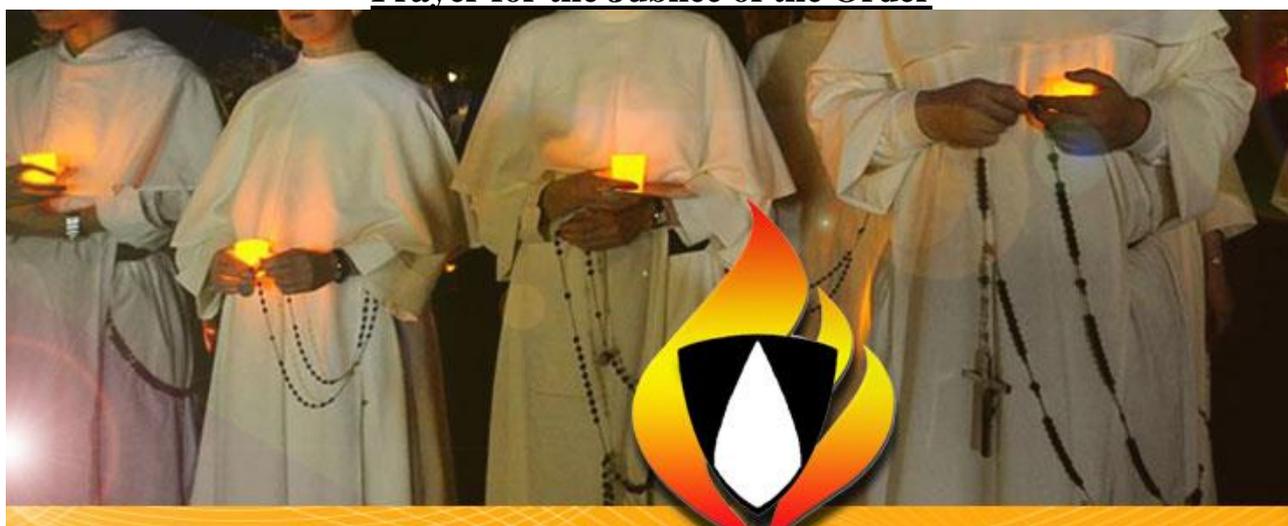




## ORDER OF PREACHERS



### Prayer for the Jubilee of the Order



The Order of Preachers is preparing for the Jubilee celebration on the occasion of the 800 years of its approval. As Dominicans, we know that prayer is essential to enter into the dynamics of renewal and metanoia to which the Jubilee celebration calls us. For this reason, we would like to invite all the Dominican family to join in the praying of the Jubilee prayer, which is translated in different languages on the Jubilee website. (<http://www.op.org/en/jubilee/prayer>).

*God, Father of mercy,  
who called your servant Dominic de Guzman  
to set out in faith  
as an itinerant pilgrim and a preacher of grace,  
as we prepare to celebrate the Jubilee of the Order  
we ask you to pour again into us  
the Spirit of the Risen Christ,  
that we might faithfully and joyfully proclaim  
the Gospel of peace,  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

It would be ideal, if each convent, home, community and fraternity of the Order is in communion with the entire Dominican family around the world through a unified praying of this common prayer.

On the same page you can find a bookmark with the Jubilee prayer in the three official languages of the Order. The Dominican communities who would wish to download this bookmark and produce copies for all those who would like to join in are encouraged to do so.

In particular, we request the local promoters of the Jubilee to distribute this bookmark among the communities and invite the members of the Dominican family to share this prayer with others. Should your region speak another language, we welcome your translation of this prayer and we will very well appreciate to receive a copy to share on our website through our e-mail: [iubileum2016@curia.op.org](mailto:iubileum2016@curia.op.org).



### **In front of the image of St. Dominic**

The lay Dominicans from Warsaw invited representatives of the Dominican Family for the common celebration. The occasion for the meeting was the pilgrimage of the image of St. Dominic through the European provinces of the Order of Preachers, as part of the year dedicated to lay Dominicans.

On Wednesday, 26 March, the lay Dominicans of the fraternity of Bl. Imelda Lambertini in Warsaw-Służew, visited to the convent of the cloistered Dominican nuns in Radonie near Warsaw. Then, in front of the image of St. Dominic, they prayed together the rosary and later on the Vespers.

### **The man on the God's side**

The Mass on St. Dominic was celebrated by Fr Dariusz Kantypowicz, the provincial promoter of lay Dominicans, and at the same time - the assistant of the fraternity of Warsaw-Służew. In his sermon, dedicated to St. Dominic, the nuns' chaplain - Fr Tomasz Zamorski, drew attention to the fact that aside from the intellectual dimension of the Dominican preaching, it can never run short of compassion flowing from the deep of the heart.

“If my heart is to be lifted up by the faith, it happens most often when I meet a man who really is on God's side. The saints are these kind of people” - said Fr Zamorski. He pointed to the three important aspects of the life of Saints:

- they are witnesses to the fact that life will not be wasted when all is given to the Lord God;
- their lives are thoroughly involved in God, the Church, in the proclamation of the Gospel and in saving anyone who's lost;
- they show us that the closeness between man and God is possible.

“These three dimensions were also present in St. Dominic” - emphasized the preacher, sharing the testimony of his very own path to the Order and discovering the figure of its founder.

Following the common prayers, in a very joyful ambience, the lay Dominicans talked with nuns about the history of the fraternity, its current functioning and plans for the future.

