Contemporary Art Exhibition in Santa Sabina (Rome) 23rd November - 24th January

Auguri Concept
If you believe the legend, the Aventine hill is connected to the very origins of Rome. It was by consulting auguries, the natural omens so popular with the pagan populations of antiquity, that the twins Romulus and Remus decided upon the name of the city which would have an unparalleled political and religious destiny. Upon the Aventine, first Remus saw an apparition of six vultures, an obscure augury of the preference of the gods. And a little later, twelve vultures appeared which circled the Palatine hill where Romulus was. These auguri had spoken and decided the name of the city. From Latin to Italian the term remained in use, developing new meanings. As an expression of good wishes or congratulations, the auguri point towards the future.

If an anniversary of eight centuries, as the Order of Preachers celebrates this year, looks back to the past, it also invites us to embrace the present and reflect upon a vision of the future. The title of this exhibition suggests such a perspective.

15 dominican artists
The fifteen banners hung in the side naves of this Paleo-Christian basilica given to St Dominic by the Pope in 1220 are expressive of so many figures from the Dominican tradition. Each brother, sister or laity exemplifying the multitude of charisms of the Order of Preachers, the five continents where the ardour of St Dominic has spread, and the both joyful and turbulent times that the Dominican Family has undergone has been interpreted by an artist from the contemporary Dominican Order.

The historical figures offered their lives in the service of their contemporaries, handing on the Gospel message in varied circumstances by their creativity and mission. And today, the members of the Dominican Family continue to add to their fervour. The fifteen artists who recall them in this exhibition are witnesses to
this. In this way, past and present join together in these fifteen banners, illustrating how tradition forms the foundations for mission today.

**Kris Martin and Adam Rokosz, two contemporaries artists...**

Two current artists form the contemporary heart of the exhibition. The first has no particular link with the family of St Dominic. Kris Martin enjoys an international reputation. His artwork conveys his thoughts on what he sees around him and presents certain challenges to those who are willing to give his work time. He received carte blanche to exhibit in Santa Sabina and his artwork will stimulate both those who usually frequent the basilica and those who are welcome for this exhibition.

The second, Adam Rokosz, is a young Dominican photographer who is displaying five photographs on the theme of the incarnation,

setting the exhibition in liturgical time around the feast of Christmas but also placing it in the Dominican charism that always seeks to incarnate the Gospel in the context of the period. The theme of incarnation further recalls the foundation of the Dominican tradition in the philosophy of Aristotle with his insistence upon observing creation to shape every thought to come to an understanding of life. Finally, it evokes the favourite Gospel of St Dominic, for Matthew begins with a long genealogy to proclaim the incarnation of God among men.

...expressing dialogue

The two artists found here together express another important aspect of the Dominican Tradition: dialogue. The stranger is welcomed right into the curial house of the Order of Preachers. This welcome itself provides a language to give expression to the issues concerning our contemporaries, allowing them to reach the heart of those who live in this place and are charged with finding words and images to hand on mercy and lay a path of evangelical hope. The Dominican friar in his turn is placed outside of his familiar conventual context to preach by images to the passers-by on Piazza Pietro d’Illyria. He goes to meet them where the Spirit has led him.

The contemporary vision and language of these two artists point us firmly towards the future. The children and young people of Adam Rokosz foretell what is to come and display a trust in the future. Kris Martin’s challenges become questions to address to the time to come. Both are auguri for what we build and pass on to the next generations.

A feast only makes sense if it combines history, present and future. These three aspects resonate in this exhibition and justify the exhibition’s title: Auguri!

Ulrich Engel OP and Alain Arnould OP

● Catholic Trivia: A new Android app from the Friars in Australia

In 2013 five students friars decided to develop a mobile application that would for spreading the Catholic faith. Among the five students was, the now, Fr Matthew Boland OP, then an unordained former publican and hotel manager who also happened to have graduated from a free online course in computer science from HarvardX.

Fr Matthew, 40, said the friars where looking for Catholic apps on Android but the choice were limited. The group decided to develop an application using Fr Matthew’s knowledge of mobile applications and their own strength - knowledge of the faith. That advantage led to Catholic Trivia, a free gaming app designed to test a player’s knowledge of the Catholic Church.

In Catholic Trivia, gamers can answer up to 1250 questions on six categories – Art and Literature, Biblical knowledge, History, Liturgy and Customs, Saints and Personalities, and Theology – across five levels of increasing difficulty. The large database of questions offers ample replay ability, meaning no two versions of play will be the same.
“The idea was in the first levels, any Catholic or even non-Catholic, would be able to answer the questions, but as you go up it gets harder,” Fr Matthew said. “The first level is Novice, but I’m not allowed to tell you the last two levels.” There won’t even be penalties if players use Google to answer questions. “We’re totally fine with it,” Fr Matthew said. “If people are Googling for the answers, that’s probably a good thing. “If there’s a question about a Pope and they want to research into it, go for it. “We’re not strict about the structures of the game; want people to enjoy it and learn about the faith.”

Speaking after the launch of Catholic Trivia, Fr Matthew was surprised to find the app had already been downloaded over 100 times around the world and given positive ratings. The positive feedback is an encouraging sign for a group of five Dominicans, who spent every free Saturday between studying for the priesthood and praying, creating a game for Catholics. All but one are now ordained for the Order.

Sydney Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP DD, also a Dominican Friar, gave the permission to use the name Catholic in the app.

All their efforts and 100-plus downloads later, the Australia Dominican Friars have their first app.

Find the game at the Google Play store or search the store for ‘Catholic Trivia’.

