

# CHALLENGE

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 4

SPRING 2000

## From the Promoter's Pen

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The last four General Chapters of the Order (1) have encouraged us to actively develop and support the "Community Project"; that is, the life of the Laity Chapter *lived as a common project*. The goal is to develop a fraternal life that would have the same spirit, where the missionary actions of individuals *and* the life of the whole Chapter would be bound in the same way.

In the Laity Chapter, members find acceptance, support, and a sense of belonging. The "Community Project" involves the common participation of all members to plan and build the Chapter live into a real fraternity. A well-defined and applied "Community Project" is one of the few processes which allows dialogue within the Chapter to be deepened, focussing on the meaning of our life together. Guiding and fostering the

balance between the individual and the Chapter, the Project's formulation is one of the important places where one can put

*(turn to page 2)*



*Our Holy Father Dominic*

### Cause for Family Rejoicing

On December 20, 1999, a papal decree was issued regarding the martyrdom of the Servants of God Jacinto Serrano Lopez and 17 companions of the Order of Friars Preachers, as well as two secular priests. Fr. Thomas J. Johnston, OP, Promoter of Causes of Dominican Saints, says that no date has yet been set for the beatification of these martyred for the faith in Spain in 1936.

### Welcome, Laura!

Thanks to the generosity of our contributors, especially **the Dominican Sisters of the Perpetual Rosary of Milwaukee, WI**, we welcome Laura Pykor as our new Laity Office secretary. She is a student at Dominican University (Rosary College) and also works with the St. Dominic Mission Society and the shrine of St. Jude at St. Pius V Priory in Chicago.

In addition, a new office computer and printer are now in place.

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Visit us on the web at [www.op.org/oplaity](http://www.op.org/oplaity)
- Benefits of a "Community Project"
- New beatifications pending
- Dominican Laity Office welcomes new secretary and new computer
- Millennium rosaries support Southern Province seminarian education
- New Voices for the Millennium: Learning from our Diversity
- Dominican Volunteers International takes shape

## From the Promoter's Pen/ Benefits of a "Community Project"

(from page 1)

into practice the virtue of obedience, which grounds your personal responsibility with respect to the Laity Chapter as well as to the mission of the Order.

The idea of the "Community Project" was born of the need for *planning the mission of the Chapter*. It presupposes the active involvement of all the Chapter members to the extent that their gifts and health allow. It is precisely because of this that the "Community Project" discourages the formation of pressure groups and keeps any individual brother or sister from being "pushed to the side" of Chapter life. Through sharing and making decisions together on the mission, the Chapter can better fulfil it. Through action and prayer, all Chapter members bring their collaboration to the mission. Everybody comes to own, so to speak, what the others do. This develops the sense of unity, of being part of a body.

The Laity Chapter is a body responsible for preaching the gospel in a certain setting, meeting certain needs, as it takes into account the talents and the works of its members. A common sense of apostolic responsibility is possible only if there is a shared interest in the needs of the given setting and a readiness to organize and change (if necessary) the life of the Chapter and its members, so that it can best meet those needs. Therefore, the choice of a "Community Project" must be based upon the real potential of Chapter members. Their choice is to be in tune with

the priorities of the Order, with the directives of the Provincial Chapters, and with the needs and demands of the People of God.

The "Community Project" is not just a planning tool, but rather an important element of being together and of our way of looking at our mission. For an individual, it involves becoming part of a group organized in a certain way and about agreeing to attune, indeed even to subordinate, one's own individual project to that of the Laity Chapter. This is so important that *the ability to live together in this Dominican way should be explicitly included in the discernment criteria for admission to profession.* (2)

My next quarterly column will look at ways of formulating the "Community Project."

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas J. Johnston, OP  
Promoter

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(1) Oakland (1989), Mexico City (1992), Rome (1995), and Bologna (1998).

(2) See: Acts of the General Chapter of Bologna (1998), no. 44.

