

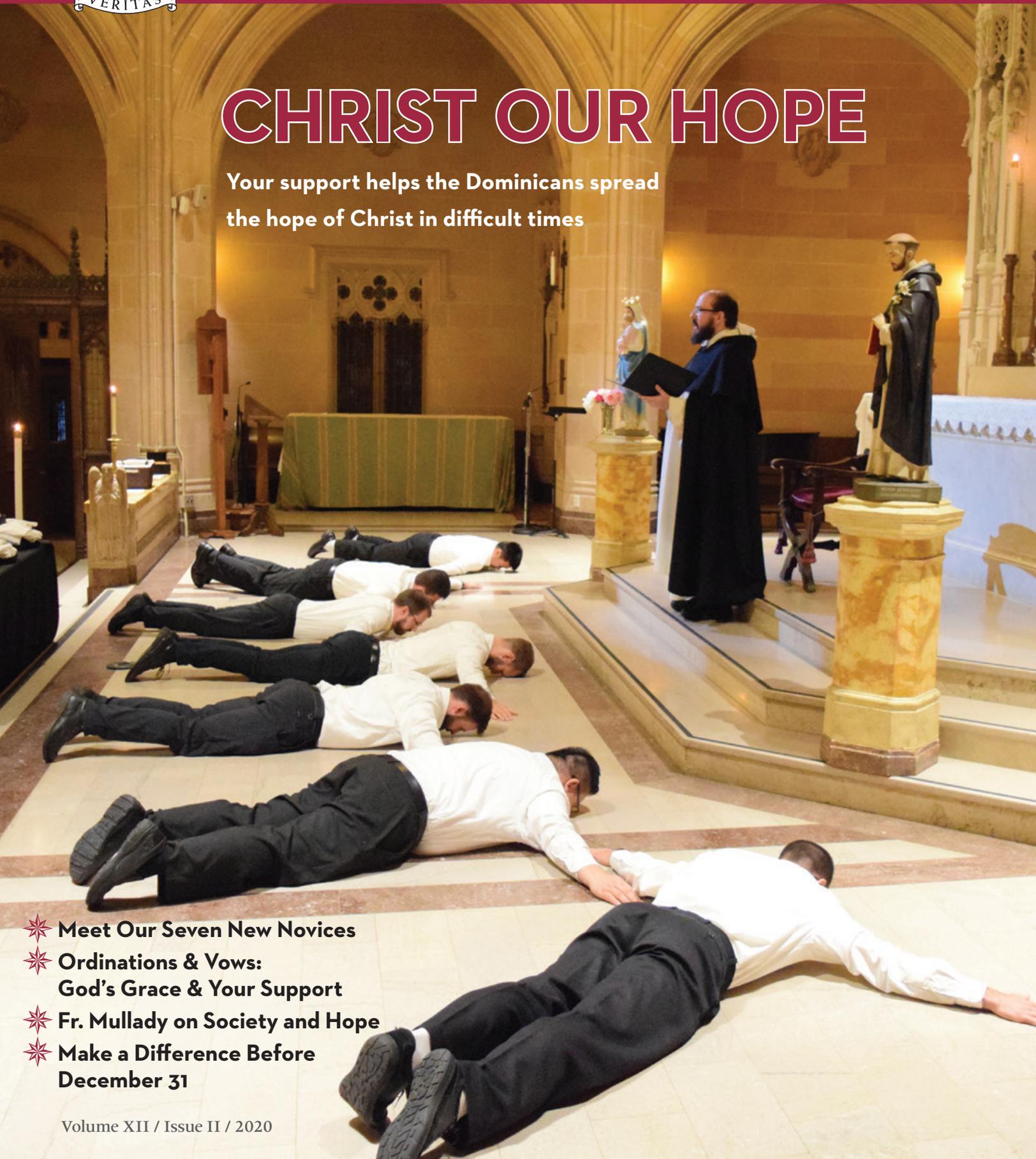


MISSION WEST

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

CHRIST OUR HOPE

Your support helps the Dominicans spread
the hope of Christ in difficult times



- ✦ Meet Our Seven New Novices
- ✦ Ordinations & Vows:
God's Grace & Your Support
- ✦ Fr. Mullady on Society and Hope
- ✦ Make a Difference Before
December 31



St. Thomas Aquinas

1225 - 1274

Doctor of the Church and patron of Catholic universities, colleges, schools, and students.