### **He fought like an athlete**

The following day at the Służew's convent were held the celebrations of the Dominican Family. The meeting held in front of the image of St. Dominic, which is on pilgrimage around Europe, was attended by representatives of the various branches of the Order. Apart from the hosts – the lay Dominicans of the fraternity in Służew - the celebration was attended by novice brothers, the Dominican sisters from the convent in Zielonka near Warsaw, as well as by the lay Dominicans of the fraternities of Siedlce, and the one of the Dominican convent at Freta street in Warsaw.

Besides the common prayer there was also the opportunity of sharing personal experiences of the Dominican life, and those aspects of the figure of St. Dominic that are most important or closest to everyone.

The participants at the meeting also took part in the solemn Conventual Mass, celebrated in honor of the founder of the Order, with the participation of the parishioners and friends of the convent in Służew. Referring to the Gospel of the kingdom that is divided against itself, fr Kantypowicz in his sermon pointed out the ways in which St. Dominic fought the evil spirit.

“The liturgy calls St. Dominic ‘the God's athlete’ fighting the evil strongman who tries to deceive us and to hold up in death” - emphasized the preacher. He also listed three ways that St. Dominic has chosen to fight this mighty man:

- as it is shown by Bl. Fra Angelico – St. Dominic eagerly adored the cross as the venue where Christ defeated death, turned out as the most powerful one and accomplished the work of salvation;
- through the preaching of the Word of truth and life for the conversion of others, St. Dominic tied up the demon by the Word of God, giving to the seekers the light of the true Gospel;



- as one of the Dominican legends says, when Satan visited one of the first convents, he got scared of the capitular – the place where brothers confess their faults; the life in humility, the awareness of the fact of how much a person needs the Savior, this is the moment when Satan loses.

Encouraging them to follow these paths, the preacher called all members of the Dominican Family gathered at the liturgy to be faithful to the Church and to behold to the example of our holy founder.

The prayer part of the meeting was completed by the jointly celebrated Vespers. The event was attended by about 70 representatives of the Dominican Family of Warsaw and the surrounding areas. It was the first of such numerous meetings, and also for the very first time the lay Dominicans were the hosts.

### **From the homeland of St. Dominic**

During the following days the image of St. Dominic is still to visit the Dominican communities of Lublin, Tarnobrzeg, Święta Anna, Gidle, Katowice and of Kraków. Earlier, the image visited the Dominicans in Wrocław, Poznań, Szczecin, Gdańsk and Łódź.

In Poland there are about 450 lay Dominicans in 23 fraternities. Currently, a new community is being created in Rzeszów, and the fraternity in Bytom comes back to life.

The image by Felix Hernandez Mariano - the Spanish Dominican brother, was painted especially at the request of the lay Dominicans and it began its pilgrimage around Europe in Spain – the homeland of St. Dominic - in October 2013. So far, it has visited among others, Portugal, France, Holland, Belgium, Germany and the Czech Republic. In the coming weeks it will land in Slovakia, Hungary and Italy.

The pilgrimage of the image is associated with the current theme of preparation for the celebration of the 800 years Jubilee of the Order of Preachers. The year 2014 is dedicated to the lay Dominicans and their mission in the Order.

Piotr Rajmund Górski OP and Justyna Rajter (translation from Polish)  
Fraternity of Bl. Imelda Lambertini  
Warsaw-Służew

### **“He sent them to study, to preach and to establish communities”**

*Provincials' Workshop 2014, 17 – 28 March at Santa Sabina, Rome*

Every year, newly elected and re-elected provincials and vicars general gather at Santa Sabina to be energized or reenergized for the tasks that lies ahead of them. During the workshop, they interact with the general curia and with one another, share their hopes and aspirations and also learn from each other's experiences.

This year, from March 17 to 28, 19 of them gathered at Santa Sabina from different parts of the Order. At the commencement of the workshop, they all had the opportunity to make short presentations of their provinces to help them get acquainted with one another.

They were later introduced to the workings of the general curia, the socii, promoters and all those working at the curia. Issues bothering on canonical procedure, finance, leadership, apostolates and missions, communications and media, the restructuring of the Order and the preparations for the Jubilee of the Order were the focus of the discussions during the first week.

To kick-off the second week, a Benedictine Monk, fr Elias Lorenzo gave a reflection titled, “Carrying One Another's Burdens: Leadership during Jubilee” in which he tried to remind the provincials of the nuances of their responsibilities as leaders in their different entities. The Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré met with the provincials as a group and individually. During his sessions with them, he based his reflections and sharing on the text, “He sent them to study, to preach and to establish communities” and tried to remind them of the purpose of our vocation as Dominicans and why we need to uphold it at all times.



It was not all work for the provincials. They had some free time for extracurricular activities. They had a guided tour of the Convent and Basilica of Santa Sabina and later visited and dined with the brothers at the Angelicum. They were also able to participate at the general audience of the Holy Father and have an excursion to Fossanova and Monte Cassino.

