



15 TUESDAYS IN HONOR OF ST. DOMINIC

Since 1233 the Order of Preachers has honored St. Dominic especially on Tuesdays, the day of the week of the translation of his body to Bologna. In 1239 and 1272, directives went out to the Order for Tuesdays to be consecrated to St. Dominic. Thus, we have the beginnings of the practice of the 15 Tuesdays preceding his feast which have been part of the Customary from the early days of the Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville. The Dominican Family is called to reflect on what it means to catch the fire of Dominic's vision in our own day. These Tuesdays are an effort to do just that. Let us pray!

Timothy Radcliffe, OP, in an address to vocation directors, spoke to the story of Dominic and our story:

"Shortly after his death when all the founders were beginning to die, they realized they had to preserve the stories of the beginning, but they did not write a life of St. Dominic. They wrote something called the *Vitae Fratrum*. They did not give Dominic a private story, his story. It would have made no sense to do that because he refused the identity of being the "great founder." He created space where people could be brother and sister. So to enliven us to give ourselves freely in your mission write the story of Dominic would be to continue what his life was all about. His gift was to create a space where lots of people could have their stories."

He went on to note how we might do better to share the stories of those who are ordinary members of the Order that others might be more comfortable with us as people with imperfections who lead simple but extraordinary lives.

Therefore, this series of 15 Tuesdays will be dedicated to Dominic in the spirit of how we continue his story, It will be a reflection on the "we", we have become in Dominic and a prayer for his continued help and guidance along with Catherine, our foundresses and all those Dominicans who have gone before us in faith.

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PRAYER FOR EACH TUESDAY

Music Suggestions: We are People of the Holy Preaching,
Lumen Ecclesiae, Family of Dominic, Joyful Friar

Leader: O God, You created all things and gave us + Jesus that we might know You.

All: And sent Your Spirit upon us that we might live.

Leader: You gifted us with Dominic that we might walk in the truth of the gospel

All: With Catherine, our foundresses and all those holy Dominicans who have gone before us.

Leader: Christ Jesus, be with us as we join with them in prayer.

All: Show us your mercy and compassion that we might proclaim the Gospel in Truth.

Leader: Spirit of Jesus Christ, fill us with passion

All: That your justice and hope may bring the kingdom alive in our troubled world.

Leader: We ask this as we remember our call as Dominicans

All: May we truly be family to one another and to the world.

Leader: We ask this not for ourselves but that we might give

All: Glory to you, Source of All being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

2018 Chapter Statement

Antiphon: We are People of the Holy Preaching who trust in God

We, Dominicans, called to be signs of joy and hope,
Surrender ourselves to the God of gracious abundance,
unending mercy and love.

We commit ourselves individually and communally

To contemplative prayer and living

We embrace the call to prophetic justice and Truth.

We open ourselves to more intentional collaboration with the larger Dominican family and others.

We care deeply for each other and all creation.

This is our Holy Preaching.

See Particular Tuesday for the Readings and reflections

Spontaneous Intercessions

Our Father

Closing Prayer & Blessing

All:

Lord Jesus Christ,

You sent us Dominic to guide us in Truth

that we might preach the Good News to all.

Help us to be faithful in our prayer

and passionate about your Word.

May our mercy and compassion bring hope

to our troubled world.

May the wisdom of Dominic and Catherine,

help us as we express the Truth in love for our Church.

Give us zeal for justice and the courage

to be faithful witnesses to Your love.

May we continue to walk in the company of Dominic, Catherine,

and all Dominicans who have gone before us

That we may be people of Your holy preaching.

We ask this in Jesus' name now and forever. Amen.

Leader: Holy Father Dominic pray for us.

All: Catherine and all holy women and men, pray for us.

Leader: May God bless us with the fire of compassion

All: May we be alive with the Gospel for all to see now and forever. Amen.

Leader: Let us praise our God.

All: Thanks be to God.



Some Resources:

Guy Bedoulet, OP, [Saint Dominic, the Grace of the Word](#)

Bede Jaret, OP, [The Dominican Life](#)

[Early Dominicans: Selected Writings](#)

Margaret Ormond, [A Dominican Spirituality of Formation](#)

Timothy Radcliffe, OP, [Sing a New Song](#)

Invitatory and prayers by Barbara Schwarz, OP

15 TUESDAYS IN HONOR OF ST. DOMINIC



FIRST TUESDAY: IN THE COMPANY OF OUR HOLY BROTHER DOMINIC

Scripture Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2: 43-47

Quiet

Reading:

With Dominic, obscurity was his own deliberate achievement. He followed the common life and the rule in all points. Anyone could approach him. A joyous person with compassion for others' misfortunes, his apostolic, availability, fraternal, friendly, and spontaneous proved his Christian dispossession. -GuyBedoulet, OP

Dominic realized the difficulties of living community in the early church and so sought not harmony but a focus on unity for the sake of mission. He was not important -- the preaching was important. The structures of his Order were to be flexible so it would be able to adapt to new situations and new personalities. For each person's gifts were essential to the mission of the "holy preaching."