### *New Voices' New Internet Homepage*

Fr. Jerry Stookey, OP, Promoter General of the Dominican Laity, writes about the Assembly of the Dominican Family in Manila, 2000 in the December 1999 issue of I.D.I. (International Dominican Information) that "all of us are *voices* for the millennium, not just the delegates that we are sending! Everyone's voice needs to be heard for the sake of our Dominican mission together. To facilitate our international discussion and communication during this year of *New Voices*, you will find information in each I.D.I. Bulletin and also at our new Internet homepage, which will be updated regularly. It is located on our

website at <http://www.op.org> by clicking on 'Dominican Home Pages' from the listing at the bottom. This will bring you to an 'index' that scrolls down to 'Order of Preachers.' There you will find and click on 'Rome, Santa Sabina, Curia Generalizia, I.D.I.' At 'Curia' you will come to several options, among which is *New Voices*, Manila, with its new yellow logo. Click Manila's logo, and you will always be able to participate in *New Voices* by Internet!" In order to go to it directly, you can bookmark the following address:

<http://www.op.org/curia/manila>

## Southern Province Millennium Rosaries Support Seminary Education

The Southern Dominican Province currently has 13 novices studying to enter the Order, and a class of 18 arriving next year. With over two dozen men already in other phases of formation, donations are needed for seminarian education. As a result, Dominican Millennium Rosaries are being offered.

For a \$50 donation, one receives a male rosary (black wood bead) and a female rosary (glass bead). Each features a sterling silver papal cross and centerpiece. On the underside of the centerpiece is a Dominican shield with 2000 embossed in raised relief.

For a \$100 donation, one is sent a male rosary (cocoa bead) and a female rosary (crystal bead) with sterling silver papal cross and centerpiece featuring the Dominican shield with embossed year 2000.

All contributions support vocation funding in the Southern Dominican Province. Contributions can be sent to:

Southern Dominican Province  
Province of St. Martin de Porres  
1421 North Causeway Blvd., Suite 200  
Metairies, LA 70001-4144



### 2000 DOMINICAN LAITY MEMBERSHIP DUES

My

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Once again it is that time of the year when dues are to be paid. I ask the Chapter treasurers to collect all the dues from their respective members and for ease in bookkeeping to send one dues check to the Laity Provincial Office. Dues for individuals are \$30.00 and for families \$40.00. Of that amount, \$5 is for the Challenge subscription, \$5 for the Dominican Laity Provincial Council Meeting, and the remainder for the dues account. Please make checks payable to DOMINICAN LAITY.

Private members are asked to mail their dues payments directly to the Dominican Laity Office, 7200 W. Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305-1294. For those who are on a fixed income and cannot afford the dues, we only request that you pay what you can afford and nothing more.

At this time, I would also like to thank all of the Chapters and individuals who responded to the questions related to the Dominican Family Assembly to be held in Manila in October, 2000. Your answers have been forwarded to Sr. Margaret Galiardi, OP.

Yours in Saints Dominic and Catherine,

Candace Randolph, OP

President of Central Province Dominican Laity

## ***HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHAPTERS***

### **ALBUQUERQUE, NM NUESTRA SENORA DE LAS MONTANAS**

Three are in the Initiate phase of formation. Study topics include Dominican Spirituality, the life of St. Thomas Aquinas, the Rule, Vatican II document on Laity, and the Liturgy of the Hours.

### **BAY CITY, MI BLESSED JOHN DOMINICI CHAPTER**

**Deceased:** Louann E. Adcock's mother, Eleana Adcock, on September 1, 1999

### **CHICAGO, IL ST. PIUS V PROCHAPTER**

### **DENVER, CO ST. DOMINIC CHAPTER**

**Sick:** Fr. Dennis Zusy, Spiritual Director

A March 4 Day of Prayer is scheduled. Maria Harris' book, Proclaim Jubilee! is the study program.

### **DUBUQUE, IA ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHAPTER**

One member is in the Candidate phase and two or three in the Professed phase of formation.

### **FARMINGTON HILLS, MI BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPTER**

**Congratulations:** Barbara Hayes, Treasurer.

The St. Dominic's Chapter of Detroit, formerly of the Eastern Province, has joined this Chapter. Three initiates are studying the Psalms. The DL website has produced two phone inquiries.

### **GRAND RAPIDS, MI ROSARY CHAPTER**

**Sick:** Fr. Paul Colloton, Spiritual Director

### **MILWAUKEE, WI QUEEN OF THE ROSARY CHAPTER**

**Sick:** Joe Gates' sister-in-law, Mary Jean; Karen Sabourin's mother; and Bernice Strasser

Sharon Huizenga, a master's student at St. Francis Seminary, is presenting a three-part study on the Liturgy of the Hours. Two members are in the Initiate formation phase.

### **MINNEAPOLIS, MN HOLY ROSARY CHAPTER**

**Deceased:** Catherine Skaar on December 11, 1999

Three initiates are in formation. December's study was the video, "God the Father," which complemented the current study book, Reflections on God the Father.

