

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

## The Big Red Friar Engine

#### The last tour of the Novices' faithful companion

The rattling of the engine. The dripping of water through the ceiling. The perpetually misaligned alignment. The smell of mildew.

Sets New Assignments ......8

**Province Chapter** 

These — and novenas to St. Jude — were just parts of normal life inside the "Big Red Friar Engine," the faithful 13 passenger van of the Dominican novices.

Part of the formation of a novice (first year brother) is the opportunity to tour the province's ministries with the Novice Master, getting a sense of the needs of the people and the places Dominicans serve. It's a formative experience, and full of memories. It's also transformative for the people the novices meet, as the testimony of the novices often inspire others to religious life.

But none of it would be possible without the Big Red Friar Engine.

continued on pg 4...



2014–2015 Novices in front of the "Big Red Friar Engine", the van used for their travels around the province.

## A Century Well-Spent

#### Honoring a beloved priest on his 100th birthday

On December 12, 1966, the superior of the Western Dominicans sent a letter to Fr. Paul Duffner.

Dear Father Duffner:

I hereby appoint you to the following offices in the Province:

- Treasurer of the Province
- Provincial Promoter of the Rosary Confraternity
- Director of the Rosary Center and Shrine of St. Jude
- Manager of the Dominican Confraternity Building
- Member of the Province Planning Commission

With the assurance of my best wishes, I remain...

After reviewing these assignments, one may wonder what was left for the other members of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus to do! The letter stands as a testament to Fr. Duffner's

continued on pg 2...

#### ... continued from pg 1

gifts, and to the fruits of his many years of ministry.

Our brother, Fr. Paul Duffner, was born on April 14, 1915, exactly three years after the sinking of the RMS Titanic. He entered the Western Dominican Province in 1934, made first profession in 1935, and was ordained December 21, 1940. On April 14 of this year, he turns 100 years old. And we are all very grateful for his friendship and vocation to the Dominican Order.

Fr. Duffner was a superb athlete. He enjoyed baseball, and one of his first novices recalls his once putting out a hand to vault a fence and bring home a football that had gone astray. Until recently, he was the envy of the Dominican community at Holy Rosary Priory in Portland, Oregon, the only member of the group spared the annoyance of taking a single prescription medication!

By 1966, Fr. Duffner was preparing to celebrate the 26th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and had served as the Province's novice master for 15 years, and would soon be on his way to the Dominicans' mission in Ocosingo, Chiapas, the southernmost state in Mexico, where he labored for the next eight years.

Friends of the Rosary Center will remember the 20 years Fr. Duffner directed this – perhaps his most beloved — ministry, carefully guiding its daily activities, writing reflections for *Light and Life*, and entering the names, in his superb handwriting, of those who wished to join the Rosary Confraternity.



Our brother, Fr. Paul Duffner, O.P., will turn 100 on April 14th.

When I arrived to work with him, I was astounded at his creativity; one of our pamphlets is too small to offer as a single purchase, so we only provide them in sets of 20. Fr. Duffner discerned how many 20 weigh, and saved himself the mind-numbing chore of counting the pamphlets by simply arranging

## THE QUOTABLE DOMINICAN



ST. VINCENT FERRER, O.P. Feast Day: April 5th

"If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues; with it you can accomplish what you desire."

From On the Spiritual Life

them on the Center's postage meter!

Fr. Duffner is one of only two Western Dominicans to serve in the Province's extreme limits. In addition to his assignment in Mexico, he also spent two years with his brothers at Holy Family Cathedral, in Anchorage, Alaska. But he will be remembered most fondly for the four decades he spent in Portland, where Holy Rosary's parish hall stands as a lasting tribute to his creativity and concern for God's People entrusted to his care when he served as pastor. Over the years many have suggested naming the building in his honor, but he has steadfastly refused. In 1934, just before he entered the Order, the future Fr. Duffner (then Paul William) wrote — in his impeccable hand — to the Provincial of the Western Dominicans.

You might, perhaps, ask why I wish to be a Religious, or why I chose the Dominican Order in preference to others.