(This is an edited version of a story that first appeared in The Catholic Leader, from Brisbane Archdiocese on 16 October 2016)

**Commemorative Concert by the King’s Own Philharmonic Society**

This year, the King’s Own Philharmonic Society, a musical society, have hosted its annual concert on Saturday 29th October, at the Dominican Parish Church dedicated to St. Mary of Fair Heavens and St. Dominic. The Band Club was founded in Valletta in 1874 for the feast of St Dominic, its patron saint. This year the Dominican community celebrates two outstanding anniversaries – 800 years (Jubilee) of the foundation of the Dominican order and 200 years since the parish of our Lady of Fair Heavens and St Dominic received the title of Minor Basilica, the first parish to receive such a title on the Maltese Islands, and the 8th one in the World. Consequently, to commemorate these important anniversaries, the Society deemed it appropriate to stage this year’s concert within the basilica itself rather than at its traditional venue in Floriana.

Naturally, this year programme included various anthems dedicated to its patron saint, enhancing the historical and religious connection between our Society and the Order of Preachers. “Inno a San Domenico” written by one of the Society’s band directors Dr. Chev Aurelio Doncich, is one of the anthems written in honour of St. Dominic, to commemorate an important anniversary the Dominican Province of Pope Pius V (Malta) was celebrating, in the past. To mark the Dominican Jubilee being celebrated this year, the Order have launched the anthem “Laudare, Benedicere, Praedicare,” which, with the Order’s permission, has been adapted for the band, and have been giving an outstanding execution on the evening. The Jubilee Anthem was accompanied by a local catholic choir, Sine Macula.

The famous anthem “Calaroga” which is also known with the Dominican world have been included as well with this year unique concert. Maestro Fr. Salv Galea O.P., which is the band conductor of the famous religious musical chapel Bugeja, since 1974, have been asked by the band Committee so that his famous antifona “Pie Pater”, a hymn which is used during the festive days of the feast of St. Dominic, have been also included in this year concert. Pie Pater accompanied by the Tenor Charles Vincenti, have been played for the first time by the King’s Own.

For the occasion of the 450 years anniversary of the capital city Valletta also being celebrated this year, Alex Vella Gregory, a local composer and a pianist, have composed an overture called ‘Città Umilissima’. The overture has been donated by the composer himself to the Philharmonic Society in order to commemorate this anniversary.
The band have been led by its musical director Dr. John Galea, who has directed the band for the past 14 years. The local religious choir Sine Makula, together with the tenor Charles Vincenti, and baritone Alfred Camilleri have participated in various musical pieces conducted during the concert.

The Annual Programme was open for the general public, especially for those who feel themselves close to the band club and the Order of Preachers. The programme have commenced at 19:30. The annual concert is being held under the patronage of H.E. Archbishop Emeritus Fra Paul Cremona, O.P., who is also the Patron of the Society, and a child of the Parish.

800 years of Dominican holiness
Paintings of genealogical trees were very popular during the 17th century; they represented a famous ancestor as the root of a tree with his descendants as branches. Religious orders also enjoyed these representations. One such painting was offered to the monastery of Dominicans nuns of Estavayer-le-Lac, Switzerland. It was painted in 1675 by a J. Rolbelis who copied a Flemish engraving representing both the spiritual and blood family of Saint Dominic.

Rolbelis only painted the Dominican part and we can identify the various saints by comparing them to the engraving which shows each saint with its name. There is one striking difference, however: the Estavayer sisters had great devotion to Saint Rose of Lima, they had actually contributed to her canonization. So they ask the painter to replace Bl. Margaret of Savoy by Rose of Lima carrying the child Jesus!

Br Timothy Danaher OP draws a lesson from this painting: “Saints are made saints together. Not only do their examples inspire us today, but they inspired each other while still living. Many of these Dominicans knew each other personally, all part of one intertwining family tree. Take one branch of the tree, for instance, the early Dominicans:

Jordan of Saxony, the successor to Dominic, went to confession to him in Paris and asked advice on his vocation
Before Jordan died in a shipwreck in Syria, he attracted Albert the Great to the Order by interpreting in his homily the student’s fearful, undisclosed vocation dream of the previous night
Sent to teach in Cologne, Albert became the teacher of Thomas Aquinas, who later taught in Paris alongside the young Dominican Peter of Tarentaise, who became Pope Innocent V
All Dominicans, all on the same tree.” (Excerpt http://www.dominicanajournal.org/hounds-of-the-lord/)

See chronology of Dominican Saints in the masterpieces of the Monastery of Estavayer-le-Lac - http://www.moniales-op.ch/jubile/patrimoine-iconographie#c181

"Secrets Shared: The Life and Work of Sister Pauline Quinn, OP"

The new book keeps with Holy Father Francis’ Want for the Church
“Secrets Shared: The Life and Work of Sister Pauline Quinn, OP” is written by Susan Nagelsen and Charles Huckelbury. It is a story of my life traveling on a journey because it was something that God was speaking to my heart to do.

No matter what happened, I wouldn’t give up. Even though I fell many times from the pressure of rejections and indifference, I kept standing up brushing the dirt off then went out and helped thousands.

Pope Francis wants for us to look at people who have been traumatized and abused, giving them the spirit of welcome by showing them respect and dignity which will help build their self-esteem and they too can move forward to contribute something wonderful to better our world.

God works in mysterious ways to show us his compassion and mercy for others, hoping that we learn that all life is important and we have the strength to help rebuild damaged lives by our love. I had no high school education, wounded, little support yet I went out and helped thousands because I found within the Dominican family where I belong.
Sr. Pauline Quinn, O.P.’s new book was released on October 14th and “captures a remarkable life in transformation.” The book shares Sr. Pauline’s profound story about overcoming struggles in life to find meaning and purpose and keeps with the Holy Father Francis’ want for the Church—“Pope Francis has called for a Church that is more welcoming to people with disabilities.” This book also shares the story about starting the prison dog program that is all over the world now.
Submitted by Sister Pauline Quinn, O.P.

