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# FRANCISCANS CANADA

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Volume 1, Issue 1

Easter 2000

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## People with Francis!

*Who We Are in Canada*

### **SOCIETY OF SAINT FRANCIS (ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA)**

The information here is provided to help us know when there are changes in membership and to help us share who we are with those who may be inquiring about joining any part of the Society of Saint Francis.

This will also be a column for sharing info regarding meetings, conferences or any other gatherings we may be having. There will also be information regarding any activities, events or conferences that may be of interest to us as Canadian Franciscans.

Also, I have enclosed a separate list of all Franciscans in Canada with this initial newsletter.

### **Associates**

#### **First Inquiries:**

Associates of the Society of Saint Francis  
Sr. Jean CSF, 3743 Cesar Chavez  
San Francisco, CA, USA 94110

### **Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis**

#### **First Inquiries:**

Bob Teudesman, tssf  
Little Portion Priory, Box 399  
Mount Sinai, NY, USA 11766

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## People who Work!

*One Person's Ministry*

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell. I am just at the beginning of the second year of my novitiate. I am a priest living in Guelph, Ontario, but, at present, my primary work is as a stay-at-home Dad. I have two children, Emma who is 4 and Thomas who is 7. My wife Chris is also a priest and she works as the assistant at St. George's Anglican Church here in town. I have also worked a great deal on the Board of Management for Canterbury Hills Conference Centre located in the Dundas Valley, a portion of the Niagara Escarpment. This work involves a focus on environmental conservation and respect for God's Creation.

Over the past couple of years, as I have been in the formation process for the Third Order, I have noticed that there are few scattered Franciscans in Canada. I was thinking that it would be helpful for us to know a little more about each other; that which nurtures our spirit, our ministries, and our dreams and passions. As I have used the Anglican Franciscans Email List I have also noticed that our numerous American sisters and brothers are often discussing national political issues and action that can be taken. For all these reasons, and with the encouragement of two of our sisters, Muriel Adey and Diana Finch, I thought it would be useful to start this newsletter.

Each column will focus on the aspects I list above. First, "People of Francis!" will list key contact people in Canada. In the future it will simply include changes to the list. This section will also include Information on how to begin the process on becoming an Associate or a member of any one of the Orders of the Society of Saint Francis. Second, "People with Spirit!" will include particularly inspirational prayers or poems or stories that may help to nurture our spirit. There will probably be only two or three in each issue. Thirdly, "People with Work" would include a short article about the work one of us is doing as ministers of Christ following in the footsteps of Francis and Clare. Finally, "People for Justice" would include a short article and information regarding justice issues here in Canada and how we can act and make a difference in our country and in the world.

My hope is to keep this newsletter contained on two sides of a letter sized piece of paper as it is presented here. My goals are simplicity and community. I hope this newsletter can become an opportunity for us to share and support each other here in Canada. I invite any comments, ideas, and submissions.

It seems appropriate that this first issue would be the Easter 2000 issue. Hopefully this newsletter will be for us a sign of the Hope and New Life of Christ in our Franciscan community scattered across Canada.

Peace, Lyndon

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**Fellowship Convenor:**

Little Sparrow Fellowship (Eastern Canada)  
Diana Finch, tssf  
Box 384, Caledon East, ON L0N 1E0  
Email: finch@interlog.com

**Area Chaplains:**

Ruth Duncan, tssf (Eastern Canada)  
306-1903 Bayview Ave., Toronto, ON M4G 3E4  
  
The Rev. Harold MacDonald, tssf (Western Canada)  
Box 288, Matlock, Manitoba R0C 2B0

**Third Order Website:** <http://www.tssf.org>

**Society of Saint Francis Website:**

<http://www.societystfrancis.org>

**Anglican Franciscan Listserve**

**(an email discussion group):** for information, consult  
John Snyder - email: [jsnyder@pobox.com](mailto:jsnyder@pobox.com)

**Third Order Library:** Books/videos/tapes on loan by  
mail. Contact the librarian, Rosie McFerran, 1518 Tulane Drive,  
Davis, CA, USA 95616 Phone: 530-756-3487 or find the  
library list through the website: <http://www.tssf.org>.

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*People of the Spirit!*

*Reflections and Prayers*

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Below I have included the first offering of  
prayers from a liturgy on which I have just finished  
working. The liturgy is called "Earth Eucharist" and has  
been prepared with prayers for the feasts of Clare, Francis,  
Solstice days, Earth Day, and the natural seasons for use  
within the context of a eucharist. All the texts for the  
different elements of the Earth Eucharist focus on  
recognizing our place as Co-Weavers in the Holy Web of  
God's Creation.

Peace, Lyndon

**Affirmation of the Web of Life**

*Leader:* This we know, the earth does not belong to  
us,

*All:* **We belong to the earth.**

*Leader:* This we know, all things are connected,

*All:* **Like the blood that unites one family.**

*Leader:* This we know, whatever befalls the earth,

*All:* **Befalls the sons and daughters of the earth.**

*Leader:* This we know, we did not weave the web of  
life,

*All:* **We are merely a strand in it.**

*Leader:* This we know, whatever we do to the web,

*All:* **We do to ourselves.**

*Leader:* Let us give thanks for the gift of creation,

*All:* **Let us give thanks  
for all things hold together in Christ.**

- Chief Seattle (first five responses)

**Earth Day (April 22)**

**Prayer to Begin the Day**

God of all creation,  
we know you in the wind-song, the fire-light,  
the water-spray and the earth-path,  
we chase you in the deer prancing,  
we fly with you in the birds soaring,  
we taste of your abundance in the fruits of creation,  
and we know your fragrant love  
in the flowers and plants that carpet the earth.  
Each day the sunrise and the moonglow  
reveal to us your universal blessings.  
May we continue to cherish your earthly gifts  
and live with them in peace and harmony,  
now and forever.

**PEOPLE FOR JUSTICE**

**CANADIANS MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**ISSUE:** THE ISSUE TO BE ADRESSED - IN THIS PLACE NATIONAL AND  
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES WILL BE NAMED

**ACTION:** IN THIS PLACE ACTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN, OR A LIST  
OF ADDRESSES WHERE ONE COULD GET MORE INFORMATION TO  
ADDRESS THE ABOVE NAMED ISSUE, WILL BE NOTED.

**Editorial Information**

**Please send submissions and comments to:**

The Reverend Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell  
202 Glasgow Street North  
Guelph, Ontario N1H 4X2  
Phone: 519-826-0388  
Email: [clhh@sentex.net](mailto:clhh@sentex.net)

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**A SPECIAL REQUEST:** It costs \$1 PER ISSUE  
PER PERSON to publish this little quarterly newsletter.  
Any donations would be gratefully accepted.