Feast Day: January 28

When having a vision of the Crucified Christ, St. Thomas was asked what reward he wanted for his writings. He answered:

“Nothing but you, O Lord.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Though the same Mass, some changes to the liturgy have occurred over the centuries, with the Church working to standardize things more in the 16th century, but still permitting certain rites (i.e., forms) of the Mass to persist.

One form is the Dominican Rite, which was codified by an act of the Dominican general chapter in 1254. The Tridentine form (aka Traditional Latin Mass), named for the Council of Trent, was actually enacted after that council by the papal bull *Quo Primum* issued by St. Pius V in 1570. And the Novus Ordo (New Order) form was codified in 1969.



Friars celebrate the Dominican Rite Mass at St. Albert the Great Priory. The rite has been in use since the 13th century.

Cover Photo: In this photo, the 2020 novices lay prostrate during the special ceremony known as Vestition. This is the moment where they receive the habit of St. Dominic and begin their lives in the novitiate. Due to COVID-19 quarantine requirements, the Prior Provincial was not able to lead the ceremony. Standing in place of the Provincial this year was Fr. Vincent Kelber, O.P., Prior of St. Dominic’s Priory in San Francisco, where our novitiate is located.

from the vicar provincial for advancement

The greatest darkness for anyone is a life without God



Dear Friends,

We recently experienced some of the highest daily numbers of new COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began. Anxiety and frustration around national politics and the recent election are still high. Violence, and threats of violence, continue to emerge around us. People fear being “cancelled” in social media and in real life. Families are strained as the economy remains unstable. It’s no wonder rates of anxiety and depression are increasing dramatically in places.

And all this in the middle of literally the darkest time of the year. But the greatest darkness for anyone is a life without God.

This indeed is an age that cries out, but often has no idea what it’s crying out to, or rather, to *whom*. Fundamentally, *nothing* will illumine the darkness of the shadow of death except Jesus Christ, God made man.

Now, it’s true that vaccines, political theory, financial stability and the return to “normalcy” can offer some hope in life, but all of these things are transitory. We will still die, and what once gave us comfort will fade away. This is the cheap imitation of real hope that secular society offers.

Real, lasting hope can only be found in the light of the Gospel, that is, Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

This is the mission of the Dominicans: to preach the Gospel and share Christ’s light with the world, especially through the Most Holy Rosary.

In this issue of *Mission West*, we wish for you to share in the joy and hope that abounds in the world, even during the pandemic and resulting chaos. As I’ve noted before, Christ continues to share His hope through an increase in vocations to the Dominicans.

Thanks be to God, these vocations are very stable, grounded, and holy men. And thanks to your prayerful devotion and generosity, we continue to have the means to fund their philosophical and theological education.

If the darkness of this world is beginning to seem overwhelming, please reach out to us. Enrolling in one of our prayer apostolates at the St. Jude Shrine or Rosary Confraternity can be of great help. Remember, no man is an island. God gave us a Church to help each other along the way!

In the Cross is our only hope!

In Christ and St. Dominic,

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

Praise God! Ordinations to the Presbyterate & Diaconate

The Lord continues to bestow His blessings, even in challenging times, which is why it is with great joy that we share with you the September 19th ordinations of our brothers: Fr. Gregory Augustine Liu, O.P., and Rev. Brs. Chrysostom Mijinke, O.P., Martin Maria Nguyen, O.P., and John Winkowitsch, O.P., at the hands of the Most Reverend Alexander K. Sample, Archbishop of Portland in Oregon.

