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St. Lawrence celebrates jubilees for Capuchins

FOR THE REPORTER • JULY 27, 2009

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MILWAUKEE — Capuchin friars will be celebrating their jubilee anniversaries at the founding site of the Capuchin Order in America — St. Lawrence Seminary High [School](#) in Mount Calvary.

The event, set for Friday, Aug. 7, honors 22 friars being recognized for 25 to 70 years with the order.

Friars who have served in the Fond du Lac area include:

- Silas Baumann (65 years) who taught for more than 20 years at St. Lawrence.
- Campion Baer (60 years) who taught at St. Lawrence in the 1990s and who returned to the classroom last year.
- Kenan Siegel (60 years) who taught at St. Lawrence from 1961 to 1973 and then served in the business office.
- Oliver Bambenek (50 years) who served as librarian from 1970 to 1978 and again from 1987 to the present.
- Former SLS President, Capuchin friar Keith Clark, will be marking his 50th year in the order. He ministered to SLS for 20 years.
- Capuchin friar Paul Craig (50 years) also served SLS for 20 years. Today, he serves in the mission field.
- Other friars who served at SLS include Joseph Howe (50 years).
- A Fond du Lac native, Capuchin friar Thomas Hill, will be celebrating his 50th year in the order. He currently serves in parish ministry.

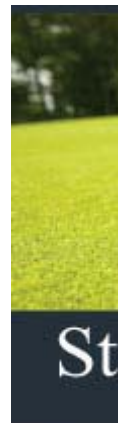
The following day, David Hirt, a Capuchin friar who just completed his novitiate year, will be making his first profession of vows.

In addition, 18 Cap Corps volunteers will be sworn into service, according to a press release from the seminary. Cap Corps is a Franciscan volunteer program and a Capuchin ministry geared to college age students and graduates who wish to emulate the example of St. Francis of Assisi and serve the poor and disenfranchised. Service placements include Detroit, [Milwaukee](#), Chicago, Puerto Cabezas and Managua, Nicaragua, and Lima, Peru.

The Capuchins are an international community of friars modeling themselves after St. Francis of Assisi.

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