



Laudare

EASTER

MAY 2011

“Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts.

***Heaven and earth are full
of Your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

***Blessed is He who comes in
the name of the Lord.***

Hosanna in the highest.”

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***STS. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY***



This picture was submitted by Dr. Lana Bastin, O.P. Lana is the recently elected Vice-President of the Martin de Porres Province, and is the prior President of the St. Cecilia Chapter of the Dominican Laity. She and her husband, Bob, along with two other Dominican Laity, Mr. Rafael Perez, O.P., and Mrs. Ernestine Tuggle, O.P. are members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Lana says that she grew up in this church, where she was married and both of Lana’s and Bob’s children, Cory and Amber, received all of their sacraments in this church as well. Both of Bob’s parents had their funeral masses here. This Easter, Lana and Bob’s first grandchild will be baptized at Sts. Peter and Paul Church. Like most Lay Dominicans, Lana has been active in the parish. She is currently serving on the Worship Committee, assists with Bereavement Meals, and the Linen Society ministries. In January, 2002, the church began Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration, and will celebrate the Tenth Year Anniversary of this ministry which Lana has coordinated from its inception until now. Lana has also been active with the church’s Parish Council, long range planning, the building committee, parish school of religion, and a host of other ministries. The altar is oak with an emerald molted green granite top. The Latin words carved around the altar are the angelic hymn that is part of every Mass, taken from the sixth chapter of Isaiah and from the first chapter of Matthew: see the inset above.....

“Hosanna in the highest!”

Journeys Toward Dominican Life: Novices of the St. Cecilia Congregation of the Dominican Sisters



Pictured Left to Right:

Sr. Marie Dominique Mullen
Santa Rose, CA



Sr. Felicity Hendershott
Knoxville, TN

Sr. Paula Marie Koffi
Columbus, OH

Novices to Speak to Dominican Laity

Can there be any doubt that at the very heart of Dominican Spirituality...the very Charism of the Order....there is indeed a profound joy? This is the picture “of a thousand words”.... As was said by a St. Cecilia novice when interviewed recently on television, “*What it all came down to was not what I was going to do; rather, what I was going to be for the Lord.*”

Like Mary, they “have chosen the better part.”

Lay Dominican Blessed *By Feast Day in May*

May 7: Blessed Albert of Bergamo – (1214-1274) a *Lay Dominican and husband, known for his generosity to the poor. When his childless wife died, he left everything to live with the poor. He later joined the Brothers of Penance, which later became the Order of Penance of Saint Dominic and lived at the Dominican priory. He died in 1279*

May 28: Blessed Mary Bartholomew Bagnesi- (1514-1577) received the habit of a Sister of Penance in 1547. Although she was bed-ridden for forty-five years, she exhibited great courage, faith, and acceptance of God’s will in her life, and was able to encourage and console those who came to visit her. She was buried at the Carmelite monastery in Florence.

-from “Holy Dominicans” -a publication of The Dominican Province of St. Joseph, New York, New York, 1997

ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN!



Truth and Obedience

by Mr. Mike "Albert" Lucas, O.P.

When I think of Holy Week, my first thoughts are of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. I am caught up in the Divine and Human presence of our Lord and Savior. Another is His **Obedience** to His Father being born of a woman, placed in a very simple family, a carpenter's son, and finally accepting and completing the "cup" His Father gave Him to drink: death on a cross.

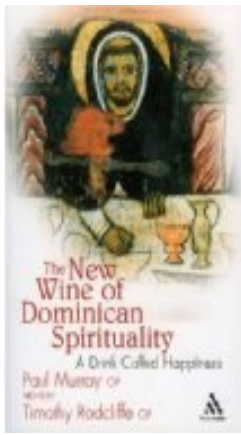
Why did Jesus do this for you and me? We must first look at Jesus' Nature: Divine and human. He is the Word of God, John 1: 1 – 4. Jesus knew from the fall of Adam, He would be required to redeem mankind. Adam's choice to **obey** or not was a free choice; Adam and Eve knew God had spoken to them the **Truth** and what was required / expected of them. They knew the **Truth** and they knew they were to **obey it**. They made a fatal choice: to sin against God. Since then, mankind has been waiting for our Redeemer to atone for the sin of Adam and Eve; to conquer death, sin's ultimate weapon.

