



MISSION WEST

A newsletter for friends of the Dominican Friars, Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

PRAY FOR THIS TO END

THE QUOTABLE DOMINICAN

St. Dominic de Guzman

1170 - 1221

Founder of the Order of Preachers

Feast Day: August 8

“Fight the good fight, [...] against the ancient foe; fight him insistently with fasting and prayers because no one will win the crown of victory without engaging in the contest in the proper way.”

—St. Dominic writing to the nuns of Madrid



Pictured: St. Pope Pius V

DID YOU KNOW?

While Pope Francis is the first Jesuit Pope, four Dominicans have been the Successor of St. Peter, and three out of the four have been declared either a Blessed or a Saint.

They are:

- Blessed Pope Innocent V (r. 1276)
- Blessed Pope Benedict XI (r. 1303-04)
- St. Pope Pius V (r. 1566-72)
- Pope Benedict XIII (r. 1724-30)

Our sincere gratitude is extended to all those who helped make this edition of the newsletter possible.

Photo Credits: Fr. Lukasz Misko, O.P., Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P. (Angelicum)

Cover Photo: Even though our churches have been empty for months, like this cover image of an empty St. Dominic’s Church in San Francisco, you are never far from our prayers. We continue to celebrate Masses for you everyday, and pray for the health and safety of you and your loved ones. And thank you for your prayers and generosity during this difficult time. You have been a blessing to our Dominican communities!

from the vicar provincial for advancement

**COVID-19 and violence can kill the body,
but distance from God can kill the soul**



Dear Friends,

We miss you!

It goes without saying that these times have been very strange and uncertain. And we're all looking for clarity in the midst of the pandemic and social unrest. What is God trying to tell us? What am I supposed to do?

Not having the sacraments is very painful. We are an incarnational people, and we require touch and physical things to imitate Jesus in celebrating the sacraments. We need these sources of Grace—especially the Eucharist—to help us live day-to-day, *particularly* during uncertain times.

But is there not something to learn in our absence from the sacraments? Are we not reminded of all the people who still cannot come to Mass: the shut-ins, the elderly, the immuno-compromised, the sick, and those in retirement homes who must continue to shelter-in-place? Not to mention, those in the world who live where the Church is persecuted and the sacraments are forbidden by the government?

We can use this suffering to realize how deeply we truly need our Lord, and to not take anything for granted.

This side of heaven, we will never know the complete answer as to why this is all happening. But that does not mean we should be helpless and inactive. We not only need to stay safe and healthy, but even more importantly, we need to stay holy!

Here are a few ideas. Start and end your day with prayer, giving everything to God. Pray for priests and religious men and women—this is a very challenging time for them too. Pray for justice, peace, respect and solidarity to heal our communities. Connect with loved ones and tell them they're not alone. Be kind to your neighbors—you likely don't know the heavy crosses they carry in secret. Pray for them.

COVID-19 and violence can kill the body, but distance from God can kill the soul. Life is short. Death is certain. Eternity is long. We must keep our eyes fixed on Jesus! Put your trust in Him who makes all things new!

And thank you for all the love and support you've shown the friars during these difficult weeks and months. Without your friendship, our work to preach the love of Christ would not be possible. Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay holy!

In Christ and St. Dominic,

Very Rev. Fr. James Junipero Moore, O.P.
Vicar Provincial for Advancement

Three More Dominicans Make Solemn Profession

Brs. Matthew, Joseph and Joshua have made lifelong vows, giving their lives to preaching the Gospel for the salvation of souls.

Your prayers and generosity have made the formation of our brothers possible, and given them the spiritual and temporal strength to persevere. Please continue to pray for them as they finish their final years of preparation, and join us in celebrating their commitment to Christ and His Church.





On May 9th, (L to R) Brs. Joseph Selinger, Joshua Gatus and Matthew Heynen made their Solemn (lifelong) Profession of Vows. Standing with them are (L to R) Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P., Student Master, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P., Prior Provincial, and Fr. James Thompson, O.P., Prior of St. Albert the Great Priory. Thank you for making their formation possible!