• The Order of Preachers celebrates the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary in Yamoussoukro

On the night of 7 to 8 October 2016, the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace at Yamoussoukro (Ivory Coast) was the "centre of the world of the Dominicans,” in the words of Brother Louis-Marie ARINO DURAND, Promoter General of the Rosary. Indeed, it was in this splendid basilica, in the heart of Africa, that the Order of Preachers chose to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, as part of the 800-year Jubilee of the confirmation of the Order of Preachers. The Master of the Order, Brother Bruno Cadoré, the General Promoter of the Rosary, the Socius of the Master of the Order for Africa, the Apostolic Nuncio in Ivory Coast, the Socius of the Province of Nigeria and Ghana, the Vice provincial of the Vice province of St. Augustine in West Africa, graced this colourful celebration. Also present were the formators of Inter-Africa (IAOP) who had just had their workshop, as well as brothers, sisters and lay people of the Dominican Family.

The celebration was a truly international pilgrimage of the Rosary Teams that had mobilized massively and had carefully prepared this event. There were about five thousand pilgrims from all over Ivory Coast and other countries in the West African sub-region, including Benin Republic and Nigeria. They were dressed in uniform made of an African fabric produced especially for this occasion. The celebration was held all night through a programme built around the meditation of the mysteries of the Rosary, confessions, Mass, teachings, praise and worship. The welcome from the huge crowd of pilgrims started from 16.00 at the gate of the Basilica. After the opening prayer and blessing of the pilgrims, the torchlight procession was started, with the meditation of the Joyful Mysteries.

The Mass, highpoint of this gathering, took place at 21:30. It was presided over by Monsignor Joseph SPITERI, Apostolic Nuncio in Ivory Coast, and concelebrated by about fifty priests. The homily, meanwhile, was given by the Master of the Order. Brother Bruno Cadoré noted that God in Mary always precedes us. Certainly, we left our houses to come to this meeting with the Son of Mary. But, like Elizabeth, we are invited to this exclamation: "What do I owe this happiness that the mother of my saviour come to me!” When we meet Mary, the mother of the Savior, she says, "Do whatever He tells you." She shows us her Son, and assures us of his presence in our lives, concluded the MO.

At the offertory, offerings were brought by lay people who, through their attire, represented the five continents. Before the end of the Mass, all the priests and eighty children with lighted candles, symbolizing the 800 years of the Order, headed in procession before the statue of the Blessed Virgin, to recite the prayer of consecration to the Virgin Mary.

The second highlight of this prayer vigil dedicated to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary was the teachings. The teaching of the Master of the Order was on "Our Lady of the Rosary, Mother of Mercy and Queen of Peace,” the one given by the Promoter the Rosary was on "The Rosary and Evangelization." Finally, the national chaplain of the Rosary, brother Paul DAGÓ, spoke of "Dominicans in West Africa." All these teachings helped the participants to discover and rediscover the place of the Rosary in the life of the Church, of the Order and of each of Christ’s faithful. Meditated every day, it allows the mysteries of Christ's life to pass through our lives. Thus, although the Rosary is a powerful means of evangelization to win souls to Christ, this work begins not in the other, but in the heart of the one who prays with faith.

The last highlight of the pilgrimage was the adoration animated by Brother Joachim SOMÉ, coordinator of the pilgrimage and responsible for the Jubilee commission in Abidjan. With the blessing of Jesus in the Eucharist the pilgrims departed joyously home, taking the graces of God to be witnesses to mercy and to the goodness of God. Now as apostles of the Rosary, they have been sent to bring a word of hope and peace to
the world. Having started at 18:00 on Friday 7 October, the international pilgrimage of the Rosary was completed on Saturday 8 October at 6:00 am.

On the sidelines of the pilgrimage, during the day on 8 October and at St Thomas Aquinas convent in Yamoussoukro, the Master of the Order met members of the board of the Rosary Teams, and the different branches of the Dominican family, without forgetting his meeting with the Dominican student brothers.

frs Joël-Hermann KOTY, op and Valentin ADJROKOÉ, op.

● When love and courage meet, the Lord makes miracles

On the night of Thursday to Friday October 20th to 21st many jihadists from the ISIS tried to enter the official buildings of the town hall and police stations as well as security centers in Kirkuk. These forces concentrated around the houses of Kirkuk city seeing the resistance they faced. Then to escape the shootings of the security forces they head the surrounding houses choosing the Dominican sisters’ convent and the houses rented by the Chaldean bishop to host immigrant students following the invasion of ISIS. These students are of all faiths: Christians, Muslims, Yazidis, Mandeans, in all, more than 500 students at present. 71 students where there on that night. They were about to start their academic year and were under the responsibility of Mr. Imad Matti (Abu Durayd) when ISIS burst into these places.

Mr Imad tells us in details what happened: The young girls realized the jihadists were invading them at three o’clock in the morning on Friday. These terrorists had climbed the walls of the houses and reached the garden shouting “Allah Akbar”. The students took photos of them and noticed that they were not only armed but also equipped with explosive belts around their waists. The security forces were aware of the seriousness of the situation and these girls had to remain 24 hours without electricity trembling, in total fear. At that moment, heavy fighting and shootings took place without being able to make the terrorists surrender. So a plan was adopted to make everything possible to save the 14 students lodging in the first house. The security forces succeeded in saving them despite their continuous firing during the whole operation.

At 2 a.m., we proceeded the next operation to rescue the 7 students in the second house. It was the riskiest one as 4 terrorists were inside the house eating and drinking while the students were hidden under their beds. These terrorists were blinded by the Lord because at no time did they find them. I therefore took the risk to ask them to come out of their hiding place to run towards the wall at the back of the house and this in a minute of time.

9 members of the emergency forces demonstrated exceptional courage and bravery as they were more than ready to give their lives to save these girls. It was dark and despite intense firing the 7 students were rescued. As for the third group of students the rescue operation took place at 5 a.m. on Saturday thanks to the "Suat" forces from Suleimaniyah whose missions to fight terrorism. There were 30 students in that house.

