To:

H.E. Kofi Annan
Secretary-General of the United Nations
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Subject: Congratulations to Archbishop Renato R. Martino

Dear Secretary-General Annan,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement - Graymoor, a fraternity of Roman Catholic brothers and priests of which I am the Minister General. On September 26, 1997 at The Plaza in New York City the Friars of the Atonement will present Archbishop Renato R. Martino, Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations with The Graymoor Award in recognition of his years of service to the Holy Father and on behalf of world peace.

In celebration of this occasion we are publishing a Journal which will be distributed to our guests that evening and placed in the permanent archives of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement - Graymoor. We would be honored if you would write a letter of congratulations to Archbishop Martino which we would feature prominently in our Journal.

Thank you so much for considering this request. I know that Archbishop Martino will be very pleased to read your message of congratulations. Our deadline for submission is August 29, 1997 and should be sent to Arleen Johnson in the Development Office. Any questions can be directed to her at 914-424-3671 x3323.

Sincerely,

V. Rev. Emil F. Tomaskovic, SA
Minister General
His Excellency
RENATO RAFFAELE MARTINO
Titular Archbishop of Segerme
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations

Born in Salerno, Italy, on 23 November 1932.
Primary and secondary studies at Salerno.
University studies at: - Pontifical Gregorian University: Philosophy and Theology;
- Pontifical Lateran University: Civil and Canon Law;
- Pontifical Pastoral Institute at the Lateran University.

Ph.D. in Canon Law.
Post-graduate studies: - Sacra Romana Rota;
- Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy: Diplomacy.

In the diplomatic service of the Holy See since 1 July 1962, he served successively at the Apostolic Nunciatures in:
- Nicaragua; as Attaché and Second Secretary (1962-1964)
- Philippines, as Second Secretary and First Secretary (1964-1966)
- Lebanon, as First Secretary and Second Counsellor (1966-1970)
- Canada, as Counsellor (1975-1978)
- Brazil, as Counsellor (1978-1980).

From 1970 to 1975, called back to the Vatican, he was Head of the Department for International Organizations at the Secretariat of State.

While serving at the Apostolic Nunciature in Brazil, he was appointed Apostolic Pro-Nuncio to Thailand on 14 September 1980, and also Apostolic Delegate to Singapore, Malaysia, Laos and Brunei.

After the establishment of Diplomatic Relations with the Republic of Singapore on 24 June 1981, he was appointed first Apostolic Pro-Nuncio to Singapore.

His term of office in Bangkok ended on 3 December 1986, when he was appointed Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations Organization, succeeding Archbishop Giovanni Cheli.

Archbishop Martino is the third Holy See's Permanent Observer, after Archbishop Cheli and Monsignor Alberto Giovannetti.
During his 25 years as a diplomat of the Holy See, Archbishop Martino has participated in many international conferences and meetings, both as member or as head of the Holy See Delegations. Just to mention a few:
- Round Table under the auspices of UNESCO on "Minor Forms of Art in Asian and Arab Countries", Beirut, Lebanon, 1969;
- Conference of UNESCO National Commissions, Bucharest, Romania, 1972;
- Diplomatic Conference on the Representation of States in their relations with International Organizations, Vienna, Austria, 1975;
- XVIII Congress of the Universal Postal Union, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1979;
- The Sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), held in Bangkok between 1982 and 1986;
- VII Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, New Delhi, India, March 1983.

Decorations:
- Cross "pro Piis Meritis", Sovereign and Military Order of Malta (SMOM);
- Knight Commander of the Order of the Cedar, Lebanon;
- Chaplain Grand Cross Conventual ad honorem of the Sovereign and Military Order of Malta (SMOM);
- Knight Grand Cross of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant, First Class (Thailand).

Archbishop Martino was ordained to the priesthood on 20 June 1957, and has always been interested and involved in pastoral work, especially with the youth; he was chaplain at the "Collegio San Giuseppe" of the La Salle Brothers in Rome, chaplain of the Catholic Boy Scouts, and ecclesiastical assistant to several movements of Catholic action. Elected Titular Archbishop of Segerme on 14 September 1980, he received the episcopal ordination on 14 December 1980, at the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles in Rome by Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, Secretary of State.
"We have been called
to heal wounds,
to unite what has
disappeared,
and to bring home
those who have
lost their way."

—St. Francis of Assisi
Our Mission

Reconciliation and healing through at-one-ment – the unity of men and women with God and each other - has been the mission of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor since its founding by Father Paul Wattson in 1898.

The Friars' mission extends to people of all faiths and all walks of life. Since their beginning, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor have worked for Christian unity and greater interreligious understanding. They have also served the poor and the needy, the homeless, people living with HIV/AIDS, those in hospitals and prisons, and people seeking recovery from alcoholism and chemical dependency. In all of their ministries the Friars embrace the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi who said, “We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way.”

