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Letter from the President

Ah November, and two things come to mind. How many of you out there are fans of *The Food Channel*? Those who are can raise their spoons, forks, and other gizmos and gadgets that supposedly the great cook simply cannot do without. The rest of you will wonder what on earth this has to do with a usually serious spiritually based newsletter.

This month liturgically we are directed to consider the end of times, both our own personal demise and that of our world. Reminders begin on the very first day with All Saints Day then All Souls Day and our day with the remembrance of deceased Dominicans on November 8th. The Sunday reading leading to the end of the liturgical year direct us to consider the final days culminating in the coming of Christ as Judge. Somber thoughts indeed!

On the other hand, this month we have the celebration of Thanksgiving Day, the most universally celebrated holiday in our calendar. In the frenzy to go over hill and dale to Grandmother's or somebody's house, travel this weekend exceeds any other time of the year. Because the celebration is not restricted to any culture, ethnicity, or religion it can embraced by the newest immigrant, a Mayflower descendent, or one of those who welcomed them. Generally though, foremost it is has come to be a day of unrestrained feasting, or one could say the "Great American Eat Out."

And, this brings us back to *The Food Channel*. The sole purpose of this channel is to promote Food; yes with a capital F. Food is the ultimate good! Feasting is the ultimate activity. Preparation, presentation, and consumption of food are the prologue, plot and epilogue of every show. The aim of most every show is to convince us that the procurement, preparation, presentation and consumption of food should be one of the driving forces of our lives. After only a few weeks of watching you too can become obsessed with food but it seems like a rather harmless one at first. When you start looking at those gizmos and gadgets every time you go to the store looking for duck tape or brass thumbtacks you will realize it is not.

And back to the other hand, the liturgical themes. For some, these thoughts of death, judgment and such become as obsessive for them as the search for the perfect dinner is for the "foodies." Under the guise of spiritual intensity they allow this to take over their life with such intensity that it crowds out the possibility of all present joy and they will admit to finding little good either in themselves or creation. This is not a new philosophy as I think Dominic preached against it way back. Then denying the reality of the situation, there are those, especially in our current culture, that believe that if they or the government or someone would only exercise more care, harm will be avoided and our world will go on and on. Security is their keyword - planes will not crash, floods will not come, death can be avoided and we will all be secure.

And what does all this have to do with living a Lay Dominican life? Dominican life in its most perfect state is one of balance. It is our challenge to find the balance between feasting and fasting. As scriptural people we read over and over of God's blessing in terms of feasting with choice wines, juicy food, abundant harvest, and of making merry. These are good things. As scriptural people we should understand well the temporary nature of our earthly existence and of the earth itself. This revelation is a blessing and a good thing. We also have to be willing to admit that all of us are constantly tempted to obsess about something - food, drink, power, riches. For this we have fasting to help us order our passions and curb our appetites.

While the turkey is cooking I will offer my own prayer of thanks for all the great volunteers in the Province, Regions and Chapters that have done so much to help this past year and have kept me from obsessing about "how is this going to get done."

Ms. Dorothy Murphy, O.P.
 Provincial Council President
redceltop@starpower.net

Just Received !!
New Publication

WALKING WITH ST. DOMINIC
 by Fr. Peter B. Lobo, O.P.

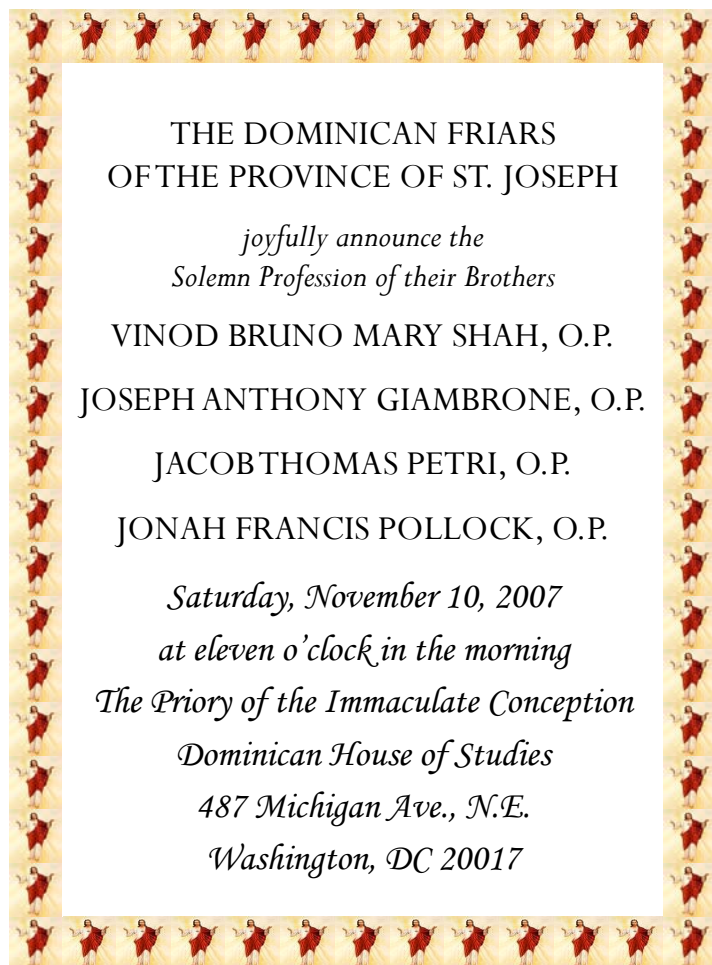
From the Dominicans of India, this book by Fr. Lobo, noted spiritual author, offers unusual reflections and meditations on Dominic's way of following the path of Jesus.
 \$20 - including shipping

