DOMINICAN NEWS LETTER

April to June 2020

Dominican House
153 Ali Block, New Garden Town, Lahore
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From the Desk of the Editor

My dear Brothers and Sisters in St. Dominic,

Greetings of peace to all of you!
We are people of hope and joy. Our trust is in the benevolent God, who always care for us. Since December 2019, we have been suffering due to Covid-19 pandemic but we have experienced God's love and mercy through more firm faith in Him and through charitable actions.

Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP (Prior Vice Provincial) encouraged the friars to help the needy brothers and sisters at this crucial time, keeping in mind the example of St. Dominic when there was a great famine at his time, he sold his books in order to feed them. In all our houses and parishes friars actively played their vital role to save the humanity, at times putting their lives at risk. They were one with their people through their prayers and physical presence. We admire and appreciate their efforts. We hope that one day by the grace of God, we will overcome on this Covid-19.

With great joy, we congratulate Rev. Fr. James Channan OP and Rev. Fr. Thomas Bhatti OP for their 40 years of service as priests. We acknowledge their great contribution in the Order and in the Church and pray that the Almighty God may bless them with good health and long life. We congratulate also Rev. Fr. Toffique Dominic OP for obtaining Licentiate Degree in Islamic Studies from Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) Rome. We appreciate all his hard work and struggles.

Our 2nd Edition 2020 of Dominican Newsletter covers the reports and activities of April, May and June. In the month of April we celebrated the Paschal Mystery (Triumphed of Jesus over death and resurrection from the dead). The message of Easter is a new life, Jesus gives this life through his resurrection; We as Christians are called to bring newness in the lives of the people while witnessing the Risen Lord to the hopeless and suffering humanity. Every year on 29th April, with great zeal and zest we celebrate the feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Doctor of the Church. She was a mystic and patron saint of Italy and Europe. This year we celebrated the golden jubilee of her declaration as Doctor of the Church.

May is the month of Mother Mary. Rosary is her great gift to the church which brings peace and harmony in the world. Through the recitation of Holy Rosary we can defeat the Devil and Covid-19. Let us ask Mother Mary to intercede for us to overcome this disease.

Month of June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. In all the parishes Novena prayers are recited for different intentions. Jesus' heart is full of love and mercy. This is source of all holiness, joy and blessing. Pope Francis says " The Heart of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of God's mercy: But it is not an imaginary symbol; It is a real symbol which represents the centre, the source from which salvation of all humanity gushed forth".

God bless you!
Dear Dominican Friars, Sisters, Laity and Youth (IDYM),

Greetings and peace from Lahore, Pakistan.

First of all, I wish you a very blessed Holy Week and Easter 2020. I hope you are safe and secure in your respective priories, parishes, convents and houses. I express my deep concerns in this dreadful situation when Corona Virus paralyzing the whole world has forced us to be quarantined. Many people are dying and many more are suffering. This is the time to lift up our eyes and look at our Lord who was crucified for us to save us and rose from the dead to give us new life and hope. He gives us comfort and reassurance that this disease will end soon and our lives will be normal once again.

As we are going to enter in the most holy and sacred week in which the work of our salvation was accomplished. I urge you to pray for the quick recovery of all those who are contaminated by Covid-19 and remember all the deceased brothers and sisters. May they all rest in peace!

My dear brothers and Sisters, I would like to share with you that fr. Jean-Ariel BAUZA SALINAS OP the Secretary General at our General Curia in Rome weekly updates me and gives me the status quo regarding the incidents of Covid-19 in the Dominican Order based on the information that he receives from different Provinces. In his recent email of 5th April 2020 he wrote that “at present we have 8 Nuns and 22 friars contaminated: The monasteries affected are those of Cremona (Italy) with 5 sisters and Regensburg (Germany) with 3 sisters. For the brothers, they are sons of the provinces of Hispania (8 brothers: 5 in Madrid, 2 in Salamanca and 1 in Valencia), Holy Rosary (2 brothers in Madrid), France (3 brothers: 1 in Lille, 2 in Helsinki), Central America (2 student brothers in Valencia Spain), Poland (5 brothers, all in Rzeszów) and the Philippines (2 brothers in Manila). Two brothers died: Giovanni Cattina, of the Province of San Tommaso in Italia on 30.03. 2020 and David Sanders, of the Province of England, on the same day, May the Lord open to them the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem! Concerning the nuns and brothers in isolation & with symptoms, but without having been able to pass the test, we have 7 nuns in Prouhe (France), 2 nuns in Chalais (France), 4 brothers in Ireland, one brother from the Province of St. Joseph (USA) and one brother from the Province of France. May the Lord grant eternal rest to the deceased and give healing to all those who are suffering from this disease.

At this time of trial and tribulation, I would like to share with you the encouraging words of His Holiness Pope Francis who in his message “Creativity of Love can overcome isolation” of the Holy Week says that, “we can prepare a better time these days. Even if we are isolated, still our thought and spirit can go far with the creativity of love. This is what
we need today: the creativity of love.” Fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP, the former Master of the Order pondering on the “New World being created by necessary social distancing” writes in International Dominican Information (IDI # 596-March 2020, p. 16), 'Corona Virus is depriving us of touch, which is the nourishment of our humanity'.

Being Dominicans, we must keep in touch by creating new ways of expressing our love and concern for our neighbors. The best way to show our love and reach to our neighbors is to pray for their good health and safety. Following the instructions of the government of Pakistan and guidelines from Pakistan Bishops' Conference we must avoid public services during the Holy Week. I urge you to continue the liturgical services in your communities privately and share it with the people of God through social media. I appreciate the friars who have been doing charitable deeds and have also been encouraging the faithful to open their hands and hearts towards the poor and needy.

I keep each one of you in my heart and in my prayers. I pray that the Risen Lord may end this horrible Corona Virus plague soon. May the Easter Candle takes away the darkness of suffering humanity and spread new light, love, joy and hope.

I wish you a very happy Easter. May the risen Lord fill you hearts with peace & hope!

Fraternally yours in St. Dominic,

Fr. Younas Shahzad, OP.,
Prior Vice Provincial,
Ibn-e-Mariam, Dominican Order,
Lahore, Pakistan.

Happy Easter
Online education is one of the creative and advanced ways of Teaching-Learning Experiences. On 13th March 2020 the Government of Pakistan took a decision to close the institutions. The province of Punjab Government issued notifications to all the heads and principals of educational institutions to close them due to pandemic covid-19. So reading the signs of alarming situation of pandemic corona virus, and considering ardently the studies of students, our school took some urgent steps regarding online education. The principal Fr. Yasir Paul OP immediately called a meeting of the Teaching staff and directed them to do four things; (a) create social media study groups for each class/section; (b) compose syllabus for online classes; (c) prepare schedule and module for online classes; (d) and prepare home assignments for students.

During the meeting, principal guided and instructed the teachers to create Whatsapp groups for their classes. The class teachers would be the admin of their respective groups and the principal himself would examine the teaching-learning practice of the teachers and students. He helped the teachers to make a schedule at weekly and monthly basis and engage them for teaching. To make an online education effective, he guided the staff and asked them to use relevant and suitable strategies for different tasks and topics. The time and schedule was set like; in the morning from 9:am to 12:pm and some classes as per request of the parents were managed in the afternoon due to Ramadan. Our administration converted the study scheme from chalk and talk method to the digital literacy. It organized virtual class rooms for all the students of different classes. There are different strategies used in teaching-learning online classes. For teaching online from Montessori to higher secondary classes, our teachers used computers and digital devices for communication, sending notes, work sheets, PDF documents, voice recording, voice messages, videotape and video lectures, recording notes, YouTube links and videos, and also used ZOOM media application to deliver and transfer face to face video lectures virtually, so that the students and teachers sit in front of each other and organize virtual study.
The purpose of our online education was the provision of first class learning experience to the students that will equip them with skills, knowledge and ability that enable them to compete in their study career. The other thing was that the students and teachers may remain in touch with the teaching-learning and do their best to use modern techniques and gadgets for creative education during lockdown. These classes held from Montessori throughout higher secondary classes so that the students may learn by staying at their homes. The online education is not an easy job; rather, a quite challenging and demanding with lot of struggle and efforts. Sometimes it gets costly, for example to buy a social media device and daily, weekly or monthly internet packages.

There is a need of persistence to tolerate technical problems as well and tackle when device gets stuck with heavy data and too much stuff. People have to spare time for study with total commitment and needs frequent engagement with studies. It requires a certain age level and, class level and level of understanding. It also requires certain computer and media skills to operate the devices and use in appropriate manner for learning strategies. Effective time management skills, consistent time and workspace, appropriate communication skills are needed to handle and manage the students learning problems. Sometimes parents have to spend time with small kids to guide and make them learn to use electronic media for study. A very careful aspect of distance learning is to use an appropriate language, avoid using ambiguous words and considering the social media code of ethics, reading and writing skills, delivery methods are fundamentally necessary to be practiced professionally. There is need of proper instructional time, instructional skills, sufficient amount of learning time, and determining the time on task for online studies.

