

in Ministry Today

seek truth • make peace • reverence life

FALL 2009

125th Anniversary ~

Adrian Dominican Sisters

Dear Benefactors and Friends,

It is with gratitude that we recognize your part in the Congregation's history, particularly your gifts and kindness to the Sisters and your gracious support of outreach ministries and retirement.

We invite you to celebrate with us this milestone event, marking 125 years of mission and ministry. We thank God for those years of mission, of preaching the word of God through serving those in need. We look forward to continuing that ministry in new and creative ways.

We invite you to honor the Adrian Dominican Sisters with an anniversary gift that will propel us into shaping the future, so that we can continue to respond to pressing needs in the days ahead. It is because of your partnership that the Congregation is able to go where no one else will, to address the injustices and needs of our day.

On the occasion of the 125th Anniversary celebration, May 15-17, Sister Donna Markham, OP, Prioress of the Adrian Dominican Congregation, describes the underlying basic mission of the Order:



Donna Markham, OP

"The initials 'OP' after an Adrian Dominican Sister's name stand for the 'Order of Preachers' of which they and all Dominican religious women and men are a part, and the fact that the Congregation has been engaged in ministry throughout the world for 125 years now says something about the passion of our sisters to preach the Gospel.

"The Dominican Order itself

was founded in the early 13th century to engage the culture of that time in a search for truth and to combat the heresies that had arisen. Today, in the 21st century, that translates into promoting justice and peace in all its forms. The Adrian Dominicans have a strong commitment to social justice: working to end war, violence, destruction of life, destruction of the environment, materialism, sexism, the 'isms' of society that go against the Gospel."

The Adrian Dominican Sisters serve in many capacities in inner cities, rural areas and in many counties across the U.S., and in many other nations. They serve native peoples in Alaska and Canada; AIDS orphans in Swaziland; children in the Dominican Republic who otherwise might not get an education; and residents of New Orleans with great needs in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.



Sister Mary Soher broke down barriers in the 1990s when she worked in television production and instructed students in the control room of the studios at Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida.

Sister Mary Jane Lubinski ministers to AIDS orphans in Swaziland.



In 1884 – 125 years ago – a group of Dominican Sisters were sent from their convent in New York and took up permanent residence in Adrian, Michigan to maintain a small hospital. Knowing that education was their forté, Mother Camilla Madden closed the hospital and opened St. Joseph Academy for Girls. From there, the Congregation grew as bishops throughout the United States asked for sisters to begin schools and hospitals and to staff parishes and parish schools.



The Heritage Society

There are many ways a person can support and partner with the Adrian Dominican Sisters in ministry.

One such way is bequeathing the Sisters in estate plans. When a person informs the Congregation that the Adrian Dominican Sisters are a beneficiary in their will or trust, that person is enrolled in The Adrian Dominican Heritage Society.

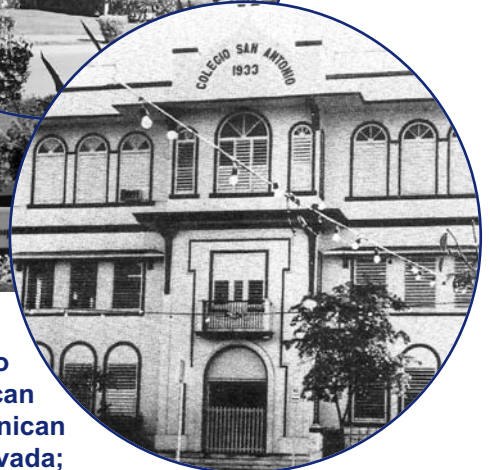
The Heritage Society was established to honor and revere individuals who want their future gift to continue the ministry of the Sisters and/or to help care for the retired sisters. Their assets will make a significant impact in the future on the lives of those in need. We herald those benefactors and place their names in The Adrian Dominican Heritage Society.

Presently there are 115 friends who are members of The Adrian Dominican Heritage Society. These individuals are acknowledged in a special section of the Annual Report with honor and gratitude.

We revere our Heritage Society members with daily remembrances at the Liturgies celebrated at the Motherhouse as well as in the daily prayers of our sisters. Each Heritage Society member greatly honors the Congregation by including the Sisters in their estate plans. We warmly hold that trust, friendship and charity with appreciation and gratitude.

For more information, contact Sister Janet M. Hudspeth, OP, in the Development Office at 586-776-4685 or e-mail her at DevOffAD@aol.com.

The Congregation built secondary schools for young women in Detroit, Chicago, and Cleveland; established a new college for women in Miami, Florida; expanded to overseas ministry in Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic; ventured into the unknown with two hospitals in the West; and responded to the call to engage in social work. After the Second Vatican Council, a return to the original inspiration of the Order led to more universal commitment to mission. Mission encompasses more than a single ministry. It is broader in scope and includes various ministries, formation of community and preaching, unique to Dominicans.



(From top) Aquinas High School, Chicago; Colegio Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; St. Rose Dominican Hospital, Henderson, Nevada; Colegio San Antonio, Puerto Rico

"We go, we travel constantly; our life is a journey and this world a place of pilgrimage."

– Mother Benedicta Bauer, OP



Our times call for us to look at the challenges facing our world and our Congregation, as a member of the larger Dominican Order. In the spirit of Dominic, Catherine, and our Adrian foremothers, we will enter into the "great turning" of our era with the same foundational supports and graces that nurtured and sustained our ancestors.

With your generosity and support, the Adrian Dominican Sisters will continue to look to the future in order to seek truth, make peace, and reverence life.

Your gift will directly benefit the priority needs of the Congregation, which include outreach ministries and care of the retired sisters. Thank you for your support and your prayers at this significant time in the history of the Adrian Dominican Sisters.



Development Office mail is always sent to the Adrian address. This is to inform you that our LOCAL address and phone number have changed to the following:

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