



OPFAM

Dominican Family Matters

Newsletter of the Dominican Family in Australia, New Zealand, Solomons and Papua New Guinea

27th May 2008

To send material, add email addresses, unsubscribe write to archives5@bigpond.com.au

World Youth Day Sydney 2008!

Tuesday 15th July – Sunday 20th July 2008.

DOMINICAN Welcome: Sunday 13th July- Monday 14th July

Santa Sabina College Strathfield.

Email: wyd@opeast.org.au

Obtain the latest **Dominican Welcome Newsletters** on www.opeast.org.au

For other Dominican Events see

Dominican Friars Assumption Province: www.australia.op.org

Catching Up...!

Thank you for your patience during my Sabbatical period – especially to those who showed they read OPFAM by thinking they had fallen off the list! You were all remembered as I tried to stand straight in Dominic's backyard in Fanjeaux, against a fierce wind straight off the snow covered Pyrennes in the middle of winter!!

Congratulations to:

Prior Provincial Fr Kevin Saunders and his Council – elected in January 2008.

Sr M. Colette Holz (EA) who celebrated her Diamond Jubilee on 17th May.

Sr Helen Ryan (EA) who received her Order of Australia Medal 7th May – for services to music.

Srs Patricia Cregan, Anne Banfield, Janet Ryan and Colleen Walsh (EA) who celebrated their Diamond Jubilee on 15th January.

On 15th January we were delighted to welcome Michelle Davis as she began a period of Candidacy with the Congregation (EA). Michelle will continue her ministry as social worker at a Western Sydney Hospital during her first year with us.

Sr Hilda Ebo OP, who made profession in the Solomon Islands on 22nd February.

June Ross, (WA Lay Dominican) who was elected as International Coordinator for the I.C.L.D.F. (International Council Lay Dominican Fraternities) and takes up her position from 31st July 2008.

Welcome again to

The Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, Nashville. Three Sisters came to Australia this year to assist in preparations for World Youth Day. The congregation has now accepted an invitation to make a more permanent foundation, and 5 Sisters will form community at St Peter Chanel Parish, Berala. Their presence in Australia will add another voice to the richness of Dominican life in this country. We wish Srs M. Madeleine, Rachael and Anna well as the time for World Youth Day draws very near.

Solomon Islands

Our prayers are requested for the upcoming 8th Assembly of Dominican Sisters, Holy Rosary Vicariate, on 22-25th June.

We Remember in Prayer:

Sr M. Bertrand O'Connor (WA) who died 22nd May aged 88.

Sr M. Aloysius Moylan (NZ), died 3rd May.

Sr M. Dominica Conaghan (EA) who died 4th April, aged 91, professed 71 years.

Sr M. Seraphina MacRae (EA) who died 2nd April, aged 89, professed 68 years.

Fr Peter [Henry] Knowles (Assumption Province), 11th March, aged 81, ordained 1956.

Sr M. Virgilius O'Brien (EA) died 28th March, aged 94, professed 74 years.

Sr M. Angela Byrne OP, North Adelaide died 1th February, aged 91 yrs.

Sr M. Conrad Earl (EA), died 30th January, aged 102 years, professed 48 years.

Sr Patricia Thompson (EA), died 7th January, aged 87 years, professed 53 years.

We extend our sympathy to the Sisters and Fathers, families and friends of these Dominicans, each of whose lives contain many stories about which we can be so proud. We give thanks to God for their graced presence amongst us. We pray too for all those members of the Dominican Family who have lost loved ones over these past months.

Dominican Links

Dominican Order: www.op.org

Dominican Life Magazine: www.domlife.org

Dominican Sisters International: www.op.org/dsi

Dominican Volunteers International: www.op.org/dvi

Dominicans at the United Nations: www.fiop.org

International Dominican Youth Movement: www.op.org/idym

International OP Commission for Justice, Peace and Care of Creation: www.jp.op.org

Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands: www.opeak.org.au

Dominican Sisters of Aotearoa NZ: www.dominicans.org.nz

Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia Nashville: www.nashvilledominican.org

Dominican Sisters of Western Australia: www.domsiswa.org.au/

Dominican Friars Assumption Province: www.australia.op.org

Our prayers are asked for our brother Fr Peter Murnane, whose trial date will be set on 9th June.

"Australian born Dominican Fr Peter Murnane has been arrested following a "raid" by peace activists on a New Zealand spy communications base in which the protesters used sickles to deflate a 30 metre rubber balloon protecting radar aerials.

The New Zealand Herald reports Fr Murnane joined organic gardener Adrian Leason and Hokianga farmer Sam Land in yesterday's early morning raid on the Waihopai satellite communications interception station, near Blenheim.

The protesters used sickles to puncture one of two 30m rubber balloons that protect radar aerials from the weather.

Prime Minister Helen Clark called the raid "a senseless act of vandalism", and the head of the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) ordered an urgent investigation into the base's security.

A "pea souper" fog on the morning of the raid made security cameras useless, said GCSB director Bruce Ferguson and "aided and assisted the offenders no end". The three men, calling themselves the "Waihopai Anzac Ploughshares", broke through three security fences before attacking the dome with sickles. They then built a shrine and knelt down in prayer to remember the people killed by United States military activity.

They were remanded in custody after appearing in Blenheim District Court yesterday afternoon charged with causing intentional damage and entering a building with intent to commit a crime. They said the raid was "responding to the Bush Administration's admission that intelligence gathering is the most important tool in the so-called war on terror".

Spokesman Manu Caddie said the first goal of the protest trio was to be faithful to the gospels, and if it drew public attention to the spybase "that is a bonus".

Help is urgently needed to teach English to refugee Sudanese women on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 2 Hornsey Rd, Flemington NSW. (If you are not able to do this long term but would be happy to help for a short time this would also be helpful). Any computer teachers would be welcome on other days. Please contact Sr Maria Sullivan on 0408 615 671.

Dominican Calendar this week

27 th May	Bl Andrew Franchi, Friar and bishop
28 th May	Bl Mary Bartholomew Bagnesi, lay Dominican
29 th May	Bl William Arnaud, friar, priest and companions
2 nd June	Bl Sadoc, friar, priest and companions
4 th June	St Peter of Verona, friar, priest and martyr – Memorial

Please send contributions – short paragraphs – about Dominican Life in your area to archives5@bigpond.com.au – OFTEN!