

CALENDAR OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS

JANUARY

The Holy Name of Jesus

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Blessed Stephana Quinzani, virgin
St. Zedislava of Lemberk, lay Dominican & mother,

Obligatory memorial

Saint Raymond of Pennafort, priest

Obligatory memorial

Blessed Gonsalvo of Amarante, priest;
Blessed Ana Monteagudo, virgin
Blessed Bernard Scammacca, priest

Saint Margaret of Hungary, virgin
Blessed Andrew of Peschiera, priest

Obligatory memorial

Blessed Antony della Chiesa, priest
Blessed Henry Suso, priest

Blessed Marcolino de Forlí, priest
Saint Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church
Blessed Villana de' Botti, matron

Feast

Section Five: Hagiography

FEBRUARY

1		
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3	Blessed Peter of Ruffia, priest and martyr; Blessed Antony of Pavonio, priest and martyr; Blessed Bartholomeo of Cerverio, priest and martyr	
4	Saint Catherine de' Ricci, virgin <i>Ash Wednesday does not occur before this date.</i>	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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7	Anniversary of Deceased Parents	
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12	Blessed Reginald of Orléans, priest	<i>Optional memorial</i>
13	Blessed Jordan of Saxony, priest	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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16	Blessed Nicholas of Paglia, priest	
17		
18	Blessed John of Fiesole [Fra Angelico], priest	<i>Optional memorial</i>
19	Blessed Alvaro of Córdoba, priest	
20	Blessed Christopher of Milan, priest	
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24	Blessed Constantius of Fabriano, priest	
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MARCH

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Ash Wednesday does not occur after this date.

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Easter does not occur before this date.

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Vigil of the Annunciation of the Lord
The Annunciation of the Lord

Solemnity

Section Five: Hagiography

APRIL

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10	Blessed Antony Neyrot, priest and martyr	
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13	Blessed Margaret of Città di Castello, virgin	
14	Blessed Peter Gonzalez, priest	
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16		
17	Blessed Clara Gambacorta, religious; Blessed Maria Mancini, religious	
18		
19	Blessed Isnard de Chiampo, priest; Blessed Sibyllina Biscossi, virgin	
20	Saint Agnes of Montepulciano, virgin	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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	<i>Easter does not occur after this date.</i>	
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27	Blessed Hosanna of Kotor, virgin	
28	Saint Louis-Maria Grignon de Montfort, priest	
29	Saint Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church	<i>Feast</i>
30	Saint Pius V, pope	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
	<i>Ascension Day does not occur before this date.</i>	

MAY

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4	Blessed Æmilia Bicchieri, virgin	
5	Saint Vincent Ferrer, priest	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
6		
7	Blessed Albert of Bergamo, lay tertiary	
8	Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
9		
10	Saint Antoninus of Florence, bishop <i>Pentecost does not occur before this date.</i>	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
11		
12	Blessed Joanna of Portugal, virgin	
13	Blessed Imelda Lambertini, virgin	
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15	Blessed Giles of Vaozela, priest Blessed Andrew Abellon, priest	
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19	Blessed Francis Coll Guitart, priest	
20		
21	Blessed Hyacinthe-Marie Cormier, priest Blessed Columba de Rieti, virgin <i>Corpus Christi does not occur before this date.</i>	<i>Optional memorial</i>
22		
23		
24	Translation of Our Holy Father Dominic, priest	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
25		
26		
27	Blessed Andrew Franchi, bishop	
28	Blessed Maria Bartholomea Bagnesi, virgin	
29	Blesseds William Arnaud and companions, martyrs	
30	Saint Zdislava of Moravia, matron Blessed James Salomoni, priest	
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Section Five: Hagiography

JUNE

1		
2	Blesseds Sadoc and companions, martyrs	
3		
	<i>Ascension Day does not occur after this date.</i>	
4	Saint Peter of Verona, priest and martyr	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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8	Blesseds Diane and Cæcilia, virgins	<i>Optional memorial</i>
9		
10	Blessed John Dominici, bishop	<i>Optional memorial</i>
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12	Blessed Stephen Bandelli, priest	
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	<i>Pentecost does not occur after this date.</i>	
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18	Blessed Hosanna of Mantua, virgin	
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20	Blessed Margaret Ebner, virgin	
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23	Blessed Innocent V, pope	
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JULY

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4	Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, lay tertiary	<i>Optional memorial</i>
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7	Blessed Benedict XI, pope	
8	Blessed Adrian Fortescue, martyr	
9	Saints John of Köln and companions, martyrs	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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13	Blessed James of Varazze, bishop	
14		
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17	Blessed Ceslaus of Poland, priest	<i>Optional memorial</i>
18		
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21		
22	Saint Mary Magdalene	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
23		
24	Blessed Jane of Orvieto, virgin Blessed Augustine of Biella, priest	
25		
26		
27	Blessed Robert Nutter, priest and martyr	
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Section Five: Hagiography

AUGUST

1		
2	Blessed Jane, mother of Saint Dominic	<i>Optional memorial</i>
3	Blessed Augustine Kazotic, bishop	
4		
5	(In Australia: OUR HOLY FATHER SAINT DOMINIC)	
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8	OUR HOLY FATHER SAINT DOMINIC, priest	<i>Solemnity</i>
9	Blessed John of Salerno, priest	
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14	Blessed Aimo Taparelli, priest	
15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<i>Solemnity</i>
16		
17	Saint Hyacinth of Poland, priest	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
18	Blessed Mannes, priest, brother of Saint Dominic	<i>Optional memorial</i>
19	Blessed Jordan of Pisa, priest	
20		
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22		
23	Saint Rose of Lima, virgin	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
24		
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26	Blessed James of Bevegna, priest	
27		
28	Saint Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church	<i>Feast</i>
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SEPTEMBER

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2	Blessed Ingrid of Skänninge, virgin Blessed Guala of Bergamo, bishop	
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4	Blessed Catharine of Racconigi, virgin	
5	Anniversary of Departed Friends and Benefactors of our Order	
6	Blessed Bertrand of Garrigue, priest	
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18	Saint John Macias, religious	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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20	Blessed Mark of Modena, priest Blessed Francis of Posadas, priest	
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24	Blessed Dalmatius Moner, priest	
25		
26	Blessed Laurence of Ripafratta, priest	
27		
28	Saints Dominic Ibáñez de Erquicia, James Kyushei Tomanaga, priests, and companions, martyrs in Japan	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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Section Five: Hagiography

OCTOBER

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3	Blessed Dominic Spadafora, priest	
4	Our Holy Father Saint Francis, deacon	<i>Feast</i>
5	Blessed Raymond of Capua, priest	<i>Optional memorial</i>
6	Blessed Bartholomew Longo, lay tertiary	
7	Our Lady of the Rosary	<i>Feast</i>
8	Blessed Ambrose Sansedoni, priest Blessed Matthew Carreri, priest	
9	Saint Louis Bertrán, priest	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
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11	Blessed James of Ulm, religious	
12		
13	Blessed Magdalena Panatieri, virgin	
14	Maria Poussepin, virgin	
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19	Agnes of Jesus Galand de Langeac, virgin	
20		
21	Blessed Peter of Città di Castello, priest	
22	Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church	<i>Solemnity</i>
23		
24		
25	Blessed Peter Geremia, priest	
26	Blessed Damian of Finalborgo, priest	
27	Blessed Bartholomew of Vicenza, bishop	
28		
29		
30	Blessed Benvenuta Bojani, virgin Blesseds Terence Albert O'Brien, bishop and Peter Higgins, martyrs	
31		

NOVEMBER

1	All Saints' Day	<i>Solemnity</i>
2		
3	Saint Martin de Porres, religious	<i>Feast</i>
4		
5	Blessed Simon Ballachi, religious	
6	Blesseds Francisco de Capillas and Alphonso Navarette, priests, and companions, martyrs in the East	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
7	All Saints of the Order of Preachers	<i>Feast</i>
8	Anniversary of all Departed Brothers and Sisters of the Order of Preachers	
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14	Blessed John Liccio, priest Blessed Lucia of Narni, virgin	
15	Saint Albert the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church	<i>Feast</i>
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19	Blessed James Benfatti, bishop	
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24	Saints Ignatius Delgado, bishop, Vincent Liem, priest, and companions, martyrs in Viet-Nam	<i>Obligatory memorial</i>
25	Blessed Margaret of Savoy, matron and religious	
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Section Five: Hagiography

DECEMBER

1 Blessed John of Vercelli, priest

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8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Solemnity

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16 Blessed Sebastian Maggi, priest

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22 Anniversary of the Approbation of our Order [1216]

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24 Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord

25 The Nativity of our Lord

Solemnity

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JANUARY

3 January

BLESSED STEPHANA QUINZANI, VIRGIN

Stephana was born on 7 September 1457 at Orzinuovi near Brescia in Italy; the daughter of farmers, she tended the fields with her parents. She joined the lay sodality of the Order in 1489. In assiduous contemplation on the Passion of Christ, whose stigmata she bore in her body and heart, she experienced a forty year period of spiritual aridity, bravely enduring feelings of the privation of love and devotion, while being tormented by doubts and temptations. She gave herself at great cost to the service both of the poor and of peace. She died on 2 January 1530 at Socini in Cremona, in the monastery, which she had built and governed for a long time with prudent counsel. Benedict XIV confirmed her immemorial cultus on 14 December 1740.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Stephana a partaker of the passion of Christ; grant, we beseech you, that by her intercession and example, we may be worthy to grow into the likeness of the image of your Son. Who lives and reigns.

7 January

SAINT RAYMOND OF PENNAFORT, PRIEST Obligatory memorial

Raymond was born at Pennafort in Catalonia (Spain), near Barcelona, around the year 1175. He stands out among the greatest masters of his age in theology and canon law. A priest of the church of Barcelona, he embraced the Order in 1222. Noted for his teaching and agreeable character, he was famous for his zeal in forming priests for future ministry. For these he wrote a compendium of his teaching, containing pastoral Living in Rome and encouraged by Gregory IX, he was the first to gather into one collection (at Gregory's authorization) the decretals of the Roman Pontiffs (1234). He was elected the third Master of the Order after Jordan of Saxony (1238), but resigned freely after two years and returned to Catalonia.

Filled with boldness, he showed himself as an outstanding apostle of the Order. He was deeply committed to missionary activity among the Jews, and promoted the missions in parts of North Africa, either under the Friars of Our Lady of Mercy, or other mendicant orders. He was particularly concerned about the dialogue with

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Islam: he used to encourage those departing for these missions to learn Arabic and study the Koran. He died in Barcelona on 6 January 1275, almost 100 years old. He was canonized by Clement VIII on 29 April 1601.

PRAYER: Most holy and Almighty Father, you show by the example and teaching of blessed Raymond the fullness of your law of charity; graciously pour out your Spirit upon us, so that our hearts may be strengthened by that love in which we truly advance in freedom as your children. Through our Lord.

10 January

BLESSED GONSALVO OF AMARANTE, PRIEST

Born at the end of the twelfth century in Tagilde in Portugal, Gonsalvo was first a parish priest, and then spent 14 years on pilgrimage, visiting the holy places of Palestine and Rome. Returning to his own country, where he was received with blows and cudgels, he chose the life of a hermit. At length, he was received into the Order of Preachers. When he had passed through the first trial of the religious life, he received permission to return to his former place of solitude in Amarante, accompanied by another brother. There he spent the rest of his life occupied in the contemplation of divine things and the evangelization of the surrounding people, always urging ascetical exercises. He is reported to have died in Amarante in 1259. Clement X authorized his memorial on 10 July 1671.

PRAYER: O God, you wonderfully inflamed the mind of Blessed Gonsalvo with the love of your holy Name, and allowed him to serve you in solitude; grant us at his intercession to contemplate you always, led by that same spirit, and ever kindled by that zeal, to do those things which are pleasing to you. Through our Lord.

On the same day: 10 January

BLESSED ANA MONTEAGUDO, VIRGIN

Ana de Monteagudo de Ponce de Leon was born in Arequipa, Peru. Her parents, related to Saint Thomas of Villanova, were of noble ancestry. When Ana refused to accept a husband at the age of fourteen as her parents wished, she was persecuted by her family and denied permission to enter a convent. She fled by night to the Dominican convent of Saint Catherine, where her irate father later discovered her and attempted to drag her home by violence. However, in 1618 she became a Dominican novice and to her baptismal name added "of the Angels". Her solid piety, humility and zeal so endeared her to the nuns that she was elected

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successively mistress of novices, sacristan and in 1645, at the wish of Bishop Agustin Agarte, elected prioress. This holy nun devoted her life to the imitation of Jesus Crucified, whose humility, patience, gentleness and prayerfulness she exemplified to perfection. Her special charism was a consuming love for the Poor Souls. In 1676 she offered to take upon herself the guilt and punishment of many souls in purgatory. Physical and mystical sufferings crowded upon her together with heavenly illuminations. Confined to her bed in pain, she suffered neglect, distress, fever, loneliness and total blindness. She bore these afflictions during the last decade of her life with courage, serenity and resignation for love of her beloved souls in purgatory. She died on 10 January 1686 at the age of eighty-four. Pope John Paul II beatified her in Arequipa on 2 February 1985.

PRAYER: O God, in your goodness you granted to the blessed virgin Ana of Monteagudo gifts of contemplation, a spirit of penitence, and a burning love of her neighbors; grant us, by her intercession and example, to adore your majesty with the sacrifice of praise, and to be able to discern what is pleasing to you in the signs of our times. Through our Lord.

11 January

BLESSED BERNARD SCAMMACCA, PRIEST

Bernard, called Anthony in the world, was born at Catania in Sicily of noble parents in 1430. After a comfortable youth, he was laid low with a serious wound received in single combat. Moved by divine grace, he desired to join the Friars Preachers in 1452. Cleaving to God alone with a flaming charity, he desired by the worthy fruits of penitence to conform himself to Christ crucified, whose Passion he cultivated with a singular devotion. He was well known for his assistance to his neighbors, particularly towards the poor and sick, for whom he took care to erect a hospital, which still exists, financed by the gifts of his wealthy fellow citizens. He administered this hospital himself. Set in charge of restoring the regular life, he gave himself completely to this work. An ardent preacher, he led many of his countrymen to God. He died at Catania on 11 January 1487. Leo XII ratified and confirmed his cultus on 8 March 1825.

PRAYER: O God, you led blessed Bernard on the path of conversion and evangelical counsel; we beseech you to grant us by his example and intercession to bewail our sins and be converted to you with pure intention. Through our Lord.

18 January

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SAINT MARGARET OF HUNGARY, VIRGIN **Obligatory memorial**

Daughter of Bela IV, king of the Hungarians, and Maria Lascaris, daughter of the emperor of Constantinople, Margaret was offered to God by her parents on behalf of the freedom of her country before she was born (1242). Before she reached the age of four, she was given to the nuns of the Order of Preachers at Vezprim. When she reached the age of twelve, at Buda in a new monastery which the king had built for her, she made her religious profession into the hands of Master Humbert of Romans. She advanced in religious life with a remarkable alacrity and totally joined herself to Christ crucified.

Distinguishing herself for monastic practices and works of mercy, Margaret joined to her zeal for bringing about peace with an indomitable strength for denouncing injustices, and a great sweetness toward her sisters, for whom she always desired to be of service. Burning with a wonderful love for the Eucharistic mystery and the passion of the Redeemer, she shone forth with devotion for the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Virgin Mary. She dedicated her life as an offering in propitiation for the liberation of her people from the invasion of the Tartars. She died on 18 January 1270, and was canonized by Pope Pius XII on 19 November 1943. Her tomb disappeared in the 17th century.

PRAYER: O God, lover and guardian of virginity, by whose favor your servant Margaret joined the beauty of virginity to the merit of good works; grant, we beseech you, that in the spirit of saving penitence we may be able to renew our purity of heart. Through our Lord.

Also on the 18 January

BLESSED ANDREW OF PESCHIERA, PRIEST

Andrew was born to noble parents in 1400 at Peschiera in Italy, near Lake Garda. He received the habit of the Order in the priory of Brescia, of the Congregation of Lombardy, while the discipline of the regular life under blessed Antoninus was in its fullest flower in the church of Florence. He made his studies in the Florentine convent of San Marco. After receiving the priesthood, he spent his entire life preaching. His apostolate centered primarily in the area of the Valtellina, a harsh and cold part of northern Italy where Saint Dominic had preached in the very last days of his life. He traveled the area on foot for 45 years, living on very few resources, spending his nights with the poor, always sleeping on branches, and reconciling all people with himself by the zeal of his apostolic charity. He died on 18 January 1485, an old man of 85 years, in the priory at Morbegno, which he had taken care to build. Pius VII confirmed his cult on 26 September 1820

PRAYER: God, you filled blessed Andrew with an apostolic spirit; make us, by imitating him, so to advance in word and example that we may thus bear much fruit. Through our Lord.

22 January

BLESSED ANTONY DELLA CHIESA, PRIEST

Antony was born of the noble family of the Della Chiesa in the town of St. Germano in Piedmonte in Italy in the year 1394. He was clothed in the habit of the Order in the priory of Vercelli in 1417. He became prior in the priories of Como, Savona, Florence, Bologna, and Genoa, and labored greatly for the restoration of the regular life, with the approval of the Master of the Order, Bartholomew Texier. He left as the memory of his time as prior a man who was affable, one who could attend human frailty with compassion and who could correct with firmness. Consumed with work and penance, he died on 22 January 1459, almost 65 years old, in the priory at Como. His immemorial cultus was recognized by Pope Pius VII on 15 May 1819, and a Mass and Office were accorded his memorial. His body is venerated at San Germano. From the Common of Pastors, except for those elements which are proper.

PRAYER: O God, you inflamed blessed Antony with divine love; grant us, at his intercession, to be filled with that same flame of love, that we may advance in the company of his faith and worthy service. Through our Lord.

23 January

BLESSED HENRY SUSO, PRIEST

The most famous and delightful character of this blessed shines forth, along with Meister Eckhart and Johannes Tauler, among the brightest teachers of the Dominican school of spirituality called the "Rheinland Mystics." Henry, a worshipper of holy Wisdom and a most devoted lover of our Lord's Passion, was born near Constance in Germany, probably at the end of the thirteenth century, from a noble and irreligious father and a pious mother of the family of the Sueze, whose name he took. He entered the Order of Saint Dominic as a young man of 13 at the priory of Constance. By nature tender and loving, he lived for five years in religion rather quietly, but was filled with the light of divine grace and was showered with mystical gifts. He was notable for his austerity of life, patiently and silently bearing adversities and accusations.

