



## Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph

28 August 2010

Dear Brother:

The Chapter Preparatory Committee for our 2011 Provincial Chapter has begun preparations, and is now asking for your assistance in the planning process. *Please note* that our gathering will be held at St. Xavier University in Chicago, beginning on **Monday evening, June 6, 2011**, and concluding at Noon on **Friday, June 10, 2011**.

The preparatory committee has asked Bryan Massingale (priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and professor of theology at Marquette University) to offer a keynote address during the chapter to help us understand our experience as a province within the context of the wider church and world. He has accepted that request. Our general minister, Mauro Jöhri, will preside at the chapter.

As has been our tradition, we are now soliciting your suggestions for our chapter agenda. Following is our proposed schedule for determining the issues that you would like to see discussed when we gather in June, 2011.

**September 1 - 20, 2010:** Individual friars submit up to three potential items for the chapter agenda. The preparatory committee will tabulate your suggestions, and publish a complete report, listing the number of times each item was suggested. An *electronic ballot* for your submission will be sent to you on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Friars who do not receive e-mail will find a *paper ballot* enclosed with this letter which can be mailed to the committee.

**October 1 - 29, 2010:** Each provincial community is asked to hold a “local chapter” to discuss the various suggested agenda items, and to submit a “community votation” listing three items for the chapter agenda. A report from the preparatory committee on the results of these “local chapter” votations will be published. Each brother will then be asked to submit their vote on which of these issues should be placed on the chapter agenda. Ballots need to be submitted *no later than 15 November 2010*. The preparatory committee will then determine if this votation has resulted in a workable agenda for the chapter, or if further consultation with the brothers is necessary.

Local ministers will be meeting in late September to review the above process, and to offer additional suggestions for refining our chapter planning.

In the weeks and months ahead, the Chapter Preparatory Committee will keep you informed regarding the planning process and development of the schedule for the provincial chapter. In the meantime, we ask that you prayerfully reflect on the current reality of our province so that our gathering next June will be an opportunity for us all to continue our discernment and planning for our future.

Thanks, in advance, for your cooperation in this important process.

Fraternally,

2011 Chapter Preparatory Committee:

TL Michael Auman  
John Celichowski  
Mark Carrico  
Mark Joseph Costello  
William Frigo  
John Holly

Steven Kropp  
Robert Smith  
Lawrence Webber  
Gary Wegner  
Francis Voris