As I approach the end of my formation I am truly humbled to know that I did not earn all these good things which I have received in the Order; it was from faithful Catholics who gave of themselves so that the Gospel may be preached. The overwhelming generosity of our donors reminds me that all that I have comes as a gift through the grace of God. Again, thank you for everything.

—Br. Matthew Heynen, O.P.

Ever since I was a teenager I've wanted to offer myself completely to God for the salvation of souls. Your generous contributions have helped to make that possible. I'm looking forward to continuing my studies and preparing for ordination. Please pray that I will become a priest conformed to Jesus Christ and Our Lady, always ready to praise, bless, and preach in the name of the Most Holy Name of Jesus.

—Br. Joseph Selinger, O.P.



I am grateful for your love and prayers! Because of your unwavering support for us student brothers, you have made our lives possible. Now that I am a Dominican 'until death,' I look forward to following in the footsteps of our Holy Father Dominic, preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

—Br. Joshua Gatus, O.P.



The Dominican friars and sisters stand in front of San Francisco City Hall, the launching point of the Walk for Life West Coast. Since the time of St. Dominic, Dominicans have been committed to addressing issues of faith and reason in the public square with charity.

Thousands Join Dominicans in Defending the Sanctity of Life

Your support gives us strength to advocate for those who can't speak for themselves

Dominican friars and sisters joined tens of thousands in the annual Walk for Life West Coast, which winds its way through the streets of San Francisco on or around January 22, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. This event is a powerful witness to the beauty and sacredness of every human life, from natural conception to natural death.

Thanks to your generosity and prayers, the friars continue to advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves. Please continue to join us prayer, particularly through the Rosary, asking our Lord that every human heart may come to respect life as the gift that it is.





Grace: the Fire of God's Love

Fr. Michael Sherwin, O.P.

God is love (1 Jn 4.16) but he is also a consuming fire (Heb 12.29). God's love is a blazing fire, but instead of destroying, it purifies (1 Cor 3.13), gives life and overcomes death (Sg 8.6).

Thomas Aquinas describes grace, by which we participate in the divine nature (2 Pt 1.4), as the effect of God's love in us (ST I-II 113.2). The Early Church used the analogy of iron in the fire to illustrate this mystery (see John of Damascus, *On the Divine Images* 3.33:1-11). When a craftsman places iron in a furnace, it remains iron but begins to participate in the nature of the fire. If the iron was cold and brittlely hard before, in the fire it begins to glow with light and become supple. The fire burns away the iron's impurities and renders it receptive to the action of the craftsman. The iron thus acquires a new and higher nobility as long as it remains in the fire.

So too the one who remains in God's love. "Whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him" (1 Jn 4.16), as Jesus explains, "whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing" (Jn 15.5). The experience of God's love can be painful. Fire warms, but it also

burns. God's love burns away our impurities. "He is like the refiner's fire" (Mal 3.2), who says of his people, "I will refine them as silver is refined" (Zec 13.9). Since we are attached to our imperfections, we experience this refining fire as a painful loss. We are thus saved "as through fire" (1 Cor 3.15).

More deeply, however, God's love is like a hearth. The warmth of a hearth fire sustains and protects the household from the deadly cold of winter. So too God's love sustains the life of grace within us. The presence within us of this blazing love imparts the habitual gift known as sanctifying grace (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC] nn. 1999-2000), which sets alight our powers of knowledge and love by imparting the gifts of faith, hope and charity (1 Cor 13.13). Through these three theological virtues (CCC nn. 1812-1813), we know and love God and neighbor, serving both for the glory of God.



Fr. Michael Sherwin, O.P., son of the Western Province, is Professor of Fundamental Moral Theology at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland.



We Miss You

It goes without saying that the pandemic and social unrest has made it difficult for us all. Amid the turmoil of this time, please know that the Dominicans across the province pray for you every day, celebrating Masses for you and your loved ones. We pray God brings a swift end to the pandemic, and peace and solidarity to our society.

Through it all, we remain humbled by your outpouring of love and generous investment in our lives of preaching. We could not continue our mission to bring souls to Christ without your help and God's grace.

If you need to reach us for some reason, please don't hesitate to email us at info@opwest.org. And if you need additional spiritual resources while feeling isolated, please visit opwest.org/spiritualhelp.

Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P., Selected as Socius for Fraternal Life

Fr. Mark, son of the Western Province, and past Prior Provincial, was honored to be chosen by the Master of the Order, Fr. Gerard Timoner, O.P., to serve in the General Curia of the Order of Preachers as Socius for Fraternal Life & Formation

In his new role, Fr. Mark will be assigned to the headquarters of the Order, Santa Sabina, in Rome. From there, and around the world, he will be working to ensure a strong formation for Dominican novices and student brothers in initial formation, while also promoting lifelong formation for all Dominicans.

He is grateful to his brother Dominicans for their kindness and fraternal support as he transitions to this new role, particularly the Provincial, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P.

And to you, our friends, Fr. Mark says this:

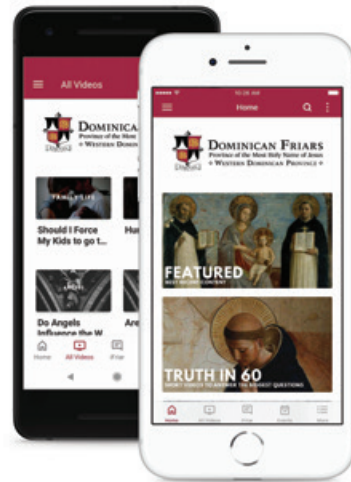
“Please know of my gratitude for your financial and spiritual support of our Western Province and the ministries of our friars. I will remember you all in my weekly Mass. And if you’re ever in Rome, contact me so I can arrange a tour of our beautiful home, Santa Sabina, and show you the cell where St. Dominic himself studied and rested.”

To contact Fr. Mark, visit www.op.org/team/socius-for-fraternal-life-and-formation/



Fr. Mark (left), former Prior Provincial, stands with the current Prior Provincial, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P. Fr. Mark was recently selected by the Master of the Order, Fr. Gerard Timoner, O.P., to serve in Rome as the Socius for Fraternal Life.

A gift to you from the Dominicans.
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Available in App Stores



opwest.org/app

Seek Truth. Learn the Faith.

Polish Dominican Hymns Recorded in Seattle by World Youth Day Veterans

The friars hope these songs inspire you to pray more deeply and know the love of God

Partnering with the Western Province, Fr. Lukasz Misko, O.P., former Assistant Director of the Catholic Newman Center at the University of Washington, gathered musicians from all over the country to record and produce an album of translated Polish liturgical music.

Members of the choir included musicians from the 2016 World Youth Day Mercy Centre choir, which Fr. Lukasz also led. The album, *Soul of Christ*, is a collection of music for Lent and Easter. The hymns are simple, beautiful, and dignified.

To download the album, go to opwest.org/soulofchristalbum.



When you love Jesus, sometimes you just have to sing!



Fr. Lukasz Misko, O.P., directs the choir as they record their album.



Led by Polish Dominican, Fr. Lukasz Misko, O.P., singers from around the country have recorded a new album of sacred music.

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DOMINICAN FRIARS
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➤ **Don't have a Will?** Visit FreeWill.com/opwest to create one. Protect your loved ones and assets by using this secure online tool to easily create a last will and testament. Most people finish in about 20 minutes.

➤ **Age 72? Visit FreeWill.com/qcd/opwest to make a gift from your IRA.** This simple online tool will help you complete the right form for a Qualified Charitable Distribution to the friars, which can help you meet your Required Minimum Distribution.



Jubilee! Priests Celebrate Decades of Ministry to the Faithful

Please join us in celebrating the numerous milestone jubilees in our province this year, such as Fr. Antoninus Wall, O.P., who is celebrating over 70 years a priest! We thank you for your gracious support of our friars, and give glory to God for their long and fruitful lives of ministry



Fr. Jacek Buda, O.P.
25th Jubilee | Ordained June 10, 1995
Current assignment: Pastor, assigned to St. Catherine of Siena House, Salt Lake City, UT



Fr. Patrick O'Neil, O.P.
25th Jubilee | Ordained September 9, 1995
Current assignment: Retired, St. Raymond of Peñafort House, Menlo Park, CA



Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P.
25th Jubilee | Ordained May 27, 1995
Current assignment: Socius for Fraternal Life and Formation, General Curia of the Order of Preachers, Convent of Santa Sabina, Rome, Italy



Fr. Denis Reilly, O.P.
50th Jubilee | Ordained June 12, 1970
Current assignment: Retired, St. Dominic Priory, Los Angeles, CA



Fr. Bruno Gibson, O.P.
60th Jubilee | Ordained June 10, 1960
Current assignment: Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Magdalene Mission Church, Bolinas, assigned to St. Dominic Priory, San Francisco, CA



Fr. Albert Felice-Pace, O.P.
60th Jubilee | Ordained April 2, 1960
Current assignment: Retired, Fra Angelico House, Las Vegas, NV



Fr. David Farrugia, O.P.
60th Jubilee | Ordained April 2, 1960
Current assignment: Retired, St. Dominic House, Benicia, CA



Fr. Hilary Martin, O.P.
65th Jubilee | Ordained June 10, 1955
Current assignment: Adjunct Faculty, Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, CA, assigned to St. Albert the Great Priory, Oakland, CA



Fr. Antoninus Wall, O.P.
70th Jubilee | Ordained June 3, 1950
Current assignment: Retired, St. Albert the Great Priory, Oakland, CA



A Profile in Generosity: James & Diane Link

Devoted Members of the Dominican Family

How did you get involved with the Dominicans?

We transferred to the Portland area from Danville, CA in 1998. We discovered Holy Rosary, the Dominican Parish in Portland, through our search for a Catholic homeschooling group. Thus began our Dominican journey! Our family quickly became involved in many of the parish's groups.

What's a favorite memory you have of spending time with the Dominicans?

The first time we went to Mass at Holy Rosary was for the feast of Corpus Christi. We arrived early and the sun was streaming in, filling the church with a rainbow of colors from the stained-glass windows. The choir was still practicing for the upcoming Mass. The Latin chants, the beauty of the church, the preaching, the devotion, the theological depth and the fellowship all helped us to make this our parish. And we've really enjoyed having the priests and brothers over for the occasional "social hour" at our home.

Your daughter is Sr. Jude Andrew, O.P., of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist (Ann Arbor). Could you tell us a little about her journey and how her vocation has affected you?

We are immensely proud of our daughter's choice of vocation. It is a gift that has deep meaning to us. Early in life, and I mean at 4-5 years old, she started articulating this "job." It might sound like: "When I grow up, I want to be an astronaut ... and a nun." I told her that she could be both and be the first nun in space! Through grace, that vocation remained in her, some years louder than others. She started her casual inquiry by visiting different orders in the Bay Area either during homeschool field trips or individual visits. Once, she heard Mother Assumpta Long, O.P., present at a local retreat center and then went every year from her sophomore year forward to visit the Ann Arbor Dominican Sisters. She entered the order after she graduated at the age of 18. Her vocation has made us appreciate the commitment to religious life that many choose to make.

What would your life be like without the Dominicans?

We would miss the rich liturgy, spiritual advice and many Dominican friends that we have made over the years. We especially appreciate the rigorous and grounded homilies that allow us to better understand the faith.

We need the Dominicans more than ever to preach the truth with love and compassion. The Gospel message of love is needed now, more than ever.



Diane and James Link pose with their daughter, Sr. Jude Andrew, O.P., of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, and their son, Captain John Link, USMC. The Links have always appreciated the clarity and depth of thought that Dominicans have brought to the moral and ethical issues of our time.

UPCOMING EVENTS & LIVESTREAMS



DOMINICAN FRIARS
Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Please make note of the following important dates. Events will be livestreamed from [YouTube.com/opwest](https://www.youtube.com/opwest). For ongoing updates, visit [opwest.org](https://www.opwest.org).

- **Solemn Profession**
Saturday, August 29, 10:30 am
- **First Profession**
Saturday, September 5, 10:30 am
- **Ordination to the Presbyterate**
Saturday, September 19, 10:30 am

Visit [opwest.org/donate](https://www.opwest.org/donate) to learn more about how you can help the Dominicans.