While Rev. Brs. Chrysostom, Martin Maria and John continue their formation, Fr. Gregory has been assigned to serve the people of St. Dominic's Church and School in Benicia, CA. We hope you enjoy the photos from their ordinations and join us in giving thanks to God for these zealous friars!



(L to R) Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, O.P. (Master of Students), Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P. (Prior Provincial), Rev. Br. Chrysostom Mijinke, O.P., Rev. Br. John Winkowitsch, O.P., Archbishop Alexander K. Sample, Fr. Gregory Liu, O.P., Rev. Br. Martin Maria Nguyen, O.P., and Fr. James Thompson, O.P. (Prior, St. Albert the Great Priory) stand in front of the chapel at St. Albert the Great Priory on September 19th, the day of our brothers' ordinations.





I am thankful for both your generosity and your friendship. Thanks to your life of faith and the stories that have grown from that faithfulness, I am prepared to preach for the salvation of souls. We are all in this together as part of the Dominican family, and without your support I would not be nearly as fruitful. God bless you for your inspiring example!

—Rev. Br. John Winkowitsch, O.P.



I remain deeply grateful for God’s blessings and the support of our benefactors. As I begin my ministry as a Deacon, I look forward to serving God and his people, who, through their prayers and financial support, are making my service possible.

—Rev. Br. Martin Maria Nguyen, O.P.

I am profoundly grateful to our benefactors for making our life possible, especially for the education that I have received during the last eight years. I have learned languages that I never expected that I would learn and acquired knowledge that I never imagined that I would have. And now, equipped with these skills, I am ready to minister to the people of God. None of these would have happened without the generous material and prayerful support of our benefactors.

—Fr. Gregory Augustine Liu, O.P.



When I think of the people who have supported us brothers (spiritually, personally, financially), I am given even more fire to work for the salvation of souls. On the spiritual side, God gives me the fire and grace to want to preach the Good News, but it’s also receiving the human support that helps the human side of me to keep up the “good fight”; but that’s what the body of Christ is all about: human to human support, love, and encouragement.

—Rev. Br. Chrysostom Mijinke, O.P.

Seven More Men Join the Western Province Novitiate

On September 3rd, seven men were vested in the habit of the Order of Preachers and entered the novitiate of the Western Dominican Province at St. Dominic's Priory in San Francisco. Please pray for these new novices as they spend this year learning more about the Dominican life and striving to be more deeply conformed to Christ.

Please take a moment to learn about these faithful young men and remember them in your prayers. Thank you for making their formation possible!

Br. John Vianney Russell



Br. John Vianney is from Pasadena, CA. After receiving a B.A. in Integral Studies from St. Mary's College of California, he earned a J.D. from the Catholic University of America in 2016. While studying at CUA, he frequently encountered Dominicans in the bookstore, and their conversations revealed a shared love of truth. Br. John Vianney finds inspiration in St. Augustine's voluminous writings and greatly admires St. Thomas Aquinas for his clarity and ability to engage various sides of an argument. He desires to save souls through spiritual direction, teaching, and care for the sick and dying.

Br. Anthony Maria Akerman



Br. Anthony Maria grew up in Salem, OR. He earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Religion from Claremont Graduate University in Southern California. During his studies, he converted to the Catholic faith and met the friars at St. Dominic's Parish in Eagle Rock, CA. The writings of St. Louis de Montfort have informed and prompted Br. Anthony Maria's deep devotion to Our Lady. As Mary leads us to Jesus, one of his favorite Scriptural passages is Philippians 2:5-11 which unfolds of mystery of our salvation in these words: "Though Christ Jesus was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant ... and being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him." Br. Anthony Maria has long desired to preach and teach and can't imagine giving his life to anything else.

