

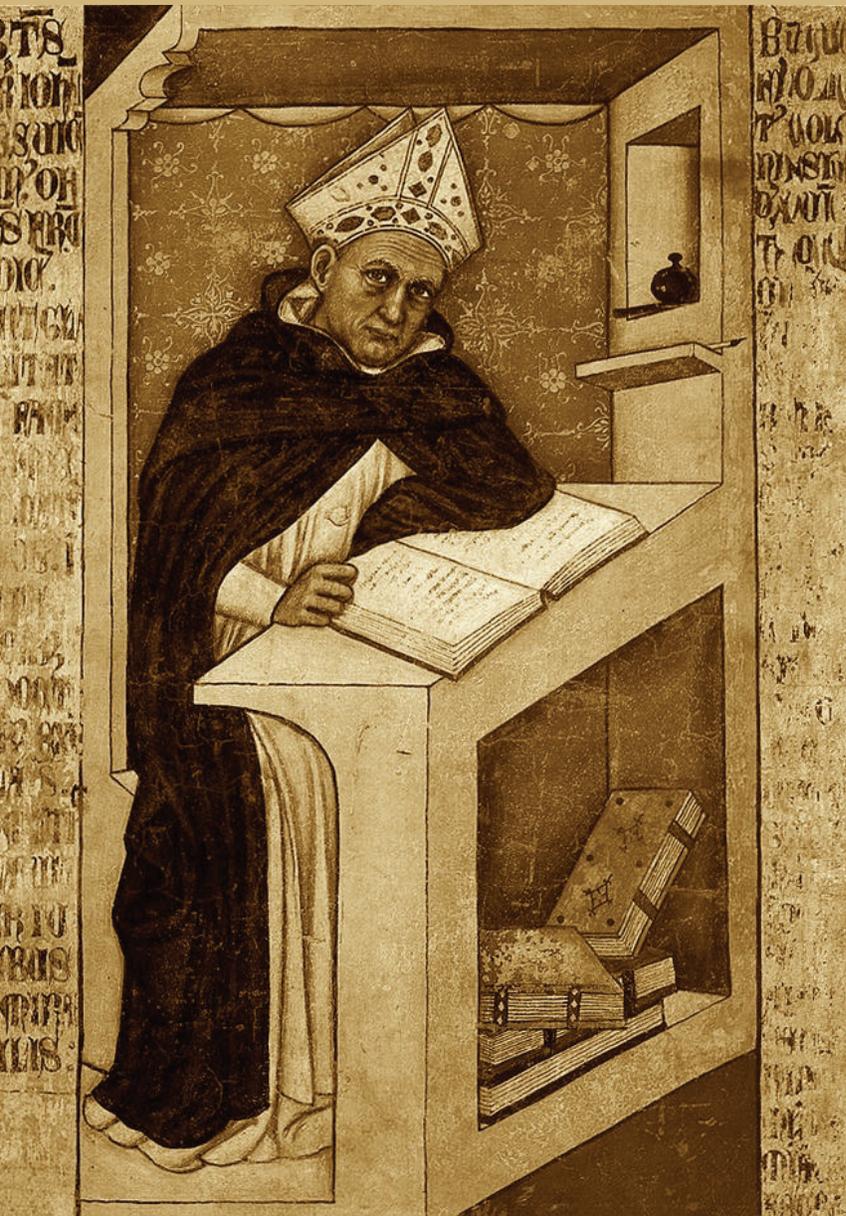
MISSION WEST

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

TO THE HEIGHTS

Thank you for helping us
lead souls to the summit
of eternal life: Heaven

- ✦ A Gift to You from the Dominicans (see back cover)!
- ✦ Thousands Join Dominicans in Witnessing to the Faith
- ✦ Your Intentions Remembered in the Holy Land
- ✦ Lima Center: Thank You for Helping Us Serve the Poor
- ✦ Your Generosity Helps Us Reach Vocation Candidates
- ✦ New Tools to Help You Meet the IRS Deadline



St. Albert the Great

1200 – 1280

Instructor to St. Thomas Aquinas and
patron of scientists and philosophers

Feast Day: November 15

“It is a great joy to seek the truth in the
sweetness of companionship.”

