

# CHALLENGE

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2000

## From the Promoter's Pen

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Dominican Lay Chapters, by their very nature, share in the ministry of the Holy Preaching (*Sacra Praedicationis*) and, therefore, require a 'Community Project.' This does not mean one common ministry or some concrete task for the entire Chapter to pursue, but rather having a common purpose, a common identity, a corporate mission.. (1)

The pattern for developing and maintaining the 'Community Project' includes initiating, living, and evaluating the 'Project.' The planning process is ongoing. It is a regular part of Chapter life that must continually accommodate itself to new situations, as when members depart from the Chapter and new members join by final profession or transfer from another Chapter.

The following are ways Chapters can implement the 'Community Project':

- On the part of each member, there must be a willingness, an intentionality, to share together despite differences. Where past grievances still exist, it is incumbent upon the Moderator and other members of the Chapter to strive for reconciliation.
- To facilitate the planning process, Chapters should plan a Community Day in order to give themselves the necessary time to consider both their individual and corporate life and ministry.
- Each Chapter should create and write a mission statement in light of the 'Community Project.' (2) This mission statement provides ( *turn to page 2*)

## Manila 2000

When the General Assembly of the Dominican Family convenes in Manila from October 25-30, four Dominican Laity delegates from the U.S.A. will be among the Assembly's 150 participants. The Central Province delegate will be our Province's Laity President Candace Randolph of the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Chapter, Springfield, IL.

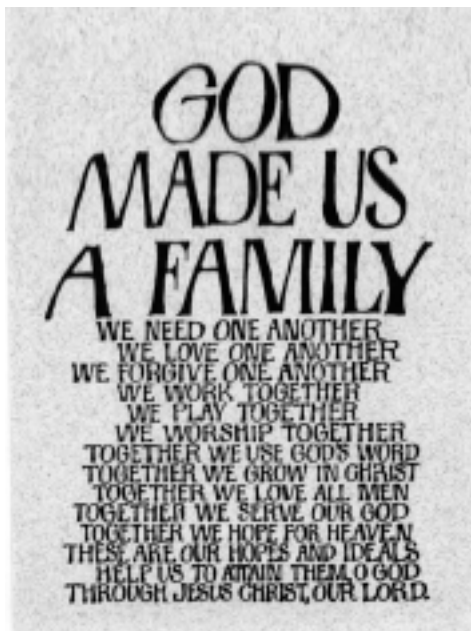
Please pray for the Assembly's success with divine guidance and protection for all.

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Visit us on the web at [www.op.org/oplaity](http://www.op.org/oplaity)
- Formulating a "Community Project"
- New Dominican saints
- Province delegate to the Dominican Family Assembly, Manila
- Summer reading recommendations
- Eastern and Western Provinces' Developments
- Tribute to a Lay Dominican Leader



## From the Promoter's Pen/ Formulate a 'Community Project'

(from page 1)

- the rationale for their Dominican presence in particular locales, both in terms of Chapter life and ministry. In developing its mission statement, the Chapter needs to be aware of its relationship to the Province and the Order and the collaborative nature of our Dominican Life.
- Members begin by naming their ministries. This naming is to include more than simply mentioning what each member does. It involves the members in a description of what they really think their ministry is, with the hope that it will be accepted by other Chapter members as part of their 'Community Project.' The Chapter needs to appreciate and support the work of all the brothers and sisters, those who minister "at the frontiers," as well as those who have more traditional ministries.
- Criteria for choice of ministries should be developed; the Chapter should be in agreement with new ministries chosen by the members. (3) However, the more personal activities considered non-acceptable by the Chapter because they detract from the 'Project' or the Chapter meeting itself should be removed.
- Periodic evaluation and re-planning of the 'Community Project' is to be undertaken, at least at a Community Day. All should keep in mind that the 'Community Project' is both possible and worthwhile only where it is realistic, integral, practical, thoughtful and stable. (4)
- The Community Day could be an opportune time to foster and encourage teamwork. For instance, during the course of this day, several brothers and sisters could decide to undertake or to continue a project together, and even to collaborate with other members of the Dominican Family. The Community Day could be used to assess the order of the gatherings and use of Chapter time; plan the place and forms of prayer; attend to the internal dynamic of the Chapter itself (5); assess the work envisioned by each brother or sister for the coming year, with the understanding that *before consideration*, any commitment must have a precise term of office, preventing fossilization in a particular ministry; assess the apostolic work, ministry or professional activity of each brother

and sister, *and* assess the apostolic outreach of the Chapter as such (6); the content and format of continuing formation; and the development and use of the Chapter budget.