### **RIVER FOREST, IL ST. VINCENT FERRER CHAPTER**

**Congratulations:** Lois (Toby) Andersen, Vice-Moderator and Formation Director

### **ROCKFORD, IL ST. PETER MARTYR CHAPTER**

**Deceased:** Mrs. Mary Hanson

### **ST. LOUIS, MO QUEEN OF THE ROSARY CHAPTER**

One member is in Initiate phase, one in Candidate phase, and two in Professed phase of formation.

### **SPRINGFIELD, IL OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART CHAPTER**

Five members are in formation, with an additional six prospects. Spiritual Director Sr. Helen Michael Horne, OP led the March 26 Day of Prayer.

**PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:**

the repose of the soul of Fr. Paul Ryan, OP, frequent retreat master for the Minneapolis chapter  
 a return to health for Bro. Regis Hovald, OP and Bro. Carlos Griego, OP  
 a spiritual renewal for Fr. Tom Johnston, OP, Dominican Laity Promoter during his sabbatical  
 an increase in vocations to the priesthood, the religious life, and Dominican Laity  
 the repose of the soul of Fr. Richard Trutter, OP  
 a return to health for Bud Cockerton, Dominican Laity Interprovincial Council Delegate for the Province of Canada  
**the success of the Dominican Family Assembly in Manila, October 2000**

**New Prochapter in Ann Arbor, MI**

Ruth Kummer (Blessed Sacrament Chapter, Farmington Hills, MI) has been shepherding a Dominican Laity group that is forming as a result of a presentation for parishes in the local vicariate, the work for which took over 18 months to accomplish. She writes, "Barriers are a given, but prayer and persistence can have a reward. The Prochapter meets at my home for the present. Since many of the six people in our group work and drive a distance, we begin with a communal meal of a simple light supper and sharing the weeks' events. With our stomachs satisfied, we share a topic for the month to enrich soul-stomach. Before we close our meeting, an assignment from the formation syllabus is selected and Evening Prayer is shared. The next step is to continue inviting people and provide meaningful expression of our charisms of prayer, study, community, and ministry."

"Ann Arbor had a large chapter in the past, but many of the members had died, moved to other parts of the world, or did not remain connected to the chapter. In fact, it was moved to Ypsilanti, MI."

Ruth's own introduction to the Dominican Laity was in 1979 from her pastor, who knew of her work as administrator of high school religious education classes in a rural community that were successful. As a Dominican, she works with convert members of her parish who want more in their life than just Sunday Mass. Ruth is the MI delegate to the Dominican Laity Provincial Council.

As family, let us pray for God's blessings and strengthening for Ruth and the developing Prochapter.

**ATTENTION ALL CHAPTERS:** For members celebrating profession anniversaries this Spring, the DL Office has Dominican Shield pins with the numbers 25 or 50. The cost is \$8 each, and if payment is enclosed with the order, the shipping is free. In addition, the price of the sterling silver St. Dominic medals has increased to \$16, so for the present time, the DL Office will stock a very nice silver oxide St. Dominic medal at a lower price. If you would like to comment on this change or to place an order, please write to the Dominican Laity Office, 7200 W. Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305-1294

**OUR DOMINICAN LAITY OFFICE FUNDRAISER** has generated enough funds to employ a part-time secretary AND to purchase a new printer and Compaq computer. Thank you to Milwaukee, WI's Queen of the Rosary Chapter; River Forest, IL's St. Vincent Ferrer Chapter; Peter and Barbara Schenck; and Lucille Tasset, who join our previous donors in making this progress possible. If you or your chapter would like to contribute, please send your donation to the Dominican Laity Office, 7200 W. Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305-1294

As our immediate past Provincial President Jill O'Brien eloquently pointed out, "If every active DL member agreed to a package of **'special works'** (Sacrament of Reconciliation, offering offices,

**Inside Story Headline**

## DOMINICAN LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### April 2000

- 2- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Hours Week IV
- 5- St. Vincent Ferrer, priest (M)
- 9- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Hours Week I
- 10- Bl. Anthony Neyrot, priest/martyr
- 13- Bl. Margaret of Castello, lay Dominican
- 14- Bl. Peter Gonzalez, priest
- 16- Palm Sunday, Hours Week II
- 17- Bl. Clara Gambacorta, religious
  - Bl. Maria Mancini, religious
- 18- Bl. Isnard of Chiampo, priest
  - Bl. Sibyllina Biscossi, lay Dominican
- 20- Holy Thursday
  - St. Agnes of Montepulciano, religious (M)
- 21- Good Friday
- 22- Holy Saturday
- 23- Easter Sunday (S), Hours Week I
- 27- Bl. Osanna of Kotor, lay Dominican
- 29- St. Catherine of Siena, lay Dominican/doctor (F)
- 30- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week II
  - St. Pius V, friar/pope (M)