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He wrote books, greatly cherished by the faithful, famous in the history of spirituality, which still influence the spiritual life. His mystical works, some of which were written in the vernacular, were collected continually and gathered into an edition, at first entitled the *Horologium Sapienti*, in which he preached detachment from sensible objects and a union with God through the contemplation of his perfections and the Passion of Christ. Famous for humility and charity, brilliant with heavenly gifts, burning with the love of Jesus, whose name he carved on his chest, he died in a most holy manner in Ulm on 25 January 1366. His cult was confirmed by Gregory XVI on 22 April 1831. His grave was demolished in the sixteenth century during the wars of the Reformation

PRAYER: : O God, you called blessed Henry to follow your Son and made him extraordinary in the mortification of the flesh; grant that we, following the crucified Christ, may ever rejoice in his consolation. Through our Lord.

27 January

BLESSED MARCOLINO DE FORLI, PRIEST

Born in Forli, Italy, in 1317, Marcolino entered the Order of Preachers as a youth. By his love of silence and solitude, he shone forth in the gift of divine contemplation and in devotion to the Virgin Mother of God. Despised by his brethren, who rejected the reforms of Raymond of Capua, humble Marcolino spent his long life in his ancestral monastery in Forli, giving himself to sacred ministry and works of charity. Because of the great power of his prayer and his great friendship for the poor, many came to him, particularly the afflicted and the sick, whom he lovingly helped and solaced. Gleaming with a remarkable simplicity, innocence, and charity, he was crowned with heavenly gifts and died eighty years old, on 24 January 1397. Benedict XIV confirmed his cult on 9 May 1750.

PRAYER: O God, to whom the prayer of the humble and meek is always pleasing, grant us, following the example of blessed Marcolino, to become truly meek and humble of heart, that we may more readily receive your gifts. Through our Lord.

28 January

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Thomas was born in 1225, in the castle of Roccasecca in Italy. He chose as a youth to enter the Order of Preachers at Naples, against the wishes of his family. Rising through the principal centers of studies of the Order at that time (Köln, Paris,

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Rome, Naples), he was outstanding for his innocence of life and famous for his fidelity in regular observance. The special duty of the Order, that is the ministry of the word of God in voluntary poverty, clothed the form of his lasting theological work: zealously investigating the truth in loving contemplation, and handing on to others the fruits of that contemplation. He spent his own strength completely in the service of truth, always desiring to follow it, embracing it no matter where it came from, burning with a desire for others to share it. Brilliant in his humility and humane conversation, he stands out as the highest master of sacred doctrine and gifted preacher of evangelical truth. He taught many things belonging both to divine and human wisdom, which beautifully demonstrate the closest possible connection between divine revelation and those things which have been found by human reason.

He was most devoted to Christ the Saviour, notably in the Passion of the Cross and in the Eucharistic mystery (which he praised in his liturgical compositions); he also burned with a filial devotion to the Virgin Mary, Mother of God. He died in Fossanova on 7 March 1274, on his way to the Second Council of Lyons. Pope John XXII canonized him on 18 July 1323, and he was declared to be the fifth Doctor of the Western Church by Pius V on 11 April 1567. He was named the Patron of all Catholic Universities and Schools by Leo XIII on 4 August 1880. Because of the principles of liturgical revision, his feast is now celebrated on this day, the translation of his body to Toulouse.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Thomas outstanding in his zeal for holiness and desire for sacred teaching; grant us, we beseech you, both to behold his teaching with our minds, and to follow his holiness in our lives. Through our Lord.

29 January

BLESSED VILLANA DE' BOTTI MATRON

Villana was born in Florence to a very rich Italian merchant in 1332. She led an easy and comfortable girlhood. She was married to Rosso Pietro Benintedi, a rich man, and at first lived a gay life, with parties, feasts and social affairs. At length, after a portentous event, she was filled with the light of divine grace, and led to a life of penance. She rushed to the brethren at Santa Maria Novella and confessed her sins. There she took the habit of the sisters of penance of Saint Dominic, a form of life which was just evolving under the direction of the Friars Preachers. Giving herself to the study of Sacred Scripture and the contemplation of the crucified Christ, she distinguished herself by the austerity of her life and attracted many women to imitate her.

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Burning with love for God and her neighbors, she freely gave all her wealth to the poor, and even begged for them in the streets of Florence. Having heaped up heavenly gifts from God, she died on 29 January 1361. Her body was laid out for 37 days for the veneration of the people at the Church of Santa Maria Novella, where she was buried with honours. Leo XII confirmed her cultus on 27 March 1824.

PRAYER: O God, the Father of mercies, you wonderfully recalled blessed Villana from the vanities of this world and raised up in her a spirit of humility and true penance; renew in our hearts the fire of your love, and grant that, being filled with that same spirit, we may be made worthy to serve you in newness of life. Through our Lord.

FEBRUARY

3 February

Blessed Bartholomew of Cerverio FRIAR, PRIEST AND MARTYR

Blessed Bartholomew was born at Savigliano, Italy, about 1420. He pursued theological studies and became a Master of Theology in the faculty of Turin. His theological expertise and his apostolic zeal led to his appointment as Inquisitor-General in Piedmont. Blessed Bartholomew worked untiringly to defend the true faith and for his efforts received the crown of martyrdom on April 21, 1466.

PRAYER: Loving God, you made Blessed Bartholomew an outstanding champion of the faith and bestowed on him the crown of martyrdom. Help us by his prayers and example to bear our cross and be worthy to share with him in your glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

4 February

Saint Catherine de' Ricci SISTER AND VIRGIN MEMORIAL

Alessandra de' Ricci was born of a noble family near Florence in 1522. At the age of twelve she entered the Dominican convent of St. Vincent at Prato and took the religious name Catherine. Inspired by Girolamo Savonarola she worked constantly to promote the regular life. She was favoured with extraordinary mystical experiences and at the age of twenty began to experience the sacred stigmata and weekly ecstasies of the Passion. These phenomena continued for

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twenty years. Despite her intense mystical life of prayer and her penance, Catherine served as prioress of the convent for thirty-six years. She was noted as a kind and considerate superior, particularly gentle with the sick. She died on February 2, 1590.

PRAYER: God of light and truth, by your grace Saint Catherine shone forth in her contemplation of the passion of your Son. By the help of her prayers may we meditate with reverence upon these same mysteries, and so come to enjoy their fruits. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

or:

Almighty God, you brought our sister Catherine to holiness through her contemplation of your Son's passion. As we remember the dying and rising of your Son, help us to become courageous preachers and teachers of these mysteries. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

7 February

Anniversary of Deceased Parents

In this celebration we remember our parents who have preceded us with the sign of faith and rest in peace. The Dominican Family joins together to honour our deceased parents with the same affection we showed them in life, for in Christ they gave us birth and from the crib they showed us what it means to be followers of Christ.

PRAYER: God of all consolation, by whose command we honour father and mother, in your tenderness have mercy on our parents, forgive their sins, and let us see them at last in the light of eternal joy. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

or:

PRAYER: Loving Father, today we honour our deceased parents and we ask you to give them light, happiness and peace. Strengthen our hope and faith in our promised future with you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

12 February

Blessed Reginald of Orleans FRIAR AND PRIEST OPTIONAL MEMORIAL

Blessed Reginald was born near Orleans about the year 1180. He became a doctor of law and taught at Paris. On his way to visit the Holy Land he stopped at Rome where he was captivated by Saint Dominic and the ideal of his Order. While there he fell dangerously ill, but was healed through the intervention of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He then received the habit from Saint Dominic, the very habit which Our Lady had shown him. His example and eloquent preaching attracted many young men to the Order, first at Bologna and then at Paris. He died at Paris in 1220 and was buried at Notre Dame des Champs.

PRAYER: God of all riches, with the aid of the Mother of Mercy you called Blessed Reginald to a life of gospel poverty and granted him power to persuade others to embrace religious life. By his prayers guide our steps in the way of your Word, so that with hearts enkindled we may run in the way of your commandments. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

or:

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PRAYER: Lord our God, with the help of Mary, the mother of your Son, our brother Reginald chose the way of gospel poverty. Inspire us by your word and help us to take the path of generous service in your Church. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

13 February

Blessed Jordan of Saxony FRIAR, PRIEST AND MASTER OF THE ORDER MEMORIAL

Blessed Jordan was born at Burgberg, Westphalia, around the year 1185. While studying in Paris he was attracted to the Order by Blessed Reginald and received the habit from him in 1220. On the death of Saint Dominic the friars elected him Master of the Order. For fifteen years he ministered to his brothers and sisters by his preaching, his letters, his edition of the Constitutions, his frequent visitations and the example of his life. More than one thousand novices were attracted to the Order during the tenure of his office. He directed Blessed Diana and her community in the way of perfection and governed all his subjects with gentleness and kindness. His love for Mary, the Mother of God, expressed itself by his decree that the *Salve Regina* was to be sung after compline. Blessed Jordan was shipwrecked and drowned on February 13, 1237.

PRAYER: Gracious God, you called our brother Jordan to the preaching of the gospel by which he drew many to the apostolic way of life. Help us to preach the way of salvation faithfully and so proclaim the kingdom of Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

16 February

Blessed Nicholas of Paglia FRIAR AND PRIEST

Blessed Nicholas was born at Giovinazzo, near Bari, Italy, in 1197. While pursuing studies at Bologna, he was drawn to the Order by a sermon of Saint Dominic who personally gave him the habit and made him one of his travelling companions. He was well-known for his preaching throughout the Roman Province and compiled a concordance of sacred scripture. He died at Perugia in 1256.

PRAYER: O Lord, you gave Blessed Nicholas a special grace for preaching your word and for obtaining the salvation of his neighbours. With the help of his prayers may we stand firm in that same holy calling. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

18 February

Blessed John of Fiesole (Fra Angelico)
FRIAR AND PRIEST
OPTIONAL MEMORIAL
(In Lent: AS A COMMEMORATION)

Guido of Vicchio was born in the region of Tuscany in 1386 or 1387 and studied art in Florence while still a young man. Feeling drawn to religious life he entered the Order at the convent of San Domenico in Fiesole. This convent had recently been established as a house of regular observance by Blessed John Dominic whose name he took when he entered. He served as superior of San Domenico, promoted regular observance and handed on the fruits of his contemplation through his paintings for the altars at Fiesole and for the convent of San Marco in Florence. He was called to Rome by Pope Eugene IV to decorate two chapels, one in the Basilica of St. Peter and one in the Vatican. Pope Nicholas V also commissioned him to decorate his private chapel at the Vatican. His work is also found in the convent of San Domenico in Cortona and the cathedral at Orvieto. Pope Eugene IV wished to appoint him archbishop of Florence, but he declined in favour of Saint Antoninus. On February 18, 1455, he died in Rome at Santa Maria Sopra Minerva and was buried there. The special quality of his painting earned him the title "Fra Angelico."

PRAYER: God of eternal beauty, in your providence you inspired Blessed Fra Angelico to reveal in images of earth the tranquil harmony of heaven. With the help of his prayers and by following his example may our lives reveal that same splendour to the hearts of all our brothers and sisters. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

or:

PRAYER: God of eternal beauty, you inspired Fra Angelico as an artist at the service of your truth. May we delight in the beauty of his work and rejoice in the glory of your creation. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ALTERNATIVE PRAYER: God of eternal beauty, by your ineffable grace Fra Angelico studied and taught the mystery of your Word. With the help of his prayers may we be led at last to contemplate the radiance of your majesty face to face. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

19 February

**Blessed Alvarez of Cordoba
FRIAR AND PRIEST**

Born at Zamora, Spain, towards the middle of the fourteenth century, Blessed Alvarez entered the Order in 1368. He preached throughout Spain and Italy and established the priory of Scala Caeli at Cordova where he promoted the regular life. By his preaching and contemplation of the Lord's Passion he spread the practice of the Way of the Cross throughout the West. He died on February 19, about the year 1430.

PRAYER: God of mercy, you endowed Blessed Alvarez with the gifts of penance and divine love. With the help of his prayers and example may we always bear the suffering of Christ in our bodies and your love in our hearts. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

20 February

**Blessed Christopher of Milan
FRIAR AND PRIEST**

Blessed Christopher was born at Milan around 1410. He dedicated his whole life to itinerant preaching after the example of Saint Vincent Ferrer. The austerity of his life and his zeal for souls led an ancient chronicler to say of him: "He was truly a Christ-bearer, for he carried Christ not only in name, but in his heart and on his lips." While master of novices he wrote a treatise On the Service of God for them. He died at Taggia in March, 1484.

PRAYER: God of all truth, you made Blessed Christopher a faithful herald of your word to the people. By his life and ministry may we keep Christ ever in our thoughts and in the love of our hearts, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

24 February

**Blessed Constantius of Fabriano
FRIAR AND PRIEST**

Born at Fabriano at the beginning of the fifteenth century, Blessed Constantius received the Dominican habit at the age of fifteen. He was noted for his austere and prayerful life, as well as his efforts in promoting peace. As prior at Fabriano, at Perugia, and at Ascoli he laboured to restore regular life. He died at Ascoli on February 24, 1481.

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PRAYER: God of justice and truth, you made Blessed Constantius renowned for his unceasing prayer and his zeal for peace. By the help of his prayers may we walk in the path of justice and reach everlasting peace and glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

5 April

SAINT VINCENT FERRER, PRIEST **Obligatory memorial**

Vincent was born in Valencia, Spain, in 1350; he entered the Order at 17, drawn by the austere discipline of the spiritual life, to which he later bore witness in his tract *De vita spiritalia*. . Early on, he taught philosophy and theology; at the same time he was engaged in many other duties from 1380 © 1390, both civil and ecclesiastical, on the orders of the cardinal legate Pietro de Luna and King John I of Aragon. In the meantime, he was constantly involved in preaching, first at the papal court in Avignon, and later in southern France and Italy, until, in 1399, he began a full time ministry of itinerant preaching as *legatus a latere Christi* in a special mission which he started, as he recorded in a letter to the antipope Benedict XIII. Concerned for the peace and unity of the Church, which had been torn asunder by schism, he labored without rest, after the antipope had been deposed (whom he had previously followed in good faith). Filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and fortified with an apostolic charisma, he traveled over almost all of western Europe. He became a great and charismatic preacher, bearing a remarkable harvest of souls. He died at Vannes in France on 5 April 1419. Calixtus III numbered him among the saints on 29 June 1455.

PRAYER: O God, you have taught us through the preaching of blessed Vincent to hasten along the road to our heavenly homeland in expectation of the Saviour; we ask you to grant, at his intercession, that afire in labor and in love, we may seek not an earthly city, but the one which is to come. Through our Lord.

10 April

BLESSED ANTHONY NEYROT, **PRIEST AND MARTYR**

Born around the year 1423 at Rivoli in Italy, Anthony received the habit of the Order from Saint Antoninus at the convent of San Marco in Florence around the middle of the fifteenth century. He lived there under the saint's discipline for a number of years. A man of unusual boldness and impetuosity, he was motivated by a desire to travel and experience when he was captured by some pirates on the

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island of Sicily, where he had decided to journey. He was taken to Tunis in Africa in the year 1458; there he apostatized and married, under the influence of the ruler and his surroundings. However, hearing of the holy death of the bishop Antoninus, he was recalled by divine grace and reassumed the habit. He was stoned to death, thus obtaining a generous martyrdom by his own accord, on Holy Thursday, 1460. Clement XIII approved his cultus on 22 February 1767. His body is venerated in Rivoli.

PRAYER: O God, you mercifully called blessed Anthony back to the light of the truth and received him as a glorious martyr; grant, we beseech you, that we may deny ourselves, taught by his bitter experience, and with him love you above all things. Through our Lord.

13 April

BLESSED MARGARET OF CITTA DI CASTELLO, VIRGIN

Margaret was born in Citta di Castello in Italy in 1287. Blind from birth and abandoned by her parents, she lived faithfully joined to God under the rule of the Order of Penance of Saint Dominic. She was filled with an interior knowledge of Christ which brought her great consolation, and cultivated a vivid devotion to his Incarnation. She died in her thirty-third year on 13 April 1320. Clement X authorized her cultus on 6 April 1675.

PRAYER: O God, you filled blessed Margaret with a divine inner light to contemplate you alone, and enlightened the eyes of her heart, although she was blind; be our light as well, by which we may be able to avoid the darkness of this world and come to the land of eternal brightness. Through our Lord.

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14 April

BLESSED PETER GONZALEZ, PRIEST

Peter was born at the end of the twelfth century at Palencia in Spain. Although promoted to Dean of the cathedral chapter, moved by the grace of God he later asked for the habit of the Order, humbled from his former desire for glory. Notable for his spirit of faith and desire for prayer, he worked as much as possible to help his neighbors, particularly the destitute and those who were victims of shipwreck. He was an advocate of sailors, and was commonly called "Saint Elmo" because of a very fierce storm at sea which was calmed by his invocation. He died in Tuy on 14 April 1246. An immemorial cultus was established to him, and Benedict XIV confirmed this on 13 December 1741.

PRAYER: O God, you bestowed blessed Peter as a special aid to those in danger on the seas; grant at his intercession, that the light of your grace may always shine forth in the midst of the tempests of this world, to lead us to the port of eternal salvation. Through our Lord.

17 April

BLESSED CLARA GAMBACORTA, RELIGIOUS

Clara, born in 1362 either in Florence or Venice, was the daughter of Peter, a nobleman of Pisa. Married at the age of 12, she became a widow while still a girl of 15. She was imprisoned and subjected to many other afflictions by her parents, who sought to thwart her desire of dedicating herself to God by holy vows. They were overcome by her patience, however, and at last gave her freedom at the urging of Saint Catherine of Siena. Clara took the habit of the Order at the Monastery of the Holy Cross in Pisa. Desiring to live the regular life in its austerity in a new monastery of Saint Dominic which her father had built for her, she moved there and became its superior. She displayed great prudence and charity, particularly towards those who had slain her father and brothers. She cultivated study and encouraged her sisters to do likewise. She died on 17 April 1419; her cultus was confirmed by Pius VII on 24 April

PRAYER: Grant us a spirit of prayer and penitence, most merciful God, that, following the steps of blessed Clara, we may be worthy to obtain that crown which she has received in heaven. Through our Lord.

