

## All Souls' Day Remembrance

*November is the month for us to remember our loved ones who have died. You are invited to list the names of your departed loved ones on the enclosed slip and send it in to be placed on the altar at St. Dominic's Church in San Francisco.*

## St. Martin de Porres Feast Day Triduum

*In honor of our patron, St. Martin de Porres, whose Feast Day is November 3, Masses will be offered at St. Dominic's Church in San Francisco on November 1, 2, and 3. We invite you to check off your petitions on the enclosed list and send it in to us. Please join us each day in praying the Triduum (back page).*

## Dear Mission Friends:

The **Casa del Migrante** in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico is staffed by missionaries from both our Western Dominican Province and the Dominican Province of Mexico. The friars and sisters at the **Casa** are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to serve migrants, some coming up from Central America and southern Mexico looking for work in the American-owned factories in northern Mexico; and others coming from the north as deportees, torn from their families and dropped off in El Paso, Texas by U.S. government planes arriving daily.

Both groups are received at the **Casa del Migrante** where they find nourishing meals, dormitories with hot showers, and a laundry room, as well as our staff's assistance in putting their lives in order.

**B**ecause we Dominican friars, sisters, and laity are encountering massive movements of migrants in all parts of the world where we serve, we recently held a conference, at the **Casa del Migrante**, on the theme of migration, with special emphasis on the countries of the Americas. The participants, including 42 sisters, 20 friars, and six laity, represented twelve countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, and the United States. Our provincial, Fr. Emmerich Vogt, O.P., and I represented our Western Dominican Province. At the end of the conference, we compiled a summary of our discussions, the highpoints of which I wish to share with you, our mission friends.

In Christ's Peace,  
*Fr. Martin de Porres Walsh, O.P.*

*The Mexican side of Mass, while being celebrated on both sides of the border during the conference.*



*Celebrants include Bishop Raul Rivera, O.P. of Saltillo, Mexico and Bishop Renato Ascencio of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.*



*Frs. Martin and Emmerich with Dominican Sisters of Christian Doctrine, who serve both in Mexicali, Mexico and Antioch, California.*



*Fr. Emmerich, our provincial, meets his counterpart, Fr. Gonzalo Ituarte, O.P., the provincial of Mexico.*

A CALL TO CONTINENTAL SOLIDARITY WITH  
THE PEOPLE OF GOD ON THE MOVE:  
*The First Dominican Continental Seminar of Justice and Peace  
on the  
Problems of Our Migrant Brothers and Sisters*

August 1-4, 2008  
Casa Del Migrante  
Ciudad Juarez, Mexico

From the 19<sup>th</sup> century until World War II, international migration consisted primarily of masses of people traveling from Europe to the U.S. and Latin America. In the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, massive internal migrations also occurred in the Americas as people from rural areas flocked to cities in response to modernization and industrialization, as well as to the systematic neglect of land reform and the needs of small farmers. In the 1970's, spurred by military dictatorships, migrations within Latin America and from there to the U.S. increased dramatically as migrants sought to find meaningful work and a dignified life.

These migrations undermined the social and productive fabric of society. Families were increasingly torn apart as wage earners left home, planning to earn enough money to one day return home to their impoverished loved ones and find productive employment there. This dream was rarely realized though, and numerous small towns were turned into wastelands for the remaining elderly. The migrants did not forget their families or communities, however, and worked conscientiously to faithfully send wages home. From the late 1990's, governments began to show a growing interest in these "remittances" as an escape valve for social unrest as well as an alternative to genuine economic development. For example, in 2007 more than 30 million Latin American migrants sent \$68 billion to South America, \$11,031 million to Central America, and \$8,370 million to the Caribbean. These remittances, reflecting the dramatic growth of international migration, have created the misguided perception that support for increased migration will effectively produce additional income for the country, while, on the contrary, they are private resources, trans-national salaries, meant to support families and the limited economic needs of small communities. Indeed, fostering a dependency on remittances only makes governments more vulnerable to their economic fluctuations.

The extreme hardships experienced by migrants have become increasingly well-known. Many fall victim to the physical challenges of the journey, such as starvation, dehydration, or death in the desert; mutilation from car and train accidents; and contraction of diseases. Many others suffer human rights violations such as economic exploitation, extortion, and physical abuse, including kidnapping, rape, beatings, and homicide. In some countries has grown a whole industry of exploitation, by way of networks of traffickers in drugs as well as in human beings.

