A Word From the Editor

Tradition, it was once said, is "that part of history which has been proven to be of value for the present age." Since the Second Vatican Council, we all seem to have been far more aware of that and, as Avery Dulles, S.J., reminds us, the rediscovery of the importance of tradition was one of the great contributions of the Council. That has certainly been our experience as Franciscans. The celebrations of Francis's death in 1976 and birth in 1982, as well as that of Clare's birth in 1992 were celebratory events which opened new insights into our spirituality and its relevance. At the same time, the publication of critical editions of the writings of both Francis and Clare put us in touch with the wellsprings of our life. For many of us, these years have opened horizons which were unknown to us.

During the past ten years *Greyfriars Review* has become a tool many have used to unearth contemporary insights into our heritage. Articles translated from European, Latin American, and Asian sources have not only deepened, but broadened our perspectives. Thus this tenth anniversary is an event worthy of celebration and of thanksgiving: celebration of the rich heritage that is ours, thanksgiving for the gifts which have been given in our tradition and which continue to attract our wonder.

So many people have worked and sacrificed to keep *Greyfriars Review* alive. John Corriveau, the present General Minister of the Capuchin Friars Minor, went out on a limb to initially back the idea of a journal of translations of contemporary Franciscan articles. Patrick Colbourne, John Shug and Charles Serignat pioneered its first publications, as the Provincials of the North American Capuchin Conference provided financial assistance until the Franciscan Institute, through the kindness of F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., became its home.

Noel Riggs, however, the present Executive Secretary of the Franciscan Institute, has been the mainstay of *Greyfriars Review*. For the past seven years she has coordinated subscriptions, mailing, and printing, has dealt with

authors, editors, and translators, and, with an unending supply of butterscotch drops, kept the editor-in-chief in good humor. Without Edward Hagman and Paul Barrett, however, *Greyfriars Review* would never have maintained such a high quality of readability. They have been the translators par excellence, working endless hours in crafting fluid, faithful and contemporary translations. They have done this not for financial gain, but for an eagerness to see solid Franciscan material come into our hands.

Finally, Ingrid Peterson, O.S.F., and Cyprian Rosen, O.F.M. Cap., have been unstinting in their generosity and commitment to maintaining standards which became quite high. To all of them and to all of you, our readers who over and over again encouraged us, we owe a great deal of thanks. Above all, to the Spirit of the Lord who continually provides us with new insights and reminds us of God's unrelenting love and goodness, we stand humbled, grateful and eager. May the next ten years continue our discovery of "that part of history which has been proven to be of value for the present age."

Regis J. Armstrong, O.F.M. Cap.

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