



MISSION WEST

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

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BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM IN THE LAST FRONTIER

You're Helping the Dominicans Bring the Gospel to Every Corner of the World



Bl. Jean-Joseph Lataste, O.P.

1832 - 1869
Beatified 2012

“And my heart filled with tears thinking about the rough and bloody life, the weight overwhelming with shame and humiliation that weighed still and who would continue to weigh still on those souls that had become so dear to me, and who were my sisters after all, my sisters in Adam, my sisters in Jesus Christ.”

—Bl. Jean-Joseph Lataste, O.P.

As a young priest, Fr. Lataste was sent to preach a retreat at Cadillac prison (France), a women’s correctional facility which housed 400 inmates, most of whom were murderers.

He began his retreat with these simple words: “My dear sisters.” In this way, he spoke to them and prayed with them as a brother among family, and he transformed their lives.

Bl. Father Lataste is the founder of the Dominican Sisters of Bethany, many of whom are former inmates.

To learn more, read: *My Dear Sisters*, by J.M. Gueullette, O.P. (New Hope, 2018).

www.newhope-ky.org/product-page/my-dear-sisters-3451

DID YOU KNOW?

Similar to the white smoke that arises from the Sistine Chapel when a new Pope has been elected, the Dominicans of the Western Province ring a large bell in the Cloister Garden of St. Albert the Great Priory any time a new Prior Provincial is elected.

Most recently, it was rung on January 10, 2019, when Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P. was elected Prior Provincial of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus (Western Dominican Province).

Visit opwest.org/dominican_chapter/ to learn more.



Cover Photo: Archbishop Etienne stands with Cathy and Ed Rasmuson in front of the excavator that demolished the old Dominican rectory in Anchorage. With them are (left to right) Br. Josh Gatus, O.P., Fr. Dominic David Maichrowicz, O.P., Fr. Steven Maekawa, O.P. (Pastor) and Fr. Christopher Brannan, O.P. The Dominicans were invited to Anchorage, Alaska in 1974 to serve Holy Family Cathedral. Since then, they have lived in a rectory plagued by wear and safety concerns. In 2018, with the generous help of the Rasmuson family, the Dominicans began construction on a new rectory, which was dedicated on February 23rd.

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

Photo Credits: Br. Antony Cherian, O.P., Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P., Bryn Vander Stoep, Jenny Taylor.

from the vicar provincial for advancement

Your investment in the Dominicans will bear fruit for generations to come



My Dear Friend,

The beginning of 2019 brought many wonderful and exciting changes to the Dominicans in the West. In January, our Province held a Provincial Chapter, a process which marks the Dominican Order as one of the oldest continuous democratic institutions in the world. A Chapter meets every four years and is the system through which we friars make important leadership and legislative changes. It's composed of 20 delegates elected from the Province as a whole, and I was privileged to attend as one of these delegates. It's very hard work, but also a wonderful time of prayer, fraternity and planning for the future.

One of the biggest changes of the Chapter was the election of our new Provincial, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P., as Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P. had completed his maximum two terms as Provincial. Fr. Christopher brings a lot of experience to the job having served the past two years as Socius and Vicar to the Provincial. Fr. Christopher is a zealous and holy Priest, a good Pastor, and a very good Brother to us all. Please join me in prayer for him during his time as Provincial.

In February 2019 we dedicated a new house for the Dominicans in Anchorage, Alaska (cover photo). For many years, our Brothers had been living in a very precarious building that, among other problems, was a fire trap. Through the very generous donations of wonderful benefactors, this dream of a real Priory-style building was achieved. This new house is suited to our monastic way of life. It is not ostentatious and has stark white walls. However, there are big windows, including a clearstory in the upstairs hallway, to allow in as much light as possible—especially important for the dark Alaska winter.

Although the monastic cells are plain, there are two particularly beautiful features of this new house—the chapel and the library. The chapel features the first choir stalls in the state of Alaska. Choir stalls are the traditional monastic seating that Dominicans sit in for chanting the Divine Office. The chapel also features a dark blue ceiling with gold stars. The library is essential for our life of encountering God in contemplative study. This new library provides a place for us to study and prepare to preach for the salvation of souls!

Finally, this new house in Alaska provides ample room for many Priests so that we might better serve this vast mission territory of the north.

Please continue to pray for our newly elected leadership, for our brothers in the Alaska Mission, and for all of our Friars—that we might be the Dominican Saints that God is calling us to be in our time!

In Christ and St. Dominic,

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

You Help the Dominicans Walk for Life

This past January, dozens of Dominican friars and sisters joined an estimated 50,000 people in the annual West Coast Walk for Life. Since 2015, this gathering of pro-life advocates brings together a diverse group of people from various generational, cultural, religious and political backgrounds, all in the defense of human life.

Your support of the Dominicans helps us defend the unborn, protect the vulnerable and promote the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death. Thank you!