Women and children especially have suffered at the hands of these corrupt forces. We cannot fail to mention the disappearances, physical violation, and murder of thousands of migrant women who have come both to work in the maquilas and to travel to the north. These acts continue even today with impunity. To a significant degree, governmental authorities charged with protecting migrants have been at best unresponsive, but often complicit in the exploitation of women and children, enriching themselves at their expense.

In a word, *migrants have increasingly become targets of a troubling growth of human rights violations.* We members of the Dominican family view with sorrow the suffering of migrants and their families. *We cannot remain impassive nor turn away with insensitivity and thoughtlessness.* We pledge our support for people forced to migrate in order to survive. In our solidarity, we not only respond with compassionate service to the migrants' immediate needs, but also seek to empower them to speak their truth and defend their rights. Solidarity with migrants must always reach beyond responding to them as victims, to empowering them as *"the principal protagonists of their pastoral action,"* as noted in the pontifical document, *Erga Migrantes Caritas Christi* (#91).



*American Dominicans united with migrants during Mass at the U.S./Mexican border.*

A different model of economic and political development is needed in Latin America. Government policies need to treat migration as one more alternative in life and not as an extreme and desperate recourse for survival. Let us stop the bleeding of countries which are losing increasing waves of people to forced migration. Let us favor and strengthen the well-being of entire populations, providing employment, education, and health services while respecting and preserving their culture.

Indeed, changes in attitudes, conceptions, and approaches which involve all of us are needed. The Dominican Family therefore renews its commitment to all people and communities forced to migrate within or outside their national territory. We commit:

- \*to monitor human rights violations of migrants and displaced people;
- \*to strengthen the role of the Dominican Family in its attention to and relationship with migrants;
- \*to relate our pastoral work to civil society in solidarity with migrants in their departure, transit, and settlement;
- \*to promote the development of migratory policies that respect human rights;
- \*to work jointly through networks to defend human rights;
- \*to incorporate knowledge of migration in the areas of religious formation and public education;
- \*to recover the history of migrants so that they can be transformed into protagonists of their own destinies.

***Migration is a challenge and an opportunity for the charism of St. Dominic: to preach the Good News to all people. We must strive to assure the transformation of the unjust structural conditions that so brutally oppress the migrants so that they too are included in the fullness of life of the human family.***



*St. Martin de Porres icon  
by Fr. Kieran Healy, O.P.*

## St. Martin de Porres Triduum

**First Day:** *St. Martin, you always had sympathy for the poor and those who were suffering. I need your help and now ask for it with great confidence in your goodness and power. Please remember me, as you adore God.. Amen.*

**(Mention your petitions, followed by the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Closing Prayer.)**

**Closing Prayer:** *Dear St. Martin, I turn to you in my sorrow and anxiety to seek your friendly protection. Please intercede for me with our merciful Father in heaven so that I may be truly sorry for all my sins and be freed from the evils that shackle me. Ask that I might have something of your spirit of love and self-sacrifice, and so be at all times reconciled to God's holy will. Oh heavenly Father, in the name of your Son and His Blessed Mother, and by the merits of your faithful servant Martin, help me in my trouble and do not forsake me. Amen.*

**Second Day:** *St. Martin, we praise God for the manifestation of His love. The favors you received from God encourage us now to seek your intercession and help. We ask you most humbly to befriend and assist us from your place in heaven; but most of all, we beg you to commend us to our beloved Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**(Your petitions, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Closing Prayer.)**

**Third Day:** *Brother Martin, when you were here on earth, you spent your life loving God and your neighbor. This we know from the testimony of your own Dominican brethren. Now that you live in the presence of God in paradise, intercede for those who stand so much in need of the healing help of God and beg the Divine Physician to give us health of the soul and body. Amen.*

**(Your petitions, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Closing Prayer.)**

## MISSION APPEALS

We have been invited to speak on our missionary work at the weekend Masses of the following parishes. If you are in the area, please come out and meet our Dominican preachers.

### October 4-5

Our Lady of the Assumption,  
Watsonville, CA  
Preaching: Fr. Martin Walsh

### October 25-26

St. Mary, Ogden, UT  
Preaching: Fr. Vincent Lopez

### November 8-9

St. Joseph, Ogden, UT  
Preaching: Fr. Martin Walsh

### November 15-16

St. Florence, Ogden, UT  
Preaching: Fr. Vincent Lopez

### November 22-23

St. James, Ogden, UT  
Preaching: Fr. Vincent Lopez

### November 29-30

Holy Family, Ogden, UT  
Preaching: Fr. Vincent Lopez

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please know that we do not sell or give out the names or addresses of our benefactors.