



Study

For Dominicans, study as a distinct value, along with prayer/reflection, community, and service is significant. In this edition of the Campus Ministry Notes, we focus on some of the ways study is experienced by students in addition to their academic study.

For St. Thomas Aquinas, a Dominican theologian, thinking itself was a sacred activity. Why? For Thomas it became the means by which he deepened his understanding of God and the divine reflection in creation. From this knowledge came love. Secondly, the mind integrates and engages the whole person. Thus, study in the cycle of learning incorporates reflection on one's own human experience as well as on learning from the insights and research of others. Finally, the focus of study must take into account and be shaped by the needs of others (ideas taken from *The New Wine of Dominican Spirituality* by Paul Murray, OP).

At Dominican University, study is viewed with the same inclusive and integrative perspective. The seeking of truth, whether in a philosophy, theology, or science class, ultimately allows us to glimpse an aspect of divine Truth. Through Campus Ministry, our students are engaged in study through their preparation for Confirmation, through weekly meetings to contemplate on gospel readings, and through reflection on their community service. These activities help to unite the action of the whole person: body, mind, and spirit.

Campus Ministry Notes

"Building the Dominican Spirit"

*Dominican University of California, San Rafael, CA 94901
January, 2007*



Campus Ministry students sponsored the annual 9/11 candle light commemoration on the Library Lawn.



Campus Ministry leaders gather prior to the beginning of classes for a leadership retreat to plan for the coming academic year.



Campus Ministry Outreach sponsored a basketball game for residents of Cedars of Marin. Katie Wilson helps a resident make a 2 pointer!



Dominican representatives to the "Point 7 Now" Conference held at St. Mary's Cathedral, dealing with global poverty.



The annual Halloween Trick-or-Treating for the Marin Community Food Bank brought out the hidden talents of our students. Over 500 pounds of food was collected from the local Dominican neighborhood.



Jackson Wong takes some personal time for reflection during the annual Fall Retreat held at the Dominican Sisters' Bolinas house.

“THE RIPPLE EFFECT”: SMALL GROUP FAITH SHARING



Kevin Hassler has been a team leader for “The Ripple Effect” since its inception.

Ed. Note: The following article is written by Kevin Hassler, one of our Campus Ministry leaders, about a program we call “The Ripple Effect.” This program, a creation of “Campus Renew,” provides materials for students to study and reflect upon the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. To do this, students gather in small groups, usually in their dorm rooms or in a study lounge, for an hour session each week. The program has been running on the campus since the fall of

2005. Below are Kevin’s personal thoughts on the success of the program:

Since its creation in the summer of 2005 at the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute Conference at Notre Dame, IN, “The Ripple Effect” Program has really taken off. It has managed to find a large following here at Dominican. For those of you that do not know, “The Ripple Effect” is an organization of small groups who meet once a week to share the upcoming Sunday Gospel and to reflect on it as it relates to their lives.

The leaders of these small faith communities must show a strong faith, leadership ability, and the desire to commit not only to their own groups, but also to participate in a leaders’ meeting held once a week. When we started, there were only five leaders. As time went on more people became interested, and I am

proud to announce that this semester we have twelve leaders, each co-leading six different groups, making “The Ripple Effect” available to more people than ever before.

I have personally seen the positive impact of the groups. It has started and strengthened many of my friendships and, I have been very blessed to have a network of support during my hardest times. I also can tell that others have felt our support during their difficult times. I believe that faith sharing between peers is very important, and I would like to thank the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael whose generosity made “The Ripple Effect” possible through a grant from their “Vision Fund.”

Sincerely,
Kevin Hassler

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM AT DOMINICAN

What connects the Last Supper and the Mass? How do Catholics read and study the Bible? Why do Catholics make Mary special? What is papal infallibility? What is the church’s best-kept secret? Questions provoke thinking; study grows into understanding; mature faith grows with deepening understanding and commitment.

