

MISSION WEST

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"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

~St. Catherine of Siena

Three Men Accept God's Invitation to Join the Dominicans

by Fr. Steve Maekawa, O.P.

On the evening of September 3, 2009, on the Feast of St. Gregory the Great, three men received the Dominican habit in a closed ceremony at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland. This event marked the beginning of their new life as Dominican novices. Only a few weeks before, they had left their jobs, families and friends to enter into an intensive year of discerning God's call to religious life and priesthood with the Dominicans.

Michael Schmitz, 21, comes from Lacey, Washington. A self-described "army brat," he grew up in a military family and has lived in many parts of the US and in Germany. He

met the Dominicans while he was an undergraduate studying philosophy at the University of Portland (Oregon). A friend invited him to attend Mass at Holy Rosary Parish nearby, where the Dominicans have ministered since 1894. "I was struck by the prayerfulness of the liturgy and by the strength of the preaching." After graduation from the University of Portland in 2008, Michael attended graduate school at the Catholic University of America but left his program to enter the Dominican Novitiate.

Chris Wetzel, 25, grew up in southern California. For the past two years he has worked as a research scientist with an aerospace technology firm in Dayton, Ohio. A graduate of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), he earned degrees in Applied & Computational Mathematics and Economics. Born and raised Catholic, Chris began to discern a vocation to the priesthood when he was in college. "I began to have the feeling that Christ wanted me to give more of myself to him." This experience continued as he worked in the world and remained involved at his local parish. Chris felt the call to the priesthood especially through the Eucharist and Confession. "The nourishing power of the sacraments in my life increased my desire to be a priest. I found Christ in the sacraments and I want to share this gift of Christ with others."

Chris Brannan, 31, is from Clovis, California. The priesthood was not something Chris was remotely aware of as a college student while studying computer science at Cal Poly, San



Our new novices: Br. Chris Brannan, O.P.; Br. Michael Schmitz, O.P.; and Br. Christopher Wetzel, O.P. (From Left to Right)

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Mission West, is a publication of the Western Dominican Province. For the past 158 years, the western Dominicans have preached God's Truth and served and comforted His People throughout a 10 state region in the American West, Mexico, and various missions around the world. Subscription to *Mission West* is free; please visit our website at www.opwest.org, or contact our Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship staff listed below for more information.

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From the Provincial...

DEAR FRIARS AND FRIENDS,

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has proclaimed this the *Year of the Priest*. It is a time for priests world-wide to renew and celebrate their commitment to serving the Lord. The Dominican friars of the Western Dominican Province join our fellow priests around the globe in this holy observance and ask for your prayers in our endeavors.

In light of this year long observation, it gives me great joy to welcome three novices to the Western Dominican Province. These men have responded to God's invitation to join the Order of Preachers and to begin the formation process that will result in their being thoroughly prepared to preach the Word of the Lord. In a world where everything seems to be measured by faster and faster speed, the formation process is very deliberate and takes eight years. During this period, the Dominican brothers will deepen their commitment to their faith and also acquire the education and skills necessary to serve the faithful.

In early September, the Dominican community gathered to welcome the new novices into the Order of Preachers at the *Vestition* ceremony. At this time the novices received their Dominican habits, that serve as a witness to Gospel values and as a mark of detachment from vanity and greed.

Your first introduction to the new novices appears in a story beginning on the cover of this edition of *Mission West*. Each brother shares a bit about who he is and how he came to be open to God's invitation. Let your reading of this article be a reminder also to pray for these young men in your daily devotions. You can also learn more about them and our other brothers and friars by visiting our website at www.opwest.org.

In addition to your prayers, we hope you will also consider supporting our brothers in formation through your financial support as you are considering your year-end charitable giving. The challenge of providing just the basic necessities of life for all the 23 brothers currently in formation is a great challenge for the Western Dominican Province. We count this as our most important task as these men represent the future of our Church.

Elsewhere in this edition are articles I hope you find interesting such as: Fr. Jude Eli's taped television show, *Friar's Feast*; a perspective by a member of the College of Fellows from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology; and a feature of one of our oldest and most storied parishes, St. Dominic Parish in San Francisco. In the Transitions section, you can keep track of the comings and goings of members of our Dominican community.

As the season of Advent approaches, let us take time to reflect upon the glory of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior and the Light of the World. On behalf of the entire Dominican Community of the Western Dominican Province, may you enjoy the Christmas Season and a blessed New Year.