Since the Laity Chapter is truly the center of the life of the brothers and sisters, each has a special responsibility to contribute from his or her own experience of spirituality, studies, pastoral work and insights into fraternal sharing. The living tradition of the Order recognizes the Chapter Moderator as 'the first among equals' [*primus inter pares*], the one animating the fraternal Chapter life, watching over the Chapter unity, safeguarding a fraternal atmosphere which promotes health and growth, and coordinating Chapter activities (see Luke 22:24-27). Within the context of the 'Community Project,' the role of the Moderator is not diminished. On the contrary, the Moderator must support the Chapter members to carry out effectively what was discussed and decided in common.

The Moderator shares the responsibility of animating with the Formation Director. Together, they ensure that the Mission Statement of the Laity Province is being fulfilled and that the perspectives of preaching, theological education, and the promotion of justice and peace be kept in mind.

Rather than mere observance of *Robert's Rules of Order*, the Chapter is to strive for consensus in Chapter decision-making. Majority-rule votes should be taken only as a last resort or when required by the Dominican Laity Rule. (7)

In accord with the recommendation of the General Chapter (8), as a way of reviewing both Chapter life and its apostolate, whenever a member of the Provincial Laity Leadership Team makes a formal visit to local Chapters, inquiry into the development and living of the 'Community Project' should be made. In preparation for this visitation, the Chapter should do a self-evaluation. All 'Community Projects' of Chapters could be reviewed at the meeting of the Dominican Laity Provincial Council to see how faithfully they reflect the Mission Statement of the Central Province Laity.

(turn to page 3)

Promoter

## From the Promoter's Pen/ Formulate a 'Community Project'

(from page 2)

Finally, as men and women in mission together, it is recommended that friars, nuns, sisters, and laity who live and work in a common location invite one another to share their particular projects and from them to develop priorities and directions for a common mission in that area. In turn, Dominican leaders could gather periodically in each place to evaluate the common plan and its realization. (9)

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas J. Johnston, OP

Promoter

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(1) Acts of the General Chapter of Bologna (1998), no. 84.6.

(2) Ibid., no 56.

(3) Ibid., no. 131.

(4) Acts of the General Chapter of Oakland (1989), no. 38.

(5) The Lay Dominican Rule, nos. 8-14.

(6) Acts of the XV Provincial Chapter of the Province of St. Albert the Great, U.S.A. (1999), no. 53.

(7) Acts of the General Chapter of Bologna (1998), no. 127.2; The Lay Dominican Rule, no. 16, 17, 21b.

(8) Acts of the General Chapter of Mexico City (1992), no. 40.

(9) Acts of the General Chapter of Bologna (1998), no. 39.

### DOMINICAN COLLABORATION: A BOOK FOR PRAY-ERS

Pleased with the success of his book, *Praying with Dominic*, St. Mary's Press asked Fr. Michael Monshau, OP to do a volume on St. Thomas Aquinas to be added to their "Companions for the Journey" series: *Praying With the Saints*. He, in turn, asked Fr. Patrick Norris, OP and Sr. Mary of Mercy, OP (Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament, Farmington Hills, MI) to collaborate, something that Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, our Master General, is stressing....The book flows from that collaboration; each influencing the other: Sr. Mary of Mercy researching the quotes, Fr. Michael doing the meditations, and Fr. Patrick the introduction.

Presenting the theology and spirituality of St. Thomas, *Praying With Thomas Aquinas*, has an appeal for prayerful people. In the Introduction we meet Thomas the friar, the thinker, the man of passion who loved his Lord more than his own life, and we are given glimpses of his great-hearted personality throughout the book. The series of 15 meditations that follow are not randomly chosen, but skillfully follow an orderly progression (the hallmark of Thomas' method), "The Trinity," "The Goodness of Creation," "God's Unconditional Love," and culminating in the chapter echoing Thomas' ecstatic cry at the end of his life, "Nothing but You, O Lord!" These act like a video camera panning the highlights of his thoughts and leading ever deeper into his wisdom, the wisdom that was his from the Holy Spirit.

