

June 25, 2012

Dearest sisters and brothers,

Peace and all good things to you!

Well, after 44 years in ministry to the Secular Franciscan Order, I am moving on to ministry with the Franciscan Missionary Union in my Province. It so happens that many of my term limits are coming due, or are over due, at the same time. As a new Provincial administration is in the near future, a new Provincial Spiritual Assistant needs to be trained. My term as SA for the National Formation Commission had been extended and will be over in October. My term as Regional SA for Our Lady of Angels Region is long over due ... since Regionalization had begun! Being Regional SA for St. Kateri and St. Elizabeth of Hungary Regions has kept me on a schedule which was unhealthy since it required much traveling – so I am in the process of helping to obtain assistance in those Regions as well.

I have been graced to be involved with the SFO during the time of momentous events: the promulgation of the Pauline Rule; the Regionalization of the Order; being SA for the National Commission Chairs when they met; being on the National Formation Commission beginning with Ron Pihokker, OFS, then with Therese Ream, OFS and David Ream, OFS as co-chairs; continuing with Anne Mulqueen, OFS and Teresa Baker, OFS, co-chairpersons and finally with Bob Fitzsimmons, OFS as chairperson. The crowning achievement was the publication of the FUN Manual and its dissemination throughout the country.

I was still in Simple Vows in 1968 when I began as local SA for St. John the Evangelist Fraternity in So. Portland, ME. That being the case, my entire friar life has been wonderfully bound up with the Seculars. **Alleluia!** You have been so many blessings for me and have brought so much joy to my friar life. The experience will never be forgotten! Many thanks for your support and kind words along the way and your constant affirmation of my ministry among you. You will always be in my prayers.

I plan to be at the “Q” albeit for only a short time... so I will see you then. Blessings on you and yours and upon all you do as Franciscans for our Church and for the world.

Fraternally,

Fr. Richard Trezza, O.F.M.