In His love and peace,
Very Rev. Emmerich Vogt, O.P.
Prior Provincial



FROM THE PRIORY

St. Albert Priory Chapel

by Fr. Gerald A. Buckley, O.P., Prior

St. Albert Priory chapel is every Western Dominican friar's most sacred and beloved space. This is where we participate in the sacred liturgies, where we pray and meditate together, where many of us took our vows and learned to preach and were ordained. It is to this chapel that we return for retreats and provincial semi-annual assemblies and where we proclaim the election of our provincial superiors.

The chapel is the starting point of the priory complex. It forms the north wing of the building and stands alone in its handsome red brick neo-Gothic splendor. Designed by architect Arnold Constable in the early 1930's, it forms a single tall north to south span. A large stained glass window picturing the Last Judgment dominates the façade, balanced by a life-sized statue of the priory's patron, St. Albert the Great, over the portico.

The interior is well-proportioned. The nave is dominated by triple-banked choir stalls on each side and brightened by stained-glass windows representing the Twelve Apostles. Three banks of pews and a spacious choir loft provide for the convenience of visitors. A shallow transept with side chapels, flanked by large glass depictions of the Transfiguration and the Ascension, emerges into the priory area. The sanctuary features a marble main altar set into an impressive Gothic retable adorned with life-sized statues of St. Albert and his pupil St. Thomas Aquinas and

topped with a great impressive stained glass window of Christ the King flanked by Sts. Peter and Paul. Sidelight is provided by stained glass of the Major Prophets of the Old Testament.

Several times a day the priorial community gathers in the chapel for formal prayer. During the school year this consists of Office of Readings and Morning Prayer. (Many of us still call these canonical hours by their classical name Matins and Lauds.) Before lunch there is Midday Prayer, and before dinner we have Evening Prayer (or Vespers) together with Mass. After dinner we end the day with Compline and a hymn to Our Blessed Virgin Mother. By popular demand there ordinarily is a period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each morning and evening.

Unless hindered for some reason by a temporary lack of personnel, our choral prayer and Mass are sung rather than recited. This is particularly true on Sundays and feast days. Singing gives a special dignity to the ceremony, and we are usually accompanied by our organ. But alas! Our organ, which is a pipe organ, is pretty worn out and is barely up to its job any more. Since the chapel is often the site of sacred concerts, this is unfortunate. We have set up an Organ Fund to bring the old instrument back to health or, if necessary, to replace it. We find ourselves in the position of mendicants even here. We certainly welcome donations for this purpose.

Below: A view of the tranquil interior of St. Albert's chapel.



Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology

The College of Fellows Profile: Dr. Velma Richmond



The College of Fellows are eminent Catholics from a variety of professions and walks of life affiliated with the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology (DSPT) and offer analysis of contemporary issues from their unique perspectives.

Dr. Velma Bourgeois Richmond, inducted into the College of Fellows in 2008, has been associated with Dominicans for many years. A former Trustee of the DSPT, Dr. Richmond is also a Lector and Eucharistic Minister at St. Mary Magdalen Parish in Berkeley, California, a Dominican parish. It has been her family parish for 45 years.

Dr. Richmond is committed to the DSPT's mission of excellent education rooted in tradition but also cognizant of contemporary circumstances in a complex world where demands and uncertainly steadily increase. She finds being a Fellow both gratifying and challenging because it affords opportunity to articulate and develop ideas about the role of the laity in the Church. She was one of four Fellows to speak at a symposium at the DSPT in May 2009 where she presented her ideas based on a lifetime of scholarship and teaching.

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Her career teaching and lecturing English gave her greater exposure to the important teaching mission of the Dominicans. Her early encounters with the Order of Preachers came as a young educator when she taught along side Dominican priests

teaching theology at the then named Holy Names College in Oakland, CA.

Dr. Richmond is a Professor of English Emerita at Holy Names University. She joined the faculty in 1958, was Chairperson of the English Department and Dean of Academic Affairs. Dr. Richmond holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Louisiana State University; a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and her Bachelor of Literature from Oxford University, where she was a Fulbright Scholar. Subsequently, she received grants from the American Council of Learned Societies and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

An internationally recognized speaker, Dr. Richmond has presented many scholarly papers and lectures in the United States, in England, Ireland, France, Germany, and Russia. Her principal published works are: *Laments for the Dead in Medieval Narrative* (1966), *The Popularity of Middle English Romance* (1975), *Muriel Spark* (1984), *A Prologue to Chaucer* (video, 1986), *Geoffrey Chaucer* (1992), *The Legend of Guy of Warwick* (1996), *Shakespeare, Catholicism, and Romance* (2000, Book Award Conference on Christianity and Literature), *Chaucer as Children's Literature: Retellings from the Victorian and Edwardian Eras* (2004), *Shakespeare as Children's Literature: Edwardian Retellings in Words and Pictures* (2008).

