Capuchin Franciscan Friars
PROVINCE OF ST. AUGUSTINE

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You have two veteran Capuchin missionaries praying for you!

Fr. Cyril Repko and Fr. Lester Knoll are in chapel four times a day, and part of their prayers are in thanksgiving for you and for your special needs and intentions.



Fr. Cyril Repko (standing) and Fr. Lester Knoll

Both friars have spent their lives serving God's people.

Fr. Cyril left for the missions in Papua New Guinea shortly after his ordination in 1962. He remained there until retiring just a few years ago—more than 60 years as a missionary in one of the most remote and poor countries in the world.

He loved parish work, although parish work in Papua New Guinea was quite different from here in the States. Just getting to the main parish could be an accomplishment, and then there were dozens of outstations to visit.

When Fr. Cyril first arrived, many people had never even seen a wheel! Geography and hundreds of different languages kept villages and tribes isolated not only from the outside world, but often from one another.

The missions were changing that. People who had lived only a few miles apart sometimes met one another for the first time when they came together for Holy Mass.

Eventually, Fr. Cyril's brother missionaries chose him to be their superior. He left the parish work he loved to oversee the missions and help them continue to grow and flourish.

Fr. Lester also served as a foreign missionary and especially loved training catechists—lay men and women who knew and loved the Catholic faith and could share it with their neighbors.

But his service began long before that. Here in the United States, Fr. Lester served as a vocation director, welcoming young men to the Capuchin way of life, and later as rector of our high school seminary in Pennsylvania.

After returning from the missions, he discerned yet another calling: a more intense life of prayer. With several other friars, he established the Capuchin Hermitage House of Prayer.

Today, Fr. Cyril and Fr. Lester are retired.

But Capuchin friars never really retire from serving God and His people.

These days, their ministry is prayer. And you are part of that ministry. They pray for you because your kindness helps make the work and life of our Capuchin friars possible.



Now I am asking you to help us care for them.

Your gift today will help provide for our senior friars and the everyday needs that come with caring for men who have given their lives in service to God's people.

They spent their lives giving.

Now it is our turn to give something back.

Please send whatever gift you can today.

Fr. Cyril and Fr. Lester, and all the Capuchin friars pray for you everyday with hearts full of gratitude for your love and concern.

We Capuchin friars rely on you. St. Francis of Assisi, our founder and inspiration, taught us to rely on God's Providence in your wonderful support. We know that the Lord provides in the care you show us. The only thing we have to give in return for your goodness are our prayers for you and your intentions.

May God bless you for your kindness and generosity.

Gratefully in St. Francis,

Fr. John

Fr. John Pfannenstiel, OFM Cap.

P.S. Fr. Cyril and Fr. Lester continue their ministry through prayer. Please help us care for them and all of our senior Capuchin friars. Your generosity is appreciated.