Email: Dominicanbookstore@gmail.com
 or call 202-529-5300 ext 124

A Notice for all eLumen Subscribers

If you have not received your latest copy of the eLumen via your email, please send me an email so that I can correct the error. My email is prouille_1216@comcast.net. I will change your email address in order for you to receive your subscription copies. If your email address has changed, please let me know so I can make the necessary change. I will require your name, your old address and the new address. **Please help me help you.**

Prayer Request



THE DOMINICAN FRIARS
 OF THE PROVINCE OF ST. JOSEPH

*joyfully announce the
 Solemn Profession of their Brothers*

VINOD BRUNO MARY SHAH, O.P.
 JOSEPH ANTHONY GIAMBRONE, O.P.
 JACOB THOMAS PETRI, O.P.
 JONAH FRANCIS POLLOCK, O.P.

*Saturday, November 10, 2007
 at eleven o'clock in the morning*

*The Priory of the Immaculate Conception
 Dominican House of Studies
 487 Michigan Ave., N.E.
 Washington, DC 20017*

A Report on

ANNUAL PROVINCIAL DOMINICAN RETREAT 2007

By: Mrs. Helen Tice, O.P.

I need a retreat!! I need a retreat!! The refrain ran through my head. The day was sunny and warm, my Dominican sisters and I set out to go on retreat. Once in Mt. Pocono and driving up the street to the Villa of our Lady of the Poconos Retreat House in Pennsylvania, we passed Our Lady's grotto on the left as we



entered the driveway. We all piled out of the car, grabbed our bags and headed inside. As we passed the row of wooden rockers sitting invitingly on the porch; we knew we would find time to 'set a spell.'



The Villa of our Lady of the Poconos Retreat House has been the scene for the annual regional retreat for the last 3 years. This year it was advertised as a provincial retreat and approximately 80 Dominicans and guests arrived to partake of the spirituality, prayer, talks, and reacquaint with fellow retreatants. Retreat Promoter Maria Soellner and Lisa Hebo were busy at the sign-in desk arranging rooms, settling questions and greeting the guests. Some assistance was required and volunteers were ready to pitch in. The lobby area was a buzz with voices of people talking and hailing friends. The weather was predicted to be sunny and warm for the weekend. It turned out to be very warm



for October, but I heard no complaints.



Region 2 attendees: Ethel Sheehan, Gladys Lynch, and Alice Mattia enjoy Lunch.

As the dinner bell rang at 6 pm, the ladies and gentlemen filed into the dining room and found seats at tables for 4 that makes for easy talking. Maria Soellner gave the greeting and then introduced the Retreat Master, Fr. Juan-Diego Brunetta, O.P., Provincial Promoter. He then gave the blessing before dinner and we enjoyed the meal together. The food was good and nourishing.

We went to the Chapel, a light and airy space, with the symbols of the Beatitudes depicted in stained glass, and sat quietly until time for the evening talk by Fr. Juan-Diego. He is a fantastic speaker and brought to life the topic of the evening. His theme for the weekend was "the Eucharist". He brought to the life the very



Real Presence and the power of the Eucharist as it whooshes out to us from the altar to embrace us; a very moving talk on a very complex subject. The social time was enjoyed by all in the gathering room downstairs where refreshments and good conversation were in abundance.

The retreat activities kept us focused during the weekend and before we knew it Sunday afternoon was upon us and it was time to depart back to our 'other' lives. We had prayed, sang and celebrated the Eucharist in community. We dined one more time, shared phone numbers and addresses, and said to all "see you next year."

Retreats are just that, a retreat from the everyday world into the world of the spirit. We all need our spiritual batteries recharged and a retreat is the best way to accomplish that. The first weekend of October 2008 is already scheduled as the Annual Provincial Retreat. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. You will be amazed at what you didn't know until you went on retreat. By this time next year, maybe your refrain will be "I need a retreat, I need to spend some time with the Lord!" *Go for it!*



Dominican Pilgrimage Calendar

Order your 2008 Lands of Dominic Pilgrimage Wall Calendar today!

For more than 20 years, Parable Conference has been leading pilgrims on the path of St. Dominic through Spain, France, and Italy.

Over 1,000 Dominicans have experienced the Lands of Dominic Study Pilgrimage. Beautifully illustrated with original photography by these pilgrims, the calendar is a thoughtful way to share images of the places that shaped Dominic's life and to commemorate significant Dominican feast days and social justice dates.

The calendar is a crucial fundraiser for us, so please consider supporting Parable Conference and future Lands of Dominic Pilgrimages by purchasing a copy, or perhaps several copies.

They will make great Christmas gifts! Calendars are \$12 each, plus shipping and handling. You may order by phone 708-366-1730 or on our website:

www.parableconference.org.

Regional News

Region One

Mrs. Faith Flaherty, O.P. r.f.flaherty@comcast.net

NOTA BENE:

The fall regional meeting, including elections will be hosted by the St Martin de Porres Chapter at St Patrick's Church Hall in Natick, Massachusetts on Saturday, November 3, 2007.

St. Mary, New Haven, Conn. Our chapter participated in a week-end retreat at the end of September held at the Nazareth Spiritual Life Center in Monroe, CT. We were blessed to have as our Retreat Director Fr. Angelo Henry Camacho, O.P., an itinerant preacher for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph.