From her life's work, Dr. Richmond brings an interesting perspective to the College of Fellows, and stimulates the inquiring minds of students at the DSPT.

Dr. Richmond and her husband, Dr. Hugh M. Richmond, who is also Emeritus Professor of English, University of California at Berkeley, often contribute their time and talent to the DSPT. As supporters of the Dominicans, they provide a great example of how the laity can contribute to the success of the friars in the Western Dominican Province through their generous use of their time and talents.

Fr. Richard Schenk, O.P., Renowned Scholar and Colleague to Pope Benedict XVI

By Fr. Bernhard Blankenhorn, O.P.

ON A WARM ITALIAN SEPTEMBER DAY, POPE BENEDICT XVI WELCOMED two-dozen German-speaking theologians at his vacation home in Castel Gandolfo, just outside of Rome. Most of the faces were new to him. But when it was one of the Dominicans' turn to greet the Holy Father, the latter suddenly exclaimed: "Ah yes, Father Schenk, you've ended up back in America, haven't you?" It had been a few years since they last met.

While members of different generations, Pope Benedict and the Western Province's own Richard Schenk have much in common. Both studied and taught theology in southern Germany for many years. Both earned doctorates at the Catholic theological faculty of the University of Munich. They also happen to share a passion for many of the same theological issues, such as the nature of God's revelation. How does God speak to us in supernatural historical events, like the Resurrection of Jesus? How does he speak to us in creation, such as in the order of the universe? What role do the experience of the saints and philosophy have in helping us to understand what God is saying to us? These questions already stood at the heart of the young Joseph Ratzinger's research back in the 1950's, as he was writing his second doctoral dissertation ("Habilitation" in German). The topic was divine revelation according to St. Bonaventure, a 13th century Franciscan.

Surprisingly, Benedict's second dissertation was almost rejected. One of the professors posed strong objections to the first half of the book, suggesting that it contained



Fr. Richard Schenk, O.P. with His Holiness Pope Benedict the XVI at Castel Gandolfo in Italy.

problematic theological ideas and methods. Had Benedict been turned down, he probably never would have become a leading theologian, hence never a bishop, hence no Pontificate of Benedict XVI. The desperate young Ratzinger did find a solution. He turned in the second half of the book, and the degree was granted. He made it by the skin of his teeth. But the "problematic" first half of the manuscript (400 pages+) stayed in Ratzinger's desk drawer for decades. He intended to edit and publish it after retiring, but then came his papal election. But after the election the need for another solution became evident, since the author would probably never have a retirement. The solution was found by Marianne Schlosser, a young German Bonaventure expert. She had studied and taught at the same theological faculty in Munich. So she asked the Pope if she might edit and publish the text for him, and Benedict agreed. The long-awaited book finally appeared in print in September of 2009.

To accompany this historic event, a few of those familiar with the material of the habilitation gathered

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Do you know of anyone who has relocated away from a Dominican community and would like to receive Mission West? Please send their name(s) and mailing address to:

Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship
Western Dominican Province
5877 Birch Court
Oakland, CA 94618

Or email us at
www.development@opwest.org

His Eminence James Francis Cardinal Stafford, the new Dean of the College of Fellows, with friends, at the graduation ceremony of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology.

Dominican Student Formation Appeal



The annual “Rosary Sunday” appeal has been altered so each parish and Newman Center will receive a visit from a Dominican friar between September 2009 and June 2010 who will preach specifically about the need to support the men who have accepted God’s invitation to become Dominican co-operator brothers or priests.

The process of formation for Dominicans takes eight years. During that period, brothers deepen their faith and prepare in many ways to serve the people of God. Your support of the brothers through this period with your donations assists us in addressing:

- Day-to-day living expenses at the Novitiate and at the House of Studies to include food, clothing, housing, and medical expenses
- Tuition for six years of graduate level studies at the internationally acclaimed Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology
- Participation in special ministries in which brothers develop practical pastoral skills
- Involvement in immersion programs to learn language skills necessary to preach and communicate in the many languages spoken in our province and at our mission sites

Please support this important appeal when it comes to your parish or Newman Center or, utilize the envelope in this publication to send in a donation now. Please write “Dominican Student Formation Appeal” in the memo section. Alternatively, donations can be made securely on the Western Dominican Province website at www.opwest.org.

