



ACADEMIC HONORS CONVOCATION

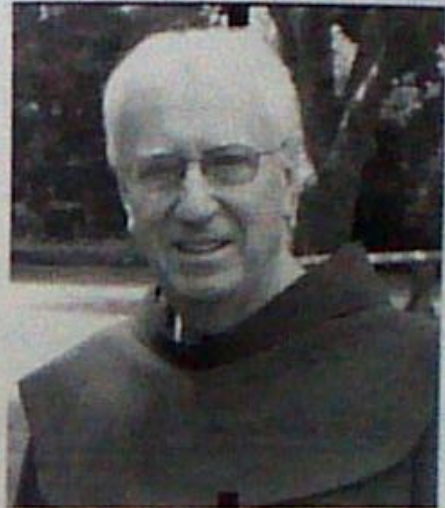


FELICIAN COLLEGE DEEMS IT A PRIVILEGE TO HONOR

Reverend André Cirino, OFM

For his life of service in the Franciscan tradition

After earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Immaculate Conception College, André Cirino received a master's degree in counseling from West Virginia University and earned a Master of Sacred Theology from Woodstock Jesuit School of Theology. He later pursued Franciscan Studies with the Capuchin Franciscan Institute in Rome. His chosen courses of study, which focused on the spirituality of mind and body, inherently followed in the values of Saint Francis who lived and preached with compassion, peace and respect for all. Father André has explored those values and incorporates them into his work. A recent presentation, entitled "Working, volunteering, living," was billed as follows: Taste the unique Franciscan 'flavor' of life. View Franciscanism in 'the here and now.' Feel the power and magic of the Franciscan Tradition. Identify core Franciscan values in real life.



For dedication as a Franciscan intellectual

Father André has truly embraced his extensive study of the Franciscan intellectual tradition, as is evident by his numerous works that focus on the self-journey to spirituality. His published works – books, prayer collections, anthologies and meditations – have been recognized worldwide. A recently co-authored CD entitled "Love Holding Love" includes Franciscan mantras drawn from the writings of Saints Francis and Clare. Father André is a popular speaker and presenter, who lectures widely within Franciscan universities and communities. Among his many presentations include "Blessed Pope John's XXIII's Perspective on Power and Authority to 'Rebuild My Church'" and "Fraternitas: A Guiding Principal of the Franciscan Order." Most notable is his widely acclaimed discussion of "The Three Heroes of Assisi in World War II," a seldom-told account of three men from Assisi who were instrumental in saving as many as 300 Jews from the Holocaust.

For his exuberant devotion to Assisi

As a devout follower in the footsteps of Saint Francis, Father André has devoted himself to sharing the Franciscan legacy as a guide to the saint's hometown of Assisi and beyond. Since 1984 he has conducted pilgrimages to Italy, Prague, England, Mallorca, France, Germany and the California Missions for Franciscan Pilgrimage Programs. The many travelers with whom he has shared his journeys have marveled in Father André's extensive knowledge and passion for Franciscanism and the seemingly endless energy with which he leads them through history and its impact on today's world. Among the accolades, one Assisi pilgrim noted: "The magnitude of the number of lives that Father André has touched serves as an inspiration to me every day."

In recognition whereof and by the power vested in me by the Board of Trustees, I hereby confer upon

Reverend André Cirino, OFM, the degree of distinction of

DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

honoris causa