Another Generation of Servants

Four ordained in the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus


Thank you for supporting these men, whose vocations would not be possible without you and God’s grace.

Visit www.opwest.org/2015ordinations to watch the moving video of this year’s liturgy.

— Rev. Br. Christopher Brannan, O.P.

The fruit of your prayerful support:
Archbishop Cordileone (center) stands with the Prior Provincial, Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P. (right), and four Dominican friars recently ordained in the Western Dominican Province (names below)

I am grateful to God for all of our donors who support our Dominican formation — it is your generosity that makes our studies and training possible. Like all Dominicans throughout the ages, we simply could not exist without your partnership in our mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May He richly reward you for this and the many other ways you contribute to His Kingdom!

www.opwest.org
I love being a Dominican priest! After 13 years in the Order of Preachers and five years of priesthood, I cannot imagine my life any other way. However, this was not always the case. As a layman I had desired to marry and have a family; but after going to college and working in the corporate world, I discovered that God was calling me to be a spouse and father of a different kind. This process of discernment was full of many special graces, but it was by no means easy. It takes a lot for a young man to get to the point of making a life-changing vocation decision.

In January of this year I was named the new Director of Vocations for the Western Dominican Province. Now I find myself leading young men through the same process I began 14 years ago. It is both humbling and exciting to help them discover and respond to the will of God in their lives.

As we prepare to celebrate the 800th Jubilee of the Order of Preachers, we can be proud of the significant influence of Dominicans in the life of the Church. However, in an age when Saint John Paul II, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have called for a new evangelization to combat ignorance and error in our world, the need for preachers is even greater. We must actively support young men to answer the call to evangelize our society through preaching, teaching, and the radical witness of their lives.

Secondly, if you know a young man who might be interested in Dominican life, encourage him to pursue his desire and to contact me. My contact information is below.

Finally, I ask for your material support of our province. Joining our new, monthly giving program — the 1216 Society — is a great way to do this. Your gifts enable us to reach out to young men all across the country who want to give their life to the Church — and in service to you!

In practical terms, you are helping us give witness at conferences, parishes, young adult retreats, college campuses, and on the internet. You are also helping us host “Come and See” weekends and other vocation events throughout the year, where men from around the country take a bigger step forward in their discernment. Simply put, you are giving us the tools to form more Dominican preachers — men who are zealous for the salvation of souls.

I thank you for your past and continued support, and most especially for your prayers that we friars might grow in holiness and zeal as we strive to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of our Holy Father Dominic!

Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P.
Director of Vocations
510.658.8722
vocations@opwest.org

To date, many men have answered that call and serve faithfully throughout our province. I am also excited to report that this year we will have 28 men in initial formation, including brothers from Poland and the Vietnamese Vicariate, with many more actively seeking to discern life in the Dominican Order. Please keep them in your prayers that they mightpersevere through their formation.

I invite you — our friends and benefactors — to collaborate in this important task in three ways.

First and foremost, I ask you to PRAY for me and for an increase of vocations to the Order, especially to the Western Dominican Province.
Just before the Dominican Order was formally established in 1216, a young St. Dominic stood on the edge of Fanjeaux, a small French village overlooking the town of Prouilhe, where he had recently begun preaching against the Albigensian heresy. Tradition tells us he had just helped a small group of women establish a convent nearby, and that his preaching and teaching were beginning to lead many souls back to Christ.

As he looked upon the steeple of the church below, something incredible happened: a blazing flame appeared in the sky, filling the area with light. St. Dominic, his heart filled with inspiration, knew that God was giving him a sign, validating his efforts to preach to the Albigensians. This miracle would later become known as the Seignadou, or the Sign from God. Needless to say, St. Dominic went on preaching, converting the Albigensians, and setting the world on fire for Christ.

The Order of Preachers was born, one of the five mendicant orders of the Middle Ages. “Mendicant” means the friars have no personal property, and rely on the almsgiving of those they minister to, faithful people like you, for all their needs. And 800 years later, we still live by this mendicant ideal, working hard to be laborers of the Lord, worthy of our hire (1 Tim 5:18).

This radical life of the friars comes from Scripture: Christ called his disciples to trust in his providence, and to go out preaching “two by two” and to “take nothing for the journey but a walking stick — no food, no sack, no money in their belts” (Mark 6:12).

God’s providence, working through your generosity, is how St. Dominic established and grew his ministry, and it’s how friars today are able to dedicate themselves to the Gospel.

With the 800th Jubilee of the Dominican Order right around the corner, the Western Dominican Province has launched a new, electronic giving program — the 1216 Society — to honor the monthly almsgiving of those dedicated to the mission of St. Dominic.

As St. Dominic did, we now come to you — the faithful we serve — to humbly ask that you prayerfully consider joining the 1216 Society today. Your monthly gift advances St. Dominic’s mission, just as the regular almsgiving of the faithful did 800 years ago.