Those who participated in the workshop were: Michel Lachenaud (France), Fausto Arici (St Dominic in Italy), Aldo Tarquini (St Catherine of Siena in Italy), Pawel Kozacki (Poland), Pedro de Cruz Fernandes (Portugal), René Dinklo (Netherlands), Jorge Diaz Munez (Mexico), Frans Micallef (Malta), Edivaldo Antonio Dos Santos (Brazil), Justin Adriko (DR Congo), Jacek Dudka (Russia/Ukraine), Ismael Fernandez Torres (Puerto Rico), Javier Carballo (Spain), Francesco La Vecchia (St Thomas Aquinas in Italy), Máté Barna (Hungary), Martin Gelabert Ballester (Aragon), Miguel de Burgos Munez (Betica), Javier Gonzalez Izquierdo (Holy Rosary) and Charles Ukwe (Nigeria). This year, brothers who have just been appointed to different offices in the curia, Rui Carlos Lopes (Promoter for the Laity) and Mike Deeb (Delegate to the UNO) joined the provincials for the workshop.

### **News from the Provincial Vicariate of Angola**

The Vicar Provincial of the Vicariate of Angola, fr Miguel Chacachama has given us some news on the situation of the country and the vicariate.

The Socio-Political Situation of the Country: Angola exhibits a quiet social, political and religious climate. The most important problem that is facing the country at this time (which is also that of every human being), is the struggle to bring about social and political peace based on the assertion of human rights and justice. After the end of the war, the challenges are significant and the responsibility for rebuilding the country belongs to all and Dominican friars are no exception.

**Canonical Visitation:** On the 18th of February 2014, we received the visit of our Provincial, the Provincial of the Province of Portugal, fr Pedro Fernandes who elected at the Provincial Chapter of September 2013. He has decided to start his canonical visitations with the Vicariate of Angola. From 27 February to 6 March, he visited the brothers in the three communities of the Vicariate, including: St. Thomas in Luanda, Saint Dominic in Waku-Kungu (the mother house, which welcomed the Dominicans in 1982) and the Community of St. Albert the Great, Viana, Luanda which is the headquarters of the Cultural Centre Mosaiko. On March 7, he met with the Vicariate Council to share with them the fruits of his visitation. We thank him for this gracious gesture that reflects the desire to see that children are well taken care of and that they grow up properly under the wings of their mother.

**Blessing of A New Convent:** On the 19th of February, after a short visit to the local Bishop and a brief meeting with the Dominican family and friends, the Provincial proceeded to the blessing of our new convent in Luanda. This is a three-story building with about 40 rooms that will accommodate the brothers in formation during the study of theology and the postulants. The ceremony began with the blessing of the chapel. In his homily, Brother Pedro Fernandes reminded the brothers of the importance of each individual brother and his identity. Since 2013, the Vicariate has been responsible for the formation of its brothers coming back from South Africa where they had earlier been formed. The mini-Assembly of the Vicariate of 2010 had decided to withdraw the brothers and pursue theological education at the Catholic University of Angola.

**Priestly Ordination of fr Marmiliano:** On the 20th of February 2014, the Provincial and a group of brothers set off for Lubango in southern Angola for the ordination of Brother Marmiliano Kayse Naufila. The ordination took place on 22 February at 10:00. His Grace, Rt. Rev Gabriel Mbilingi, the archbishop of the diocese presided over the Mass and conferred priestly ordination on our brother. Several brothers and many priests of the diocese took part in this celebration. Brother Marmiliano completed his novitiate in Kisumu, Kenya and studied theology in South Africa. Hence the presence of fr Martin Badenhorst, OP, and of a lay Dominican from South Africa at this ordination.

**Visit to the Nuns:** On 21 February, the Provincial accompanied by the Vicar and another brother visited the Dominican nuns of Benguela and on 28 February, those of Kuito, in south-central Angola.



We thank the Master of the Order, all entities of the Order and friends who helped us financially to realize the dream of the new house. I conclude by offering to all our best wishes for health and success in the mission of the Order as we move towards Jubilee 800 in 2016.

fr. Miguel Chacachama, op.

### **The Vocation and Preaching Apostolate of A Dominican Volunteer**

*Report of Christian Herring, a Dominican Volunteer at Dagat-Dagatan, Manila, Philippines.*

I have been asked to write on the subject of how the Lord's command to "go and preach" (Mt 28:19) has played out in the life I live as a lay member of the Dominican family. My approach to this subject will be to offer brief reflections on each of the following topics: how I myself received from the Lord the call to "go and preach;" how I am striving to respond to that call in accordance with the Dominican charism; and how following this call has been beneficial to me.

#### **I AM SENT**

I first encountered the Dominican Order in the person of the friars who ran the Catholic campus ministry center at Purdue. One of them, Fr. Patrick Baikauskas O.P., became my spiritual director for the duration of my college career. I began to see that many aspects of the Dominican charism fit well with my personal gifts and with my ideal of religious life. For example, Dominicans aim to strike a balance between active and contemplative religious life; they love Mary and the Rosary; they are generally faithful to the Magisterium; they tend to be intellectual in their approach to preaching; and their studies emphasize the works of St. Thomas Aquinas. Even those facets of the charism that do not fit well with my character tend to complement me and challenge me. For example, I easily become self-centered and isolated, whereas Dominicans live in community, and their whole mission centers on the act of preaching, of going out of oneself to share the fruits of one's study and contemplation.

#### **PREACHING IN THE LIFE OF A DOMINICAN VOLUNTEER**

How does the Dominican charism manifest itself in my life? I will organize my discussion of this question around the four pillars of Dominican life: ministry, prayer, study, and community. Dominicans are, of course, called to ministry, specifically to the ministry of preaching. Their preaching is to draw its life from diligent study, especially of the Scriptures, and from prayerful contemplation of the Lord who is Truth. A Dominican should not be alone in the ministry, but should give and receive support and encouragement from a fraternal community united in the same mission.

