

**Fr. Paul Lininger, OFM Conv.**  
**Franciscan Church of Blessed Sacrament - Pastor**

Prior to being assigned as the Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, Friar Paul was the Pastor at the Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. From 2005 to 2011, he served for six years as the Executive Director of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM). In this capacity and on behalf of the Conference, he represented all the Pontifical Religious Institutes of Men in the United States – Jesuits, Franciscans, Benedictines, Dominicans, etc. – in their dealings with the Vatican and with the Bishops' Conferences throughout the world. He regularly attended meetings at the Vatican and with the Pope and other Vatican officials. As the Vatican-sanctioned national representative body for the leadership of men in religious and apostolic communities in the United States, CMSM serves the leadership (consisting of more than 256 Major Superiors and their religious communities) who make up more than 21,000 vowed religious priests and brothers.

Beginning in 1997, Fr. Paul, served in the elected province leadership of Immaculate Conception Province as Province Treasurer and Trustee. During the same period of time, as a licensed counselor, he was involved as a facilitator, teacher and therapist both in the public and private sector. He also serves as a facilitator and speaker for many organizations, including the National Federation of Priests Councils, Chicago, Illinois. Likewise, he continues to be a member of several boards of directors for other religious institutes and his own religious community, such as the Franciscan Heights Housing Project sponsored by the friars in collaboration with the Diocese of Albany, New York.

Fr. Paul has served on the faculties of several universities and colleges, including the famous Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in the Department of Medical Psychiatry, Baltimore, Maryland where he taught third & fourth year medical interns. In addition at the same time, he was the clinical director of a number of psychiatric clinics for Johns Hopkins including: a program for 350 heroin addicts, another for 150 cocaine addicts, a pregnancy program for women addicts, and another for 100 adolescents – all with chemical abuse disorders prior to the age of 11 yrs. old. He likewise oversaw a number of research projects conduct by Johns Hopkins University. In addition to many varied ministries, Fr. Paul has served as the post-novitiate formation director for his Conventual Franciscan Community in Washington, DC.

Fr. Paul holds a Doctorate and several Masters' Degrees in Psychology and Counseling from Loyola University as well as Masters of Divinity and a Masters of Theology form St. Anthony-on-Hudson in conjunction with New York State University. Likewise, he holds several undergraduate degrees from various universities. He joined the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in the 70's and was ordained in 1981.