On the other hand online learning has basic advantages i.e. flexibility and convenience with the opportunity available at home with ample of time or may be enough time to manage it according to a person's time and possibility. It is not the matter that how much time you have but how well you manage it. Amid the covid-19 pandemic, and lock down, St. Dominic Convent Higher Secondary school kept its identity by teaching prudently even in tough and difficult times. Our teachers put their heart and soul in teaching effectively using all their skills and capabilities. Now a days our school is taking online end term tests. We acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our staff and appreciate the struggles and efforts of our principal who plan out all the things timely and guide the staff effectively for the future endeavors.
“Blessed be God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you” (1 Pet 1:3-4)

Easter is the day of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. It is the center of Christian faith because the life of a Christian revolves around the Pascal Mystery and it is the Creed of the faithful people of God.

The season of forty days fasting known as the season of Lent is a time of repentance on our sins and to prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter.

This year the season of Lent was very blessed for me as I experienced this season at Holy Rosary Parish, Warispura, and Faisalabad. Christ's fasting, suffering, passion, death were observed with religious sentiments and the resurrection was celebrated with fervor. This year these events were celebrated simply without the presence of the faithful in the Parish due to Covid-19. People participated in these celebrations through social media.

The Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Pascal Paulus who preached the message of new life. He mentioned the significance of Easter in our day to day life and in this Pandemic situation we are also like Christ as we are also suffering and going through troubles. After the Holy Mass Fr. Pascal advised all the people to remain calm and cool and to stay at home and celebrate Easter at homes and to act on the precautions for the safety of their lives.
Every year on 29th April we celebrate the feast of St. Catherine of Siena. This year due to Covid-19 the festive mass was celebrated in the chapel of Dominican School Missionaries sisters, Sr. Zunera OP along with her students under formation decorated the chapel elegantly for the occasion of the feast. The choir, excellently trained by Sr. Sosan Sardar OP with our aspirants, for this special occasion lifted the spirit of those who attended the festive Mass with their melodious and enchanting singing to the tunes of the keyboard. The festive solemn high mass was started at 7:30 pm. The main celebrant of this solemn festive Mass was Rev. Fr. Nadeem Joseph OP and co-celebrants was Rev Fr. Zahid. Augustine OP. The readings for the day were proclaimed by our aspirants, and the parish priest Fr. Zahid Agustine OP gave a wonderful reflection on the life and significance of St. Catherine of Siena who was born on 25th March 1347 at Siena, Tuscany and died in April 29, 1380, Rome; canonized 1461; feast day April 29), Dominican tertiary, mystic, and one of the patron saints of Italy. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970 and a patron saint of Europe in 1999. The Holy mass was especially offered for the victims of Covid-19.

After the holy mass, the whole community along with our Dominican priests walked to the community room for the festive supper. Served by aspirants, a delicious meal was thoroughly enjoyed by all. After meal aspirants presented some remarkable events of St. Catherine' life. The feast of St. Catherine is a great day of celebration. On this day we take more time to pray, reflect, eat, and remember, as a community, the special significance of our great saint Catherine. To celebrate the feast day of our Dominican saints as a community, it is a tradition that will continue for years to come. At the end on the appeal of Master General of the Order we all recited the Holy Rosary for the victims of Corona virus.
Pakistan as a Missionary Territory of the Dominicans

The Italian missionaries of Roman Province came to the sub-continent of India in 1931. Later on in 1947 when it was ruled by the British, in 1947 India was divided later on into two separate countries: India and Pakistan. In 1956 the American Missionaries also joined them in this mission. These missionaries worked in Pakistan as two vicariates of Roman Province Italy and St. Joseph Province New York USA. In 1982 with joint efforts of these two vicariates, Ibn-e-Mariam Vice Province Pakistan (VICE-PROVINcia “FILIUS MARIE”) came into existence.

By the grace of God and with the blessings of St. Dominic we have now 32 ordained friars, 42 solemnly and 18 simple professed friars, presently we have 9 novices and 25 postulants. We care for the Christians by carrying the mission of St. Dominic through our different apostolates, namely; parish ministry, tribal ministry, interfaith dialogue, justice and peace commission, education ministry (schools and hostels), the formation of laity, youth and promotion of the Holy Rosary. Dominicans are playing an active role in four different dioceses of the local church. We have two priories and 8 houses and are serving in five different parishes of three dioceces.

Ibn-e-Mariam Vice-Province Pakistan is a fast-growing entity. In Pakistan Islam is the state religion and Muslims are in majority with 97% population whereas rest of 3% people belongs to different minorities such as Christians, Hindus, Parsees, Sikhs, Bahais, Qadianis, etc. Out of these Minorities the Christians are just 1.6% but they are playing their vital role as “Salt” and “Light” in this land. Pakistan is a poor and developing country with many challenges and opportunities.

I would like to mention some of the challenges which Christians are facing nowadays when the whole world is suffering from the deadly plague of the Covid-19 epidemic.
Many Christian communities are living in the slum areas and are working as laborers and relying on the daily wages. Many of them are working as brick kilns. The majority of Christians are working in different factories. Few Christians are making their living possible by driving rickshaws, carts and by doing mason works. Christians of Pakistan are well known for their honesty and good behavior. There are some Christians who are educated and are playing a vital role in the nation-building, in the field of Education and Health department. Nowadays when everybody has fear of the deadly virus many Christian doctors and nurses are fighting against the deadly virus as frontiers. We salute them for their services and dedication. Due to lockdown the churches, institutes, factories, transport system are all closed. All the possibilities of earning are closed for the poor Christians. Many Christian families are suffering a lot because they don't have enough resources for their daily living.

In this painful situation, I would like to pay my heartfelt gratitude to all the Dominican friars who are playing an inspirational role in this suffering situation. In this scenario our Dominican friars are first of all giving awareness of protection to the people how to protect ourselves from this plague. Secondly, they are doing charitable activities by providing food bags to different poor families. Thirdly they are providing spiritual nourishment by doing online prayer services and by giving Holy Eucharist door to door all every Sunday. Our Prior Vice Provincial Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP is also visiting different areas and encouraging friars to take care of the poor families as much as possible. He also helped many poor families through different resources. Though we have limited resources still we are struggling to nourish our people spiritually and physically. We thank all the contributors and donors especially the laity of CZECH DOMINICAN PROVINCE who helped us finically to witness the works of charity in this land. We need to continue our help and support of our friends and benefactors to face the present challenges of food, health and clothing. We pray that with the intercession of Mother Mary and St. Dominic may be secure and safe from this disastrous plague.
Where have higher studies taken me? It has been an interesting path in my life; experiences give maturity to a person. On this path I faithfully thank God the Almighty for the wonders of my being. Rev. Fr. Bruno Cadore OP (former Master of the Order) expanded this being, when he indicated that I might be joining the Cairo-Egypt community for my higher studies in Islam. I am also very thankful to SPEM MIRAM who provided me financial support to meet my study expenditures at Cairo-Egypt without this would not have been possible for me.

On my arrival at Cairo, on 8th October 2016, I was warmly welcomed by the community especially by Fr. Rene Vincent OP (Prior) and Fr. Paul OP. Together with four other brothers, I started my studies at Dar Comboni Arabic and Islamic Institute, Zamalek, for a diploma degree in Arabic and Islamology. Each week, I received 25hrs of lectures from Monday to Friday (5hrs of Arabic language each day which covers the following areas: Reading & Comprehension, Linguistics, Conversation, Dictations and Writing). I completed my first year in May 2017. Arabic study is particularly difficult and tiring! Sometimes, I felt like giving up because some of the things I did not understood properly. The brothers in Cairo were very encouraging and supportive. Being experts in this field themselves, they all said that our difficult experiences with the language and religion are naturally expected and that with time I would get better. I studied even harder in 2nd year and got to know the language better. Within three months, I started celebrating Mass in Arabic.

In December 2016, I got a chance to visit the pyramids and ancient temples along with other four brothers. It was a unique experience. I was very excited and I got a chance to learn about the history of Egypt. It was a very fruitful visit.
On 28th April 2017, His Holiness Pope Francis was invited by Dr. Ahmed Tayyib (Grand Imam of Azhar Mosque) to an interfaith dialogue conference. I participated in the conference which was held at Azhar University: it was a very positive sign for Christian and Muslim Harmony. The next day His Holiness Pope Francis celebrated the Eucharistic Mass and I got a chance to participate in it. During the summer, I visited the Red Sea, Mount Sinai, and the Monastery of St. Catherine of Siena. In June 2018, a trip to France was organized by the friars. During my stay in France, I visited the places where St. Dominic preached, and additionally, I got a chance to celebrate Mass at Lourdes.

In September 2018, I left for Rome to continue my Licentiate studies in Arabic and Islam at PISAI. I started my studies, at the beginning of October 2018. What a different culture I found in Rome! Here I encountered 49 priests from 24 countries from around the world. One as far away from Solomon Island. The problem in Rome was the Italian language. There was a conflict between the language classes and the university classes. It was really a difficult decision of selecting subjects because some courses were in Italian language. Then I made the decision that I should continue my courses at PISAI. During my two years of stay in Rome, life was full of challenges and hardships. It was not easy at all to cope with the situations but I was determined to accomplish my goal at any cost. I wrote my thesis entitled “Iḥtiḥād in the Thought of Šāh Walī Allāh” which was offered by the faculty.

