

# eLumen

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic  
Newsletter of the Province of St. Joseph, Eastern USA  
Volume 18, Number 2 (Christmas 2021)



Master of the Order.....  
Provincial Promoter.....  
President.....  
Credits.....

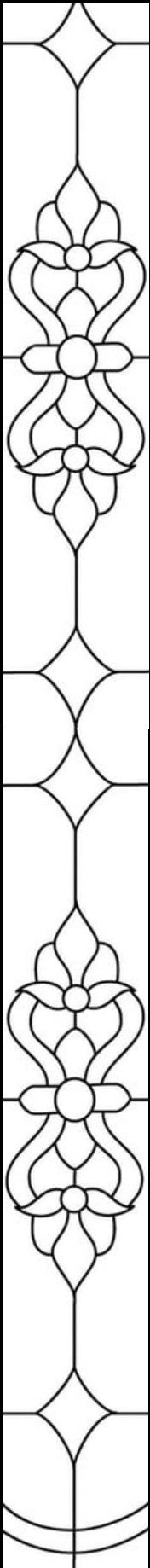
*Glory to God in the  
Highest!*




Fra Angelico, *Adoration of the Magi*, mid-15th century, National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., <https://www.fraangelico.net/adoration-of-the-magi/>



# Letter from the Master of the Order





*"Como el Padre me ha enviado,  
también yo os envío..."*  
JOHN 20:21

**El Padre envía a su Hijo**  
- pequeño, frágil, indefenso  
para que lo comprendamos,  
lo acogamos y lo amemos.

**El Hijo nos envía a nosotros,**  
para que seamos como Él,  
para que podamos comprender,  
acoger y amar a los demás.

**La Navidad es una misión.**  
Somos enviados, para proclamar:  
*"Lo que hemos oído,  
lo que hemos visto con nuestros ojos,  
lo que contemplamos  
y palparon nuestras manos  
acerca de la Palabra de vida"* (1 Juan 1, 1)

**¡Feliz y santa Navidad  
para vosotros y para todos  
vuestros seres queridos!**

**The Father sends his Son**  
- small, fragile, powerless  
that we may understand,  
welcome, and love Him.

**The Son sends us,** to become like Him,  
that we may understand,  
welcome, and love one another.

**Christmas is a mission.**  
We are sent, to proclaim:  
*"what we have heard,  
what we have seen with our eyes,  
what we looked upon  
and touched with our hands  
the Word of life"* (1 John 1:1)

**A Blessed Christmas to you  
and everyone you hold dear!**

*"Comme le Père m'a envoyé,  
Moi aussi je vous envoie..."*  
JOHN 20:21

**Le Père envoie son Fils**  
- petit, fragile, impuissant  
pour que nous puissions le comprendre,  
l'accueillir et l'aimer.

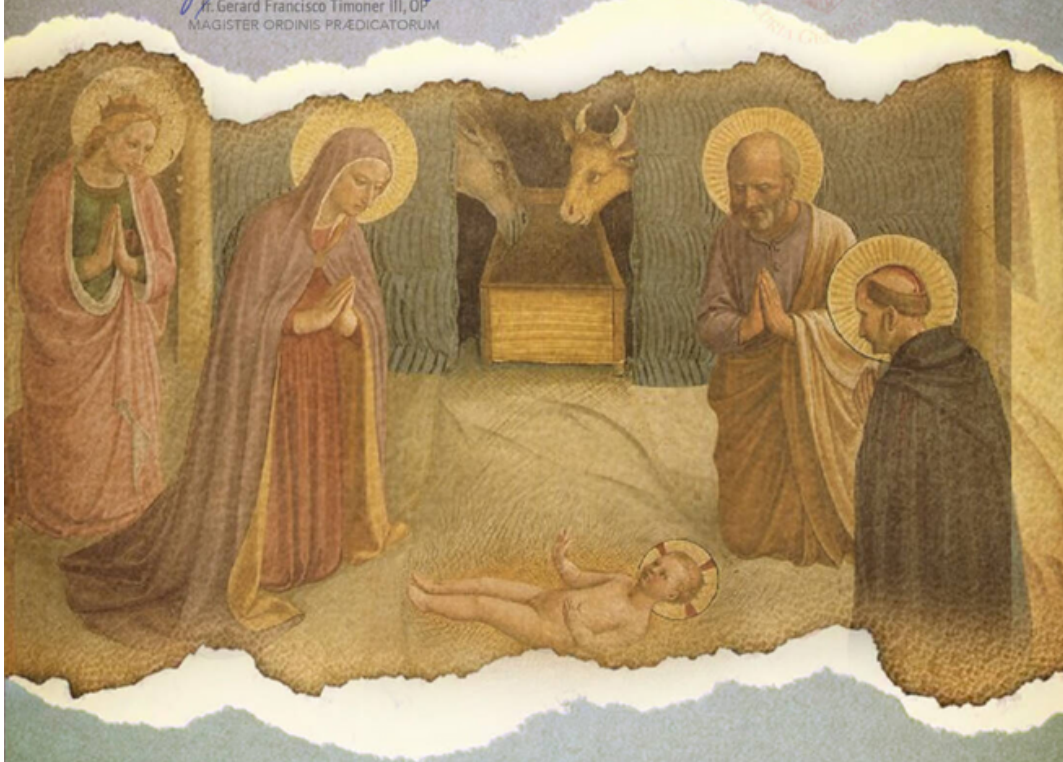
**Le Fils nous envoie,**  
pour devenir comme Lui,  
pour que nous puissions nous comprendre,  
nous accueillir et nous aimer  
les uns les autres.

