

# Fr. ROBERT J. BARKO, O.F.M.

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## **EDUCATION**

Marist High School		Chicago, Illinois
	▪ Attended 1973 - 1977	
Illinois State University		Normal, Illinois
	▪ Attended September 1977 – 1979	
Quincy University		Quincy, Illinois
	▪ Attended September 1977 – 1981 (Bachelor's Degree Biology)	
Catholic Theological Union		Chicago, Illinois
	▪ Attended September 2015 through 2017 (M.Div)	
Solemn Profession into the Order of Friars Minor		Joliet, Illinois
	▪ October 2015, St. John the Baptist	
Ordained to the Presbyterate		Archdiocese of Chicago
	▪ October 2017, St. Peter's-in-the-Loop	

## **MINISTERIAL /WORK EXPERIENCE**

<b>Quincy University / Holy Cross Friary</b> <i>October 2024 to the present</i>		Quincy, Illinois
<i>Resident Friar / Member of Chaplain and Campus Ministry Team (in process)</i>		
<i>Instructor in the Theology Department (in process)</i>		
<b>St. Francis College Preparatory High School</b> <i>October 2023 through April 2024</i>		Wheaton, Illinois
<i>Chaplain / Teacher</i>		
<b>Spiritual Leadership:</b>		
	▪ Organized and lead school liturgies, sacramental celebrations, and prayer services.	
	▪ Provided spiritual guidance and counseling to students, staff, and families.	
	▪ Promote a culture of prayer and reflection within the school community.	
<b>Faith Formation:</b>		
	▪ Developed and implemented religious education programs that align with Catholic teachings.	
	▪ Facilitated retreats, workshops, and other formation opportunities for students and staff.	
	▪ Supported the development of students' faith through individual and group discussions.	
<b>Community Engagement:</b>		
	▪ Foster a sense of community within the school by promoting service projects and outreach programs.	
	▪ Collaborate with faculty and staff to integrate Catholic values into the curriculum and school activities.	
	▪ Engage with parents and parish communities to strengthen the connection between the school and the church.	
<b>Support for Students:</b>		
	▪ Be available to listen and counsel students facing personal or spiritual challenges.	

- Mentor student leaders and encourage their involvement in ministry and service activities.
- Address any ethical or moral issues that arise within the school community.

*Collaboration with Staff:*

- Partner with the administration and faculty to support the school's mission and values.
- Participate in school events and meetings and contribute to the overall school climate.
- Assist in staff development programs focused on spiritual and moral growth.

**Franciscan Province of the Most Sacred Heart** July 2020 through the October 2023 St. Louis, Missouri  
Secretary of the Province

- Communicated with the Franciscan Friars in the Province and throughout the world
- Maintained the records of the province, including obediences, transfers, letters of suitability and day to day functioning of the religious order.
- Prepared the provincial offices for the national unification of the six American provinces
- Supervised the provincial office and friary staffs

**St. Francis Solanus Parish** July 2015 through July 2020 Quincy, Illinois  
Parochial Vicar

- Engaged in the daily functions of the parish ministry, comprising 1,300 families. This included: creating missionary disciples, visiting the sick and homebound, teaching in the local Catholic school and other ministry activities.
- Participated in student sacramental preparation, school and parish retreats, altar server training, sporting events, musical and theatrical events.
- Supported the Parish staff in administrative, sacramental and spiritual processes

**Kadlec Architecture + Design** January 2005 through - July 2015 Chicago, Illinois  
Practice Manager

- Established structure for a newly started architecture and design firm.
- Responsible for maintaining existing and to develop new client relationships
- Accountable for the overall business operation of the firm finances, taxes and expenses
- Communicated effectively with vendors, clients and staff to deliver high-end residential properties

**McDermott, Will & Emery** August 1996 – January 2005

Chicago, Illinois / London, England

*Deputy Practice Manager*

- Established structure for an international law firm in the United Kingdom
- Responsible for maintaining existing and to develop new client relationships
- Accountable for ensuring attorney / client goals and expectations were met while providing efficient cost effective service to the client and their legal needs
- Communicated effectively with attorneys, barristers and staff to resolve service delivery issues and irregularities

### **MINISTERIAL TRAINING & COMPLIANCE COURSES**

- VIRTUS
- Praesidium Standards
- Protecting God's Children
- DCFS CANTS
- Mandated Reporter