Br. Cassian Smyth



Br. Cassian is from Polonia, WI. After receiving a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame in 2014, he moved to Salt Lake City where he met the Dominicans at St. Catherine of Siena Newman Center. Br. Cassian

later earned an M.A. in Philosophy of Religion from University of St. Mary of the Lake near Chicago before coming west again. Br. Cassian greatly enjoys fly fishing for trout, and so he perceives the miraculous catch of 153 large fish in John 21 as a call for him to "cast the net" as well. He greatly admires St. Catherine of Siena and desires to imitate her fiery zeal for the faith. Br. Cassian sees the great importance of family life and hopes to use his many gifts to preach and offer the sacraments while at the altar or while leading families on retreats in the great outdoors.

Br. Anselm Dominic LeFave



Br. Anselm Dominic is from Portland, OR. He met the Dominicans at St. Thomas More Newman Center in Eugene while earning a B.A. in English and Religious Studies from the University of Oregon. He admires St. Thomas Aquinas not only for his profound intellectual life but also for his tremendous love of Jesus in the Eucharist and his deep friendship with Him. In addition, he draws inspiration from St. Mary Magdalene, who possessed great faith in Jesus' mercy and is honored as the Apostle to the Apostles. Br. Anselm Dominic enjoys playing basketball and reading the works of J.R.R. Tolkien. He most greatly desires to spend his life carrying the message of mercy to others and inviting them, after the promise of Revelation 3:20, to "open the door" to Christ so as to feast with Him.

Br. Peter Pius Chu



Br. Peter Pius is from Houston, TX where he grew up in a parish staffed by friars of the Dominican Vicariate of Vietnam, Our Lady of LaVang. He received a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of St. Thomas in Houston where he was attracted to the Order's mottoes: *veritas* (truth) and *contemplata aliis tradere* (to hand on the fruit of one's contemplation). Christ's command to "put out into the deep" (Luke 5:4) gives him confidence to follow the Lord's call. Further, the fruitfulness of this same encounter with Christ, in which the apostles are astonished at the miraculous catch of fish, gives him great personal encouragement to hold firm to faith and courageously proclaim the Gospel. He desires to cultivate this same faith and trust in Christ when teaching others and when working with youth.

Br. Peter Augustine Hoang



Br. Peter Augustine is from Houston, TX. Dominican sisters educated him when he was young, and he also knew the friars at Our Lady of LaVang parish before moving to Austin and earning a Bachelor of Science and Arts degree in Biology with a minor in Business Administration from the University of Texas. He enjoys sports, cooking and trying new cuisine, hiking, camping, and reading. His baptismal name is also Peter, and he constantly tries to imitate the faith of his patron saint, trusting in the Lord even when it is difficult. This has been especially true in this past year during which his mother has passed away. Br. Peter Augustine draws hope and consolation from St. Paul's words to the Romans: "If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8). Inspired by the rich history of the Order of Preachers, he hopes to serve at a Dominican parish in the future.

Br. Jordan Martin



Br. Jordan grew up in Longueuil, Canada and earned a B.A. in Cinema Production from Université du Québec à Montréal in 2012. In addition to cinema, poetry and drama, he enjoys hockey, swimming and baseball. Br. Jordan's spiritual life was rekindled in 2011 by a wonderful encounter with a Dominican priest in the confessional which prompted him to return to the faith. He greatly admires Bl. Jordan of Saxony, the successor of St. Dominic as Master of the Order of Preachers, who is known for his joy, his zeal for the common life, his encouragement of vocations, and his desire for the salvation of souls. Br. Jordan draws inspiration from Our Lord's promise, "The truth will set you free" (John 8:32). He desires to hand on the Truth to others in campus ministry or while teaching so that many may receive and share the wisdom of God.



FRIARS SERVE FAR AND WIDE IN ALASKA

This map (left) represents the incredible distances Dominicans travel from their community in Anchorage in order to serve the faithful of Alaska. Many communities in the state are extremely difficult to reach, meaning people often do not have regular access to the Sacraments. Thanks to your prayers and support, the Dominicans can extend their preaching mission to some of the most remote communities, such as the people of Barrow, Alaska, the northernmost city in the U.S.

