



MISSION WEST

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

- ✦ Meet Our Nine New Novices!
- ✦ Inspiration from Five New Deacons
- ✦ Did You Know? Dominicans and DNA
- ✦ Why the Holy Name Society?

**THE LIGHT
SHINES
IN THE
DARKNESS**

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that a Dominican sister played a pivotal role in the discovery of the structure of DNA?

Born in 1913, Sr. Miriam Michael Stimson, O.P., joined the Adrian Dominican Sisters in 1935. She completed her Ph.D. in 1948 and taught at Siena Heights College for most of her career. She was the second woman, after Marie Curie, to be invited to lecture at the Sorbonne in Paris, and the first woman to lecture at University of Notre Dame.

Sr. Miriam Michael spent most of her career using spectroscopy to study amino acids and other molecules, developing a unique technique that eventually allowed her to study the structure of DNA.



Cover Photo: Fr. Joshua Gatus, O.P., celebrates Mass at the University of Oregon Newman Center. Photo credit: Ally Thomas

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

THE QUOTABLE DOMINICAN

St. Margaret of Hungary, O.P.

1242-1270

Feast Day: January 18



Saint Mary Magdalene, Saint Peter of Verona, Saint Catherine of Siena and Blessed Margaret of Hungary (detail), Juan de Borgona (1515)

St. Margaret of Hungary, O.P., was a Dominican nun and the daughter of Hungarian nobility. When she was three years old, a Mongol invasion threatened Hungary. Her father promised God that if Hungary was spared, he would dedicate young Margaret's life to Him. Shortly after Hungary was spared from the Mongol invasion, she was sent to live with Dominican nuns.

Pious from a very young age, she thirsted for martyrdom. While in the monastery of Dominican nuns, she heard of a forthcoming Tartar invasion of Hungary, and she exclaimed:

"I pray God that my father's kingdom may be spared so terrible a scourge; nevertheless, if they are to come, I trust they will come here, that we may receive our crown at their hands."

From the Prior Provincial



Dear brothers and sisters,

I'm writing to you with great gratitude for all the blessings which the Lord has showered on the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus.

You probably know that many dioceses and religious communities across the country are struggling to find men and women to carry the light of Christ as the next generation of priests, friars, and sisters.

But God has been so good to us! He continues to send us a steady stream of young men: in the past few months, we've received yet another large class of nine novices, eight brothers have made simple vows, and five have been ordained to the diaconate!

Why does God bless us in this way? Surely, it's not from our power: we Dominican friars don't promise wealth, prestige, or an easy life. And it's definitely not because we ingratiate ourselves to the spirit of the age.

I will submit—humbly—that in spite of our limitations in the eyes of the world, fervent young men continue to approach our Province because we try to place ourselves at the service of Christ's light with simplicity and sincerity. We try, as best we can, to contemplate the light of God's Word in Scripture and Tradition, according to the teaching of the Magisterium, and share this light with clarity and charity.

But this work is not easy. Each of us needs God's help every single day, and we often receive that help through people like you, our friends. Indeed, we could not even hope to minister to the light of Christ without the support of your abiding presence and kindness.

And so I want to ask each of you, as you read about the exciting developments in the life of the Province, will you join us in the mission of bearing the light of Christ to the world?

In Christ and St. Dominic,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P.
Prior Provincial

Nine Men Enter the Western Province Novitiate

Thanks be to God for your generosity and continued prayers!



Br. David Nadeau

“For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise.” (Ps 63:4)

Originally from Saint-Georges in Quebec, Canada, Br. David studied chemical engineering at the Université de Sherbrooke. After completing his undergraduate degree, he continued his education at the same university, receiving a master’s degree in chemical engineering.

Br. David is an avid reader and enjoys climbing with friends. It’s that same spirit of friendship that drew him to the Order of Preachers—he finds great joy in his relationships with friends and is drawn to a life of community and contemplation. Br. David is inspired by St. Catherine of Siena, a Dominican and Doctor of the Church.



Br. Dominic Mary Beaupre

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (Jn 15:5)

Born in Alberta, Canada, Br. Dominic Mary Beaupre was raised in a small Canadian town. After receiving his B.A. in philosophy from the University of Alberta, he went on to graduate with a Master of Philosophy from KU Leuven in Belgium.

He spent several years as a diocesan seminarian and as a youth minister. He grew to have great admiration for St. Thomas Aquinas and developed a strong devotion to St. Martin of Tours and the saint’s contemplative yet active way of life. It is that same balance of contemplative and active life, along with an admiration for the Dominican way of making the Truth of the Catholic faith known to all, that drew Br. Dominic to pursue a Dominican vocation.