Asked what influence the whole project had on her, Sr. Mary of Mercy replied: "It was a joy to work with these learned priests and fine Dominican brothers in the Dominican Family. It was satisfying to hope that we could bring this theology to bear on the spiritual lives of people, to engender in them the desire to turn to the thoughts and holiness of St. Thomas—to manifest Thomas as both scholar and mystic. Every time I turn to Thomas, I find new riches, richness that throws the light of truth on the Christian Life." (Reprinted with permission from *Echoes*, Spring 2000, a publication for the friends of the Dominican Cloistered Nuns, Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament, Farmington Hills, MI. *Praying with Thomas Aquinas* is available from St. Mary's Press for \$8.95 plus tax, S/H.)

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

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

Their study program is the book, *Praying with Catherine of Siena*. Loretta Serna is beginning the pre-initiate phase of formation.

### **BAY CITY, MI BL. JOHN DOMINICI CHAPTER**

**Sick:** Kathryn Dawson's brother, Herbert Stevenson, and daughter, Mary Alice, and daughter, Dorothy Dixon.

In March, they provided hospitality to the PARABLE team of Sr. Ann Willits, OP and Fr. Cletus Wessels, OP at St. Stephen's mission, Saginaw, MI. Their current study program is *In His Spirit: A Guide to Today's Spirituality* by Richard Hauser, SJ.

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

**Congratulations:** Steve Smith, Moderator, and other elected officers; and Gene Dell elected Provincial Council Delegate

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

**Congratulations:** Brenda Hayes, Treasurer.

**First Profession:** Ed Shea on May 7.

April's study was on the Pope, the Vatican II Council, and the "World Document of Justification." A videotape, "Introduction to Vatican II," by Monsignor Zinn was the May study. For two years, this chapter has been assisting Sr. Teresa Clare of Cameroon, Africa with Dominican Laity formation materials. Forty candidates will be received and professed in the near future.

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

**Congratulations:** Sharon Huizenga, Provincial Council Delegate, and Mary Lee Odders, Alternate

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

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

**Received:** Mary and Robert McAuliffe on May 28.

**Final Profession:** Rose Guerrero and John Reiss on April 30.

**Deceased:** Marjorie Johnson on May 9.

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

**First Profession:** Lois and Virgil Kolb and Debbie Sus on June 17.

**Final Profession Renewal:** Bill Watson on June 17. At a Mass celebrated by Fr. Francis Crowe, the profession ceremony was conducted by Laity Promoter Fr. Thomas Johnston; Southern Province President Dru Chauffe; Western Province President Anne Regan; and Central Province Vice-President Karen Sabourin.

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

**Final Profession:** Suzanne Merritt on April 2, 2000.

**Sick:** Suzanne Merritt

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

**Deceased:** Genevieve Stenger, Formation Director, on May 3.

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

**First Profession:** Barbara Blankenship, Lillian and Maurice DeMeyer and Marie Harper on May 28.

## OUR PRIVATE MEMBERS

**Congratulations:** Robert M. Hiellming, Socorro, NM, who celebrated 42 years as a Lay Dominican.

**Deceased:** Hattie Karpinski, Little Falls, MN; Mildred Klein, West Point, NE; and Mary Stare, Aurora, IL.

### **PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:**

a return to health for friars Paul Colloton, Regis Hovald, Carlos Griego, Timothy Sparks, and Dennis Zusy

the repose of the soul of Bud Cockerton, OPL, long-time Dominican Laity Interprovincial Council Delegate for

the Province of Canada and Provincial Newsletter Editor, who died on April 7, 2000

the repose of the soul of fr. John Patrick Mulkeen, River Forest, IL, who died on March 20, 2000

the repose of the soul of fr. Joaquin Bernardo (42), a world expert on electoral observance, assassinated on May

7, 2000 in the context of preparations for the elections in Tirana, Albania for his commitment to democracy, justice, and peace. With the full support of the Master of the Order, he was not stopped by the danger of working for those without voice in places where those with vested interests and authoritative powers oppose.

an increase in vocations to the priesthood, the religious life, and Dominican Laity

all those who are hurting, regardless of reason

**the success of the Dominican Family Assembly in Manila, October 2000**

### **In Loving Memory of Marjorie E. Johnson**

Evelyn Kelly, secretary of Minneapolis' Holy Rosary Chapter, writes of former moderator and fellow Chapter member, Marjorie Johnson, who died May 9, "When the House of Charity, an agency offering food and housing to the poor was founded during the Depression, Marjorie was President of an auxiliary, The Sunshine Club, started to help the agency. She was also active in CCD. We will miss her greatly." Marjorie was a lay Dominican for 48 years.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune described her as "one of the first to bring the Montessori teaching concept to the Twin Cities area... [She] believed in helping children develop their individuality at an early age...in teaching children to learn at their own pace...and she applied it at her preschool."

