



International Dominican Foundation

September 2014

A New Face in the Office & a Fond Farewell



There is a change in the office. Mrs. Jan Merington who has faithfully served in the Foundation office since November 2010 will be moving on and Mr. Dominique Monlezun becomes our new Executive Assistant.

As we all know the New Orleans' office is the hub for the International Dominican Foundation, USA. Jan has been a great presence and fantastic worker serving two different presidents and numerous board members. Dominique has experience in fund raising and administration. You will learn more about Dominique next month. . . *fr Michael*

The Angelicum Connection



I am always pleased to meet students from the Angelicum and to hear their stories. I am impressed by the number of fond memories people have of their time at the Ange. The teachers, the classes, the people, even the space itself, all echo through their recollections. Ben Akers and Heather Rankin (1) were students at the Angelicum and were married in 2002. In 2012 they returned to Rome with their daughter (2). I had the chance to visit with them in Denver and their children Francesca now 3 and Luisa just 1. We were able to enjoy Little Man Ice Cream (3) and visit at the novitiate in Denver. There we found another Ange alumnus, Br. Reginald Wolford (4) who was in the process of becoming a Dominican -- small world.

A few weeks later I received a lovely note from another Ange connection, Professor Linda S. Taggart (5) who teaches at St. Leo's University in Florida. She recounted her time at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (2012-2013) as recipient of the Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies. She recounted a memory of traveling with students and faculty to the birthplace of St. Thomas Aquinas (6). I hope to meet more of you so keep in touch!



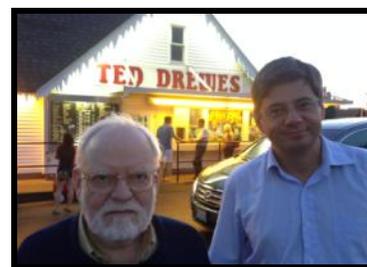
The École Biblique Director Meets in St. Louis



Summer usually is a time for research and relaxation but Fr. Marcel Sigrist, the director of the École Biblique and renowned Assyriologist, took time from his summer research at Yale and Oklahoma City to meet with Fr. Eric Salobir, the Socius of the Order for Social Media, and Fr. Michael Demkovich, the president of the International Dominican Foundation, USA. It was three days packed with meetings and one or two fun things like a frozen custard trip to Ted Drewes, a St. Louis must. We were able to collaborate on ideas and inaugurated a closed platform for our fund raising efforts called the **Dominican Development Forum**. When it came to the IT stuff, there were two “old dogs” learning “new tricks” but in the end it seems to have worked.

Fr. Marcel agreed to be our guest speaker for the 2015 Speaker Tour and we worked out some preliminary dates and locations. Now the hard work of making it happen can get underway.

During these days Fr. Eric was also able to meet with the administration of **Aquinas Institute of Theology**, the Dominican Study Center in St. Louis.



News from the Dominican Institute for Oriental Studies in Cairo

If you wish to support IDEO and prefer to do so in France, there is an option for you. The **Friends of the IDEO Association** (est. 1992) is an official association, directed to the public benefit. Headquartered in Paris (France), the association’s mission is to fund the IDEO projects and new library (opened 2002). As an active member of the Association, you will contribute in sustaining the IDEO and its actions. The money you give helps running the library, buying more books and equipment. To become a member, please download and fill [the registration form](#) and post it to *Les Amis de l'IDEO - 20 rue des Tanneries - 75013 Paris, France*. They will send you a receipt for any donation over 40 Euro. Of course if you wish, and are in the US, you may also make your tax deductible donations for IDEO via the **International Dominican Foundation, USA** as well.

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Drop Us a Note

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Many Thanks!

Want to know more?

Click on these three links to watch.

[Jerusalem video](#)

[Rome video](#)

[Cairo video](#)

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

Six More Ways You Can Help!

You can help! There are all sorts of ways to have fun, build community, and raise funds for a good cause. Try it, you'll like it or so an ad used to declare. Well the same is true for helping projects the Foundation supports.

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.

For other "Ways to Help" (# 1-18) see previous newsletters [here](#).

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T-Shirt Fundraiser

Have a T-shirt fundraiser using a local print shop or on line printer. Start off with a design contest to involve your core group, then widen it out to do t-shirt boosters, seeing who can get the most orders for t-shirts. When you distribute the t-shirts host a party with admission being the wearing of one of the t-shirts.



Be sure to get plenty of selfies and group photos to post.



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Spell-a-thon.

P-H-I-L-A-N-T-R-H-O-P-Y

Hold a spell-a-thon with each contestant collecting donations for the number of words they spell correctly. The top winners could receive donated prizes.

BINGO

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Get prizes donated from shops or services, and charge an entrance fee. Fun for groups young & old, large or small, in your living room or parish hall!



It is a way to build community and new supporters -- **B-One!**

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An Angel's Pin Dance Party

Send out invitations to a make-believe-ball. Offer invitees tickets to support the cause without even having to leave their home. Have a Silent Celestial Auction as part of the fun.



This is a great way to hold an event without all the fuss.

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Garden Party

Turn a corner of your garden into a special place for a champagne brunch, an afternoon wine luncheon, or an evening of crafted beers and gourmet pizza, all for a good cause.



Charity Poker Event

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Get a few decks of fresh cards, set up some tables and chairs, charge an admission or registration fee to participate. Or you can ask participants to raise pledges, requiring a minimum amount for entry into the event. A fun fundraising event.



Remember, play responsibly at all times.

Challenge to our Friends, to Alumni, to Dominicans, to Everyone!
One little thing can help in so many ways.

Send your donations to:

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

[Tell us about your event!](#)