Moreover, on 30th November 2019, I got a chance to see His Holiness, Pope Francis. It was a unique experience. I defended my thesis on the 15th of June 2020. I am grateful to God that I completed my Licentiate studies in due time. I would be failing my conscious if I did not mention the prayers and support of Fr. Luke Buckles, OP, Fr. Albert Glade, OP, Fr Paul Murray, OP, Msgr. Miroslav Konstanc Adam OP of Rome and all the friars of Ibn-e-Mariam Vice-Province of Pakistan. May Almighty God bless all of you. This is but a short narrative of my four years of special studies. In the face of many challenges, I encourage myself to further study. It is an eye-opening and life-expanding opportunity.

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An educationist Malcolm Says, “Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” I do agree with this statement because in the present era the only key to success is education. Keeping this in mind, I joined Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE) on 28th Jan 2019 for B.Ed. (Hons) studies. This report is to analyze and evaluate my learnings up until now. My studies of B.Ed. (Hons) comprises five semesters and by the grace of God, I have already completed three semesters.

Before going in other details, I am very grateful to God the Almighty Father who gave me courage to accept the challenges of life and leads to the new horizons of life. I am also thankful to the Dominican Order especially Ibn-e-Mariam Vice-Province of Pakistan, for providing me the opportunity to continue my studies in NDIE right after the completion of my Theological Studies at National Institute of Theology. I am also thankful to Rev. Fr Pascal Paulus OP former Prior Vice Provincial who gave me the vision to continue studies of B.Ed. keeping the charism of the Order. Now I am thankful to Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP (Prior Vice Provincial) who is always encouraging and supporting me with his thoughts, suggestions as well as economically.

I have completed three semesters and every semester contains six subjects. The first semester comprises of six subjects, which are mentioned below

1- Classroom Management
2- General Methods of Teaching
3- Information and Communication in Teaching (ICT)
4- English Technical Writing and Presentation Skills
5- Society, School and Teacher
6- Teaching Literacy.

In these subjects, I have learned that how to manage a classroom, in which every learner will be able to achieve his maximum potentials and what type of sitting arrangement would be suitable according to the allocated places. I have learned what kind of methods of teaching I can use to enhance learning and to make students creative, collaborative, and cooperative. Then what are the Technologies, which can be used in the classroom for teaching and learning? I have also learned the skills of technical writing and presentations, what are the reservations I need to keep in mind before preparing a lesson plan for the class. In one of the subjects “Society, School and Teacher” I learned about what is the relationship and role of society with school and teacher, how they can play their role efficiently. In “Teaching literacy”, I have learned different methods and models of teaching literacy to children and adult along with different chunks of Literacy.
The second Semester also embraces six subjects, which are listed below

1- Philosophy of Education
2- Psychology of Education
3- Assessment in Education
4- Critical Thinking and Reflective Practices
5- Micro Economics
6- English (I)
7- Academic Enrichment

The course on “Philosophy of Education” deals with different theories of education according to different philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, John Lock, John Dewey, Herbert Spencer, Imam Ghazali, Ibn-e-Rushd, Al-Farabi, Ibn-e-Khuldoon, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Allama Iqbal, Dr. Zakir Hussain and Hakim Muhammad Syed and school system of Maria Montessori. I also learned about different philosophies related to education like Naturalism, Realism, existentialism, and Pragmatism. In “Psychology of Education”, I have learned about different theories of learning. I have learned what is the process of learning and how a student learns. There are different theories of learning such as Behaviorism, Functionalism, Structuralism, Cognitivism, Social learning Theory, Multiple Intelligence, and Brain-based learning. These theories are further divided in Trial and Error, Classical conditioning and Simulative based learnings. I also learned about the fundamental aspect of human growth, the difference between counseling and guidance, different traits of Personality and how the personality of a person is formed, what is intelligence, and ultimately the transfer of learning.

I have learned about assessment in education, what is the difference between assessment, test, measurement, and evaluation, how to assess the learning of a student. What are the different types of assessment and evaluation such as Formative, Summative, Confirmative, criterion reference, and Norm Reference assessment, along with this I learned about the importance of feedback? I learned about the Mathematical presentation of the assessment and found out the progress of the student through numerical data. This course also equipped me with the skill of being a good Examiner that what are the measures I need to keep in mind before preparing a test and what types of mistakes can spoil the students leaning, which we do not consider in our routine life.
In “critical thinking and reflective practices”, I have learned about different models of reflection and the difference between critical thinking and reflective practice. Critical thinking is the ability to develop healthy skepticism towards any information presented as a fact whereas reflection is what allows us to learn from our experience; it is like an assessment of where we have been and where we want to go next. I learned about, Socratic questioning, open and close ending questions, strategies, and techniques to develop critical thinking such as brainstorming concept mapping, Van diagram, and Generalization.

I have chosen Economics as an optional subject and I want to develop my skills in Economics in the future. In the Micro Economics, I have learned about the scope and purpose of Economics, demand and Supply, National Income, laws of supply and Demand, Market, type of Market, Channels of Distribution, Elasticity of Demand and Supply and their relationship from consumer and producer perspective, the difference between consumer and Customer, types of customers, the crisis of Pakistani Economy, etc. In the English (I), I have learned about context clues, direct and indirect speech, writing descriptive and argumentative essays, finding the topic sentence, etc.

My Third semester of B.Ed. (Hons) also encompasses six subjects:

- Curriculum Planning and Development
- Contemporary trends and issues in Education
- Inclusive Education
- Macro Economics
- English (II)
- Perspective on Teacher Education
- Academic Literacy

In the third semester, I have learned about the above-mentioned subjects and their respective skills. In curriculum planning and development, I have learned about the conception of the curriculum because the curriculum is the backbone of every subject. The curriculum is the combination of all the learning and teaching strategies, experiences, processes of assessments, and evaluations. The conception of curriculum plays an important role to develop a curriculum. I have also learned about the intent of the curriculum, different types, and Models of Curriculum, the content of the curriculum, the Process of the development of curriculum, and the Designs of the curriculum.
In “Contemporary trends and issues of Education”, I have learned different strategies to resolve the controversial issues in education, how to change the inappropriate trends in the educational system. This subject deals with the prevailing trends in education such as Globalization and Millennium development goals. How to accept the diversity in education, how to promote educational harmony and Peace in Schools, how to change the mindset about gender diversity, and how to promote Education for all.

Inclusive education is an approach in which all the students are provided equal opportunities for learning and suitability is created to overcome the disability of the students with special needs. In this, I have learned different approaches and models, which are used in the world for inclusive education.

In Perspective on Teacher education, the importance of teacher education is explained and what are the standards used in different countries and within Pakistan for the accreditation of the teachers. Academic literacy is an extra subject added to equip the students with special skills for teaching. It includes tips for presentation, research, and use of Technology in education.

In the end, I would like to quote Scott Hayden who says, “Teacher has three loves, love of learning, love of learners, and the love of bringing the first two loves together.” Since Dominican are known as the people of, Universities and we have shining stars in Dominican Order who are known as the Doctors of the Church: St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Catherine of Siena. I am trying my best to bring these two loves together in my life, so that I may play my part in enlightening the Dominican Presence in Pakistan through Education.
Day of Prayer, Fasting & Charity

On May 3rd 2020, announcing the spiritual events His Holiness Pope Francis called on all people of goodwill to join together for a world day of prayer, fasting, and works of charity to bring an end to the Coronavirus pandemic on 14 May. Pope Francis said, “Since prayer is a universal value, I have accepted the proposal of the Higher Committee for Human Fraternity for believers of all religions to unite spiritually this May 14th for a day of prayer, fasting, and works of charity, to implore God to help humanity overcome the Coronavirus pandemic. Remember May 14, all believers together, believers of different traditions, to pray, fast and perform works of charity.”

By following the call mentioned above, National Commission for Inter-religious Dialogues and Ecumenism (NCIDE) organized interfaith prayers at Cathedral Church, Lahore. Archbishop of Lahore His Excellency Sebastian Shaw presided over the collective prayer program. Fr. Francis Nadeem OFM Cap Executive Secretary NCIDE, was the organizer and host of the program. Fr. Dr. James Channan OP (Director Peace Center and Regional Coordinator URI Pakistan), Allama Mufti Ashiq Hussain (Principal) Madrassa Bait-ul-Quran, Sardar Bhishon Singh from Nankana Sahib, Fr. Qaisar Feroze OFM Cap, Fr. Mushtaq Piyara, Maulana Sahibzada Asim Makhdoom (Chairman Board of Ulema Mushaik) and Qari Khalid Maqbool Qari at Punjab Assembly devotedly participated in this assembly of interreligious prayers.

Fr. Francis Nadeem OFM Cap formally welcomed all the religious leaders and scholars for joining the call of prayer and fasting worldwide. Qari Khalid Maqbool recited verses from the Holy Quran, Rev. Fr. Mushtaq recited verses from the Holy Bible and offered prayer and Sardar Bhishon Sing recited Guru Granth Sahib and offered a prayer for the safety of the whole World.