This retreat was conducted in complete silence and our conferences were based on how to create this silence in our hearts. Father mentioned examples in the writings of many saints including St. Augustine, Blessed Henry Suso, St. Teresa of Avila and many other noted authors. We were given two booklets for meditation: "The Little Book of Eternal Wisdom" by Blessed Henry Suso and thoughts from the writings of Thomas Merton on silence and praying of the psalms. Quiet time, in between conferences, was spent in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

The nuns of the Holy Family of Nazareth who run the retreats at the Center also have their convent and chapel in the building. They extended a warm welcome and allowed us to use their beautiful chapel for Mass and the praying of the Divine Office. On the last day of the retreat they invited us to join them in Morning Prayer.

At the conclusion of the retreat and ending our silence, Fr. Camacho allowed us a question and answer period. It was a time of special sharing. We were pleased to have a few Carmelite tertiaries and some parishioners of the Church of St. Mary on retreat with us this year.

If any chapter would be interested in inviting Fr. Angelo Camacho, O.P. to preach a retreat, he can be reached at www.op-stjoseph.org/preach-camacho.html

kwsmith@optonline.net

The Greater Boston Pro Chapter met on October 21st. The formation instruction focused on the Rosary: what it is, its origin and the Dominican way of praying it. Following the praying of the five glorious mysteries, a review of the various stages in the path of formation was discussed. The members planned for their Chanting Workshop. The meeting concluded with Evening Prayer.

Mr. Ray DiBona, O.P.

Our Lady of Divine Providence, Providence, R.I.

As you know, the Olympics next year will be celebrated in Beijing, China, and Mrs. Janet Moreau Stone, O.P., is planning to attend. It is in the works in the Olympic Committee that Janet would accompany the American team as an interfaith Chaplain. Janet is a U. S. Olympic team gold medal winner in the Helsinki, Finland 4x100 meter relay - World Record, 1952 - see *Torch*, Spring, 2005, p. 23.)

Janet is asking for prayers from her Dominican family that the committee will approve this request. Janet is a certified Catholic chaplain by the National Association of Catholic Chaplains in the United States. Whatever the outcome, she is planning to attend the Olympics in Beijing next year and in order to make this financially possible for her, a group from Janet's parish raised \$18,000+ at a recent golf match to take care of her expenses and enable her to bring a guest as well. One of her nieces will be her fortunate guest. Best wishes, Janet. We are so happy to be having a Dominican laity presence at the Olympics in Beijing.

Janet is the treasurer of Our Lady of Divine Providence Chapter, Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island.

Louise Small rob-lo@comcast.net

Our Lady of Mercy Chapter, MCI Norfolk, MA/Trenton, N.J. had a full, charismatic, jubilant weekend. It began on Friday, Oct. 26, when the Moderator of MCI Norfolk, Ms. Ruth Raichele, O.P., the Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Wayne Cavalier, O.P., and two other lay members: Mr. Charles Adams, O.P., and Mrs. Faith Flaherty, O.P. traveled to Trenton, N.J. to receive two new members into a combination reception into the Novitiate and Temporary Promises.

These two new “cloistered brothers” have been studying formation material by snail mail for two years. They could not be received before because of the distance between MCI Norfolk, MA and the N.J. State Prison in Trenton. Finally, the day arrived. All four of us met in the airport and flew to Trenton. We were picked up by Sr. Loretta, O.P. and quickly driven to the prison. We just made it! Five more minutes and we wouldn't have been allowed in.

Considering the strict restrictions placed upon us, we were able to make the ceremony very meaningful and sacred. Our Lady of Mercy Chapter happily received Agustin Garcia and Francisco Wills into the Novitiate and then they made their Temporary Promises. Many thanks to their chaplain, Sr. Elizabeth Gnam, O.P., who made the arrangements. Both Sister Loretta and Sister Elizabeth are Dominican Sisters of Amityville, N.Y.

Coming home was an ordeal. The airlines overbooked and we were told one of us had to stay behind. Who would you choose? Fr. Wayne had to get back for the Chapter's Day of Recollection that started at 8:00 AM. Charlie had an important morning wedding. Faith's on medication and had to get home. Ruth as chaplain and the Chapter's President had to be at the Chapter's Day of Recollection, too. We didn't know what to do. Ruth chose the short straw.

Trenton is a tiny airport. The only other airline that services Trenton is Pan Am and their flights were finished for the day. We considered renting a car and driving the six hours home. Finally, we prayed. We prayed and counted passengers as they came in. There were 20 seats on the plane.

Luckily two passengers didn't show up. Ruth got on. Praise God!!!

The next day was our Day of Recollection. It was fantastic. Fr. Wayne said he learned from our discussions. It was a good retreat.

Sunday was another great day. Mass with our choir, Echoes of Truth, was excellent, as always. Readings were given by members from Hope of Bethany Chapter, Sherborn, MA. Our Liturgical Dance Troupe outdid themselves. They demonstrated St. Dominic's Nine Ways of Praying. The congregation loved it.

And of course, the Promises. The Temporary Promised were Paul LeClair, Thomas Lynes, Kenneth Padgett, and Linton Whipple. The novices included were Edwin Randolph, Richard Duff, Fred Lomberto and Kim Van Thanh. Edwin is very sick. His diabetes is serious and he was very ill. He managed to come. After Mass, Father Wayne had a Healing Service for Edwin and he was given the Anointing of the Sick. We all prayed. Eight inquirers entered the Postulancy.

