Rise up, 0 Men of God!

First, let’s bring this hymn, published in 1911, written by the Presbyterian clergyman, William P. Merrill, up to the 21st century:

_Rise up, O Lay Men and Lay Women of God!

The hymn does appear in Morning Prayer for Doctors of the Church and Common of Holy Men.

THE CHURCH

Time is overdue for the Laity to assume their God-given roles in the Church. So says Holy Mother Church!

“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” (Gal. 3: 28) Equality was born 2000 years ago according to St. Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit. Somehow this message got lost until Vatican II.

Indeed as Cardinal Suenens said, “The greatest day in the life of the Pope is not his election or coronation but the day of his Baptism.”

THE LAITY

“From the fact of their union with Christ the head flows the laymen’s right and duty to be apostles...it is by the Lord himself that they are assigned to the apostolate…[without working at it he is] useless both to the Church and to himself.” (Apostolicam Actuositatem #3 & #2) To take our rightful position it is necessary that we pray and study to be fit for the apostolate (see our Formation Program).

QUESTIONS

- Have we qualified our individual selves to govern?
- As officers and Provincial Council members do we govern ourselves?
- The same question for our Chapters, or have we turned it over to a priest or nun?

Triduum

The Season of Lent ends when Holy Thursday Mass begins. Now begins the Pascal Triduum (from Latin for 3 days), the shortest Liturgical Season.

After the Gloria, in the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, Thursday evening, the bells and organ are silent until the Gloria of Easter Vigil. A ritual washing of feet by the priest, wearing white, occurs after the homily. Later all altars are stripped bare, except for the altar of repose.

On Good Friday the priest, wearing red, unveils a cross to be venerated. Communion, previously consecrated, is distributed, as there is no Mass. Silence is observed.

The Easter Vigil begins in darkness with the lighting of the Paschal Candle and procession to the altar, the “Light of the World” has risen!. The priest, wearing white, gives the “Sacraments of Initiation”. Gaudeamus!
“Her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man…” (Matthew 1: 19)

We can do no better than uphold a member of the Holy Family, St. Joseph, in lieu of the absence of Dominican saint during Lent.

“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (John 1: 46)
Yes, indeed! After the birth of Jesus, Joseph and Mary with Jesus made their home in Nazareth. There Joseph plied his trade and as was the custom taught his son his craft. A humble beginning for the Messiah!

It has been proffered by Fr. Jerome Murphy-O’Connor OP that Joseph and Jesus probably worked in nearby Sepphoris, one of the Greek-speaking cities of the Decapolis.

The last sighting we have of Joseph is the incident with Jesus at 12 years of age n the Temple during Passover. “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety...Then He went down with them, and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them.” (Luke 2: 48, 50).

What a noble and self-sacrificing Layman and example is St. Joseph.

April Saints

Apr 5—St. Vincent Ferrer +1419
Apr 10—Bl. Anthony Neyrot +1460
Apr 13—Bl. Margaret of Castello +1320
Apr 14—Bl. Peter Gonzales +1246
Apr 17—Bl. Clare of Pisa +1419
Bl. Mary Mancini +1431
Apr 19—Bl. Isnard of Chiampo +1244
Bl. Sibylline Biscossi LD +1367
Apr 20—St. Agnes of Montepulciano +1317
Apr 27—Bl. Hosanna of Lotor LD +1565
Apr 28—St. Louis de Montfort TO +1700
Apr 29—St. Catherine of Si- ena LD +1380
Apr 30—St. Pius V +1522

April Saints

“Create a climate of kindness”

“Preachers should address audiences, especially non-Christian, with modesty and respect. They should create a climate of kindness and calm and graciousness so that their hearers would want to listen and would have a greater respect for the message. This is why Paul said: ‘I became like a child.’ Or a peaceful person, as I noted from Chrysostom: ‘I said nothing that smacked of arrogance’ (Homily on 2 Thessalonians).” (The Only Way, 1534, Bartolome de las Casas)
Fr. Benedict Ashley OP, (1915 -2013) passed on to his heavenly reward on Feb. 23, 2013. He was a major influence on 20th century theology and was a member of the Central Province.

The Winter 2013 Challenge is available on the ‘Members’ page of the website.

March 3—1-3 pm—Queen of the Holy Rosary Chapter, St. Louis, MO. holds a day of active contemplation entitled “Mission, Ministry and Community”.

Rosary Chapter, Grand Rapids, MI. announces Diana Vredeveld received into Order and T.J. Burdick, new Initiate. Sr. Geneva Marie suggests reflecting on Christ’s passion for Lent.