His Grace Archbishop Sebastian Francis Shaw said; “I pay tribute for this call initiated by His Holiness Pope Francis to pray, fast and do the charitable work on this day 'May 14, 2020', may our Lord answer our prayers for mercy. We see Pope Francis with a sad and worried face for the whole world but he is very hopeful too. He used to pray alone in
The Vatican for the healing of the world from the Covid-19. We should join his spirituality, prayers, fasting, and belongingness with humanity. Now it is a time to save HUMAN & FAITH, by following the instructions of the World Health Organization (WHO), dealing with this pandemic on an international level. Government of Pakistan is trying hard to come out from this situation, but the conditions are very complicated, people are dying due to starvation and Covid-19 as it is a life-threatening Virus. Government gave relaxation in lockdown which does not mean to violate the SOPs. We should wear masks, gloves, and the use of hand sanitizer should be compulsory. Furthermore “This pandemic is attacking all human beings, it does not consider any sort of boundaries or borders, etc. It's traveling city to city and country to country, killing people in large numbers. In Pakistan we have a big community living in slums and populated areas can raise the Corona affected patients rapidly. This unseen Virus is not finding people of specific religion or creed, it hits everybody and everyone is in danger. He further continued by saying, “Human beings today and forever must eliminate all sorts of differences and discrimination from their hearts and unite people in social and religious harmony.” He also urged leaders and scholars of all religions to continue pray for an hour to the complete eradication of this pandemic.

His Grace led a collective prayer as, “We pray to our God save the world and heal it from Covid-19, we pray for Government of Pakistan to make good decisions for safety, we pray for our Armed Forces fighting in and outside the country, we pray for doctors and paramedical staff fighting with the situation as front liners, we pray for all families; children, youngsters and old members to stay healthy, we pray for all our Muslim brothers and sisters fasting 20th fast in the holy month of Ramadan and we also pray for upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr, may our God Almighty answer our prayers and save us all. Amen!

Fr. Dr. James Channan OP said, “I humbly welcome and own the call, called by His Holiness Pope Francis that pray, fast and perform the charitable works all around the globe. I also congratulate Archbishop Sebastian Francis Shaw for inviting all religious leaders from Islam, Christianity, and Sikh religions to offer their prayers by following the call. Thank you very much, Fr. Francis Nadeem OFMcap for inviting me to participate. This call invites all religions, sects, and faiths to pray for Covid-19 free World soon. We know it, the whole world is disturbed, every one of us is worried, and all are wishing to restore their lives and routine. He also offered a prayer, “God Almighty we are human beings and sins are being committed by us many times, please forgive us and heal the world in Jesus Christ name. Amen!” Maulana Mufti Ashiq Hussain said, “I appreciate and welcome the global appeal of His Holiness Pope Francis to pray & fast together. I must say, he showed a great gesture to be the Pope for whole humanity in the world as he invited all from various faiths and religions. Being responsible citizens of the country, we have to follow the instructions to save us, our families, and the whole world at large. We pray to Almighty Allah for mercy and heal the world from Covid-19.” Amen!

Maulana Asim Mukhdoom shared, “Prophet Younas went to preach God's message, and the people of the city prayed and repent for mercy. They were saved, it's time to unite in prayers and fasting as Pope Francis called faith bearing people. We are very thankful for the call of Archbishop Sebastian Francis Shaw for inviting us today. We need to pray for mercy and healing of the World.”
"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork"
(Psalm 19:1)

On 24th May 2015 Pope Francis issued the encyclical letter “Laudato Si”. This year we are celebrating the 5th anniversary of this encyclical of Pope Francis. The meaning of “Laudato Si” is “praise be to you.” It is the second encyclical of Pope Francis. The encyclical has the subtitle on “care for our common home.”

Laudato si, Praise be to you, my Lord, is a beautiful canticle of Saint Francis of Assisi which reminds us that this earth is our common home; it is like a Sister with whom we share our life, and a beautiful Mother who always opens her arms to embrace us, “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us and who produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs. Pope Francis has written a letter to all the persons on this planet to protect the earth especially our common home. In this letter, he says that Earth is God's gift for all pity and wonder. The fruits of the earth belong to everyone. But what is missing today around our common home is that it was never been heard so. Now we have developed things which had not to be imagined.

The earth, our home is looking more and more like an immense pile of filth are increasing the polluting fouls especially coal, oil, and gas. These are the biggest changes in climate and it affects all, but the most of it is affected the poorest communities who suffer the most. The Future of our common home is under threat. In this era, we have to think that how to live wisely, think deeply, and love generously. Living wisely we have to accept everyone in our life. All the people need to work together to save the earth.

For this aspect, Holy Rosary Catholic Church also celebrated the “Laudato si” day on 23rd May 2020. In the beginning of the program, Holy Mass was celebrated for the earth. People were also present for the Holy Mass. Fr Pascal Paulus expressing about Laudato si, said that each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever is required for subsistence but it also must protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations. As we are well aware that the Holy Rosary Catholic Church compound is full of greenery, there are various trees, plants and flowers. On the Laudato si day our community took part in the plantation also, after mass we planted some plants in the Church compound. It was a nice gesture, we put not plant in the earth but we put love in the earth for the world and our neighbor. At the end of plantation, Fr. Pascal Paulus thanked all those who were there for the plantation.
On May 30, 2020 Children of Dera Izat, Sadiq Public School Bahawalpur received the First Holy Communion by the blessed hands of Fr. Iftikhar Moon, OP (parish priest, St. Dominic Catholic Church Bwp). There were seventeen children. Fr. Iftikhar Moon presided over the Holy Mass. Fr. Yasir Paul OP was the con-celebrant. Bro. Irfan Christ OP gave the introduction of the Holy Mass on this blessed occasion. Fr. Yasir Paul OP proclaimed the Holy Gospel. Fr. Iftikhar Moon OP gave the effective and impressive homily on the feast of Pentecost. In his homily, he highlighted the importance of Holy Eucharist in our lives. He said as we eat our food for bodily energy in the same way Holy Eucharist is the summit of the whole sacraments. All other sacraments are connected to it. Jesus Christ Himself is present in this Blessed Sacrament. When we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, we gain new life and energy. He further said that Pentecost's means fifty. It is the birthday of the Church. Church is the bride of Christ and the Eucharist is the food of our souls which gives spiritual strength and leads us to God because we become one with Jesus in mind, heart and spirit.

The Children of the First Holy Communion received for first time the Body and Blood of Christ under both species. After the Holy Mass, faithful of Dera Izat, Sadiq Public School garlanded their guests and expressed their love for them. The snaps were made with the group of first Holy Communion. At the end, festive dinner was served to everyone present there.
Feast of the Pentecost is the most important feast of the year which concludes the Easter Season. It is also called the beginning of the Church or the birth of the Church. On 31st May 2020 the feast of Pentecost was celebrated in the Holy Rosary Church Warispura. Rev. Fr. Paschal Paulus OP, Fr. Azhar Lal, Catechists team, and Dominican Novices were present for this Eucharistic celebration. The decoration of the altar was done by the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena. The Holy Mass was presided over by Rev. Fr. Paschal Paulus OP. Parishners in person could not attend this graceful occasion due to Covid-19 but attended it on social media.

Keeping the Pandemic situation in mind, Fr. Paschal Paulus made a good plan to present this Holy Mass through social media so that people may also watch and participate in it. Before the Eucharistic celebration, Fr. Paschal Paulus OP, Fr. Azhar Lal OP and Pastoral team had Charismatic prayer for half an hour fervently and zealously.

Afterward, the Holy Mass began in which Fr. Azhar Lal gave a meaningful and informative introduction. The first reading was recited by Bro. Muddber Cornelius and the second reading by Bro. Amir Peter. After the proclamation of the gospel, Fr. Paschal Paulus OP delivered a wonderful, knowledgeable, exquisite, life-giving and historical homely. He said that the Pentecost always occurs 50 days after the Easter. In the Christian belief He pointed out that the Holy Spirit also called Paracletes, Holy Ghost and third person of the Holy Trinity. The Spirit of God always guides us to move forward in the glorification of God and receiving the un-limited graces of God. Furthermore, feast of the Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles. In short, the homily was magnificent and impressive. At the end of the Holy Mass, Rev. Fr. Paschal Paulus OP advised the people of the parish to be strong in faith and continue their prayers for the termination of the Covid-19.
Highlights
Bro. Adil Ambrose OP
03 April

Fr. Pascal Paulus OP
08 April

Fr. Siddique M. Sunder OP
15 April

Bro. Aftab Joseph OP
15 April

Bro. Rufin Lawrence OP
04 May

Bro. Haroon Mario OP
08 May

Bro. Irj Bernard OP
19 May

Fr. Azhar Lal OP
26 May

Bro. Nabeel Joseph OP
27 May

Bro. Zeeshan Frederick OP
30 May

Fr. Yaqub Farooq OP
08 June

Bro. Aneel Andrew OP
08 June

Bro. Pervez Simon OP
09 June

Ibn-e-Mariam Vice Province Pakistan
Our Heartiest Congratulations goes to Rev. Fr. Toffique Dominic OP on the Completion of his 2 two years Arabic Language Course from Cairo (Egypt) and then 2 years licentiate course in Islam from PISAI Rome.

