



**Distributing St. Francis pins to students from St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School**



**Volunteers from Loretto Abbey in Toronto**



**Fraternity and Community is the spirit of St. Francis Table**



**1322 Queen Street W., Toronto, ON M6K 1L4**

**Capuchin Outreach to the Poor (Parkdale)** was founded in 1987 by the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of Central Canada 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.

**St Francis Table**, the primary expression of Capuchin Outreach, serves meals six days a week in Toronto's Parkdale community. Patrons are asked to make a \$1 donation towards their three course meal which is provided with full restaurant service.

**St Clare Centre** is our Outreach and Drop-In space, hosting weekly AA meetings as well as an informal drop-in for patrons of St Francis Table.

**We receive no government or United Way funding, instead relying on the charity of private individuals and businesses for our income.**

*Capuchin Outreach to the Poor (Parkdale) is a registered charitable organization*

**#11883-7970-RR0001**



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# ST. FRANCIS TABLE ST. FRANCIS TABLE SPRING APPEAL 2014 SPRING APPEAL 2014



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From Bro. Germain's Desk...



It is with humility and gratitude that I write to you as the new Animator of St. Francis Table. March marks my first anniversary in Canada. And what a year it's been! Eighteen months ago I was working as the Student Director at the Padre Pio Capuchin Friary in Pretoria, South Africa, training young men who wished to become Capuchin friars. I had been there for six years so imagine my surprise when I got a call from my Provincial Superior telling me that our Capuchin brothers in Canada needed help and that I was being sent to Ontario.

Bro. John left huge shoes to fill at St. Francis Table and I was initially full of trepidation but the support I have received from our hundreds of volunteers, our patrons, the Advisory Board and, most importantly, our magnificent staff — Sam, Dominic and Yusdel — has left me truly humbled.

The experience of reaching out to the poor by literally feeding the hungry day after day has deeply touched me as a friar following in the footsteps of St. Francis. Getting to know our patrons on a first name basis and sharing in the sense of fraternity and community that permeates St. Francis Table fills me with gratitude.

To you, our donors, I extend a warm thank you. In my short term here, I have been amazed at your overwhelming generosity. Bro. John tells me that when we needed \$50,000 last year to renovate our damp basement, you came through with flying colours. Now our roof has sprung a leak, one of the tribulations of working in a century and a quarter old building.

On behalf of the Capuchin friars and everyone here at St. Francis Table, I wish you a blessed and joyous Easter.

Bro. Germain Kapafki, ofm, cap.

## VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND PATRONS!!!

Can you spare a couple of hours a week to volunteer at The Table?

We are urgently seeking volunteers to serve tea and coffee in the St. Clare Centre following Sr Rosa's imminent departure at the end of March. As you know, volunteer Teresa Fanuzzi performed this task for over 20 years. Since her death last summer, the Centre was frequently closed due to lack of volunteers. Please contact Advisory Board member Anne Wright-Howard if you are interested:

[awrighthoward@gmail.com](mailto:awrighthoward@gmail.com)



We have been blessed since January with the daily presence of Sr. Rosa, a novice with the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood. She is working with us for three months as part of her formation training. Sr. Rosa has primarily been running the St Clare Centre serving patrons a second cup of tea or coffee after lunch or dinner in the dining room next door. She recently introduced hot chocolate which has been a huge success. Sr. Rosa has made herself invaluable, answering the phone, doing laundry, unloading donations and helping wherever needed.



## VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND PATRONS!!!

Looking for a gift for the person who has everything? Why not sponsor a meal for \$150 at St Francis Table in their name. Patrons receive a complimentary meal and the name of the person you are honouring will be posted by the door.

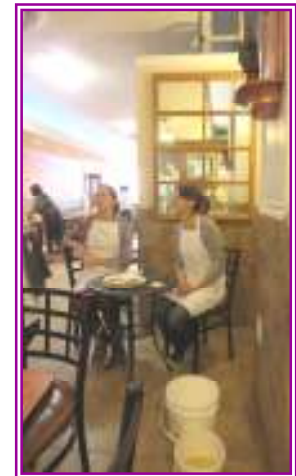
Please contact me at [germainkapafki@gmail.com](mailto:germainkapafki@gmail.com) or 416-532-4172.



(Left to right) Candidates Vince, Viktor and Akram have been assisting at The Table since January as their first step of formation into the Capuchin Franciscan Order



A volunteer from the Knights of Columbus, Humber Valley Council serving hot soup entrée



Buckets help catch the water from our leaky roof