Br. Francis Mary Sogge

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness: I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” (2 Cor 12:9)

Br. Francis Mary was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and, most recently, has been living in Seattle, Washington. He studied psychology and applied mathematics at the University of Notre Dame, spending his free time backpacking and rock climbing.

Throughout his life, he has found great meaning in the study of the faith. At the same time, he longs for a life spent pursuing the spiritual works of mercy and caring for those experiencing the great spiritual poverty that is so common for our time. He is inspired by St. Antoninus of Florence, a Dominican saint regarded as one of the founders of moral theology and Christian social ethics.



Br. Joseph Sadoc Lee

"None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For 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."
(Rom 14:7-8)

Br. Joseph Sadoc is from Fremont, California. He studied at Santa Clara University, where he received his B.A. in philosophy, with a focus on ethics and pre-law. He enjoys riding motorcycles, lifting weights, and playing the piano.

Br. Joseph Sadoc finds inspiration in the lives of the saints, particularly St. Joseph and St. Ignatius of Loyola. He chose to pursue his vocation with the Dominicans because of the strong community life that's anchored in the liturgy and thanks to the 800-year legacy the Dominicans have of bringing souls to Christ.



Br. Jude Angelico DuCharme

"Jesus then said to the Twelve, 'Do you also want to leave?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'" (Jn 6:67-68)

Br. Jude Angelico comes to the Western Province from St. Louis, Missouri. He received his B.A. in animation from Loyola Marymount University and enjoys drawing, video editing, and watching movies.

The *Diary* of St. Faustina is one of his favorite books; her life is so inspiring to him that even a few lines from her diary can set his heart on fire. He's particularly inspired by her intimacy with Jesus, while in the midst of intense suffering. He's coming to the Dominicans thanks to his own great love of Jesus and his desire to answer the call. The Dominican charism was what first drew Br. Jude Angelico to the Order, and he looks forward to finding a home with his brothers.



Br. Mark Joseph Soto

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God..." (Jn 1:1-18)

Br. Mark Joseph comes to us from Stockton, California. He received his B.S. in mechanical engineering from University of California, Davis, and enjoys playing classical piano and bowling.

Br. Mark Joseph is discerning his vocation in the Order of Preachers for a few reasons. First, he appreciates the fact that the Dominicans are a Marian order, having a special devotion to Our Lady. Second, Br. Mark Joseph looks forward to a life of preaching the Gospel. And third, he knows the Dominican life of active contemplation will help him preach the Gospel to those he encounters. Br. Mark Joseph draws inspiration from the prologue of the Gospel of John.



Br. Paul Dismas Carty

“For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another.” (Gal 5:13)

From Orange County, California, Br. Paul Dismas studied religious studies at the University of Utah, where he encountered the Dominicans. He has a knack for drawing and enjoys a good board game.

Br. Paul Dismas finds inspiration in his favorite saints, especially St. Catherine of Siena, St. Padre Pio, and Mother Teresa. It’s their sacrificial influence that has led him to discern his vocation with the Dominicans. In his own words, “I joined the Dominicans to serve God and His people with all that I have.”



Br. Pius Carlo Enclona

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.” (Jn 15:9)

Br. Pius Carlo is originally from the Philippines and came to the USA for college in 2017. He received his B.S. in engineering and computer science from the University of Pennsylvania.

Growing up in the Philippines, he and his mother would visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Manaoag. It was there that they both developed a great devotion to Our Lady. The shrine is run by the Dominicans, and where Br. Pius Carlo grew to love the Order of Preachers and the Dominican charism.

Br. Pius Carlo also finds comfort and inspiration in Blessed Carlo Acutis. Their similar upbringing and passion for technology have encouraged Br. Pius Carlo and made him feel a special friendship with the soon-to-be saint, whose intercession he has sought throughout his life in school and working in the tech world.



Br. Serafin Guadalupe Malfabon

“I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Eph 3:18-19)

Born in Los Reyes, Mexico, Br. Serafin Guadalupe went to San Francisco State University, where he studied cinema. His studies inspired in him a love of photography and miniature painting.

Br. Serafin Guadalupe joined the Dominicans to give his life fully to the Lord and to His Church. In his own words, “I want to grow and be formed in charity. I want to help my brothers and sisters rejoice in the Gospel and fall in love with our Lord Jesus in the spirit of St. Dominic, which brings forth a deep love for Christ and our neighbor through contemplation and preaching the Gospel.”