#### **MINISTRY**

I have identified six ways in which I further, or try to further, the preaching mission of the Order. These are as follows:

1. I teach religion ("Christian Living Education" or "C.L.E.") to a class of thirty-seven students in the sixth grade at San Lorenzo Ruiz Parochial School. My class meets for forty minutes every weekday. I lead class discussions, assign readings, seatwork, and homework, and throw in the occasional fun activity to keep the students interested.
2. On Sundays, I join a group of young adult volunteers—several French and several native to the Philippines—and walk to the nastiest slum of all, Virgo Drive, to catechize the children there.
3. On Saturday afternoons, I participate in a program called the Re-entry Education Agenda for the Poor (REAP). The purpose of REAP is to help impoverished youth who were unable to complete high school to obtain a high school diploma through home study, thereby improving their employment prospects. One of the subjects they study is C.L.E. My role is to meet with the students once a week in order to answer their questions on this subject and help them understand their home study materials.
4. A significant amount of my "preaching" takes place in casual conversation or in situations not intrinsically related to faith. I have had opportunities to encourage young men to consider a priestly vocation. Once, in the course of an after-school game, I had occasion to admonish my 6th-graders about obeying their parents. Another time, I showed my miraculous medal to one of the younger schoolchildren and explained why I wore it.
5. Fifth and last, I preach by writing reports. The present report is the second I have written; I hope to write one about every two months, if possible. May the Lord use them to help someone.



## PRAYER

Prayer is essential to Dominican life, as it is to any form of religious life or even to any Christian life. I am absolutely convinced that fruitful ministry flows from the minister's personal intimacy with Christ; as the oft-quoted saying goes, one cannot give what one does not have. If one wants to be a preacher, one should meditate often, since meditation helps one understand and fix the mysteries of faith in one's heart, and effective preaching generally comes from the heart. One should ask the Lord to help one persevere in the hard struggle for holiness; to make one's ministry fruitful; to help one to say the right thing. One should pray daily for all those for whom one is responsible; this surely does them more good than any preaching. One should strive to be aware of the Lord's powerful and merciful presence throughout the day. Yet it is so easy to forget to do these things.

## STUDY

I take time daily to study the Bible, usually the daily readings, to linger over them and try to understand them. This study is exceedingly valuable. It keeps me attuned to the central mysteries and practices of my faith, helping me to remember key points where I would otherwise disastrously forget. It fills in the gaps in my knowledge of my faith and helps me organize my thoughts for teaching.

## COMMUNITY

Dominican community is not simply a matter of having friends; it is a communion that flows from a shared commitment to contemplation of the Truth and the handing on of that Truth to others. After ministry, community is the most challenging aspect of the Dominican charism to practice, at least for me.

## GRACES RECEIVED

My first few months as a missionary have been a grace-filled time, but the graces received have not been the ones I expected. The two most noteworthy graces have been, first, the absence of many comforts and distractions, an absence which has given me the space to grow in purity of heart; second, opportunities to experience my weakness as never before and to learn confidence in God.

For the complete report, go to: <http://www.dviop.org/eng/>

## **“Behold, I am the Handmaid of the Lord”**

*Mary said: Behold, I am the Handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. Then the angel departed from her. Luke 1:38*

Since the fall of Adam, the whole of Creation has been eagerly awaiting the Redemption of mankind that God has promised us in the book of Genesis. The feast of the Annunciation of our Lord shows us the intimacy between Jesus and Mary. At the moment of Mary's Fiat, the Holy Spirit overshadowed her and the Son of God became flesh in her womb. My dear Sisters (and brothers), we will never be able to understand the exultant joy of the Angel Gabriel and the whole created universe at Mary's response. Let us for a moment place ourselves in the presence of Our Lady in her humble home at Nazareth during the time of the Angel's message. Let us fix our gaze upon her so she can teach us her interior dispositions that have prepared her for this important vocation and mission that has brought us our salvation.

According to Church tradition, Our Blessed Mother was presented in the temple at a very young age and she was totally devoted and dedicated to the service of God. She devoted herself to prayer, and the devout meditation and study of Sacred Scriptures. Our Lady's soul was constantly in a state of prayer and silent recollection, even in the midst of work, suffering and trial. Mary's "yes" was a total donation of herself. She gave herself to God, allowing Him to do whatever He wills. That total offering of herself was consummated at the foot of the Cross. She submitted herself totally to the Will of God, which was the most important thing in her life. Her faith was so unwavering that it helped others to trust in God to the fullest. I often thought about Sts. Mary Magdalene and John the Beloved, who made it all the way to the Cross while all the other apostles and disciples fled due to fear. These two received their courage and strength by remaining at Our Lady's side.

Our Lady did not understand everything, but she fully cooperated with the plan of God in her daily life and always followed the promptings and inspirations of the Holy Spirit. Since God did not make everything crystal clear to her all at once, she continued to trust even in the obscurity of it all. She believed that God



would bring to completion what He had begun. Therefore, my dear Sisters (and brothers), as we strive to be faithful in our own vocation, let us ask our Lady to help, guide, and strengthen us in our faith, especially during the times of trials and difficulties. Let us always remember that each of us has been chosen for a special purpose in God's great plan and design for the work of the salvation of souls, and that our faithfulness and final perseverance have its great rewards. Faithfulness is a personal choice. Therefore, it is up to each individual to bring it about in one's daily life. Let us together with Our Lady repeat her "Fiat" in every circumstance of our life: Fiat, Ecce Ancilla Domini.

