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Dominican Month for Peace – Venezuela



Rome, 5 November 2021

To all members of the Dominican Family

Dominican Month for Peace 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Warm greetings from Santa Sabina, Rome.

The events marking our annual Dominican Month for Peace for 2021 with a focus on Venezuela will begin in a few weeks. More specifically, it will begin on the First Sunday Advent, November 28, 2021 and runs through December till Epiphany on January 6, 2022.

We encourage you to publicize this event to mark our solidarity with our Dominican Family in Venezuela, and to engage members of the Family within your entity, parishes, schools, other institutions, and friends. Please pray each week for our brothers and sisters in Venezuela who face many challenges at this time. Our spiritual and financial support will be directed to assist the Dominican Family in Venezuela.

Webinars designed to raise awareness on the situation in Venezuela are planned for November 19, December 10 and December 22. Details are provided in the attached flyer for the first two webinars. Details on the third webinar will come later. Please advertise the webinars and encourage participation, including friends. You would notice that although it is designated “month for peace” the celebration stretches beyond a month, beginning with the webinars, through Advent to Epiphany. We hope that you would find a day to highlight the event with a public celebration.

To assist us in this process, our sisters and brothers in Venezuela have produced materials that include some highlights of the current situation in Venezuela. Reflections on the Advent readings, highlights on the work of the Dominican Family in Venezuela and video clips for every week will be available in Google Drive. These materials can be accessed in the language of your choice in the following Google Drive: Dominican Month for Peace 2021- Google Drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-f7vUe4_ZoByaYSNbjPdQAU31Zqqjfi8?usp=sharing

Adapt it as you deem fit for your context and audience.

To ensure a coordinated effort and a smooth running of the events:

- Please appoint a coordinator for your entity to direct the events.
- If you have produced some material on the Month for Peace, please share it with the General Promoter of Justice and Peace, fr. Aniedi Okure iustitia@curia.op.org, and the Sr. Durstynne Farnan ngo@domlife.org.
- We ask that the Coordinator of the Month for Peace informs the General Promoter and DSIC Coordinator of the activities within your entity.

For General Information:

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Thank you for your cooperation and support of our Dominican Family in Venezuela. Remember that small deeds done with much love go a long way. God richly bless your efforts of solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Venezuela.

In St. Dominic,

Sr. Durstynne Farnan, OP
DSIC Promoter

fr. Aniedi Okure, OP
General Promoter for Justice and Peace

fr. Gerard Timoner, OP
Master of the Order ■

Pilgrimage dedicated to St. Mary of the Grotto in Rabat Malta



1 Victoria Church and Convent

One of the most ancient pilgrimages to date is the one dedicated to the Holy Mary of the Grotto in Rabat Malta. The pilgrimage is organised by the Parish of Porto Salvo and St. Dominic in Valletta Malta and it dates back to 1883. With the contribution of Friar Ang Portelli who was later appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop, the pilgrimage started to be organised yearly. Starting near the Parish Church in Valletta around 5.00am, the pilgrimage is accompanied by the Blessed prayer of the Holy Rosary. Upon arrival at the Grotto in Rabat the Pilgrims used to chant the Te-Deum.

Along the years, the pilgrimage lost its authenticity, until a few years ago when a group of youths, part of the Lay Fraternities of Saint Dominic in Valletta Malta and under the guidance of Fr. Michael Camilleri, OP, Parish Priest of the Basilica of Portu Salvo re-initiated this beautiful tradition again. The pilgrimage is organised during the third weekend of October; being the month dedicated to the Blessed Rosary. 2021 being a significant year for all the Dominicans around the world as we celebrated the 800 years from the death of our Patron Saint Saint Dominic, the Pilgrimage was held on Sunday 17th October 2021.

The group started from Valletta around 4.45am, praying the Holy Rosary all the way to Rabat. Reaching Rabat around 8.00am, the group went down to the Grotto and recited the Salve Regina. Mass was celebrated, together with the Rabat Dominican Community. After Mass both



communities socialised over a cup of coffee and traditional cheese and peacakes.

We would like to thank all those involved in making this possible. We are committed to continue to strive in maintaining this tradition together as a group. An opportunity to keep alive the prayer of the Holy Rosary and keep growing socially together. ■

Lay Fraternity of
St. Dominic in Valletta, Malta.

Meetings of the Dominican Youth Movement (MJD) – LAC

“Like a New Flame”



COMO UNA NUEVA LLAMA
ENCUENTROS DEL MJD LATINOAMÉRICA
JUBILEO DE SANTO DOMINGO

Under the title “Like a New Flame” and on the occasion of the Jubilee of the eighth centenary of the Dies Natalis of St. Dominic of Caleruega (1221-2021), the young people who make up the Dominican Youth Movement in Latin America and the Caribbean have organized a series of commemorative meetings as a special way of celebrating this event.

The MJD in Latin America and the Caribbean is made up of 71 groups and 1170 young people from eleven countries who, with their enthusiasm, commitment and dedication, contribute to the mission of preaching the Good News from the spirituality of the Order of Preachers in a climate of communion and fraternity.