An Invitation...

DOMINICAN STUDENT FORMATION APPEAL

When men accept God’s invitation to enter the Dominican Order they forsake all worldly possessions and trust in the generosity of the faithful to assist them during their years of formation. Please help the Dominicans of the Western Dominican Province provide these men with the best possible education and training for their ministry of teaching and preaching the Word of the Lord.

Western Dominican Province
5877 Birch Court, Oakland, California 94618 ••• 510.858.8722

continued from page 5...FR. SCHENK, SCHOLAR

for a conference in Italy. It was the first group of scholars in fifty years that was able to read and discuss the Pope’s original draft. Schenk was also invited to address the gathering. In his lecture, he showed how the young Ratzinger was struggling with a widespread pessimism about the human capacity to find truth through reason (and not just faith). Ratzinger was particularly sensitive to the ecumenical implications of that discussion. Furthermore, he proposed that the young Joseph already sought a Christian vision of the human being distinct from that of other creative minds, such as the theological anthropology of the Swiss Reformed theologian Karl Barth and the Swiss Catholic theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar. He also showed how the book’s insights could make new contributions to central theological debates today.

The twenty-some participants concluded the conference with the private papal audience at Castel Gandolfo. The group included three Franciscans and three Dominicans, who all got along marvelously for three days. They even agreed with each other most of the time. Their debates were so amicable that they continued all the way into the papal palace, right up to the moment that Benedict entered the audience room. One strongly suspects that he would have approved. ☩

continued from page 1...GOD’S INVITATION TO NOVICES

Luis Obispo. Raised in a devout Evangelical Christian family, he was drawn to Catholicism through his study of early Church history and the writings of the Church Fathers. He was received into the Church in 2004. Three years later, having worked in the field of information technology for several years, he decided to return to school to work on a Master’s degree in Theology at Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH. It was there that he began discerning a vocation. His family has struggled to accept Chris’ decision to join the Dominicans. “It is hard for them to understand,” he admitted “but I am hopeful that they can come to see this as a true and fulfilling way of following Christ.”

The Dominicans are blessed to have these faithful, gifted men enter the novitiate. The novitiate year is a time dedicated to introducing men to the Dominican life of prayer, study, community and ministry by allowing them to live as a Dominican brother. In doing so, they are able to enter more deeply into prayer and discernment. Pope Benedict XVI has designated this year as the “Year of the Priest,” so we ask that you keep these men in your prayers. We also thank you for your continued prayers and encouragement of vocations to the priesthood and religious life in your communities. ☩

FRIAR'S FEAST

with Fr. Jude Eli, O.P.

*Wisdom has built her house...she has set her table,
"Come, eat my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed..."
And walk in the way of insight. Proverbs 9:1-2, 5-6*

IT IS NOT BY ACCIDENT THAT WHEN GOD REVEALS, HE SIMULTANEOUSLY invites, and in doing so asks us to sit down with Him at His table and learn from the words that issue forth from His mouth. We eat to remember and in the act of remembering, God's Word is revealed. It is a sustaining Word. It is a Word that enlightens, challenges, and gives hope to our human experiences.

Friar's Feast is a thirteen-episode cooking series that has as its motto, "Faith, Family and Food." The show's Executive Producer, Father Jude Eli, O.P., is also the Director of Western Dominican Preaching. During each episode, Father Eli catechizes as he prepares food before a studio audience. The premise of the show is that God, theology, and food go hand-in-hand. As a point of reference, it should be remembered that in the polytheism of mid-Eastern culture, prior to God's revelation to Abraham, people ate food in honor of the deity. In Judaism, the Jewish people eat in the name of God, but in Christianity, we eat God. The experience of God and eating in His presence are inseparable. That is why all of the great covenants of Judaism and Christianity deal in some way with food and the divine.

Father Eli, like many other friars who are a part of the Western Dominican Preaching ministry, uses the diverse forms of mass media to preach and teach the word of God. Fathers Brian Mullady and Emmerich Vogt have used television for their ministries. Fathers Antoninus Wall, Dominic Briese and Sergius Propst have written books, articles, and recorded CDs as a part of their preaching.