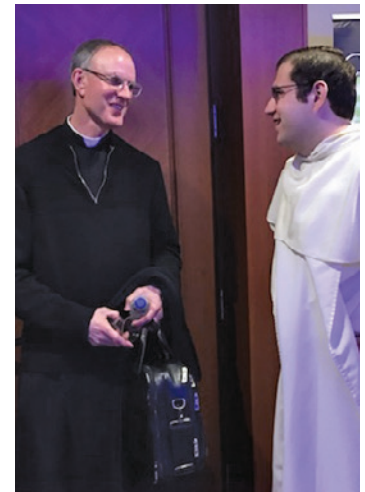


Thank You for Helping Us Extend Our Outreach to Young Adults



Above: Over 17,000 students, representing 626 college campuses from around the country, attended FOCUS' 2019 SEEK conference in Indianapolis. This annual Catholic college ministry conference is an inspiring moment for young people in the Church, and the Dominicans were right in the middle of it. Thanks to you, we can be present at SEEK and help young Catholics embrace their faith and their vocation. It has also meant more and more students across the country are interested in joining the Dominicans in the West. This is a great blessing for the future of the Church.

Below: Vocations to the Western Dominican Province come from across North America. The friars have regularly attended the Rise Up conference in Canada since 2015. Organized by Catholic Christian Outreach, the five-day conference attracts over 1,000 attendees each year. With help from friends like you, our friars provide a joyful witness to religious life and assist young adults discern how the Lord is calling them to follow Him.



Building God's Kingdom In the Last Frontier

Through the generosity of friends like you, the Dominicans in Anchorage, Alaska have recently completed the rebuilding of their rectory, replacing a dilapidated old structure that was riddled with safety problems. This new home will serve as a strong base from which to evangelize the wilderness of Alaska and beyond.

On February 23rd, Archbishop Etienne—accompanied by our Prior Provincial, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P., and Fr. Steven Maekawa, O.P., Pastor of Holy Family Cathedral—blessed the chapel and living spaces of the rectory, then celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving, followed by a wonderful community celebration.

Also present for the blessing and Mass were four other Dominicans from California: Fr. Michael Fones, O.P. (Socius and Vicar to the Provincial), Fr. James Moore, O.P. (Vicar Provincial for Advancement), Fr. LaSalle Hallissey, O.P. (Former Pastor of HFC), and Fr. Dominic DeMaio, O.P.

The friars have served the good people of Alaska since 1974, when Archbishop Ryan asked them to staff Holy Family Cathedral. Since then, they have worked diligently

to evangelize the region and build up the faith community of Alaska.

The old rectory was quite dilapidated, and suffered from numerous problems, some of which were serious safety concerns. However, the Rasmuson family, along with other generous friends from the Anchorage community, stepped forward to fund the construction of a new rectory. Their vision and kindness mean the Dominicans have a beautiful home from which to serve the people of Alaska for generations to come.

Prayer and study are fundamental to Dominican life. (Below) Fr. James Moore, O.P., sits and prays in the nearly-finished rectory chapel. It houses the only monastic choir stalls in Alaska.

(Below) Following the blessing of the new rectory, Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P., (Center) stands in the library with Archbishop Etienne, Cathy Rasmuson, and friars of the Western Province.





The Dominican Duo

Last December, Dominican friar, Fr. Michael Hurley, O.P., joined in celebrating the Solemn Vows of his biological sister, Sr. Elizabeth Marie Hurley, O.P., a cloistered Dominican Nun of St. Dominic's Monastery in Linden, VA. The Hurley Family is blessed to have such zeal and commitment to the mission of St. Dominic!

Sr. Elizabeth Marie is pictured with her brother, Fr. Michael Hurley, O.P. (right), and other friars of the Western Province: (left to right) Frs. Vincent Kelber, O.P., James Moore, O.P., and Jerome Cudden, O.P.

Thank You

The friars of St. Benedict's Lodge and Retreat Center in McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, thank you for your prayers and support following a large snow storm earlier this year. The storm damaged buildings, cut utilities and made the center unusable for weeks. Thanks to you, repairs are underway, and the center will be open again soon. Thanks for helping the Dominicans dig out from the storm!



SECURE YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH

The Dominicans now offer a free, secure online service to create your legally valid will.

Visit FreeWill.com/opwest to learn more

If you're like most Americans, you haven't created a will, or the one you have is out of date.

Yet, creating a will is one of the most important ways to protect your estate while caring for the people and causes you love.

In that spirit, the Dominicans have partnered with the professionals at FreeWill to give you a **FREE**, secure and easy way to write your legally valid will today.

How does it work?

1. Visit FreeWill.com/opwest to create your secure online account.
2. Follow the step-by-step guide which will ask you pertinent questions to create your will.
3. Once done, review your will, make any changes, then print and sign your will. Done!

Most people finish in about 20 minutes. You can log-in at any time in the future to update your will and print a new one.

Can I use this service to include gifts to charity?

Yes! When making a will, many people include a gift (aka a bequest) to the Dominicans. You can even use it to leave a gift to your parish or other charities of your choosing. Doing so can have great tax benefits.

The service is free whether you choose to leave a gift or not, and we're thrilled to share it with you either way.

Get started on your legacy today at FreeWill.com/opwest

Naturally, we always recommend seeking the advice of financial and legal professionals.



Have questions? We're here to help.

Contact:

Christopher Hanzeli, CFRE

Director of Institutional Advancement

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FreeWill.com/opwest



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