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans who have encouraged me that I might grow and live the Dominican life?
- How did they do that?
- How approachable am I in living the common life?
- How am I like Dominic?

Sharing

SECOND TUESDAY: DOMINIC, MAN OF COMPASSION

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9: 35-37

Quiet

Reading:

In the General Chapter of Caleruega, Chrys McVey commented, 'Dominic was moved to tears and to action by the starving in Palencia, the innkeeper in Toulouse, by the plight of some women in Fanjeaux. But that is not enough to explain his tears. They flowed from the discipline of an open-eyed spirituality that did not miss a thing. Truth is the motto of the Order, not its defense (as is often understood), rather its perception. And keeping one's eyes open so as not to miss a thing can make the eyes smart.' as quoted by Timothy Radcliffe, OP in Sing a New Song

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans who have been examples of compassion for others?
- How do I show compassion to those with whom I live?
- How can I learn from Dominic how to show compassion when it is difficult?

Sharing

THIRD TUESDAY: DOMINIC, SEEKER OF TRUTH

Scripture Reading: Matthew 11: 2 - 6

Reading:

One of the early stories of St. Dominic is that of an all night discussion he had with a heretical innkeeper in Toulouse. He listened and heard God in what mattered to the inn keeper. It was in the deep listening with warmth that "multiplied the discussions" so the Spirit of God was revealed to the man. He practiced *disputatio* or honest discussion listening for the spark of truth in even opposing arguments that the fullness of Truth may be revealed.

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans I would call seekers of truth?
- How and where do I seek for truth?
- How do I respond to the demands of truth and support those who follow it?

Sharing

FOURTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC ON FIRE FOR THE GOSPEL

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:14 -16

Quiet

Reading:

In the testimony of Peter of Venice we hear: "Whenever he [Dominic] was traveling, he saw him either praying or preaching or giving his time to prayer or meditation. When he was traveling he would tell his companions to go on ahead, saying "Let us think about our Savior." Wherever he was, he always spoke either about God or to God and encouraged the brethren to do the same, and put it into his Rule. He was never seen to be angry or upset or worried by the toil of traveling but was patient and happy in all adversities."

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans I have seen on fire for the gospel?
- How well do I know the Gospels?
- On what do I spend my energy and share my gifts?

Sharing

FIFTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC, EXAMPLE OF SIMPLICITY

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

Quiet

Reading:

We can learn the most about this topic by looking at the defects of Dominic. He disobeyed some of his own rules and disregarded the existing laws of the Church. He failed in getting some of his own ideas off the ground and he took on more than he was prepared for. He was negligent in some ways because he didn't leave, like other founders did, a Rule of his own making, or a body of writing to guide and inspire his followers. So there is hope for people like you and me. We do not have to have it altogether. In fact, that would not be very Dominican. In imitation of Dominic, we can be disobedient, unsuccessful, outrageous, and irresponsible, and still be good formators! So let's relax! Margaret Ormond

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- When has my life most shown my dependence on God?
- How do I live simply? Outrageously?

Sharing

SIXTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC, MAN OF PRAYER

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6: 5-8

Quiet

Reading:

In the Testimony of Rudolph of Faenza we hear: "The blessed father Dominic nearly always spent the night in church, praying and weeping there, as I saw by the light of the lamp which is in the church and sometimes I saw him standing on the tip of his toes with his hands stretched up. Because of the intimacy I had with him I sometimes went and prayed beside him and I saw in him a fervour in prayer such as I have never seen the like of."... "When we were short of bread or other food, I often went to him to tell him what we needed. He used to say, 'Go to church and pray.' He would do the same, and I always found God provided whatever we were short of.."

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans who showed me how to pray always?
- How do I pray and share the fruits of my contemplation?
- Who have I taught to pray? How?

Sharing

SEVENTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC, THE JOYFUL FRIAR

Scripture Reading: Acts 2: 1- 4

Quiet

Reading:

To the end of his life St. Dominic remained an indefatigable preacher, spending long hours on the road, talking to anyone who was prepared to listen to him whether or not they knew his language. His brethren were gratefully aware of the support he gave by his prayers for them, and by his warm affection and cheerful companionship, and not least, by his persistence in encouraging them never to settle for less than the demanding standards they had set for themselves. -Simon Tugwell, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the joyful Dominicans I have known? How do I listen?

Sharing

EIGHTH TUESDAY DOMINIC, LOVER OF WISDOM

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

Quiet

Reading:

Dominic sent the brethren to the Universities. The involvement of the Order in the academic world and the immense growth of its own academic structures was by no means accidental to the Order's purpose. As we have seen, one of the needs felt by the church in this time was for a more informed, better educated clergy. The Order of Preachers tried to respond to this need a spirit of its whole programm of proclaiming and expounding the truth of the Catholic faith where ever it was required ... The amazing bulk of their writings was inspired by the needs of their students and of the church at large.