Then we all celebrated. It was a glorious day; a glorious weekend. We have a glorious God!

Ms. Ruth Raichele, O.P. Bethanyosfop@aol.com

St. Martin de Porres Chapter, Natick, MA is gearing up to host the Region One Meeting. It will be Nov. 3. Chapter consisted of firming up our plans, but we managed to have a talk on Mother Theresa by our Spiritual Assistant, Sister Kathleen Corrigan, O.P. Sister Kathleen is a Dominican Sister of Saint Catharine of Kentucky.

After Sister's Talk, we meditated in our chapel. We closed with Evening Prayer.

Mrs. Patricia Keeney, O.P. swmmr2@gmail.com

Region Two

Ms. Anna Donnelly, O.P. Donnella@stjohns.edu

Sacred Heart Chapter, Rahway, NJ, continues to start the Sunday meetings with community Mass at St. Mary's Church followed by Office and Rosary. We then discussed Module 3 of the Postulancy materials and socialized afterward.

Mrs. Helen Tice, O.P., President

Rose Hawthorne Pro Chapter – On Friday, September 14, 2007, the Feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross, the chapter, as family members of the Rose Hawthorne Dominican Sisters were invited to the First Profession of Sister Agnes Mary and the Final Profession of Sister Mary Josepha, followed by lunch.

The Eucharist was celebrated by Reverend Gabriel O'Donnell, O.P., and there were 13 other priests present including Father Martin Connor, O.P., and Father Dan Davies, O.P.

Lift High the Cross in praise, thanksgiving, and adoration, as we shared with family and friends in this most grace filled day, as Sister Agnes Mary received her veil and Sister Mary Josepha received her ring and they professed promises to God and Community. Our Chapter is so blessed to have such a constant witness to the Dominican way of life. May we remember these two sisters and all Dominican religious in our daily prayers.

Saturday, September 15, 2007 was a bittersweet day for our chapter as we gathered to celebrate the Eucharist with Fr. George Schommer, O.P. for the last time as our Spiritual Promoter. Father Schommer has been with us since June 2004 and it was in front of him that we knelt to make our First Promises. We will be forever grateful for his guidance to us as a chapter and on a personal level. After mass we gathered for lunch at a local restaurant to celebrate our time with Father and to wish him well on his new assignment in Ohio.

Ginny, summed up what we all felt. "I guess it's now time to share him with others. They say you can't keep a light under a bushel basket, as much as we might like to keep him hidden with us at Rosary Hill; we have to let him go. May he be assured that he takes with him our sincere gratitude and love. We rejoice for those he will now minister."

Mary Ann Cerreta macandvac@juno.com

Region Three

Mrs. Donna Smith, O.P.

covicon123@yahoo.com

No submissions for this month.

Region Four

Ms. Marianne Jablonski, O.P.

veritas18@verizon.net

St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, Tom's River, N.J. had its Promise Day at its Day of Recollection. The Temporary Promise was made by Marjorie Donavan, and a Final Promise by Millie Voll. The ceremony was performed by the Moderator, Mr. Ben Radice, O.P. and Fr. Dough Ferrer, and Deacon Ed Voll.

The Day of Recollection was held at St. Joseph's by the Sea in Mantoloking, N.J. A recitation of the Dominican Rosary was done in choir. Fr. Doug gave a Talk on Silent Prayer. Father's second Talk was about a rule of life and prayer in relationship with God, "Behold Let It Be Done Unto Me According To Your Word." We closed with reflection and contemplation for a half hour. It was a very successful retreat, thanks to Fr. Doug.

Ben Radice flatboyben@optonline.net

Region Five

Ms. Therese Errigo, O.P.

OPTthirdWashDC@aol.com

No submissions for this month.

Region Six

Mrs. Mary Cantwell, O.P.

MDLCJTC@aol.com

The **St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, Columbus, Ohio**, met on October 14th and received Andy DeKeyser. We celebrated with Andy on his Rite of Admission and ask the blessings of St. Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena and all the Dominican saints upon him as he begins his Dominican journey as a novice.

Mrs. Mary Cantwell, OP MDLCJTC@aol.com





We have been using this picture to remind everyone to pray to the Dominican saints and blessed, and we thought that it was time to introduce the artist of this picture, which hangs in the refectory of the Dominican House of Studies. She was Sr. Mary of the Compassion, O.P., a Dominican Sister of the Perpetual Rosary in Union City, N.J. — known as the Blue Chapel. Before Sr. Mary became a Dominican, she was an Anglican convert from England, and a successful artist. We thought it was time to give Sr. Mary of the Compassion, O.P. credit, with a little help from Mr. Robert Devine, O.P. for the information.

REMEMBER to

Refer to *eLumen's* Calendar for Dominican saints and blessed for the Dominican Saint Days, when praying the Liturgy of the Hours.

These can also be accessed from

<http://www.domcentral.org/life/Ordo07.pdt>

The Dominican Supplement
to the Liturgy of the Hours
can be purchased from the Book Store for \$20.

