



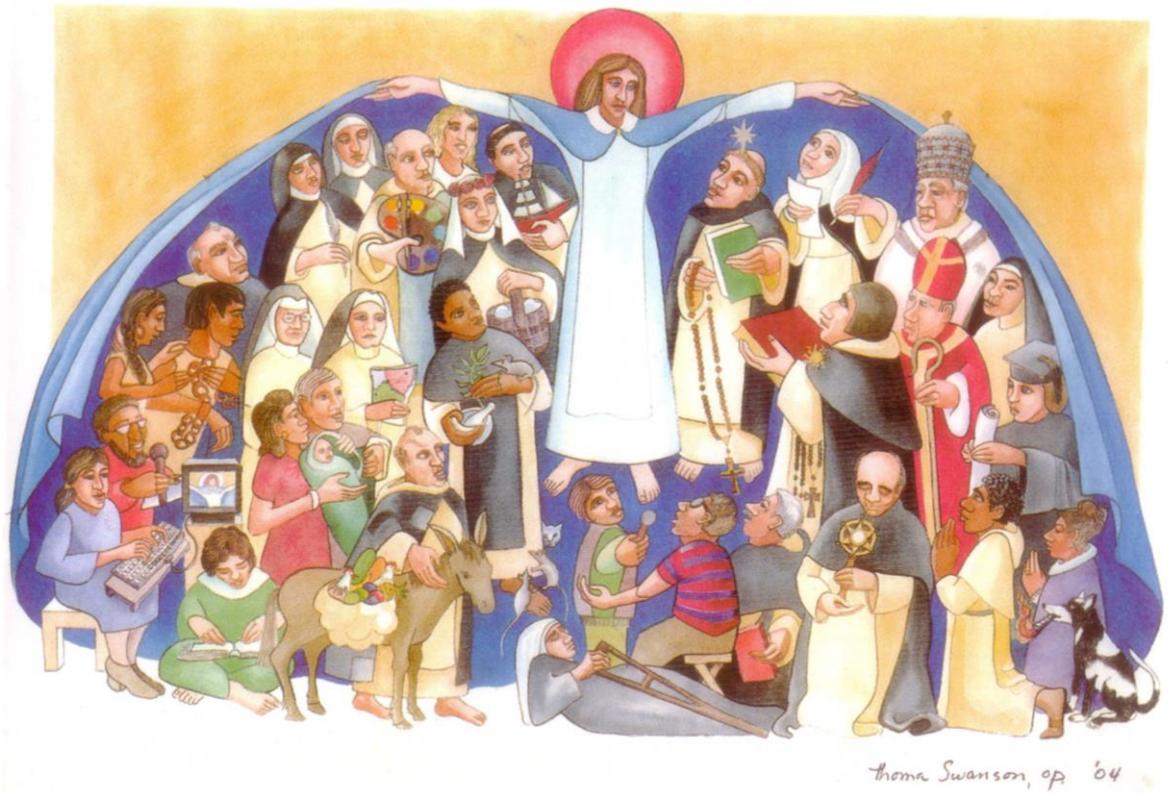
OPFAM

Dominican Family Matters: 7.11.2018

*Contemplate the Gospel of Humanity
then preach the Humanity of the Gospel*

A Newsletter for the Dominican Family in Australia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea

Feast of all Dominican Saints
Dominican Family Day
Happy feast day to us all!



November: A time for remembering those who have died

Most Dominicans have heard at some point in their lives that the Dominican Order is not only a good Order to live in, but also a great Order to die in. From its beginnings the Order has had a strong tradition of praying for those who have died, as well as calling on the intercession of the saints, canonized and otherwise, who walked ahead of us.

This tradition has a firm foundation based as it is on St Dominic's promise to be of more use to us in heaven than on earth. 'Fulfil O Father what you have promised and help us by your prayers.'

Dominicans have so many ways to honour those who have gone before us.

