

LAY DOMINICANS
ST. ALBERT
THE GREAT
CENTRAL PROVINCE

contemplata

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

AUGUST, 2013

OLDEST WORKS OF
NEW TESTAMENT
(90-100+)

- ◆ 2 PETER (100+)
- ◆ REVELATION (90S)
- ◆ 1 & 2 & 3 JOHN (90S)

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In/Re/Pro/active ?

Here is a good question to ponder on a lazy August Summer afternoon—are you basically inactive? reactive? proactive?

In honesty we might admit all three but probably more one than the other two.

Do we tend to ignore problems? Avoid costly solutions? Let someone else solve difficult situations. We are **INACTIVE!**



Do we wait until the problem demands action? Is our *modus operandi* crisis management? Is our back against the wall and we must do something? Most are in this boat. We are **REACTIVE!.**



But there is a 3rd possibility. Do we plan ahead? Do we analyze a situation and choose a course of action? Do we seize control and plot out a map leading to suc-

cess? Are we willing to lead despite criticism? We are **PROACTIVE!**



As Dominicans we can learn from anywhere including the business world. In *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* (#1 business book of 20th century—15 million copies) author Stephen R. Covey selects 'Be Proactive' as his 1st Habit! "Our basic nature is to act, and not be acted upon." (p. 75) Take charge of your life, your health, your Dominican way of life!

What a Month!

Indeed! What a month for Dominicans!

We begin with Aug. 2 and the feast of St. Dominic's mother, Bl. Jane of Aza. Imagine this Guzman family with 1 Saint and 2 Blesseds! The influence of the mother must have been the best.

Then Aug. 8 and the feast of our beloved Founder, St. Dominic. We owe him eve-

rything.

And on Aug. 15—the Feast of the Assumption of our Patroness, the Blessed Virgin.

On Aug. 18 we celebrate (or should) the feast of his older brother, the humble Bl. Mannes who would go obediently wherever sent.

St. Rose of Lima is celebrated on Aug. 23. She is the 1st

canonized Saint of the New World.

On Aug. 28 we celebrate one of the Church's greatest Saints—St. Augustine from whom we have taken his Rule to follow.



Saint of the Month for August



August is a wonderful month for the Guzman family. Aug. 8 is the feast of St. Dominic and Aug. 2 is his mother's feast, Bl. Jane de Aza. Aug. 18 is the feast of his older brother, Bl. Mannes.

A special shout-out to this humble and largely forgotten man, our man of the month. He was about 15 when St. Dominic was born and had already begun his studies for the priesthood.

He was such a humble man to be one of the 1st 16 disciples of St. Dominic seeking to convert the Albigensians in southern France.

In 1217 he made profession in his younger brother's hands, promising obedience to Dominic, whom he had helped raise from his infancy.

Bl. Mannes was sent to found the convent of St. Jacques at Paris and then to Spain to found the 1st

monastery of cloistered nuns where he was the chaplain for 10 years.

Upon the canonization of Dominic he encouraged the building of a chapel in honor of his brother in Calaruega, Spain, Dominic's birthplace.



Calaruega

"If we die, we die to the Lord."

Romans 14: 8

September Saints

Sep 2—Bl. Walter (Guala) of Bergamo +1244

Bl. Ingrid of Skanninge +1282

Sep 4—Bl. Catherine of Racconigi +1547

Sep 6—Bl. Bertrand of Garrigue +1230

Bl. Michael Czartoryska +1944

Bl. Julia Stanislava Rodzinska +1945

These last 2 martyred by Nazis.

Sep 18—St. John Macias +1645

Sep 20—Bl. Mark of Modena +1498

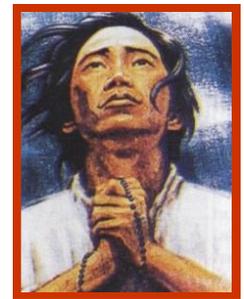
Bl. Francis de Posadas +1713

Sep 22—The 233 Martyrs of Valencia, Spain +1936 (20 are Dominicans)

Sep 24—Bl. Dalmatius Moner +1341

Sep 28—Bl. Lawrence of Ripafraffa +1456

The 16 Martyrs of Nagasaki +1633-1637 including St. Lorenzo Ruiz (LD) & 2 more LDs



St. Lorenzo Ruiz

Lay Dominican

1st Filipino Saint

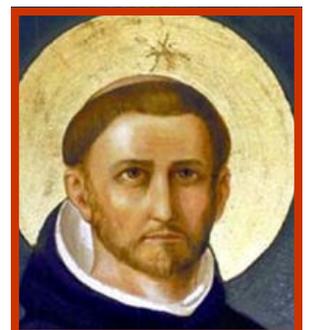
St. Dominic—8/8

This is the month of the feast of St. Dominic. Here is the testimony of Brother Stephen of Spain:

"When he was celebrating Mass, particularly during the words of the Canon, he used to weep and show all the signs of a most intensely fervent love. He was enthusiastic

for regular life and was a great observer of the Rule of the Order...He had cheap clothes made out of coarse, though clean, material...He was most sparing in food and drink, to such an extent that when the brethren had two dishes, he contented himself with one...

"He was patient and happy in all trials."



"He was patient and happy in all trials."



Provincial Happenings

Mae Frances Busby OP (1926-2013), **Blessed Sacrament Chapter**, Farmington Hills, MI. passed on July 25. She was a very beloved Lay Dominican for 25 years. She can now be heard playing her guitar for the Lord and His Angels.