By Sr Mary Jacinta at the Solemn Chapter of the Solemnity of the Annunciation, Dominican Nuns of Summit, New York.

### **CSW58: Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls**

*Dominican Sisters at Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, 10-21 March, 2014, New York*  
Dominican Sisters from across the globe, representing the different zones of Dominican Sisters International (DSI) spent a week and a half in New York at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58). The sisters were Pilar del Barrio (Spain), Maria Alejandra Leguizamon Schija (Peru), Anne Fitzgerald (USA), Cecelia Espenilla (Philippines) and Alison Munro (South Africa) who joined Sr Margaret Mayce, the Dominican Sisters fulltime representative at the United Nations. Different religious congregations have representation in NGOs with United Nations observer status and work towards influencing United Nations work and resolutions.

The Commission on the status of Women (CSW), a commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established in 1946 and dedicated to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women promotes women's rights in political, economic, civil and educational fields. It meets annually to review progress, identify challenges, set global standards and norms and formulate policies. Non governmental organizations are able to participate. The 58th session addressed progress made on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), due to be achieved in 2015, and on the 2011 conclusions regarding access and participation of women and girls in education, training, science and technology, and employment. The conclusions are negotiated by all States. Other resolutions are also adopted, highlighting key issues.

While it was impossible to attend all sessions and to follow all issues, overlapping issues emerged, and frightening facts and concerns were highlighted, some of which are mentioned here:

There was no Millennium Development Goal to address the challenges raised by violence against women in general, and domestic violence. Sometimes rape in situations of disaster and conflict is perceived to be worse than rape elsewhere: it isn't. Children are forced by cultural practices, by poverty, by demands of labour situations, even by their own families into early marriages. Female genital mutilation continues to be a concern, insufficiently addressed.

The trafficking in human beings happens within countries, and from one country to others, often linked to poverty, to employment opportunities, to migration. Often there are gaps in law enforcement. Women's voices go unheard in the various aspects of peace and security processes during conflict and in post conflict situations. Women need to be at the table, sometimes as early warning systems, and beyond. The Security Council of the United Nations is now listening to Syrian women; that idea must go elsewhere as well.

Education and training is a major concern as there is often insufficient access to education for girls, 31 million of whom who are out of school. The transition from primary to high school is the age to be targeted, and countries need to settle for more than primary education for girls. The health issues of girls and young women highlight that they bear the brunt of suffering re child birth, maternal health and maternal mortality. It is estimated that up to 45% of first sexual encounter is forced. The impact of HIV and AIDS on health, even with 12 million people on treatment worldwide, is still of concern; new infections are falling, but new infections among women are on the rise. Among domestic workers, 21 million live in exploitative labour conditions, denied decent work and living wages. Women's work is often not recognised and is mostly unpaid.



Women access the internet less than men do, and there are not enough young women getting computer science degrees. Access to information and communications technologies has to become more affordable in the poorest areas. There also needs to be adequate legislation and reform of internet policies to deal with the dark side of the internet and cybercrime.

What was obvious over the days the Commission sat was the emphasis given to key themes and concerns, many of which are issues in countries and regions across the world, not only in certain countries even when one or more of them may have particular issues to do deal with. The major themes covered included challenges re Millennium Development Goals (due to be achieved in 2015, though clearly that won't happen), gender equality, women in conflict situations, violence against women, maternal mortality, women and AIDS, and women in natural disasters. The Post 2015 Development Agenda, in addressing the identified concerns and issues facing the global community, must commit to the new Sustainable Development Goals, protecting human rights of all citizens and "growing" all people.

A major concern remains that there is nothing to hold member states accountable for their actions or lack thereof.

#### Celebrating our Dominican Family

The Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt in New York State invited the Dominican Sisters participating in CSW58 for an evening meal, an introduction to the community of the visitors and their different ministries across the world, and prayer.

Sr Pilar del Barrio, a psychologist, spoke of her work for the Dominican Family in Spain, and Sr Cecelia Espinilla of counter trafficking work in which she is involved in the Philippines. She also thanked the sisters of Blauvelt, who had made generous contributions towards relief operations after the disastrous tropical cyclone, Typhoon Haiyan. Sr Ann Fitzgerald of Long Island, New York, a "local" participant, expressed her gratitude for being able to participate in the United Nations event, noting some of the various challenges women face across the globe. She works in an English second language programme for mainly Hispanic women. Sr Alison Munro from South Africa co-ordinates the AIDS ministry of the Bishops' Conference of Southern Africa, covering South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana. Sr Margaret Mayce, the Dominican Sisters representative at the United Nations, and the host of the group during the week, introduced, in her absence, Sr Maria Alejandra Leguizanon Schija, a theologian working in Peru who had been invited to speak elsewhere the same evening. One non Dominican member of the group, Sr Coronata, belongs to the Congregation of Daughters of Divine Love and is involved in a school in Nigeria. Both her sister and her brother are Dominicans, and Sr Coronata expressed her love for Dominicans.

Also present were several students from Yale, accompanied by their campus minister who is soon to make profession as a Blauvelt Dominican. The students are involved in various fields of study, and spent a week attending different sessions of the Commission.

Sr Alison Munro of the Dominican Congregation of Oakford, Natal (South Africa) is one of the Dominican Sisters invited by Dominican Sisters International (DSI) to participate in the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58) in New York in March 2014.

