



## *Congratulations on making final vows, Br. Nicholas Blattner!*

**Family:** John and Jean Blattner, parents; 2nd youngest of 5 children; He has two older sisters, Mary and Natalie; one older brother, Jacob and a younger brother Jack. He also has eight nephews and three nieces.

**Education:** Nick was born in Milwaukee and started school in Cedarburg. He attended St. Mary Grade School in Sheboygan Falls, Roncalli High School and Silver Lake College of the Holy Family, earning a degree in Business. He has a Masters Degree in Theology & Pastoral Studies from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and is completing a second Masters in Church Management from Villanova University.

**Who were your biggest influences in following your vocation?** My parents taught and lived the Catholic faith with Sunday Mass and stories of the saints. I was also inspired after reading about Father Damian of Molokai who led a life of sacrifice and devoted much of his work to helping lepers, the outcasts of the time.

**How did you become familiar with the Capuchins?** Much of it was through my mother's volunteer work with the House of Peace in Milwaukee, a ministry to the poor, the hungry and the homeless in the city. The compassion shown by the Capuchins was very much like that of Fr. Damian's.

**When did you realize the Holy Spirit was calling you?** The last day of attending a Capuchin discernment weekend, while participating in a Holy Hour, a feeling of consolation was present—it was God calling.

**How will you serve others?** I have been preparing for a life of pastoral care, where I can combine my love for God's people with the ability to manage the institutions that are central to the charism of the Franciscan Capuchins.

*Source: Footprints Publication, The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph*

### **The Capuchin Community**

**Who are the Capuchins?** "The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph is a religious community of friars inspired by St Francis of Assisi. As Franciscans, we live and work with those who are in need of help... the poor, the disenfranchised, the needy. We serve God through the work we do...in the communities we serve."

**What we do?** "We preach, teach, cook, and counsel. We minister in hospitals, schools, soup kitchens, parishes, and in the mission fields. We are pastors, artists, missionaries, farmers, and writers."



*Source: www.thecapuchins.org*