



Veritas

Dominican Sisters, Congregation of St. Mary

Veritas, XVII, 1, Oct. '07—Jan. 08



**“Veritas shall
never wander
from thy
shield, full
centuries
Old”**

These are the words from the school's Alma Mater which alumnae sing, often with gusto. And Sister Dorothy Dawes, OP, knows them quite well. Sister has kept *Veritas* as the title of the Congregational Newsletter which she has edited for many years. She now turns the job over to Sister Shirley Bodisch, OP, Communicator for the Congregation. Sister Dorothy will continue her work as Congregational Archivist/Historian.

Taking a “peek” back in time we discover that Sister Dorothy is a woman of many talents. She received a Bachelor's degree in chemistry from St. Mary's Dominican College, a Master's degree in chemistry and biology from the Institute of St. Thomas Foundation in Cincinnati, Ohio, a Master of Arts in Sacred Scripture from St. Louis University, where she completed course work and language requirements for a doctorate in Biblical Languages and Literature. After professing her vows, Sister Dorothy taught at St. Leo the Great School, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Mary's Dominican High School and St. Mary's Dominican College in New Orleans, and St. Joseph School in Paulina, LA.

In 1964 Sister Dorothy was a Campus Minister at Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA, one of the first “Newman Nuns” in a field where only priests had served. Later she ministered at Florida Technological University in the Diocese of Orlando, the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, and at St. Thomas of Villanova University in Miami, FL.

In 1969 she won a fellowship from the Hebrew Union College to study in the Holy Land. She won Danforth Campus Ministry grants in 1970 and 1971, and served on the board of the Catholic Campus Ministry Association and the National Catholic Campus Ministry Program. From 1984-1992, Sister Dorothy served as Vocation Counselor for the Dominican Sisters. In 1990 she published two articles, “Tapping Into the Energy of the Founder” and “Approaching a Three Dimensional Dominic”, in *Dominican Ashram*, an international journal. In 1993 she founded the Religious Community Archivists of Greater New Orleans. Presently, Sister Dorothy is the Archivist/Historian for St. Mary's Dominican Congregation.

Sisters, former sisters, family and friends from far and wide, extend a big thanks to Sister Dorothy for all she has done and continues to do. As she herself often says, “*All will be well and all manner of things will be well*” — Dame Julian, 14th century.



Pray for. . .

Relatives and friends who have died:

Sister Mary Ann Culotta's aunt, Angie Glorioso.

Sr. M. Colette Philips' brother, Roy Philips

Sr. Ruth Angelette's nephew, Byron Cernich, age 44, last November

Amilynn Clesi's father, John Clesi

School accreditations:

St. Mary's Dominican High School hosted the accreditation team from Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Quality Assurance Review (SACS QAR) on November 7-8, 2007. The team awarded the school, "without reservation that St. Mary's Dominican High School continue as an accredited member of SACS/CASI" (Council on Accreditation and School Improvement).



St. Anthony of Padua School is beginning its preparations for the SACS visitation for 2009. Best wishes, Sr. Ruth, we know you'll pass with flying colors.



Sister Rene Weeks, OP, Great Bend, Kansas, visits with students from St. Anthony of Padua during a visit to various Dominican ministries in New Orleans.

Send any news regarding family or friends that you want published in this newsletter to:

shirlbop@aol.com

Veritas is edited by **Shirley Bodisch, OP**, for St. Mary's Dominicans, and aims to publish "quarterly." Views expressed are those of the editor, and do not necessarily reflect those of the administration. News may be sent to **shirlbop@aol.com** or 504-861-8183. **Veritas** is circulated to St. Mary's sisters, and to others in the extended Dominican Family. It may be accessed online at:

www.dominican-sisters.net, and may be copied with permission.



And the Journey Continues

.....

Seven Communities of Dominican Sisters to Unite

ST. CATHARINE, KY—Seven congregations of Catholic Dominican Sisters, with headquarters in five states, have received permission from the Holy See to unite into one new congregation of Dominican Sisters.

The seven congregations are:

- Dominican Congregation of St. Rose of Lima (Oxford, Michigan)
- Dominican Sisters, Congregation of St. Mary (New Orleans, Louisiana)
- Dominican Sisters of Great Bend, Kansas
- Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (Columbus, Ohio)
- Dominicans of St. Catharine (St. Catharine, Kentucky)
- Eucharistic Missionaries of St. Dominic (New Orleans, Louisiana)
- Sisters of St. Dominic of Akron, Ohio

“We rejoice that our petition to form a new congregation together has been approved,” proclaims Sr. Gene Poore, OP, Prioress of the congregation in Oxford, Michigan, and prioress representative for the seven congregations. “Uniting into one body will better enable us to continue the Dominican preaching mission, and to serve the needs of God’s people and speak with a stronger voice on issues of social justice.”

The name of the new congregation and the locations of central offices and other ministerial departments have yet to be determined. These decisions and others are being addressed collaboratively during this interim period before the formation of the new congregation.