I must admit that I admired their courage and determination as the girls remained calm and followed very precisely all the orders and instructions that were given to them during these operations.

The mobile phone played a huge role in the success of this intervention after which the four jihadists terrorists blew themselves up in the students ‘house.

The seven students had remained under their beds 18 hours without moving and without letting their presence being detected. They were transferred to Erbil where they are recovering and reassuring their families.

We do hope they will continue their studies with even more motivation than ever, with the help of the Chaldean diocese who has committed to finance their studies despite all the difficulties and challenges we are facing. We thank God for this grace and miracles. We also pray for all the martyrs, the wounded and victims as well as for all those who suffered damage and losses.

+ Mgr Yousif Thomas
Chaldean archbishop of Kirkuk and Suleimaniya
October 23rd, 2016
Fr Bruno Cadoré and others receive “The Martin de Porres Award” at Dominican Family Conference

Four people whose lives have been characterized by a profound commitment to service were honored October 22 at the Southern Dominican Family Conference, held in honor of the 800th Anniversary of the founding of the Order of Preachers, or Dominican Order.

“The Martin de Porres Award is awarded to persons whose lives exemplify the spirit of St. Martin de Porres, who serve the community and church, particularly the poor, sick and marginalized,” explained Fr. Tom Condon, OP, Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Martin de Porres (Southern Dominican Province).

The recipients were Fr. Bruno Cadoré, OP, Master of the Order of Preachers; Sr. Barbara Reid, OP, author, vice-president, and academic dean at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago; Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez, OP, theologian, and Dr. Paul Farmer, internationally recognized humanitarian and co-founder of Partners in Health.

“When I told each of these people that they were going to be presented this award, they each told me they didn’t think they were worthy of such an honor,” Fr. Condon told the conference attendees. “Which means they most certainly deserve this award.”

Each of the recipients were invited to make brief remarks upon receiving the award. Fr. Cadoré told the audience he would receive the award on behalf of the entire Dominican Order, urging all Dominicans — friars, sisters, laypersons, and associates — to continue to work to bring about a peaceful society. “It is possible to reverse divisions among the world using goodness,” he said.

Similarly, Sr. Reid accepted the award in the name of her particular congregation, the Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids. “All that I have done…is only by the grace of God and through my Dominican family. And so, to use a common expression and make it my own, I accept it in the name of my family because it takes a family to raise a Dominican!”

Speaking in his native Spanish, Peruvian-born Fr. Gutierrez said, “Gifts are never deserved, but they are always welcomed.” He noted that he and St. Martin de Porres share a common bond — both were baptized in the same church in Lima, Peru. “Though not in the same year,” Fr. Gutierrez joked. He urged the assembly to not lose zeal in their work to bring relief to the underprivileged in society.

Lastly, Dr. Farmer accepted the award, noting that as a young man, he never cherished his family’s Catholic faith. Prior to entering Harvard Medical School, he explained, he traveled to Haiti where he first encountered poverty. There he read Fr. Gutierrez’ book about liberation theology, and was “hooked.” He credited Fr. Gutierrez for instilling in him a desire to see the face of God in the poor, which has propelled him to use his skill as a physician to serve the poorest of the poor throughout the world. “I am honored to count [Fr. Gutierrez] as a friend. Thank you for this honor and thank you Gustavo,” he said.

The awards were presented at the final dinner of the “Living our Legacy” Conference, a three-day gathering of Dominican friars, sisters, laity, and friends held in Dallas and hosted by the Province of St. Martin de Porres.

In the Company of the Poor

“Poverty is not a destiny, it’s a condition. Poverty is not a misfortune, it’s an injustice,” declared theologian and liberation theology founder Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez, OP, at a panel discussion co-hosted by the University of Dallas School of Ministry and the Dominican Province of St. Martin de Porres on October 21, 2016.

More than 500 Catholics attended the event, held at the Dallas/Fort Worth Marriott Hotel in Irving. Bishop Greg Kelly, auxiliary bishop in Dallas, welcomed the attendees. “This night may be a little bit disturbing,” Fr. Tom Condon, Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Martin de Porres told the audience. “It’s a topic that should unsettle us.” Fr. Gutierrez, together with Dr. Paul Farmer, founding director of Partners in Health and Fr. Bruno Cadoré, OP, Master of the Order of Preachers spoke of the need to understand poverty.
“Poverty is not only related to money. There is material poverty, of course, but there’s also spiritual poverty, institutional poverty. It’s a complex issue,” said Dr. Farmer. “All too often we romanticize what it means to love the poor. To love the poor is not a romanticization — it’s a way of life,” he said. The three spoke of the need to “have a preferential option given to the poor.”

“The question is not to have a preferential option given to the poor because they are more loved by God, but to see that they are the persons who need the most protection,” stressed Fr. Gutierrez. “To love one poor person is to be Catholic. “It is very clear that we must be in solidarity with the poor, “ Fr. Gutierrez added.

“We have to consider solidarity is not an action, it’s a way of life,” Fr. Cadoré affirmed. “Nobody has the right to decide that someone, or a group of people, are not part of society. We have to decide to live our life in a way that includes all people.” Dr. Farmer spoke of the need to “not only stand in solidarity, but to provide material solidarity as well.” But in order to do that, first “we must speak to the poor. We have to know them. We have to give the floor to those whom we are talking about — to give them the floor and let them talk,” Dr. Farmer said.

The panel discussion was moderated by Sr. Barbara Reid, OP, Vice-president and Academic Dean at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. “We have been talking about the poor quite a bit today, but it is quite important to hear from those we have been speaking about,” she said. The event was part of a three-day Dominican conference marking the order’s 800th Anniversary. Run by the Southern Dominican Province of St. Martin de Porres, The conference, entitled “Living our Legacy,” was attended by more than 250 Dominican friars, sisters, and laypersons. The panel discussion, which was open to the public, was part of the University of Dallas’ Landregan Lecture series.