### **In Loving Memory of Genevieve L. Stenger**

"Gen had held every position in the Queen of the Rosary Chapter [St. Louis], and some positions more than once since we are a small Chapter. She was the Missouri Delegate to the Provincial Council in the 1970s. For several years, she has been our Formation Director, doing formation for the new members as well as the regular members. We will miss her," states Wes Lohr, the Provincial Council Delegate from Missouri.

"Gen worked for the Archdiocese of St. Louis' Propagation of the Faith Office. A member of the Cathedral Parish, she was active in the Legion of Mary. She attended many lectures and religious happenings, and reported back to our Chapter anything of interest," he continues. "She had been on a retreat the weekend before she died and had commented that the retreat master passed away the next day. She passed away the following day. She was found in bed with her rosary in her hand. According to her wishes, she was buried with her Dominican cross around her neck and rosary in her hands."

In her Dominican Laity autobiography, Genevieve wrote she first encountered the lay Dominicans in Milwaukee. "A friend asked me how to get in touch with the Chapter...and it just happened that I knew Catherine Vancos, who lived at the same Catholic home for business women [as I did], and belonged to the Chapter. Spiritual Director of the Marquette University Dominican Laity Chapter, Fr. Thomas D. Sheehan, OP traveled from Racine, where he taught at Siena College. He gave wonderful talks that were way ahead of the time—some of them in line with the teachings of Vatican II. (This was in the '50s.)"

When considering what really convinced her to join the Dominican Laity, she wrote that "[It] was the Divine Office. The Lord spoke to me through the pages of the Office (the "Little Office," which was Sunday of Week I, repeated every day, but as a beginner I found it thrilling.)"

## **Inside Story Headline**

## DOMINICAN LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### 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

- St. John of Cologne, priest, & Companions,  
martyrs (M)

13- Bl. James of Varazze, bishop

16- **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week III

17- Bl. Ceslaus of Poland, priest (OM)

22- St. Mary Magdalene, patroness (M)

23- **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week IV

24- Bl. Jane of Orvieto, lay Dominican

- Bl. Augustine of Biella, priest

27- Bl. Robert Nutter, priest/martyr

30- **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week I

### August 2000

2- Bl. Jane of Aza, mother of  
St. Dominic (OM)

3 Bl. Augustine Kazotic, bishop

6- **Transfiguration of the Lord (F),**

Hours Week II

7- Vigil of St. Dominic

8- Our Holy Father Dominic, priest (S),

9- Bl. John of Salerno, priest

13- **19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week III

14- Bl. Aimo Taparelli, priest

15- The Assumption (S)

17- St. Hyacinth of Poland, priest (M)

18- Bl. Mannes, priest (OM)

- Bl. George Thomas Rehm, martyr

19- Bl. Jordan of Pisa, priest

20- **20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week IV

23- St. Rose of Lima, lay Dominican (M)

26- Bl. James of Bevagna, priest

27- **21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week I

28- St. Augustine, bishop/doctor (F)

### September 2000

2- Bl. Guala of Bergamo, bishop

- Bl. Ingrid of Sweden, religious

3- **22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week II

4- Bl. Catherine of Racconigi, lay Dominican

5- Ann. of Deceased Friends/Benefactors\*

6- Bl. Bertrand of Garrigue, priest

8- The Birth of the Virgin Mary (F)

10- **23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week III

17- **24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week IV

18- Bl. Juan Macias, religious (M)

20- Bl. Mark of Modena, priest

- Bl. Francis de Posadas, priest

24- **25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week I

- Bl. Dalmatius Moner, priest

26- Bl. Lawrence of Ripafratta, priest

28- Sts. Lorenzo Ruiz, lay Dominican, &  
Companions, martyrs (M)

### October 2000

1- **26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week II

3- Bl. Dominic Spadafora, priest

4- Our Holy Father Francis of Assisi (F)

5- Bl. Raymond of Capua, priest (OM)