TWO OCTOBER 2008 DATES TO SAVE

MAGNIFICAT
Pilgrimage of Hope
SAVE THE DATES
October 11 & 12, 2008
Boston, MA
www.magnificat.com

Annual
Dominican Retreat
SAVE THE DATES
October 3, 4 & 5, 2008

Pilgrimage in the footsteps of
Pier Giorgio

Come and spend 11 days, May 12-22, 2008, on a special pilgrimage in the footsteps of Pier Giorgio Frassati. Journey to the places of spiritual significance in Pier Giorgio's life, celebrate Mass in the churches that inspired him with the desire to serve the Lord, walk along the streets he once walked, pray at the foot of his bed in his family home. For more information, visit www.FrassatiUSA.org

More information in future issues of *eLumen*.

The Rosary

Try a new method of praying the Rosary. See the Patristics Rosary Project www.wdtpsr.com/blog/category/napalm/patristic-rosary

You are invited to join the Dominican Nuns keeping company with Our Lady one hour each month. The cloistered Dominican Nuns participate in the Perpetual Prayer of the Rosary and you can too. Join the Perpetual Rosary Association by completing the form on

http://www.nunsopsummit.org/perpetual_rosary_association.html

or write to:

Perpetual Rosary Association
Dominican Nuns
Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary
543 Springfield Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-4498

Please consider sending them an offering of \$5.00 to help them.

<http://www.nunsopsummit.org>

Catherine of Siena Work Now Available in Braille

Over the past several years, thanks to some generous Catherine of Siena enthusiasts, the works of Catherine in English have been gradually transcribed into Braille. So far the *Dialogue*, *Prayers*, and one volume of the *Letters* have appeared, and just now Suzanne Noffke's *Catherine of Siena: Vision through a Distant Eye*. If you are interested in access to these volumes, contact EVR Braille Services (Emelita de Jesus), at
**1906 Bonita Avenue, Burbank, CA
91504.**

Chanting The Liturgy of the Hours Workshop

The Lay Fraternity of St. Dominic, Greater Boston Pro Chapter will host a Workshop at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church, 270 Elliot Street, Newton Upper Falls, Mass., on November 10, from 9 am to 1 pm. Registration fee is \$10.00 by November 3rd and \$15.00 after.

The workshop will introduce Chanting of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Dominican Salve Regina and the O Lumen, presented by Miss Marybeth Dillon, O.P. from Mother of God Chapter, West Springfield, Mass.

Coffee and pastry provided. Please bring your own lunch. Workshop materials provided. For more information, please call Raymond at 617-472-4446.

Please fill out the form below, make checks payable to Holy Name Society-Workshop and mail both to: Mr. Raymond DiBona, O.P., 45 Trafford Street, Quincy, MA 02169. **[PLEASE PRINT]**

NAME _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Directions: Route 128 North to Route 9, Exit 20A. Before Dunkin' Donuts go right (sign Elliot Street). Church on right. We meet at St. Elizabeth Center (White Greek Revival Mansion).

Members of other secular orders are most welcome.

Dominican Rule & Commentary

By: Mr. Raimondo Di Bona, O.P.

Rule 10 — “To advance in their vocation, a union of action and contemplation, the Dominican laity have as their principal sources...”

Because the Holy Spirit moves in a variety of ways to lead individuals to perfection with the result that saint differs from saint, there are styles of Christian spirituality or schools of spirituality. These schools emerge as a response to the needs of the Church at a given time to help individuals grow in holiness.

These schools of spirituality are usually associated with religious orders, e.g., Benedictine, Franciscan, Carmelite, Ignatian, Salesian and Dominican. They are an indication of the diversity of the ways of the Holy Spirit, proof of the Church’s respect for personal freedom in following the impulses of the Spirit, and a corporate witness to the variety of ways in which the mystery of Christ is imaged in the Church.

Those who are called to the way of a particular order are given a plan or guide to follow in the form of a rule which gives them the principal sources to practice as they strive to become holy. The rule is the means to achieving holiness.

The Dominicans have their way. Unlike other religious orders, Dominicans have no system of spiritual exercises which members are expected to adopt as the program for growth in holiness. While the Rosary is a special patrimony of the Order, and Dominicans pray it, all forms of prayer -- old and new are found within the Order. Dominicans are involved in the Charismatic Renewal, as well as more traditional devotions.

Dominic saw the needs of his time. As a canon regular he knew the power of both prayer and

apostolic works. While the parish priests were limited to the activities of their parishes, the religious of the military orders sought perfection of their members through apostolic works of soldiering. The monks of the contemplative orders devoted themselves entirely to divine worship in lives separated from the world, hidden in monasteries. Dominic, however established his Order to combine the best of monasticism with the best of apostolic life.

Later St. Thomas Aquinas wrote the often cited formula of the relationship between the two. He said; “Neither contemplation alone, nor action alone, is the highest form of Christian life, but contemplation in action.” *Contemplare aliis tradere* — to contemplate and to bring to others the fruit of our contemplation.

The life of a Dominican is a mixed life, a blend of the active and contemplative. It is not dualistic; it is one while the *contemplare aliis tradere* is its fruit, the active works. The four pillars of Dominican spirituality all center around this Latin expression.

St. Thomas Aquinas in his *Summa Theologica* (IIa IIae, Q 188, a 6) wrote,

“...the work of the active life is two fold; one proceeding from the fullness of contemplation, such as teaching and preaching...And this work is more excellent than simple contemplation for it is better to enlighten than merely to shine, so it is better to give to others the fruits of one’s contemplation than to contemplate. The second work of the active life consists completely in outward occupation, such as almsgiving, receiving guests, and the like, which are less excellent than the works of contemplation, except in cases of necessity. Therefore they hold the highest place in religious Orders who are committed to teaching and preaching who moreover are nearest to episcopal perfection. Orders directed to contemplation hold second place; those occupied with external things hold the third.”

