



International Dominican Foundation

AUGUST 2013

Keystones Across America

The International Dominican Foundation is working hard at growing our national awareness in the United States. The projects in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo offer so much to our Catholic Faith and to human flourishing as well, yet many people do not know about us. Our hope is to raise awareness and have plans to crisscross America visiting over 30 cities in roughly the same number of diocese, and in all four US Dominican Provinces. Our hope is to model what might be possible on a global plan, truly an international undertaking.

Dominicans are itinerants, wandering preachers of God's Word, and this Fall I will be "on the road" as they say. The Keystones represent a wide range of geographic and cultural richness in America so we would like to cultivate friends here there and everywhere. I have been looking at my calendar and it will be a challenging undertaking but one that I hope you will be able to help me achieve. I will be traveling from coast to coast and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico so I would love to hear from you and perhaps you might help in getting word out. Please [send me an](#) email if you are interested. Tell me where you are and I will let you know when I will be in your general area and events you might find of interest.

If you belong to the Dominican Laity, or are in a Dominican parish, or studied or visited the projects in Jerusalem, Rome or Cairo, please get in touch. These are projects of the Master and your help in particular is a great way to get word out and to help others learn about the good works of these projects. If over the years our paths have crossed and you know me, please do get in touch. It is always good to reconnect and catch up. There is something truly spiritual about life's journeys and the people we meet and who enrich our lives. I look forward to my "Keystone travels" and perhaps meeting you along the way. Please help me share the good works of the International Dominican Foundation.

Thank you., *fr Michael*

Couvent Saint Etienne Saint Stephen's Monastery

The École Biblique

THE BIBLE
in Its Traditions

[View 2013-2014 Program of Study Here](#)



The Basilica of St. Stephen in Jerusalem is the largest church in the Holy City and one of the most venerable after the Holy Sepulchre. The community of Preachers, the Dominicans who, since 1882 have prayed and preached in the church of St. Stephen, would like to see it made worthy of the Imperial Basilica it is and the rites of the liturgy. This construction will build on the historical knowledge we have of the Byzantine liturgy and furnishings, with some modification. As much as possible it will use the remaining *retrouvés* found on site during the excavations made in the 1890s. These remains are presented on this site for each of liturgical furniture pieces which they relate. From the archaeological foundations of the Byzantine era, the Dominicans and scholars of the monastery of Saint- Etienne and the School French Biblical and Archaeological have developed a plan for the basilica's restoration. [Read more here.](#)

In addition to the physical needs of the monastery the research and scholarship being done at the École Biblique continues to make the ancient texts fresh even for today. The School is the oldest center of biblical and archaeological research in the Holy Land, and it was founded in 1890 by Father Marie-Joseph Lagrange (1855-1938). Please consider supporting this very worthwhile project of the Order. [More](#)

taken in part from the website at www.ebaf.edu

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from Rome, the Angelicum

Since 1265, when Thomas Aquinas was summoned to Rome as papal theologian by Pope Clement IV, there has been a Dominican theological presence in Rome. Even earlier, in 1222, the *studium conventuale* at Santa Sabina, now the Order's world headquarters, was a center of learning for the Dominicans. For a period Dominican studies were located both at Santa Sabina and the Dominican convent of Santa Maria sopra Minerva where theology was taught. It was in the XVth century that the College of St. Thomas took shape, following the proclamation by Pope Pius V making Thomas a Doctor of the Latin Church.

Though it has had many names over the centuries the excellence of learning has been constant. In 1963 Pope John XXII raised the Angelicum to the rank of a Pontifical University. For the 2011-2012 academic year the student body comprised approximately 900 students coming from 95 countries. In recent years the number of lay students has increased especially in the social sciences faculty.

Former Names

- Collegium Divi Thomae (1577–1580)
- Collegium Divi Thomae de Urbe (1580–1906)
- Pontificium Collegium Divi Thomae de Urbe (1906–1908)
- Pontificium Collegium Internationale Angelicum (1908–1926)
- Pontificium Institutum Internationale Angelicum (1926–1942)
- Pontificium Athenaeum Internationale Angelicum (1942–1963)



from Cairo, I.D.E.O.



Enabling a critical and respectful reading of the turâth

In Arabic, the term “critical thinking” (*tafkîr naqdî*) is often understood as distrustful of the Arab or Islamic culture and is unbearable for many Arab researchers. They find it difficult therefore to adopt a historical perspective as researchers in the West do. They prefer to consider classical culture in its internal consistency and organic development, an ahistorical approach that brings out the specific beauty of Arab culture but tends to minimize the breaks. Therefore it becomes inadequate in helping to meet new cultural challenges. The AlKindi catalog will make a more helpful historical reading of the turâth possible.

In addition, the sense of a particular work in the turâth (heritage) is difficult to capture because many of its authors are compilers of the works of the ancients. Their genius has often been to summarize, rearrange, or to compile the works of their predecessors rather than to create an original or innovative work: the contextualization of theirs works is therefore essential to understanding them. [Read more.](#)

adapted from the IDEO website



Feast of St. Dominic, August 8th Your support is critical.

2016 marks the 800th anniversary of the Dominican Order and we need your help. These are significant times and the needs are equally significant. In order to support the projects in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo the Foundation is turning to you. As a way to **Celebrate the Eight!** please consider contributing to the Foundation according to your means. Every bit helps and the projects, which do so much good for the Church, are in real need.

Please send your donation to:

International Dominican Foundation
Attn. Celebrate the Eight!
1 Galleria Blvd, Suite 710-B
Metairie, LA 70001 USA

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Many Thanks!