My grade school and high school education were both under Dominican sisters, who gave me some idea of the Dominican life and works....I have consulted my confessor and pastor, both of whom have assured me that a religious life would be better adapted to my disposition and character, and who told me that my wish to become a Dominican was excellent.

Those sisters and priests have long been rejoicing in the fruit of their good advice, and we who have been blessed to share the Dominican Life with our brother Paul Aquinas Duffner thank them sincerely for their prayers and support!

FR. Benaux V Markin of.

Fr. Reginald Martin, O.P. Prior, St. Albert Priory Dominican House of Studies

## FR. PAUL DUFFNER'S 100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

#### You're Invited!

April 14, 2015

5:30pm Mass | 6:30pm Dinner Holy Rosary Parish, Portland, OR www.holyrosarypdx.org | (503) 235-3163

In lieu of gifts, donations may be made in Fr. Duffner's honor to the Mission West: Campaign for Dominican Friars at www.opwest.org/donate or sent to Western Dominican Province, 5877 Birch Court, Oakland, CA 94618

#### Please RSVP by April 1st

#### PROVINCE WEBSITE TO GET MAJOR UPGRADE

We have been working hard to develop critical tools for teaching and preaching in the 21st century. Stay tuned: a great new website is just around the corner.

And thank you to all our friends who supported the New Media project. Without you, none of this would be possible!

Starting in March, watch the digital teaser on any of our digital platforms.

WWW.OPWEST.ORG







### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Dominicans always wear the rosary on the left side, in the tradition of medieval knights. And just as a knight used his sword to defend himself, a Dominican uses his rosary in spiritual battle.

#### Red Friar Engine... continued from pg 1

Life on the road can be brutal, and "Big Red," as she's referred to, has seen her share of mishaps. However, through thick and thin, she has faithfully served 78 novices over 13 years.

She has shuttled Dominicans tens of thousands of miles as they grew in their vocation;

Life on the road can be brutal,

and Big Red has seen her

share of mishaps, but she

78 novices over 13 years.

has faithfully served

been home to deep conversations on theology, philosophy, and the religious life; and served as

shelter to tired friars after a long day of ministry.

Sadly, the Big Red Friar Engine recently took her final journey, giving up her last puff of exhaust in the middle of a San Francisco street. She had given all she had for one last tour with the novices. No longer safe to drive, she has been retired.

Not far behind Big Red is the other faithful companion of the novices, Mini

Blue, a 2000 Ford Windstar minivan that's on the verge of breaking down.

The eight novices are currently raising money to replace Big Red and Mini Blue, and are hoping to have a replacement van in time for the Northern Tour in July. The van is also essential for "Come and See"

weekends, when those interested in joining the Dominicans visit for an introduction to the friars' way of life

**THANK YOU** for your prayers for the novices and any support you can offer them.



Br. Joseph uses bucket technology to deal with the leaky van roof

Can you help the novices and make a gift to replace Big Red? Please consider a gift today using the enclosed envelope or go online to www.opwest.org/donate.

As the novices tour, your generosity will be with them, and their prayers of gratitude will be with you.



## The Shrine of St. Jude Thaddeus ENROLL A LOVED ONE

St. Jude is the patron of difficult or impossible causes. If you would like to visit the shrine, submit prayer requests, or would like to enroll yourself or a loved one (living or deceased) in the apostolate, please call (415) 931-5919 or visit:

WWW.STJUDE-SHRINE.ORG

#### We Want Your Opinion!

Your feedback is greatly appreciated as we learn how to better serve you and others around the province. That's why we invite you to go online and share your thoughts with us by taking a short survey.

Simply go to: www.opwest.org/survey. You'll be done in no time!





Fr. Anselm (L) and Fr. Stephen Maria (R) preach and pray as they *Walk for Life* 

# Dominicans at the *Walk for Life*

#### The religious you support stand up for life

Each year, tens of thousands take to the streets of San Francisco in the annual West Coast Walk for Life. It's an incredible moment of solidarity in defense of the right-to-life — from conception to natural death — and in support of those hurt by abortion.