You can enroll by returning the enclosed gift form or online at www.opwest.org/1216society. It’s convenient, secure, and easy to set-up. And you can increase, decrease, or suspend your gift at any time. More importantly, you’ll be helping Dominicans preach Truth to a world desperately in need of Christ.

And in special recognition of all those who enroll in the 1216 Society now...
Building on Excellence
A letter from the new President of DSPT

Education has always been important to me, and a major aspect of my life. My parents were both college-educated and instilled in me the desire to obtain a college degree. During my studies, I decided to major in education in order to give to others what I had received. As a result, I began a career of teaching and administration in private schools overseas.

During my career, I continued my own studies by earning a Master’s degree and then a doctorate in educational administration and curriculum development. Having served as Associate Pastor at St. Dominic Church in San Francisco, Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Newman Center in Salt Lake City, and Pastor of St. Dominic Church in Eagle Rock, I am able to combine my administrative experience with my pastoral experience, and my own study of philosophy and theology as I begin my new position as President of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology.

We at DSPT continue the tradition of preaching and study that St. Dominic emphasized when he established the Order of Preachers in 1216, and I am honored to lead DSPT during the 800th Jubilee of the Order. St. Dominic began the Order for the purpose of engaging the culture at a time when many people misunderstood the Gospel. He traveled extensively to preach the Truth of the Gospel in order to bring people back to the Church, to the true faith of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As in St. Dominic’s time, many people today misunderstand the Gospel of Truth. Preaching is the charism of the Dominican Order, and DSPT has an important role in preparing Dominican brothers, other religious, and lay men and women to engage contemporary culture, helping them to discover and rejoice in the “truth that sets us free.”

Starting from the excellent foundation laid by my predecessor, Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P., my first priority as DSPT President is to articulate our mission and vision to our prospective and current students and to you, our benefactors and supporters. In order to assist the faculty in achieving our goals, it is also my responsibility to raise the funds necessary to achieve these goals, so that DSPT can become:

• a premier graduate school for the study of philosophy and theology, emphasizing the relationship between the two disciplines;
• the leading graduate school program for Religion and the Arts;
• a community of students and scholars working together to continue the work of St. Dominic: evangelizing and engaging contemporary culture.

I look forward to working with all the constitutents of the DSPT family. Please come to visit us at our campus in Berkeley. With the prayers and financial support of you, our friends and benefactors, I trust that we can further develop DSPT as a premier center of philosophical and theological study. I ask you to please pray for me, and the whole DSPT community, as I begin my ministry as President.

Fr. Peter Rogers, O.P., Ph.D.
President
Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology

For more information about Fr. Peter Rogers, O.P., please visit dspt.edu/president.

Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P. (Past President, DSPT), Eileen Bitten (Chair, DSPT Board of Trustees), and Fr. Peter Rogers, O.P. (President, DSPT)
and during the Jubilee, their names will be remembered in perpetuity on the 1216 Society Founding Members plaque. This plaque will hang at St. Albert Priory in Oakland, our beautiful House of Studies, and stand in testament to the devotion of those who helped us launch this important new effort.

Please prayerfully consider advancing the mission of St. Dominic each month by becoming a member of the 1216 Society today. To learn more, visit www.opwest.org/1216society.

Thank you for your many years of prayer and generosity, and for considering this exciting new opportunity!

In the early 1200s, St. Dominic de Guzmán heard God’s call to become an itinerant (traveling) preacher. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he founded the Order of Preachers, and for 800 years we have continued St. Dominic’s mission — to preach for the salvation of souls.

From November 7, 2015 – January 21, 2017, the Dominican Friars of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, along with Dominicans worldwide, will celebrate the 800th Jubilee of the approval of the Order of Preachers by Pope Honorius III in 1216.

To learn more about the Jubilee, including the upcoming Jubilee pilgrimage to Spain, France, and Italy, visit www.opwest.org/jubilee.

ST. DOMINIC DE GUZMAN

Feast Day: August 8th

*Have charity for one another, guard humility, and make your treasure out of voluntary poverty.*

St. Dominic’s final words of encouragement to his brethren before his death in 1221.

This cross marks the site in Fanjeaux, France, where St. Dominic stood as he witnessed the miracle of the flame over the church in Prouilhe.