We the Sons of Ibn-e-Marium
Vice Province Pakistan

Wish you all Happy Easter. May this Easter brings you
Blessings of Love, Joy, Peace & Hope.
May it linger in your heart, Forever
“You did not choose me but I choose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.” (Jn. 15:16-17)

What is Formation?
The formation is at the heart of religious life. It deals radically with the whole human person. It forms first the baptized person into the person of Christ. In this manner formation should be understood as a process that brings a transformation in the person and affects the person's entire mode of existence. In fact, “Formation” is a lifelong process. It does not stop in one's life at any stage but it continues till death. In this situation what is expected from faithful religious is that he or she must strive to grow in the life of the spirit in faith, hope and charity.

Through following Christ intimately and in the constant conversion of heart, one can form himself in a very spiritual manner. In this sense, religious life is to continue being in a process in which one should advance unceasingly in awareness to be a good and faithful Christian. It refers to an action in which an individual becomes more and more a disciple of Christ. In this process formation becomes a source of ongoing transformation and conversion.

Novitiate is an important stage of the formation of young brothers in the Order. Novitiate is a trial period during which a novice comes to understand more clearly the nature of a divine and Dominican vocation. He experiences the Order's way of life and is formed in the Dominican spirit so that his intention and suitability may be ascertained (Book of Constitution and Ordination of the Friars Preachers, 177). During this year, novices are encouraged to live their lives according to the Gospel values by following Jesus Christ, the Great Teacher, by following the footsteps of our Holy Father St. Dominic de Guzman.

Historical Background of St. Dominic's Novitiate House
St. Dominic Novitiate was established in Pakistan for the formation of the young Dominican Novices in 1970. This was a joint effort of both vicariates of the Roman Province and St. Joseph Province. The Novitiate House was first
established at St. Dominic's Priory Bahawalpur and the first Novice Master was Fr. Chrys McVey OP. His successor's were Fr. Remigio Botti OP, Fr. Thomas Donoghue OP and Fr. Patrick served as a novice master for 15 years. St. Dominic Novitiate was transferred from Bahawalpur to Holy Rosary Priory Warispura Faisalabad in 1987. Again Fr. Remigio Botti OP was appointed as a Novice Master. Adding to it, Fr. Patrick Peter, OP was appointed a Novice Master in 2001 and he continued till 2007. After the inevitable services of Fr. Patrick Peter, OP, Fr. Jim Nuttall, OP and Fr. Marcus Daniel, OP also served as Novice Master till 2011. Once again Fr. Patrick Peter, O.P was appointed a Novice Master in 2011. He was reappointed by the elective Provincial Chapter in March 2015.

During our last Elective Chapter held at Ibn-e-Mariam House, Pak-Arab Lahore on February 28th March 7th, 2019I was elected as Novice Master. Since there I have been working enthusiastically and wholeheartedly for our formation of the young novices.

**Farewell to Rev. Fr. Patrick Peter, O.P**

As I entered in St. Dominic's Novitiate House as Novice Master on 1st May 2019, I remembered the precious time because “Once I was also a novice in the same house”. It was from December 2004 – December 2005 and my Novice Master was Fr. Patrick Peter, OP. It was a great time and I enjoyed my novitiate year with my six batch-mates under the guidance of Fr. Patrick Peter, OP as our Novice Master. A beautiful farewell program was organized presented a wonderful tribute was presented to Rev. Fr. Patrick Peter, OP for his 15 years of services as Novice Master for St. Dominic Novitiate House, Holy Rosary Priory, Warispura, Faisalabad.

**Dominican Novices, Batch 2018 - 2019**

In this batch, there were six novices namely, Bro. Azhar Michael, Bro. Nabeel Reginald, Bro. Sharoon Rosario, Bro. Maan Ignatius, Bro. Joel Jordan and Bro. Sarat Albert. From this batch, novices five were accepted for the Simple Profession Bro. Nabeel Reginald was not accepted. This batch made their simple profession in the hands of Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad, OP, Prior Vice Provincial of the Ibn-e-Mariam Vice-Province of Pakistan.

**Dominican Novices, Batch 2019 - 2020**

My Experience

Philomena Agudo writes in her book entitled “I Chose You” “What experience could be more overwhelming than the reflection on the reality of God's love for each individual. Emotional and mental blocks may prevent the individual from attaining such awareness; nevertheless, the reality exists. The call to the religious life or the priesthood cannot be but a mark of God's special love for the person interiorly experiencing the invitation. The “call” implies the invitation to respond to His love and the willingness to accept the demands of loving which in some way is the “sharing of the cross” (Mumbai, Pauline Press, 2003, p. 16).

I do agree with the words of Philomena Agudo because God calls each human person to perform his or her role in the world and to contribute to the mission of God and in the goodness of God. When we do our responsibility with great commitment and dedication we respond to God's love and follow the footsteps of our Great Teacher, Jesus Christ. Since the time I am in St. Dominic's Novitiate House as Novice Master my experience is wonderful and overwhelming regarding community life, prayer life and study life.

Community Life

Community life is a great blessing for us as Dominicans. We are contemplative as well as apostolic. This Dominican vision of contemplation is not an isolated activity but something exercised in community, for as God says to St Catherine of Siena, “I preferred to give different gifts to different people so that they would all need each other.” St. Dominic's Novitiate House is a community of fraternal love, contemplation, study, and celebrations. This community exists for the formation of young novices. I encourage the novices to be in the community, to have good integration and relationship among themselves. The community of the Holy Rosary Priory, Warispura, Faisalabad is also very supportive. The senior friars always encourage the novices to grow in fraternal love and charity.
Prayer Life

Prayer life is an integral part of daily life. It includes the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office). It also includes personal prayer, which is a regularly scheduled time to pray, study the Gospel, read literature, write down thoughts and meditate on them. As a community of St. Dominic's Novitiate House our life moves around the Holy Eucharist celebrated. We start our day with the Holy Eucharist in the Holy Rosary Church with the people of the parish and with other religious sisters. At certain hours of the day, we sanctify ourselves with the liturgy of the hours. Further, we have dedicated half an hour for mental prayer in the morning to have deep communication with God. So that we may grow in the love of God and love of brethren we recite the Holy Rosary before the Vesper and ask the intercession from Mother Mary so that the novices may feel the motherly love and remain humble and develop their prayerful attitude as novices.

Study Life

Study is very necessary for a Dominican friar. It is one of the four pillars of Dominican life. In the study, we contemplate the Word of God as supreme reality and source of our lives and later give the fruit of our contemplation to others. With greater emphasis, the study is very much necessary for the novices. Like other study endeavors a special as in Philosophy and Theology credit is not given to the novices but the novices are encouraged to do their studies well. The main subjects in the novitiate are (1) The Life of St. Dominic, (2) History of the Dominican Order,(3)Our Constitution and forms of Governments, (4)the Vows, (5) Dominican Spirituality, (6)Dominican Saints, (7)Sacred Liturgy,(8) Sacred Scripture, (9) Human Development and (10)English Speaking and Writing. Each month the novices are encouraged to write their evaluation and also to write the Sunday Gospel Reflection.

Formation of the young ones is not an easy task. It is an everyday struggle. I am trying my level best to accompany the novices especially in prayer life, community recreation and sports. In today's era, young people are not open more closed and they are flexible but I have to enter into their lives as a friend and an elder brother so that they may feel at home and come out from their comfort zones. Each time I offer the Holy Mass and go in front of the Blessed Eucharist I ask for God's mercy and compassion so that I may do this apostolate with fraternal love and humble attitude.

I am grateful to the Merciful Father for all His graces and gifts, especially for the vocation our young novices and their families. I am thankful to Fr. Younas Shahzad, OP for his fraternal support. I am grateful to the community of the Holy Rosary Priory for helping me to form the young novices.
The Novitiate year is particularly structured to allow space and opportunity for silence, reflection, and prayer in the life of the Novices. This period is very special for a novice who has a keen desire to enter and join the Dominican Order. In the time of Novitiate, a novice experiences the four pillars of Dominican life: Prayer life, Study life, Community life, and Apostolic life. The Novitiate is a short period to understand more clearly the Charism of the Order and Dominican vocation.

In Novitiate, a novice must know how to live as a Dominican. In Novitiate the novice master introduces the union of a community under the Prior, History of the Order and Spirituality of Dominican life.

The Dominican constitution defines the novitiate as in LCO #177 “as a time of probation directed to this purpose, namely, that the novice comes to know more deeply their divine and indeed Dominican vocation, experience the Orders' way of life, be formed in the Dominican spirit in mind and heart, and manifest their intention and suitability to the brethren”. It is the time of discernment of God's will. So keeping all the aspects in mind it is a time for the Dominican community to determine the suitability of oneself for Dominican life.

Life is all about having a good time to enjoy the blessings of God. No doubt religious life is a special gift from God. While living in the Novitiate house, we are passing through the regular observances of Dominican life. This is the most valuable and relevant time for us to ponder on our vocations. A novice should have a strong desire to become a zealous Preacher. To the accomplishment of our strong ambition, a novice should have to study assiduously and more effectively to be known as a Dominican because Dominicans are well known for their outstanding and constant studies. To achieve the end of life, a novice should also need to flourish in his prayer. Prayer is very essential and important in our lives because it is the first pillar and heart of the Dominican Order.

