



DOMINICAN LIFE USA

A web crossroads for the Order of Preachers

Photo of the Week: 'Sister Xiomara Méndez-Hernández, OP Professes Final Vows with Adrian Dominicans'



UN Update: A New Human Rights Campaign

"This December the UN is preparing for the 70th Anniversary of the inception of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by means of a yearlong campaign. The Universal Declaration is an internationally recognized document that states the fundamental freedoms that all human beings are entitled to regardless of their race, class, sex, religion, language, nationality, or political affiliation."

[Read article](#)

Dominican Sisters of Caldwell: 'Stamp Out Despair Packing Party Success'

On December 9, 2017, the Dominican Sisters of Caldwell and members of the Caldwell Chapter of Dominican Young Adults USA gathered for a "Stamp Out Despair" packing party. "Stamp Out Despair is a semiannual drive coordinated through First Friends of New Jersey and New York, an organization that upholds the inherent dignity and humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers."

[Read more](#)

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose: 'Blogging Into Deeper Love'

"Sister Gloria Marie Jones, OP and Rachel K. Cheng, Ph.D. have launched a conversation about the call to greater love. These posts start an open dialogue around Dominican spirituality and how to 'Journey Into Greater Love.'"

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Coco

"*Coco* tells the story of young Miguel, a Mexican boy who loves the guitar and music. His hero is the legendary actor/singer Ernesto de la Cruz, who is also Miguel's great-grandfather. Miguel is told by his family that Ernesto deserted his family for fame and fortune in the movie and music industry. For this reason, music has been forbidden in Miguel's family."



[Read review by Tom Condon, O.P.](#)

Wonder

"Based on a best-selling young adult novel by R. J. Palacio, *Wonder* tells the story of a boy named Auggie (Jacob Tremblay) with disfigured facial features. His loving parents Isabel (Julia Roberts) and Nate (Owen Wilson) have home schooled Auggie through the fourth grade to protect him from the stares and taunts of other children, and adults too."



[Read review by Tom Condon, O.P.](#)

Dominican Sister of Racine Rose Marie Anthony Honored at Policeman's Ball

"The fourth annual Policeman's Ball recognized some members of the community who don't put on the blue uniform, but nonetheless contribute to making the community a safer place . . . Racine Dominican Sister Rose Marie Anthony of the Siena Center was given a Community Policing Award for her work to end human trafficking in the Racine area."

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Dominican Sisters of Sparkill: 'Growing Associate Program Continues to Advance the Sisters' Mission'

"Five lay women made their commitments/recommitments to the Congregation as Associates last week, and this growth represents a wonderful extension of the Sisters' mission."

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Siena Retreat Center – 'Strengthening Communities in Need: Spirit-Filled Approaches'

"In light of increased crime, violence and poverty in urban areas, what does it take to strengthen a community?" On February 20, 2018, the Siena Retreat Center in Racine, WI, will have presentations from two executive directors (Patricia Rogers, OP and Vincent Noth) of centers in Milwaukee and they "will share the stories of people who come to their centers in need, those learning to engage as neighbors, and those they train as mentors."

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***Options for Justice* Newsletter**

Options for Justice is compiled by Justice Promoters Lyn Kirkconnell and Judy Lu McDonnell, OP, and is published by the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael. In this issue they share "the experience of participating in the School of the Americas WATCH (SOA) event at the border wall between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico in November of this year." Please click "Read more" to find newsletter.

[Read more](#)

Dominican Young Adults Celebrates November 2017 Vespers

The tradition of vespers for the month of November was celebrated last month at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville and led by the Molloy Chapter of Dominican Young Adults (DYA). Part of the service allowed the young adults who are to become new members of DYA, Molloy Chapter, as well as those renewing their membership to DYA, to profess their commitment to the organization.

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Next issue's deadline for articles is January 8, 2018