O Cross, Our Hope

Hope springs from the desire for a good not yet attained

Fr. Brian Thomas Becket Mullady, O.P.

There is a Bach cantata for New Year's Day which begins "God's time is the very best time." This expresses the hope for the New Year but it underlines what the source of that hope is. It is not in anything at the complete control of human power. Hope for the future is not only a human emotion but a moral imperative for human beings. The need for hope springs from the desire for a good not yet attained, the perception that such a good will be difficult to attain, and the judgment that there are indeed means to attain such a good.



Fr. Brian Mullady, O.P., has made frequent appearances on EWTN as a catechist and moral theologian. He currently serves as a visiting professor of moral theology at Holy Apostles Seminary, as well as an itinerant preacher. He produces a daily podcast on the OP West app (opwest.org/app) titled *Daily Scripture Insights*.

Beginning in the 18th century people in the West developed a boundless hope in the success of the future based on the increasing reliance placed on technology—a product of human reason. So powerful was this hope that Immanuel Kant could actually say: "Decline toward the worse cannot be an ongoing constant in the human race, for at a certain stage in the process it would wipe itself out." Yet, in the 20th century, the human race has experienced through nuclear weapons the very possibility that it could wipe itself out.

The boundless hope in material progress has been threatened since the 1960s, and increasingly so in the current climate of the United States, which is certainly one of the most optimistic societies in the history of the world.

Ernest Block, an influencing Marxist thinker in the early part of the 20th century, wrote a reflection on the nature of hope. He said it was a religious question, but then denied that Marxism allowed for a religious solution.

In fact, the materialist hope of the last several centuries has denied that there is any hope beyond this world. Though people like Kant have spoken of our hope being in the kingdom of God, in fact, they evaluated the meaning of the kingdom of God "without God." Ernst Block goes so far as to use religious language for the triumph of Marxism and taught an identification of Lenin with Jerusalem. In his work on principles of hope, he actually says, "*Ubi Lenin, ibi Jerusalem*" (Where there is Lenin, there is Jerusalem). In the United States today there is a sad movement of the young to find their hope in a Marxist state.

All of this denies the very nature of the human soul. If the soul is immortal, as even thinkers like Aristotle concluded, and if the intellect is the highest power in the soul, and if the body must share in that, then nothing on this earth—not even faith—can be our hope. Our hope can only lie in the direct knowledge of the divine essence without any medium, or what Christians call the Beatific Vision. This is not to say that man should not care about this world. In fact, it is by what he does here that he prepares his soul for this final experience.

Yet, our hope is not something we can accomplish by ourselves. To the problem of human death and evil, one must answer with Job that there is no solution to this apart from union with God. "I know that my redeemer lives and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God. I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me." (Job 19: 25–27) To all the promises of a brave new world which materialism can offer, it must be answered that the Cross of Christ is the only means to receive grace to experience this. Thus the Cross is our primary hope. It prepares us for the ultimate good, it is arduous, and it is possible. "O Cross, our one hope, Hail!" (*O crux, ave, spes unica!*)

Brs. Michael Thomas, Xavier Marie and Kevin Peter Make First Profession

First Profession of Vows represents a friar's transition from his novitiate year (first year) to entrance into the studentate, where he will begin his full-time studies and formation with the Dominicans. It is this moment where a brother first receives the right to add "O.P." (Order of Preachers) to his name.

Please continue to support our brothers during their rigorous formation. Your prayers and generosity bear much fruit in their lives and the lives of those they will serve.



Brs. Michael Thomas Cain, O.P., Kevin Peter Cantu, O.P., and Xavier Marie Wu, O.P., made First Profession on September 5th. Thank you for supporting their initial formation!