And each year the Dominicans of the Western Province are there. Thank you for praying and supporting these men so they can join the marchers and bear witness to the love of Christ.



(L to R) Witnessing their vocation: Br. Gregory, Br. Matthew, Fr. Anselm, and Br. Joseph join marchers on the streets of San Francisco.



Students from the Catholic Newman Center in Seattle join Fr. Jordan, Newman's Director, during the annual *Walk for Life*.

## Dialogue as a Way of Preaching

#### Fr. Hilary attends conference with Master General to address barriers to preaching

Fr. Bruno Cadoré, O.P., Master General of the Order of Preachers, recently summoned all Dominicans interested in "dialogue as a way of preaching" to Surabya in Indonesia.

And so they gathered from Pacific nations, where in some cases, only 3% or 4% of the population is Catholic and where Christianity has not been part of the culture or history of the place — countries like Burma, Pakistan, and India.

There were also a few countries present, of course, with larger Catholic percentages, like the Philippines, the United States, Korea, or the Solomon's, but in most Asian countries the Catholics are small in number.

How to preach in these places and with all their different languages

— this was the abiding concern of all those present. Over the years, communities with small Catholics populations have worked especially hard at producing journals, starting publishing houses, editing books to make the Faith better known. Being Dominicans, everyone was dedicated to preaching the truth of the Gospel, which is the word of God.

This conference was not the time or place to mull over theological difficulties, but to find ways to preach the truth from our hearts to as many people as possible. But how do we go about doing that among people with so many very different ethnic backgrounds, resting on sophisticated ancient cultures and including such diverse levels of wealth or poverty? TV, radio, Facebook, the internet, even schooling, are not available to a large proportion of the people.

Governments, often society itself, do not really want to hear about the Gospel. In addition, the doors of the media are closed to many, especially to the poor. As a way of preaching, dialogue can help us overcome these challenges. One-on-one, small group to small group, one family to another

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is a way to preach the Gospel and to get to the grass roots.

At the Mass opening the conference, Bishop Vincentius of Surabaya said that a dialogue, if it is to be a true dialogue, must raise the hard questions and not be content to rest with a few platitudes. Dialogues can be difficult when you find out what another person really thinks, and what they really think about you and about the Gospel you claim to carry.



In dialogue you may learn something from the grass roots, from your dialogue partners. As the bishop suggested at the opening Mass, successful dialogue will deepen an understanding of the Word in minds and hearts on both sides.

Fr. Hilary Martin, O.P. Professor Emeritus of Philosophy & Theology Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology

## DOMINICAN TRANSITIONS & UPDATES

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



#### FR. JAMES JUNIPERO MOORE, O.P. RELEASES SCHOLA CD

We're very proud to announce that Fr. James Junipero Moore, O.P., friar of the Western Province, has released his latest CD in conjunction with the Dominican schola in Washington D.C., where he has been their director for the past 5 years during his studies at The Catholic University of America.

Please consider purchasing this CD as proceeds help support Fr. James' educational expenses. www.dominicanablog.com/ records/.



Br. Michael James contemplates a good idea. Do you have one for the newsletter? Let us know! Email us at newsletter@opwest.org

#### MISSION WEST CAMPAIGN UPDATE: \$2.97M

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. Since the fall of 2013, Rosary Sunday: Dominican Student Appeal funds contribute towards a ministry's campaign goal. Hence, they have been included in this report.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL SUPPORT!

#### A BIG THANK YOU!

The sincere gratitude of all the Dominican Friars of the Western Province go out to our friends at the St. Catherine of Siena Newman Center (Salt Lake City, UT), St. Thomas More Newman Center (Eugene, OR), St. Benedict Lodge (McKenzie Bridge, OR), and St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Community (Las Vegas, NV) for completing their Mission West: Campaign for Dominican Friars ministry 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!

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE IS EXTENDED TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.





#### KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE DISCERNING A VOCATION TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE?

Invite them to view our vocations site to learn more. Your personal invitation could be the difference!