Once *Friar's Feast* is televised, DVDs of all thirteen episodes will be available for a recommended donation. As always, all the proceeds will go to our men studying for the priesthood.



Fr. Jude Eli, O.P.
on the set of
Friar's Feast.



Bid on Your Own Friar's Feast

Bidding has now commenced for a tasting menu for eight prepared by noted Dominican friar and accomplished chef, Fr. Jude Eli, O.P. You and seven guests will enjoy an eight-course tasting, including fine wines selected to enhance the meal. Fr. Jude will travel to your location and prepare this feast for your enjoyment. You will also receive 13-disc set of recordings of Fr. Jude's televised cooking show, *Friar's Feast*.

THE EIGHT COURSES INCLUDE:

Salad	Seafood
Pasta/Risotto	Meat
Fowl	Game
Vegetable	Dessert

(The food menu and wine selection are negotiated between the winning bidder and Fr. Jude Eli, O.P.)



The opening bid is \$5,000 and is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. The proceeds from the auction will benefit the **Lighting the Way Campaign**, a capital campaign to ensure the long-term viability of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology.



BIDDING INFORMATION

- Bidding will remain open until 1:00 p.m. (PST) on Thursday, December 31, 2009.
- Call your bid into the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship at (510) 658-8722, Ext. 308.
- Bids will be secured with a credit card until a winner is declared.

ST. DOMINIC'S CHURCH: A Vibrant San Francisco Community Since 1873

By Maria Vickroy-Peralta

Founded by the Dominicans in 1873, St. Dominic's parish community is inextricably woven into the urban fabric of San Francisco's history. More than a cherished landmark and artistic treasure, the church building serves as the heart and soul for the ministries and programs of a diverse and growing congregation of 2,800 parishioners, a hub of cultural and civic activity, and a symbol and inspiration to people throughout the Bay Area.

Construction began in 1923 on the current, fourth St. Dominic's. In 1928, Archbishop Edward Hanna blessed the new Gothic style church, describing it as "an edifice that has caught as much of beauty and glory as any parish church in the world." Even then, work continued for many years until the building was brought to completion in time for St. Dominic's centennial celebration in 1973.

In 1984, engineering tests determined that the church was seismically unstable. Following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, parishioners and friends from around the world supported the preservation of St. Dominic's by providing the funds for a \$7.2 million seismic retrofit, completed in 1992. Nine flying buttresses were installed, walls and foundations were stabilized, and the church was saved from being demolished.

The church remains an acclaimed architectural and

aesthetic gem. Its interior incorporates several sacred art traditions, including English Gothic architecture, Italian marble, German wood carving, and Belgian stone carving. Among the church's great art treasures are stained glass windows designed by Charles J. Connick of Boston and

Max Ingrand of Paris.

There are thirty-six windows in all, some as tall as thirty feet. Remarkable for their beauty and high narrative content, the matchless windows of St. Dominic's are irreplaceable works of art.

St. Dominic's continues in a race against the elements to save the church. Decades of unforgiving weather have left their mark on the exterior stonework and eroded the structural integrity of the stained glass windows. Time has also taken its toll on the interior masonry, marble altars, wood carvings, and stone statues. Since 2002, St. Dominic's has raised over \$10.5 million toward a \$12.5 million multi-phase church restoration effort, and approximately 90% of continuing exterior and interior repairs are expected to be completed by the end of 2010.

The church is open during restoration. Guided tours are given most first

Saturdays of the month at 10:00 a.m.; tours meet at the main entrance of the church (Steiner Street at Bush). Confirm a scheduled tour or arrange a private group tour, learn about the Mass and devotion schedule, or obtain more information about St. Dominic's by calling 415.567.7824 or visiting www.stdominics.org.



St. Dominic's parish community celebrates Mass inside the soaring Gothic style church.

ESTATE PLANNING STRATEGIES

Including the Western Dominican Province in your will or other estate plan ensures your support for the important work of the Dominicans both now and in the future. You can sustain our chief priorities:

- Formation of men entering the Dominican Order
- Spiritual guidance for thousands of families in the western United States
- Retirement for brothers and priests

Consult your attorney or financial advisor to ensure your wishes for support of the mission of the Dominicans of the Western Dominican Province are fulfilled. For further information or to request a copy of Estate Planning Strategies That Meet Your Needs, please contact the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship at (510) 658-8722.



DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

Upon my ordination two years ago, I prayed to be open to God's will of how I could best serve the families and individuals within the Western Dominican Province. My plans were to become involved in our Province's many preaching and teaching ministries. When asked by the Province to do fund-raising after a year of campus ministry, I was taken aback. I smiled when I thought about how God had prepared me for my new ministry, not only through religious formation, but also in my previous life's work as a technology sales professional.



On its surface this ministry is not the usual path for most religious yet, it is very much in keeping with an 800 year old Dominican tradition of being mendicants. St. Dominic in his wisdom instructed his followers to go out among the people and beg for the means to sustain themselves and to preach the Word of the Lord. Through the years as the Church and the Dominican Order have grown the need for begging has transformed into fundraising with its mail appeals for day-to-day support, pulpit appeals for special projects and ministries, and capital campaigns to build and equip churches, missions, schools, and other institutions.

The word begging has many negative connotations and does not really correspond to the philosophy of our Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship. I prefer to think of our activities as being more inclusive. What we are hoping to accomplish is the direct stating of our needs and offering an invitation to you, the donor, and opportunities to respond from the heart with your time, talent, and treasure.

The most urgent challenge I agreed to undertake as the Director of Development is the completion of the Lighting the Way Campaign. This campaign was initiated by the Province to acquire a small campus for the internationally acclaimed Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in close proximity to the University of California at Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union. The School is crucial to the granting of advanced degrees to our Dominican brothers as well as lay men and women preparing for leadership roles in the Church and in society. Nearly every Dominican you have met in our Province is a graduate of the School or its predecessor, St. Albert's College.

You can learn more about the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology by visiting its website at www.dspt.edu and you can learn more about the Lighting the Way Campaign by visiting the Province's website at www.opwest.org.

In the coming year, I will be preaching at many of the Province's parishes and Newman Centers. I would welcome the opportunity to meet and thank our existing benefactors and also meet those of you who would like to know more about how to support our various ministries. Please stop by after mass and say "hello."

God bless,
Fr. Jerome Cudden, O.P.

Burses Provide for Educational Needs of Dominican Brothers

IT HAS BEEN A TRADITION IN THE DOMINICAN

Order to establish a scholarship in the name of each of the friars at the time of his death. In past generations the scholarship was called a burse and served as a means to educate the deceased Dominican's replacement. In recent times it has become the custom to enter the scholarship into an educational endowment to support all the student brothers of the Western Dominican Province.

All burses stay permanently active and accept contributions, gifts, and bequests in honor of and in memory of deceased Dominican Friars. Individuals and families have also chosen to establish burses to support the educational mission of the Western Dominican Province. For more information about burses contact the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship at (510) 658-8722, Ext. 308.

Checks made out to a burse should be payable to: Western Dominican Province and the name of the burse in the "memo" line. Donations can also be made online at www.opwest.org.

Since 2000 scholarship burses have been established to honor the memory of:

Fr. Gregory Anderson, O.P., est. '04
Fr. Urban M. Francis Bates, O.P., est. '03
Fr. Vincent Foerstler, O.P., est. '06
Fr. Robert William Freehan, O.P., est. '04
Fr. Thomas Dominic Kraft, O.P., est. '09
Fr. Stephen Terence McCabe, O.P., est. '08
Fr. Fabian Stan Parmisano, O.P., est. '09
Br. Joseph Filadelfio Romero, O.P., est. '03



(From Left to Right) Br. Michael Augustine Amabisco, O.P.; Most Reverend Bishop Salvatore Cordileone of Oakland; and Prior of St. Albert's, Fr. Albert Buckley, O.P. enjoying a free moment in St. Albert's Priory cloister garden.



Thank you to our Benefactors!

OUR BENEFACTORS MAKE OUR LIVES AS DOMINICANS POSSIBLE — our prayer, our study, our ministries and our service — so that the gospel may effectively go forth in our world today. On behalf of the student brothers in the process of formation, allow me to extend our greatest appreciation to all who have supported us in the past and continue to do so through our current Dominican Student Formation Appeal. Please know that we are working hard to devote ourselves throughout our Dominican lives to the tasks of preaching and service, and that you remain in our prayers.

— Br. Peter Junipero Hannah, Dean of Student Brothers

TRANSITIONS

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2009

In case you would like to keep in touch with a particular Dominican, listed below are newly announced ministry reassignments commencing in 2009.