#### **Fr Bruno Cadoré on the Island of Malta**

The Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré in company of fr Wojciech Delik, Socius for Central and Eastern Europe made a canonical visitation to the Province of St Pius V in Malta in January/February 2014. The Master had the opportunity to visit the 5 convents of the Province at Rabat, Birgu (Vittoriosa), Valletta, Sliema and Gwardamanga and the mission of the province in Albania. In each of the convents, he met with the friars together and individually to share their hopes and aspirations for the Dominican life and apostolate in Malta. He also met with different councils saddled with responsibilities in the province.

At Valletta, fr Bruno had a tour of St Albert the Great College, the education apostolate of the province. In 1948, the Dominicans took over Flores College and renamed it St Albert the Great College and in 1960, it



was moved to its present site in Valletta. Despite the difficulties in running a standard school in a system of free education, St Albert College has remained a pacesetter for education in Malta. With the school, the pastoral activities of the brothers attain a more personal and direct dimension. Through the school, they are able to interact not only with the students but also their parents, relatives and friends. Over the years, the brothers have gained the trust and confidence of the people who have always felt free to share with them their problems, aspirations, lives and faith. The college is working towards building a completely new structure in the future.

At the Priory in Valletta which is a few minutes' walk from the college, fr Bruno met the brothers and took a tour of the parish church and the small local radio station – “Radju Xeberras” run by the brothers. At Sliema, the brothers are also constructing a new Pastoral, Social and Cultural Centre. Fr Bruno was given a tour of the construction site.

Towards the end of his visitation, Fr Bruno had the opportunity to meet with the entire Dominican family at a gathering in the convent at Rabat. Dominican sisters and laity and even the local archbishop were present. The fraternal gathering started with the celebration of the Holy Mass. There was a reception after the Mass which gave room for personal interactions. Before leaving Malta, fr Bruno also had the opportunity to meet the President of the Republic, George Abela who was visiting the priory for another occasion.

The Prior Provincial, fr Francis Micallef and the brothers were very pleased with the Master's visit. For them, it was a source of vigour and determination to continue their mission.

### **Leadership in the New Evangelization**

From 24 February to 7 March 2014, the Dominican Province of the Philippines hosted the Asia-Pacific Leadership Conference which was held in Caleruega-Philippines, Nasugbu, Batangas. Dominican friars, contemplative nuns, apostolic sisters and laity, mostly in the positions of service in their respective communities, came to participate in the two-week lecture series. The group was composed of ten nationalities – Filipinos, Vietnamese, Sri Lankans, Indian, Pakistanis, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Jordanians and Caribbean. The occasion was graced by Sr. Marie Therese Clement, OP, the Coordinator of the Dominican Sisters International (DSI) and by Sr. Mary Constance Tran, OP, the DSI Coordinator for the Asia-Pacific Region.

The speakers were experts from various disciplines.

- Most Rev. Pablo David, DD, opened the conference with a solid and wise reflection on Leadership in the Scriptures.
- Most Rev. Socrates Villegas, DD, delivered a very inspiring sharing on Pastoral Leadership.
- Br. Javier Gonzales OP discussed key canonical issues and procedures that renders leadership role very challenging.
- Br. Quirico Pedregosa Jr., OP, shared his expertise on Leadership in Mission by focusing on the need for collaboration.
- Br. Arthur Dingel, OP, brought in contemporary and corporate leadership principles and provided insights on how they can be woven into religious context.
- The discussion on leadership in strengthening family ties was delivered by Srs. Marie Therese Clement, OP, Mary Constance Tran, OP, Cecilia Espenilla, OP, and Br. Gerard Francisco Timoner III, OP.
- Sr. Mary Augustine, OP, updated the Dominican leaders of the region about the nuns.
- Sr. Belen Tangco, OP, reported about the dynamism of the Dominican laity.
- Mr. Jose Diokno, one of the directors of the mutual funding corporation of the Filipino religious, was invited to speak about financial management and investment for the religious.
- Mgr. Ramon Masculino of St. John Marie Vianney Center for Priests talked about conflicts, transformation and healing in the context of religious life.
- Br. Timoner, OP, also shared his thoughts on forgiveness and the grace that makes it possible.
- His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle, DD, closed the conference with a talk that tackles the heart of the matter, Leadership in the New Evangelization. The ending of his talk rubs the core of who we are as Dominicans, leaders and preachers of the Good News. In the Eucharistic celebration,



Cardinal Tagle concluded with the challenge of sharing the fruits of the two-week common contemplation of the Dominican leaders to their respective communities.

Br. Stephen Redillas, OP, Coordinator of the Asia-Pacific Leadership Conference, extends his gratefulness to the student-brothers who provided secretarial services during the course, the brothers of St. Mary Magdalene House for their support, and the staff of Caleruega Retreat Center.

By Br. Art Vincent Pangan, OP

### **The Students of the Italian Provinces are Praying for Communities in Particular Difficulties**

The Patriarchal Convent of St Dominic in Bologna holds a unique place in the heart of Dominicans because the remains of our Blessed Father Dominic rest in the Basilica of the convent. Today the convent is the Interprovincial House of Studies of the three provinces in Italy. The students and the entire community have the unique privilege of the presence of the tomb of St Dominic at which they pray regularly.

The Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré recognizes this unique privilege and that was why he entrusted a unique task to the students during his last canonical visitation to the convent. He charged them to pray in a special way at the tomb of St Dominic for different parts of the Order that are in particular difficulties. The students gladly accepted the task and have since swung into action.