### May 2000

- 4- Bl. Emily Bicchieri, religious
- 7- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week III
  - Bl. Albert of Bergamo, lay Dominican
- 8- Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary over the entire Order of Preachers
- 10- St. Antoninus of Florence, bishop (M)
- 12- Bl. Jane of Portugal, religious
- 13- Bl. Imelda Lambertini, religious
- 14- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week IV
- 15- Bl. Andrew Abellon, priest
  - Bl. Giles of Portugal, priest
- 19- Bl. Francis Coll Guitart, priest
- 21- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week I
  - Bl. Columba of Rieti, religious
  - Bl. Hyacinth-M. Cormier, priest
- 24- Translation of Holy Father Dominic (M)
- 27- Bl. Andrew Franchi, bishop
- 28- 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week II
  - Bl. Mary Bartholomew Bagnesi, lay Dominican
- 29- Bl. William Arnaud, priest, & Companions,

martyrs

- 30- Bl. James Salomonio, priest

### June 2000

- 1- Ascension of the Lord (S)
- 2- Bl. Sadoc, priest, & Companions, martyrs
- 4- 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Hours Week III
  - St. Peter of Verona, priest/martyr (M)
- 8- Bls. Diana and Cecilia, religious (OM)
- 10- Bl. John Dominic, bishop (OM)
- 11- Pentecost (S), Hours Week II
- 12- Bl. Stephen Bandelli, priest
- 18- The Most Holy Trinity (S), Hours Week III
  - B. Osanna of Mantua, lay Dominican
- 20- Bl. Margaret Ebner, religious
- 23- Bl. Innocent V, pope
- 24- The Birth of John the Baptist (S)
- 25- The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (S), Hours Week IV
- 29- SS. Peter and Paul, Apostles (S)
- 30- The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (S)

### July 2000

- 2- 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Hours Week I
- 4- Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, lay Dominican
- 7- Bl. Benedict XI, pope
- 8- Bl. Adrian Fortescue, lay Dominican/ martyr
- 9- 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Hours Week II

(S) Solemnity (F) Feast

(M) Memorial (OM) Optional Memorial

**DOMINICAN LAITY PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
PROVINCE OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT, U.S.A.  
SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER, 3, 1999      ABBREVIATED MINUTES**

Meeting at St. Louis' Jesuit Hall, the Council prepared for the weekend's events by participating in a mini-retreat on Thursday evening and Friday morning facilitated by Fr. Richard de Ranitz, OP.

President Candace Randolph subsequently called the meeting to order, as members joined together in prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, blessings upon the Dominican Family, and for a spirit "of understanding, truth, and peace." Following delegate introductions, the President explained that during the previous summer, the Friars' elective Chapter re-elected Fr. Edward Ruane, OP, Prior Provincial. Fr. Tom Johnston, OP, was appointed new Provincial Promoter to the Dominican Laity, awaiting endorsement by the Dominican Laity Provincial Council.

The president introduced Fr. Tom Johnston, OP, who seeks a dialogic relationship with Dominican Laity leadership and members. He sees the need for improved formation, but believes lay fraternities can be dynamic. While fiscal responsibilities, secretarial support and lay leadership responsibilities should be maintained by the Laity, Fr. Tom can connect Dominican Laity with the international Order, aid communication with the friars, and ensure correlations with emerging directions in the Dominican Family. He envisions the Promoter as one who must "animate the Spirit in Dominican Laity."

Following a delegates' question and answer session, a **motion to vote on Fr. Tom Johnston as Provincial Promoter to Dominican Laity** passed by a majority.

Because Fr. Dick de Ranitz will no longer function as Promoter and Fr. Tom Johnston will be on sabbatical, a **motion that the President, acting on behalf of the DL Provincial Council, will request Fr. Ed Ruane to designate a Provincial Councilor during the seven**

**to ten months of Fr. Tom Johnston's sabbatical to serve as an information source about issues that affect Dominican Laity** was approved.

Corrections of the 1998 Provincial Council Minutes were requested. Candace Randolph collected "corrected" copies and agreed to integrate the oral and written feedback into a revised final draft of the 1998 Minutes. A **motion to approve the 1998 Minutes as amended** passed.

