



International Dominican Foundation

May & June 2014

Double Issue!

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You may have noticed there was no May issue of the Newsletter. Please forgive the absence due to complicating factors. I confess that trying to juggle multiple part-time jobs can get the better of you. Anyone who teaches knows that the end of the academic year with exams, papers, events, etc. is a crunch time. Well, I got a little crunched. That is not to say that things have not been happening with the Foundation. We have been busy squeezing every drop we can but it does demonstrate just how blessed we are with the good hearted individuals who make this organization work. From the Board Members to the volunteers there are so many kind people who help to make things work. Your support too is an enormous blessing and enables us to achieve things that might be considered unthinkable. We are fortunate to know that kind of support.

In May we were busy with our annual audit and preparing for the June meeting of the Board. In the office, Jan Merington my Executive Assistant was busy balancing the requests from the accountants, the Finance Committee as well as booking and scheduling. The annual meeting was set to take place in New Orleans, a perfect spot for the Foundation given our head office is there. However a host of variables were at play on scheduling so we had to go with plan B, which was a teleconference call. I am delighted to say that the annual meeting was a huge success with the best attendance I know. Technology allowed directors across the country, across nations and over two continents to engage in real time.

There are many exciting things coming up this year but I will save them for future newsletters. In this newsletter I hope to share some items that I have found especially inspiring. From the students and scholars at the three projects, to the committees and works of the board, a lot has been happening.

fr Michael

Your Support Helps to Shape the Minds and Hearts of a New Generation

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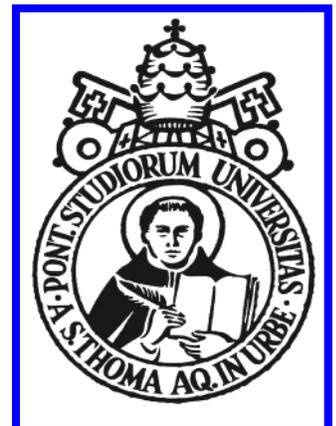
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Fr. Roque Gonsalves

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Roll of Honor

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fr. Thang Anthony Mana O.P.

Through the generous support of the donors who established these funds, and the prudent, diligent oversight of these funds we are able to assist clerical, religious and lay students in their learning and future service to the Church. Many thanks. [Read more here.](#)



News from the École Biblique

A sense of place and dedication to study: the gifts of the École Biblique.

I remember Palm Sunday, 2013, when I was in Jerusalem, where I joined 10,000 pilgrims in the traditional procession from Bethany to the Old City of Jerusalem, singing and waving palms. Participation in the procession gives the Gospel narrative which is re-enacted in churches throughout the world each year, a palpable vitality available nowhere else. This concrete sense of place is one of the gifts of the École Biblique, which had been my home for five and a half years. The École was founded for this very reason: to study the Bible in the land in which it was written, to let the land inform the reading of the text. Another gift of the École is that it gives to researchers the opportunity to dedicate themselves to study in our extraordinary library.

Because the École is a ministry of the Dominican Priory of St. Stephen, all researchers are able to share in the benefits of living in a Dominican community; in practical terms, someone else makes dinner. I asked a French researcher why she had come to the École. She responded that she did not need to leave the library at the end of the day in order to go home and prepare dinner.

One also has the opportunity to share in the full liturgical life of the community. The Dominican ideal of prayer and study is open to all.

Fr. Kevin Stephens is a member of the Province of St. Albert the Great, USA who has finished his studies and is now teaching in St. Louis at the studium, Aquinas Institute.

Amid a Changing Cairo Scholars Engage Timeless Ideas



In the midst of Cairo's changing fortunes stands the **Dominican Institute of Oriental Studies**, a team of Dominicans in Cairo committed to the dialogue among cultures and religions. To achieve this mission they undertake to: **study** Islam through its primary sources at a high academic level; **provide** researchers and students with a library specializing in Islam; **publish** research articles in their academic journal, MIDEO; **live out** their vocations as Christian religious in a Muslim majority country; and **welcome** all who are interested in dialogue between different cultures and religions. Since May they have welcomed Mr. **Ahmed Chleilat**, a recognized scholar in Egyptology, who comes three times a year as part of the *200 Project* in order to oversee the work of the researchers. They have also received **Alain Navarro**, former Agence France-Presse (AFP) correspondent in Cairo. And they have welcomed Professor **Miklós Maróth**, a specialist in Arabic philosophy and one of the founders of the Catholic University of Hungary. He currently directs the Institute for Doctoral Studies on Avicenna. IDEO offers students and researchers a home in a particularly favorable environment for research, the **Scholars' House**. Built in the peaceful garden of the convent of the Dominicans, directly connected to the library, the Scholars' House is a comfortable and quiet place to stay in Cairo, next to al-Azhar and Islamic Cairo.