On the first day of the prayers, after compline, with the chanting of Spem Miram, the students processed to the Ark of St Dominic inside the Basilica. At the tomb of St Dominic, they lit an oil lamp which will be kept burning as a sign of the ongoing prayers and remembrance of the intention. Around the tomb of St Dominic and the lamp, the brothers said intercessory prayers for the intention. The ritual will be repeated every week.

The brothers are currently praying for the Dominican family in Kiev, Ukraine because of the difficult political situation in that country. Also as a sign of communion with the brothers in Kiev, a portion of the oil from the lamp will be sent to them and another portion to the Master of the Order. This will be done to every community the brothers are praying for.

With the help of the Socius for Apostolic Life and the Promoter for Justice and Peace, the Master is compiling a list of communities or regions in particular difficulties for this special prayers.

Motivated by the desire and request of the Master of the Order, the students have therefore actively undertaken this responsibility which will ensure that the needs and difficulties of our brothers and sisters are ever before God's throne of mercy through the intercession of our Blessed Father Dominic.

As a sign of our communion with one another, let us all continue to pray for one another especially for our brothers and sisters in particular difficult situations.

### **Social protection floors reduce inequality, create security**

I would like to begin this briefing by repeating once again what I wrote at the conclusion of the previous one:

“Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of preaching the Gospel...” —“Justice in the World,” World Synod of Bishops, 1971

There is no time like the present to re-commit ourselves to this worthy pursuit, acknowledging our own need for ongoing conversion as we do so. A recent statement from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace might provide us with one of the best ways to engage in this struggle as individuals and as communities:

Every individual and every community shares in promoting and preserving the common good. To be faithful to their ethical and religious vocation, communities of believers should take the lead in asking whether the human family has adequate means at its disposal to achieve a global common good.

As communities of believers, are we asking the right questions? Are we contributing to the public debate? Do our local and national representatives know who we are and what we stand for? Are we concerned about



the welfare of people worldwide who live without the basic necessities for life? Or, does our silence and inaction contribute to the status quo?

Over the past several years, significant momentum has built around the concept of Social Protection Floors. Though I have addressed this in previous briefings, it bears repeating as well as a renewed request for you to be proactive in this regard. Despite advances in technology, the world remains an inhospitable place for the vast majority of its citizens. Approximately 80 percent of the global population lives in social insecurity and faces a complete loss of income security when a personal or national economic crisis strikes. This is exactly what happened in the wake of the global financial/economic crisis of 2008–2009, as the poverty rate soared. Regarding health care, about 30 percent of the global population has no access to adequate care, and millions of children die annually from preventable diseases. Inequality is increasing in what to us may seem like a world of plenty.

In an effort to be a positive force for good, a coalition of more than 70 civil society and trade union organizations have organized to promote social protection floors as a key instrument to provide a minimum of social security to every man, woman and child worldwide. These floors would be universal in scope and nationally defined and would represent significant commitment to the global goal to eradicate poverty. Social protection floors are essentially a way to make concrete what we subscribe to in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality. (Article 22)

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control (Article 25)

The four basic guarantees of social protection are:

- Access to essential health care and basic services for all;
- Income security for children;
- Assistance for the unemployed, underemployed and persons living in poverty;
- Income security for the elderly and disabled.

Well-designed social protection floors can reduce inequalities and enhance gender equality. Access to health care, nutrition, water and sanitation maintains people in good health and leads to more sustained employment. Access to housing fosters stability and civic participation. Could there be any legitimate reason for a government not to make these provisions for its people? Is there any better way to create the conditions for peace and security for us all? Will the newly released fiscal 2015 Pentagon budget of \$495.6 billion really make the world a safer place?

Today, Wednesday, March 5, we begin the season of Lent. We hear in the second reading from 2 Corinthians that “now is the acceptable time...” “Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of preaching the Gospel.” There is no time like the present to recommit ourselves to this worthy pursuit.

As you begin this Holy Season, please take a minute to place yourself in solidarity with those who lack life’s basic essentials, and sign the Social Protection Petition. You can also view a seven-minute YouTube video on Social Protection Floors, and how they are already working in countries such as Argentina, Namibia, India and Thailand.

Margaret Mayce, OP (DLC/Amityville) (ngo@domlife.org)



### **“Catholic Response to AIDS in Southern Africa”**

Sr Alison Munro, OP, the Director of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference AIDS Office, is the co-editor of a new book “Catholic Responses to AIDS in Southern Africa”. She is the author of two articles in the book, one on the history of the Church's response to AIDS over the past thirty years, and one on the HIV testing of candidates for religious life and seminarians.

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC) AIDS Office and St Joseph's Theological institute have collaborated on “Catholic Responses to AIDS in Southern Africa” launched recently during the plenary session of the bishops of the SACBC in Manzini, Swaziland, and in several centres in South Africa. It was also launched at a Caritas Internationalis/UNAIDS antiretroviral treatment consultation in Rome in late February.

The book looks at the response of the Church over the past thirty years, outlining the programmes to address home based care of the sick and the dying, antiretroviral treatment which helped turn the tide, prevention, and the care of orphans and vulnerable children.