Next month: the sources of this union.



The Parable Fall 2007 Issue

Question of Faith

Dominican Theological Reflections for the 21st Century will be available November 1! This publication seeks to create space in which Dominicans from different parts of the Family can engage in thoughtful, meaningful, and respectful conversations about significant issues and ideas to further the preaching mission. It is particularly useful for group reflection.

And this particular issue has contributions from three Lay Dominicans from St. Joseph's Province: Mr. Dennis Beldotti, O.P., Mr. Frank Edmands, O.P., and Mr. Milton Rice, O.P., all members of Our Lady of Mercy Chapter, MCI Norfolk, MA.

Fall 2007 Theme:
The New Teaching of Reconciliation

Editors: Patricia Walter, OP & Mark Wedig, OP

Lead Article: Daniel Philpott, PhD

Responders: Patricia Chaffee, OP, Dennis J. Beldotti, OP, Frank Edmands, OP, Milton Rice, OP, Mary Jean Traeger, OP, & Jorge L. Presmanes, OP

Artwork: Laurena Alflen, OP

Excerpt: "Today, reconciliation has become a fixture in global political discourse...Now, the pressing question is: How can reconciliation be realized in actual sundered societies?"

Copies of *The Parable* are \$6 each, or \$5 each when you order 10 or more. Shipping and handling charges will be added. Order today by calling the office (708.366.1730) or online at

www.parableconference.org.

Question: *I am confused as to the initials after our name. The Dominican Torch doesn't use any, just the name and the Chapter. eLumen uses Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. and the name, followed by O.P. And sometimes O.P. is capitalized and sometimes, it isn't. Lately, in letters, chapter newsletters, blogs, etc., I've noticed that the laity uses no prefixes, the name, and then op. But the priests, brothers, and sisters use a prefix, name and op. This seems easier to me. Everybody except the laity use a prefix. Is this OK?*

Answer: No. According to the International Congress Resolutions of Government: Rules and Statues/Organization and Structure, as members of the Order proper, Lay Dominicans may use O.P. after their names thus identifying themselves as Dominicans in public. Lay Dominicans should preface their names with appropriate titles (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr., Rev. Mr., etc.). This is the correct form. You may from time to time see slackness, omissions, etc., but that's normal. It takes time. Some publications haven't changed over yet, another reason could be the lack of finances to implement any change, and some have other issues. But please continue with the prefix and the suffix.

December's Question: *In Boston's North End, there is a big celebration for St. Dominic of Augusta. It's on May 24th. Is this our St. Dominic?*

Send your answers to r.f.flaherty@comcast.net Don't forget to send your questions, also.

**If you wish to answer, or have another
Question of Faith, email Faith at
r.f.flaherty@comcast.net**

Te Deum

From the Dominican Sisters International

Fr Vito Gómez García OP, general postulator for the Order, told us about the Dominican martyrs beatified on Oct. 28th in St Peter's Place in Rome by Pope Benedict XVI. Seventy four are members of the Dominican family. A well representative group composed of:

- 62 brothers
- 2 lay Dominicans
- 1 contemplative nun
- 2 sisters of St Catherine (today "Enseñanza de Inmaculada")
- 7 sisters of the Congregation "Anunciata".

Allow me to take this opportunity to remind you of what Pope John Paul II said in the post-synod apostolic exhortation "Ecclesia in Europa" n 13:

I wish again to propose to all, so that it is never forgotten, the great sign of hope given by numerous witnesses of the Christian faith who lived in the last century, both in the East and the West. They knew what to do with the Gospel in situations of hostility and persecution, often until the final test that of the shedding of their blood. (...) They attest to the vitality of the Church; they appear as light for the Church and for humanity, because they have made the light of Christ shine in the darkness. (...) Even more radically, they tell us that the martyr is the supreme incarnation of the Gospel of hope.

For us Dominicans of apostolic life, who travel around the world, this beatification is an hour of grace: may we know how to take advantage of it so that, truly this celebration simulates and affirms us in our experience as believers, disciples of the Lord and announcers of his Word of Love, Mercy and of Forgiveness. *Deo Gratias.*

Correction: In October 2007 *eLumen*, Deacon Joseph Godiska, O.P. was listed as making Temporary Promises. Because Deacon Joseph Godiska, O.P. is a deacon in his diocese, he did not make Temporary Promise as a Lay Dominican; as a consecrated religious, Joseph will be joining the "Priestly Fraternity of St. Dominic."

The St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, Columbus, Ohio, received Andy DeKeyser. We celebrated with Andy on his Rite of Admission and ask the blessings of St. Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena and all the Dominican saints upon him as he begins his Dominican journey as a novice.

The St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, Tom's River, N.J. celebrated the Temporary Promises of Marjorie Donovan, and Final Promises of Millie Voll.

Our Lady of Mercy Chapter, MCI Norfolk, MA/Trenton, N.J., received Agustin Garcia, Francisco Wills, Edwin Randolph, Kim Van Thanh, Fred Lomberto, and Richard Duff into the Novitiate. Paul LeClair, Thomas Lynes, Agustin Garcia, Kenneth Padgett, Francisco Wills, and Linton Whipple made their Temporary Promises. Eight inquirers entered into the Postulancy. We thank God for our many blessings.

