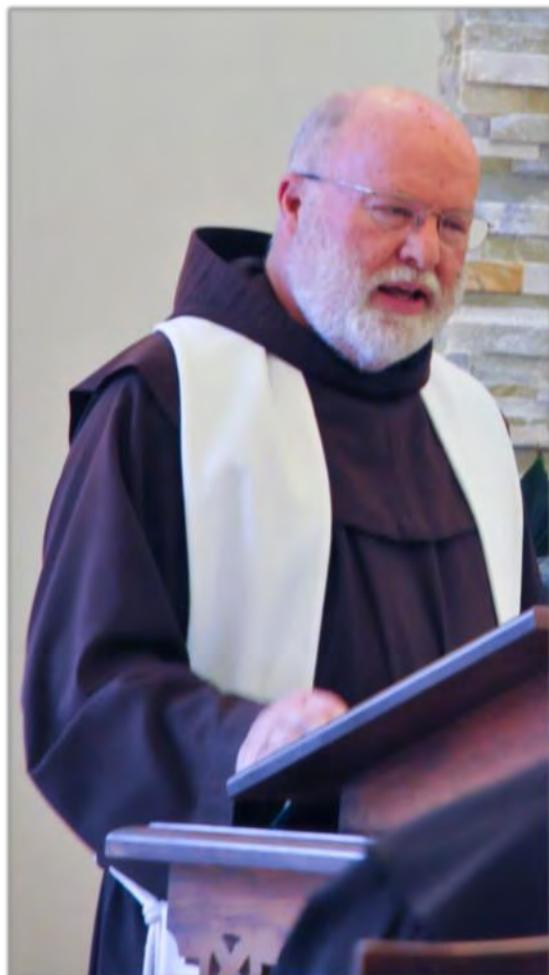


2016 Christian Life Award: Richard Rohr by Tom Shumate ('78)



have been touched by Richard's work.

Fr. Larry Dunham, former Provincial Minister of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, told of many letters that he received from individuals whose lives were touched and brought closer to Jesus through Richard's work.

In my work at Franciscan Media I can attest to the impact that his writings have had on others. For example, his best-selling 2011 book *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*, published by Franciscan Media, has impacted thousands of lives. This is consistently the bestselling Franciscan Media book on Amazon.com.

A personal friend of mine credits Richard and this book

for saving his son's life. My friend relayed to me how his son, who continually struggled with drug addiction, was greatly affected and changed after listening to the audio version of *Breathing Under Water*.

A co-worker related to me that Richard's writings so impacted his life that when the opportunity presented itself, he and his family moved from Philadelphia to Cincinnati to work for the Franciscans.

Many of us can attest as well that we have been touched by God through Richard's work.

Richard's impact goes well beyond Catholic circles to many who seek a deeper relationship with God. Reaching other audiences including those of Rob Bell, Oprah Winfrey, the Dalai Lama, and others. I heard that when Richard wanted to retire from traveling and speaking engagements, he said that he would make an

exception for the Dalai Lama. Subsequently he was invited to participate in the Festival of Faith in Louisville, Kentucky with the Dalai Lama, and did so!

On behalf of all those who have been touched by Richard's work and charism, we present the Franciscan Alumni Association Christian Life Award.

The Franciscan Alumni Association annually presents the Christian Life Award to someone who exhibits the Franciscan charism of sharing the Gospel of Jesus and ongoing charity toward others.

This year, we present this award to **Fr. Richard Rohr**, who has had a profound impact on many people in this regard. From the founding of the New Jerusalem Community back in the early 70s, to his founding of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque in the mid-80s, through his teaching and his writings, and his interactions with many people, thousands of people

