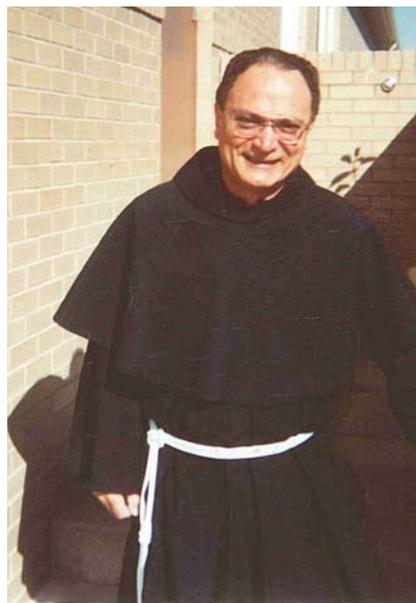


FR JIM VAN DORN, OFM CONV.



With close to thirty five years in retreat ministry and fifty as a Franciscan priest, Jim Van Dorn, OFM Conv is well prepared for the ministry of preaching.

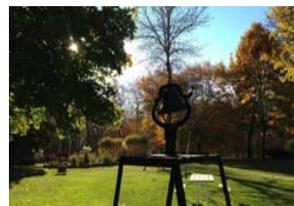
A native of southern Illinois, Jim entered the Conventual Franciscans in 1960.

Besides retreat ministry (both preached and directed retreats), Jim has done parish, campus and initial formation ministry with men interested in entering the Franciscan Community.

He is a firm believer in long-life education. Over the years he has participated in many pastoral workshops in order to enhance his ministry.



The Conventual Friars of Our Lady of Consolation Province are your hosts at Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center. The peace and natural beauty of our facility nestled in sixty acres of woods, prairie grass, and a pond, beckons you from the cares of daily life to a place of quiet reflection.



FR. JAMES VAN DORN, OFM CONV.

Franciscan Priest

- ❧ Parish Renewals ❧
- ❧ Renewal Days ❧
- ❧ Retreats ❧

**Franciscan Retreats and
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16385 Saint Francis Lane
Prior Lake MN 55372-2220**

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It is part of the Franciscan calling to move about the world and preach the Gospel. Francis and his early followers would go from village to village to spread the Word. They would always live in community and from community prayer and support; the Friars would have the strength to face the challenges of Gospel Preaching.

It is with such an ideal of gospel preaching that I resume the apostolate of preaching the Word of God. Whether it is in the context of a Day of Recollection or Parish Mission for a parish community or a retreat for vowed religious, I hope through my preaching to assist individuals and communities in their quest for spiritual growth.

This type of Franciscan evangelization is needed in the world today for there is such a hunger in peoples' hearts for the Word of God and how to grow in that Word. An inner spiritual life is most important so that a person can have the inner strength to face the challenges of everyday life. I have been reminded by a wise teacher who said: "We need spiritual disciplines that will help us face the unwanted realities of life." Jesus reminded us to "build our house on a rock," in order to face the storms of life.

A Parish Mission, a weekend or extended retreat, or a day of renewal, can be a time to affirm and build up one's faith in Christ, the Church, and one's local faith community.

St. Francis would remind us that now is the time to hear the Word of God and put it into practice. He would simply say, "While we have time, let us do good."

When I give a parish mission, Retreat or Day of Renewal, I always try to find out just where the local community or group is in their journey of faith. It is important to know what people may be going through or experiencing in the parish or community that I am trying to serve. What theme would best serve the group? I seek this information from those who are contacting me in order that I might better serve the group.



SOME POSSIBLE THEMES.....

Compassion and Competition

Life and Leisure in a Stressful Culture

Silence, Solitude and Community

Mary, Woman of Faith

Unfolding the Paschal Mystery in Our Lives

Reconciliation and Healing

Pray as You Are and Not as You Should Be

Stories of Life, Faith and

Building up the Church

Having a Vision of Life to Live By

Where Your Treasure is, There is Your Heart



The above themes can be woven into the time frames of a Day of Recollection, a Parish Mission, a Weekend Retreat or an Extended Retreat. The above list is a small sampling of themes which I have found effective. I am happy to work with you to tailor a theme to meet your community's special needs! Write, call or e-mail me today!