The official foundation date for the new congregation is planned to be Easter Sunday 2009. The first General Chapter (canonical meeting for congregational decision-making) will be held shortly thereafter, at which, among other decisions to be made, a new leadership team will be elected.

The decision to unite was made through a formal discernment process begun in 2002, where the seven congregations explored ways they could more closely collaborate in their common mission of serving the poor and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The letter of approval from the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life was dated November 7, 2007—the Feast of All Dominican Saints.

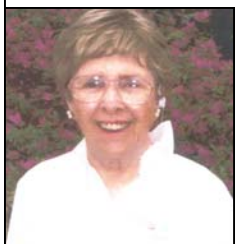
Currently, the seven congregations have a combined 730 vowed Sisters and 500 Associates (women and men who partner in mission with the Sisters, but who do not take vows) serving in 36 states and in Puerto Rico, France, Honduras, Peru, and Nigeria.



JUBILEE

SISTERS CELEBRATE 60 YEARS

Sunday, January 6, 2008—the Feast of the Epiphany, three Sisters celebrated a combined 180 years of service in the Church. Sisters Rose Bowen, OP, Betty Doskey, OP, and Mary Veronica Miceli, OP renewed their vows along with the other members of the congregation during a Mass held at St. Anthony of Padua Church. A reception in the school auditorium following the service continued the celebration with family and friends.



Sister Rose Bowen currently resides at the Motherhouse while she continues to be an adjunct faculty member at the Loyola Institute for Ministry and conducts

both preached and individually directed retreats.

Sister Betty Doskey also resides at the Motherhouse while she continues as an adjunct faculty member at Nunez Community College in Chalmette.



Sister M. Veronica Miceli resides at the Motherhouse. She has been involved in pastoral ministry at Rosaryville Spirit Life Center and in a preaching ministry.

Adrian Sisters Commit to Volunteering in New Orleans

Sister Donna Markham, OP, Prioress of the Adrian Dominicans, has committed sisterly presence to New Orleans in a variety of ways. Sisters come and go at various times while serving in Dominican ministries. Just a few months ago, the Adrian Congregation purchased a house in uptown New Orleans so that their presence may be more permanent. While a few sisters help to make some needed renovations, others residing at the Motherhouse continue in their work. Hopefully, in the next issue of this newsletter, a photo of the new Dominican house may be shown.

The Northeast Six Also Commit

Sisters from the Northeast Six Congregations, that is, Amityville, Blauvelt, Caldwell, Elkins Park, Hope, and Sparkill are sending a representation to New Orleans to volunteer with Sr. Anthony Barczykowski, DC, Director of Disaster Relief, under the auspices of Catholic Charities. The sisters will be staying at Sacred Heart Hall in two shifts. The first group will arrive on Saturday, February 9, 2008 and leave on Saturday, February 16 while the second group will arrive on the 16th and leave on the 22nd.

Sacred Heart Hall as well as the Motherhouse often host Dominican sisters from various parts of the country. The extra rooms come in handy as guest rooms and they offer visitors comfort and hospitality, southern style.

News from Fanjeaux

Since June 1st (2007) the Sister Historians of the Order of Preachers or SHOP library project has been located in the rue des Fargues at Fanjeaux, in close proximity to the house of St. Dominic, the old convent and the parish church. This has made it possible to begin gathering books and publications of all kinds concerning the history of Dominican women throughout the ages.

In 110 square meters, there is room enough to house the books, office space plus accommodation for three sisters. The collection already comprises over 1,000 volumes, plus documentation of various kinds and iconographical material.



Messages of support have been received from many parts of the world.

The principal project for this jubilee year of the foundation of the first Dominican community at Prouilhe is the compilation of a bibliography on the history of the monastery, hopefully embracing as much as possible of what has been written about this foundation throughout the 800 years of its existence. This is in the spirit of the SHOP project, which is to provide tools for those



Interested in its history.

A great website to peruse while Fr. Michael O'Rourke (USA) continues to update the site, making it a real tool for networking among Dominican sister historians, to help locate source materials and inform one another about recent publications.

www.fanjeauxproject.op.org

Digital technology makes it possible to work on archives in places other than the location in which the original archive is housed. In this way, SHOP is currently



The life of Mere Marguerite de Jesus, foundress of the first Dominican monastery in Paris, 1636—one of SHOP's current projects. Volunteers are needed to help transcribe.

working on manuscripts relating to the early history of Prouilhe, housed at the Archives Departementales de l'Aude at Carcassonne that is now on CD Rom. Also on a 500 page eighteenth century manuscript biography of the foundress of the Dominican Monastere de la Croix in Paris, which was photographed at the Evry monastery which has recently acquired this valuable historical resource.

An appeal for books and documentation of all kinds, as well as an invitation to visit SHOP in Fanjeaux, goes out to the Dominican Family—Earthwide.