Dr. Vyvian Gorbea OP, Blessed Sacrament Chapter, Farmington Hills, MI., returned from a trip to Nicaragua on a mission with the World Vets for spaying/neutering animals there.

Anastasia Maroney OP, St. Catherine of Siena Group, Carmel, IN. and her husband, **Sean**, welcomed **Peter James Maroney** into their family. Perhaps a future Lay Dominican!



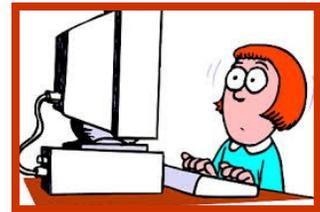
At their July meeting the **Queen of the Holy Rosary Chapter**, St. Louis, MO. Received **Michael Pulsateri OP** into the Order and **Modesta Perales** began the Initiate program.

St. Thomas Aquinas Group, E. Lansing, MI. welcomed **Tom Weber** into their Group.

The General Chapter of the Order of Preachers will be held In Trogir, Croatia, 7/22—8/8. The Master requests our prayers for its success.

The Central Province Lay Dominicans will hold their Provincial Council at the Chicago Cenacle from 10/3—10/6. We do need your prayers for a fruitful meeting.

Check out our website: (laydominicancentral.org) for new info on 'News', 'Promoters', 'Jubilee' and brand new—'Vocations' etc.



Lay Dominican Rule

Soon we Lay Dominicans of the Central Province will hold our **Provincial Council Meeting** in Chicago (10/3—10/6).

Continuing in the democratic spirit of St. Dominic and the Order of Preachers, each Chapter/Group elected a Delegate to represent them and attend and vote in this meeting.

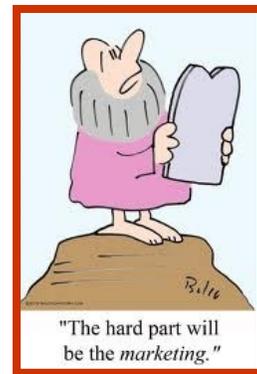
Why is this important and what does it have to do with the Rule?

1st of all remember that we have promised to “live according to the Lay Dominican Rule.” Not a part but the complete Rule (truly a blessing).

Under **Jurisdiction**: “A Lay Provincial Council...must be established in the territory of its province.” (20).

c.)

Thus the Provincial Council has jurisdiction over us, its members. We must accept and abide by its decisions, if we are to fulfill our promise to follow the Rule, even if we do not agree with all



of them. It's the **'Dominican Way.'**

Provincial Formation

To recap (and correct the unit numbering of the June issue) the 1st 2 Units of Candidacy I (similar to a Novitiate Program) examine through *Apostolicam Actuositatem* the role of the lay man/woman in the Church. We found that a Lay Dominican vocation perfectly fulfills this role.

Unit 3 treats our beloved Founder, St. Dominic, and allows the oppor-

tunity to catch some of his wonderful spirit.

Unit 4 is concerned with The Dominicans, especially the Golden Years. What a wonderful start for the Order.

Unit 5 brings us to ourselves: Lay Dominicans. We study an excellent treatment by Richard Weber OP on our history. We began 800 years ago through the desires of

the laity to live a “radical, evangelical style of life.” It is still our *raison d’être* or should be. Something to meditate upon and question ourselves today. We also look at an article by Thomas Johnston OP on the medieval Order of Penance and Lay Dominicans.

In the 1st half of Candidacy I the Candidate is acquiring an appreciation for the Order of Preachers





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Send us your news on the happenings in your Chapter/Group and we will be pleased to post them in ~~contemplata~~ and on our Provincial website:
laydominicancentral.org

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FRESH AIR—THE SECRET

Edwardo’s parish threw a big party for him when he turned 100. He received many compliments on how athletic and well-preserved he was.

Asked his secret he said, “My friends, I have been in the open air every day for some 75 years now.”

The party-goers were very impressed and asked how he managed to keep up such a vigorous fitness routine.

“Well, you see, my wife and I were married 75 years ago,” Edwardo explained. “On our wedding night we made a solemn promise: whenever we had a fight, the one who was proved wrong would go outside and take a walk!”

We don’t stop laughing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop laughing



Who am I?

Last month’s Saint was Bl. Adrian Fortescue OP.

Although I have not been canonized, I, a woman, am venerated among the great Rhineland mystics. I was born in 1208. I was not technically a Dominican but I was steeped in Dominican spirituality.

From the age of 12 I began to receive “greetings” of the Holy Spirit and became a Beguine.

The Lord told me that “no one can destroy [the Order of Preachers] which would “continue to the end of the world.” I died in a Cistercian monastery.

Who am I?

Contemplari...

Have you had a chance to read the short document from Vatican II entitled ‘*Nostra Aetate*’ regarding Non-Christian religions? Very enlightening!

Here are some thoughts from Sri Aurobindo (a Indian favorite of Fr. Don Goergen OP):

“Obviously to seek the Divine *only* for what one can get out of Him is not the proper attitude...Let us look at it as a sort of infants’ school for the unready. But of course that is not the spiritual life, it is only a sort of elementary religious approach. For the spiritual life to give and not to demand is the rule... The Divine is more than a man or woman, a stretch of land or a creed, opinion,

discovery or principle. He is the Person beyond all persons, the Home and Country of all souls, the Truth of which truths are only imperfect figures. And then can He not be loved for His own sake...?...‘I seek you for this, I seek you for that’ changes to a sheer ‘I seek you for you.’”

Isn’t this the heart of Christian contemplation—to unite with God for Himself only and not for what we get out of it?



*“Love is a yearning
Of the One
For the One.”*

- Sri Aurobindo