As well as immediate care for those who are dying and go on to heaven, we remember anniversaries of brothers and sisters annually. Parents of Dominican Family members are prayed for on 7 February, and all deceased friends and benefactors are remembered on 5 September. And of course all deceased members of the Dominican Family are celebrated on All Dominican Saints Day, 7 November, and the holy souls on All Dominican Souls Day on 8 November.

We remember with love and respect all those spirit-filled men and women who poured out the wine of their lives, their dreams, their prayers, their struggles, to show us a way forward. We take time in November to remember these and all the men and women whose lives were stirred and transformed by a faith in what they could not see; those who became bearer of hope, healing, justice and peace for us and for our world – sometimes without even knowing it. We hold them in our hearts, remember their stories and invoke the Spirit who stirred their lives to stir ours as well. May God meet us on all the paths of our remembering and lead us to the lands of restoration. Amen.

Remembering Iraq

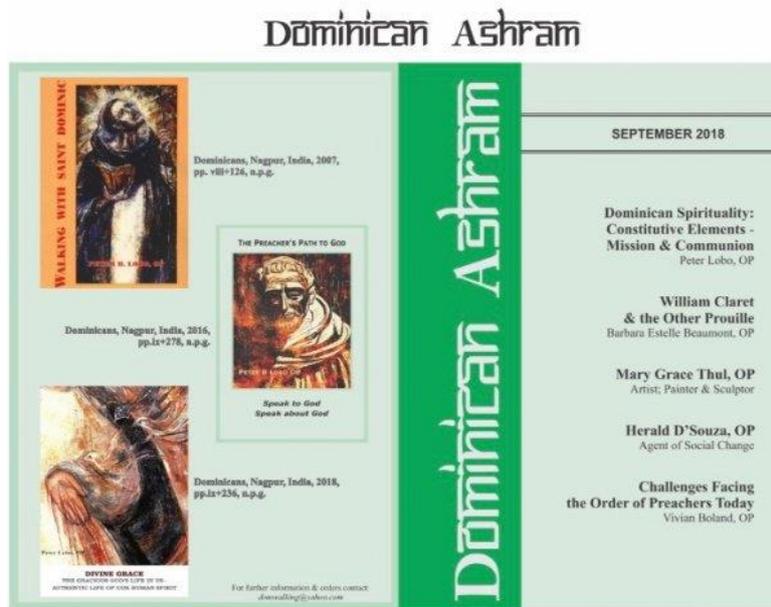
There is a video of a [presentation by Sr Raghad Saed](#) at the recent Catholic Charities USA annual gathering. Simply put the underlined piece into Google and the utube will come up. This is the incredible story of the continuing plight of the Dominican Sisters of Iraq.

Sister Raghad Saeed Saqat is a Dominican Sister of the Congregation of Catherine of Siena, Mosul, Iraq. Prior to coming the United States, Sister Raghad served as an instructor in physics at the University of Mosul. When ISIS invaded the Christian villages across Iraq, Sister Raghad fled with her sisters to safety in northern Iraq. She was internally displaced along with nearly 100 of her sisters. Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate in the area of nanophysics at the Catholic University of America. Upon completion of her degree, Sister Raghad will return to Iraq to continue her work in higher education at the University of Mosul.