6- Bl. Bartolo Longo, lay Dominican

7- Our Lady of the Rosary (F)

8- **27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,**

Hours Week III

(S) Solemnity (F) Feast

(M) Memorial (OM) Optional Memorial

\* Office of the Dead prayed

## MAXIMUM-SECURITY FACILITY SITE OF EASTERN PROVINCE NEW PROCHAPTER

by Laurie Biszko, OPL, President of the Eastern Province Dominican Laity

St. Catherine said that “All the way to Heaven is Heaven,” but I have a hard time with that reality in the midst of unceasing aggravations and stress overload. Many daily challenges make Heaven seem light years away. I know that I lack the sanctity of St. Catherine, but I witnessed something beyond all of my expectations last October 7th—the day that Our Lady of Mercy Prochapter at Norfolk/MCI\* was incorporated into our Dominican Family. I’d like to share that experience with you.

Two years ago, when the request to begin a Dominican Laity Chapter in prison at Norfolk came before the Provincial Council there was much apprehension and a lack of real understanding as to what this request meant. After a year of prayer and discernment, the Council reviewed the request and voted unanimously to support a Prochapter at Norfolk/MCI. During that year, God drew all of us into a deeper relationship with each other, and we developed a new awareness of our Dominican identity and call to mission. Though the initial rejection was painful for the group at Norfolk, they turned to Our Lady and persevered in prayer. A rosary group was started, and the number of those attending steadily increased. Large numbers of prisoners gathered to pray the rosary, to ask Mary’s intercession. For a year, they waited patiently. For a year, they prayed fervently. They asked only for God’s will and their acceptance of it.

After the Provincial Council voted to support the new Prochapter, Ruth Raichle and Sr. Kathleen Donovan began the formation process. A date for reception was chosen. The candidates voted for the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Nine inmates and four volunteers would be received as the first members of the newly erected Our Lady of Mercy Prochapter. They studied the formation materials, read books and held meetings. Fr. Steve Ryan, OP, from St. Stephen’s Priory in Dover, [DE] shared his Dominican identity with the group and poured his love into teachings and encouragement.

As the date for reception neared, the excitement began to build. For over a year, I had been writing \*Norfolk is a maximum-security facility Massachusetts Correctional Institution, Millis, Massachusetts. to the members and had been receiving letters from them. Many were filled with stories of personal

conversion and great anticipation for becoming Dominican. We had shared our prayers, but we had never met.

The liturgical plans were underway with Ruth and Kathleen collaborating with the members in writing music and choosing ways to make this celebration memorable. Everything was sent to me in advance for approval. Fr. Norman Haddad, OP, Prior Provincial was scheduled to preside and other priests were invited. Two of the members wrote a song to Our Lady of Mercy. A musical ensemble was to play. There was to be a procession with candle bearers and gift bearers and over twenty invited guests. All this inside a maximum-security facility?

The liturgy was beautiful. Mass was concelebrated by four priests. Fr. Norman gave a moving homily, and it was an honor for me to receive the candidates into the Order with him. I was so happy to be there with the entire congregation celebrating God’s love for His people. While I was there, I realized how much painful discernment led up to that day, and I felt the pain that some of you expressed to me when you did not support my efforts to bring this chapter to a reality. As Dominicans, we are in mission together, and sometimes we need to run barefoot on the rocky road, even to the point of letting our feet bleed. As I celebrated in the chapel, I had each of you in my hearts. I rejoiced in you as gift to me. I thanked God for your support and challenges, and I exalted in His generosity in letting me witness this great day.

The mutual joy of sharing with Fr. Norman and Fr. Steve as partners in mission was not a fantasy. There are many opinions that support the call for more collaboration between the branches and a few of them express some valid observations, but one common thread seems to be “blame somebody else.” It always seems easier to pass the responsibility to one another; however, it is important for all to realize that we each have different roles and responsibilities. We need to find opportunities to work together and then invite each other to share in our common mission. I am grateful to both Fr. Norman and Fr. Steve for the opportunity to share in the ministry at Norfolk/MCI.

*(turn to page 9)*

## THOUGHTS ON PARABLE BOARD'S EXPANSION OF LAITY REPRESENTATION

by Karen Woods, OPL Editor of *Christ in the World!*, A Newsletter for the Dominican Laity of the Western Province

(Ed.Note: PARABLE operationalizes collaborative relationships with all branches of the Dom. Family. At their annual meeting Jan. 28-30, 2000, the PARABLE Advisory Board accepted a proposal by member Karen Woods, OPL to expand representation of the Laity to the four provinces to parallel the representation of the friars and sisters and to permit wider experience of this gathering among the Laity. Implementation will be over the next two years, beginning with one additional representative for 2001.)

