



MISSION WEST

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

DEDICATED TO TRUTH

In a society suffering from intellectual and spiritual poverty, your support is helping the Dominicans bring the Truth to souls in need.

- ✦ **Ordinations: The Fruits of God's Grace and Your Support**
- ✦ **Meet the New Novices**
- ✦ **You Help Us Strengthen the Faith of Young Adults**
- ✦ **Service to God and to You**
- ✦ **New Master of the Order Elected!**
- ✦ **Two Free Services for You**

THE QUOTABLE DOMINICAN



St. Catherine of Siena

1347 - 1380
Dominican Saint and
Doctor of the Church
Feast Day: April 30

“The more the mystic body of holy Church is filled with troubles now, the more it will abound in delight and consolation.” (Dialogue 12)

—St. Catherine of Siena

DID YOU KNOW?

During his travels from Europe to America in the early 19th century, Archbishop Joseph Alemany, O.P. (co-founder of the Western Dominican Province) passed through England. During that time, he befriended St. John Henry Cardinal Newman, the famous Anglican convert and patron of today’s Catholic Newman Centers.

Fittingly, the Western Dominican Province launched the first Dominican-run—and fifth oldest—Newman Center in the U.S., establishing it at the University of Washington in 1908.



St. John Henry
Cardinal Newman



Archbishop Joseph
Alemany, O.P.

The Brothers Need
Your Help!

Rosary
Sunday

DOMINICAN STUDENT APPEAL

We rely entirely on friends like you to provide for the needs of our 34 Student Brothers and Novices.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THEIR FORMATION
BY MAKING A GIFT TODAY!**

Please make a gift at:
opwest.org/rs

from the vicar provincial for advancement

Your support helps us preach the truth of the Eucharist



My Dear Friend in St. Dominic,

The Lord Himself charged us that, ‘unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.’ (John 6:53)

Yet, in a recent Pew Research Center study, **it was revealed that almost 70% of those who identify as Catholic do not believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.** That means that the source and summit of our faith is denied by nearly 70% of Catholics! It is not hyperbole to say that this is a huge problem.

To rectify the moral, intellectual and spiritual poverty of our time—and to reclaim the truth of the Eucharist—we need gifted preachers who can win souls for Christ by boldly proclaiming the beauty of Truth, rooted in love.

Thankfully, one of the greatest saints of the Eucharist was our Dominican brother, St. Thomas Aquinas. The only known poetry of the Angelic Doctor focuses on the Eucharist and is still widely used today in the Church in hymns such as *O salutaris*, *Pange lingua* (*Tantum ergo*), and *Adoro te Devote*. In these beautiful texts we hear the theology of the Eucharist masterfully proclaimed.

In an age when so many religious orders are declining in numbers, we are blessed with men who are on fire for the Gospel—true sons of our Holy Father St. Dominic, who longed to set the world ablaze with the light of Truth. These men are also very smart—they have the capacity and zeal for study which is characteristic to Dominicans. These men are also very human and approachable—skills which are essential if we are to engage and accompany the present generations in the life of faith. Finally, these men want to be holy—fervent in prayer and striving for holiness. They are men who want to be saints.

The Church needs these young vocations now, more than ever. And we need you to help make it possible. Please continue to support our young brothers with your prayers and with your donations, especially during the month of October, when we celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary. Together, we can preach the truth of the Eucharist and win back souls for Christ.

In Christ and St. Dominic,

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

Cover Photo: Novice Master, Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P., stands with the 2018-19 novices during a lunch stop in a date oasis near Yuma, AZ. The group had been traveling throughout the Southwest, preaching and giving witness to Dominican life. The novices pictured all made their First Profession of Vows on August 25th. Thanks to your generosity, they now begin their formation as student brothers.

Four More Men Join the Western Dominicans

On August 29th we welcomed another class of novices—brothers in their first year of formation. Thanks to your prayers and support, the Dominicans continue to be one of the fastest-growing men’s religious communities in the U.S. With 34 men in formation in the Western Province alone, we have more men preparing for religious life now than in the past 16 years.



Br. Matthew Francis Pancoe

Br. Matthew Francis is from Irvine, CA, and has known the Dominicans his whole life since his uncle, Fr. Joseph Sergott, O.P., is a friar of the Western Dominican Province. Educated at Gonzaga University, where he earned a B.A. in Mathematics and Philosophy, he enjoys “board sports” such as skateboarding, surfing and board games. Inspired by Hebrews 12:29, he wants to be consumed by the fire of God’s love and used as a light for others. This desire to share the faith is one of the many things that attracted him to the Order of Preachers, whose charism and mission is to preach the Gospel for the salvation of souls.