SATURDAY NIGHT ROSARY | 7PM PST
LIVESTREAM.COM/OPWEST OR YOUTUBE.COM/OPWEST



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.

Expiring Benefits of the 2020 CARES Act

- Take the Standard Deduction? You can still deduct up to \$300 in qualified charitable cash gifts.
- Itemize Deductions? You can now deduct cash gifts up to 100% (previously 60%) of your AGI in 2020!

IRA Charitable Rollover

Visit FreeWill.org/qcd/opwest

Qualified Charitable Distributions are one of the savviest ways for individuals age 70.5+ to use their IRAs to maximize their charitable impact. Learn more at the link above.

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) 295-0115

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!

Join the 1216 Society

Sign-up at opwest.org/1216

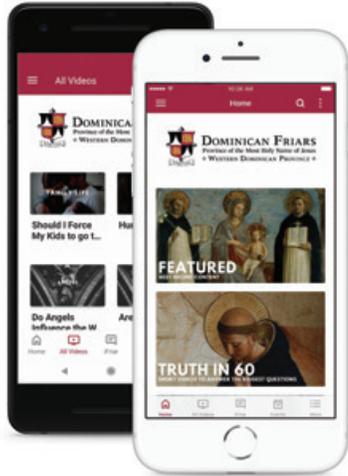
Join nearly 300 friends around the world and become a monthly donor to the Dominicans. Direct your gift to support our Rosary Center, House of Studies, Dominican School, or the greatest need of the friars. Members are honored in the cloister garden of St. Albert the Great Priory.

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.

A gift to you from the Dominicans.
Download the new OPWest app.



Available in App Stores



opwest.org/app

Seek Truth. Learn the Faith.

Your Support Makes Distance Learning Possible



Even during the restrictions of COVID-19, our brothers continue to persevere in their studies and formation. Various spaces of St. Albert's Priory (above) have been used to create distance learning classrooms. Without your support, we would not have the means to purchase the equipment and supplies needed by the brothers for their remote learning. Please accept our sincere gratitude for your generous gifts. We are always praying for you, giving thanks to God for your kindness.

TWO FREE SERVICES FOR YOU

We've partnered with our friends at FreeWill to bring you two FREE services you might find very helpful.



DOMINICAN FRIARS
Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

➤ **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. Most people finish in about 20 minutes.

➤ **Age 70½? 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 friars, which can help you meet your Required Minimum Distribution.



Giving Thanks for Their Renewal of Vows



Devoutly persevering in their formation, (L to R) Brs. John Peter Anderson, O.P., Elias Guadalupe Ford, O.P., Scott Norgaard, O.P., Nathaniel Maria Mayne, O.P., Matthew Wanner, O.P., and Antony Augustine Cherian, O.P., renewed their vows in the Order of Preachers on August 4th. Praise God for these sons of St. Dominic!

