

## From Bro Alan's desk...

Well, here we are once again celebrating the Easter season with its promise of Resurrection. Our world has changed dramatically since we last celebrated this joyous season.

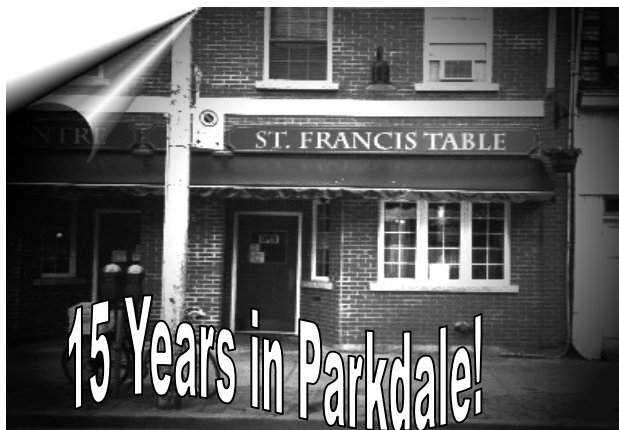
Our celebrations are overshadowed by the ongoing war in Iraq and the local concerns and fears about SARS. War by its nature is about division, fear, and uncertainty. SARS also brings an atmosphere of fear, mistrust, and division. Under these circumstances each of us is in one way or another affected by a sense of vulnerability that cuts across all social distinctions.

As unfortunate these circumstances are, perhaps we can bring about a more positive and brighter outcome. This Easter perhaps WE are being called into action? Instead of celebrating only the resurrection of the messiah, perhaps we can manifest the same spirit of resurrection. We can all pray for peace throughout our world. And perhaps we too can embrace the sense and feeling of vulnerability and stand in solidarity with our local marginalized brothers and sisters who also live much of their lives in this state of uncertainty.

It is solely through YOUR generous hearts, financial and material support that we are able to continue our various forms of outreach. It is in this way that we offer to others living in fear and uncertainty a resurrection into peace and hope.

Pax et Bonum,

*Bro Alan*



Capuchin Outreach to the Poor was founded in 1987 by the Capuchin Franciscan Friars with the vision of creating a faith community with the poor by providing direct services that seek to enhance the sense of human dignity of those who are in need.

15 years later, St. Francis Table serves on average 250 meals a day, six days per week in Toronto's Parkdale community. Patrons are asked to make a \$1 donation towards their meal and are provided with full restaurant service in a comfortable and pleasant environment. Soup, a choice of entrees followed by dessert and coffee or tea are the everyday fare of St. Francis Table.

The St. Clare Centre, next door to 'The Table', is a drop-in centre and tearoom for our patrons. St. Clare Centre also hosts a weekly Alcoholics anonymous meeting, monthly foot clinics, as well as everyday chess and cribbage games.

The Capuchin Street Outreach program provides direct service and supportive advocacy to those who are in need. Services offered include: housing advocacy, personal budgeting, community service referrals, and pastoral counseling. Additionally, a transitional housing program is under development.

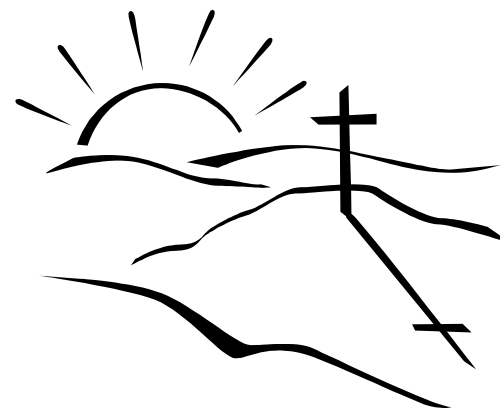
**Capuchin Outreach to the Poor is a registered charitable organization (#11883-7970-RR0001). We receive no government or direct United Way funding, instead relying on the charity of private individuals and businesses for our income.**



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## easter NEWSletter 2003

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### Greetings from Parkdale!

The day-to-day struggles of the poor often make world events seem distant and even unimportant. For others, especially

those living with mental illness, these times are more confusing and frightening than ever. If the horrors of a world at war weren't enough, we now have to deal with the SARS crisis that has hit Toronto. We at St Francis Table are a more vulnerable community when it comes to health issues and we have already begun to take precautions in an attempt to inhibit the spread of this mysterious disease. The reality that we face is that we are the main source of food for a group of people that are already struggling to keep their lives together. Many local food banks and social services have already suspended their services. Please pray for our community, that we will make safe and sensible decisions regarding this outbreak as well as for our friends who continue to struggle for food, shelter, and dignity in this quickly changing world. Let's hope that we will weather these storms and that St. Francis Table can continue to bring joy to the sorrowful and food to the hungry.

*Peace,*

*Gerry McGilly*

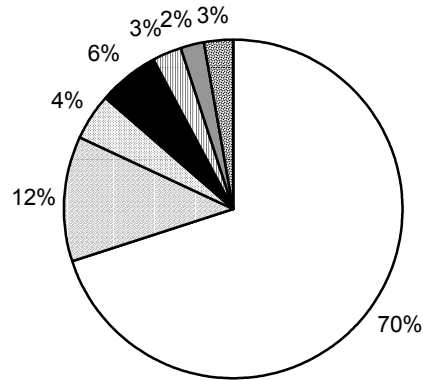
*Administrator*

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### DONATIONS AND TAX RECIEPTS:

- Please make St. Francis Table the recipient of your charitable giving for 2003. Your donations will enable us to continue our Meal and Outreach programs for the most vulnerable of our society.
- If an annual receipt is acceptable to you, please let us know. One receipt for the year greatly reduces administration costs.
- Any questions regarding donations or receipts should be directed to Gerry McGilly at 416 532-4172

### 2002 Capuchin Outreach Spending



- Programming: Personnel, Food, Maintenance, Capital Projects
- Savings: Development Reserve Fund
- Utilities: Heat, Hydro, Water
- Administration: Office Expenses (2002 Computer Purchase), Fundraising, Non-Program Expenses
- Taxes
- Vehicle: Fuel and Maintenance (includes 2002 vehicle purchase)
- Other: Telephone, Equipment purchases, Restaurant Decorations, Liturgical Supplies

# Happy Easter From your friends at St. Francis Table