Also on 17 April

BLESSED MARIA MANCINI RELIGIOUS

Maria was born during the middle of the fourteenth century in Pisa. Twice widowed and abandoned by all of her children, she embraced a new life under the rule of the Order, at the urging of Saint Catherine of Siena, first as a Sister of Penance, and then as a nun in the monastery founded by Blessed Clara Gambacorta. She gave herself completely to divine contemplation and penance. She died on 22 January 1431. Pius XI confirmed her immemorial cultus on 2 August

PRAYER: O God, giver of grace and consoler of the sorrowing, who strengthened blessed Maria with a wonderful patience and an indomitable constancy of spirit in the midst of all adversities, grant us at her intercession to follow your will with a sincere heart and to walk through the changing paths of life with faithfulness. Through our Lord.

19 April

BLESSED ISNARD OF CHIAMPO, PRIEST

Coming from the territory of Chiampo near Vicenza in Italy, Isnard entered the Order in Bologna around the year 1218. "A fervent religious and a pleasing preacher," he "cultivated virginity "in body and in heart," and was famous for his miracles. He founded a convent of the Order in Pavia, and governed it in wisdom until his death on 19 March 1244. His cultus was confirmed by Benedict XV on 12 March 1919.

PRAYER: O God, you drive away the darkness of ignorance by the light of your wisdom; strengthen our faith by the merits and prayers of blessed Isnard, and grant that the fire of your grace, which you enkindled in him, may not be extinguished among us by any temptations. Through our Lord.

Also on 19 April

BLESSED SIBYLLINA BISCOSSI, VIRGIN

Sibyllina was born in Pavia in Italy in 1287. She was abandoned early by her parents, and became blind at the age of twelve, when she was taken in by some Sisters of Penance. She embraced both their Rule and their habit, and learned to study the hidden depths of God with an avid spirit. She remained as a recluse in the church of the Friars Preachers for 65 years, and shone forth with an interior light for the many who came to see her, burning with a special devotion for Jesus

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Crucified and the Holy Spirit. She died in her eightieth year on 19 March 1367. Pius IX confirmed her cultus on 17 August 1854.

PRAYER: Kindle in our hearts the fire of your Holy Spirit, O Lord, with which you wonderfully renewed the mind of blessed Sibyllina, that, filled with this light from on high, we may draw water from the secret depths of Christ Crucified, and always grow in your love. Through our Lord.

20 April

SAINT AGNES OF MONTEPULCIANO, VIRGIN **Obligatory memorial**

Agnes was born in the town of Gracciano in Italy in 1268, from the prosperous family of the Segni. At the age of nine she entered the monastery of some virgins at Montepulciano; however, when she turned 15, she was placed in charge of a monastery of nuns at Viterbo by papal indult, although she was unwilling. After 22 years, in response to the prayers of the inhabitants of Montepulciano, she returned there, to a monastery which had been recently (1306) founded under the rule of Saint Augustine, and was after some years placed "fully and completely" under the supervision of the Order of Preachers, being eager to follow evangelical perfection under the Rule of Saint Dominic. She cultivated a great affection and piety for the Infant Jesus and the Virgin Mary. Filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, she became a shining lamp of prayer and charity, and moved the spirit of her fellow-citizens to desire the goods of unity and peace by the grace and power of her virtue. She was called "glorious mother" by Saint Catherine of Siena, and being attended "by doctrine and the example of true humility", she died on 20 April 1317. Benedict XIII numbered her in the roll of the holy virgins on 10 December 1726.

PRAYER: O God, you crowned your bride Agnes with a wonderful desire for prayer; grant us at her intercession, always to be intent upon you, that we may be able to reap a bountiful harvest of holiness. Through our Lord.

27 April

BLESSED HOSANNA OF KOTOR, VIRGIN

Born to Orthodox parents in the territory of Montenegro in 1493, she spent her youth caring for sheep. Wishing to be conformed to the suffering of Christ, she was received as a recluse and took the habit of the Secular Third Order with the name Hosanna. Insisting on constant prayer and contemplation of divine things, she desired to obtain not only her own salvation, but that of others as well. She died on 27 April 1565. Pius XI ratified her cultus on 21 December 1927, calling for the unity of the Church.

PRAYER: Increase in our hearts, O Lord, the love of your Cross, that by the intercession and example of the suffering of blessed Hosanna for the unity of the Church, we may become partakers of your suffering and glory. Through our Lord.

29 April

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Catherine was born in 1347 at Siena, in the village of Fontebranda, in Italy, the youngest of 25 children. She vowed her virginity to God as a young girl (1354), divine Providence having prepared the way. Overcoming the considerable opposition of her family, she took up a life of prayer, fasting, and penitence among the Sisters of Penance of Saint Dominic (1363). She gave herself over to the contemplation of the sweet First Truth, and desired "to know herself in God and God in herself." Until 1370 she lived a life of austerity at home: in that year she received a vision from her heavenly Spouse giving her a command to go forth into the apostolate. From that point on, miraculously fortified by the gifts of the Holy Spirit and obedient to him with the highest docility, she joined together the highest possible contemplation of divine things in the "cell of the heart" with a wonderful apostolic activity. She convinced the Roman Pontiff himself, by her blazing eloquence and beautiful letters, to return to the Roman see (1376) and dealt with men and women of every sort and condition to lead them to the blessings of virtue and peace. Afire with divine charity, she desired to become like the crucified Christ, and on 1 April 1375 she was worthy to be adorned with the sacred stigmata as well, evident by light rather than by blood. "Her teaching was not learned; she seemed to be a teacher rather than a student" (Bull of Canonisation). She left behind most of all that famous document of her theological and spiritual teaching, the Dialogue (1378): she was worthy to be called "Mother" by that large family of disciples which even now remains throughout the whole Dominican family. She died at Rome in 1380 and was buried there in the basilica of Santa

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Maria sopra Minerva. Pius II canonised her on 29 June 1461, and Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Catherine burn with divine love in her meditation on the Lord's passion and in the service of your Church; grant by her intercession that your people, sharing in the mystery of Christ, may always rejoice in the revelation of his glory. Through our Lord.

30 April

SAINT PIUS V, Obligatory memorial

Antonio Ghislieri was born at Borschi [near Alexandria] in Italy in 1504, and received the habit of the Friars Preachers, taking the name Michael, as a youth (1520). He became a priest in 1528 and obtained the title of Lector. He taught Sacred Theology and was conventual prior frequently, being noted for his honesty of conduct and austerity of life. Commissary General of the Roman Inquisition (1551), he was later named bishop of Nipi and Sutri by Paul IV in 1556, and Cardinal in 1557. He accepted the governance of the diocese of Mondovi from Paul IV in 1560. At the encouragement of Saint Charles Borromeo, he was elected to the highest pastoral office, taking the name Pius (7 January 1566), and gave himself over completely to the salvation of souls and the reform of the Church. He strenuously defended the Catholic faith against novelties and worked for its spread. He put the decrees of the Council of Trent into practice: he reformed the Roman Curia, published the Roman Catechism(1566); he undertook the strengthening of clerical education, among other things introducing into seminaries the Summa Theologiae of Saint Thomas Aquinas, and, extending the use of a title which had previously been restricted, he declared Thomas a Doctor of the Latin Church under the title "Angelic" (1567); he promoted the revision and uniformity of the liturgical books, particularly the Breviary(1568) and the Roman Missal (1570); he praised the unification of the dogmatic traditions between the Eastern and Latin Churches, honoring the four greatest teachers of both churches with their liturgical titles. With words and actions he constantly fought against those who attacked the faith. The memory still remains of the naval expedition against the Turks which he organized; when the victory had been won by Christian princes at Lepanto (7 October 1571), which he attributed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Rosary, Mother of God, he instituted that feast in her honor (1572). He died in a holy fashion in Rome on 1 May 1572 and was beatified by Clement X on 1 May 1672. He was canonized by Clement XI on 22 May 1712. His body is venerated with honors at Rome in the basilica of Saint Mary Major.

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PRAYER: O God, you raised up blessed Pope Pius in your Church to protect the faith and give you more fitting worship; grant us at his intercession, to be sharers in the living faith and fruitful charity of your mysteries. Through our Lord.

MAY

3 May

BLESSED EMILY BICCHIERI, VIRGIN

Emily was born in Vercelli, Italy, in 1238. She made her religious profession at the age of nineteen in the monastery, which her father had built. She held the office of prioress often, yet was so humble among her sisters that she performed with great joy even the most unpleasant duties of each house. She radiated an attachment to God alone and a gratitude for the gifts, which she had received from Him. She particularly cultivated a devotion to the passion of the Saviour, who called her to Himself on 3 May, the Solemnity of the Finding of the Holy Cross, in 1314. Clement XIV confirmed her cultus on 19 July 1769. From the Common of Virgins, or Of Holy Women: For Religious, except for those elements, which are proper.

PRAYER: O God, you allowed blessed Emily to despise all earthly things and seek you alone; by her merits and example, grant that we, denying ourselves, may love you with grateful hearts. Through our Lord.

7 May

BLESSED ALBERT OF BERGAMO, LAY TERTIARY

Albert was born in the district of Villa d'Ogna in Italy around the year 1214. He married a woman, whose annoyance on account of his generosity to the poor he overcame with patience. When he became a widower without any children, he left behind his native land and went to Cremona, where he lived as a Christian pauper, challenging the heretical beggars. Desiring to imitate the spirit of penance and mercy of Saint Dominic, who was canonized at about this time (1234), he embraced the state of the lay Brothers of Penance (c. 1260). This group was merged with the Order a little before his death as the Order of Penance of Saint Dominic (1279); this union was fully approved by Master Munio of Zamora (1285). Residing in the convent, he worked tirelessly "for the good of the faith and of peace," serving pilgrims as well. He died on 7 May 1279. His immemorial cultus was approved

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by Benedict XIV on 9 May 1748. His body is venerated in the town of Villa d'Ogna. From the Common of Holy Men: For Those Who Work with the Underprivileged, except for those elements which are proper.

PRAYER: O God, you willed that blessed Albert should become illustrious for his humble way of life, his zeal for the truth, and his apostolic charity: make us follow in his footsteps to be worthy to receive his reward. Through our Lord.

8 May

MEMORIAL OF THE PATRONAGE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OVER THE WHOLE ORDER OF PREACHERS

It has been customary in the Church to invoke the Blessed Virgin Mary "under the titles of Advocate, Auxiliatrix, Adjutrix, and Mediatrix," ceaselessly pointing to the saving economy of the grace of her motherhood, by which she "in her manifold acts of intercession continues to win for us gifts of eternal salvation" (*Lumen Gentium* , n. 62). Since, as Blessed Humbert of Romans asserts, "She [the Blessed Virgin] was a great help in the establishment of the Order, ... and we hope that she will lead it to its ultimate good" (II, 70-71), our Order from its very beginning has acknowledged the patronage of that same Blessed Virgin, and has "not hesitated to proclaim her, to experience continually and to commend her to the hearts of all - brothers and sisters - so that encouraged by this maternal help they may more closely adhere to their Mediator and Redeemer" (n. 62) for the fulfillment of their difficult work for the salvation of the world. Until the most recent revision of the liturgical Calendar, the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin was kept as a memorial by the Order on 22 December, the anniversary of the approval of the Order by Honorius III (22 December 1216). Now, however, attentive to the fact that the ferias of Advent take precedence over all other memorials, this memorial of the Patronage should be celebrated as a commemoration in the month of May - which, according to custom, is particularly devoted in the Church to the Blessed Virgin Mary - and indeed on 8 May, inasmuch as in various proper liturgical calendars the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated in various different ways under different titles on this day.

PRAYER: O faithful and merciful God, you willed to commit the Order of Preachers to the singular patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary; grant, we beseech you, that just as she is our life, our sweetness and our hope in this present life, so also Jesus, your Son, may show us mercy at our last end. Who lives and reigns.

or:

PRAYER: O God, you willed that the Order of Preachers should be founded for the salvation of souls under the special protection of the blessed Virgin Mary, and that it should be filled with her unfailing gifts; grant to us who call upon you, that we may be brought to heavenly glory, protected by the aid of her whose commemoration we celebrate today. Through our Lord.

10 May

SAINT ANTONINUS OF FLORENCE, BISHOP
Obligatory memorial

Antoninus Pierozzi, born in Florence in 1389, was received into the Order "for the future convent of Faesuli" in 1405 by Blessed John Dominici, who was then intending the reformation of convents by order of Blessed Raymond of Capua. After he had finished his novitiate at Cortona, when the new center of the reform at Fiesoli was erected (1406) he began his formation as the first son of that convent. Made priest in 1413, he shone forth in austerity of life, in prudence, and by his teaching. After 1418 he governed the brethren as prior and promoted the fullness of the common life at Cortona, Fiesoli, Naples, and at Rome where he became auditor of the Roman Rota and a famous Master of Canon Law. When the famous convent of Saint Mark in Florence was built in 1435 through the generosity of the noble Cosimo de Medici, he was put in charge as prior (1436-1444) at the same time as Blessed Angelico was painting in it and in which, flowering in a beautiful way with the study of the humanities, the first public library in Europe was opened (1443). He was made Vicar General of the Observance in Italy from 1437, and was present at the Council of Florence (1438). At length he was named Archbishop of Florence (1446) by Eugenius IV. His wisdom was so well known that he was called by common consent "Antoninus consiliorum " (Antoninus of the councils). Marked with the charism of the good shepherd, he was a very great archbishop: always vigilant in his care, solicitous for the poor, particularly the forgotten, he instituted the society of the Good Men of Saint Martin, long before our modern organizations of social service and assistance. He was generous to the point of depriving himself, a reformer of the clergy who was severe but moderate, a pastor, a catechist, and a noted preacher. He wrote many works filled with teaching and charity: his principal work, the *Summa moralis*, bears witness that he was a great master of that science. He died on 2 May 1459. Hadrian VI canonized him on 31 May 1523.

PRAYER: O God, you made your blessed bishop Antoninus wonderful by the gift of wisdom; we beseech you to pour upon your servants the spirit of truth and of peace, so that they may with their whole heart know what things are pleasing to you and may follow them with all strength. Through our Lord.

or:

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PRAYER: O God, you made you blessed bishop Antoninus wonderful by the gift of counsel; grant that we who are now walking in the darkness of this life may learn those things which are above in the light from on high at his intercession. Through our Lord.

12 May

BLESSED JOANNA OF PORTUGAL, VIRGIN

Joanna, daughter of King Alphonso V of Portugal, was born in 1452, and at first lived in the palace of the king and, when the king was absent, ruled the kingdom as regent. Her devotion to the Passion of Jesus Christ inspired her meditations, austerity, and mercy toward the poor. She was received into the monastery of the Order of Saint Dominic at Aveiro (4 August 1472), after she had overcome the opposition of her parents. She died there when she was thirty eight years of age on 12 May 1490, after a life of humility and penance devoted to the conversion of sinners and the Ô liberty of Christian captives in Africa. Innocent XII confirmed her cultus on 31 December 1692.

PRAYER: O God, you strengthened blessed Joanna with the virtue of constancy in the midst of royal delights and worldly vanities: grant, at her intercession, that your faithful people may so turn aside from things earthly that they lose not things heavenly. Through our Lord.

13 May

BLESSED IMELDA LAMBERTINI, VIRGIN

Imelda, "otherwise called in the world Mary Magdalene de Lambertini," was born to noble parents in Bologna at the Ô beginning of the fourteenth century. From there she was received in her early girlhood as a "cloistered sister" (Ã monialis) of the Order of Saint Dominic in the monastery of Val di Pietra near Bologna, where she died while still a "young girl" on 12 May 1333, on the Vigil of the Ascension of Our Lord, after a miraculous reception of the Eucharist ^a as ancient lives record. In the Martyrology of the Monastery is written: "On May Twelfth ... Sister Imelda of Lambertini died, for whom a Host was sent down from heaven while she was still alive, which the priest took and communicated to her before many people"; another life adds to this: "and then she died immediately thereafter." Her body was translated from its original tomb in the monastery of Val di Pietra, where it had been buried with honours, to the new monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene within the walls of the city of Bologna in 1582. The sisters had moved there in 1566 at the order of Pope Pius V, and remained there until their suppression under the

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Emperor Napoleon, at which time Imelda' s body was moved to the church of Saint Sigismund, where it still rests, available for public veneration. A public cultus was approved for her by Pope Leo XII on 20 December 1826. At the request of Pope Saint Ô Pius X, Imelda was assigned as the heavenly patron and model for children making their first communion. From the Common of Virgins, except for those elements which are proper.

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, you received into heaven the blessed virgin Imelda, wounded by the flaming love of your sacred banquet; make us, at her intercession, to burn with that same fervour of love for your hold table, that we may long to die and be worthy to be with you. Who live and reign.

15 May

BLESSED GILES OF VAOZELA, PRIEST

Giles was born at Vaozela, a town in the diocese of Viseu in Portugal, around the year 1190, to the noble father Rodrigo Pelagio Valladares. Around 1224, leaving behind a dissolute life - according to legend, at the pious intervention of the blessed Virgin - in Paris, where he taught in the faculty of medicine, he entered the Order of Preachers together with Humbert of Romans, and was a close friend of blessed Jordan of Saxony, Master of that Order. Returning to his own country, and by his assiduous preaching and example he led as many as possible back to the way of salvation, particularly those who had obstinately persisted in error. He became provincial of the Province of Spain (1233-1245). When he was about to die, he wished to be placed on the ground, clothed in a hair shirt, and was consoled by the great sweetness of the brethren. He died in the convent of Santarem on 14 May 1265, the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. Pope Ô Benedict XIV confirmed his cultus on 9 May 1748. From the Common of Pastors, or Of Holy Men: For Religious, except for those elements which are proper.

PRAYER: We humbly implore your mercy, O Lord, that as you made blessed Giles return to the way of justice and holiness by your mercy which went before him, bring us back as well from the slavery and death of sin to perfect freedom and life. Through our Lord.