Br. Michael Thomas Cain

Br. Michael Thomas is from Santa Paula, CA. He has a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Thomas Aquinas College where his father teaches and both parents are members of the Dominican Laity. He draws inspiration from St. Thomas Aquinas, whose brilliant intellect was united with an intense humility. He enjoys backpacking, swimming, cycling, and running, which may be why he relates so well to 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, where St. Paul draws a comparison between the spiritual life and running a race. “The world’s need for Christ is urgent,” Br. Michael Thomas observes, “and the Dominican is called to bring the light of Christ to all nations.”



Br. Xavier Marie Wu

Br. Xavier Marie grew up in Beijing, China, and went to high school in Laredo, TX. In his free time he enjoys playing basketball, rock-climbing, and sketching. While earning a B.S. in Bioengineering from the University of California at Berkeley, he met the Dominicans and began attending daily Mass at St. Albert’s Priory. It was there that he learned about the Order’s charism and was drawn to our common life, prayer, study, and preaching. He finds inspiration in the passage from Song of Songs 8:6-7 in which love is described as a burning flame. Br. Xavier Marie explains, “It is a perfect image of Christ’s burning love for us.”



Br. Kevin Peter Cantu

Br. Kevin Peter was born near Seattle, but grew up in Clearwater, FL. He returned to the West Coast for studies where he received a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Thomas Aquinas College. Fr. Paul Raftery, O.P., one of the college chaplains, introduced him to the Dominican life. Br. Kevin Peter greatly admires the Dominican St. Juan Macias, who like his contemporaries St. Martin de Porres and St. Rose of Lima, cared for the poor and marginalized. Reflecting on Colossians 3:1-4, he contemplates the mystery of dying with Christ in order to live with Him. Thus Br. Kevin Peter desires to preach Christ crucified as a Dominican friar.

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

Photo Credits: Lorelei Low, Western Dominican Province, The Sherman Family.

Your Gifts Help Eight New Student Brothers



After completing their novitiate year, eight of our novice brothers made their first profession on August 31st and began life in our Dominican studentate. Thanks to you, Brs. Benedict Mary, Thaddeus, Luke Maria, Francis Dominic, David, Philip Neri, Diego Maria, and Jose Maria will have the resources they need to engage their studies and continue their formation as your future Dominican priests. Please continue to pray for them and all 34 of our student brothers and novices.



Your Help Allows the Friars to Strengthen the Faith of Youth and Young Adults

This summer, Dominicans were working hard to help apostolates strengthen their outreach and ministry to Catholic youth and young adults, a population that is at an important crossroads in their spiritual life.

Towards that end, friars ministered and made presentations at the popular Ignite Your Torch youth conference (above) in Oregon. They also supported New Staff Training (below) for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), held at the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. Thank you for supporting the Dominicans in their work to protect the faith of young people!



Thank you for your many years of prayers in support of Rev. Br. Gregory Liu, O.P., who was ordained to the diaconate on September 14th. Here he stands with the Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J. (center), Bishop of Oakland, and the Very Rev. Christopher Fadok, O.P. (right), Prior Provincial of the Western Province.

Rev. Br. Gregory Liu, O.P., Ordained

It's with great joy that we celebrate the recent ordination to the diaconate of Rev. Br. Gregory Augustine Liu, O.P. A deacon shares in Christ's mission and grace in a special way. Through the sacrament, he is marked with what the Church calls an imprint or "character" which cannot be removed, and which configures him to Christ, who made himself the "deacon" or "servant" of all. The title "deacon" comes from the Greek word "diakonia," which in Christian theology signifies service.

To make a gift in honor of Rev. Br. Gregory's ordination, visit opwest.org/diaconate2019





Dominicans Elect New Master of the Order

We are pleased to announce that, on July 13th, Fr. Gerard Francisco Timoner III, O.P., was elected by the General Chapter in Vietnam as the 87th successor of St. Dominic and 88th Master of the Order of Preachers. Attending the General Chapter as delegates from the Western Province were Frs. Christopher Fadok, O.P., Peter Do, O.P. and Michael Sweeney, O.P.

A son of the Province of the Philippines, Fr. Gerard has served as Rector of the Central Seminary of the University of Santo Tomas, Prior Provincial, and most recently as the Master's Socius for Asia Pacific. In 2014, Pope Francis appointed Fr. Gerard to the Vatican's International Theological Commission. Let us give thanks to God and keep Fr. Gerard in our prayers.



Note: Fr. Peter Do, O.P. and his family fled Vietnam in the 1970s following the fall of Saigon. To read about his incredible journey, visit opwest.org/frpetervietnam.



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.



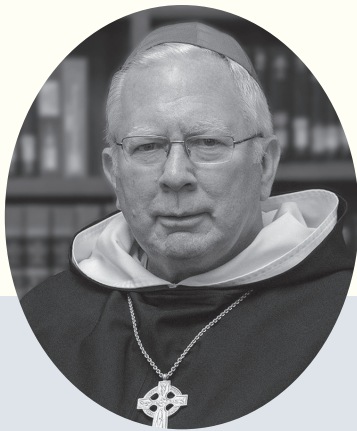


For Service to God and to You

Solemn Profession is the moment when a friar unites himself to the Order of Preachers for life, pledging obedience and committing to live a life of poverty and chastity until death. This past May, Br. Chrysostom Mijinke, O.P., made his Solemn Profession and has thus started his final years of formation. Please pray for him as he prepares to serve you and your loved ones.