As I sat in the comfortable living room, alternately glancing at the fire in the fireplace and at the snow falling outside and at my brothers and sisters gathered there, I wondered, "How am I ever going to share this experience with the Laity back home?" I can tell you about it, account by account, but that doesn't share the experience.

It was our annual PARABLE Board meeting, and there was never a dull moment. Even the business was interesting and exciting. Our discussion of the Manila Assembly's guiding questions was lively and inspiring. Our surroundings were beautiful. But those things are only the setting for the experience, and experiences are sometimes hard to share.

It is often hard for us Laity to be convinced that we are part of the Order, or even the wider term, the Family. The realization is something that has to happen inside us, an unshakable insight, a deep sense of the vocation that brought us to the Order. We have to learn—and it isn't easy—that we, too, are the Holy Preaching. We have to come to that conclusion through grace, so that we have the courage to claim the mission of the Order and to participate fully in our membership.

We aren't always given to understand that. We have a spotty history in terms of formation, of support

from our friar brothers, of understanding from our conventual sisters, and of a sense of worthiness in ourselves. We think that we are not equals to those who make canonical vows or who are ordained. We think that we aren't worthy to stand in line with them. And as long as we think that way, we don't claim our rightful place in the Order, and we don't claim the mission, and we don't bring our strength to participation in it. And we miss our vocation.

This came home to me at the PARABLE Board meeting when Ann Willits, [OP] proclaimed, "It's our profession that is at the heart of what we are." Our profession—not our vows, not our ordination, but our profession. I realized with new clarity that my profession is a serious commitment, not something I can pledge for a while and then walk away from. I knew that, of course, when I discerned that I was ready to make my profession for life. I meant it. And I meant everything that went along with it. But to hear a vowed Dominican reflect that it isn't the form but the action that makes us Dominicans, opened up my own understanding much wider. It is our common ground and what makes us "Order."

At the meeting, I was the only lay person present, a curiosity to those who were new to the Board, though not for long. By the close of the meeting, the differences among us faded, lost on the common ground of our Dominican-ness. That was the experience I'd like to be able to share with you. I wish you could all have been there.

(Reprinted with permission from *Christ in the World!*, Newsletter for the Dominican Laity of the Western Province, vol. 11, issue 5, March-April, 2000.)

### PAGE 3

Book reviewer Patrick Marrin, writing in the December 10, 1999 issue of the *National Catholic Reporter*, calls author Master of the Order Fr. Timothy Radcliffe's vision an "antidote to despair." The complete review is online at [http://www.natcath.com/NCR\\_Online/archives/121099/121099j.htm](http://www.natcath.com/NCR_Online/archives/121099/121099j.htm)

"As he addresses themes of vocation, hope, the importance of words and promises, the necessity of prayer, study and the value of living simply, chastely and responsibly, it becomes clear that Radcliffe's message is applicable not just to Dominicans, or other vowed religious, but to anyone who has ever felt the call to go deeper, the challenge to live more authentically," states Marrin, describing *Sing a New Song*.

This book is **recommended to all Dominican Laity, especially Chapter Formation Directors**. Copies are \$15.95 plus \$2 shipping/handling from Templegate Publishers, 302 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701.

## SIX CHINESE MARTYRS: NEW DOMINICAN SAINTS

Of the 120 Martyrs of China to be canonized on October 1, 2000, six are Spanish Dominicans. Although separated by a century (1648-1748), they form a group because they came out of the same Province of the Holy Rosary, Manila, founded for evangelization in the Far East. Their feastday is November 6.

**Bl. Francisco Fernandez de Capillas**, Priest, 1607-1648: ministered in Fogan, Moyang and Ting-teu from 1642 until his death on January 15, 1647 at the hands of the Manciu Tartars.

