



Capuchin Franciscan Friars

PROVINCE OF ST. AUGUSTINE

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After six years of seminary formation, Capuchin friar, Br. Michael Herlihey was ordained a priest.

It was a gorgeous morning as the procession entered the Church. Br. Mike's parents, James and Janet, stood in the front pew as they watched their son walk towards the altar and take his place for the ordination.

Capuchin Cardinal Sean O'Malley, archbishop of Boston, gave a wonderful homily about the priesthood, not as a calling to privilege, but a call to holiness and service to God's people.

With the silent "laying of hands," prayer of consecration and anointing, Br. Michael was now a priest.



Janet and James knelt with gratitude to God as their 31-year-old son concelebrated the Mass with Cardinal Sean and many other priests around the altar.

For the years leading up to this day, Br. Mike often thought about his parents: their love for the Catholic faith and how they cultivated in their children a love for Christ. They played a big part in his vocation to Capuchin life and the priesthood.

This day was also made possible by you! Your prayers and generous support of Capuchin seminarians are greatly appreciated by Fr. Mike and all the Capuchin friars.

With his priestly ordination, Fr. Mike ended his year as a deacon at Christ the King Parish in

Columbus, Ohio. He put his Spanish skills to work in the predominantly Spanish-speaking community, and a good number of people from Columbus traveled to Pittsburgh for his ordination.

At the end of the Mass of ordination, Cardinal Sean knelt before Fr. Mike for his first priestly blessing. Janet and James also knelt for their son's blessing, as would many throughout the afternoon of celebration.

Days such as this are a reason to rejoice!

I ask you to consider making a generous gift so that many other young friars can receive the training and education required for the priesthood.

Now, Fr. Mike can take up his new assignment in Philadelphia at Padre Pio Friary. He will continue his work as a vocation director and help at the local parish and beyond.

He will be closer to his hometown of West Chester, PA, and will be able to visit his parents and family more often.



May Fr. Mike have many years as a happy and holy priest!

Educating and forming Capuchin seminarians does not come cheap, and we rely on your support to make sure that these young men are properly trained and educated.

God has blessed the Capuchin friars with abundant vocations to our way of life. We are thankful to Him and all the young men who respond to God's call.

And we are thankful for you!

May God bless you for your great faith and love. Know that you and all of your loved ones are in the hearts and prayers of all the Capuchin friars, especially at the altar as they celebrate the holy Mass each day.

And Fr. Mike thanks you, too!

Sincerely,

Fr. John Pfannenstiel, OFM Cap.

P.S. Your generous gift for our Capuchin seminarians will help us give them the education and training needed for their future service to the Church and all of God's people.