Our Lady of Prouille Chapter, Willow Grove, Penn. Mrs. Frances Opperman, O.P. (Mary Frances) made her Final Promises on Oct. 21, 2007, in the presence of her five children and fifteen grandchildren.

May the blessings of Almighty God descend upon all of you.

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De Profundis

NEW DOMINICAN JOURNAL

Center for Dominican Studies
at Ohio Dominican University

One of the nice traditions in the Dominican Family is our regular prayers for our dead. Please have a Mass celebrated for all the deceased members of the Dominican Laity in the Province of St. Joseph, U.S.A., and in particular for our brothers and sisters below. I also ask everyone to pray one Rosary for our deceased members:

NAME: Mrs. Marie B. Chaput, O.P.

RELIGIOUS NAME: Thomas Aquinas

CHAPTER: Our Lady of Divine Providence #105

CHAPTER LOCATION: Providence College,
Providence, R.I.

RECEIVED: May, 15, 1949 (Member for 58 yrs)

FIRST & FINAL PROMISE: May, 28, 1950

DATE OF DEATH: October 9, 2007

Our Chapter was established by Rev. Charles Hugh McKenna, O.P. on May 12, 1939, as an all male member chapter. He remained the Spiritual Promoter until 1948 when he was succeeded by Rev. John Rubba, O.P., who served for 31 years until 1981 during which time women were received into the chapter. Mary was one of the first of these women to be received in 1949. The Chapter name was changed in 2005 from Providence College Chapter to Our Lady of Divine Providence.

Please send the names of those who have died to r.f.flaherty@comcast.net, so that they can be included in our continued prayers for the dead.

FYI

Online tutorial on the Tridentine Latin Mass according to the 1962 *Missale Romanum* at

www.sanctamissa.org

COLUMBUS, OH August 27, 2007-- A scholarly journal entitled *Dominican Studies* has just been published and distributed by The Center for Dominican Studies at Ohio Dominican University.

The project coincides with the 800th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the first Dominican monastery in Prouilhe, France, by Saint Dominic.

DOMINICAN STUDIES



A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL

2007

THE DOMINICAN

The Center for Dominican Studies joins this celebration in a unique way by opening possibilities for shared study on issues of importance to the church, culture and society through the publication of manuscripts that reflect a body of contemporary wisdom in the Catholic and Dominican traditions.

Featured in this first edition are three commissioned articles written by Dominican scholars Richard Schenk, OP, Ph.D., Carol Dempsey, OP, Ph.D., and Thomas O'Meara, OP, Ph.D.

In his article *Creative Fidelity: Remembrance and Forgetting, Renewal and Accommodation on the 800th Anniversary of the Foundation of Prouille*, **Richard Schenk**, provides the reader with an historical, challenging and inspirational view of the rich heritage and call to fidelity bequeathed to the Order by Dominic de Guzman.

Carol Dempsey's article, *Isaiah: God's Poet of Light* reminds us of the richness and relevance of Isaiah's message for the contemporary preacher who is challenged to both listen to the Word and act upon it with intelligence and passion for the truth.

Thomas O'Meara's article, *Power and Display in the Church: Yves Congar's Critique* takes a critical look, at Yves Congar's 1963 text *Pour une Eglise servante et pauvre (Power and Poverty in the Church)*. In O'Meara's words, "To read Congar today is to be struck by his passion for the future."

The publishers of this initial journal hope that it will be another valuable venue for sharing "the holy preaching."

If you are interested in receiving a free copy of the journal, contact

Catherine Colby, OP, Ed.D.,

Director of the Center for Dominican Studies.

colbyc@ohiodominican.edu

FOOD FOR THE SOUL: POETRY & PROSE

One's Cross Road

You've
heard
seen
know
from
on
high
thru
to
deep
within
*how you 're to act w/ others - neither - this nor that way, but how
one's
yours.
It's
not
a
left,
right
norm;
nor a
lonely
choice
before a
crossroad.
Working on it
involves both
peace + pain,
since both are
known in the
+ intersection +
of vertical { G-d's
and plane { yours.
Not "star-crossed," for
Emmanuel, G-d, is with you.*

Maranatha! You are in the state of being with Jesus in the desert, in the Garden; with the Magi on both their roads – by the Morning Star, by the One's to return home; with Mary at the Annunciation; with the Josephs; with Abram, Sarai called from home. All of these Cross Roads led to Jerusalem (*peace*) and intersected with sorrow; each involved intersecting with others at cross purposes with the Holy One, but each person said YES to the straight, narrow path; the *way of the Cross*; followed . . . One's Star



Dialogue

*From the letters of St. Catherine of Siena, Vol. 2, Pg. 507
Translated by Dr. Suzanne Noffke, O.P. Letter T173
The tone of this letter suggests that the friar to whom
it is addressed is someone Catherine knows well.*

† **In the name of Jesus Christ crucified and of gentle Mary.**

Dearest son in Christ gentle Jesus,

I, Caterina, servant and slave of the servants of Jesus Christ, am writing to you in his precious blood. I long to see you enlightened by truth, so that knowing it; you will be able to love it. When you love the truth, you will clothe yourself in it and will hate all that is contrary to it and rebels against it. And what is within the truth, as well as whatever truth loves, you will love.

Oh, dearest son, how we need this light! In it is our salvation. But I see no way for us to have this lovely light for our understanding without the pupil of most holy faith which is within this eye.¹ And if this light is clouded over or darkened by selfish love for ourselves, our eyes have no light and therefore cannot see. And if we do not see, we do not know the truth. So you have to get rid of this cloud for your vision to remain clear. But what can we use to dissipate and get rid of this cloud? Holy hatred of ourselves [that comes from] knowing our sins and knowing how generously divine Goodness deals with us.