Learn more about additional Members of IDEO [here](#)

Help us update and add new supporters! *Please take a moment and help us update our address and email.*

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Drop Us a Note

International Dominican Foundation United States National Office ~ 1 Galleria Blvd., Suite 710-B ~ Metairie, LA 70001

Call Us 504-836-8180

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Help Us [Secured Donation](#)

Many Thanks!

The Church needs Lay women and men!

Graduate Studies at the Angelicum in Rome? [Click Here!](#)

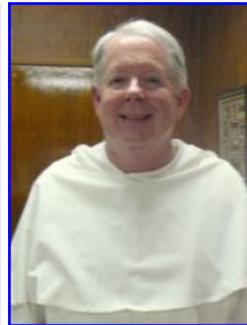
It is time to join with other women and men who love their Catholic Faith and want to learn more in a setting that breathes the vitality of the Gospel and the brilliance of St. Thomas Aquinas. It's time you looked into graduate studies in the Eternal City, in the heart of the Catholic world, amid saints and scholars.



“the hour of the laity has come”

Pope Francis (Address to the Pontifical Council for the Laity December 2013)

Board
Changes



We are delighted to welcome to the Board of Directors our newest members (above 1-r) Very Rev. Ken **Letoiles**, Provincial of St. Joseph's Province; Very Rev. Tom **Condon**, Provincial St Martin de Porres Province; Deacon Frank **Reilly**, President COO Reilly Financial Advisors; Rev. Dr. Paul **Watkins**, Professor Business Administration at Christian Brothers University in Memphis. Provincials serve *ex officio* on the Board and given the June elections in two of the four US provinces we have a change over. This means that we say farewell to (below 1-r) Fr. Brian **Mulcahy** and Fr. Chris **Eggleton** who both served the Board with great dedication and direction. Fr. Mulcahy contributed to the work of the Finance Committee and Fr. Eggleton served on the Executive Committee. Mr. Larry **Merington** ends his term on the board and has been a dynamic advocate chairing the Development Committee. Mr.



Joe **Calderone** has been critical in helping the board navigate its financial matters. He has served as chair of the Finance Committee, a member of the Blue Ribbon Committee, and trusted advisor to the president. All the best to these dedicated individual who served the Foundation so well.

Six Ways You Can Help!

Would you believe that most successful fund raisers are successful because they are FUN! All too often I speak with people who say I wish I could help but I just don't know what to do. Well here are six fun ideas to try this summer as a way to support the International Dominican Foundation. They aren't big things and you may only be able to raise what you think is a small amount but I assure you when you multiply your efforts by five or ten or twenty others, well you get the idea. You can print out brochures [HERE](#) for people to learn about the projects, but more importantly you create a community of support and understanding. So here we go...

1

Book Sale



Get your friends or your children to gather up all your old books, magazines, and novels for a neighborhood book sale. Ask people to make a donation for books by the book, what fits is theirs. It's a great way to get people engaged and to let them know about the Foundation's projects.

2

Organize a Fun Run! Get people to run 8 blocks or 8K. Ask them to recruit sponsors for each block or kilometer they run/walk



3



YUM!. A bake sale to support the projects in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo. Decorate the items to match the projects.

4



Go through your basement, your attic, your storage room and have a rummage or yard sale. Turn your old trash into new treasures and help a good cause. Great summer activity for teens to organize and help sell.

6



Take a Hike! Get people to sign up for a walk through the countryside or mountains or city park. Charge a registration fee and award them with a certificate of completion once they finish, and something cool to drink.

5



POTLUCK DINNER

Put on a potluck picnic or BBQ cook off. Have people vote for the best items by sampling each item and putting donations into containers for the item(s) they like. At the end announce the top 10 items with the greatest donations. They are the best of the best!

Enlist friends and share this with others who would like to help.

Ask about doing something in your parish, or club, or neighborhood.

Lay Dominican Chapters, here's your chance to do something.

Send your donations to:

The International Dominican Foundation
1 Galleria Blvd Suite 710-B
Metairie, LA 70001

[Tell us about your event!](#)

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them



Please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of two people whose families are part of the Foundation. Norma Richard Domangue was the mother of Jan Merington, and Jeffrey was the son of Dr. John Patrick Jordan and the late Peggy Jordan.

We pray for their eternal rest and for all of our family and friends who have passed from this life into life eternal. God bless them and grant them peace.



Norma Richard Domangue
1928-2014

Jeffrey T. Jordan
1958-2014

If you would like us to remember
in prayers your dearly departed,
please let us know.

Send us a note
or click [here](#) to send an email



Want to know more?

Are you curious about the three projects we support? Where are they and what do they look like? Here is an easy way to learn more about the Foundation's projects, just watch these videos. Click on the three links to watch.

[Jerusalem video](#) [Rome video](#) [Cairo video](#)

Tell us which video is your favorite [here](#).