—St. Albert the Great

DID YOU KNOW?

While a student, St. Thomas Aquinas’ peers gave him an odd nickname, “the Dumb Ox,” because of his slow speech and large size. However, St. Albert the Great, Aquinas’ teacher, said prophetically, “We call this man a dumb ox, but his bellowing in doctrine will one day resound throughout the world.” Aquinas would be named a Doctor of the Church 200 years later in 1567.



Cover Photo: Fr. Corwin Low, O.P., Pastor of Holy Rosary Church in Portland, hikes beautiful Mt. Hood in Oregon. ‘To the heights’ is a saying made famous by Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, a virtuous man and Italian lay Dominican who loved the outdoors. He died on July 4, 1925. Frassati had written the phrase in Italian on the bottom of a photo of him climbing. It was one of the last things he wrote, and quickly came to symbolize his earthly life, which was always striving to reach the summit of eternal life: Heaven.

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

Photo Credits: Christina Gray (Catholic San Francisco)—
St. Jude Procession

from the vicar provincial for advancement

Thank you for helping us share the light of Christ with souls in need



My Dear Friend in St. Dominic,

In my 11 ½ years as a Priest, I've been privileged to work with many young Catholics—high school, college and young adult groups. To work with those who are appropriating the faith as their own is truly inspiring.

At the same time, I've noticed a common theme among our young friends—persistent anxiety. In fact, 21% of youth ages 13–18 live with a mental illness severe enough to cause significant impairment in their day-to-day lives.¹

What's more, new research is also showing that from 2007 to 2017, suicide rates for those ages 15–19 increased 76%.² From a pastoral perspective, this is incredibly difficult to deal with. The solution will require the best professionals, healthcare, prayer and spiritual support we can provide.

I find it interesting that, despite being connected to each other more than ever before through technology and social media, young people are feeling lonelier and lonelier. They often have few authentic human relationships, no true friends, and readily retreat to an online world rather than engage the real one. All this leads to even greater isolation, loneliness and unhappiness. And this is exactly what the devil wants—to isolate us and drive us from God.

As we approach the end of the calendar year, recall that the eternal Word—the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity—came down from His Holy Heavens and took on our frail flesh. And even though the Baby shivers from the cold, all hell quakes at His presence!

This Christmas, I urge you to take on the mercy and compassion of Christ as you engage our young friends. Help them to get the resources they need to see the inherent value and dignity of their lives. Help them to form authentic friendships. Reach out to them and integrate them into your community. Help them to find Christ.

The Light of the Christ Child changes everything! Thank you for working with the Dominicans to share that light with souls in need around the world.

In Christ and St. Dominic,

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

1. American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry citing the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2010.

2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2019.

9,000+ Join Dominicans in Witnessing to the Faith

On October 26th, thousands of faithful men, women and children joined the Dominicans in walking the streets of San Francisco in a massive procession honoring St. Jude and Our Lady. Thank you for supporting our work to bear witness to our faith in the public square.

Urban centers like San Francisco are not always welcoming places to express one's faith. However, for the last 16 years, a massive gathering of Catholics has created an impressive public witness to Christ and His Church.

Led by the Dominicans and staff of the St. Jude Shrine, thousands of faithful participate in the annual St. Jude Pilgrimage, which ends each year at the Dominican parish of St. Dominic's—the location of the St. Jude Shrine.

As seen in the photos here, the procession is an opportunity to witness publicly to our faith in a joyful way. The procession regularly inspires people on the street to stop during their busy day, reflect on the role of faith in their life, as well as join the pilgrims

in song and prayer. This can lead to a conversion of heart that draws souls back to Christ.

Many, including the young, increasingly struggle with persistent anxiety and depression. Devotion to St. Jude—patron of impossible causes—is a concrete and practical way to draw one into the mystery of God's Love. Often 'the saint of last resort' for those in desperate situations, St. Jude is an accessible and loving patron who has compassion on devotees in their need, but is also still the Apostle who proclaims the risen Christ to those who seek his aid. This can give great comfort to those who are suffering.

