 46. Turcios is a native of El Salvador. All were called to the ministry as second careers, having worked in the telecommunications industry, as a high school campus minister and an interior designer.

Anderson, 44, a native of Geneva, N.Y., holds a master of arts degree in pastoral ministry from Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, N.Y. He also holds a second graduate degree in social work from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the Franciscans, he worked as a high school campus minister at Aquinas Institute in Rochester, N.Y.

Turcios, 29, was born in La Union, El Salvador. He moved to the United States as a teenager, settling in Maryland, where he worshipped at St. Camillus Church in Silver Spring, Md., a parish run by the Franciscans. He has worked in the telecommunications industry. He earned an associate's degree in fine arts and will study for his bachelor's degree at the University of South Florida.

Dilger, 46, was born in Jacksonville, Fla., and grew up in Raleigh, N.C. He holds an associate's degree from the Art Institute of Atlanta, Ga. Dilger owned an interior design firm, with offices in New York City and Atlanta, before entering religious life. For the past two years, he has been working at a soup kitchen that the Province runs in Philadelphia, St. Francis Inn.

About Holy Name Province

Holy Name Province is one of seven provinces in the United States that belong to the Order of Friars Minor, better known as the Franciscans. Holy Name is the largest U.S. province, with ministries along the East Coast. Its more than 360 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, founded in 1209 by St. Francis of Assisi, commemorates its 800th anniversary this year. Today, St. Francis, whose feast day is commemorated in October, remains one of the most widely-known saints, revered for his affection for nature and care for creation.