

The New England Province of Jesuits welcomes five new novices

The New England Province welcomes five men into the New England Province. **Letroy Monroe** entered the Jesuit Centre Novitiate in Kingston Jamaica on August 14. **James Ferus**, **Andrew Otto** and **Marco Rodriguez** are entering St. Andrew House Novitiate in Syracuse, New York on Saturday, August 22 and **Stev Metika** will enter the novitiate in Cairo, Egypt on October 5.



Letroy Monroe was born in Kingston, Jamaica on September 12, 1989, the son of Merna Layne and Elvis Monroe. He has one older brother, Bruce. He attended Calabar High School, and continued his studies at Portmore Community College, where he obtained an associate degree in business. He has been an active member of his church, and very involved in youth programs in the wider Archdiocese of Kingston. He enjoys music and singing.



James Ferus is from New Bedford. James, 23, earned an A.B. in Government from Harvard College. A volunteer with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in 2008 and 2009, he worked with youth assisting in job training through a corporate work-study program in Harlem at Cristo Rey high School. In Portland, Oregon he managed an evening hospitality center for the homeless called Operation Nightwatch Portland. His interests include music (violin and viola), mathematics, sociology, religion, baking, chess, and recreational sports.



Andrew Otto is from Framingham, MA. Andy, 24, holds a B.A. in Communication with a minor in Psychology from Curry College. His work experience has been with Disney World in Florida, CBS-TV (WBZ in Boston), and most recently in client management (concierge) at Circles. He has volunteered taking pledges for PBS Television and Radio, in various homeless ministries in the Boston area, and as a Eucharistic minister and lector at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill. Andy's interests include travel, writing and blogging. He has been to Jamaica, Brazil, U.K., and Bermuda, as well as a train trip from Boston to San Diego. His brother (Brent Otto) is also in the New England Province of the Society of Jesus.



Marco Rodriguez is from Cambridge, MA. Marco, 46, has a B.A. in Spanish from Texas Tech University in 1985 and later studied plant biology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. A brother candidate in the Society, he has worked as an academic and immigration advisor to international students in the U.S. at Berklee College of Music. His volunteer experiences include the Peace Corps in Jamaica for two years after college, tutoring at Boston Partners in Education, and more recently as a pastoral care volunteer at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston. He enjoys cooking, gardening, small repair projects, and natural science.



Stev Metika is from Amman, Jordan. Stev, 28, will enter the novitiate in Cairo, Egypt in October. He has attended Al Mustansiryh University in Baghdad. His volunteer experiences include three years with the Focolare Movement, an organization that provides clothing for needy Iraqi and Jordanian families as well as a coexistence program for Christians and Muslims in Amman which offers food and clothing. He has worked full time since 2003 at the Zumont Industrial Company, and his father's Baghdad restaurant, later using his capability as a graphic designer for a private design studio and the Jesuit Center. Stev's most recent job is Administrator of Finance, Logistics, and Coordinator of Family Visits at the JRS in Amman. His other interests include reading, swimming, and woodworking.