Re-launch of significant Dominican Ashram Publication

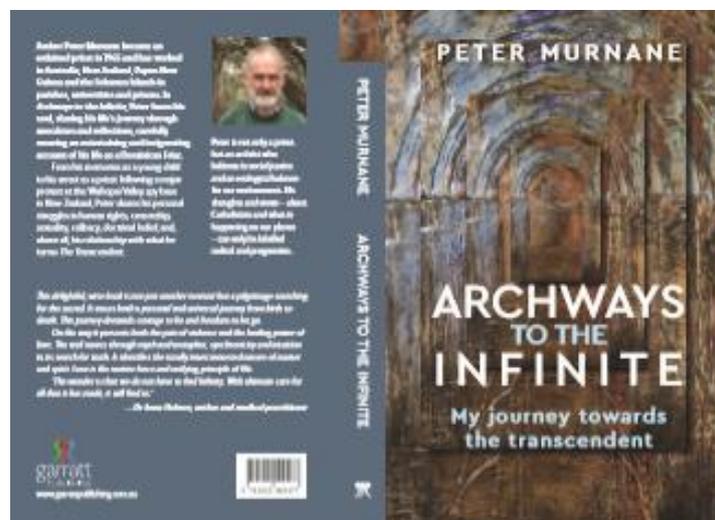
Many will remember ***Dominican Ashram***, a journal published for many years by the brothers of the province of India. It ceased publication some years ago, but the good news is that has begun publishing again. The first issue of this new series appeared in September 2018. As before the editor is Fr Peter B. Lobo OP of the province of India. The journal will include articles on Dominican life and mission, history and spirituality, as well as book reviews and news about the Dominican family worldwide. It will also be a forum for exchanging views and experiences about the life of the Order.

Dominican Ashram was much appreciated in the English-speaking Dominican family and beyond. The new series will be published four times a year (March, June, September, December) and the annual subscription will be between US\$25 and US\$30. For information about subscriptions or anything else connected with the journal contact Fr Peter Lobo at domwalking@yahoo.com



Book Launch: “Archways to the Infinite” By Fr Peter Murnane OP

Author Fr Peter Murnane OP became an ordained priest in 1965 and has worked in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands in parishes, universities and prisons. In *Archways to the Infinite*, Peter bares his soul, sharing his life’s journey through anecdotes and reflections, carefully weaving an entertaining and invigorating account of his life as a Dominican Friar. From his memories as a young child, to his arrest as a priest following a major protest at the Waihopai Valley spy base in New Zealand, Peter shares his personal struggles in human rights, censorship, sexuality, celibacy, doctrinal belief, and, above all, his relationship with what he terms ‘The Transcendent’.



Garratt Publishing: Email: sales@garrattpublishing.com.au; Fax: 03 8545 2922

Post: Private Bag 400, Mulgrave VIC 3170 ABN 28 076 537 623

*Launch price of \$25 available until 31 December

Dominican Month of Peace

The Master of the Order sent a Letter for the Dominican Month for Peace 2018

We provide materials for this year's Dominican Month for Peace, inviting all Dominicans in the world to join together in solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"You may remember the letter we sent last year in which we proposed that every December be a Dominican Month for Peace in order to promote a global Dominican solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are trying to bring hope in situations of violence and war. We are now writing to you to inform you that the focus of our Dominican Month for Peace for 2018 will be on the **Democratic Republic of Congo**.

Our focus last year on Colombia inspired Dominican communities in all parts of the world to demonstrate solidarity with the suffering of the Colombian people and with the efforts of Dominicans there to be advocates of peace. We received many reports of Masses celebrated, prayers offered, awareness of Colombia raised, Colombian embassies contacted and a number of financial contributions made for the training of peacemakers in the Diocese of Tibú, Catatumbo. Some of these activities were reported on our websites. We thank all those communities who made such a commendable effort, and we are especially grateful to those who sent us reports and photos of their initiatives. We will be very grateful still to receive such information from others who took initiatives, but who have not yet informed us of their solidarity efforts!

This positive global response has encouraged us to arrange this second Dominican Month for Peace in 2018. After considering several suggestions, we have decided that the focus this year will be on the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The people of this country have been living through decades of devastating wars with ongoing massacres and human rights violations perpetrated by government forces and scores of opposing armed groups who, along with many foreign powers and companies, are scrambling to extract the rich natural resources of the country."

To access the material, please go to <http://www.fraternitiesop.com/event/news/dominican-month-peace-2018/#.W82RE0szaUI>

Resources include:

Letter from Master of the Order – PDF; Democratic Republic of Congo Flyer – PDF

Logo for the 2018 Dominican Month for Peace – Image and explanation – PDF

The use of a Labyrinth for Peace during the Dominican Month for Peace – WORD