



Rev. Melvin A. Shorter, C.P. Associate Director: is the first of two children of the late Edith and Melvin Shorter. He was educated in the public school system of Baltimore Maryland, graduating from Baltimore City College. He attended Coppin State College where he majored in Secondary Education. Upon graduation, he was employed by the Social Security Administration in Baltimore as a Career Development Specialist and later as a Personnel Relations specialist. He worked for the Administration until 1981 when he entered the Passionist Novitiate in Pittsburgh, PA.

In 1982 he took first vows as a Passionist and entered Catholic Theological Union earning a Masters of divinity with an emphasis on Word and Worship. Upon graduation, he was ordained in New York. His first ministry, Pittsburgh, PA, was Itinerate Preaching in Western PA.

After one year in Pittsburgh, he was asked to join four other Passionist to establish a Passionist presence in Greenville, N.C. He ministered in St. Gabriel's parish. Also, while in North Carolina he continued doing Itinerate Preaching. In 1989, He joined the parish staff of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Atlanta, GA and became pastor in 1990.

While in Atlanta, Fr. Melvin was elected to the Provincial Council as Consultor. He ministered in both ministries until 2004 at which time he was asked to join two other Passionist in an experimental project in Harlem, New York. In 2008, he joined the Passionist media ministry while continuing with Itinerate Preaching until 2010 when he was asked to join the Parish Staff at St. Joseph Parish in Paris France. St. Joseph's parish is the only all English-speaking parish in all of France. The parish ministers to over forty different nations.

While in Paris, Fr. Melvin served on a commission that remembered the 9/11 tragedies on the commemoration of its tenth anniversary. He also served on a commission that celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the use of English in worship services in France. He also ministered with an ecumenical commission in Paris. This group met regularly in support of the many faiths that celebrated worship in English.

He served as one of several chefs who weekly provided a three-course, sit down, served lunch for the hungry. While in the Parish, he conducted Bible Study Groups, prepared families for Baptism and was chaplain to a group of Missionary Sisters of Charity.

Fr. Melvin is now assigned to Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in North Palm Beach where he will continue his Itinerant Preaching and assisting on the Retreats as needed. He enjoys travelling, reading, films, theater and cooking.