Since August 2021 they have been meeting monthly around the table with St. Dominic. They have had three virtual meetings dedicated to the reflection on the presence of the Order on the continents, the social reality, and ecology, all in the light of the encyclical *Laudato si'*. In order to deal with these themes, which were discussed by the brothers and sisters, we were joined by members of the Dominican Family from different countries who collaborate daily with young people. Among them were Bro Ricardo Cuadrado (Prior Provincial of the Province of Central America), Bro Franklin Buitrago (Master of Students of the Province of Colombia),

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Susana Brittos (Coordinator of the Lay Fraternities of Latin America and the Caribbean -COFALC), Sr Andrea Recalde (National Councillor of MJD Colombia) and Mónica Villanueva (Cultural Director of the Pío Aza Centre). The members of the International Commission of IDYM and Bro Juan Ubaldo López Salamanca (Promoter General for the Laity of the Order) also participated in the meetings.



The next meeting will take place on November 26, 27 and 28, 2021 with the participation of the provincial promoters, on the theme of synodality, in the charism of the Order of Preachers lived in the unity of the community-apostolic perspective.



These meetings have a report that is prepared on a rotating basis by the coordinators of each country, in order to enrich the cultural diversity, contexts, challenges, dreams and perspectives of the MJD in the region. Finally, the aim of this journey is not only to celebrate together the jubilee of St. Dominic, but also to offer spaces for meeting, dialogue and formation among the members of different countries and to prepare the Plenary Assembly of the Coordinators of Latin America and the Caribbean that will be held in January 2022, when the gatherings will be finalized. ■

Urbi et Orbi: Dominican Preaching in the Time of Pandemic

Urbi et Orbi: Dominican Preaching to the City and to the World in the Time of Pandemic



www.ai.edu/urbietorbi

"I charge you....: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction" (2 Timothy 4:2a).

The grace and task of preaching "in season and out" is particularly entrusted to the Dominican Family and is perennially relevant and rich in possibilities, especially in the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, on 12-14 October 2021, the Dominican Preaching Network, a global community of three Dominican Schools of Preaching that includes Aquinas Institute of Theology (USA), the *Institut für Pastoralhomiletik (Germany)*, and the *Institute of Preaching (Philippines)*, organized its fifth international colloquium on Dominican preaching entitled *Urbi et Orbi: Dominican Preaching to the City and to the World in the Time of Pandemic*.

The colloquium was conducted virtually across several international time zones from Manila, beginning with a welcome from Br. Filemon de la Cruz Jr., OP, Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines. Each daily two-hour session featured preliminary entertainment and prayer led by Dominican student friars in Quezon City, Philippines, an opening prayer, a keynote address, a series of short videos, open forums, and a closing prayer. The colloquium ended with closing remarks by Br. Gregory Heille, OP, animator of the Dominican Preaching Network steering committee,

and Br. Clarence Marquez, OP, Director of the Institute of Preaching, Quezon City, Philippines.

The keynote talks included the following: "Preaching Hope in a Time of Pandemic" by Br. Gerard Francisco Timoner III, OP, Master of the Order; "Dominicans and Lay Catholic Preaching" by Prof. Ann Garrido, D.Min., Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis, Missouri; "The Preaching of the Nuns: the Secret Fruit of Contemplation" by Sr. Barbara Beaumont, OP, Sister Historians of the Order of Preachers, Fanjeaux, France; and "The Mystery of Grace: In My Weakness Is My Strength" by Sr. Margaret Mayce, OP, Dominican Sisters International Confederation.

The colloquium also included daily sharing of short films, audio-visual documentaries, and music videos by Dominicans from around the globe preaching "in season and out" during the pandemic. Among the short films and presentations by Dominicans are as follows: "A Bishop's First Confession" by Br. Dominic DeLay, OP, of the Province of the Holy Name, USA, with Mudpuddle Films; "Wake" by Br. Jude Mary Owoh, OP, of the Province of St. Joseph the Worker in Nigeria and Ghana, with Dominican Media; "Nuns and Nones: Preaching Hope during this Pandemic" by the Dominican Sisters of Hope; "Preaching through the Arts" by Barbara Schwarz, OP, Dominican Charism Project; "Preaching through Art" by Br. Cristóbal Torres, OP, Province of St. Martin de Porres, USA; and "Through the Media of Social Communication" by the Dominican Student Brothers of the Province of the Philippines. Featured also were open discussions with various presenters and a panel entitled "Preaching and Racism: Finding Our Way Forward" from Aquinas Institute of Theology, USA.

The participants included members from the different branches of the Dominican Family: friars, nuns, lay and priestly fraternities, apostolic sisters, the Dominican Youth Movement, and associates who engage in preaching. There were 466 registrants, and approximately 200 live Populi and Facebook logins and 1,400 follow-up viewers each day.

All talks delivered at the colloquium are now available for viewing by the Dominican Family at www.ai.edu/urbietorbi. The next colloquium that the Dominican Preaching Network will sponsor is



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scheduled in 2022 from September 28 to October 1
in Cologne, Germany. ■



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