In this knowledge the virtue of patience is learned, since those who know their sinfulness and the sensual law that fights against the spirit hate themselves.² They are content to have not only other people but even the animals take vengeance on them. They grow fat on injury, derision, vilification, and reproach. They take delight in suffering and all kinds of persecution, considering them refreshing.

This knowledge of ourselves gives birth to profound humility, so that we do not lift up our head in pride but humble ourselves more and more. And the knowledge of God's goodness within us nourishes us and makes us grow in vigorous charity.

This charity, nurtured by humility, has at her side a child, true discernment.³ So we wisely pay our debt to God by giving glory and praise to his name. To ourselves we pay the debt of hatred and contempt for our selfish sensuality. And to our neighbors we give the kindness of loving them as we should, with a familial charity generous and well-ordered, not feigned or out of proportion. For the virtue of discernment has its root in charity and is nothing else but a true knowledge of ourselves and of God. So it pays what is due to each and everyone—but not without the light. For if discernment did not have the light, its every principle and work would be imperfect. And we cannot have the light without true knowledge of ourselves (from which we draw hatred) and of God's goodness within us (from which we draw love).

But when people have [the light], they become true servants of their Creator. Though they are living in the night of this darksome life they walk in the light, and though they are on the stormy sea they receive and experience interior peace. They are always running on toward perfection, constant and persevering right up to the moment of their death. They bravely endure the assaults of the devils and never collapse in battle, no matter what their state in life may be. If they are laypersons, they are good laypersons.

Oh, how blessed are those who have come to such a light of perfection through the sweet knowledge of the truth! For they see and surrender to the knowledge that whatever God permits, he does it out of special love. For God who is love himself cannot but love his human creatures. He loved us before we even existed because he wanted us to share in his supreme eternal good. So whatever he gives us is given for this purpose.

1 For medieval physiology, the pupil is the light within the eye, nor merely an opening which lets in the light.

2 Cf. Rom. 7,22: "My inner self agrees with the law of God, but I see in my body's members another law at war with the law of my mind.

3 Cf. *Dial.* 10, Pg. 42: "So the tree of charity is nurtured in humility and branches out in true discernment."

In the book "Dominican Spirituality" by William A. Hinnebusch, O.P. on pg. 3, you will find the following: "Members of the secular Third Order, tertiaries, endeavor to sanctify themselves according to the Dominican spirit." St. Catherine, in this letter written to a friar, gives to us as well, some of her thoughts (always inspired by prayer), on this path we travel toward perfection.

Mrs. Karolyn Whitney Smith, O.P.
kwsmith@optonline.net

HELP!!!!

Help Requested

In looking for a book,
and it is no where to be found.

It is Louis Boyer's, The Church of God.
Any hints as to whom might have a copy?
Mr. Bill Luckey, O.P. wluckey@comcast.net



Word of the Month Contest

This is the third month of our Find the Word contest. Every month until the end of the year, a word will be hidden in the text of the newsletter. You have to find where in that month's issue the word is hiding.

Once you find the word,
email the editor, Faith
Flaherty, at this email address:
r.f.flaherty@comcast.net.

At the end of the contest, all the names of people who found the Word of the Month will go into a drawing. The winner of the drawing will receive something Dominican. Ready for November's word? Find the word "Charismatic." When you find it, email Faith and tell her exactly where you found it. Good luck!



Credits

**NOVEMBER
1
ALL SAINTS**

**NOVEMBER
2
ALL SOULS**

**NOVEMBER
7
ALL SAINTS
OF THE
ORDER
OF
PREACHERS**



www.3op.org

HEAR YE, HEAR YE, READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!!!!

Any News????

Any chapter or regional news, email submissions to your Regional Editor See *eLumen* Credits below.

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Mr. Raimondo Di Bona, O.P. Dominican Rule and Commentary



Answers to Pop Quiz on All Saints' Day

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Fr. M. Jean Joseph Lataste, O.P. | 11. St. Peter Martyr, O.P. |
| 2. Ven. Theresa Chikaba, O.P. | 12. St. Martin de Porres, O.P. |
| 3. Mr. Bartolo Longo, O.P. | 13. Mr. Arnold Janssen, O.P. |
| 4. Bishop Edward Fenwick, O.P. | 14. Fr. M. Joseph Lagrange, OP |
| 5. St. Rose of Lima, O.P. | 15. Fr. Antonio de Montesinos, OP |
| 6. Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli, O.P. | 16. Fr. Henry Suso, O.P. |
| 7. Mother Alphonsa [Rose Hawthorne Lathrop,] OP | 17. Fray Luis de Cancer, O.P. |
| 8. Mr. Pier Giorgi Frassatti, O.P. | 18. Bl. Margaret of Castello, O.P. |
| 9. Fr. Bartolome de las Casas, O.P. | 19. Fr. Jordan of Saxony, O.P. |
| 10. St. Hyacinth, O.P. | 20. St. Catherine of Siena, O.P. |

Note: # 9 and # 15 quiz descriptions could have been either of these friars.

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Members received mid-year and Non-member subscriptions to *The Dominican Torch* are asked to indicate their reception date or that they are non-members below.

Newly Received Members _____ Non-Member *Dominican Torch* Subscription _____

Please copy this page for members who do not receive the *eLumen*.