Thanks be to God for Our New Deacons!

In September, five Dominican student brothers were ordained deacons at the hands of the Most Rev. Salvatore Cordileone, Archbishop of San Francisco.

Photos by Elle Ornidó

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Rev. Br. Antony Augustine Cherian, O.P.

“Receive the Gospel of Christ whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.” During the Ordination rite, the bishop says these words to the deacon as he hands him the Book of the Gospels. I felt God calling me to the Order of Preachers in order to preach the Gospel. As a deacon, I will regularly be blessed with the opportunity to live out these words during the high point of our Church’s liturgical life! Without the financial and spiritual support of our benefactors, my formation wouldn’t have been possible. Thank you all for your love and support!



Rev. Br. John Peter Anderson, O.P.

As a Dominican, I live to praise, to bless, and to preach for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. As a deacon, I’ll be able to do these things in a new way: by leading others in prayer, blessing with greater authority, and by preaching homilies. What’s more, the diaconal ordination configures me to Christ the servant so that, when I do these things, Christ will act through me in a special way. In diaconal ministry, I’ll experience St. Paul’s words, “I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me.” May God bless all those who have made this ministry possible through their generosity.



Rev. Br. Joseph Tam Hoang Nguyen, O.P.

Reflecting on my journey of responding to God’s call, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. He took the initiative in calling and choosing me to become a Dominican, and now, He beckons me to serve as a deacon. Words cannot fully express my profound thankfulness for all He has done and continues to do in my life. This immense grace—to be chosen to serve God as both a Dominican and a deacon—fills me with awe and humility. I recognize that God’s work extends through the kindness and support of many people, including our generous donors and benefactors. I hold all of you in my daily prayers.

Rev. Br. Nathaniel Maria Mayne, O.P.



Over these past seven years, we have been slowly and meticulously bending the bow of our minds and hearts through our study and prayer in order to release the arrow of God's truth and love through our preaching. It is absolutely wonderful, and a tremendous blessing, to now have the opportunity to both proclaim the Gospel and preach the goodness of God in the Mass! Formation has been a long journey, and I am extremely grateful to everyone who has supported me and my classmates. There is no way we could ever do this alone, and we are immensely thankful for your prayers and material support. Please keep us in your prayers as we begin our journey as ordained ministers of God's love and truth.



Rev. Br. Elias Guadalupe Ford, O.P.



I am most looking forward to preaching here at St. Dominic's in San Francisco, as well as serving in my new full-time role as the Director of the St. Jude Shrine and attending to many of the sacramental needs of the thousands of pilgrims that visit the Shrine every year. Thank you so much for your spiritual and material support these past seven years of my time in the Order, which has given me the foundation necessary to serve in this community, so that Jesus may be known and loved.

Thirteen Student Brothers Take the Next Step in their Formation

Deo Gratias!

This summer, eight brothers made their first profession of vows and five brothers renewed their simple profession. These brothers have promised to God to live under obedience, poverty, and chastity. We are so grateful for your continued support as our brothers progress in their formation as Dominicans.



Eight men professed first vows and began their formation as Dominican student brothers

Front row, left to right: Br. Emmanuel Maria Melendez, O.P., Br. Humbert McCrorey, O.P., Br. Raphael Akita Knox, O.P., Br. Peter Lawrence Vu, O.P., Fr. John Marie Bingham, O.P.

Back row, left to right: Br. Hyacinth Marie Bui, O.P., Br. Ignatius Jerome Alsop, O.P., Br. Antonio Maria Aguilar, O.P., Br. Albert Mary Uplaznik, O.P. Photo by Elle Orvido.



Three brothers renew their vows

Br. Anthony Maria Akerman, O.P., Br. John Vianney Russell, O.P., and Br. Michael Thomas Cain, O.P., (left to right) stand with Fr. Christopher Fadok, O.P. after renewing their simple vows at St. Benedict Lodge in Oregon.



Polish brothers renew vows

Br. Piotr Orzechowski, O.P. (left), and Br. Piotr Skibinski, O.P. (right), from the Polish Dominican Province, renewed their simple vows at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland. They are spending the year studying alongside our student brothers.



Master of the Order Visits St. Dominic's Church

St. Dominic's Church in San Francisco capped its jubilee celebration with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Gerard Timoner, O.P., Master of the Order of Preachers!