Happy New Year, Queen of the Vietnamese Martyrs Chapter, Denver, CO! “Chúc mừng năm mới!”

St. Dominic Chapter, Denver, CO. is studying “Living the Rosary” by John Phalen.

Have you been keeping up with the Provincial website? (laydominicancentral.org) Much has been added to the ‘News’, ‘Promoters’, ‘JPCC’, ‘Videos’ etc. pages. Check it out!

CORRECTIONS—Issue 9
Even Homer nods…
Name—Winnie Dahle, 61 yrs. —Lay Dominican

Chapter—Queen of the Holy Rosary (St. Louis)

REMINDER: Provincial dues are payable now ($33/member; $43/family). Plus any dues your Chapter may assess. See your Treasurer.

**Lay Dominican Rule**

This next section of our beloved Rule is so important and bears emphasis because it promotes one of our 4 Pillars: Community.

“The local community is the appropriate means for nourishing and developing each member’s dedication to his or her vocation…Faithful attendance demonstrates the fidelity of each member.” (Rule 15)

Pause a moment for a personal examination and ask yourself, “How many Meetings did I miss last year?”

The number will measure your dedication to your vocation!

“Fidelity to one’s vocation through regular attendance at community meetings is of the utmost importance.” (italics in Guidelines 15.b.)

You really have to question yourself, even if you have ready excuses for missing meetings, outside of sickness or distance. A Dominican vocation (considering the Formal Promise made) should be at the top of your hierarchy of time.

Granted it does cause sacrifice to attend at times but that sacrifice is what we signed up for. Every sacrifice does provide greater fruit as we advance in our vocations together!

**Provincial Formation**

Congratulations! You have completed the Initiate Formation Program and now stand upon the firm foundation of the 4 Pillars (Prayer—Study—Community—Mission). These 4 Pillars are the foundation of Dominican spirituality in every branch of the Order.

After you have been received into the Order of Preachers, you now begin the Candidacy I Formation Program. This is similar to the Novitiate undergone by prospective Friars, Brothers, Nuns and Sisters.

For the prospective Friar this is written: “During this intense year of prayer and discernment, the novice is instructed in elements of religious life by the Novice Master and learns how to live as a Dominican friar among brothers.”

So too for us, we will become familiar with our role as a Lay person and a Dominican with this program:

1. Vatican II on the Laity
2. Document continued
3. St. Dominic
4. The Dominicans
5. Lay Dominicans
6. Dominican Saints
7. Dominican Spirituality
8. Liturgy of the Hours
9. The Rule
10. Evaluation
11. Day of Recollection
12. Christmas Party
Last month’s Saintly person was Rose Hawthorne Lathrop. I was born in Seville, Spain in 1484. My father accompanied Christopher Columbus on his 2nd journey to the New World. I worked with my father running a plantation in Hispaniola. 15 years after my ordination I joined the Dominicans. I worked hard trying to end the injustice and brutality of the Indians. My greatest work was in my writing. Very effective. I deeply regret that I supported a limited importation of black slaves to relieve the Indian suffering. Who am I?

CELEBRATION
George was attending his wife’s 25th reunion of her graduation from St. Colman’s High School. He noticed her staring at a drunken fellow who was swigging down his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table. “Anne,” he asked, “do you know him?” “Yes,” she sighed, “I understand he took to drinking right after we split up 25 years ago and I hear he hasn’t been sober since.” “Good golly,” George said, “who’d think anybody could go on celebrating that long?”

OLDER PEOPLE SEEM TO READ THE BIBLE A LOT MORE AS THEY GET OLDER. THEY’RE CRAMMING FOR THEIR FINAL EXAM!

Who am I?

Contemplatori...

Ahhh Silence...
“We need to find God and He cannot be found in noise and restlessness...We need silence to be able to touch souls.” Bl. Mother Teresa

“In order to hear the voice of God, one has to have silence: not a gloomy silence but an interior silence, recollection in God.” St. Faustina

“The language God best hears is silent love...Wisdom enters through love, silence and mortification...It is best to learn to silence the faculties, so that God may speak.” St. John of the Cross

COGNITIVE REFLECTION TEST

- A bat and a ball cost $1.10. How much is the ball, if the bat costs $1.00 more?
- If it takes 5 machines 5 minutes to make 5 widgets, how long does it take 100 machines to make 100 widgets?
- In a lake a patch of lily pads doubles every day. If it takes 48 days for the patch to cover the entire lake, how long would it take to cover 1/2 of the lake?

Answers: 5 cents, 5 minutes, 47 days

HE WILL RISE!

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LAY DOMINICANS
ST. ALBERT
THE GREAT
CENTRAL PROVINCE

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