DL Bylaws were updated by Secretary Jill O'Brien integrating revisions made at the 1996 and 1998 DL Provincial Council meetings. A **motion to approved the Bylaws as revised (with 1996/1998 meeting inclusions)** passed.

Delegates suggested further Bylaw revisions. A **motion to approve the 1999 revisions to the Bylaws** passed. Secretary Jill O'Brien agreed to integrate the changes into the document.

With each delegate contributing to the discussion, a status quo administrative critique clarified the range of views existent and the areas of agreement or divergence.

Committees reported: Formation Chair, Trish O'Connor, stated that the new formation program's topical chapters were ready for copy editing and subsequent distribution for provincial DL chapters' trial use and feedback. Delegates were asked to recruit volunteer authors for 7 of the 18 chapters. Suggested chapter content was made available to guide authorship. Finances Chair Karen Sabourin presented a detailed account from 7/1/96 -6/30/99, a summary of the year to date, and a projected budget, which was approved as submitted. Volunteers/ recommendations of individuals are sought with accounting, financial planning, and investment skills. DL Promotional Pamphlet Chair Rose Guerrero presented a completed graphic layout with a collage of photographs submitted by members and a

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## DOMINICAN LAITY PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

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rough copy of content. Evelyn Kelly and the Minneapolis Chapter were credited for their significant contributions. Gail Eck and Candy Randolph agreed to work collaboratively to complete the pamphlet with a recommended production of at least 3,000 copies. Target distribution is Spring 2000.

Delegate reports were presented from all states in the Province. **A motion to have the President write on behalf of the Provincial Council to the St. Pius Prochapter (Chicago) to thank them for recent contact with the central office and their years of association and to welcome their continued affiliation** passed. **A motion to have Jill O'Brien, Council Secretary, write a "Thinking of you Card" to Everette and Esther Byrne on behalf of the DL Provincial Council** passed.

Steve Smith and John Reiss reported on the defined/refined database records, database products surveyed, database concepts of operation defined/refined, and DL office computer criteria evaluation. **Passed motion that if the purchase of a central office computer system is approved, then DL Provincial Council agrees to the adoption and purchase of membership database software based on the recommendation of the Database Project Subcommittee.** **Passed motion that the DL Provincial Council adopt the "Individual Membership Record Form" and its dissemination to chapters across the province. Each member will be asked to complete the form and return it to the chapter secretary, who will duplicate the originals. Passed motion that one resultant set of forms should be retained in the chapter records. The originals (or a duplicate, legible set) should be forwarded to the central office. Area representatives will monitor reception of the chapter forms and the completion of this task. The information amassed will be used to create a provincial database.**

**A motion that the DL Provincial Council endorses DL Interprovincial Council (DLIPC) membership in the Dominican Leadership**

**Conference (DLC) passed. A motion that the Dominican Laity Provincial Council empowers the President, Vice-President, and DLIPC representative to negotiate on behalf of the Central Province membership in the DLC** passed. **Motions to accept the DLIPC report and the DLC report as submitted** passed.

Since the last provincial council, Karen Sabourin and Candace Randolph have visited all chapters except St. Pius in Chicago. Suggestions for improvement and members' biographical information were requested.

**A motion to send Challenge to all houses, priories, and motherhouses of Dominican congregations in the Central Province** passed. **A motion that the President on behalf of the DL Provincial Council write Fr. Albert Judy and Mary Lee Odders to express appreciation for their labors respectively on the central province website and on the newsletter** passed.

The DLIPC will meet October 19-22, 2000 in Ontario, Canada.\* Elected representatives endorsed by the DL Provincial Council included Delegate Steve Smith, First Alternate Gail Eck, and Second Alternate Sharon Huizenga.

Old and new business topics discussed included a Lands of Dominic video to be produced by Sr. Joan Podlucky, interest in retirement housing, interest in the casting of original DL jewelry, and the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service. The possibility of being buried in the habit/wearing a long scapular was discussed with these actions agreed upon: Gail Eck will investigate canon law. Fr. Tom Johnston will dialogue with Provincial Fr. Ed Ruane and review international thinking or directives from Rome. Wes Lohr will examine minutes from old provincial council meetings where this was discussed years ago. Delegates agreed that new policies could be forged regardless of past precedent. Guy Murphy will (turn to page 9)

## DOMINICAN LAITY PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

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obtain a written explanation from members of the St. Vincent Ferrer Chapter concerning the reasons for these requests (at final profession or death), which will be forwarded to Provincial Council officers and Fr. Tom Johnston, Provincial Promoter.