Thank God, Jesus, and His Holy Spirit for Their Love of us. The cost was the greatest of all; God gave us His Son on a cross for payment. He loves us that much. We have a stake in His plan: we must know the **Truth** and we must **obey** God. Like our first parents we have a free will and choice. What we do with our opportunity to read and understand the **Truth** and **obey** God's calling is up to us. As Dominicans, we must pray, read Holy Scripture and study the Word of God and then proclaim the **Truth** to others. No, not just the ones we like, but to all. Jesus gave us His perfect example: He died for all (you and me). At the end, He told His Father, "It is completed". Will we proclaim the **Truth** and **obey** as our Redeemer?

"Indeed you love truth in the heart; then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom." -from the Liturgy of the Hours, Volume II, page 476

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth."
-St. John 17: 17-18

"Through Him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith." -Romans 1:5



“The New Wine of Dominican Spirituality: A Drink Called Happiness”

By Fr. Paul Murray, O.P.

This is one of my favorite books! It is written in a style which is deceptively simple, but with each page I found myself drawn into an ever deeper understanding of what it means to be a ‘Dominican’ and, with that understanding, I discovered “a drink called happiness” and I became “inebriated” and began to understand that “Dominican Spirituality,” as Timothy Radcliffe, O.P. wrote in the preface, “is not about a special way of praying; it is about

being alive in God and for others.” The book is written in a simplified version of the Mystical Tradition; it is like the prose of a person in love. His writing points to what is at the heart of Dominican Spirituality; nothing less than a profound joy!

This is a book to be read “contemplatively” –to taste each word or phrase as one does with a fine wine. Fr. Murray begins by raising the question, “What is Dominican Spirituality?” He then draws upon the insights arising from a veritable treasury of Dominican writers from Albert the Great to William of Tocco; including Catherine of Siena, Yves Congar, St. Dominic, Meister Eckhart, Thomas Aquinas and others too numerous to mention. [The book provides a great introduction to a variety of Dominican authors and has a special Bibliography that briefly describes each Dominican author cited in the book.]

At the outset, he makes it clear that while in some “religious traditions, the contemplative life implies an almost complete turning away from the world,” Dominicans are very much involved in the world –but in a very different and special way. He writes: “Instead of thinking of the individual contemplative looking at God, and in some sense looking away from things, and away from the world, we can think of the ecstasy of prayer in the reverse: the contemplative coming out from God towards things, and of being called to share in God’s gaze –with God.” “This,” he continues with a quote from the First Letter of St. John, “is contemplation –this is contemplative love –not so much that we contemplate God, but that God has first contemplated us, and that now in us, and in some sense, through us, as a part of the mystery of his risen life in the Church, he contemplates the world.” What we do is “to place ourselves faithfully before God, and offer the fullness of our being and resources.”

Fr. Murray then turns his attention to one of the hallmarks of Dominican life: joyfulness and happiness. He cautions that “involvement in religion or in the pursuit of a spiritual life is such a serious matter, believers in all religions have a tendency to become very grim, solemn people.” By way of contrast, he points to Blessed Jordan who was “spontaneous, good-humored, and exuberant....who encouraged others to “laugh to your heart’s content.” Fr. Murray writes that the “early Dominicans” had a “vision of Gospel joy”: an “ecstasy of the inner heart.” Here he underscores that fact that the joy we experience as Dominicans is nothing less than what Blessed Henry Suso saw as “a participation in the joy of God!” What follows are the insights of Meister Eckhart, who saw the command to take up our cross as actually being a “divine prescription for happiness, and Thomas Aquinas, who felt that “those who devote themselves to the contemplation of truth are the happiest anyone can be in this life.” [Continued on Next Page]

Book Review (Continued)

Thus, having laid the foundation for what he perceives as Dominican joy, Fr. Murray provides a deeper understanding of the “wine of Dominican Spirituality;” being fully rooted in the midst of the Church, the realization that “in the human being there is something inalienable, divine, and eternally free – the Word!” And now, at this point, we are ready...we have the right frame of mind, to explore how a host of Dominican authors have used “the image of drinking, or being made drunk to describe not only the overwhelming impact of the Word of God on their interior lives, but also the effect of that encounter on almost every aspect of their lives as preachers.”