**VideOP Challenge**

*Make a video on the diversity of the missions of the Dominican family and win a stay in Rome!*

VideOP Challenge

On the occasion of its 800 years, the Dominican Order invites you to participate in a competition. Form your team and shoot a three minute video on the diversity of the missions of the Dominican family (brothers, sisters, lay people...).

Sign up now and send us your video before the 25th of December 2016! The selected videos will be shown during the Congress for the mission of the Order which will be held from the 18th to the 20th of January 2017 in Rome in the presence of the winning team.

Registration mandatory: https://goo.gl/forms/7O1j6NTBqtAuJMwb2

Join the Event on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/events/1678487445799677

This contest is open to all, Dominicans or not, amateurs, and video enthusiasts.

The jury will be composed of different members of the Dominican Family. Several criteria will allow to distinguish the videos presented: technical quality, creativity, etc. The taking into account of the variety of the apostolates and the presence of the different branches of the Dominican family will be particularly valued.

****Competition rules****

The subject will have to show one or more original aspects of the Dominican mission. It may relate to the Dominican Family in the broad sense (brothers, sisters, lay people...)

Any type of shooting / editing technique is authorised

Everyone can participate: brothers, sister, lay people etc.
This competition is reserved for amateurs. It is not possible to subcontract video production to specialised companies.

Maximum duration of the video: 3mn

The video must be uploaded on YouTube in the original version or subtitled in one of the three languages of the Order (English, French or Spanish)

The deadline to send us this link is set for the 18th of December 2016

The jury whose members will be introduced shortly, will unveil the name of the winning team at the beginning of January.

To designate the winner, the jury will be particularly attentive to the following criteria:

- Originality of the theme,
- Overall originality of the video,
- Techniques used,
- The relevance of the video in relation to the theme
- Clarity of the message.

The winning team will be offered a stay from the 17th to the 21st of January 2017 in Rome for 3 people (Return tickets, food and accommodation, the costs of the Congress) as part of the Congress on the mission

The winning video as well as a certain number of videos « heart-stopper » will be shown during this congress and on the Dominican networks.

- **Inauguration of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary at St Dominic’s, London**

On Saturday 22nd October, our church was packed as people travelled from far and wide to witness the inauguration of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary at St Dominic’s. Parishioners were joined by friends of the Dominican Order from around the country, as well as clergy from across the diocese, Dominican friars and sisters, and others who had heard about the new shrine and were keen to be part of this historic occasion.

We were pleased to welcome the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Antonio Mennini, and the Mayor of Camden, Cllr Nadia Shah, to the inaugural Mass, celebrated by the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Vincent Nichols. The Archbishop of Birmingham, Most Rev Bernard Longley, an old friend of the Priory, was also present, as was Rt Rev Nicholas Hudson, the Auxiliary Bishop for our part of London.

Thanks to days of hard work by many parishioners, the church was looking more beautiful than ever, adorned with eye-catching floral arrangements of red and white roses. At the beginning of the Mass, banners embroidered over 100 years ago by Dominican sisters and depicting each of the mysteries of the Rosary were borne in procession. These were then hung round the church on the side chapels devoted to each of the Rosary mysteries.

During the Mass, the Cardinal’s decree inaugurating the shrine was solemnly proclaimed. As he granted the official status of a Shrine to St Dominic’s, Cardinal Nichols invited the faithful to come to the new Shrine on pilgrimage and discover the riches of the Church’s tradition of prayer embodied in the Rosary. At the end of the Mass, the Cardinal venerated the image of Our Lady of the Rosary which adorns her altar in the Lady Chapel.

As well as welcoming pilgrims and visitors to the new Shrine, there will be a series of Shrine events in the coming year, including:

The first annual Rosary Shrine lecture, to be given by Scott Hahn
Monteverdi’s Vespers, performed by Camerata of Curiosities and His Majesty’s Sagbutts and Cornetts
St Thomas Aquinas as Guide to the Rosary Mysteries: a one-day conference
Four illustrated talks on the Rosary Mysteries in art
A youth retreat weekend
A pilgrimage to Italy’s Rosary Shrine at Pompeii

• **Sapientia Day: The Heart of Revelation, A Dominican Perspective**
  Sapientia Day, a theological conference on the occasion of the 800th Jubilee Year of the Order of Preachers will come up on the 19th of November 2016 at the Sapientia College of Theology, Budapest, V., Piarista koz 1.

  The theme of the Conference will be, "The Heart of Revelation: A Dominican Perspective”. There will be simultaneous translation between French and English.

  10.00-10.15. Official opening – Jakab Várnaí OFM (Rector, Sapientia College of Theology)
  10.15-11.00. Fr. Benoît-Dominique de la Soujeole, OP (Province of Toulouse, Professor of Systematic Theology, University of Fribourg, Albertinum, Fribourg, Switzerland.)
  11.00-11.15. Pause
  11.15-12.00. Fr. Vivian Boland OP (Irish Province, Socius of the Master, Psychologist, Theologian, Santa Sabina, Rome.
  12.00-12.15. Questions to both lecturers
  12.15-13.15. Lunch
  13.15-14.00. Fr. Eric Salobir OP (French Province, General Promoter of the Order of Preachers for Social Communication, Vatican Media Committee, Street Photographer)
  14.00-14.45. Fr. Simon Francis Gaine OP (Regent of Studies of the English Province, Professor of Theology at Blackfriars Oxford)

  How could the earthly Jesus have taught divine truth?