A subcommittee was commissioned to compose a DL Mission Statement draft. To ensure that all chapters have a voice at the Provincial Council, these **motions** passed: **that the DL Provincial Council have a delegate from each chapter, that Informal Groups and Prochapters will be represented by the delegate at the nearest chapter in geographical proximity, and that the Provincial Council Secretary will alter the Bylaws and Handbook to correspond with these new representation guidelines.** The two representatives with multiple chapters who are most affected by these representation changes will be responsible for informing chapter officers

be responsible for informing chapter officers of the need for a delegate/alternate from each chapter in their respective areas, who would attend the next DL Provincial Council meeting.

Steve Smith and John Reiss will author specifications for a replacement computer for the DL office in River Forest. Karen Sabourin will be granted flexibility to negotiate the purchase based on sales and availability in IL using the nonprofit tax benefit. A part-time secretary will be hired for the DL office, with Karen Sabourin advertising and interviewing candidates.

The **motion to meet at Jesuit Hall in St. Louis if the facilities are available** passed, with first choice dates of April 26-29, 2001 and second choice dates of April 19-22, 2001.

A **motion to adjourn** passed, and the meeting closed at 11:22 a.m., Sunday, October, 3, 1999.

\*Meeting to be hosted by Eastern Province.

### NEW VOICES FOR THE MILLENNIUM: LEARNING FROM OUR DIVERSITY

At the request of Fr. Jerry Stookey, OP, Sr. JoAnn Hohenbrink, OP addressed one of the objectives of the Dominican Family Assembly meeting in Manila in an article in the I.D.I., January 2000. She was chosen because of her presence at the organizing meeting and because of her research on the topic of collaboration amidst diverse groups. Last year, while on sabbatical from university teaching at Ohio Dominican College, Columbus, Ohio, Sr. JoAnn accompanied Sr. Margaret Ormond, OP, International Coordinator of Dominican Sisters International, as she visited Dominican Sisters in Hungary, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, and Italy.

Sr. JoAnn wrote, "We may have a world of 'outward' differences, but I experienced that it is in our hearts that we must be open to one another. This family openness teaches us to be open to all to whom we minister and befriend and to hold our differences delicately. Truly, Dominicans are world-wide, and this fact stretches us to be also!"

"My sabbatical was both an outward and inward journey and reminded me each and every day that, 'We escape the narrow boundaries of our lives by entering other worlds' (Chapman, 1998). I am challenged to live my Dominican vocation now with this world-wide perspective and with a renewed commitment to the preaching mission of the Order. I realize that learning from another requires openness, letting go of my own way of doing things, and trusting that diversity is a gift and not a threat... Are there ways for me to learn to recognize other narrow boundaries in my life? Am I willing to be a part of 'boundary-pushing' in others? Our diversity teaches us to value the internationality of our Order and to be open, hospitable and generous. It also teaches us that there is not just one way to be Dominican."

## ROME: INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

*(Reprinted from I.D.I., January 2000)*

Santa Sabina recently hosted a key meeting of consultors who brought their rich and diverse experience to the aid of the developing volunteer movement, which is to be launched jointly by the Friars of the Order and Dominican Sisters International, in October 2000, in Manila. The seven consultors came from Malta, Spain, South Africa, Ireland, United States and New Zealand, and spent from 5-7 December at this hope-filled task. The outcome was greater clarity about the nature of the organization, which we have named **Dominican Volunteers International (D.V.I.)**

It will give laity who are already incorporated into the Order and those attracted to the charism the opportunity to share Dominican life and mission in a different cultural setting.

It will network with existing Dominican volunteer efforts as well as initiate a pilot project for the period 2001 to 2004.

For the pilot project, it will look for Dominicans in five countries to recruit, prepare and send two volunteers each. This work should be done by a volunteer-promoting team made up of members of the local Dominican Family who would acquire know-how as to how this process is best done. Also five countries will be asked to offer mission sites for these volunteers and to companion them during their sojourn there. The two international coordinators will be responsible for inviting and contacting those concerned.

We shall keep you informed of developments, and we ask your prayers for the success of this new collaborative movement in the Dominican Family.

(from Fr. Jerry Stookey, OP  
and Sister Veronica Rafferty, OP)

**Mary Lee Odders**

**P O Box 85451**

**Racine WI 53408-5451**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**