Headquartered in Garrison, New York, the Friars are a Roman Catholic religious fraternity with social, ecumenical and pastoral ministries on three continents. Today their works include:

- St. Christopher's Inn – a homeless shelter for men
- St. Joseph’s Rehabilitation Center – which provides inpatient and outpatient alcohol and substance abuse treatment for both men and women
- The Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute – which promotes unity and understanding among peoples of faith
- The Centro Pro Unione – an ecumenical research and documentation center located in Rome
- The Catholic Central Library in London – which provides research materials and study programs for people of all faiths
- Serving as ecumenical officers in Catholic dioceses in the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan
- The Graymoor Christian Unity Center – which sponsors a year-round schedule of spiritual retreats and educational programs
- Parish work and ministry on three continents
- Prison and hospital chaplaincies throughout the United States
- Reaching out to people with HIV/AIDS through support groups, pastoral care and counseling
St. Christopher's Inn

St. Christopher's Inn is a temporary shelter for homeless men located in Garrison, New York. Begun in 1908 by Fr. Paul Wattson, S.A., the founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor, today St. Christopher's Inn shelters over 3,000 residents per year, most of whom suffer from alcoholism and/or drug addiction. Following a recently completed $6 million renovation/expansion, food, clothing, shelter and counseling services continue to be provided to the residents, regardless of race, creed or color, in a clean and safe environment.

St. Christopher's Inn is dedicated to the rehabilitation of men in crisis. During an individual's stay, opportunities for spiritual, physical and emotional healing are provided.

Men 18 years and older, many of them veterans, usually stay at St. Christopher's Inn for a period of 21 days. Residents who require further services are then referred to other facilities. However, those in the Sobriety Maintenance Program can stay for a period of three to five months and receive intensive relapse prevention counseling.

In addition to the physical and psychological dimensions of care, St. Christopher's Inn also provides opportunities for spiritual healing, a dimension not usually addressed in homeless shelters. A chaplain is present on site for spiritual guidance and confession. Ecumenical services are held every Sunday and Bible classes conducted by a Baptist minister are held every Tuesday evening. Participation in spiritual services by residents is voluntary.

St. Christopher's Inn, possibly the oldest continuously open shelter in the New York metropolitan area, is totally supported by private contributions.
St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center

St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center in Saranac Lake, New York was established by the Friars in 1971 for the rehabilitation of men suffering from the disease of alcoholism. Many of these men were homeless and had relapsed from previous efforts at sobriety.

St. Joseph's program gained recognition for its success in helping homeless alcoholics in recovery to reenter society. To more effectively treat this population, St. Joseph's implemented New York State's first "family week." This component of care was designed to help family members understand their role in a person's recovery from alcoholism. Women were first admitted to St. Joseph's in 1984 and since that day, over 800 women have been served. Today, St. Joseph's provides treatment for more than 400 persons each year.

The Center also operates five guest houses for its graduates. These houses provide a transitional residence for those in recovery as they reestablish themselves with jobs, homes and support networks.

In 1986, St. Joseph's opened five outpatient clinics in Franklin and Essex Counties to serve the needs of area residents. And in 1993, St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center received Accreditation With Commendation, the highest rating offered by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).
The need to reach out to those persons with HIV/AIDS is so important to the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor that they formed an HIV/AIDS Ministry Committee in 1989. The Committee's mandate was to raise Friars' awareness of the AIDS pandemic through educational resources; to advise the Friars' governing body on matters of HIV/AIDS policy and ministry; and to represent the Friars' in local, national and international HIV/AIDS ministry endeavors. The AIDS Committee has mandated that "compassion and competent care must be the hallmarks of our attitude toward and concern for all persons with AIDS."

The Friars minister to persons with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends throughout the United States and Canada. They provide pastoral care to those in hospitals, hospices and prisons; to those in parishes and local communities, and to other individuals. They participate in a variety of committees such as the Bishops' Committee on AIDS for the Diocese of Los Angeles; as speakers and organizers of seminars and workshops; and as collaborators on pastoral care educational materials and programs.

In 1988 the Friars helped organize Do Not Fear to Hope, a self-led spiritual support group for people with HIV/AIDS. The first support group of its kind in the New York Hudson Valley area, Do Not Fear to Hope is based at Graymoor and meets weekly. It also sponsors two annual retreats in conjunction with the Graymoor Christian Unity Center.
Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute

The Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute is an information and service organization serving primarily, but not exclusively, the Roman Catholic Church in the United States in its mission of Christian Unity and interreligious dialogue. The Institute employs several means to accomplish this goal: the specialization desks of the Institute serving specific areas of concern; the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; the journal *Ecumenical Trends*; membership in and collaboration with national and local ecumenical and interreligious organizations and agencies; and cooperation with individuals engaged in ecumenical and interreligious work.

Over the years the Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute has sponsored and co-sponsored meetings, colloquia and workshops in areas of ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. These have been as diverse as colloquia between African-American and Hispanic Pentecostal scholars; Christians, Muslims and Jews; state Councils of Churches; and interfaith training workshops for Christian leaders.