  14.45-15.00. Pause
  15.00-15.45. Lúcia Petres OP (Professor of Philosophy, Sapientia College of Theology, Budapest)
  15.45-16.30. Questions to the lecturers, and podium discussion
  16.30. Conclusion – Hedvig Deák OP (Prioress General)

• **Art Exhibition and Day of Study at the Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology, Berkeley, USA**

  On September 25, 2016 the Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology in Berkeley hosted an opening reception for its art exhibition “Via Pulchritudinis – Fine Handpress Printing in the Dominican Tradition.” Part of the 800th anniversary jubilee year celebrations at DSPT, the exhibition focuses on the handpress materials and artwork from two Dominican presses. St. Dominic’s Press of Ditchling, Sussex, England, began in 1916 by Hilary Pepler under the inspiration of several important historical figures – G. K. Chesterton, Hilaire Belloc – and their work on Distributism. Under the guidance of Fr. Vincent McNabb, O.P. of the English Province, Pepler joined with Eric Gill, Joseph Cribb, and Desmond Chute to form the Guild of St. Joseph and St. Dominic. Later, as lay Dominicans, they produced a variety of types of materials from political satire to tracts on philosophy and theology to mime and puppetry. Examples of all these categories are on display, along with works by the artists employed for the press. The ideas that captured the imagination of these artisans also inspired a Dominican of the Western Province, Br. Antoninus (William Everson). As the Distributist movement caught the attention of Peter Maurin and Dorothy Day, the ideals expressed through the Catholic Worker Movement drew Everson first to the Bay Area and then to the Dominican Order. There he established the Albertus Magnus Press and produced some of the finest handpress materials of the twentieth century. All of the materials from the Ditchling Pess belong to the Santa
Fe Institute, a research and teaching library for religion and the arts that is owned by the Western Dominican Province and operated as a resource for students and professors of DSPT and Graduate Theological Union. The exhibition will be open for the entire Fall 2016 semester until the close of the jubilee year. A catalog is available for purchase which includes an essay by Ewan Clayton, one of the last members of the Guild. As part of the jubilee celebration, the Province has struck a commemorative broadside printed by students of Br. Antoninus, entitled, “O Lumen Ecclesiae.” Printed with the font used by Br. Antoninus to create his famous Novum Psalterium Pii XII, of 1955. For more information contact, C. Renz, O.P. at crenz@dspt.edu.

On October 5, 2016, DSPT hosted a day of study as part of the 800th anniversary jubilee year celebrations entitled, “Imagination and Cooperation in the Care for our Common Home.” The event, sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation through the “Science for Seminaries” program at John Carrol University, was designed by Christopher Renz, O.P. to explore the role that science can play in the discussion inspired by Pope Francis in his recent encyclical, Laudato sí. Participants were invited to read the encyclical before the meeting and to bring research questions from their own disciplines of science, philosophy, and theology to the day. The keynote speaker, Agustín Fuentes, Ph.D., anthropologist from Notre Dame University, invited participants to engage recent theories of human evolution with the encyclical, noting that humans are unique social creatures with particular skill for imagination that allow for the creation of unique and evolutionarily advantageous niche environments. His ideas were explored further by DSPT faculty Margarita Vega, Ph.D. and Sr. Marianne Farina, C.S.C., from the philosophical and theological perspectives. The afternoon session brought students and faculty from across the GTU and UC Berkeley into small groups to engage these ideas more thoroughly in light of Laudato sí. The talks will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal Listening.

fr Chris Renz, op

● General Assembly of Dominicans Nuns in North America

The North American Association of Dominican Monasteries held its General Assembly at the motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia, Nashville, Tennessee from September 13-23, 2016. The Dominican Sisters generously hosted the Assembly in celebration of the 800th Jubilee of the Order.

The theme selected for the Assembly was “In the Joy of Dominic: a joy ever new, a joy which is shared.”

We began with a day of retreat on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Father Walter Wagner, OP, our Religious Assistant, provided two conferences which focused on the Holy Cross and the idea that in the Cross itself God shows us how He transforms the limitations of the frailties of human life so that they serve our sanctification. Thus we can befriend the vulnerability of monastic life, and make living at this time fruitful for our own spiritual growth. When fear has been named and befriended it becomes possible to live an undefended life after the pattern of our Holy Father, Saint Dominic.

Father César Valero Bajo, OP, promoter for the Nuns of the Order of Preachers, spent two days with the Assembly. He posed this question to the nuns, “How do we Dominicans preach in a world and a society where people are indifferent to religion? He thought this question vital for Dominican Order and stressed that Dominican contemplative life is submerged in the abyss of God’s love. The joy of God always shone in the face of Dominic and the joy of Dominic is itself a wonderful preaching.

Father César challenged the nuns to reflect on what kind of reality shines forth from their faces. He told the nuns that they always have to look for the light of hope that comes from God. Quoting the Holy Father he said that every monastery must be compared to a light house for someone lost at sea. Father César begged the nuns to have a spirituality of beggars. Always to be attentive, humble and persistent.

Guest speakers were Brother Herman Johnson, OP, province of Saint Martin de Porres and Father John Paul Walker, OP, province of Saint Joseph.

Brother Herman spoke about the vocation of the cooperator brothers and the joy he has experienced in his vocation. He witnessed to the powerful intercession of Saint Martin de Porres and how he continues to be
loved by so many, Dominicans and non-Dominicans alike. As part of his afternoon session, he reenacted the life of St. Martin de Porres to the great delight of the nuns.

Father John Paul Walker, OP gave two conferences. The first was entitled, New Beginnings. He listed six characteristics of a new beginning, emphasizing that they cannot take place without first the willingness to allow the death of the old. Quoting from the Libellus of Blessed Jordan in the Lives of the brethren, Father made the comparison of the brothers who were sent out to preach on August 15, 1217 without any preparation but Dominic’s trust in God’s grace. Another example was the trust in God’s Providence and the brothers’ joy in spite of their lack of success during a whole day of begging.

The afternoon conference focused on “Trust, Confidence and Joy”. He began with the story of the early brethren being fed by angels when they had no food. Their joy was such that observers thought them drunk on one such occasion after a long day of begging without any success. Father also emphasized qualities of this JOY such as passion, benevolence. He cautioned us about taking ourselves too seriously. Father John Paul emphasized that true joy is an effect of love.