With respect to St. Dominic: “here the two central realities of Dominic’s life are clearly manifest: the wine of Christ’s blood which he drank, and the wine of Christ’s Word which he preached.” What we, as Lay Dominicans, are called to do in the marketplace is to “change the water of human learning into Gospel Truth.” To quote St. Thomas: “those who pour out the water are preachers.” As Lay Dominicans, we are called to preach the Gospel of Hope, of Charity, of Wisdom, of Justice, of Happiness! “We preach a wine of truth which we have actually tasted ourselves, and have drunk with living faith and joy.”

I think this book would be an especially good one for our Inquirers to read.

-Mr. George Bercau, O.P.
“Dominic Mannes”

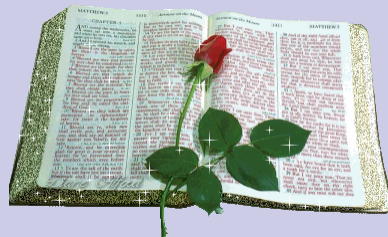
Selected Quotes

“Our love for God should be a kind of obsession or an addiction....Behave like someone who drinks a lot, and who becomes so drunk and loses himself, and can’t see himself anymore....A man ought not to love a God who is just a product of his thought....because if the thought can vanish, God too would vanish.” -p. 159

“The words of God are not only to be examined, they are to be devoured....interiorized and absorbed.” -p. 79

“In the light of grace, therefore, in the Incarnation, the first initiative always belongs to God. And that is why, both in our work and in our prayer, we soon come to realize that Christ is much more than the object of our regard. He is the Word alive within us, the ‘friend’ in whom we live and move and have our being.” -p. 21

“We are not here on earth as museum keepers, but to cultivate a flourishing garden of life.” - John Paul XXIII -p. 145



“For this wine, so familiar to us now, is eternally new.”

— Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. II, Page 392

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Dominican Laity Mission Statement

The Lay Dominicans of the Province of St. Martin de Porres, as a fruit of our baptism, are Catholics called by God to a vocation in the Order of Preachers. We live the four pillars of Dominican Spirituality through community, prayer, study, and preaching with our words and actions. We celebrate our way of life by serving others through the truth and power of God's love.

*Prayer at the Beginning
of the Hours*



Superior: *O Sacred Banquet*

All: *in which Christ is received, the memory of his passion is recalled, the soul is filled with grace, and the pledge of future glory is given us.*

Superior: *You have given them bread from heaven*

All: *containing all manner of sweetness.*

Superior: *Let us pray.*

All: *O God, who has left us in this wonderful sacrament a perpetual memorial of your passion, grant us, we beseech you, so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may ever find in our soul the fruit of your redemption, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. -Amen.*

(You may wish to cut this out and place in your copy of the Hours)



“And was crowned Queen of Heaven
and Earth”

“Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now
and at the hour of our death.”

Mater Dei

Pray the Rosary

May Study Sessions

Study sessions will be shortened this week so as to join the Sisters in praying The Chaplet of Divine Mercy....

Inquirers: “Lay Dominican Community in Practice”

Candidates: “Commitment to Community.”

Temporary Profession: “Christifideles Laici”

Final Profession:

A Quick Journey Thru the Bible-Lesson VI

At this month's Large Group Session, several of the Novices will speak to us about their calling to the Consecrated Life as sisters in the Dominican Order. We will have the opportunity to ask them questions about their calling, life in the convent, and the many adjustments they have had to make in their transition from life “in the world” to that of religious life. This has always been a highlight of our May Meeting which brings to a close the year's journey into the heart of the Church as Lay Dominicans.