– Simon Jugwell, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the wise Dominicans I have known?
- Who are those who have shown me what real study is about?
- How do I value study and integrate it with my life?

NINTH TUESDAY. DOMINIC AND GOVERNANCE

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4: 7, 11-16

Quiet

Reading:

It is very striking how far Dominic trusted his young men, and our early sources reveal the basis for this trust: the security of their wandering unprotected, friars is located, not in the Order's prudential measures but in the providence of God, expressed particularly in the loving care of the Mother of God, And so the main protection Dominic offers his friars is to pray for them, not to shut them up. He is also most insistent that the Dominican constitutions are only human law and are enforced therefore with only human sanctions. The Dominicans are the first religious to state explicitly that breaking their laws does not constitute a sin. – Simon Jugwell, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

Who are the Dominicans I see as true leaders?

How do they bring hope and protection to others in community?

How am I called to lead, pray, and stand with my sisters?

Sharing

TENTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC, MAN OF FREEDOM

Reading: Romans 8: 14-17

Quiet

Reading:

Dominic fascinates us by his freedom. It was the freedom of the poor itinerant preacher, the freedom to found an Order unlike any that had existed before. He was free to scatter the fragile little community which he gathered around him and sent them to Universities, and free to accept the decisions of brothers in Chapter even when he disagreed with them. It was the freedom of the compassionate person, one who dared to see and respond.

The Order has always flourished when we have lived with Dominic's freedom of heart and mind. How can we renew today the freedom that is property and deeply Dominican? - Timothy Radcliffe, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans I know most at home with themselves?
- How do I deal with the strengths and weaknesses of my sisters?
- When and where am I most at home with myself?

Sharing

ELEVENTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC THE RISK TAKER

Reading: Luke 10:1 -12

Quiet

Reading:

We know St. Dominic invoked the Holy Spirit and astonished all by sending the brethren out two by two to do the holy preaching. This was a great risk for the small community but St. Dominic felt that like grain these preachers were not meant to be hoarded. Jordan of Saxony reports that "everything happened as if the future was a certainty, or as if the Holy Spirit had taught him through his revelations."

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans I have known that really took risks?
- What did they risk and why?
- How do you respond and what are you willing to risk for the Gospel?

Sharing

TWELFTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF MARY

Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26 - 38

Quiet

Reading:

In the time of Dominic the Hail Mary only consisted of the words of the angel and Elizabeth. "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" this mini-sermon calls each of us to recognize the creative grace found even in the sisters and brothers with whom we find difficulty. It shows us the love of God poured out, incarnated, and present among us. But as Timothy Radcliffe, OP notes: "the angel's greeting does not leave Mary at home. The angel comes to disturb her domestic life... it suggests the individual journey that each of us make, from birth to death... this blessing of God makes us fertile."

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are the Dominicans I know who show the fiat of Mary?
- How do I recognize a grace filled presence in myself and others?
- How do I relate to Mary?

Sharing

THIRTEENTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC, RESPONDING TO HIS TIMES

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16: 24-28

Quiet

Reading:

Diego and Dominic started preaching because preaching is needed. They are responding to an external need, not just following the impulses of their own spirituality. It is because they see a need that they want to be preachers, and it is because they want to be preachers, in this particular situation, that they find that they also want to adopt the apostolic way of life. —Simon J. Tappin, LCF

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- What Dominicans have shown me how to respond to the needs of the times?
- How do we discern the needs of the times today and respond?
- To what signs of the times have I given study and a thoughtful response?

Sharing

FOURTEENTH TUESDAY: DOMINIC MAN OF THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Quiet

Reading:

Dominic's understanding of his task in preaching was "to mean preaching with no other authority but the word of God. He refused several bishoprics that he was offered and left his Order, at least at first, with a definite instinct against any acceptance of positions involving official cure of souls. The preaching of the brethren was to be kept distinct from any exercise of authority, even ecclesiastical authority." Simon Tuowell, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- Who are Dominicans who most exemplify the meaning of Church?
- How do we follow Dominic in the holy preaching as a community?
- What is my experience of being a woman of the Church?

Sharing

FIFTEENTH TUESDAY: HOLY FATHER, BROTHER DOMINIC

Scripture Reading: Romans 10:14-17

Quiet

Reading:

Dominic was given "a global task to root up in order to plant anew and to prune, cultivate and protect new shoots." "Even our search for a more just world, in which the dignity of every human being will be respected, is not merely a moral imperative, but an expression of the mystery, the love that is the life of the Trinity which we are called to embody."

When Dominic used to walk through the villages where his life was threatened by the Albigensians, he used to sing loudly so that everyone knew he was there. The vows have value only if they liberate us for the mission of the Order with some of Dominic's courage and joy." -Guy Bedoulet, OP, ² Timothy Radcliffe, OP

Contemplative Quiet for Reflection:

- What does Dominic most show me about living the apostolic-contemplative life?
- What qualities of Dominic do I experience most in my sisters?
- How is God calling me to grow as a Dominican in our global task?

Sharing