Thank you for supporting the apostolates of the friars, which gives us the means to reach a culture often struggling with the pain of anxiety and isolation.





Fr. Michael Fones, O.P., (back, left) Socius and Vicar to the Provincial, joined (L to R) Fr. Corwin, Fr. Dominic David, Fr. Mark Francis, Fr. Brad, Br. Michael James, and Frs. Pius, Christopher, Thomas Aquinas and Gabriel in attending this year's Dominican Leadership Development Workshop.

Your Investment Gives Dominicans Leadership Training

Run by the Leadership Roundtable, the Dominican Leadership Development Workshop is an annual gathering of friars who have recently completed formation, along with those seeking continuing education.

At the Dominican Leadership Development Workshop, the brethren receive an introduction and training in various administrative skills, such as: fundraising, human resources, conflict resolution and so on. Naturally, as friars take on the leadership of various apostolates, these skills are helpful in being prudent and wise decision makers and managers.

Your donations make these trainings possible and give the friars the additional skills needed to be more effective and efficient preachers of the Gospel.

Your Generosity Helps Us Reach Vocation Candidates

Thank you for supporting our work to help new generations of faithful men and women embrace the call to religious life. With your support, we can attend vocation retreats, conferences and young adult outreach opportunities around the country, offering young people the chance to learn more about Dominican life—something they may have never considered before. Thank you for making this outreach possible!



Thanks to your help, Fr. Stephen Maria and Br. Athanasius were on hand at the University of Dallas Vocation Fair to promote vocations to the Dominicans.

Your Intentions Were Remembered in the Holy Land

Director of Vocations, Fr. John Marie Bingham, O.P., recently led a pilgrimage through the Holy Land. During his time visiting the places Christ himself walked, Fr. John Marie lifted you up in prayer and asked God to remember you and your intentions.



Your prayers and financial support are important to the Dominicans. As mendicant friars (beggars), all that we have is because of the grace of God working through loving people like you. We give thanks to God for you every day.

Thank You for Helping Us Serve the Poor

Operated from St. Dominic's Church in San Francisco, the Lima Center is a drop-in center for the poor and homeless where they're given supplies, love and support to stay on their feet. Your gifts help make this apostolate possible.

Just over a year ago, Br. Michael James Rivera, O.P., took over as Director of the Lima Center. One of the first things he learned from the guests there was, that while food and clothing

are necessary for survival, people also need love. They need to know that other people care about them.

With support from friends like you, the Dominicans and countless volunteers work to ensure those in need know that

they have not been forgotten. Your gifts help provide:

Weekly food pantry

- Thanksgiving food for 250 families
- Christmas gifts for over 500 poor children
- Prepared lunches for those in rehabilitation
- An emergency shelter during the cold winter months
- Visits to the incarcerated and those in juvenile detention facilities
- Communion to the homebound and sick



TWO FREE SERVICES FOR YOU

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.

Age 70 1/2?

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 Dominicans or your parish, which can help you meet your Required Minimum Distribution.

You can use these tools to help the Dominicans, but no gift is necessary. We're pleased to offer them to you either way.

F R E E W I L L 
FreeWill.com/opwest



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Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

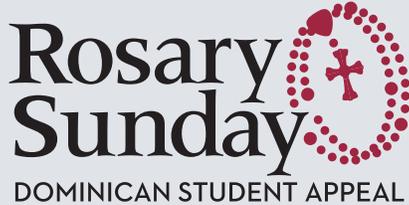


As the cold approaches, and you'd like to help those less fortunate this holiday season, the Lima Center has a wish list on Amazon and DollarDays where you can provide supplies for the poor.

Check out the wish lists at:

- dollardays.com/stdominicslimacenter/wishlist
- amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/26PMLFUE37XPZ

Your Gifts Makes a Difference!



