



International Dominican Foundation

August 2014

The Dominican Mission: Collaboration at Its Core

I have often marveled at St. Dominic’s innate sense of “working with,” his tendency to see the mission as shared, not belonging to one person save Christ. As a canon at Osma, then as sub-prior, then prior he would have been the likely successor to Bishop Diego d’Azevedo. Instead, he and Bishop Diego encountered people ill-formed in their Faith and lost in the maze of false promise. Together they labored to preach the Gospel and save souls. When the Order was established Dominic dispersed the first friars and he sent them out in teams, two by two, to preach and teach and bless. His sense of sharing in the labors went beyond the band of friars to the Dominican women who shared the vision. The essential collaboration of prayer and preaching, contemplation and action, have left the Order a core to our care of souls. Dominic also had a strong sense of how Faith was not opposed to the learning of the great universities and quickly sent friars to be in the midst of it all, working with the challenging ideas of the day.

It is a challenge in our post-Modern, individualistic society to keep this spirit of true collaboration alive. Even Dominicans can fall into a go-it-alone attitude that either negates the value which another can bring to the project, or presumes rather egotistically that no one else will do it as well. Collaboration is about trust, first and foremost trust in the Holy Spirit and Divine Providence. As we celebrate the Feast of St. Dominic this month let us learn to trust the good in our neighbor, the possibility of shared labors that yield a more bountiful harvest. Collaboration is core to the Dominican mission.

fr Michael



Meet me in St. Louis: “Collaboration is Key”

The St. Louis Arch, also known as the Gateway Arch, commemorated Americas movement westward, opening the vast territories of the Great Plains. Now the city of St. Louis is a center for Dominicans from both the Central and Southern provinces with both the joint studium and Aquinas Institute located there. Its central location is also attractive to Dominicans from abroad who happen to be in the States.

Fortunately this summer two Dominicans will be in the U.S. and will be able to meet with the Foundation’s president to discuss and explore ideas and options for greater collaboration Fr. Eric Salobir (left), the Order’s Promoter for Media and recently appointed to the Vatican Media Committee and fr. Marcel Sigrist, Director of the École Biblique in Jerusalem, who is doing research in the States, will meet in St Louis August 13-16. Collaboration is key to the many projects of the Order and this gathering demonstrates just one of many steps the International Dominican Foundation is undertaking to achieve its goals of supporting the projects of the Master. Of course your support is so important, in so many different ways.

This will be the first time we have been able to meet and my hope is that we might soon be able to arrange a meeting with all the project directors and other key members of the Order’s many ministries.

“Collaboration is Key” is a theme we might all find beneficial in making great things happen!





...from the I.D.E.O. Newsletter

A symposium on the 20th anniversary of the death of Fr. Anawati, founder of IDEO

A group of Egyptian scholars took the initiative to organize a study day on June 7th devoted to the intellectual legacy of Father Anawati. The symposium took place in Zamalek in the premises of the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD), which supports the organization. The event coincided with the occasion of the publication of a book edited by Hammad Hassan, from the Department of Philosophy of Zagazig University. Copies are available at IDEO. **Jean Jacques Pérennès, O.P.** gave a paper during the day discussing the intellectual journey of Fr. Anawati.

Publications

The **Georges Anawati Stiftung Foundation** is publishing a German translation of the interview with Fr Anawati by Mamoud Azab and Hoda Aissa, given near the end of his life. *Ich liebe die Muslime, weil sie lieben Gott*, Herder (2015),

Emmanuel Pisani, the new director of our journal MIDEO published "The humanistic approach of Abu Hamid al -Ghazali (d. 505/1111)," *Studia Islamica*, Volume 109,

Seminars and lectures

June 4 ~ **Guillaume de Vaux** led a session in Arabic on *The truth and proof of the author of the Epistles of the Brethren of Purity (Ikhwan es-Safa): New hypothesis on membership in the al-Kindi school.*

June 10 ~ **Rémi Chéno**, member of IDEO, led a session on *The epistemology of Jainism. Prospects for Interreligious Dialogue.*

June 15-19 ~ **Jean Jacques Pérennès** participated in the Scientific Committee of the Oasis Foundation, on the topic: *The temptation of violence. Religions between war and reconciliation.*



Angelicum: Summertime and the Great Exodus from Rome



RESTARE CALMO sarò di nuovo alla FINE DELL'ESTATE

This is what greets the visitor at "The Official Blog of the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Urbe" (click [HERE](#) to visit) for the summer. It is a fact that in the summer months most of the inhabitants of the Eternal City who can, do leave Rome's heat. Many of the offices in the Vatican and in Rome are closed or reduced hours since everyone or almost everyone is "on holiday" for the month.

STUDY in ROME

Fortunately the internet doesn't bother with the weather and you can still visit the Angelicum online. If you are interested in **doing graduate studies in Rome** the Angelicum is a great opportunity. If you have question there is a FAQ page [HERE](#) that will get you started. The International Dominican Foundation is proud to support scholarships for religious, diocesan and lay students. If you are an alumnus your support will help a new generation of students at the Ange.

Want to know more?

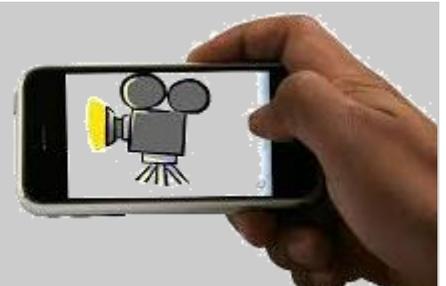
Are you curious about the three projects we support? Where are they and what do they look like? Here is an easy way to learn more about the Foundation's projects, just watch these videos. Click on the three links to watch.