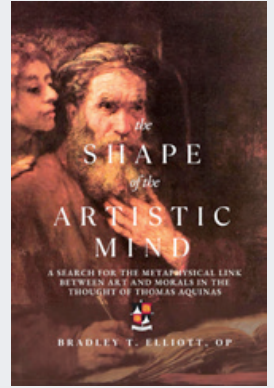
Photos by Elle Oruido

Our Friars' Newest Publications

Fr. Bradley T. Elliott, O.P.

The Shape of the Artistic Mind: A Search for the Metaphysical Link Between Art and Morals in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas

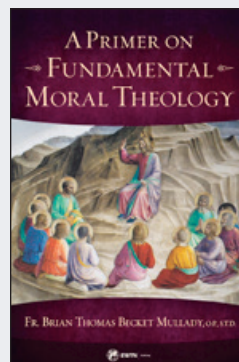
A former jazz musician, Fr. Brad argues that art trains the mind to order the cosmos according to the pattern of the Creator.



Fr. Brian Thomas Becket Mullady, O.P.

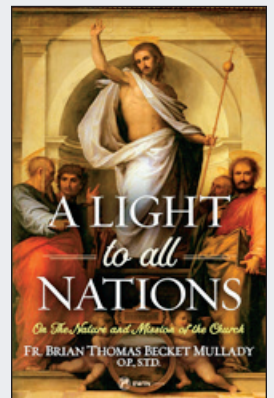
A Primer on Fundamental Moral Theology

Drawing on the wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas and Aristotle, Fr. Brian comprehensively introduces fundamentals of Catholic moral teaching. He explores how the Church is called to help form the culture, not vice versa.



A Light to All Nations: On the Nature and Mission of the Church

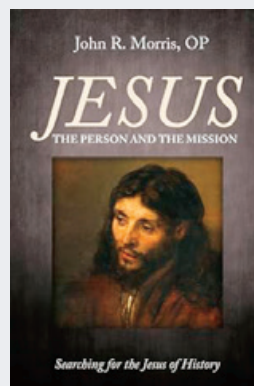
Fr. Brian unpacks one of the central documents of the Second Vatican Council—Lumen Gentium—through the lens of traditional Church teachings, history, and philosophy.



Fr. John R. Morris, O.P.

Jesus: The Person and the Mission

Fr. John Morris pulls from biblical and theological scholarship in order to discover the authentic words and deeds of Jesus with historical context.



Seeking an Executive Director of Institutional Advancement

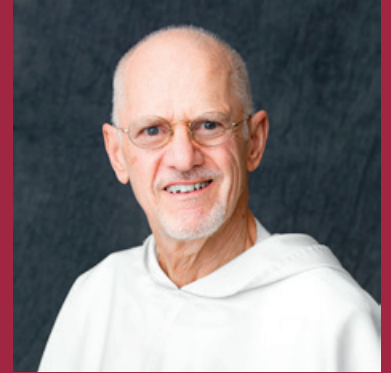
The Western Dominican Province is conducting a search to hire an Executive Director of Institutional Advancement (EDIA). With a significant growth in vocations, and exciting new programs emerging, the Dominicans are seeking an accomplished, talented, and faithful fundraising leader to guide their advancement office through new opportunities and growth.

For a complete job description and a list of essential qualifications go to petrusdevelopment.com and open the Jobs Board for Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, Western Dominican Province.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE



Fr. Raymond Finerty, O.P.



Fr. Donald Bramble, O.P.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Raymond Finerty, O.P., who died on Friday, June 21, 2024, and for the repose of the soul of Fr. Donald Bramble, O.P., who died on Monday, September 23, 2024.

Do you know anyone interested in Dominican life?

Invite them to speak with our Vocation Director, Fr. John Winkowitsch, O.P.!

To contact Fr. John, email vocations@opwest.org or visit opwest.org/comeandsee.

Future Come & See Dates:
February 14-16, 2025
March 28-30, 2025

The Holy Name Society

Fr. Augustine Hilander, O.P., Promoter of the Holy Name Society, on the history of devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus



By Augustine Hilander, O.P.

*Prior of the Dominican
Priory of the Blessed
Sacrament, Seattle*

The Holy Name Society was founded to promote devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. It was inspired by the Second Council of Lyon in 1274, called by Bl. Gregory X as a council for reunion between the Orthodox and Catholic Churches. On this account, the pope called on the Western Church to develop a stronger love and devotion for the Holy Name of Jesus. He commissioned the Dominican Master General, Bl. John of Vercelli, O.P., to promote reverence to the Holy Name and to foster this love and devotion among the brothers themselves and in their preaching.