Also on 15 May

BLESSED ANDREW ABELLON, PRIEST

Andrew was born at Saint-Maximin in France in the year 1375, and received the habit of the Preachers as a young man in the convent dedicated to Saint Mary

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Magdalene, whose cloister he completed. Outstanding in the study of the liberal arts, he taught theology at Montpellier, Paris, and Avignon, but above all he was known for his preaching in Provence and at the court in Venaissin. He loved the city of Aix more than all the rest; he comforted its citizens when they were threatened by an imminent plague. He restored regular discipline in those communities he governed "more by patience and the example of his virtues than by hastily issued orders." He died at Aix-en-Provence on 15 May 1450. Leo XIII ^Ô confirmed his cultus on 19 August 1902. From the Common of Pastors, or Of Holy Men: For Religious, except for those elements which are proper.

PRAYER: O God, you chose blessed Andrew, your priest, to preach the gospel of peace and promote the regular life; grant us, at his intercession, perseverance in the proclamation of the faith, to be able to carry the yoke of Christ faithfully. Who lives and reigns.

19 May

BLESSED FRANCIS COLL GUITART, PRIEST

Francis was born in the territory of Combreny in Catalonia in 1812, the tenth and last son of a wool carder. Staying in that district, he taught boys the first elements of schooling. In 1830, he received the habit of the Order at Gerona, and there was promoted to the diaconate after professing solemn vows. He was forced to live away from the convent after 1835, but his Dominican profession never wavered and was cultivated more intensely. With the approval of his superiors, he was raised to the presbyterate under the title of poverty in 1836, and was assigned to the parochial ministry. Afterwards he gave himself completely to itinerant preaching with apostolic zeal. Working for and with the lay members of the Order, he instituted a regular congregation of sisters for the education of the young, dedicated to the Annunciation. He died in Vich, after becoming blind, on 2 April 1875. He was solemnly beatified by Pope John Paul II on 29 April

PRAYER: O God, you chose your blessed priest Francis to preach the Name of your Son and to teach the Christian people in holiness; grant, at his intercession, that the true faith may continually be sustained and grow through the ministry of the Word. Through our Lord.

21 May

BLESSED HYACINTHE-MARIE CORMIER, PRIEST
Optional memorial

Born in Orleans on 8 December 1832 and ordained a secular priest in 1856, Louis Stanislas-Marie Cormier joined the Order of Preachers that same year, having chosen while a seminarian to live by the rule of the Third Order. He took the name Hyacinthe-Marie, and was involved in the movement to restore the Order in France, initiate by Henri Lacordaire and continued by Vincent Jandel. From the time he made solemn profession until his death (1859 - 1916), he found himself entrusted with the responsibility of formation and government: Master of Novices, conventual prior, provincial, Assistant and Procurator General, and in 1904 Master of the Order. He fulfilled these offices with admirable prudence, inspired by a genuine love for religious life, in which he proved himself a generous father and a wise master. If conformity to Christ was his goal, he lived the Christian mysteries in union with Mary through the Prayer of the Rosary and by closely following the life of Saint Dominic, in whose name he knew well how to take upon himself his own affairs and those of the Order. Pope John Paul II solemnly beatified him on 20 November 1994. The remains of this blessed rest in Rome, in the church adjacent

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to the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas, the "Angelicum," which succeeds the "Ateneo Angelicum" founded by him in 1908. His liturgical commemoration is fixed on this day, the anniversary of his election as Master of the Order.

PRAYER: O God, you enlightened Blessed Hyacinthe-Marie Cormier with a spirit of counsel and piety, together with a burning zeal for sacred doctrine; through his intercession, grant that your family may be guided, always and everywhere, with wisdom and fervor. Through our Lord.

Also on 21 May

BLESSED COLUMBA OF RIETI, VIRGIN

Columba was born on 2 February 1467 to Angiolella Guadagnoli in Rieti, Italy. While still a young girl, she used a rough hair shirt to cultivate devotion to the passion of Christ. Receiving the habit of the Sisters of Penance at Rieti, she desired to follow the example of Saint Catherine of Siena, showing charity and concern for the poor, the sick, the dying, but most of all for prisoners and those condemned to death. She traveled to Perugia, at that time divided by factional conflict, and was there received into a monastery of regular Sisters, which she helped to found, and worked there for Ô the spread of peace to such an extent that she was called the "dove of peace" (Columba pacis). Before she died on Ascension Day, 20 May 1501, at the age of 35, she called the magistrate who had built the monastery and encouraged him to love his brethren so that he might be worthy of their common Father, since hate kindles the wrath of God, and the powerful are condemned by the force of the tears of the oppressed. Urban VIII confirmed her cultus on 25 February

PRAYER: O God, you deigned to illumine your chosen virgin, blessed Columba, with innocence of life and a desire for peace; grant, at her instruction, that we may serve you with pure minds in unity of heart. Through our Lord.

**TRANSLATION OF OUR HOLY FATHER SAINT DOMINIC,
PRIEST Obligatory memorial**

Saint Dominic wished to be buried at Bologna in the church of Saint Nicholas de Vineis "under the feet of his brothers." Many of those suffering under the affliction of many infirmities came to his tomb to receive the blessing of health. The brethren, however, refused to acknowledge the miracles and destroyed the gifts which were left as votive offerings. Finally, with the approval of Pope Gregory IX, on 24 May 1233, in the presence of Theodoric, Archbishop of Ravenna and papal legate, Jordan of Saxony moved the body of Dominic to a new marble sarcophagus, during the celebration of a General Chapter at Bologna with many of the brethren. At that time, a miraculous odor began to exude from the holy body, "clearly showing to all, that here was the good odor of Christ. Mass was celebrated by the Archbishop, and because it was the third day after Pentecost, the chorus intoned the Mass *Accipite jucunditatem gloriae vestrae*" (Jordan of Saxony). This was the beginning of the process of canonization, which was completed when Gregory IX numbered Dominic among the saints on 3 July 1234. Later, Blessed John of Vercelli, the sixth Master of the Order, erected a more worthy monument, and placed the body of Saint Dominic there on 5 June 1267.

PRAYER: O God, you were pleased to enlighten your church with the merits and teaching of blessed Dominic, your confessor and our father; grant, at his intercession, that she may not be wanting in temporal help, and may always increase in spiritual growth. Through our Lord.

or.

PRAYER: May blessed Dominic aid your Church, O Lord, by his merits and teaching: may he be a powerful intercessor for us, as he was a famous preacher of your truth. Through our Lord.

BLESSED ANDREW FRANCHI, BISHOP

Andrew was born in Pistoia, Italy, in 1335, of the noble family of the Franchi (or Boccagni). He entered the Order of Preachers while still a youth of 14 at Florence. He worked to restore the regular life after the Black Death. He became prior of his native priory (1370), and later of Lugano and Orvieto (1371-1375), until at last he was named bishop of Pistoia (1382). He was an untiring advocate of peace among his people, and a careful pastor, noted for his austere piety and preaching. He cultivated a particular devotion to the Infant Jesus with the Virgin Mary and the Magi. Receiving strangers and pilgrims at his own table, he would serve them and

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wash their feet. A promoter of the liberal arts, he took care that many famous works should be produced at Pistoia. When he resigned after 18 years of pastoral work (1400), he returned to his own priory where he lived in a simple and holy manner. He died on 26 May 1401. His cultus was confirmed by Pope Benedict XV on 23 November 1921.

PRAYER: O God, you willed that blessed Andrew your bishop should excel by holiness and teaching in the preaching of your word and the care of your people; grant, at his intercession, that striving boldly in your holy service, we may be worthy to reap a fruitful harvest. Through our Lord.

28 May

BLESSED MARIA BARTHOLOMEA BAGNESI, VIRGIN

Maria was born on 15 August 1514 in Florence; she received the habit of the Sisters of Penance there in 1547. She was confined to her bed for 45 years, tormented by a fierce pain which she bore with a wonderful fortitude. She encouraged and consoled many of those who came to her by the display of her spirit of faith and by her obedience to the divine will. She died on 28 May 1577, and her body is preserved at the Carmelite nuns in Florence. Her cultus was approved on 11 July 1804 by Pius VII.

PRAYER: O God, you allowed the blessed virgin Maria Bartholomea to join a wonderful patience with illness to innocence of life; grant that we who suffer with patience may be aided by your grace. Through our Lord.

29 May

BLESSEDS WILLIAM ARNAUD AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

William was one of the first of the brethren to be commissioned as Inquisitor in the diocese of Toulouse "on behalf of the faith of Christ and the obedience of the Roman Church." He was captured in an ambush at Avignon by the heretics, with two other brothers of our Order (Bernard de Rochefort, priest, and Garcia de Aure, cooperator brother) and several other clerical companions. These famous witnesses for the faith, "rejoicing ... as apostolic men" received martyrdom Ô as they sang the Te Deum . They were crowned with martyrdom together on the night of the Ascension of Our Lord, 29 May 1242. Pius XI approved their cultus on 6 September 1866. Their remains were scattered in the sixteenth century.

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PRAYER: O God, the strength of all the faithful, you allowed blessed William and his companions to offer their lives for the faith of Christ and in obedience to the Church; grant, at their intercession, that sharing the cup of Christ with them, we may always grow in your love. Through our Lord.

30 May

BLESSED JAMES SALOMONI, PRIEST

James was born of an ancient and noble family in Venice in 1231. After his father died and his mother entered a monastery of Cistercian nuns, at the age of 17 he distributed his property to the poor and was received into our Order. Leaving Venice, he came to Forlino, where he lived for 45 years, manifesting the gifts of the Holy Spirit, singular merits and virtue, but most of all humility and a charity which earned him the name "Father of the Poor." He died on 31 May 1314. A liturgical cultus was conceded by Gregory XV on 22 September 1621. His body is venerated in Venice.

PRAYER: O God, who gave blessed James to your people to help them attain the mystery of salvation more fully; grant us, by his merits and example, so to acknowledge your Son that we may more fully be able to imitate him in our lives. Through our Lord.

Also on 30 May

SAINT ZDISLAVA OF MORAVIA, MATRON

Zdislava was born at Krizanov in the Czech Republic around the year 1220. She married Gallus, a prince of the Lemberk family, and carefully educated the four children she received. Taking the habit of the Order, she became a zealous disciple of Saint Dominic. She worked for the spread of the Friars Preachers in Bohemia, and requested her husband to build two priories. Famous for her domestic virtues, she gave herself totally to the service of the poor, shirking nothing of her own household duties. She died in Jablona in 1252. Her cultus was approved by St. Pius X on 28 August 1907; she was canonized by Pope John Paul II during his pastoral visitation of Bohemia on 21 May 1995.

PRAYER: O God, you taught blessed Zdislava to follow the way of perfection through the duties of married life and works of charity; grant at her intercession that all families may be renewed and may flower with the testimony of Christian virtues. Through our Lord.

JUNE

2 June

BLESSEDS SADOC AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Sadoc received the habit from Saint Dominic, according to tradition, while still a young man, and was sent to Pannonia by the saint at the General Chapter of Bologna in 1221 in order to propagate the Order. There, with his brother Paul the Hungarian, he became the founder and builder of the Province of Hungary, where he lived for many years. Afterwards, he was called to lead his brethren to Sandomierz in Poland. There he and 48 others brethren were murdered by the Tartars in 1260, during the singing of the *Salve Regina* when the community had gathered for Compline. This massacre was recently confirmed by excavations of the convent at Sandomierz. Pius VII conceded a liturgical cultus to these martyrs on 18 October 1807.

PRAYER: May your Holy Mother, the clement and loving Virgin Mary, after this our exile show you to us, O Lord Jesus; as blessed Sadoc and his companions greeted her in the midst of the attack of the enemy, so they merited to receive from you the crown of martyrdom which they had desired. You live and reign.

SAINT PETER OF VERONA, PRIEST AND MARTYR
Obligatory memorial

Born at the end of the twelfth century in Verona, Italy, to parents who were followers of a Manichaeian sect, Peter was converted to the Catholic faith as a boy. He came to Bologna as a young man in order to study, and was there drawn to enter the Order by the preaching of Saint Dominic, from whom he received the habit. From there he gave himself to preaching, particularly among the Cathars, and, with Saint Dominic as his teacher, using the evangelical rule in his disputations he became a herald and famous witness of the Gospel of salvation. Supported by the gifts of the Holy Spirit in a wonderful way, he worked without ceasing for the advance and defence of the true faith. To this end he instituted "Societies of Faith" and "Confraternities of the Praises of the Blessed Virgin Mary", always taking care to promote the faith among the people. A lover and advocate of the brotherhood, he fervently promoted the common life, ordered it wisely as prior, and vigorously defended it. He was very concerned with the spiritual welfare of the Sisters as well, always supporting them by his counsel and encouragement, and being of much use to them as a spiritual director. At the end of his life he was promoted to the office of Inquisitor in the middle of the year 1251, where he powerfully filled this apostolic mission with the greatest humanity. On 6 April 1252, returning to Milan from Como, he fell by the sword of the heretics "on behalf of the holy faith and in obedience to the Roman Church," confessing the creed with a loud voice and writing it in his own blood. One of his assassins, Carinus, was afterwards received into the Order. Innocent IV added him to the role of the saints on 9 March 1253, and established his feast on 29 April. After the most recent revision of the liturgy, his feast is celebrated on this day, the anniversary of the translation of his relics (1340).

PRAYER: Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that we may with fitting devotion follow the faith of blessed Peter Martyr, who for the spread of that faith was worthy to obtain the palm of martyrdom. Through our Lord.

or

PRAYER: O God, the author and guardian of our faith, you crowned blessed Peter with martyrdom for his perseverance in the confession of the true faith; grant that we your faithful people may receive the salvation of our souls by confessing that same faith in word and deed. Through our Lord.

BLESSEDS DIANA AND CÆCILIA, VIRGINS
Optional memorial

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Diana d' Andalo, born at the beginning of the thirteenth century in Bologna, aided Blessed Reginald in building the convent at Bologna. When Dominic arrived at Bologna in 1219, Diana made her profession of religious life into the hands of the Patriarch along with other young women. After she had overcome the opposition of her family, who even broke her rib, she entered the monastery of Saint Agnes, erected by Blessed Jordan of Saxony. She was a true mother to her sisters, and died in 1236. Fifty letters written to her by Jordan of Saxony are extant; these letters are a beautiful document of the spirituality of the Dominican family and of the fellowship between brothers and sisters. Her cultus was confirmed on 8 August 1888 by Leo XIII.

Cæcilia was born at the beginning of the thirteenth century in Rome. She moved from Santa Maria in Tempulo to the monastery of San Sisto in 1221, where she met Saint Dominic and became faithful witness to his appearance and spirit. Afterwards, either at the end of 1223 or the beginning of 1224, she was sent with three other sisters by Pope Honorius III to Bologna to plant the spirit of Holy Father Dominic in the monastery of Saint Agnes, founded by Blessed Diana. Cæcilia died there in 1290. Her cultus was approved by Leo XIII on 24 December 1891.

PRAYER: Gladden our hearts, we beseech you, O Lord, on this happy feast of the blessed virgins Diana and Cæcilia. Grant us at their intercession to show forth fraternal love and the desire for truth, both in our hearts and in our deeds. Through our Lord.

10 June

BLESSED JOHN DOMINIC, BISHOP *Optional memorial*

Born around the year 1355 in Florence, John Dominic was received into the Order as a youth of 17 in the convent of Santa Maria Novella. After the Black Death, he became a part of the Reform of the Order begun in 1348 by Raymond of Capua, and established it in many priories so that "he stood out as the first one to revive regular discipline in Italy." In 1395, he founded the monastery of Dominican nuns of Corpus Christi in Venice, along with some disciples of Catherine of Siena, whom he held in highest esteem. His active apostolate was suddenly interrupted in 1399 by order of the magistrates, whose commands he had disobeyed.

Exiled for five years, he travelled to Florence, where he gave himself completely to fruitful preaching and became famous for his zeal for souls. Concerned because of the questions of faith and morals that were being raised by the humanism of the time, he wrote a book called the *Lucula noctis* ("The Grove of the Night"),

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expounding the basis of Christian education. Delegated by the Florentines to go to Rome to negotiate about the schism in 1406, he acquired the confidence of the newly elected Gregory XII, who made John his counselor and in 1408 named him Archbishop of Ragusa and Cardinal under the title of San Sisto.

He showed himself faithful and prudent during the calamitous times of the council of Constance. He retained the confidence of the new Pope Martin V as well, and was sent as his legate to Bohemia and Hungary to work against the heresy espoused by Jan Hus. During these labors he died in Buda on 10 June 1419. Gregory XVI confirmed his immemorial cultus on 9 April 1832.

PRAYER: O God, the giver of eternal counsel and love, you strengthened blessed John, your bishop, to preserve the unity of the Church and to promote regular observance. Grant us, at his intercession, always to seek those things which belong to unity and peace. Through our Lord.

12 June

BLESSED STEPHEN BANDELLI, PRIEST

This careful and eloquent apostle, who was called another Paul, was born in 1369 in Castelnuovo Scrivia, near Alexandria in Italy, and received the habit of the Order at Placentia. He taught philosophy and theology at the University of Padua, but was most known for his preaching and hearing confessions. Many sinners were converted by his preaching. He died, more than eighty years old, on 11 June 1450, in Saluzzo, which he freed from a great siege after his death. Pius IX confirmed his cultus on 21 February 1856.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Stephen an outstanding herald of the Gospel to call those who were straying back to the way of salvation; grant us, by his merits and in imitation of his life, so to progress in our work that we may be worthy to receive the wage promised to those who labor for the kingdom. Through our Lord.

18 June

BLESSED HOSANNA OF MANTUA, VIRGIN

Hosanna Andraesi was born in Mantua in Italy in 1449, related to the Gonzaga family, which ruled the duchy of Mantua in the fifteenth century. She turned down all offers of marriage even in her earliest youth, and took the habit of the Sisters of Penance of Saint Dominic. She advanced greatly in Christian virtues, particularly that of humility. She enjoyed the prudent spiritual direction of the very famous

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theologian Francis of Ferrara, who was Master of the Order and wrote her biography. Joyful and loving, she joined the contemplation of divine things with secular occupations, and the exercise of good works with a marvelous wisdom, which she displayed to many people by her letters. Crowned with extraordinary mystical graces, she died on 18 June 1505. Scarcely ten years later (1515), Leo X conceded her cultus to the diocese of Mantua. Innocent XII confirmed this for the universal church on 27 November 1694.

PRAYER: O God, the giver of all good gifts, you granted blessed Hosanna the ability to display and teach all the unsearchable riches of Christ; grant us, instructed and led by her example, to grow in your wisdom and faithfully to live according to the light of the gospel. Through our Lord.