[Jerusalem video](#)

[Rome video](#)

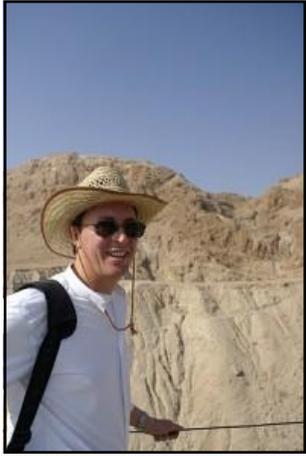
[Cairo video](#)

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



Exploring the Faynan Region in Jordan

The École Biblique has been a remarkable resource in the study of Scriptures. It has also contributed in studying and preserving the Holy Land. In June of this year two friars, one a Franciscan **fr. Jordi Cervera i Valls, OFM**, the other a Dominican, **Riccardo Lufrani, OP** (left) explored the Faynan region in southern Jordan. Using Google Earth and photos they have put together a video that speaks for itself. It is truly an international video because it shows the geography and images of the area without any words being spoken. You may see the video [HERE](#).



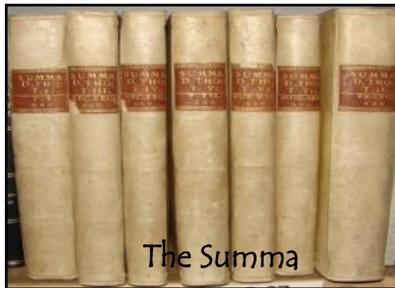
The work of the International Dominican Foundation supports three projects of the Dominican Order in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo, but that does not tell the whole story. These projects are dedicated to discovery. That takes an amazing amount of dedication, study and perseverance. It takes years of learning to master the disciplines and science necessary to scholarly research as well as to masterfully teach. **It takes a Special Person!**

I have come to see that the truly great treasure and real gifts of the École Biblique, the Angelicum and the Dominican Institute of Oriental Studies (IDEO), are the people. God has called individuals whose talents are given for the sake of the rest of us. I am amazed at the years it takes to master the various languages, the time it takes acquiring the necessary critical skills, and the days of personal sacrifice that yield an inspired sense of the subject required by these scholars. Like athletes, artists and great musicians their years of training benefit us all. The task of the Foundation is to support these individuals in the good works they do. This is a very different kind of appeal to make to donors. It takes time to appreciate that such gifted individuals are few and far between. It takes the perceptive person to recognize the hours lovingly poured out over one text of the Bible, the years of struggle to grasp the spiritual depth of God's self-disclosure, or the openness and engagement in the difficult contemporary issue. **It takes a Special Person!**

The works in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo are unique undertakings and when you consider the rare breed of person who possesses the skills and dedication required you see just how much it takes a Special Person to help us in our own journey of Faith. Please consider a major donation to the important work of these dedicated few.



The Dead Sea Scrolls



The Summa



The Koran

Help us update and add new supporters! *Please take a moment and help us update our address and email.*
Please support IDF by becoming an Associate

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

Email Us info@intldom.org

Help Us [Secured Donation](#)

Many Thanks!

Even More Ways You Can Help!

Help comes in many ways through the efforts of many hands and many generous hearts. Not everyone can write a check for large amounts but many of us can try and do one thing, just one little thing that will help to raise money for the Foundation and its good works. This page continues the “Ways to Help” pages from the last two Newsletter (May/June double issue and the July issue). If you can think of other fun ways to help raise awareness or support for the International Dominican Foundation [send us an email](#), your creativity and imagination are most welcome.

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A Letter Writing Campaign. To mark the 800th anniversary of the Dominican Order start a Letter Writing Campaign and invite just 8 people to join you and ask each person to write eight people. Tell your friends about the works in Jerusalem, Rome and Cairo, give them a draft letter they can work from and add to or edit. Ask them to tell friends about the good works of the Foundation. They can send the letters by email or by good old fashioned post. If you would like, [download brochures](#) (or [email the office](#) for copies) to include in your email or letter. Be sure and ask them to support the Foundation in some way such as [signing up for the newsletter](#) or [making a donation](#).

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Mad Hatter Tea Party!

What a great way to gather friends for an afternoon and support a good cause. Go down the rabbit hole where things become “curiouser and curiouser.” Have guests bring their favorite Lewis Carroll *Alice in Wonderland* quotes for others to auction and bid on the best.



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Hidden Treasure Auction



Organize an auction through your parish, lay chapter, club or organization. Request from donors “hidden treasures” like old jewelry, unused time-share days, paintings that have been sitting in storage, unused gift cards, or antique furniture. Auction these items to support the Foundation.

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Movie Marathon

Whether it’s the old classics or the latest releases, from MGM to Disney, Casa Blanca or The Mummy, organize a Movie Marathon, ask for a donation entry fee and sell popcorn, sodas and candy to help the Foundation.



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Street Party



City street or country road, shut it down for a few hours, an evening or a day and have

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Neighborhood Curb Appeal Clean Up

Organize the parish youth group or college volunteers to tidy up the neighborhood. Have participants sign up sponsors to donate for each hour worked.



a Festival of Fun for the International Dominican Foundation. Food booths from Jerusalem, Rome, and Cairo with Italian and Mediterranean cuisine are a great start.

Challenge to our Friends, to Alumni, to Dominicans, to Everyone!

Send your donations to:

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

Tell us about your event!