The prioresses and delegates then moved on to the business portion of the Assembly. A day was spent in the spirit of true Dominican government. The proposals submitted by the member monasteries as well as changes to the statutes and directory were discussed and voted on by the Assembly body.

The Assembly elected the new officers of the Association. President, Sister Maria Christine, OP, Corpus Christi Monastery, Menlo Park, CA; Vice-President, Sister Mary Catharine, OP, Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary, Summit, New Jersey; First Councilor, Sister Mary Rose, OP, Monastery of the Infant Jesus, Lufkin, TX; Second Councilor, Sister Marie Tersidis, OP, Queen of Peace Monastery, Squamish Valley, BC, Canada.; Third Councilor, Sister Mary Jeremiah, OP, Monastery of the Infant Jesus, Lufkin, TX.

Toward the end of the Assembly a day was spent in the beautiful Tennessee countryside at the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia’s Bethany Retreat House. The nuns thoroughly enjoyed a relaxing day and the company of each other and the gracious hospitality of the Dominican Sisters.

● The Dominican Nuns in Africa held their three-yearly meeting in Douala

The Priorresses and delegates of the Union of Monasteries of Africa of the Order of Preachers, (UMAOP) held their three-yearly Meeting from the 23rd to 30th of Sept 2016, at the Monastery of the Rosary and St. Dominic, Douala (Cameroon). The participants were drawn from the Monasteries of Karen (Kenya), Rwenza (Burundi), Kabwe (Zambia), Bambui (Cameroon), Douala (Cameroon) and the Adoration Sisters of Ilorin (Nigeria). Also present were, the Promoter General of the Nuns, Fr. Valero Cesar, as well as the Socius of the Master of the Order for Africa, Fr. Gabriel Samba. Friar Bertrand Ndjana Tsanga, of the Vicariate of Equatorial Africa, did an excellent job as translator during the meeting.

While waiting for frs. Valero and Gabriel, who arrived on September 24th and 25th, respectively, the nuns reflected together on the recent Apostolic Constitution “Vultum Dei Quaerere on women’s contemplative life” of Pope Francis. The meeting officially opened on September 25th, with a welcome address by the Coordinator and representative of UMAOP, Sr. Marie Juliette Kilanir. Sister then proceeded to brief the participants on some happenings since her appointment as Coordinator of the Region in March 2013 by the Master of the Order, fr. Bruno Cadoré; also noting some challenges the Region is facing. Apart from the yearly meetings of the International Commission of Nuns, (ICN) she was invited for the General Assembly of Inter-Africa (IAOP), in 2014 in Nairobi (Kenya). In 2015, by request of the Master, she visited the Adoration Sisters of Ilorin, Nigeria, who are in the process of being integrated into the Order. She also attended the General Chapter of Bologna, last July.

Before going on to the reports of the Monasteries, the Promoter explained some realities about our Monasteries and their manner of being autonomous. Dominic never meant autonomy, Father asserted, to make the Monasteries into Inlands living side by side but like glasses in communication. So the Promotor invited us to develop strong a fraternal communion. Among other things, we reflected on the following aspects of our life, during this meeting: Vocations, formation – initial and ongoing, the document on
formation by the ICN, and some means of raising funds for the functioning of UMAOP. In order to better follow up our resolutions and deal with urgent matters diligently, we set up a small committee consists of Sr. Marie Juliette Kilanir, the Coordinator, as President, Sr. Mary Martin, the bursar, (Kenya) and Sr. Therese Claire, the secretary (Cameroon), as members. The committee has been also given the task of drafting some elements for the functioning of UMAOP. We also discussed for a long time about the evaluation of the project of the monastery of Šenekal (South Africa) which was entrusted with the Region of Africa under the responsibility of the monastery of Karen, and relocated now in Zambia. Moreover, Sr. Joyce Rita was appointed as the archivist of the region. Her task is to gather the archives of UMAOP scattered in different monasteries and organize them in the new monastery of Kabwe. Finally, the sisters were encouraged to communicate and write articles in Monialibus.

For practical purposes the nuns had decided to insert the celebration of the Jubilee of 800 years of the Confirmation of the Order of Preachers into the agenda of the meeting. Thus on September 29th, we began the day with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a reflection on the Jubilee of the Order, facilitated by fr. Gabriel Samba. His reflection reminded us of the theme of the Jubilee, as highlighted by the General Chapter of Trogir, “Sent to Preach the Gospel”, with the following questions: “By whom are we sent? To whom are we sent? With whom are we sent? What do we bring with us in being sent?” fr. Gabriel reminded us also the twofold orientation and twofold approach of the Jubilee. The jubilee Mass was presided over by fr. Valero. Present for the Mass were friars from Yaounde, and Douala, some Lay Dominicans, Dominican Youths and friends of the hosting community. The next meeting of UMAOP will take place in 2019 at the monastery of Kabwe, Zambia.

Sr. Therese Claire, op.

● "I MISTERI" - A Journey between Art and Theology

On Saturday 1st October 2016, in the “Santa Barbara Hall” within the cloister of the Church of San Domenico in Palermo, the collective exhibition “the mysteries” - a journey between art and theology has been opened.

The exhibition, curated by brother Sergio Catalano OP, aims to artistically explore the Mysteries of the Rosary in a contemporary key offering at the same time a theological reflection on them.

I MISTERI is an initiative of the Convent of San Domenico in Palermo for the Jubilary Year of the Order of preachers. It has involved four young sicilian artists – Giuseppe Vassallo, Simone Stuto, Giorgio Aprile and Luca Crivello – whose paintings have respectively interpreted the mysteries of pain, glory, light and joy, that have been the subject of their personal exhibitions.

Now their works are shown in a collective exhibition along with two new paintings by two other young sicilian artists: Sergio Cardillo with his Crucifixion with the saints Longino and Domenico and Giuseppe Vaccaro with his The delivery of the Rosary.

