

FR. JOHN QUIGLEY, O.F.M.

Young Franciscan priest Fr. John Quigley became co-pastor of New Jerusalem Community in 1974 and remained in this role until 1981. A classmate of Richard Rohr and a Canadian by birth, John is an artist and a celebrated preacher, counsellor, retreat master, spiritual director and pilgrimage leader. As co-pastor of New Jerusalem he was our beloved and trusted friend and leader. He lived with us in household and led numerous New Jerusalem “traveling teams” around the country.

John’s preaching, his gifts as a liturgist, and his openhearted transparency are forever a part of his legacy at New Jerusalem. From him we learned deeply the meaning of the Trinity, of a Mother God, and of God’s passionate desire to be one with us. These convictions are enough to carry a person’s spiritual journey for a lifetime. In 1981, John studied the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius at Jesuit Renewal Center, Milford Ohio and was appointed Director of the Office for Justice and Peace for his Franciscan province of friars. John continued to celebrate liturgies with New Jerusalem and serve as spiritual director/companion for various members of the community until he was called to Rome, Italy in 1988.

In Rome, John was the international coordinator for the Franciscan Friars in the areas of justice, peace-making, and care for creation. After ten years, he was called to Geneva in 1998 to become the Director of Franciscans International, an NGO at the United Nations. There for ten years, he coordinated work within the Franciscan family of sisters and friars for the promotion and protection of human rights.

In Geneva, John was actively involved with many members of New Jerusalem who collaborated with him in Franciscans International’s work for human rights. Sr. Pat Brockman, OSU and Anne Niehaus joined the staff; Diane Laake served as recruiter of interns for the Geneva office; Jim Luken, as journalist, travelled internationally for FI to write stories; and Fran & Peg Niehaus and Carol Metz coordinated fundraising for Geneva’s intern program. Members of New Jerusalem hosted a number of Franciscan guests from various countries who introduced us to a wide range of human rights violations throughout the world.

Currently, John lives in Cincinnati where he serves as spiritual director for individuals, conducts retreats and painting workshops, and conducts annual pilgrimages to Rome and Assisi, Italy.

More information about John’s pilgrimages and art work is found at:

www.fatherjohnquigley.com