During this trial period, a novice should have to build a good and strong relationship with God as well as should also attempt to make good and cordial relations with all the community members. A novice should actively participate in communitarian activities . While living here a novice is taught to contemplate and seek the sacred truths (VERITAS). As a Dominican, contemplation is very much necessary. Here, a novice is also taught and introduced with many new constructive subjects.
These subjects are helpful, impressive, and beneficial for him in his future studies. It is the most precious time to know the will of God as a novice. Sometimes during Novitiate while discerning their vocations, it seems difficult to choose one way of life. At these moments, a novice should have strong faith in the Divine Providence of God. During this year we pray for our parents and teachers who have enable us to be a Novices.

We are thankful to Fr. Shakeel Michael OP who is our Novice Master. He is full of kindness, humbleness, and patience. Someone has said that “Patience is the Companion of Wisdom”. We are feeling proud and lucky to be the novices and living under the guidance of our novice Master. He supported us in the ups and downs of our lives and God's presence in our lives encouraged us to face a difficult time. Novitiate is a precious time in which Novices should observe and experience the way of life as St. Dominic lived.

We feel that this is a great opportunity for all the Novices to experience and live a Dominican life while living in St. Dominic Novitiate. Vocation is a gift from God. We are the people of God and God has chosen us to follow Christ, the way, the life, and the truth. We joined the Novitiate house on 21st August 2019. We have experienced a lot about Community life, Study life, Prayer life, and preaching life because these four elements are more necessary for us as Dominican Novices. We have completed our novitiate year and now we are thankful wholeheartedly to God and feel proud of our Dominican call. We beseech to you that remember us in your prayers so that we may continue our Dominican life and be able to serve in the vineyard of God.
Novitiate and Study Life

Novice Aneel Andrew & Shahzaib Fabian

The Novitiate is an exceptional and important period of religious formation in the life of the Dominican Order. The novitiate year is a significant year through which we as novices adopt the Dominican life style deliberately; doing prayer, study and living in the community as well as apostolic life. During this time, we have experienced all the aspects of Dominican life and reflected on our vocations through meditation, Divine Office, Eucharistic celebration, and regular observances in the St. Dominic’s Novitiate house and Holy Rosary Priory Warispura Faisalabad. In the Novitiate, we have faced challenges to choose and live Dominican life to the fullness but on the other, there have also been a pleasure and enjoyable moments which always have helped us to remain steadfast in our vocations and to keep strong faith in the divine providence of God. Now we are going to point out the importance of studies in the Dominican Order and our study experience being a novice at St. Dominic novitiate House Faisalabad.

The study is an integral part and a very important pillar of the Dominican Order. During Novitiate, the study of Sacred Truths helped us to enhance our relationship with the Lord, broaden our knowledge about Dominican life and inspiring the Holy desire for the salvation of our souls and the souls of others. Dominicans are called to be the witnesses of Gospel values and always ready to answer for the hope that is within us. Study always helps us to keep our Vows (Evangelical Counsels) with an intelligent fidelity and to be zealous for the salvation of the souls. It enlightens our hearts and minds. It nourishes our contemplation and helps us to fulfill the Gospel values with an intelligent fidelity. Through the process of study, we know about the sacred teaching of Jesus Christ and experience Him more deeply and effectively.
St. Dominic always gave the highest priority to study in his life for the Order and he sent his brothers for higher studies to different Universities. Through studies, the Dominicans get access to sacred truths of faith. St. Dominic himself carried the Gospel of St. Matthew and Epistles of St. Paul. LCO#77/1 explores the awareness regarding a study that, “Before all else, our study should aim principally and ardently at this that we might be able to be useful to the souls of our neighbors”.

During the period of the Novitiate, we have known the true meaning of study, that it is an essential part of a Dominican to study the sacred truths. Study is an essential to preach the Good News in an effective and solid way.

What is the motive of study in the Dominican Order? To live the true spirit of the Order, to search the sacred truths and for the intellectual contribution in Order's life and Local Church. As a Novice, we have explored our academic fields through study in the Novitiate year for our future Dominican life.

Here, we are taught many useful, beneficial and valuable subjects namely: LCO# (Laws of the Order), Dominican Spirituality, Sacred Scripture, Church History, Dominican Saints, Dominican History, Salvation History, Catechism of the Catholic Church, Art activities and Music. These wonderful subjects were taught by our Novice Master and our Community members of the Holy Rosary Priory. All the friars have groomed and nourished our personality in a charming and better manner. Studies have helped us to sharpen our minds and to know God more deeply. Paying heed to our studies, we feel the newness in every perspective of our vocations, in loving one another and embracing the example of St. Dominic. By studying these exquisite subjects and wisdom of Dominican Saints, Theologians, Philosophers and writers now we are fully and truly acquainted to understand the Word of God and sacred truths.

Last but not the least, the vigorous seed of our Dominican vocations has fully nourished during the time of novitiate through the study of sacred scripts and all the subjects which are included in the time of novitiate.
Prayer is the most important treasure of Dominican life. Prayer fructifies our lives as it is a road that leads us towards God. Prayer grant us chance and time to build a deep relationship with our Creator. In Prayer when we bow our heads and close our eyes, we commend our total selves in the hands of God. As religious we have to be a prayerful person and it is the demand of religious life. Prayer is defined in different kinds such as metal prayer, meditations, reflection confession, praise, devotion, and thanksgiving. While praying we ask mercy, pardon and love of God for our lives. LCO#66 teaches about the importance of prayer that, “Since the contemplation of divine things and intimate conversation and friendship with God is to be sought not only in liturgical celebration and in reading scripture but also in diligent private prayer” Prayer is an opportunity to spend time with God. Prayer helps us to approach God and prepares our hearts to follow His will in our lives, that's why we need to pray. In John 15:15 Jesus no longer calls us his servant but calls us his friend. Talking with God develops a deeper relationship with God. God talk with us and we talk to God, and this conversation builds our mutual relationship with God. As a Dominican, we should follow the footprints of our Holy Father St. Dominic, who always spoke to God and about God. In his prayers, he has been speaking to God, and in his preaching about God. Prayer is one of the most important pillars of the Dominican Order. Besides this, prayer is an act of communication with God. It is very essential in the life of a novice to make spiritual affinity with our Heavenly Father for the discernment of his vocation. Prayer is also an invocation to God. It is the practice to feel the presence of God. Through prayer, we overcome our worries, obstacles, perils, tribulation and hardships. God always helps his chosen ones through the prayers in all sort of requests and issues.
St. Paul tells us in his letter to Philippians 4:6 about the significance of Prayer: “Do not worry about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

Seeing all aspects of prayer, I experienced the love and presence of God through the various ways of prayer, because it is the exercise of faith and hope every day.

Eleven months ago, I knocked at the door of novitiate and I was accepted in novitiate house for the discernment of my Dominican Vocation.

This year, I especially focused on prayer according to the Dominican way of life. The specific goal of the novitiate is to reflect and make oneself spiritual by regular Prayer, Holy Mass, the liturgy of the hours, meditation and contemplation. Every day, I attend the Holy Mass, recite the Divine Office, had Meditation, and spent time in Private prayer willingly. These experiences of prayer life in novitiate house helped me to say yes to my call as a Dominican. God is sovereign and loving and sympathizes with us in our worries. Whenever I am worried, I come to the Lord and put my legitimate request for healing. In Prayer, through conversation with God, I put my needs in front of God and always ask Him “Thy will be done”.

Prayer always helps me and guides me in my day to day life, I inwardly feel that I am flourishing and expanding more in Dominican Spirituality and religious life. Besides this, I also gain the chance to enjoy many spiritual exercises, such as retreat, recollection days, faith sharing, mediations, mental and private prayers. Through these spiritual exercises I feel that for a religious these are very important to live a meaningful life.
Pastoral Experience in the Time of Novitiate

Novice Haroon Mario & Novice Zeeshan Francis

Life is full of learning, most of the time we learn from our daily life experiences. These experiences are mostly based on our surrounding environment from where we learn new things. But all these experiences are the result of our keen observations of daily routines. It is very important to note that life also provides us many chances to experience new people or places that are indeed different from ordinary. Going through new and strikingly important things made us new and fill us with pleasure that leads us towards perfect joy, a joy to be with people during pastoral exposures. During the time of Novitiate, it was indeed a very joyful and stunning experience for us. Living for four years at Louis Hall Dominican House of Formation, Multan was a great time and place to form ourselves. Our formators formed us through different experiences and challenges. The novitiate year gave a chance to be engaged in some pastoral activities and to be aware of the life of a Preacher.

This year is very different from other years of life and taught us many new things. It helped a lot to improve our social skills to deal with people. We live in a community of six friars where all of them are involved in ministering the Word of God through pastoral activities. Sometimes we, on special occasions go with them in the main parish and to the sub-stations of Parish. In this pastoral exposure, the friars also give us a chance to be involved in heralding the Good News by giving the introduction to the Holy Mass. We have learned that reading the Word of God, giving introduction, preaching from pulpit is not the only to preach but real preaching is to live the gospel. During this pastoral exposure, we found all the friars involved wholeheartedly through their services by counseling and helping the youth, widows, orphans, and poor people finically, spiritually, and socially. All the friars live their lives to full in the Parish and taught us how to work with people and to encounter them. Friars encouraged us to be confident, mature, and well prepared in front of the people. Through this pastoral exposure, we shared our vocation story on different gatherings to promote Dominican life and to invite them to join religious life to fulfill the needs of the local Church. Further, we developed our confidence by leading the Rosary and prayers. These pastoral experiences taught us to be collaborative with people. We learned from this experience the art of organizing the programs.