Twenty-two paintings, heterogeneous in technical and linguistic choices, offer us a dense artistic reflection – full of references to classic and modern figurative culture – on theological problems that still keep on questioning us.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue edited by Sergio Catalano and published by Torri del Vento, Palermo.

The exhibition will stay open until Sunday, October 30, 2016. For further information please check our website www.domenicani-palermo.it or email us at info@domenicani-palermo.it

Fr. Sergio Catalano OP
Official News

- **Fr Benjamin Earl is the New Procurator General of the Order**

The Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré has appointed fr Benjamin Earl as the new Procurator General of the Order. He is from the Province of England and he succeeds fr Philippe Toxé who has just concluded is tenure.

Fr. Benjamin was born in 1974 in Canterbury, Kent. After studying Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Oxford, he entered the Order's novitiate in Edinburgh in 1997. Following studies in Philosophy and Theology, he moved to S. Sabina in Rome to pursue studies in Canon Law while also assisting the then Procurators General.

Returning to Oxford in 2006, he served as Bursar of Blackfriars Hall, Lector in Canon Law and Provincial Bursar. In 2012, fr. Benjamin was appointed Parish Priest of St Cuthbert's, Durham, Catholic Chaplain to Durham University, and Vicar of the Dominican Community there.

Fr. Benjamin has served as convenor of the English Province's Liturgy Commission and is a Judge of the Diocesan Tribunal of Hexham and Newcastle.

- **Fr Napoleon B. Sipalay Jr. is the New Provincial of the Philippines**

The capitular friars of the Province of the Philippines have elected fr Napoleon B. Sipalay Jr. as their Prior Provincial for the next four years. The election has been confirmed by the Master of the Order, fr Bruno Cadoré and fr Napoleon has accepted. He succeeds fr Gerard Francisco Timoner III who has just concluded his tenure.

Fr Sipalay made his first profession in the Order in 1991 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1997. He studied Philosophy and Theology and he is a student of the Institute of Consecrated Life in Asia.

Before his assignment as a missionary in Sri Lanka, he served as the Assistant Master of Students and Novice Master. He was in Sri Lanka for 9 years and held various offices during the mission including a teaching office at the National Seminary of Our Lady of Lanka in Kandy.

Fr. Sipalay was the Prior of the Priory of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary at Mankaag, Pangasinan at the time of his election.

- **The General Chapter of Bologna establishes two new Vice-Provinces**

Many are wondering: What happened to the General Vicariate of Southern Africa, since the General Chapter of Bologna has declared that «the process of restructuring of the Order into provinces, vice-provinces and provincial vicariates initiated at the Rome Chapter (ACG Rome 2010, 201-209) and approved at the Trogir Chapter (ACG Trogir 2013, 154-161) is completed» (AGC Bologna 2016, n° 161)? Here is the answer to your question.

The General Chapter of Bologna declared that the two General Vicariates which remained on the list namely, «the General Vicariates of Taiwan and of South Africa are now established as vice-provinces» (AGC Bologna 2016, n° 164). This decision has taken effect since the promulgation of the Acts of this General Chapter by the Master of the Order, Brother Bruno Cadoré, on the 8th of August 2016, Solemnity of our Father Saint Dominic (cf. Litterae Promulgationis, Prot. 50/16/558 Bologna_2016).

The Chapter of Bologna commissions the Master of the Order to complete the restructuring of the Order and «to set up a process of accompaniment, of collaboration, and of evaluation of the consolidation of the two entities. He is also to present the state of their evolution to the General Council once a year (n° 164). In addition, the Chapter of Bologna commissions « the Master of the Order to direct his socii or specific provinces to assist the new entities which have emerged to develop the structures necessary for them to realize their autonomy as vice-provinces » (n°162).
Next year (2017), the Dominicans in South Africa will celebrate a special moment of grace, that is the centennial anniversary of the Dominican foundation by the Province of England in 1917 followed by a foundation by the Province of the Netherlands in 1931 and the merger of the two which became the General Vicariate of Southern Africa in 1968. The Brothers will take this occasion to celebrate officially the passage to the statute of Vice-province, hopefully, in the presence of the Master of the Order, Brother Bruno Cadoré.

The Vice-province of Southern Africa has 35 brothers, two priories (Mondeor / Johannesburg and Emaphethelweni /Pietermaritzburg), two houses (Springs and Welkom). The Brothers are involved in different apostolates: parish ministry, teaching at the university, Justice and Peace, care of the children and the poor, media (Radio Veritas), chaplancies, among others.

We congratulate our Brothers, we encourage them and continue to pray for them so that they complete fully their process.
fr Gabriel Samba, op

**New Vicar Provincial in Venezuela**

Fr Kleyver José García Botero was elected Provincial Vicar of the Provincial Vicariate of the Province of Our Lady of the Rosary in Venezuela. This was announced by a letter from the Provincial Secretary, Fr Fernando Muñoz.

*TO ALL THE BROTHERS OF THE PROVINCE:*

*I am pleased to announce that the new PROVINCIAL VICAR OF VENEZUELA is FR KLEYVER JOSÉ GARCÍA BOTERO*

Fr Kleyver was elected on 29 September 2016 and on 3 October 2016, he signed the acceptance of his new office.

*Our congratulations and best wishes. Also we pray that the Holy Spirit will enlighten and strengthen you so that you can wisely lead the presence of the Order in Venezuela in the difficult times that the country is going through.*

*Fraternal greetings.*

Fray Fernando Muñoz, O.P.

Provincial Secretary

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**Calendar of the Master of the Order for November 2016**

- 6-8: Visitation to the Convent of Santa Sabina
- 9-22: Plenary General Council Meeting at Santa Sabina
- 23-25: USG meeting in Rome
- 27 Nov-15 Dec: Visitation to the Provincial Vicariates of Equatorial Africa and Eastern Africa

*All articles are available on www.op.org*