Each year students bring questions about their faith to a weekly gather-

ing in the Campus Ministry office. They are interested in deepening their own faith life and renewing their commitment as Catholics by preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. In addition, some students want to know more about the Catholic faith tradition even though they are not Catholic. These students come together weekly to study and discuss the core beliefs, moral vision and sacramental life of the church.

In the Archdiocese of San Francisco, there is an adult Confirmation each Pentecost Sunday, celebrated by the Archbishop. Over the last four years, Dominican has celebrated with four to seven students who entered the church and/or received Confirmation. Pray for the four students currently discerning how God is working in their lives.

CORE: STUDENT COORDINATION PROJECT

Last summer, five Dominican University students, Fr. Bob Haberman and Sr. Carla Kovack, OP, spent a full week at the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute, held on the campus of Notre Dame University in Indiana. During that time, the team used the Bishops’ document: “Empowered by the Spirit: Catholic Campus Ministry in the United States” as a guide

to create an organizational structure for the various groups of Campus Ministry to coordinate their activities and to report back to one another on their successes and needs. CORE was a result of that study and reflection. This is a group of leaders from the various Campus Ministry programs who meet once a month to share with peers their needs, hopes and successes.



CORE Team members meet once a month to coordinate Campus Ministry activities.

BUILDING THE DOMINICAN SPIRIT: DOMINICAN SPEAKER SERIES THIS SPRING

Dominicans live and work in 94 countries on 5 continents. Diversity of culture, age, works, and life commitment mark this international order. Yet, there are particular values, patterns and traits that are distinctive though not exclusive to the embodiment of the Dominican spirit.

During the spring semester, you are invited to a taste of this diversity. The Dominican Speaker Series will highlight a particular aspect in which *Veritas*, or Truth, is preached within our extended Dominican family.

WHY DO DOMINICANS MAKE MOVIES?

**Jan. 31, 2007 L207 12-1P.M.
Fr. Dominic Delay, OP**

Filmmaker Dominic DeLay, OP, is present for a viewing and discussion of his short film "Dogwoman & Magicman." Come and discover what messages you take from this film.

Dominic received his Masters of Fine Arts in filmmaking at Chapman University. Dominic's films attempt to reveal, explicitly and implicitly, God's beauty and loving action in the world, especially in human relationships. For more information, go to www.mudpuddlefilms.com.

DOMINICANS @ THE U.N.

**Feb. 7, 2007 Creekside 12-1P.M.
Sr. Eileen Gannon, OP**

Eileen Gannon, a member of the Dominican Sister of Sparkhill, NY, is the Dominican Order's Non-Government-Organization Representative to the United Nations in New York. She has offered a significant role at the United Nations in being a voice for Iraqi citizens over the past several years. There have been

Dominicans (priests, sisters, laity) in Iraq for over 500 years. In the beginning days of the war, it was her links to these Dominicans that contributed to the uncensored information needed by relief agencies of the UN. Eileen will share her experience of being a part of the global Order along with her particular work with the United Nations.

DOMINICANS PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

**Mar. 29, 2007 Creekside 12-1P.M.
Sr. Patricia Bruno, OP
Fr. Jude Scilianno, OP**

Patricia Bruno, a San Rafael Dominican, and Jude Scilianno, a priest of the Southern Province, are an itinerant preaching team who travel all over the US (and recently to Australia and New Zealand). They reflect on how men and women of the Order have worked collaboratively for 800 years. They will present a model of partnership that speaks to mutual relationships.

SERVICE: CORE VALUE OF BEING DOMINICAN

**Apr. 17, 2007 TBA 12-1P.M.
MaDonna Thelen**

MaDonna Thelen, a lay associate of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, is the director of Service Learning at the "other" Dominican University in River Forest, IL. This year the center won the prestigious Carter Award for Service. She will articulate how the four Dominican ideals of *study, reflection, community* find full integration in *service*.