Cardinal Napier's paper takes a critical look at the response of an urban diocese to the pandemic, Bishop Dowling's details the response of a rural diocese. Fr Michael Czerny SJ from the office of Cardinal Turkson in Rome examines the Church's global response to AIDS. Different papers examine the theology of sin in the context of AIDS, the tricky question for the Catholic Church regarding the use of condoms, the issue of whether or not there should be HIV testing for candidates to seminaries and religious life, how a particular theological institute has addressed the issue of AIDS, AIDS as a theme in spiritual direction, and AIDS and inter religious dialogue.

The book brings together the work of AIDS activists and theologians, and makes details of the Church's response available to a wider public.

The papers were originally presented at a theological conference held at St Joseph's Theological institute in Cedara, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa in January 2013.

Sr Alison is a member of the Dominican Congregation of St Catherine of Siena of Oakford, Natal which is a South African-founded Congregation with roots in St Ursula's, Augsburg, Germany.

The book cost 10 Euros, plus postage and packing from the SACBC AIDS Office. [amunro@sacbc.org.za](mailto:amunro@sacbc.org.za); AIDS Office: 012 323 6458. [www.aidsoffice.sacbc.org.za](http://www.aidsoffice.sacbc.org.za)  
Also available from the Kindle Store.

### **Official News**

#### **fr Jorge Ángel Saldías Pedraza, OP is the New Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of La Paz, Bolivia.**

The Holy Father, Pope Francis has nominated fr Jorge Ángel Saldías Pedraza as the new Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of La Paz in Bolivia and the Titular Bishop of Phelbes. He is from the Dominican Vice Province of Bolivia.

Msgr. Saldías was born at Buena Vista-La Arboleda, Bolivia in 1968. He joined the Order in 1993 and after his novitiate at Cochabamba, he made his first profession of religious vows in 1994. He studied theology at the Instituto Superior de Estudios Teológicos (ISET) at Cochabamba and was ordained to the priesthood in 2001.

He has been engaged in various pastoral works: Parish Priest and Rector of the Archdiocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Cotoca; Rector of the Chapel of St Catherine at the Parish of the Virgin of Socavon, Maica, Cochabamba; Member of the Presbyterian Council of the Archdiocese of Santa Cruz and Vicar Provincial of the Provincial Vicariate of Bolivia (of the Province of St Albert the Great, USA)



At the time of the nomination, he was the Parish Priest and Rector of the Archdiocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Cotoca at Santa Cruz de la Sierra; Parish Priest of the Parish of Our Lady of Candelaria at Paurito, the Episcopal Vicar of the Vicariate of Cotoca and a Judge at the Ecclesiastical Tribunal of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. He was also the Superior of the Dominican community at Cotoca.

### **International Competition for A Jubilee Hymn**

At the beginning of 2014, the International Liturgical Commission of the Order of Preachers launched an international competition for a hymn for our Jubilee 2016.

We invited a dozen international composers from several continents, some well known outside of the Order and others from within the Order (brothers, sisters and laity), to participate.

An international jury of specialists – who come both from within and outside the Order – will judge the winner in June.

So, we shall have a hymn that can be sung in the three official languages (English, French and Spanish) for all the members of our Dominican Family.

Fr. Thomas Moller, OP

International Liturgical Commission OP

### **Bishop Malcolm McMahon, OP is the New Archbishop of Liverpool**

Pope Francis has named the Dominican Rt. Rev. Malcolm Patrick McMahon as the Archbishop of Liverpool. He was formerly the Bishop of Nottingham and he is of the Province of England.

He was born in London in 1949, the second of three children. He studied Mechanical Engineering and worked for a while before joining the Order in 1976. He made his profession of religious vows in 1977 and studied Philosophy at Blackfriars and Theology at Heythrop College. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1982.

After his ordination, he was assigned to Holy Cross Priory, Leicester where he served as Catholic Chaplain to Leicester Polytechnic (now De Montfort University), before moving to St Dominic's, Haverstock Hill, in north London. He later served as Parish Priest of St Dominic's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne before returning to St Dominic's, Haverstock Hill as Parish Priest.

In 1992, he was elected Prior Provincial of the English Province; having served for two terms as Prior Provincial, in 2000 he was elected Prior of Blackfriars, Oxford. That same year (2000), he was appointed and ordained to the episcopate as the ninth Bishop of Nottingham.

He is Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department of Education and Formation and is National President of Pax Christi, the International Catholic Movement for Peace. He is also Chair of the Catholic Education Service for England and Wales (CESEW) and Chair of the board of trustees for the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW).

He will be installed as the Archbishop of Liverpool on Thursday 1 May 2014, the Feast of St Joseph the Worker.

### **The General Vicariate of Belgium has been raised to a Vice-Province**

Having fulfilled the requirements as contained in LCO 257 and 258, the Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré has raised the General Vicariate of St Thomas Aquinas in Belgium to the status of a Vice-Province with all rights and obligations.

This was done with the due consultation of the General Council of the Order and it takes effect from the 11th of March 2014, the day of its promulgation. This decision is part of the process of the restructuring of the Order.



The Vice-Province of Belgium currently has three convents, in Brussels, Liège and Louvain-la-Neuve with about 29 professed brothers.

### **Calendar of the Master of the Order for April 2014**

1-15: Canonical Visitation to the Province of Aragon

15-20: Visit to Jerusalem

23-25: IEOP Meeting in Dublin

26: Beatification of Giuseppe Girotti, OP at Alba, Piemonte

28 April-6 May: Canonical Visitation to the Province of Betica

*All articles are available on [www.op.org](http://www.op.org)*