



Community of Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

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COMMUNITY OF FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL CELEBRATE 25 YEARS Community Gives Thanks to God for Call to Renewal

On April 28th, the Community of Franciscan Friars of the Renewal will celebrate and give thanks to God for the founding of their community 25 years ago. The community based out of the Archdiocese of New York began when eight Capuchin friars, lead by Fr. Benedict Groeschel, moved into the infamous Fort Apache section of the South Bronx in an attempt to bring the spirit of renewal to religious life and the Franciscan charism. Stepping out in faith, they were encouraged by Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York at the time, and Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta in their desire for a new beginning.

At a time when vocations are in decline the friars have sustained unexpected growth, currently with 120 friars, and friaries in England, Ireland, and Central America. The friars devote their time and energy to prayer, living in fraternity, and outreach to the poor in local neighborhoods and homeless shelters. Inspired by the call for a New Evangelization initiated by Blessed John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, the friars strive to preach the Gospel in the manner of St. Francis and the early Capuchins.

If you would like more information about the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal on the occasion their 25th anniversary, contact Fr. Glenn Sudano, a founder and former superior, at 973.622.6622. Photographs available from Br. Frantisek Chloupek at brfrantisek@gmail.com.

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