During the year of novitiate, we attended different events in different areas of the parish, and here we will share about the Christmas celebration. On the 20th of December 2019, before Christmas, we got a chance to visit the remote village of the parish for the Christmas celebration. It was a great experience to be with the people for Christmas celebration. We experienced the living and strong faith of the people who made Jesus alive through this celebration. We were influenced by the faith of the simple people who gave the true message of incarnated Christ through celebrating Christmas. People from all the surrounding villages were gathered at one place for celebration and it was a great message of unity and to be one in Christ. Children performed different Tableaus and activities regarding Christmas. The youth of the area presented Christmas hymns. In the end, all shared the joys of Christmas by sharing the meal.
One Day Seminar on Business Management/Development Training

St. Dominic's Parish Bahawalpur is blessed with 10 young entrepreneurs. The 10 young energetic, skilled and interested youth were selected to initiate their own small businesses to have self-employment.

On 6th June 2020, St. Dominic's parish Bahawalpur organized one day seminar and training program on business management/development for youth. At the beginning of the seminar Fr. Haroon Ilyas said the opening prayer. Mr. Ghafar Akhtar was the resource person of this seminar. He said it is important to know all these skills which help us to promote and extend our business. He advised them that they should work hard and don't lose heart. The main purpose of the seminar and training program was to guide and support the young people to grow in their social life by starting their own small businesses, so that they may live happily and fulfill their own basic needs. After the talk, the 10 young entrepreneurs were given one day business management/development training and business grants to start the businesses.

At the end Fr. Iftikhar Moon OP thanked Mr. Ghafar for his valuable thoughts, advices, and instructions. He also thanked Fr. Haroon Ilyas OP and Bro. Irfan Christ OP for all the arrangements. He also said, “I hope and pray that one day these 10 young men and women become the most successful and famous business men and women of Pakistan”.

Rashan (Food) Distribution Campaign, for the Families of Daily Wages and Laborers

“Your support can bring a huge difference in the lives of these needy brick kiln families. Your small donation can feed one time meal of a family. Please show your concern during these times of crises. Please do not forget to help those who are hardly hit by the Covid-19 pandemic” said Fr. Iftikhar OP (parish priest of St. Dominic Parish Bahawalpur). On 16th June 2020 St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Bahawalpur initiated a Rashan Distribution campaign, for the families of Daily wagers and laborers, especially brick kilns, who are very much affected by Covid-19 and are economically disturbed due to joblessness at Yazman Mandi, Bahawalpur.

Catechist Yousaf Prabu welcomed all the friars of St. Dominic's Priory namely; Fr. Maris Javed OP (Prior), Fr. Iftikhar Moon OP (Parish Priest), Fr. Yasir Paul OP, Deacon Bashir Francis OP, Bro. Arish Hyacinth OP and Bro. Irfan Christ OP. Deacon Bashir Francis OP said the opening prayer. There were fifty families who received the rashan. So far, the parish has been able to support 200 families of Bahawalpur. After Rashan distribution, Fr. Maris OP and Fr. Iftikhar OP shared their heartfelt sentiments that they are happy and assure, their prayers and support to all who were present there. At the end catechist Yousaf thanked all the friars for their genoristy.
One Day Youth Seminar
held at Sacred Heart Parish Sahiwal on 19th June 2020

The purpose to conduct youth seminar was to give awareness to our Christian youth on Career Guidance. This program was organized by Rev. Fr. Khalid Mukhtar (Diocesan Youth Director) and Rev. Fr. Azhar Lal OP (Assistant Director). Program was started with the prayer said by Rev. Fr. Francis Lazrus (Parish Priest Khushpur Parish). This program was graced by Rev. Fr. Shafiq, Rev. Fr. Thomas Bhatti OP, Rev. Fr. Nadeem Joseph OP, Rev. Fr. Rocuss Patras OP and Rev. Fr. Zahid Augustine OP (Parish Priest). Miss Aqsa Kanwal, Fr. Khalid Mukhtar and Fr. Azhar Lal OP were the facilitators of the seminar. In the supervision of Srs. Zunera Anwar OP and Saima OP a warm cultural welcome was given to respected guests. About 90 male and female youth from different parts of Sahiwal Region and Sacred Heart Parish were present who fully participated in the program.

In his introduction, Rev. Fr. Azhar Lal OP talked about the Encyclical of Pope Francis, “Laudato Si”, He said looking at creation we should praise the Lord. We have to learn from creation that how we can be helpful and useful to others. Let's care about our common home and make it more beautiful.

Miss Aqsa Kanwal in a motivational and inspirational way highlighted the importance of youth in the World. She said that our Christian youth can make a difference through the use of modern means of communication and education. She also talked about the CSS Exam (Central Superior Services Exams). She gave a workshop to the youth to know their capabilities and interests in future life. She encouraged the youth to continue their hard work and struggles. Rev. Fr. Khalid Mukhtar shared a good news with the youth that soon we are going to start CSS classes for our intelligent students. He thanked Fr. Zahid Augustine OP and Parish Team for organizing such a wonderful program.

At the end of the seminar, Rev. Fr. Zahid Augustine OP (Parish Priest) expressed his words of gratitude to all the honorable guests and youth for their keen interest and availability. He said that our youth is full of energy and talents, only we need to give them appropriate guidance and opportunities. At the end of the seminar, Youth Prayer was read and delicious meal was served to the participants.
St. John Paul II says, "In the Sacred Heart, every treasure of wisdom and knowledge is hidden.

Every year the month of June is awaited eagerly by the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish Sahiwal. At the beginning of June the preparation was started to celebrate the great feast of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sahiwal Parish is dedicated after the name of Sacred Heart of Jesus. As the Church has dedicated the month of June for the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Parish of Sahiwal has the privilege to pray and to have the Novena with different intentions. All the qualities of the Sacred Heart of Jesus have been poured in the lives of the people who are living in the parish. The presence of Dominican Friars and Dominican sisters are the living example among the Parishioners. Before the celebration of the feast, all the groups were called and the duties were divided among the groups. On the 19th of June 2020, we celebrated the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Sahiwal. Rev. Fr. Zahid Augustine OP (Parish Priest) has invited Very Rev. Fr. Abid Tanveer (Vicar General) to be the chief guest. There was a huge crowd gather together. The Church was decorated beautifully and everyone was in happy mood and in peaceful environment. The program started at 5:00 pm with the Eucharistic celebration. Rev. Fr. Abid Tanveer, Rev. Fr. Zahid Augustine OP and Rev. Fr. Nadeem Joseph OP were present. The main celebrant was Very Rev. Fr. Abid Tanveer. Rev. Fr. Nadeem Joseph OP in his introduction to the mass said that as Jesus is humble of heart, let us take his example and make ourselves also humble and holy.

In his homily Fr. Abid briefly explained twelve promises of the sacred heart of Jesus, these were great guidelines to spend a healthy life with Jesus and the faithful were moved by his inspirational thought. Sr. Ursala OP (Principal Sacred Heart Girls High School Sahiwal) prepared the students to offer the petitions and presented their offerings on this great occasion. Sr. Zunera OP and Sr. Saima OP decorated alter with the group of little friends of Jesus. The choir sang beautiful hymns in the guidance of Sr. Costanza OP. At the end of the Holy Mass, the garlands were offered to Very Rev. Fr. Abid Tanveer as a token of love. St. Catherine's group members distributed sweets among the people. Rev. Fr. Zahid Augustine OP with immense joy expressed the words of gratitude to the honorable guest Very Rev. Fr. Abid Tanveer (Vicar General) who gave his precious time and celebrated this feast with us. He also thanked the friars and the sisters for their cooperation who always stand with him in every activity of the parish. He also appreciated the great efforts of the Catechists. He concluded while saying that the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is a source of all holiness, joys, and blessings. All the participants joined together in the cake cutting ceremony which was prepared by the Dominican Sisters.
On 20th June 2020, Christian village Chak # 190/9-L, Sahiwal, food relief package was distributed among the poor, needy and widows. In the beginning of the program special prayer service was conducted to finish Corona Virus epidemic from the world so human being may have stable life again. Urdu hymn were sung, Holy Bible reading was done and special petition were put before the Lord.

This village was established in 1914 by ARP Missionary Mr. Garry according to village inhabitants. Initially this was a Christian village having fertile land for cultivation. At present people are daily wager, laborer at different places, and works with different Muslim landlords. People of this village are migrated to different big cities, such as Karachi, Islamabad, and Lahore due to the unemployment. This package for fifty destitute families was a very little share to relief their pains and worries for few days. Almost 85% population in this area is effected due to this epidemic. I am highly thankful to my brother Mr. Waseem Perviaz Gill, who arranged funds to help these families. This was his second time help regarding covid-19.

Food Relief Package was just a drop of water in the ocean. This program was conducted in three phases.