Thank you for making a gift in support of the spiritual and intellection formation of the Dominican Student Brothers and Novices through our Rosary Sunday appeal! Your investment in our brothers will yield fruit throughout their lives of ministry, helping to bring countless souls to Christ. Thank you!



The Dominicans are one of the fastest growing men's religious orders in the U.S. Please consider helping us.



End of Year Giving Opportunities

December 31 is just around the corner! Whether you're trying to meet the tax deadline, or looking to make a special Christmas gift to the Dominicans, there are a variety of ways you can help.

IRA Charitable Rollover

Visit FreeWill.org/qcd/opwest

Avoid taxes and fulfill the IRS' Annual Required Minimum Distribution (Age 70½) by transferring up to \$100,000 to the Dominicans. Visit the link above to learn more and get started.

Make a One-Time Gift

Give securely at opwest.org/give

Make a secure gift online before the December 31 tax deadline. Have an immediate impact on the ministry of the Dominicans and increase your tax deductions!

Donate Stock

Visit opwest.org/stock or call (510) 658-8722

Avoid the capital gains tax and help the friars by donating publicly traded stock to the Western Dominican Province. Visit the link above for more instructions or give us a call and we'll help!

Join the 1216 Society

Sign-up at opwest.org/1216

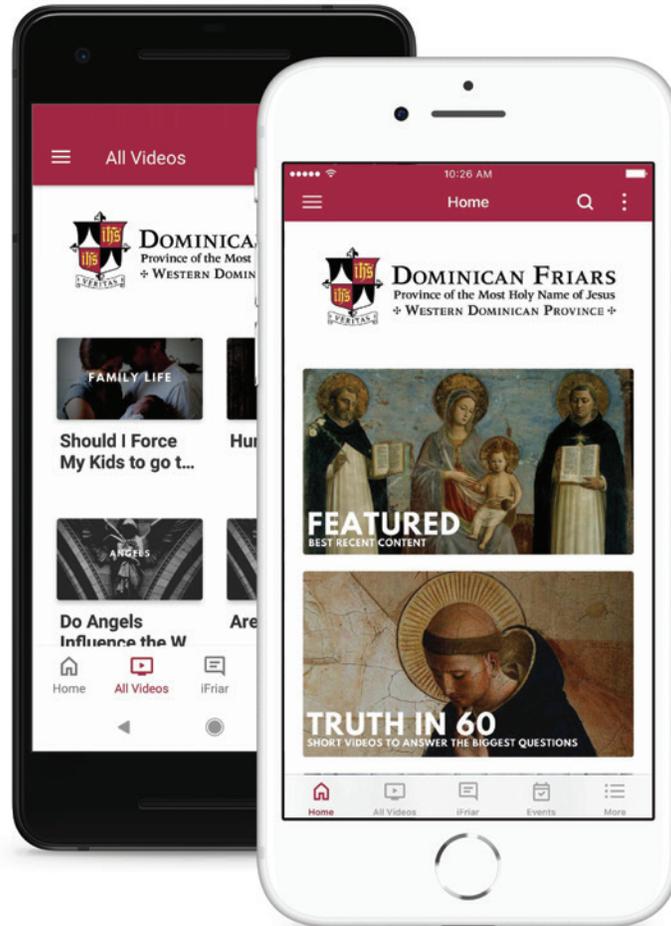
Join nearly 250 friends around the world and become a monthly donor to the Dominicans. Direct your gift to support our Rosary Center, House of Studies, Dominican School, or the greatest need of the friars. Members are honored in the cloister garden of St. Albert the Great Priory.

Include the Dominicans in Your Estate Plans

Learn more at opwest.org/plannedgiving

If you're working on your will, trust or retirement accounts, please consider remembering the Dominicans in your plans. Your plan advisor can easily help you include the Western Dominican Province as a full or partial beneficiary of your estate. Then let us know at development@opwest.org or (510) 658-8722, so we can enroll you in the St. Dominic Legacy Society. Don't have a will? Visit FreeWill.com/opwest to make one for free.

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Seek Truth. Learn the Faith.