The Dominicans eagerly received the pope's command and Bl. John of Vercelli—the father of the Holy Name movement—addressed every one of the superiors of his order advising them of the pope's wishes. The movement continued to grow but was not yet officially recognized as a confraternity. It was not until the 1400s, when plagues broke out in Portugal and Spain, that societies and processions devoted to the Holy Name occurred. Great preachers of the Holy Name came forward, including St. Vincent Ferrer, O.P., St. Bernardine of Siena, O.F.M., and St. John of Capistrano, O.F.M. Finally, on April 13, 1564, Pope Pius IV raised the Holy Name Society to the dignity of a confraternity and attached to it spiritual privileges and indulgences. Pope St. Pius V restricted the establishment of the Holy Name Society to the Dominicans.

In the late 1800s, the Holy Name Society grew immensely in the United States to combat blasphemy and encourage men to go to church on Sunday. In 1924, when President Calvin Coolidge was asked to speak to the HNS, a crowd of over 100,000 attended this speech:

“[The Holy Name Society’s] main purpose is to impress upon the people the necessity for reverence. This is the beginning of a proper conception of ourselves, of our relationship to each other, and our relationship to our Creator. Human nature cannot develop very far without it. The mind does not unfold, the creative faculty does not mature, the spirit does not expand, save under the influence of reverence. It is the chief motive of an obedience. It is only by a correct attitude of mind begun early in youth and carried through maturity that these desired results are likely to be secured. It is along the path of reverence and obedience that the [human] race has reached the goal of freedom, of self-government, of a higher morality, and a more abundant spiritual life.”

The Holy Name Society continues to promote devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus and God, to condemn the use of blasphemy and to honor God in our Sunday obligation. It also promotes respect for authority both civil and religious, and honors those who have fallen in the line of duty, both in the police and military.

To learn more about the Holy Name Society, visit opwest.org/holy-name-society.



The feast of the Holy Name of Jesus is celebrated on January 3 and is the patronal feast day of our Province, the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus.

A Profile in Generosity: Lena Leveriza

Giving to support the future of the Dominicans

What is one of your favorite memories with the Dominicans?

One of my favorite memories is when I volunteered for the reception of the Master of the Order's visit to the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology. It was a very difficult time in my life because my daughter, Lydia, was battling cancer. While I was working in the kitchen that day, Fr. Peter Rogers, O.P., walked in and asked me to follow him to the school's chapel where they were preparing for Mass. Fr. Peter introduced me to the Master of the Order, Fr. Gerard Timoner, O.P., and informed him of my daughter's illness. Fr. Timoner was so kind to me; he asked what my daughter's name was and offered that Mass for my Lydia. I was so moved by his love and compassion and was so grateful that Fr. Peter remembered me in that moment.

How do you think the Dominicans will make our world a better place?

The Dominicans' preaching is in-depth and personal. They encourage you to live a better life, one that is simple and humble. They speak to you like you're a friend; you always feel as if they are speaking directly to you.

Furthermore, we must learn from the Dominicans' example as mendicant friars and look away from material things. This is the best lesson for our society today. We need to let go of possessions and put more value in the Lord and in loving each other.

Why do you think interest in the Dominicans is growing?

Interest is growing because our friars are out in the world reaching out to God's people. They're more present in the world today and more people, especially the young, are aware of them.

The friars at our church try to reach out to every parishioner and know their names. They enjoy getting to know us and our lives. They listen to us. Vocations

are increasing because Dominicans are devoted to prayer, study, and hard work. They also live in a community, much like Jesus and his apostles.

I am most supportive of education and formation for our student brothers because they are the future of the Dominicans.

What was your inspiration for walking the Camino de Santiago just days after your 85th birthday?

Fr. Bart Hutcherson, O.P., gave a talk at our parish, St. Dominic's Church in Benicia, years ago about his walk on the Camino. I immediately knew that I wanted to do it, so I went home and I added it to my bucket list!

What was your most victorious moment during your time on the Camino de Santiago?

One day, we did a very difficult uphill walk from Portomarin to Ventas de Naron. It was three straight hours, and the ascent went from 350 to 750 meters in altitude. We had to stop at a café to rest. I was disappointed because it seemed like we didn't go very far that morning but when I looked at my phone, I realized that we walked an equivalent of 31 floors! I felt exhilarated and grateful.



A few days after her 85th birthday, Lena walked the Camino de Santiago (Way of St. James), a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. James located in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Lena displays her "Pilgrim Passport," filled with stamps she collected along the Camino de Santiago.