20 June

BLESSED MARGARET EBNER, VIRGIN

Margaret was born around the year 1291 in Donauworth in Bavaria, and was taught the virtues and letters in her father's home. About the year 1306, she chose the devout life among the nuns of the Order of Preachers in the monastery of Medingen, in the Diocese of Augsburg, dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin Mother of God. In 1311, admonished to perfect her way of life in the fullness of the Divine Will, she began to lead a stricter way of life corresponding to that of her Holy Father Dominic, "for her own salvation, as an example to men, a joy to the angels, and pleasing to God." Enriched by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and suffering many of the afflictions of Christ, she daily ascended through all the steps of contemplation to the mind of God, and received the ultimate union of soul with Him in 1347.

Margaret is an example of the famous Rheinland mystics who flourished in the fourteenth century in more than 70 monasteries of our Order in Germany. A friend of Johannes Tauler, she frequently communicated with him, and with all men of good will who were called "friends of God." She herself was the author of a singular autobiography of mystical experiences. This testimony remains in the "Revelations" or "Diary", and the collection of spiritual prayers modeled on the Our Father, which teach of divine love. She found her heavenly home on 20 June 1351. Her immemorial cultus was ratified by Pope John Paul II, and confirmed on 24 February 1979.

PRAYER: O God of supreme goodness, you made blessed Margaret, inflamed with the fire of the Holy Spirit, to penetrate the secret places of divine love; grant us, at her intercession, to advance to you along the paths of Christ, filled with the same Spirit. Who lives and reigns.

23 June

BLESSED INNOCENT V, POPE

Peter of Tarantaise was born in his ancestral territory in France around the year 1224, and as a youth entered the convent of the Order of Preachers in Lyons. In 1255, he was sent to the *studium* of the convent of Saint Jacques in Paris, where he became a Master of Sacred Theology. He was named to an extra-capitular commission "for the promotion of studies" by the General Chapter at Valenciennes, along with Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, Florentius of Hesdin and Bonhomine the Breton. This commission composed the Statutes which are the perennial charter of the institutes of studies of the Order.

From 1259 until 1264, and from 1267 until 1269 he taught theology at the University of Paris. Twice he interrupted his job of teaching, both times being called as Provincial of the province of Provence in the Order (1264-1267; 1269-1272). In 1272, he was unwillingly created Archbishop of Lyons, and although not yet ordained a bishop he was made Cardinal Bishop of Ostia Tiberina in May 1273. Together with Saint Bonaventure, he conducted the major business of the Council of Lyons in 1274, in which the union of the Greeks with the Latin Church was considered.

Famous as a teacher, but even more famous for his blameless life and sweetness of character, he was raised to the chair of Peter in January 1276, taking the name Innocent. He was particularly concerned with the restoration of the Church's ministry in ecumenical unity, which he explained in brief, was "shown to the Church, rather than given." He died in that same year on 22 June. His cultus was confirmed on 14 May 1898 by Leo XIII. His grave disappeared in an earthquake during the eighteenth century.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Pope Innocent a promoter of peace and unity, having adorned him with the gifts of wisdom and prudence; grant us, at his intercession, to discern the things of heaven and to follow all things right in the desire for concord. Through our Lord.

JULY

4 July

BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI, LAY TERTIARY

Optional memorial

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Born in Turin on 6 April 1901, Pier Giorgio Frassati dedicated his life to study, the pursuit of holiness, and to apostolic and social activity that upheld charity. He was a shining example for all young people of an authentic Christian life lived in the world and completely dedicated to the love of God.

At the age of 18, while studying engineering at the university, he began to attend the third Order of Saint Dominic in order to discern his own vocation, and on 28 May 1922, at the age of 21, he was admitted as a lay tertiary of Saint Dominic by brother Martin Stanislaus Gillet, later Master of the Order. The following year he made his profession and took the name Jerome, in honor and in imitation of the great Savonarola, whose writings he studied with care, along with the works of Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Thomas Aquinas.

He died on 4 July 1925 of polio, a disease which he had contracted while working among his beloved poor, whom he visited daily in their homes. John Paul II declared him blessed on 20 May 1990.

PRAYER: O God, you gave the blessed youth Pier Giorgio the grace and joy of finding Christ in faith and love; grant us, we beseech you, at his intercession, to be able to pour forth the spirit of the Beatitudes of the gospel among the men and women of our own time. Through our Lord.

7 July

BLESSED BENEDICT XI, POPE

Nicholas Boccasini was born in Treviso, Italy in 1240 to humble parents. He was humble, "kind and meek; he hated quarrels and loved peace," attracting the spirits of all his fellow citizens and relatives, becoming famous both for his faithfulness and his fortitude. He governed the Province of Lombardy and later on the whole Order (1296), "a great lover and advocate of community." He was created a cardinal by Pope Boniface VIII (1298), and was with that pope when Nogaret, ambassador of King Philip IV, captured the pope.

Not long afterwards, Boniface VIII died and Nicholas succeeded him in office, taking the name Benedict XI. During the time of his pontificate (22 October 1303 - 7 July 1304) he gave himself to the restoration of peace in Britain and Germany, and to obtaining a reconciliation between France and the Holy See. He aided the Mendicant Friars with a fatherly kindness. He died in Perugia on 7 July 1304 in a holy manner. His immemorial cultus was confirmed by Clement XII on 24 April 1736.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Pope Benedict famous for his great love of the brotherhood and for his supreme ministry to your flock; grant us at his intercession always to be fervent in fraternal life and one in spirit in the family of the Church. Through our Lord.

8 July

BLESSED ADRIAN FORTESCUE, MARTYR

Hadrian was born around 1476 to a noble family in the county of Devon in England, and became a husband and father of outstanding virtue. A justice of the peace and knight of the Order of Malta, he made profession according to the rule of the Oxford lay fraternity of Saint Dominic. He determined to live according to these ascetic norms, among others: to seek the fulfillment of the divine pleasure in all things, always to obey the movement of the Holy Spirit in all activities, daily to renew good plans and to carry out all business diligently, and to ask the grace of perseverance from God. Hated for his virtuous life, he was twice imprisoned and was finally decapitated on 8 or 9 July 1539 for his refusal to take the oath of supremacy to the King in matters of faith. His cultus was confirmed by Leo XIII on 13 May 1895.

PRAYER: O God, you strengthened Blessed Adrian in a special way with an admirable spirit of holiness and fortitude: hear the prayers of your people

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and grant that, taught by his glorious example, we may learn to obey you rather than men. Through our Lord.

9 July

SAINTS JOHN OF KÖLN, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Obligatory memorial

John Heer, a famous witness of Catholic truth and pastoral charity, was born in Germany at the beginning of the sixteenth century. He was from the priory in Köln, and asked permission from his superiors with great insistence to go to Holland to strengthen those Catholics who were suffering under harsh Calvinist persecution. While he was exercising the parochial care of the church at Hoornar, he was captured by heretics and hanged outside of the walls of the city of Brielle an der Maas, in southern Holland, at midnight between 8 and 9 July 1572, together with 18 other priests and religious coming in part from the larger city of Gorcum. All of these were hanged for the same reason: for the Catholic truth of the Eucharist and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff: their bodies were dismembered and scattered. Clement X solemnly beatified John and his companions on 24 November 1675; Pius IX proclaimed them saints on 29 June 1867.

PRAYER: O God, you give us a wonderful example of faith and fortitude in the glorious martyrdom of blessed John and his companions; we beseech you, by their example and proclamation, grant us to stand up with strength against the adversaries of this world, and be found steadfast in the confession of the true faith. Through our Lord.

13 July

**BLESSED JAMES OF VARAZZE,
BISHOP**

John was born around 1228. He was received into the Order in Genoa in 1244. Endowed with learning and eloquence, he drew the hearts of all men to Christ principally by his kindness and the example of his virtues. After becoming prior of Asti (around the year 1260), he twice later on governed the Province of Lombardy. At the death of the Master General John of Vercelli, he became Vicar of the Order and presided over the election of Master Muñio of Zamora (1285). He refused the office of Archbishop of Genoa, but Pope Nicholas IV after some years imposed this on him (13 April 1292).

He gave himself totally to the flock committed to his charge with outstanding pastoral charity, particularly careful for the reform of Divine Worship and the promoting of the Christian life and of peace among the people. Most famous for his book *Legenda aurea* (the "Golden Legend"), this work profoundly affected Western spirituality and constitutes one of the fullest documents of the spirit and culture of his age. He died on 13 July 1298. A liturgical cultus was conceded by Pius VII on 11 May 1816. His relics were translated to Varazze.

PRAYER: O God, you made your bishop, blessed James, a famous herald of truth and an effective peace-maker; grant us, at his intercession, to love both peace and truth, and to reach you in whom peace is most perfect and truth is most pure. Through our Lord.

17 July

**BLESSED CESLAUS OF POLAND, PRIEST
Optional memorial**

Born around the year 1180 in Poland, he was one of the first friars of the Order of Saint Dominic. Coming to Rome with the bishop of Crackow, along with Hyacinth of Poland, they were captivated by the life and spirit of Dominic, and took the habit of the Order. Fulfilling the mission of preaching and extending the Order which they had joined with burning zeal, famous for his apostolic virtues, Ceslaus had a part in the foundation of the Province of Poland, particularly the convent of Breslau. He died on 15 July 1242. His remains were kept in a chapel in Breslau, which miraculously remained intact throughout the Second World War. Clement XI confirmed his cultus on 27 August 1712.

PRAYER: O God, you endowed your priest, blessed Ceslaus, with the wonderful grace of preaching the Gospel, burning with zeal for the salvation

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of souls; grant that, following in his footsteps faithfully, we may be able to spread the faith by our actions and preaching. Through our Lord.

22 July

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE *Obligatory memorial*

Mary of Magdala, healed by the Lord Jesus, followed him and ministered to him with great love (cf. Luke 8. 3). At the end, when all the disciples had fled, Mary Magdalene stood at the foot of the cross of the Lord with Mary, John, and the other women (cf. John 19. 25). Early Easter Morning, Jesus appeared to her and sent her to announce his resurrection to the disciples (cf. Mark 16. 9; John 20. 11 - 18).

Her cult spread throughout the Western Church, particularly in the eleventh century, and grew strong in the Order of Friars Preachers, according to the testimony of Humbert of Romans: "After [Mary Magdalene] was converted to penance, she received such grace from the Lord, that no other woman in the world can be found, besides the blessed Virgin, to whom greater reverence is paid, and who is believed to have greater glory in heaven" (ed. J. Catalani, Rome 1739, p. 210).

The Order of Preachers counts her among the number of its protectors. At all times the brethren and sisters venerate her as the "Apostle to the apostles" - for so she is celebrated in the Byzantine liturgy - and compare the duty of the Magdalene to announce the resurrection with their own duty.

PRAYER: O God, your Only-begotten Son entrusted the joyful news of his resurrection to Mary Magdalene before all others; by her prayers and example, grant, we beseech you, that we may proclaim the living Christ and may see him reigning in glory. Who lives and reigns.

**BLESSED JANE OF ORVIETO,
VIRGIN**

Jane was born around the year 1264 at Carnaiola in the district of Orvieto, and was orphaned while still young. She entered the sisters of the Fraternity of Saint Dominic, and was accustomed to have mystical conversation with the Lord and to participate in the suffering of Christ. Everyone loved her, modest and caring, and they sought her counsel or healing. She died on 23 July 1306. Benedict XIV confirmed her cultus on 11 September 1754.

PRAYER: O God, you enriched the outstanding purity and burning charity of the blessed virgin Jane with heavenly gifts; make us imitate the innocence of life and generosity which we reverence in her life. Through our Lord.

Also on 24 July

**BLESSED AUGUSTINE OF BIELLA,
PRIEST**

Born from a noble family in 1430 in Biella in Italy, Augustine entered the Order there, and died in Venice on 22 July 1493, speaking praises to the glory of God Most High. These words were a sign of a life given to prayer, preaching, hearing confessions, and the use of an authority which was both gentle and severe. Pius IX confirmed his cultus on 5 September 1872. His body is venerated in Biella.

PRAYER: O God, with outstanding grace you gave your people blessed Augustine to announce the mysteries of salvation and comfort the sorrowing; grant us to follow in his footsteps, that we may always grow in your grace and knowledge. Through our Lord.

27 July

**BLESSED ROBERT NUTTER,
PRIEST AND MARTYR**

Robert was born not later than 1557 at Burnley, Lancashire, in England, and was one of many priests educated at Blackburn Grammar School by Laurence Yates. From there he went with his older brother John to Douai College and was ordained at Soissons in 1581. During his eighteen years on the English Mission in the reign of Elizabeth I, he spent much time in prison in the Tower of London, where he was tortured and heavily manacled for forty-three days during which he heard of his priest-brother's martyrdom in 1584. He was banished, returned, caught, and escaped, and finally re-taken and hanged, drawn and quartered at Lancaster with Blessed Edward Thwing on 26 July 1600.

He wished, while imprisoned at Wisbech Castle, to enter the Order of Friars Preachers, and made his solemn profession in prison, which was accepted by the Prior Provincial of the Province of Portu He was solemnly beatified by Pope John Paul II, along with eighty four other martyrs of England, Scotland and Wales, on 22 November 1987.

PRAYER: God, all-powerful Father, you strengthen our faith and take away our weakness; let the prayers and example of Blessed Robert Nutter help us to share in the passion and resurrection of Christ and bring us to eternal joy with all your saints. Through our Lord.

AUGUST

2 August

**BLESSED JANE,
MOTHER OF OUR HOLY FATHER DOMINIC
Optional memorial**

Jordan of Saxony' *Libellus* names Felix as Saint Dominic' s father and Joanna (Joan or Jane) as his mother. She had three sons, the first by a former husband, as it is supposed. She was a women (according to the testimony of Rodríguez of Serrato) "full of faith" and "honest, chaste and prudent, truly compassionate toward the poor and afflicted, and shining forth with the privilege of a good reputation among all of the women of that land." She died at the beginning of the thirteenth century. Buried

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in Calaruega, she was later translated to the Church of Saint Peter de Gumiel d' Izan and later to Peñafiel; she now rests in Calaruega in the province of Burgos. Leo XII confirmed her cultus on 1 October 1828.

PRAYER: Raise up, O Lord, the spirit of the Gospel among your people, with which the Blessed Joan was filled and by which she prepared her sons Dominic and Mannes for the apostolic life. Through our Lord.

3 August

BLESSED AUGUSTINE KAZOTIC, BISHOP

Augustine was born at Trogir in Dalmatia around the year 1260 and was received into the Order as a youth. In the 1303 he was chosen as bishop of Zagreb by Benedict XI. He was exiled from the see of Zagreb to Lucera in Italy on account of the hostility of the king in 1322. A zealous pastor, "father and defender of the poor" against the powerful, he made many visitations of the people on foot. His plan of salvation included "the careful contemplation of the divine mysteries and the meditation on death." He spent his nights in prayer, just as Saint Dominic did, imploring divine mercy. He had been taught by his patron, Saint Augustine, that "whoever knows the art of praying well has learned the art of living well." He died on 3 August 1323. The cultus attributed to him was confirmed by Pope Innocent XII on 17 July 1700.

PRAYER: Most holy Father, we beseech you, grant us to follow the counsels and example of your bishop Blessed Augustine, so that, carefully meditating on the mysteries of salvation and earnestly joined to the service of the Church, we may reach the joys of eternal life. Through our Lord.

**HOLY FATHER DOMINIC,
PRIEST
*Solemnity***

Born in Calaruega in Spain around the years 1172-73, he studied theology in Palencia and was famous for his mercy towards the poor. As Canon of Osma, he advanced in zeal of prayer and the prudence of governance as Subprior (1201). When the territory of Toulouse was thrown into confusion by the Albigensian heresy, he became a devoted preacher (1206). He brought forward a new plan for spreading the faith, with the approval of Innocent III, by the example of evangelical poverty and by fraternal teaching about doctrine. Making women also a part in this work of evangelization, he founded a monastery for them at Prouille (1206), which could furnish a haven and an aid for the preachers, or furnish a refuge for those attached to them. Receiving in his own hands the oblation of certain of his companions in the "Preaching of Jesus Christ", he founded the first conventual fraternity at Toulouse (1215), thus laying the foundations for a new Order.

Joining the canonical life with the apostolic life under the *Rule* of Augustine (1216), he adopted the office of preaching the word for himself and for the Order, which up to that point had been the office of a bishop alone; Honorius III approved this Order on 22 December 1216. Dominic confirmed the universal mission of this Order at Rome (18 January 1217); and trusting in the grace of God and joined to the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary he dispersed the brethren throughout the whole of Europe, principally to Paris and Bologna, which were then the primary centres of studies (15 August 1217). He reserved for himself the difficult mission to the territories of northern Italy which were infested with the heresy of the Cathari.

"He always spoke with God," and thence he was able to speak more effectively "about God." While he brought God to men by his fervent preaching, he brought men to God by the power of his prayer. "He showed himself everywhere to be a man of the gospel in word and in deed. No one was more accessible to his brethren and companions, no one was more pleasant, the best and greatest counsellor." He died on 6 August 1221 at Bologna. Gregory IX, who as Cardinal of Ostia Tiberina had been a very close friend, placed him in the roll of the saints on 3 July 1234.

PRAYER: O Lord, may our blessed Father Dominic aid your Church by his merits and prayers, and may he who stands out as an outstanding preacher of your truth become a most holy intercessor on our behalf. Through our Lord.

or:

PRAYER: O God, you were pleased to enlighten your church with the merits and teaching of blessed Dominic, your confessor and our father; grant, at his

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intercession, that she may not be wanting in temporal help and may always increase in spiritual growth. Through our Lord.

9 August

BLESSED JOHN OF SALERNO, PRIEST

Of the Norman nobility, John was born in Salerno in 1190, and was raised to the priesthood in 1219. Having incepted as a Master, he was moved by the preaching of Blessed Reginald, and entered the Order. In the same year as his entrance, he was placed by holy Father Dominic in charge of the brethren sent to found a convent in Florence. He labored greatly for the advance of the Catholic faith, and fell asleep in the Lord in Florence in the year 1242. Pius VI confirmed his cultus on 2 April 1783.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed John an extraordinary herald of your word for the increase of the faith; grant us, by his intercession, that what we believe in our hearts for righteousness, we may confess with our lips for salvation. Through our Lord.