**Noël est une mission.**  
Nous sommes envoyés, pour proclamer :  
*"ce que nous avons entendu,  
ce que nous avons vu de nos yeux,  
ce que nous avons contemplé  
ce que nos mains ont touché  
du Verbe de vie"* (1 Jean 1, 1)

**Saint Noël pour vous et  
pour tous ceux qui vous sont chers !**

*"AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, SO I SEND YOU..."*  
JOHN 20:21

*of Gerard Timoner, OP*  
Fr. Gerard Francisco Timoner III, OP  
MAGISTER ORDINIS PREDICATORUM



<https://www.op.org/a-blessed-christmas-to-you-and-everyone-you-hold-dear/>

# Message from the President

*And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth" (Jn 1:14)*

My dear brothers and sisters in St. Dominic,

Christmas blessings and graces in abundance to you and your families and fraternities. Let not the current pandemic dim the joy of our Savior's birth! Grace and peace, blessings and joy have come! My best wishes to all. Let us go to Bethlehem in our hearts and meditations and adore Him who has come and will come again!

*Glory to God in the Highest, our savior Christ the Lord is born!* These long-awaited words, found in Luke 2:14, were announced by angels; and can you image how beautifully they sang? In my meditation during this Christmas season, I sometimes love to go to the cave to adore the newborn King, the Christ Child, God made man. A memory that accompanies me is the beautiful hymn I learned while singing in my Polish parish's choir, now of happy memory, called "Lulajze Jezui" or "Lulie." I'm not Polish but my husband is, and the traditions and the music are worth noting. This hymn, composed by Fryderyk Chopin, is reminiscent of a lullaby and speaks to swaddling and comforting the baby Jesus and lulling Him to sleep with melodious song. Now those of you who are Polish or are familiar with this song know just what I mean, and I can see the smiles come to your faces. I dreamed of singing it softly to my own grandchildren as I rocked them and

thanked God for the gift He gave to our family in each of them. That dream came true, and I still go back to Bethlehem in praise and think of Mary singing this same song to the pearl of her virginity. Now you can go on YouTube and listen to the words and melody if you like, and may you hold the newborn Savior in your arms and your heart as you praise and thank the Father for His gift of Love incarnate. Here are some of the words in English translation, and you can see how beautiful they are. Can you picture the scene?

Hush little Jesus, my little pear,  
Hush my favorite little delight.  
Hush little Jesus, hush, hush

Lulajze Jezuniu, moja Perełko,  
Lulaj ulubione me Pieścidełko.  
Lulajze Jezuniu, lulaj, że lulaj  
A ty go matulu w płaczu utulaj

Each culture has its unique and lovely nativity traditions, and we embrace how the birth of our Savior is honored in each. This is not to forget those with sadness this season. Some have lost loved ones, are separated from their families, or are sick themselves. Our hearts and prayers go to you to comfort and console you. Let not these things dull the joy of Mary's fiat made flesh.

May the peace and joy of the Christ Child, fill you with His love and joy and every blessing. We can't keep this precious gift to ourselves, it is given to us to give to others, to share with a broken and sick world. The mystery and miracle of the Incarnation stands at the heart of our Catholic faith. Jesus



taught the Truth to those who would listen, we must do the same.

*Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus.* Hymn 55 in *Christian Prayer*, speaks to the coming again of Christ in judgement. Grace and peace, blessings and joy have come! They will come again. Maranatha, come oh Christ the Lord!

Thank you for the gift you are to each other and to our Lord and for your fidelity to your vocation as Dominican

laity. May you, your families, loved ones, and fraternities, have a very merry Christmas and a New Year filled with God's blessings!

Your sister in St. Dominic,  
Kathy (Mary Catherine Thomas)

Mrs. Kathy Kendrek, OP  
President, Dominican Laity  
Lay Fraternities of Saint Dominic  
Province of St. Joseph U.S.A.



Rembrandt, *Adoration of the Shepherds*, 1646, National Gallery, London, UK,  
<https://www.wikiart.org/en/rembrandt/adoration-of-the-shepherds-1646>

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Regional Editors

**SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY the 10th day of February, May, August, and  
November**

Mrs. Kathy Kendrek, O.P.  
Lay Provincial President  
eprovpres@gmail.com

Rev. Carlos Quijano, OP  
Provincial Promoter for the Laity  
carolusop@mac.com

Ms. Louise A. Mitchell, O.P.  
Interim Communications Committee Chair  
lamitchell99@hotmail.com

## Editorial Staff

Ms. Louise A. Mitchell, O.P.  
**Editor**  
lamitchell99@hotmail.com

Mrs. Christy Weller, O.P.  
**Assistant Editor**  
archerette1974@aol.com

### REGION 1

Mr. Claude Mailhot, O.P.  
cemailhot@gmail.com

### REGION 4

Mrs. Donna Tanczos, O.P.  
dltanczos@aol.com

### REGION 2

Ms. Maria Vida, O.P.  
trysaint@hotmail.com

### REGION 5

Dr. Patricia Ellis, O.P.  
pellis1112@gmail.com

### REGION 3

Miss Mary Ann Friedman, O.P.  
mfriedman314@gmail.com

### REGION 6

Mr. Michael Murphy, O.P.  
murphym@fuelchem.net

Graphic Design: Ms. Catherine Wilshusen, O.P.

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