Dominican Order to Celebrate 800th Jubilee
TRANSITIONS & UPDATES

Your place to stay up-to-date on happenings around the province

FRIAR UPDATES
FRIAR NAME
FR. ROBERT CHRISTIAN, O.P.
FR. STEPHEN MARIA LOPEZ, O.P.
FR. MICHAEL FONES, O.P.
FR. CARL SCHLICHTE, O.P.
FR. LUKASZ MISKO, O.P.
FR. DANIEL ROLLAND, O.P.
FR. DOMINIC MAICHROWICZ, O.P.
FR. BARTHOLOMEW HUTCHERSON, O.P.
FR. KIERAN HEALY, O.P.
FR. AUGUSTINE HIGHLANDER, O.P.
FR. EMMANUEL TAYLOR, O.P.
FR. GABRIEL MOSHER, O.P.
FR. JAMES MOORE, O.P.
FR. RAYMOND FINERTY, O.P.
FR. MICHAEL SWEENEY, O.P.
FR. PETER ROGERS, O.P.
FR. ALLEN DUSTON, O.P.
FR. FRANCIS GOODE, O.P.
FR. JOHN THOMAS MELLEIN, O.P.
NEW MINISTRY ASSIGNMENT / RESIDENCE
Master of Students / St. Albert Priory — Oakland
Promoter of Vocations / St. Albert Priory — Oakland
Pastor and Prior / St.Dominic — Los Angeles
Pastor and Superior / St. Mary Magdalen — Berkeley
Director / St. Catherine of Siena Newman Center — Salt Lake City
Director / St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center — Las Vegas
Associate Pastor / Holy Family Cathedral — Anchorage
Associate Pastor / Holy Rosary — Antioch
Associate Pastor / St. Mary Magdalen — Berkeley
Associate Pastor / St. Raymond — Menlo Park.
Also, Promotor of the Holy Name Society
Associate Director / Catholic Community at Stanford
Associate Pastor / Holy Rosary — Portland
Director, St. Jude Shrine & Promoter for Mass Media and the Arts / St. Dominic Priory — San Francisco
In Residence / Blessed Sacrament — Seattle
Co-Director of St. Catherine of Siena Institute / St. Mary Magdalen — Berkeley
DSPT President / Siena House — Oakland
Chaplain, Corpus Christi Monastery / St. Raymond — Menlo Park
Associate Pastor to Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Redlands, CA / St. Vincent Ferrer Community — Riverside
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, DSPT / St. Albert Priory — Oakland

A BIG THANK YOU!
The sincere gratitude of all the Dominican Friars of the Western Province go out to our friends at St. Benedict Lodge (McKenzie Bridge, OR) and the Catholic Community at Stanford (Stanford, CA) for recently completing their respective Mission West: Campaign for Dominican Friars ministry goals. We also continue to thank all those ministries throughout the province who have previously reached their goals.

Your support enables us to continue our 800 year mission to preach the Gospel. Thank you for making our ministry possible, and for sacrificing so generously. May God bless you all abundantly!

DON’T MISS OUT! GET THE NEW DOMINICAN E-NEWSLETTER!

Did you know the Western Dominican Province has a great new monthly e-newsletter? It’s a quick and helpful way to stay up-to-date on the friars, get connected to the latest Dominican activities, videos and news, and enrich your Catholic faith — all at the same time!

Sign-up in a flash on the homepage at www.opwest.org
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. DOMINIC

Join the Dominicans for the 800th Jubilee Pilgrimage!

Don’t miss this incredible opportunity to retrace the life of St. Dominic on pilgrimage with friends and friars from the Western Dominican Province, June 5–17, 2016.

Visit the website below or call or call Canterbury Pilgrimages and Tours at 1-800-653-0017.

www.opwest.org/jubilee/pilgrimage

FR. BRIAN MULLADY, O.P., RELEASES NEW BOOK: CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ORDER

Fr. Brian’s new book on the social teachings of the Church can be purchased at www.rosary-center.org, the home of the Rosary Confraternity for the Western Dominican Province.

*Christian Social Order* is “a remarkable presentation of the Church’s teaching on the necessary role community plays in the Church, the State, and the family…all readers will stand in awe of Fr. Mullady’s lucid presentation of Marriage and Family, which is appropriately argumentative, but neither defensive nor belligerent.” (Review by Fr. Reginald Martin, O.P.)

Get your copy of *Christian Social Order* from www.rosary-center.org

MISSION WEST CAMPAIGN UPDATE: $3.12M

The *Mission West: Campaign for Dominican Friars* raises critical funds to care for aging and infirm friars, the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, and the initial and ongoing formation of Dominican Friars. Your support has given us a financial foundation from which to advance the mission of St. Dominic for years to come.

Elderly and Infirm Friar Care: $268,934

Dominican School Restricted: $147,881

Dominican School Renovation Loan Repayment: $805,342

Initial and Ongoing Friar Formation: $222,385

Greatest Need: $1,256,751

Rosary Sunday: Dominican Students: $427,145

PLEASE NOTE: NUMBERS AS OF 6/30/15 AND UNAUDITED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL SUPPORT!

Have a story idea or want to help with the newsletter? Email us at newsletter@opwest.org

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE IS EXTENDED TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.
With your support, and God’s grace, these men have given their lives to the Church — to you!

ORDAINED TO THE PRESBYTERATE
FR. GABRIEL T. MOSHER, O.P.

ORDAINED TO THE DEACONATE
REV. BR. DOMINIC TUAN NGO, O.P.
REV. BR. CHRISTOPHER BRANNAN, O.P.
REV. BR. DENNIS KLEIN, O.P.