14 August

BLESSED AIMO TAPARELLI, PRIEST

Aimo was born in Savigliano of a noble family in 1398. At the age of his confirmation, he was received into the Order of Preachers. "An outstanding master and preacher", burning with zeal for the house of God, he became a tireless inquisitor of truth, rather than of heresy, after the death of Bartholomew Cerverio (1466). He died in his one hundredth year in 1495 on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Mother of God into heaven, to whom he was singularly devoted. He left behind the memory of a man given to contemplation, who celebrated the Mass and the Divine Office with the most profound devotion. Pius XI approved his cultus on 29 May 1856.

PRAYER: O God, whose service is perfect freedom, through the intercession of blessed Aimo, whom you made an outstanding champion of the faith, grant us, we beseech you, that serving you in the Church by promoting peace and unity, we may deserve with him to enjoy your eternal kingdom. Through our Lord.

15 August

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Solemnity

On this solemnity, we recall with thanksgiving the intercession and protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary over the Order. This can be expressed in the liturgy in many ways: before Mass, with a procession or solemn entrance; during Mass, by taking advantage of one or another of the greater moments of the eucharistic celebration; in the Liturgy of the Hours, by selecting a more solemn form of celebrating an hour or by choosing certain particular elements.

PRAYER: Almighty and everlasting God, you raised the sinless Virgin Mary, Mother of your Son, body and soul to the glory of heaven: grant us, we beseech you, to be always intent on things above that we may be worthy to share her glory. Through our Lord.

17 August

SAINT HYACINTH OF POLAND, PRIEST
Obligatory memorial

James (Jacek: he was called Hyacinth in the fourteenth century) was born at the end of the twelfth century in a town of the diocese of Bratislava called Kamién. A canon of the church of Crackow, he was received into the Order in 1220 in Rome. In 1221, Saint Dominic named him, along with brother Henry of Moravia, to spread the Order to Poland. By 1222 he had instituted a convent of the Friars Preachers in Crackow. In 1225, Gerard of Bratislava, first Provincial of Poland, dispersed the brethren from Crackow by five routes. Jacek founded the convents of Danzig in Pomerania, and later on Kiel, where he lived from 1229 until 1233, noted for the brightness of his character and his filial devotion to the Mother of the Lord.

He labored greatly among the orthodox and catholics of that region and left the city a short time before the brethren were ejected by Prince Vladimir Rurikovic. On his journeys a miracle is recorded where he crossed with his companions the Vistula River with dry feet, when they had spread their cloaks on the water, carrying the Blessed Sacrament and an icon of the Virgin. He died in the convent of Crackow on 15 August 1257. He was beatified by Clement VII in 1527, and enrolled in the number of the saints by Clement VIII on 17 April 1594.

PRAYER: O God, you filled blessed Hyacinth with the grace of preaching, by which he led the nations to the light of truth; we beseech you to perfect

good works in us by that strength by which men may be enkindled to glorify you. Through our Lord.

18 August

**BLESSED MANNES, PRIEST,
BROTHER OF OUR HOLY FATHER DOMINIC**
Optional memorial

Born around 1170 in Calaruega, he was the "uterine brother" of our Holy Father Dominic, and his helper in spreading the Gospel, "a contemplative and holy man," "gentle, humble, cheerful and merciful" but also "a fiery preacher." With other brethren he founded the priory of Saint James in Paris in 1217. From there, at the order of Dominic, he labored ceaselessly in the direction of nuns after the year 1219, with a spirit of prudent moderation and by the example of his virtues, "living continually for God in prayer." He died at the monastery of Saint Peter de Gumiel de Izán around the year 1235. His cultus was confirmed by Gregory XVI on 2 June 1834.

PRAYER:

O God, you called blessed Mannes to join his brother Dominic in the work of preaching; grant that we may follow in his footsteps and persevere with fervor in announcing the Gospel of salvation. Through our Lord.

19 August

**BLESSED JORDAN OF PISA,
PRIEST**

Jordan was born around the year 1260 in the territory of Rivalto, and took the habit in the priory of Saint Catherine in Pisa. He showed himself a brother outstanding in learning and eloquence. Jordan was remembered as a famous preacher in Pisa and Florence, and converted many, using language in which he expressed complicated and high doctrine with the greatest possible simplicity. According to the custom of the times, he abandoned preaching in Latin and began to use the vernacular. Living in the period during which Dante Alighieri worked, he gave himself to the reform of the vernacular. He contracted the plague on his way to Paris, and died in Piacenza on 19 August 1311. Gregory XVI approved his cultus on 23 August 1833. His body rests in Pisa.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Jordan a worthy minister of the preaching of the Gospel by his honesty of life and sweetness of character; grant us, in imitation of him, to persevere generously in the service of your word and the salvation of men, that we may be able to reach the fruit of his eternal reward. Through our Lord.

23 August

**SAINT ROSE OF LIMA,
VIRGIN**
Obligatory memorial

Isabella Flores, who popularly received the beautiful name of "Rose", was born in Lima in Peru in 1586, the first flower of sanctity in the Americas, outstanding for the fragrance of penance and prayers. Having been gifted with many talents, she wished to join the sisters of the Order in order to follow evangelical perfection more fully. Pursuing divine contemplation, she wanted to introduce others as well to the secrets of "private prayer", giving out spiritual books about this and encouraging even priests themselves to cultivate the love of prayer among all people. Almost a recluse in her parent' s garden, she opened her heart to the missionary work of the whole Church: burning with zeal for the salvation of sinners and of "the Indies", she longed to give her life for them, and voluntarily mortified herself to enrich Christ, "grieving, since she was a woman, that she was not able to give herself completely to apostolic work." Earnestly investigating the injury of sin, "she wished to make stone and lime from her very self so that she might close the doors of hell to everyone."

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Burning with love for Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist and with devotion for the Virgin Mother of God, she worked to promote the Rosary with inexpressible zeal, believing that each Christian ought to "preach (it) with his voice and hold it fast in his heart." She died in Lima on 24 August 1617, aged 31. She was beatified by Clement IX in 1668, and declared a saint by Clement X on 12 April 1671. She has been venerated as the patroness of South America since 1671.

PRAYER: Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, you willed that blessed Rose should shine forth with humility, patience and zeal for your people, having been prepared by the dew of your heavenly grace; grant that we, following in her footsteps, may be worthy to be made the pleasing fragrance of Christ. Through our Lord.

Or:

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Rose, on fire with your love, leave the world and devote herself to you alone in the austerity of penance; grant us, at her intercession, to follow the path of life on earth that we may enjoy the river of your delights in heaven. Through our Lord.

26 August

BLESSED JAMES OF BEVAGNA, PRIEST

James was born in Bevagna in Italy in 1220. He was received into the Order of Preachers as a youth of 16 in Spoleto. He founded the priory of Bevagna and governed it with prudence. He strenuously and effectively fought against the heresy of the Nicolaitans and splendidly obtained a public repudiation of this error at Orte. He was confirmed in his secure knowledge of eternal salvation by a miraculous sprinkling with the blood of the crucified Christ. He died on 22 August 1301. His cultus was confirmed by Clement X on 18 May 1672.

PRAYER: O God, you deigned to strengthen Blessed James with the secure knowledge of eternal salvation; spread over us the same compassion of your mercy that, sprinkled with the blood of our Redeemer, we may be forever numbered among the lambs of your right hand. Through our Lord.

28 August

SAINT AUGUSTINE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH *Feast*

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The bishop of Hippo, a theologian outstanding for his grace and authority, most of all in the Western Church, was the famous author of a rule and teacher of our common life. *The Rule for the Servants of God* was properly intended for convents of women, but was accepted by communities of Canons Regular in the twelfth century. When the Fourth Lateran Council was finished (1215), Innocent III urged Saint Dominic to choose an older rule with his brethren which would be the sign of this new family. "Later, as Jordan of Saxony testifies, those who were to become Preachers made profession according to the rule of that famous preacher Saint Augustine. They imposed on themselves a stricter observance with regard almsgiving, fasts, vigils, and linen clothing."

Humbert of Romans later showed that Saint Augustine had written this rule about the life of the apostles. Considering that the canon Dominic had professed the Rule of Augustine almost twenty years before, it is easy to understand how the apostolic life chosen by Augustine fits into his plan for the Preachers. Obedience to the apostolic Rule of Augustine and the Constitutions of the Order contains the whole profession of the Dominican life, even in our own time.

PRAYER: O God, your ineffable Providence lead blessed Augustine from the darkness of error to the light of the gospel's truth; grant us, we pray, that as we rejoice in your kindness for him, we may reform ourselves to better lives by his prayers. Through our Lord.

Or:

PRAYER: Renew in your Church, we beseech you, O Lord, the spirit with which you filled your bishop blessed Augustine; that as we are filled by that same spirit we may thirst only for the spring of true wisdom and seek the author of everlasting love. Through our Lord.

SEPTEMBER

2 September

BLESSED GUALA OF BERGAMO, BISHOP

Guala was born around the year 1180 in Bergamo in Italy, and was already a canon in 1219 when he was received into the Order by the Patriarch Dominic himself. Gifted in his responsibility for governing the brethren, he was raised thence to the offices of inquisitor of the faith and papal legate. He was outstanding for the greatest prudence and zeal for souls. He founded the priory of Brescia, and Gregory IX in 1229 made him bishop of Brescia.

The Sovereign Pontiff committed many difficult matters to him concerning the Emperor Frederick II, and with regard mutual reconciliation among the towns of northern Italy. Joining a deep prayer life with fervent apostolic action, he was concerned most of all about the support of the poor and afflicted, and spent his energy primarily in promoting peace and the renewal of Christian life. He died on 3 September 1244, and his cultus was confirmed by Pius IX on 1 October 1868.

PRAYER: O God, you endowed Blessed Guala with special grace for the strengthening of your people in peace and holiness; grant us at his intercession, that in pursuing peace, we may bring forth the fruits of holiness in abundance. Through our Lord.

Also on 2 September

BLESSED INGRID OF SKÄNNINGE, RELIGIOUS

Ingrid Elofdotter was born in the thirteenth century in Sweden, descended from Gothic stock. When her husband died, she dedicated all of her goods to the honor of God and, after a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, she took the habit of the Dominican nuns. She became prioress of the new Dominican monastery in Skänninge, which she had founded, and died there in 1282. Alexander VI authorized her public cultus and the solemn translation of her relics (which took place in 1507).

PRAYER: O God, you make us glad each year with the festival of blessed Ingrid: grant, we beseech you, that as we venerate her in our worship, we may also follow her example of holy life. Through Our Lord.

4 September

BLESSED CATHERINE OF RACCONIGI, VIRGIN

Catherine was born in 1486 from a family of artisans in Racconigi, in the Piedmont region, where they had emigrated in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. She herself worked as a weaver, but applied herself to prayer as well. Even the brethren of the Order were suspicious of the special gifts which she had received - for she had received the habit of Penance - and she endured calumny and persecution to the end of her life. She was accustomed to say "Jesus alone is my hope" in her difficulties. She worked for the peace of Italy and the good of the Church, just like Saint Catherine of Siena. She died on 4 September 1547, and her liturgical cultus was conceded by Pius VII on 9 April 1808.

PRAYER: O Lord, our hope, you crowned the heart of blessed Catherine, which was wholly yours, with an abundance of heavenly gifts; grant at the intercession of this virgin, that our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, may be completely fixed in our hearts, as he was fixed on the cross for us. Who lives and reigns.

5 September

**ANNIVERSARY OF DEPARTED FRIENDS AND
BENEFACTORS OF OUR ORDER**

Evangelical poverty, which supported the preaching of our Order by the will of our Holy Father Dominic, works in a beautiful way so that many people, friends and benefactors may help us to fulfil the work of the gospel, either by their actual way of life and occupation, or by the donation of their resources. Therefore we remember today, gathered into one common commemoration, all those of our departed benefactors and those familiars who are joined to our Order in many ways and by varied bonds.

BLESSED BERTRAND OF GARRIGUE, PRIEST

Coming from the village of Garrigue, near Nimes in France, Bertrand was one of the first companions of Saint Dominic, following him in preaching as well as in the fervor of his life, most justly deserving to expand and strengthen the Order. He was the first prior of the priory of Saint Romanus in Toulouse in 1216; sent to the new foundation in Paris (1217), he returned to Toulouse in 1219, and from there became the Provincial of the region of Provence. Under the leadership of the founder, he had the duty of joining together various communities which had already arisen, an office which he eagerly carried out. According to the testimony of Jordan of Saxony, he was a man "of great sanctity and unbending rigor towards himself, since he mortified his flesh most fiercely, and in many ways he internalized the example and model of Master Dominic, whose companion he was regularly on his journeys."

He died in April 1230 in a convent of Cistercian nuns in Le Bouchet, where his glorious grave remained. His body was translated by the Friars Preachers from Orange to their own church in 1414, and remained there exposed to the veneration of the faithful, until, during the wars of religion, it was burned (1561). Leo XIII confirmed his cultus on 14 July 1881.

PRAYER: O God, you joined Blessed Bertrand to our Holy Patriarch Dominic as a companion and outstanding imitator; grant us, at his intercession, so to profess in our lives the faith which he preached that we may reach the promised rewards in heaven. Through our Lord.

18 September

SAINT JOHN MACIAS, RELIGIOUS

Obligatory memorial

Saint John was born in 1585 in the town of Ribera del Fresno in Spain, and emigrated to South America on board a merchant ship. Famed for his humility and charity, he made the profession of the life of evangelical poverty in the Order of Preachers in the priory of Mary Magdalene in Lima. Working as janitor in the convent for almost 22 years, he was distinguished most of all for his works of mercy. He sought to support the souls of the faithful departed by the prayer of the Rosary, and he likewise led many who had strayed from the way of righteousness back to the love of God. He bore much injury and calumny, like Martin de Porres, and took care of the poor and sick. He died on 16 September 1645, and was canonized by Paul VI on 28 September 1975.

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PRAYER: O God, the Lover and Restorer of human salvation, whose love urged blessed John to submit himself to everyone; by his prayers, grant that we may cleave to the mystery of your Goodness and freely spend our lives and work for our brothers. Through our Lord.

20 September

BLESSED MARK OF MODENA, PRIEST

Mark was born in Mutina in Italy during the fifteenth century and entered the Order. A contemplative man and well-known religious, he gave himself with fervent zeal to the study of divine letters. By the heavenly force of his eloquence, which was "even stronger than his voice itself," he turned many to God. He died in Pesaro on 21 September 1498, and his cultus was confirmed by Pius IX on 10 September 1857. His body was translated to Mutina.

PRAYER: O God, you caused many of those who were lost return to the way of righteousness through Blessed Mark; grant that, by his intercession, freed from our sins, we may be able happily to reach eternal joy. Through our Lord.

Also on 20 September

BLESSED FRANCIS POSADAS, PRIEST

Francis was born in Cordoba, Spain in 1644 to a humble fruit seller. He professed in the Order in 1663, after overcoming many difficulties. A follower of Saint Vincent Ferrer, he became a fervent apostle; his fame spread all through Spain. Merciful toward the poor, the sick and the captives, he gave them all that he had, humbly receiving the censures and mocking with which he was accosted. He died on 20 September 1713, and Pius VII beatified him on 20 September 1818.

PRAYER: O God, you made your priest Blessed Francis an outstanding herald of your word, filled with the sweetness of heavenly charity; grant, at his intercession, that we may always live in that love. Through our Lord.

24 September

BLESSED DALMATIUS MONER, PRIEST

Dalmatius was born in 1291 in the village of Santa Coloma de Farnés, Spain, and

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received the habit of the Order in Gerunda in 1314. Noted for his love of silence and solitude, he was named by his contemporaries "the brother who talks with the angels." Teacher, preacher, novice master, he had a reputation for sanctity while still alive among his brethren and the faithful because of his austerity, his love of solitude and prayer, and the force of his intercession. Seeking solitude in a cave which he constructed in the priory garden, he left it only to celebrate Mass and choir offices; he thus displayed the special vocation of an anchorite. He died in 1341; his cultus was confirmed by Innocent XIII on 13 August 1721.

PRAYER: O God, you wished your humble servant Dalmatius to overflow with the grace of prayer and of preaching, and to serve you in solitude in holy conversation; make us cleave to you with perseverance as well, that we may be able to perceive and follow you in all of the events of our life. Through our Lord.

26 September

BLESSED LAURENCE OF RIPAFRATTA, PRIEST

Laurence was born in the village of Ripafratta near Pisa in 1373, and was received into the Order at the urging of blessed John Dominic. He stayed at Cortona, where he had made his novitiate, until 1401. He remained afterwards at the priory in Fabriano as prior and lector, but in 1425 was included among the brethren of the priory in Pistoia. He remained in that priory, burning with the zeal for the salvation of souls, noted for restoring regular observance and obtaining the safety of the citizens. He died on 27 September 1456 and his cultus was confirmed by Pius IX on 4 April 1851.

PRAYER: O God, you made Blessed Laurence abundant in the desire for regular observance and the ardor of charity; at his intercession, grant that we may find eternal joy as we grow in perfection ever more and more. Through our Lord.

28 September

SAINTS DOMINIC IBAÑEZ DE ERQUICIA AND JAMES KYUSHEI TOMANAGA, PRIESTS, AND LAURENCE RUIZ DE MANILA, LAYMAN, AND THIRTEEN COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Obligatory memorial

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This new group of 16 canonized martyrs (cf. 6 November) shone forth in the years 1633, 1634 and 1637, while all of them worked at Nagasaki in Japan, in various ministries, both ordained and unordained, for the building up of the Church. There they were executed, after great tortures, by being impaled over a pit; their bodies were burned and their ashes scattered.

Of this group, nine were from Japan, four from Spain, one from France and another from Italy; the last one was from Manila. All of these were members of the Dominican Family, including tertiaries of both sexes or married to tertiaries. 9 Priests were martyred: Dominic Ibáñez de Erquicia (1633), James Kyushei Gorobioye Tomonaga (1633), Luke Alonso of the Holy Spirit (1633), Jordan Ansalone of Saint Stephen (1634), Thomas Hioji Rokuzayemon Nishi (1634), Antony Gonzalez (1637), William Courtet (1637), Michael de Aozoraza (1637), Vincent Schiwozuka (1637); 2 Cooperator Brothers: Francis Schoyemon (1633) and Matthew Kohioye of the Holy Rosary (1633); 2 Third Order Sisters: Magdalene of Nagasaki (1634) and Marina of Omura (1634); 3 Lay tertiaries and catechists: Michael Kurobioye (1633), Lazarus of Kyoto (1637) and Laurence Ruiz of Manila, *paterfamilias*, who becomes the protomartyr of the Philippines (1637).