This lecture series is made available through a grant from the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael's "Vision Fund."

NEW: A CAMPUS MINISTRY ADVISORY BOARD

With the help of the University's Office of Institutional Advancement, Campus Ministry has established an Advisory Board. Board members are involved as advocates, as collaborators, and as identifiers of resources for Campus Ministry's expanding programs. An initial meeting was held on September 20, 2006. Our next meeting will be held on February 8, 2007. Members of this group include:

- Mel Atkins '05
- James Boitano, Professor Emeritus
- Jane Bradley '67
- Stephanie Bulich, '72
- Mary Crosby, Professor, Education
- Ellen Gillen '72
- Diane Glas '01
- Pepe Gonzales '02
- Sr. Joan Hannah, OP, '64 Trustee
- Carly Hoffman '06
- Mary Horowitz '63
- Carol Hovis, Marin Interfaith
- Mark Jaime, Alumni Director
- Mary Jansen, Archdiocese of S.F.
- John Kennedy, Dean of Students
- Sr. Joan King, OP, '51 Trustee
- Noele Kostelic '03
- Jean Nelson '72
- Sr. Abby Newton, OP, '76 Trustee
- Francisco Ortiz '06
- Joy Phoenix '93
- Paul Raccanello, '96
- Fr. Paul Rossi, Pastor, St. Raphael
- Helen Ruppel '85
- John Savant, Professor Emeritus
- Ann Dolcini Starr '76
- Ben Stricker '96
- Edison Tapalla '04
- Elizabeth Wilmott '84

We are grateful to this group who have volunteered to help us to look at the future of Campus Ministry and to assist us with our projects. If you would be interested in being a member of this Board, please contact either Fr. Bob Haberman or Sr. Carla Kovack. We look forward to co-partnering with members of the Board to advance the spiritual development of our students.



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

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about/current/campusministry
info.html](http://www.dominican.edu/about/current/campusministryinfo.html)

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New Chapel Update

Six years ago, a committee under the leadership of the late Sr. Samuel Conlan, OP, and Joanne Nomellini Murphy '62, began the process of planning for a new Chapel and Campus Ministry Center on the Dominican University Campus. This process included use of consultants, visits to other Catholic campus ministry sites, and study of the Dominican charism to develop a building plan with a noted San Francisco architect, Peter Pfau. This center, on the old Edgehill site, would meet present and future needs of our religiously diverse student body.

Prior to the November, 2006, meeting of the University's Board of Trustees, a Task Force was appointed to review plans for the project and at the November Trustees' meeting it was determined that the Chapel and Campus Ministry Center was no longer an option. In lieu of these plans, the Board of Trustees approved a smaller building which will house a smaller worship space

and a Reservation Chapel, which would cost no more than \$3 million. In addition, a new site for the chapel was proposed by the Board. The Board of Trustees authorized the formation of a new committee to plan for future buildings on campus.

In all honesty, the Campus Ministry staff is disappointed by this turn of events. With our constantly expanding program, the original Campus Ministry Center and Chapel building was designed to meet the needs of our diverse student population and our many activities as well as a chapel for our students to worship. We want to assure you that this setback will not deter the Campus Ministry program. As you can see from other articles in this issue, we have several new projects in the pipeline, a new advisory board, as well as our vibrant current activities. Please pray for our success as we continue to work for this needed building for the University.

Campus Ministry Scholarship Program

Students involved in Campus Ministry leadership often have to work at outside jobs in order to cover the continuing rising costs of tuition and board. This leaves them with less time, or even unable, to take on leadership positions within the Campus Ministry program. In order to assist them, Campus Ministry gives schol-

arships which allow them to spend time in on-campus leadership positions. Most scholarships are \$2,000 per year. If you can help with this fund, please donate to the "Campus Ministry Scholarship Fund" through Institutional Advancement. Thank you for your generosity!

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Office of Campus Ministry

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