Fr. Daniel Rolland

St. Thomas More House, Eugene, OR

Fr. Jordan Bradshaw

Blessed Sacrament Priory,
Seattle, WA

Fr. Dominic DeLay

St. Dominic Priory, Los Angeles, CA

Fr. Augustine Thompson

St. Albert Priory, Oakland, CA

Fr. Peter Do

St. Catherine of Siena House,
Salt Lake City, UT

Fr. Raphael Salzillo

Blessed Sacrament Priory Seattle, WA

Fr. Donald Bramble

Fra Angelico House, Las Vegas, NV

Fr. Michael Hurley

St. Dominic House, Benicia, CA

Fr. Garry Cappleman

St. Dominic Priory,
San Francisco, CA

Fr. Joseph Sergott

St. Raymond of Penyafort,
San Diego, CA

Fr. Martin Walsh

Casa San Juan Macias y San Martin
de Porres Mexicali, Mexico

Br. Pasquale Manalio

St. Albert Priory, Oakland, CA

UPDATE

Br. Peter Junipero Hannah, O.P. has become the new Dean of Student Brothers at St. Albert Priory in Oakland, CA.

IN MEMORY

FR. STANLEY FABIAN PARMISANO O.P.

Fr. Stanley Fabian Parmisano, O.P., age 83, passed to the Lord at St. Albert Priory in Oakland on June 18, 2009. Fr. Stan was well-known and beloved as a teacher, preacher, retreat master, counselor, and confessor. Born in Daly City, California he attended local parochial schools and St. Mary's College, where he was elected president of the Student Body. He was ordained a Dominican friar in 1953. He earned his Ph.D degree from Cambridge in English Literature, and taught for many years at Notre Dame College, Belmont, and at St. Albert's College in Oakland

Fr. Stan served the Western Dominican Province in many different posts, including Master of Students, Superior, Prior, and member of the Dominican Preaching Band.

A profound scholar possessing a wonderful sense of humor as well as a deep spiritual wisdom, Fr. Stan won the affection and admiration of countless friends, including professors, students, clerics, women religious, authors, and poets. He authored a book, *Mission West*, on the history of the Dominican Order in the western United States.

A scholarship burse to benefit student brothers in formation has been established set up in Fr. Parmisano's memory. Please make checks payable to the Western Dominican Province with the notation "For Fr. Fabian Parmisano, O.P., Burse."



Friars and friends enjoying a meal during the Vespers Service and Welcome Back Dinner for Student Brothers. The dinner took place at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland, CA.

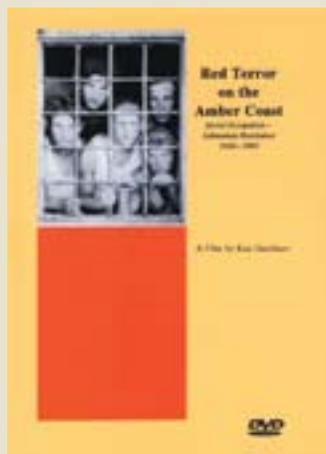


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RED TERROR ON THE AMBER COAST directed by Fr. Dave O'Rourke, O.P., was accepted and recently shown at the Rhode Island International Film Festival; it was earlier accepted and uploaded by the National Educational Telecommunications Association and is currently being broadcasted by member PBS stations. The film was also the subject of a special presentation and discussion at The Heritage Foundation in Washington, DC. Lithuanian Ambassador, Audrius Bruszga, introduced the evening, and the movie was later screened in Lithuania's capital, Vilnius.

IN THIS LIGHT WHICH GIVES LIGHT: A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT,

by Fr. Christopher J. Renz, O.P., Preface by Most Reverend John S. Cummins, D.D.

Originally founded in 1851 to train seminarians of the Western Dominican Province, the College of St. Albert the Great (today known as the Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology) was civilly incorporated in 1932 as "a lighthouse of religion and learning to the regions around." Reviewing the history from its inception through 1980, Fr. Christopher J. Renz, O.P., Academic Dean of the School, describes the transformation of a small program into an important graduate institution of philosophy and theology which trains friars alongside lay women and men, fostering productive dialogue between Church, the academy and contemporary culture.

225 pages, including nearly 40 pages of historical photos. ISBN: 978-1-883734-18-3.



A limited number of copies of the above film and book are available for a suggested contribution of \$20 or more to cover the cost of the materials and shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to: Western Dominican Province. To receive your copy, send your contribution to:

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