Pope John Paul II solemnly canonized them on 18 October 1987. They are a beautiful example of communion and Christian community, and of that service which is the heart of the Dominican Family.

PRAYER: Grant us, O Lord, the endurance of your blessed martyrs Dominic and his companions in the service of you and our neighbor; for those who suffered persecution for the sake of justice now reign with you among the blessed. Through our Lord.

OCTOBER

3 October

BLESSED DOMINIC SPADAFORA, PRIEST

Dominic was born in Randazzo in Sicily around the middle of the fifteenth century, and was a great apostle of the word of God both in Sicily and throughout Italy. Constant in the contemplation of the Passion of our Lord, well known for his charity and humility, he turned many to God and attracted many to follow the way of Saint Dominic by his way of life. He died on Monte Cerignone, in the priory which he had built, on 21 December 1521. Benedict XV ratified his cultus on 12 January 1921. His commemoration is kept today, the anniversary of the translation of his remains (1677).

PRAYER: O God, you made Blessed Dominic wonderfully fruitful in the apostolic ministry by his zeal for assiduous study and regular observance; graciously hear us, that following in his footsteps we may be worthy to bring forth the fruits of salvation in abundance. Through our Lord.

4 October

HOLY FATHER FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DEACON

Feast

Today' s celebration in the liturgy of our Order expresses in a special way the bond between the Friars Minor and the Friars Preachers, on account of the friendship between the founders of those two orders in their historical mission for the building up of the Church. They themselves, as Saint Catherine of Siena remembered beautifully, "truly were two pillars of the Holy Church: Francis in that poverty, which was principally his, and Dominic in his learning" (*Dialogue*, 158). Following the same road, we faithful are taught "to become disciples of such humble Teachers" (Thomas of Celano, *Second Life*, 149).

Francis (1182-1226), a contemporary of our Holy Father Dominic, following the poor Christ with an admirable simplicity and following the crucified Christ with a remarkable love, desired by these means to become conformed to Christ. Living according to the evangelical form of life, he attracted many brothers and sisters to himself. He encouraged them with the love of poverty, the praise of the Creator, and joyful obedience to the Church. After he received the vivid marks of the wounds of Christ' s passion (1224), he went as a happy man to "sister death" on 3

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October 1226. Gregory IX enrolled him among the saints in 1228.

PRAYER: Fill your Church, O Lord, with your heavenly grace, as you willed to enlighten it with the glorious merits and example of our Holy Father Francis. Through our Lord.

or:

PRAYER: O God, you enabled our Seraphic Father Francis to be made like Christ in poverty and humility; grant that, walking in his path, we may be able to follow your Son and be united with you in joyful love. Through our Lord.

5 October

BLESSED RAYMOND OF CAPUA, PRIEST *Optional memorial*

Raymond was born around the year 1330 in Capua, from the noble family of the delle Vigni. Sent to Bologna for study, there he entered the Order, "having been miraculously called by Dominic," in 1350. The twenty third Master of the Order (1380), he strenuously promoted the reform of the Order by his zeal of prayer and the example of his evangelical way of life. He was encouraged in this by Saint Catherine of Siena, whose spiritual director and biographer he was. He was an excellent director to her, but it was she who persuaded him to work for the service of the Church and the return of the Roman Pontiff from Avignon. Raymond died in Nürnberg on 5 October 1399 while on a visitation of the priories of Germany. His cultus was confirmed by Leo XIII on 15 May 1899. His body was translated to Naples.

PRAYER: O God, you called blessed Raymond to search diligently for your kingdom by following the path of religious perfection; grant that we, strengthened by his intercession, may follow in the way of love, rejoicing in the spirit. Through our Lord.

**BLESSED BATHOLOMEW LONGO,
LAY TERTIARY**

Born in Latiani in Apulia, Italy, in 1841, he received his degree in civil law in Naples, and, after he attended spiritualist meetings, he inwardly lapsed from the catholic faith. Restored to divine grace by brother Albert Radente, O.P., he was received into the rule of the Third Order (1871), with the presage of the name of brother Rosario. He filled his life with Marian devotion for his sanctification and that of others. He erected the sanctuary of that same title in the valley of Pompeii (1876), instituted a congregation of sisters called Dominican Sisters of the Rosary (1897), and founded two orphanages and a publishing house. He himself edited many publications in praise of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Order of Preachers, for the advance of the Christian faith and social justice. He married in a chaste union his wife, Mary Anne Farnararo, a widow of Fusco, herself well known for such works, as well as for many gifts to both clergy and laity.

He fell asleep in the Lord on 5 October 1926, and was beatified by John Paul II in 1980. His grave is in the temple at Pompeii which he founded.

PRAYER: Almighty and Merciful God, you give us a wonderful example of holiness and charity in Blessed Bartholomew, the herald of the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the father of poor and orphaned children; grant us, at his intercession, to be able to see and love your Son Jesus Christ in our brothers. Through our Lord.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OF THE ROSARY
Feast

In today's commemoration, our Order celebrates with the universal Church God's mighty deeds for the human race, by devoted contemplation of the mysteries of the life, passion, and resurrection of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, with Mary his Mother, who is "the model for the meditation on the words of Christ and docility towards her own mission" (LCO n. 67 §2). Such great benefits, collected harmoniously into one place, are recalled through that special kind of prayer which came into use under the title of the "Rosary," and which is recognized to have taken its beginnings and development within the orbit of the life and apostolate of our Order.

Blessed Humbert of Romans (d. 1277), writing his treatise "On the manner of prayer"

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for the novices of the Order (*Opera* II, 543) handed this down in a singular way: "First, let the novice think and meditate on the blessings of God with ardour after the Matins of the Blessed Virgin: let him think on the Incarnation, Nativity, Passion, and general topics of this sort; ... after that let him say the Lord' s Prayer and the Hail Mary. ... After Compline, let him recall the blessings of God again, in the way we described at the beginning of this ' Manner of Prayer' ...; and he should be able to add the *Salve Regina*, etc., with other antiphons and special prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary."

Among our brethren who had a great deal to do with the Rosary, before any others blessed Alan de La Roche (1428-1478) should be named among those who defined its structure and promoted its recitation. The Confraternities, as well, were everywhere spread by the brethren, from the first one at Douai founded by Alan himself (1470), and from another which was established in Köln with the approval of the Apostolic See by Jakob Sprenger, O.P. (1476). Saint Pius V, in the bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* (17 September 1569) determined the definitive form of the Rosary, and in another bull *Salvatoris Domini* (5 March 1572) instituted the liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Victory, later called of the Rosary, to be celebrated on 7 October. In the most recent liturgical revision, this was confirmed.

The burden of the diligent care of this form of prayer falls upon us, to promote this in our communities and to cultivate it with apostolic zeal among the faithful, by enriching the old with the new. For the Rosary really "leads us into contemplation of the mystery of salvation, in which the Virgin Mary is joined intimately with the work of her Son" (LCO, n. 67. II). It is a most efficacious medium for promoting the faith and nourishing the Christian life among the people. For "this crown of prayers carries with itself what might be called a compendium of the Gospel, and is accordingly an example of the holiness of the Church" (Paul VI, apostolic exhortation *Recurrere mensis october*, 7 October 1969).

PRAYER: O God, whose only begotten Son, by his life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the reward of eternal life: grant, we beseech you, that by meditating on these mysteries in the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through our Lord.

BLESSED AMBROSE SANSEDONI, PRIEST

Ambrose was born to a noble family in 1220 in Siena, and entered the Order there in 1237. He was a student of Albert the Great in Paris and Köln, together with Thomas Aquinas and Peter of Tarantaise, later Pope Innocent V. He began to teach at Köln also, at the same time as Thomas Aquinas, under the leadership of Master Albert. He took a frequent and effective part in the restoration of theological studies and in delegations to restore peace, always being intent on divine things and assiduous in preaching. He died in Siena on 20 March 1287. His cultus was conceded by Gregory XV on 8 October 1622.

PRAYER: May your Church rejoice, O merciful God, at this commemoration of Blessed Ambrose, that she may always be defended by spiritual aid and be counted worthy to enjoy eternal gladness. Through our Lord.

Also on 8 October

BLESSED MATTHEW CARRERI, PRIEST

Matthew was born in Mantua around the year 1420 and was received into the Order there in 1440. Shining in perfect self renunciation, he was an outstanding preacher and won back many people to Christ. His charity was so great that he was ready to sell himself into slavery in order to liberate a certain virgin. He labored greatly for the reform of the regular life. He died at Viglevani on 5 October 1470. Sixtus IV authorized a liturgical commemoration for him in 1482, and Benedict XIV confirmed his cultus on 23 September 1742.

PRAYER: Raise up in our hearts, O Lord, the love of your cross and passion, that by the example and intercession of Blessed Matthew, we may be made sharers in both the sufferings and the glory of Christ. Who lives and reigns.

SAINT LOUIS BERTRÁN, PRIEST
Obligatory memorial

Luis was born to noble and pious parents in Valencia, in Spain, on 1 January 1526. As a youth of 16, against the wishes of his father, he left home, desiring to fight for Saint James. Led back home, and denied entrance into the Order of Preachers, he sent requests secretly to the Chapter. At last on 26 August 1544 he received the habit, with his parents still objecting. Striving to be a perfect example of the Friar Preacher with all the strength and courage, he became the true "idea" of the Order and was a model for the novices who were put under his instruction. Joining austerity of life with apostolic zeal for the spread of the faith, he asked to be sent to the most distant regions of America, now called Columbia, in 1562.

Staying there for seven years, he worked strenuously for the natives, many of whom - miraculously understanding him even though he spoke his own language - he brought to the light of the Gospel. He brought them to civilization and defended them against their oppressors, fighting bravely against the "conquistadores - encomenderos" at the encouragement of Bartholomew de Las Casas. Returning to his native land in 1569, he gave himself over to the apostolic ministry of the Christian life and the renewal of religion, being particularly concerned with the desire for holiness. Fear of the Lord was his particular characteristic. He died in Valencia on 9 October 1581. Clement X canonized him on 12 April 1671. His remains were burned in 1936, during the hostilities of the Spanish Civil War.

PRAYER: Almighty and most merciful Lord, you poured the reverence of your name into the heart of blessed Louis; inflame our hearts with your divine fire, so that we, also, may serve you faithfully with love and reverence. Through our Lord.

BLESSED JAMES OF ULM, RELIGIOUS

James was born in Ulm in 1407; a traveller and a mercenary soldier, he was converted by prayer at the grave of Saint Dominic while he was passing through Bologna. He took the habit of the Order and wished to be counted among the number of those who were called *conversi* (laybrothers). Famous for his glasswork, he decorated the priory and basilica of Saint Petronius in Bologna with splendid stained glass, which even today is a marvel to see. He left behind him a memory of a humble and obedient religious who meditated on the Passion of the Saviour with

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great zeal. He died in Bologna on 11 October 1491. His immemorial cultus was confirmed by Leo XII on 3 August 1825.

PRAYER: O God, you made Blessed James consider your goodness spread abroad marvelously everywhere, and to express it in art; make us, by his works and example, so to be built that we may become more fit for the contemplation of your supreme beauty. Through our Lord.

13 October

BLESSED MAGDALENA PANATIERI, VIRGIN

Magdalena was born in Trino in Italy in 1443, and while still a girl she took the habit of the Sisters of Penance of Saint Dominic, deciding to imitate Saint Catherine of Siena. In the world but not of the world, her prayer was great, her life of austerity admirable, and her gifts plentiful. By her example and her words she called forth many laymen, clerics, and novices of the Order, to the love of Christ. She burned with charity for the poor, particularly the sick, being very concerned for others' salvation. She died on 13 October 1503. Leo XII confirmed her cultus on 26 September 1827.

PRAYER: O God, you desert no one who trusts in you, and mercifully hear the prayer of those who call upon you; grant, we beseech you, that what we are unable to receive by our own merits, we may receive through the patronage of Blessed Magdalena. Through our Lord.

14 October

BLESSED MARIE POUSSEPIN, VIRGIN

Marie was born in the town of Dourdan in France in 1653. Sufficiently instructed in piety and morals by her mother and parish priest, she named a certain service sodality and properly managed her father' s workshop by making linen leggings.

Having made profession in the Third Order of Saint Dominic, in 1696 she widened the scope of her charity, for the sake of caring for the sick and teaching children, particularly among the peasants. For this reason she moved herself and her property to the town of Sainville, where she founded a house, which later became a congregation called the Sisters of Charity, or the Dominicans of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin.

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Humbly placing her trust in divine providence, she finished her long life on 24 January 1744. John Paul II declared her blessed on 20 November 1994.

PRAYER: God, the Father of all mercies, you gave to blessed Marie Poussepin the grace of an ardent and active charity. Enable us, by her prayer and example, to become witnesses to your truth, and to serve Christ in each one of our brothers and sisters. Who lives and reigns.

19 October

BLESSED AGNES OF JESUS GALAND, VIRGIN

Born in Le Puy-en-Velay in France in 1602 to pious parents, Agnes consecrated herself to the Virgin Mother of God at the age of seven. She entered the recently founded monastery of nuns of the Order of Preachers in Langeac, where she eventually became novice mistress and prioress.

Burning with an ardent love for Christ crucified and for his Church, she spent three years in prayer and penance, having been inspired by divine counsel, for the erection of a seminary in France, the work of the famous priest Jean-Jacques Olier. She entered everlasting life on 19 October 1634, and was beatified by John Paul II on 20 November 1994.

PRAYER: Almighty and holy God, you made blessed Agnes of Jesus wonderful in her love of the poor and promoting priestly formation; grant us, by her intercession, to receive the crucified Christ with a living faith and preach him for the salvation of the whole world. Who lives and reigns.

21 October

BLESSED PETER OF CITTA DI CASTELLO, PRIEST

Peter was born to the noble Capucci family in Città di Castello in Italy in 1390. He received the habit of the Order in 1405. A companion of blessed Antoninus and Fra Angelico in the priory of Cortona, he spent his whole life there after the restoration of Dominican life there following the great schism. A man with an apostolic heart, enriched with divine contemplation and works of penance, we was a fervent worshipper of God and efficacious steward of His mysteries. He persuaded his hearers "to make use of the time of temporal death to flee from eternal death." He died at Cortona on 21 October 1445, and Pius VII conceded him a liturgical office on 11 May 1816.

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PRAYER: O God, who foretold that your faithful shall never sin if they are mindful of the end times, grant that, by the preaching and example of Blessed Peter, we may remember the approach of our mortal death so that, having wept over the sins which we have confessed, we may avoid eternal death. Through our Lord.

22 October

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH *Solemnity*

The anniversary of the dedication of any church is ordinarily celebrated on the same recurring day of its dedication. However, when that day is unknown, this anniversary is placed by our liturgy in a celebration on 22 October, in which we recall the dedication of the church in Toulouse ["les Jacobins"] (22 October 1385), which was the foremost of the original churches of the Order. This is the very church which, by special command of Pope Urban V (1368), was chosen to receive the remains of Saint Thomas Aquinas - since there had been a contest between the universities of Paris and Naples over his final resting place - and, at last, his relics were translated (28 January 1369) and honorably buried there.

PRAYER: O God, you renew each year this day of the consecration of your holy temple for us: hear the prayers of your people, and grant that it may always be pure in your service and full of our redemption. Through our Lord.

25 October

BLESSED PETER GEREMIA, PRIEST

Born in Palermo in 1399, and given to a natural zeal for the study of law at an early age, he left his studies at Bologna, without his father's knowledge, and entered the Order. He made his vows in 1423 at Faesuli, in the priory of Saint Dominic, while Saint Antoninus was prior. He encouraged as much as possible the observance of regular discipline, which was promoted by the General Chapter of 1426, and he lived it out himself in the best way, by governing priories (among which was included the famous priory of Palermo, called Saint Zita, where he was prior from 1428), and by encouraging study and preaching. He was known for his faith, for his learning, and for the solidness of his arguments at the Council of Florence, to which Pope Eugenius IV summoned him in 1439. Returning to Sicily, he remained there until he died on 3 March 1452, famed for his miracles. Pius V confirmed his cultus on 12 May 1784. His body is kept with honour in Palermo in a church of the Order

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called the Pantheon.

PRAYER: O God, you raised up Blessed Peter by your ineffable grace to recall those who had strayed to the path of righteousness, and to restore the Christian and the regular life; we beseech you to open our hearts by his intercession, that burning with your love, we may always follow the path of your commandments. Through our Lord.

26 October

BLESSED DAMIAN OF FINALBORGO, PRIEST

Damian was born at the beginning of the fifteenth century in the town of Perto in the district of Finalborgo in Italy. We know little about him, but he left behind the memory of a humble religious, and a preacher of penance given to the restoration of the regular life. He died in Reggio Emilia in 1484, and Pius IX confirmed his immemorial cultus on 4 August 1848.

PRAYER: O God, you crowned blessed Damian your priest with the power of eloquence and the virtues for obtaining the salvation of the faithful; grant, we beseech you, at his intercession, that we may hear your word with a good and upright heart, and may keep it, bearing fruit with patience. Through our Lord.

**BLESSED BARTHOLOMEW OF VICENZA,
BISHOP**

Bartholomew was born in Vicenza in Italy around 1200 "to noble and faithful parents," and joined the Friars Preachers in Bologna; according to tradition he received the habit from our Holy Father Dominic. For many years he preached in the territory of Lombardy and Emilia, and worked for the restoration of peace. He was present later at the translation of the remains of our Holy Father Dominic in 1267. After serving as Regent Master in theology and counselor to the Pope in the service of the Roman Curia, he was appointed bishop of Limassol on the island of Cyprus in 1253; from there he was translated to the see of Vicenza (1255) where he spent the rest of his life. He built the Church of the Holy Crown in Vicenza to house a thorn from the crown of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which he received from King Saint Louis IX. He died in 1270. Pius VI enrolled him in the famous catalogue of the blessed on 11 September 1793, by confirming his ancient cultus.

PRAYER: O God, you made blessed Bartholomew wonderful in leading those who had strayed back to the light of truth, and in restoring peace and concord among many people; at his intercession, grant that your peace, which passes all understanding, may keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God. Through our Lord.