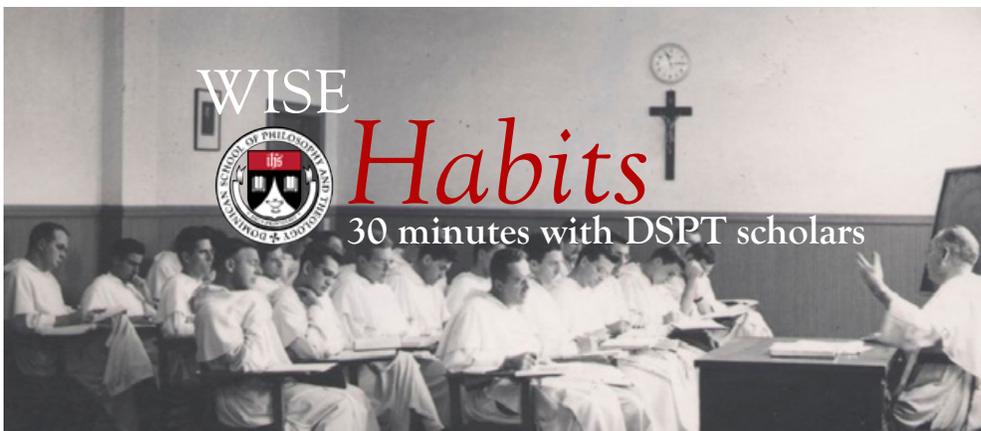
COME AND SEE

Discernment Weekend

March 5-7, 2021

St. Albert the Great Priory | Oakland, CA

TO REGISTER, CONTACT:
Fr. John Marie Bingham, O.P.,
Director of Vocations
vocations@opwest.org | (510) 658-8722
opwest.org/comeandsee



WISE



Habits

30 minutes with DSPT scholars

MONTHLY TALK SERIES ON THURSDAYS, 5:30PM

2020

Dec 17 – Fr. Peter Hannah, OP

2021

Jan 21 – Fr. James Moore, OP

Feb 18 – Fr. Thomas Aquinas Pickett, OP

Mar 18 – Fr. Michael Hurley, OP

More talks
in 2021 to be
announced!

WISE HABITS

Hosted by The Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology

Deepen your faith and understanding while you enjoy the fruits of contemplation by faculty and alumni from the Dominican school in Berkeley. DSPT is the Center of Studies for the Western Dominican Province. Each talk will be followed by Q&A. Will be streamed live via Zoom, Youtube & Facebook.

register at:
dspt.edu/wise-habits

DOMINICAN SCHOOL
OF PHILOSOPHY & THEOLOGY

A Profile in Generosity: The Van Tuyl Family

Serving Side-by-Side with Dominicans

How did you first get connected with the Dominicans?

We have been members of Holy Family Old Cathedral parish in Anchorage for the past 20 years or so. The Dominicans have been here throughout, and so we've had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know many of our beloved Dominican friars as they have served the parish here in Anchorage.

What's your favorite memory of a time ministering with Dominicans?

There are so many memories we've been blessed with over the years, and the Dominicans have done so much for our family! They have heard our confessions, offered us the Eucharist, concelebrated our wedding and our children's Confirmations, anointed us before surgeries, and even assisted in vesting me (Dave) when I was ordained as a Permanent Deacon.

They have counseled and consoled us during difficult life moments, and shared in some of our greatest joys. In short, the Dominicans have always been there for us, whether to meet a specific need, or just to share in life's joys.

Why do you choose to support the Dominicans?

The Dominicans speak the Truth. They do this in so many ways; with their beautiful homilies, the way they celebrate liturgies, the way they teach and simply the manner in which they live. It's amazing to us to have had the pleasure of knowing dozens of Dominicans over the years, each being very unique, and yet each being so very knowledgeable and in love with Our Lord and the Blessed Mother. The world needs the Truth, and it seems to us that to get the Truth to the world, the world needs more Dominicans.

What has surprised you most about working with/knowing the Dominicans?

One thing I truly admire about our Dominicans is how "ordinary" they are in one sense, and how their devotion to serving our Lord has rendered them to be so extraordinary. Their genuineness comes across in conversation or in listening to a homily when they share their life experience. So many of our Dominicans have secular degrees or work experience which enables them to relate to the parishioners they serve. And many of them are so completely goofy that they are impossible not to love!

Anything else you feel inspired to share?

As a Permanent Deacon, I serve the Archdiocese as directed by our Archbishop. I am pleased and blessed to be serving at Holy Family parish with our beloved Dominicans. My wife has told me that if the Archbishop should assign me to a different parish in the future, that's fine, but she'll stay at Holy Family with the Dominicans!



(L to R) Deacon David, his wife Stephanie, and their children, Joshua and Alexandria, have appreciated the years of friendship, counsel and ministry of the friars in Alaska.



During a visit to San Francisco's Alta Park, the Van Tuyls were blessed to visit with Fr. James Moore, O.P., and tour the city on a sunny day.

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

Photo Credits: Van Tuyl Family, Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.
