



# OPFAM

## Dominican Family Matters

*A Newsletter for the Dominican Family in Australia, New Zealand, Solomons and Papua New Guinea*

**Woe to us if we do not preach the Gospel!**

*Motto for the years leading up to 800<sup>th</sup> celebration in 2016; 2010 – "The Mission of Preaching"*

**3<sup>rd</sup> August 2010**

As Dominicans, companions of Dominic,

**WE ARE CALLED to PREACH THE GOOD NEWS.**

**Dominic left us 'a compass, not a map'....** On his feast we renew our commitment to take up the challenge in our world, with its own set of circumstances and needs.

**AND THIS IS OUR WORLD.....**

If you could fit the entire population of the world into a village consisting of 100 people, maintaining the proportions of all the people living on Earth, that village would consist of 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 Americans (North, Central and South) 8 Africans.

There would be: 52 women and 48 men, 89 heterosexuals and 11 homosexuals  
30 Caucasians and 70 non-Caucasians, 30 Christians and 70 non-Christians.

6 people would possess 59% of the wealth and they would all come from the USA  
80 would live in poverty, 70 would be illiterate, 50 would suffer from hunger and malnutrition ,  
1 would be dying , 1 would be being born  
1 would own a computer, 1 (yes, only one) would have a university degree.

If we looked at the world in this way, the need for acceptance and understanding would be obvious.

If you woke up this morning in good health, you have more luck than one million people, who won't live through the week.

If you have never experienced the horror of war, the solitude of prison, the pain of torture, were not close to death from starvation, then you are better off than 500 million people.

If you can go to your place of worship without fear that someone will assault or kill you, then you are luckier than 3 billion (that's right) people.

If you have a full fridge, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are wealthier than 75% of the world's population.

If you currently have money in the bank, in your wallet and a few coins in your purse, you are one of 8 of the privileged few amongst the 100 people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and still married, you're a rare individual.

If someone sent you this message, you're extremely lucky, because someone is thinking of you and because you don't comprise one of those 2 billion people who can't read.

**And so, as members of the vast Dominican Family, how can we work together to let the Good News be born in our world, in our time....?**

**May Dominic's feast be a time to ponder anew, to reflect on our charism, and rejoice in all those faithful Dominicans who have gone before us. Let us pray for each other, for the courage and the commitment it will take to stand on their shoulders and continue on the journey in our world at this time.**

## **From the Solomon Islands**

Currently Prioress Sr. Judith Lawson (EA) is visiting us here on the Island of Malaita which is the more recent new foundation of our Solomon Islands Dominican Sisters.

It is Sr. Judy's first visit to the Solomons where she was warmly welcomed by the Community of the Auki Diocese. Our Diocese has 3 young sisters in St Rose of Lima Convent: : Sister Jenny, Sr. Matilda and Sr. Maria who work with our women, hospital visiting, ministry, catechetics with our Sunday school and secondary students and practice teaching in our Kindergarten.

The Dominican Sisters in the Solomons Vicariate of the Holy Rosary include 31, of whom 5 are novices, 7 junior professed, and 19 finally professed sisters.

Our Dominican Friars in the Solomons now number 46 which include: 4-pre-novices, 5 novices, 9 cooperator brothers, 20 students in simple and solemn vows, 7 priests and one bishop!

The Dominican Sisters and Friars have been richly blessed with vocations. Many of the seeds that the early missionaries laboured over have born wonderful fruit!

Our Diocese is also blessed with a "vocation explosion"; we have 24 major seminarians and 10 pre-seminarians!

*Contributed by Bishop Chris Cardone, OP Diocese of AUKI / Solomon Islands.*  
Bishop Chris has been in the Solomons Vicariate for 22 years but I hail from the New York St. Joseph Province )

## **Final Profession of two Lay Dominicans**

*On Sunday we witnessed the final profession of two Lay Dominicans in Maitland – Anthony Peart and Ian Hunter. The prayers have much to remind us of as we approach St Dominic's feast.*

Let us pray.

Look down, we beseech you, O Lord,  
on these your sons (your daughters)  
who today profess the life of the Gospel.  
Grant that the grace of Baptism,  
which they wish to strengthen by new bonds,  
may take full effect in them,  
so that, strengthened by the aid of the Holy Spirit,  
they may render due worship to your majesty  
and spread the reign of Christ with apostolic zeal.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*During the ceremony they were presented with the Gospel Book*

Receive the Gospel of peace  
may it be in your heart and in your mouth,  
so that as you witness to it with your manner of living,  
and proclaim it faithfully,  
you may become the salt of the earth  
and the light of the world  
for the honor of God and the salvation of souls.

## **Dominican Calendar**

Aug-3 Bl. Augustine Kazotic (1260-1323) Croatian, priest, preacher, administrator, Bishop of Zagreb, later of Lucera.

Aug-5 OUR HOLY FATHER DOMINIC (c.1173-1221) Spanish, priest, scholar, ascetic, mystic, apologist, innovator, miracle-worker, laid foundation for the Rosary, founder of the Order of Preachers, eloquent preacher. Church appointed patron of the Order, of astronomers, of the Dominican Republic, and of religious priests as St. John Vianney is of diocesan priests. [The rest of the Church celebrates St Dominic's feast on 8<sup>th</sup>!]

Aug-8 Blessed Mary Mackillop

Aug-9 Bl. John of Salerno (1190-1242) Italian, priest, early Dominican, close friend of St. Dominic, preacher, noted confessor.

***May you receive many rich blessings through the intercession of our Father Dominic!***

***Please send contributions – short paragraphs – about Dominican Life in your area to [archives5@bigpond.com.au](mailto:archives5@bigpond.com.au) – OFTEN!***