30 October

**BLESSED BENVENUTA BOIANI,
VIRGIN**

Born on 4 May 1255 in Cividale del Friuli, the youngest of six sisters, she was called "Benvenuta" upon her birth, as she was received with joy. Blossoming in the integrity of innocence, she entered the Sisters of Penance, and endured many sufferings on behalf of the conversion of sinners. Healed following a prayer at the grave of our Holy Father Dominic, she worked even harder in his service, assiduously intent upon prayer and penance. She died on 30 October 1292, and Clement XIII confirmed her cultus on 6 February 1765.

PRAYER: Pour forth upon us, O Lord, your grace of penance, prayer and humility; that, imitating the virgin blessed Benvenuta by mortifying the flesh, we may live in the spirit, and thinking continually on the things of heaven, we may be able to find our rest and glory in you alone, O God. Through our Lord.

Also on 30 October

**BLESSEDS TERENCE ALBERT O'BRIEN, BISHOP,
AND PETER HIGGINS, PRIEST, MARTYRS**

Both were born in Ireland in 1601, and both entered the Order of Preachers in 1622. Peter was prior of the priory in Naas, Terence Albert was prior provincial of Ireland and bishop of Emlly. The former was killed on 23 March 1642; the latter on 30 October 1651. They suffered because of their great faithfulness to the Church of Christ and the successor of Peter, the Roman Pontiff; they refused to acknowledge the King of England as head of the Church. With an additional 15 companions in their suffering (1579 - 1654), they were declared blessed on 27 September 1992.

With the approval of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (8 March 1993), these two memorials were inserted in the calendar for the use of provinces the Order of Preachers, to be celebrated *ad libitum*. The Liturgical Commission of the Order determined that these two memorials should be combined, so that in provinces of the Order other than Ireland the memorials of Blessed Terence Albert O' Brien, bishop and martyr, and Peter Higgins, priest and martyr, should be kept on the same day, 30 October (cf. *Analecta O.P.* 101 (1993): 20, 22).

PRAYER: O God, by the life and death of the blessed martyrs Terence Albert and Peter you gave your Church an example of heroic love and courage; grant us, we beseech you, by their intercession, always to grow in love of you and our neighbor, and to accept death according to your will. Through our Lord.

NOVEMBER

3 November

SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES, RELIGIOUS *Feast*

Born to Juan, a Spanish knight, and Anna Vasquez, a freed negress, in Lima, Peru in 1579, Martin is a witness among the saints of the humbled negro people sorrowing in the New World. He was a barber apprentice when he requested entrance into the Order of Saint Dominic, among the lay-brothers of the priory of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Rosary in Lima, where he was admitted in 1603 and professed solemn vows. Known for his wonderful simplicity, innocence and faith, he was given with humble tasks, but exalted with heavenly gifts and charisms by God. Burning with the highest love for the mystery of the Eucharist and the Passion of Christ, he lived a life given to works of charity for the poor, particularly toward the sick, and even towards animals; he was worthy to be assigned as the patron for co-operator brothers. He loved fasting, the harshest of penances, and prayer, particularly at night after the example of Jesus. From his prayer he drew his learning, marvelously illuminating the institutes of Christian doctrine. He died in Lima on 3 November 1639. Gregory XVI declared him blessed in 1837, and John XXIII enrolled him among the saints on 6 May 1962. Martin draws to himself the lives of all the inhabitants of both North and South America, not only because of the singular humility by which he attracts people through himself, but also because he himself is a sign.

PRAYER: O God, you led blessed Martin to heavenly glory by the path of humility; grant us so to follow his shining example, that we may be worthy to be glorified with him in heaven. Through our Lord.

5 November

BLESSED SIMON BALLACCHI, RELIGIOUS

Simon was born around the year 1240 in the village of Sant' Archangelo in the diocese of Rimini in Italy, and received the habit of a lay brother in Rimini. There he led a life distinguished for humility and kindness, hidden with Christ. He underwent harsh penances for the conversion of sinners, in imitation of our Holy Father Dominic. He was famous for his sweetness of life, particularly in his dealings with the poor, whom he always taught the basics of the Christian life with wisdom. He died on 3 November around the year 1319 in Rimini, and was honored by a great

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gathering of people for some days afterwards. Pius VII conceded him a liturgical cultus on 14 March 1820.

PRAYER: O God, you adorned blessed Simon with the desire to be joined in prayer and the prerogative of humility, having turned away from the vanity of the world; grant that we may imitate him and seek you alone, so that we may be able at last to reach the rewards promised to the humble in heaven. Through our Lord.

6 November

BLESSEDS FRANCIS DE CAPILLAS, ALPHONSUS NAVARRETE, PRIESTS, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS IN THE ORIENT *Obligatory memorial*

On this day we remember in one commemoration all of the members of the Order of Preachers who became Martyrs in the Orient. Nothing can separate them from the love of Christ, for they poured forth their confession of faith by their blood in Japan and China.

1. *In Japan:* in the years 1614 - 1632 a large number of martyrs suffered, among whom were Alphonsus Navarrete (1617), Angelus Orsucci and Louis Frarjin (1622), and nine other Spanish brothers and about one hundred natives: novices, cooperator brothers, tertiaries, and companions of the Holy Rosary. Pius IX in 1867 solemnly beatified all of these, together with others who suffered at the same time.

2. *In China:* in the years 1648 - 1748 the following suffered gloriously: Francis de Capillas (1648), protomartyr of this region, numbered among the blessed by Pius X in 1909; two bishops, Peter Sanz (1747) and Francis Serrano, with the priests John Alcober, Joachim Royo and Francisco Diaz (1748): these were beatified on 14 May 1893 by Leo XIII.

PRAYER: Almighty and merciful God, we humbly beseech your Majesty to show us mercy, so that, just as you filled the hearts of the people of the Far East with the knowledge of your only-begotten Son through the preaching of the blessed martyrs Francis, Alphonsus, and their companions, so also, by their intercession, they may now be confirmed in their faith. Through our Lord.

7 November

ALL SAINTS OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS *Feast*

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By today' s celebration, we remember "those who have gone before us in the family of Saint Dominic, and who provide us with an example by their way of life, a fellowship in their communion, and an aid by their intercession," so that we may be "moved to imitate them and may be strengthened in the spirit of our vocation" (cf. LCO, nn. 16 and 67).

PRAYER: O God, the model of all perfection, who has always adorned your Church with many gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ: grant, we beseech you, that we, following in the footsteps of the saints of our Order, may enjoy eternal communion with them as well. Through our Lord.

8 November

ANNIVERSARY OF ALL THE DEPARTED BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS

Our Order, a collection of baptized people bound to the apostolic life and progressing to God, having celebrated yesterday the glorious festivity of those brothers and sisters who now rejoice to be joined fully to Christ in glory in heaven, makes a commemoration in today' s celebration of those who, having completed their earthly life, have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. We remember them in our prayers on this one common anniversary.

PRAYER: O God, who has called us all to the same wonderful hope, regard our prayers for our deceased brothers and sisters, that, as you have loved them in this life with an ineffable love and granted them the privilege of serving you with apostolic charity in the preaching of the gospel, so you would receive them kindly into your peace and joy. Through our Lord.

BLESSED JOHN LICCIO, PRIEST

John was born in Caccabi on Sicily around 1430, and was received into the Order of Preachers as a young man of 15 in the priory dedicated to Saint Zita, at the urging of blessed Peter Geremia, from whom he received the habit. Joyful in spirit and fervent in charity, he was constant in his promotion of regular observance and in the propagation of the Marian Rosary. He travelled all over Sicily with constant preaching, visiting the poor, the infirm, and those in prison, so that he was called the "Apostle of Sicily," so careful was he to add life to his years rather than years to his life. Conspicuous for his virtues and full of merit, he rested in the Lord at Caccabi, in the priory which he had built, on 14 November 1511. His cultus was confirmed by Benedict XIV on 25 April 1753.

PRAYER: O God, you willed that Blessed John should shine forth by the fullness of his self-denial and the excellent zeal of his charity, that he might reveal the mystery of your love for the poor; grant us, by imitating him, to seek what is yours and to strive to win our brethren for Christ. Through our Lord.

Also on 14 November

BLESSED LUCIA OF NARNI, VIRGIN

Lucia was born at Narni on 13 December 1476, and was betrothed to Peter d' Alessio, a nobleman of Milan, in 1491. When she married, she made a pact of virginity, and after three years, since her chastity had been preserved, she took the habit of the Order on 8 May, Ascension Day, 1491. Soon afterwards she was sent to Rome to the community of Saint Catherine of Siena, and later - in 1496 - to Viterbo, where she miraculously received the stigmata from Christ the Lord. Many theologians and doctors have confirmed the truth of this occurrence. Because of the privilege of this sign of sanctity, the Duke of Ferrara asked the Sovereign Pontiff to send the servant of God to Ferrara to aid him with her counsel. When the monastery and church of Saint Catherine of Siena were constructed, she was solemnly received into the city on 7 May 1499, and died there on 15 November 1544. She wrote her intimate life and about the stigmata at the order of her confessor. Her cultus was confirmed by Clement XI on 1 March 1710. Her body is found in Narni.

PRAYER: O God, you made Blessed Lucia elude the blandishments of the world and overcome its following, having miraculously crowned her with the signs of the passion of your Son and with the gifts of virginity and patience:

grant us, by her example and at her intercession, neither to be conquered by the allurements of the world nor broken by any adversity. Through our Lord.

15 November

**SAINT ALBERT THE GREAT,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Feast**

Albert was born at Lauingen in Swabia at the end of the twelfth or the beginning of the thirteenth century. He completed his studies at Padua (1223), and there received the habit of the Order from Blessed Jordan of Saxony. From 1242 until 1248 he taught at Paris, and had Thomas Aquinas, among others, as a most diligent student. When the students from foreign lands had gathered at Paris, Albert taught with a universal spirit the new science, physics, that is, Aristotelian science, according to the interpretation of the Jews and the Arabs. In 1248 he took charge of the newly erected studium generale in Cologne, and Thomas followed him there. Then he functioned in various capacities, finally being elected Prior Provincial of the Province of Germany (1254-1257). Together with the Franciscan Bonaventure, he strenuously defended the right of the Mendicant Orders to teach in the Universities.

He was consecrated Bishop of Regensburg in 1260, but, thinking himself unworthy, he resigned his office two years later. Giving himself to study, he then traveled to Würzburg, Stassburg, and Köln. He wonderfully joined the wisdom of the saints with human knowledge. He was famous for his writing and as a teacher, but even more well known for his integrity of life and his pastoral charity. He was famous for his remarkable love for the Sacrament of the Eucharist and for the Theotokos Saint Mary, who comforted him, so it is said, for perseverance in his holy quest. He left behind famous writings on theology and other sciences, being deemed worthy to be called "the Great" and "the Universal Doctor." He died on 15 November 1280 in Köln. Pius II in 1459 numbered him among the most holy doctors of the Church. Pius XI declared him a saint on 16 December 1931, and Pius XII pronounced him patron of the natural sciences.

PRAYER: O God, you made your blessed bishop Albert great in subjecting human wisdom to divine faith: grant us, we beseech you, so to cleave to the instruction of his teaching, that we may reach a deeper knowledge and love of you through the advance of the sciences. Through our Lord.

19 November

BLESSED JAMES BENFATTI, BISHOP

Friend and aide of Pope Benedict XI, James Benfatti was named bishop of Mantua, where he had been born in the middle of the thirteenth century, by that same Pope. He worked to calm hatred and dissension. By his own care and love he helped the poor who had been miserably afflicted twice by plague and famine, whence he gained the name of Father of the Poor. He died in a holy manner on 19 November 1332, in the twenty eighth year of his episcopacy. Pius IX approved his immemorial cultus on 22 September 1859.

PRAYER: O God, you made Blessed James famous for his desire for peace and his mercy towards your people, having become the image of the flock: make us, by his intercession and example, united in the truth of your word and always zealous for your love. Through our Lord.

24 November

**SAINTS IGNATIUS CLEMENT DELGADO, BISHOP,
VINCENT LE QUANG LIEM, PRIEST,
AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS IN VIET-NAM**
Obligatory memorial

This group of 117 holy martyrs, solemnly canonized by John Paul II on 19 June 1988, were all cruelly killed for the Name of Christ in the present day region of Viet-Nam. Of these 96 were Vietnamese, 11 were Spanish, and 10 were French; 58 came from the Paris Foreign Missionaries, and 59 were from our Order of Preachers, spread out over various branches of the Dominican family.

Among these our brothers, the following were bishops: Ignatius Clement Delgado (1838), Dominic Henares (1838), Joseph Maria Diaz Sanchez (1857), Melchior García-Sampedro (1858), Valentine Berrio-Ochoa (1861), Jerome Hermosilla (1861).

Others were priests: Francis Gil de Federich (1745), Matthew Alonso Leciniana (1745), Hyacinth Castañeda (1773), Vincent Le Quang Liem of Peace (1773), Vincent Do Yen (1838), Peter Nguyen Van Tu (1838), Dominic Tuóc (1839), Thomas Dinh Viet Du (1839), Dominic Nguyen Van (Doàn) Xugen (1839), Joseph Do Quang Hien (1840), Dominic (Doai) Trach (1840), Dominic Mau (1858), Joseph Tuan (1861), Peter Almató (1861).

Section Five: Hagiography

Still others were members of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Dominic: Augustine Schoeffler (1851), Dominic Cam (1859), Thomas Khuong (1861).

Others were members of the Dominican laity: Joseph Hoàng Luong Canh (1838), Joseph Nguyen Dinh Uyen (1838), Thomas Nguyen Van De (1839), Francis Xavier Hà Trong Mau (1839), Augustine Nguyen Van Mói (1839), Dominic Bùi Van Uy (1839), Stephen Nguyen Van Vinh (1839), Thomas Toán (1840), Dominic ham Trong (An) Kham (1859), Joseph Nguyen Duy Khang (1861). An additional 25 were Christians from the Dominican Missionaries in China.

These were killed in various ways: 75 were beheaded, 22 were strangled, 6 were burned, 5 were dismembered, 9 died in prison of various tortures. Their bodies are buried anonymously, but their memories shall remain forever alive among the people as a blessing: we hope that by their intercession peace may come to the world, and liberty to the Church.

PRAYER: O God, source and origin of all Fatherhood, you made the blessed martyrs Ignatius and his companions faithful to the Cross of your Son even to the shedding of their blood; grant us by their intercession to spread your love among our brethren, and to be able both to be called and to be in reality your children. Through our Lord.

Or:

PRAYER: O God, you strengthened the land of Viet Nam by the blood of Saint Ignatius and his companions: grant that it may flourish with the Christian faith at the intercession of so many martyrs. Through our Lord.

BLESSED MARGARET OF SAVOY, RELIGIOUS

Margaret, born to the royal family of the Duke of Savoy, probably in 1382, was aroused to the desire for higher perfection by Vincent Ferrer. Left a widow at the age of 36, she assumed the habit of the Sisters of Penitence. She burned with a wonderful charity toward the poor and infirm, distributing her goods to the needy, and tending the sores of the sick with her own hands. She built the monastery of Alba Pompeii for herself and religious virgins. There she sustained the threefold suffering of Christ, namely, calumny, weakness, and persecution. She took upon herself the greatest labors for the restoration of the peace of the Church - the Eastern Schism had taken place a little before this time. She died in the Lord on 23 December 1464. A cultus was conceded to her by Saint Pius V in 1566, and was confirmed on 8 October 1669 by Clement IX.

PRAYER: O God, you taught Blessed Margaret to move from the feasts of the royal palace to your humble service: grant that, when we have put away the delight of the world after her example, we may learn to rest among divine things, and to overcome all adversity for the love of your Cross. For you live and reign.

DECEMBER

**BLESSED JOHN OF VERCELLI,
PRIEST**

John was born at the beginning of the thirteenth century in the district of Mosso Santa Maria in the diocese of Vercelli. He was teaching law at the University of Paris when he joined the Friars Preachers, moved by the preaching of Blessed Jordan of Saxony. He became the sixth Master of the Order on 7 June 1264, and enlightened his brethren for almost twenty years in this office by his example. He often consulted Thomas Aquinas in theological matters and defended his doctrine. He was present at the Council of Lyons in 1274 and there contributed significantly. As a truly loving son of Saint Dominic, he was responsible for erecting the marble tomb over the Saint's grave, sculpted by the famous artist Nicholai Pisani. He promoted the worship of the Holy Name of Jesus. An austere and kind preacher, he travelled ceaselessly, preaching with zeal and power the desire for poverty and the Gospel.

Section Five: Hagiography

He died at Montpellier on 30 November 1283. His body was burned in the sixteenth century during the Wars of Religion. Pius X confirmed his cultus on 7 September 1903.

PRAYER: O God, you willed that Blessed John should shine forth by a singular zeal with miraculous prudence and courage for advancing the Order of Preachers: at his intercession, grant that your family may always and everywhere be soundly governed. Through our Lord.

16 December

BLESSED SEBASTIAN MAGGI, PRIEST

Sebastian was famous among the reformers of the Dominican life in the fifteenth century. Born in Brescia in Italy in 1414 to a noble family, he took the habit of the Preachers in 1429. Twice he served as Vicar General of the reformed Congregation of the Province of Lombardy, as well as being superior of many priories. Although austere with himself, he was friendly and patient toward others, "a man of sweet goodness, adorned with kindness and compassion." He died in 1496 in the priory of Santa Maria di Castello in Genoa, and his cultus was approved by Clement XIII on 15 April 1760.

PRAYER: O God, you raised up Blessed Sebastian as a famous advocate of evangelical perfection and truth; grant, we beseech you, that by imitating his life we may follow the way of perfect charity and deepen the life of the spirit through penance, and thus reach your glory in life eternal. Through our Lord.

Section Five: Hagiography

GENERAL SUMMARY

A

Saints (men)	62 (50 Martyrs)
Saints (women)	8 (2 Martyrs)
Blesseds (men)	159 (102 Martyrs)
Blesseds (women)	30 (3 Martyrs)
TOTAL	259

B

Mother of St. Dominic	1
Brethren	186
Nuns	12
Sisters (Regular)	7
Tertiaries (men)	33 (4 Priests)
Tertiaries (women)	16
Clothed in the habit of the Order at death	4
TOTAL	259

C

Popes	3
Bishops	16
Doctors of the Church	3
Masters of the Order	7