Founded as the Graymoor Ecumenical Institute by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement—Graymoor in 1967, the Institute responded to the Friars’ historical concern for Christian Unity and adapted it to the theological and ecumenical developments arising from the Second Vatican Council. This is manifested in the Institute’s continued concern for and commitment to the contemporary movements for reconciliation and renewal among Christian churches.
ECUMENICAL

Centro Pro Unione

Located on Rome’s historic Piazza Navona, the Centro Pro Unione is an ecumenical research and documentation center with a broad array of programs and services.

The Centro prepares and distributes materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity throughout Italy; presents conferences and programs on topics in ecumenism with representatives from the major Christian denominations; conducts an annual summer course in English on historical and theological ecumenical issues and a formation course in Italian.

The Centro Pro Unione houses a specialized library of over 14,000 titles in ecumenism, including interreligious dialogues not available in any other libraries in Rome. The library is available on-line in the information network URBE and via modem to the Library of the World Council of Churches (Geneva). Encounters for Christians of other confessions and assistance with walking tours to points of interest in Rome central to the development of Christianity are also conducted by the Centro.
Catholic Central Library

The Catholic Central Library in London houses a vast collection of ecumenical and interreligious materials - available to all for viewing and lending at a nominal cost. The library building also serves as a friary for the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement.

With nearly 100,000 volumes and numerous periodicals, the library's strength is modern theology. It has become a leading resource for seminarians of all denominations and for other students as well, and it maintains close relationships with universities, seminaries and schools.

The library also receives numerous inquiries from the mass media, the houses of Parliament and the performing arts. Within its collection are many records of Catholic geneology.

The library began with a mission. William Reed Lewis, acting US Consul in Morocco, began lending books free of charge to Roman Catholic servicemen during World War I. Lewis' project became what is thought to be the first free postal lending library in the world.

In 1961 the Friars came to London and assumed responsibility for the library. The old volumes were reclassified, new collections were added, and today the library is one of the most thorough and comprehensive outside of a university or research center in Europe.

The library building, modeled after an Italian palazzo, once housed homeless children during the Crimean War. After World War I, the building was used for a variety of charitable causes.

Today the library serves as an ecumenical resource available to all.
Graymoor Christian Unity Center

The Graymoor Christian Unity Center is a place of Franciscan welcome where persons can immerse themselves in a prayerful atmosphere conducive to experiencing God's peace and presence. The activities of the Center are conducted by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement and those who serve with them. The ministry is an expression of the Friars' charism of at-one-ment.

The mission of the Center is to invite the churched and the unchurched to renew themselves by relaxing, reflecting and being revitalized in mind, spirit and body in order to awaken or deepen a faith commitment in everyday living. The Center tries to accomplish this through the retreat experience.

The goal of the Center in its ministry is to foster an ongoing process of healing and reconciliation through prayer, listening and responding to the Spirit of God in the contemporary world, in order to help an individual experience a deeper commitment to the living Christ through spiritual growth and development of the whole person.

The Graymoor Christian Unity Center offers a year-round schedule of retreats and educational programs for people and groups of all faiths. It includes overnight accommodations and dining facilities, meeting rooms and a trained staff of retreat leaders. It is also the site of many meetings and conferences, and has been a popular stop over for traveler of Elder Hostel.

The Center also sponsors an adult studies program, Bible studies, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, a centering prayer group, an HIV/AIDS support group and charismatic prayer meetings.
Parishes

Through their pastoral outreach, the Friars bring their mission of reconciliation, healing, and ecumenical and interreligious outreach to people of every ethnic group and economic class, with special concern for the poor and the alienated.

The Friars serve in parishes and other pastoral settings in places as diverse as: Apex, North Carolina; Los Angeles and Seaside, California; Brooklyn and Yonkers, New York; Sterling, Virginia; Brockton, Massachusetts; Richmond, British Columbia; Windsor, Ontario; Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; Rochester, Kent, England; and Yokohama and Kawasaki, Japan.

Friars also serve as ecumenical officers with Catholic dioceses throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan.
History

As St. Francis of Assisi said nearly 800 years ago, "We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way."

To heal, unite and bring home is the calling for each Friar and each ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor.

The Friars are a Roman Catholic religious order with ministries on three continents. With the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, the two orders comprise the Society of the Atonement.

The Society was founded in 1898 by Mother Lurana White and Father Paul Wattson, both members of the Episcopal Church, in an abandoned chapel in Garrison, New York. The area, known as Graymoor, is the Society's headquarters.

Mother Lurana and Father Paul envisioned a Society devoted to Christian unity and reconciliation, modeled after the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. The Friars and Sisters entered the Roman Catholic Church in 1909, in perhaps the first instance of "corporate reception" since the Reformation.

Throughout the century, the Friars have worked for the homeless and the marginalized, for those seeking recovery from alcoholism and substance abuse, and for those who are ill. More recently, the Friars have extended their ministry to those in prison and to those living with HIV/AIDS.

The Friars' commitment to the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, for reconciliation and healing, has remained unchanged for nearly 100 years. Yet their ministry has evolved and grown to include ongoing work on three continents, reaching out wherever there is a need.

The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement-Graymoor
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