Friars like Br. Chrysostom could not persevere in formation without your financial support and prayers. In this photo, Br. Chrysostom stands with family and friars on the day of his Solemn Vows—a day of great joy!

To learn more about what happens during Solemn Vows, visit opwest.org/untilddeath.



The Fruits of Your Gifts and God's Grace

At the hands of the Most Reverend Oscar Cantú, Bishop of San Jose, two of our Dominican brothers were ordained priests of Jesus Christ on May 31, 2019: Fr. Cody Hyacinth Jorgensen, O.P. and Fr. Andrew Opsahl, O.P.

Requiescat in Pace

Please join us in mourning the loss of our Dominican brother, Bishop Robert Christian, O.P., who passed away in his sleep on July 11. At the time of his passing, he was the 18th Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the rector-president of St. Patrick's Seminary & University.

His accomplishments over 50 years of faithful service are too numerous to list here, so we invite you to visit catholic-sf.org/news/bishop-robert-christian-passes-away to learn more.

Please pray for the repose of his soul, as well as for his grieving family, friends and Dominican brothers around the world.

Fr. Cody is now serving the students, faculty, staff and community at the St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Newman Center at the University of Utah, and Fr. Andy is now serving the people of God at Holy Family Cathedral in Anchorage. Thank you for your prayers and financial support over the eight years of their formation. They could not have persevered to ordination during this demanding time without your help and God's grace.

"I am so grateful for the formation I received as a student brother. Those years of study, prayer and contemplation have prepared me well for my first priestly assignment, and I am very grateful to you for making it possible. Please pray that I may continue to grow as an instrument of the priesthood of Christ."
—Fr. Andrew Opsahl, O.P.



A Profile in Generosity: The Sherman Family

A journey to the Church with love and support from the Dominicans

How did you first connect with the Dominicans?

Julianne: My husband wanted to become Catholic. I did not. So, he had been trying to find a parish that clearly preached the Gospel, had some sense of community and could represent the best of the Catholic Church. (Because I was a professional fault finder, I did not want to become Catholic and was looking for any reason to get out of it). Nevertheless, when we were invited by a friend to visit the Dominican parish of Blessed Sacrament in Seattle, both of us felt like we could make a home here and raise our kids here. Fr. Christopher Fadok was so pastoral, calling everyone to live their faith authentically, while at the same time he preached intellectually. The combination of erudition and passion broke down my irrational objections. I knew our priests really loved God, really loved their parishioners, and really knew the truth. I converted two years later.

Keith: The Dominicans have three things that attracted us to them instantly: rich and beautiful liturgy, unapologetically orthodox preaching, and their genuine encouragement to parents as the primary educators of their children. Julianne was hooked despite her one-time promise to me that hell would freeze over before she became Catholic!

What's a favorite memory you have of spending time with the Dominicans?

Julianne: I have a vivid memory of singing the litany of the saints during a baptism I attended with the Dominicans. I started weeping with the thought, "I'm not alone anymore", and I just kept weeping thinking of all these friends that are actively and lovingly fighting for us—for me—as I discerned entering the Catholic Church.

Keith: The Dominicans, whether in the parish hall, at a picnic, at a new house blessing, at a baptism celebration, or over

dinner at our own dining room table, have blessed us with their lives. We have been enriched by their personal stories, their theological and historical insight, and their pursuit of the good, the beautiful, and the true in everything from science and art to quality jokes!

Why do you support the Dominicans?

We support the Dominicans because they are true to their mission to praise, to bless and to preach. They praise with rich and excellent liturgy; they bless as they administer the sacraments and encourage their congregations; they faithfully preach Christ and Church teaching. These things are all an antidote to the spiritual malaise, cultural decay and moral obfuscation swirling around us all.

Why do you think interest in the Dominicans is growing?

The Dominican Order is a place that promotes undiluted Catholicism. They are brave and true to their mission to praise, to bless, to preach. It's just not worth being Catholic if you water down the liturgy, homily, Church teaching, the central role of the Sacraments, hymnals, even the art and architecture.

What do you wish other people knew about the Dominicans?

We think it's funny that the Dominicans have fewer saints than some other orders, but the ones they have are the "sha-bam!" kind! St. Thomas Aquinas counts as 30 saints, right?



The Sherman Family found their spiritual home at the Dominican parish in Seattle, appreciating the friars for their clear and charitable method of preaching truth.



Fr. John Marie Bingham, O.P., blesses Baby William during his Baptism. The Dominican commitment to beautiful liturgies and the centrality of the Sacraments inspired the Shermans to grow in their faith.