

Celina native joins Franciscan friars

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David Hirt, the son of Dennis and Dwyn Hirt of Celina, has joined the postulancy program of the Capuchin Franciscan friars of the Province of St. Joseph in Detroit.

Hirt, 29, graduated from Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., and Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich. A

theatre and English major, he is impassioned to help others through ministry work, he says.

"I was called to religious life several years ago, but it wasn't until I was working on my degree in Detroit that I realized I needed to answer the calling. I was steered to the Capuchins and I saw it was the right step for me," he explains.



Hirt

The Capuchin friars live as a community of brothers, modeling themselves after St. Francis of Assisi, assisting the poor and marginalized. The friars serve in a variety of ministries including social service, schools, chaplaincy, retreat houses and parishes across the world. There are about 11,000 friars worldwide.

The Capuchin postulancy program includes ministry work and formation studies. After a year of postulancy, candidates continue their studies and discernment process through one year of novice training.

The novice year focuses on classes, personal and communal prayer, silence and spiritual direction. First professed vows then take place.

"It is a carefully structured program that is aimed to deepen the individual's faith and to assist in the exploration of vocational choices," Capuchin formulation director and friar, Perry McDonald, says.