The five other martyrs worked between 1715 and 1748. The period of persecution under the Emperors Yung-Cheng and Kien-Lung began in 1728 and was at its fiercest in 1746. The condemning edict of December 18, 1746 read: "*Pedro Sans, for being a leader in the Christian religion, which makes men and women insane with false doctrine, must be decapitated immediately. Francisco Serrano, Juaquin Royo, Juan Alcober, and Francisco Diaz have also been condemned to die by decapitation, for having persuaded and tricked the people with this same false teaching.*"

*In the meantime, they will remain in prison while we await a further decree."*

**Bl. Pedro Sans I. Jorda**, Bishop, 1680-1747, whose patron was St. Peter Martyr, was banished to Macau but returned to work clandestinely. He allowed himself to be captured in order to prevent reprisals against the Christians.

**Bl. Francisco Serrano Frias**, Bishop-elect, 1695-1748, and **Bl. Joaquin Royo Perez**, Priest 1691-1748, were suffocated and their bodies burned.

**Bl. Juan Alcober Figuera**, Priest, 1694-1748, and **Bl. Francisco Diaz del Rincon**, Priest 1713-1748, known for their apostolic zeal, were hanged after two torturous years in prison.

All were known for their missionary spirit, austerity, piety, and apostolic power. All suffered greatly from the persecution and imprisonment. They gave their lives that others to whom they ministered might live.

(*I.D.I.*, Number 382, April 2000 and summarized in *Christ in the World!*, vol. 11, issue 6, May-June, 2000)

## MAXIMUM-SECURITY FACILITY SITE OF EASTERN PROVINCE NEW PROCHAPTER

(from page 7)

Lastly, I want to relate to you the tremendous feeling of freedom that I experienced within the chapel at Norfolk that day. Those prisoners might be incarcerated behind walls, but I sensed a freedom within them that drew down all barriers between Heaven and Earth. For a moment, my soul was able to reach out and touch what Catherine described. I did not want the moment to end.

So how do we find the freedom I described to you? We need to tear down the walls of prejudice and anger. We have to root out petty jealousy, self-centered egotistical actions and opinions. We need to put on humility and charity. We need to have faith that God

will provide for us to the point that we are not afraid to share what we have with anyone who needs it. We have to forgive everyone who offends us. We have to pray for blessings upon our enemies. Then, and only then, will we experience the unconditional love and freedom that Jesus promised us.

For one millisecond, I felt it. I felt it in Norfolk Prison on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, and I will never be the same. It was the greatest moment of my life as a Dominican.

(Reprinted with author's permission from *Torch-lites*, Newsletter for the Dominican Laity of the Eastern Province, vol. 35, no. 2, April 2000.)

## LAITY MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL DUES REMINDER

Individual membership dues of \$30 are now being collected. If you are unable to manage that, please consider a \$5 contribution for the *Challenge* subscription to help defray printing and mailing costs. That not being possible, we will continue to mail *Challenge* free of charge. Checks made payable to Dominican Laity are to be directed to the Dominican Laity Office, 7200 W. Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305-1294. Thank you in advance for attending to this detail.

## PROFILE OF BUD COCKERTON, OPL

(Ed. Note: This tribute was based on an account from the Provincial Promoter in Canada, Fr. Lionel Picard, OP and the perspectives of Karen Woods, OPL, editor of *Christ in the World!*)

When one reads of Bud's involvement and accomplishments, one can only wonder how he managed to fit so much into one life. Bud (legal name, Eric) managed radio stations CJNT and CJQC in Quebec City, founded Gamaco Ltd., led the Industrial Division of Sterling Drug, Ltd., and was president of his own business. He served on the executive committee and as Chairman of Discipline of the College of Optometrists in Ontario. He was an active member and served in several executive positions in the Ontario Liberal Party, the Quebec Liberal Party, and the Liberal Party of Canada. He was a volunteer reader to the visually impaired at the Radio Reading Service and PAL Reading Service. He was active in the Canadian Celiac Association (a disease he suffered from much of his adult

life.) He served in WWII in the RCAF as a para-rescue jumper and remained associated as a member of the Para-Rescue Association and the Royal Canadian Air Force Association.

On top of all that, Bud was a devoted and active member of the Dominican Order, where he served on the Canadian Lay Provincial Council since 1979 and as the Canadian delegate to the Dominican Laity Inter-Provincial Council. He spoke both French and English with ease, and so gave the Canadian Province a link to the States and other English-speaking countries. He was active on the OP-L (Dominican Internet list) and had a way of slicing to the heart of things in his comments. Bud had a great sense of humor and an expansive heart. He was/is a great man.

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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



## **HOMILY/But You, Who do People Say That You Are?**