VOCATIONS.OPWEST.ORG

Br. Pius Youn, O.P.

## Province Chapter Concludes

New assignments set for friars around the province

Following centuries of tradition, Dominicans gather every four years in Chapter to elect and appoint all of our officials. This process has remained virtually unchanged since the Order of Preachers was founded nearly 800 years ago.

Beginning on January 2nd, delegates from around the province convened at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland. After a retreat and reports from various province leaders, the delegates met to discuss nominations.

Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P., was re-elected as Prior Provincial for the next four years. Chapter members then elected the Diffinitorium and additional members of the Provincial Council, who help the Provincial in his work.

The delegates then divided into four commissions to review the various petitions and suggested changes to our legislation. These were then discussed in a plenary session, trying to collate all the issues into common themes and provide guidance for the delegates, keeping in mind our mission as Dominicans and a province.

In between these meetings, the Diffinitorium met to discuss long and short-term priorities for the next four years. All of these conversations resulted in a number of changes to our rules of governance, as well as some new appointments within our province leadership. Please continue to pray for these friars, and all the friars in our province.

The following assignments are those that have been set at the time of this publication.

#### 2014 DELEGATES TO THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER



(L to R) Top: Frs. James, Michael, Peter, James, Anthony, Alejandro, Boniface, Peter, Martin, and Mark, Stephen Maria (L to R) Bottom: Frs. Xavier, Roberto, Chris, Jordan, Dominic, Bryan, Reginald, Vincent, and Steven

#### PROVINCIAL

Fr. Mark Padrez, O.P.

#### **PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

DIFFINITOR: Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P. DIFFINITOR: Fr. Jordan Bradshaw, O.P. DIFFINITOR: Fr. Steven Maekawa, O.P. DIFFINITOR: Fr. Michael Hurley, O.P. DIFFINITOR: Fr. James Thompson, O.P. DIFFINITOR: Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P. COUNCILOR: Fr. Michael Dodds, O.P. COUNCILOR: Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P. COUNCILOR: Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P. COUNCILOR: Br. Michael James Rivera, O.P.

#### ADMINISTRATORS

SOCIUS: Fr. Joseph Sergott, O.P. REGENT OF STUDIES: Fr. Bryan Kromholtz, O.P. TREASURER: Fr. Dominic De Domenico, O.P. ARCHIVIST: Fr. Reginald Martin, O.P.

#### FORMATION

PROMOTER OF VOCATIONS: Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P. MASTER OF NOVICES: Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P. MASTER OF STUDENTS: Fr. Robert Christian, O.P.

#### DIRECTORS

ONGOING FORMATION: Fr. Michael Carey, O.P. PLANNING COMMISSION: Fr. Chris Renz, O.P. WESTERN DOMINICAN PREACHING: Fr. Jude Eli, O.P.

**ST. JUDE SHRINE**: Fr. James Junipero Moore, O.P. (effective January 1, 2016)

DOMINICAN MISSION FOUNDATION: Fr. Martin Walsh, O.P.

ROSARY CENTER: Fr. Reginald Martin, O.P.

**ST. DOMINIC'S CEMETERY IN BENICIA:** Fr. LaSalle Hallissey, O.P.

CASA SANTA ROSA: Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P. PROVINCE WEBSITE:

Br. Michael James Rivera, O.P.

CATHERINE OF SIENA INSTITUTE: Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P. (Co-Director)

#### PROMOTERS

JUSTICE AND PEACE: Fr. John Morris, O.P. CAMPUS MINISTRY: Fr. Michael Augustine Amabisco, O.P.

PAROCHIAL MINISTRY: Fr. Roberto Corral, O.P.

MASS MEDIA AND THE ARTS: Fr. James Junipero Moore, O.P. (effective Jan. 1, 2016)

HOLY NAME SOCIETY: Fr. Augustine Hilander, O.P.

ROSARY CONFRATERNITY: Fr. Isaiah Mary Molano, O.P. ANGELIC WARFARE CONFRATERNITY: Fr. Peter Junipero Hannah, O.P. DOMINICAN LAITY: Fr. Francis Le, O.P.