1. Firstly of all, Awareness program regarding Covid-19 was conducted and necessary informations were given to the group,

2. Secondly, Face masks were given to group and hand sanitizer method was practically done.

3. Thirdly, food package was dispensed among the poor families

Most grievous families were happy and thankful to receive this package. May the Loving God take care of the poor, needy, orphans, widows and destitute. May God be their help and shield. Amen.
Rev. Fr. Thomas Bhatti OP is a senior Dominican friar who celebrates his 40th Priestly Ordination Anniversary this year 2020. He was born on 12th March 1952 in a small village Chak. No 13/4-L Okara. By recognizing his religious call he went to the Formation House Multan in 1970. There he started his graduation studies in Walayat Husain Islamia Degree Collage Multan.

On the 3rd of September he began his Novitiate under the guidance of his Novice master Fr. Romegeio Botti OP. Finally on the 4th of September 1974 he recived Dominican habit and made his first profession in the Order of Preachers. In 1974 he went to Karachi to start his Philosophical and Theological Studies in Christ the King Seminary Karachi. Fr. Chrys McVey was his student master on that time.

In 9th of April 1980 he was ordained as priest in Holy Rosary Parish Warispura Faisalabad. During the time of his ordination he choose this Biblical Verse that “The spirit of the Lord had been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favor” (Luke 4:18).

In the four decade he served the people of God in the various ways. He had been assigned a house, lector, superior, assistant formator, and syndic at Dominican House of Studies, Karachi. He was assigned as a parish priest in Bahawalpur, and assistance parish priest in Rawalpindi, Sahiwal, and Faisalabad. I was chosen as a definiter of the Vice-Province Council. I was given responsibility as a promoter of the Dominican family, communication for social change, and Justice and Peace. I was working with the Laity group in Karachi. I was given a chance to teach about ecology and morals during the Summer Studies Programs of the student brothers.
By the grace of God he was able to built three churches in these were; Bachanana, Jarawala, Bandala, and Mallumawan. When he was in Bahawalpur with the help of the benefactors he built St. Mary’s High School in Islamic colony Bahawalpur for girls and boys. In Chak No 48 Sahiwal, He had purchased a very precious piece of land for building a high school. This was the masterpiece of my work. This was 2 Canal (40 Marle).

As today I am writing about my 40 years it reminds and leads me to the Israelites. If we observe the life of Israelites they had spent 40 years in the wilderness. On their journey they had received many blessings Mana, Water, and Clouds; but still, they were murmuring. In 1980 I started my journey and I reflected on my 40 years than I thanked God where I had a very loving attitude that is why I had been offering thanksgiving Masses. They had received Mana, but I received the very precious gift the bread of life (The Holy Eucharist) I see there are uncountable blessings and I simply say THANKS TO MY GOD. This 40 years period has passed so quickly. I am happy with this priestly life and I love my people with whom I encountering my life. The key element of this life is; daily prayer, community exercises, etc.

On this joyful day, I rejoice in the Lord. I would like to thank all my relatives, friends, and benefactors, above all I, thank God, Mother Mary, St. Dominic, our missionaries, and our Vice-Province for the gift of Dominican life. I also thank Prior Vice Provinical very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad and his council who are always with me, supported me in my health issues. Besides this I thank my community where I am residing now in Karachi, Fr. Akhtar Naveed, Fr. Zeeshan, Bro. Emmanuel, Bro. Pervez, Bro. Afsh, Bro. Adil, Bro. Arish, Bro. Irfan and Bro. Nabeel. Also, I would like to thank my helpers in the houses who gave me so much joy wherever they came in my life.

In the end, I will love to say from the depth of my heart that the Dominican community life is a great blessing and this is a real experience of heaven on earth.
40 Years of Priesthood of Fr James Channan OP

Fr James Channan OP is a Pakistani Christian and a Dominican friar. He was born on 15th of October, 1952 and ordained priest on 9th of April, 1980. His father's name is Channan and mother's name Khursheed. He completed his priestly studies at Christ the King Seminary in Karachi, Pakistan. After serving in Sacred Heart Parish Sahiwal for 2 years he went to Rome, Italy for 3 years for higher studies in Islam at Pontifical Institute for Islam Studies and Arabic Language (PISAI) and obtained Licentiate Degree in Islamic Studies and Arabic Language in 1985. After returning from Rome in 1985 he was appointed as Executive Secretary of the National Commission for Christian Muslim Relations (Rabita Commission) which was established by the Catholic Bishops Conference of Pakistan. He served in this capacity for 17 years. In 1985 he was appointed by Pope John Paul II as Consultor to the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and served for 2 terms of 5 years each. Later on he was also appointed by Pope John Paul II for the period of 5 years as Consultor for the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with Muslims. From 1989 to 1992, he served as Regional Secretary of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences, Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (FABC-OEIA). In 1991, he was elected as the first Pakistani Vice-Provincial of Ibn-e-Mariam, Vice-province Pakistan for a period of 4 years. He was elected for the 2nd time for the same post from 1999-2003, and elected 3rd time in 2007 to serve in this capacity till 2011.

In 1995 Fr. James Channan studied at Emmanuel College, Boston, Massachusetts, and obtained degree of “Master of Arts and Pastoral Counseling’. He got degree of “Graduate Course in World Religions” from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA in 1996. He also successfully completed “Religion and Culture in Conflict Resolutions Training” form American University, Washington, DC, USA in 2004. Fr. James Channan has a very rich and long experience of traveling around the world for the purpose of participating in various meetings, conferences to attend and present reports mainly on the theme of interreligious and Christian Muslim dialogue as well as peace building. He has delivered lectures and presented reports in Italy, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Spain, Malta, Jordan, Turkey, Nepal, India, Thailand, Singapore, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Philippines, Australia, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Bangladesh, USA, Estonia, Luxembourg, Belgium, Egypt, Brazil, Columbia and Mexico etc.

He was invited to give lectures at Helsinki University, Finland, Turku University, Finland, Dongguk University, South Korea, Norte Dame University, South Bend, USA, Yale University, USA, San Francisco Sate University, USA, Santo Tomas University, Philippines, Amsterdam University in the Netherlands, Munster University in Germany. He continues giving lectures at different forums and universities around the world. Several of his interviews have been published both in the national and international electronic and print media in several languages such as; Italian, German, French, Finnish, Swedish, Croatian, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Korean Spanish and English etc.
Several TV channels and Radio stations have also taken his interviews and put on air, e.g. from Pakistan, USA, Spain, Finland, Italy, Germany and Japan etc. Twice he was invited by President of America, Barak Hussain Obama to participate in the international conferences at White House, USA in 2015 and 2016. He had the honor of visiting White House. He has participated in several High Level Political Forum meetings at the United Nations in New York. On 16th of May, 2019, he received “Exemplary Service in Interfaith Harmony and Peace” Award from the Government of Pakistan. On 15th of October, President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif-ur-Rehman Alive presented him “National Peace Award” in Marriot Hotel, Islamabad. On 11th of December, Governor of the Punjab, Chaurdhary Muhammad Sarwar, present him “Ambassador of Interfaith Harmony” Award in Governor's House in Lahore in the presence of international delegates from 16 countries.

He has written several articles on Christian Muslim dialogue and the situation of the Christian minority in Pakistan, which have been published both in the national and international press. As a Christian from Pakistan, he is a member of a minority community. He is proud to be a Pakistani Christians. He has raised voice against the injustices and discrimination done against Christians at international forums. He is the author of 3 books, one in English “Christian Muslim Dialogue in Pakistan” and 2 in Urdu: Pakistan Main Masihi Muslim Mukalma” and Muhabat Ka Rasta. You are reading his fourth book is “Path of Love: A Call for Interfaith Harmony”

At present Fr Channan is serving as Director of Peace Center in Lahore, Pakistan which is established by the Dominican Ibn-e-Mariam, Vice-Province, Pakistan. This center is built to promote Christian Muslim and interreligious dialogue through conference, seminars, workshop and by publication of books. Fr Channan organizes programs in this center. Since 2005 he is serving as Regional Coordination for Pakistan of the United Religions Initiative (URI). He has established 45 URI Cooperation Circles (CCs) groups in the country for the promotion of interreligious dialogue. URI is an international organization which is working in 84 countries to promote dialogue, peace and harmony, reconciliation and justice among believers of different religions.

In recognition of his remarkable and outstanding services in the field of Christian Muslim dialogue, peace and harmony Fr Channan is the recipient of about 50 national and international Peace Award and Gold Medals, including Golden Rule Peace Award from Finland and Peace Award from the Government of Pakistan. Fr Channan has devoted his life to promote peace and harmony among people of different religions and especially between Christians and Muslims so that peace and harmony may prevail on earth. He is not afraid of challenges and difficulties in this regard. He is optimistic that one day we will over all division, violence and our world will become a very peaceful and harmonious world.
The Vice Provincial of Ibn-e-Mariam Vice-Province, Pakistan, Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP along with Rev. Fr. James Channan OP, (Director of Peace Center), came from Lahore to St. Dominic's Priory, Bahawalpur on July 7. The friars of St. Dominic's Priory namely; Fr. Maris Javed OP (Prior), Fr. Iftikhar Moon OP (Parish Priest), Fr. Rehmat Raja OP (Assistant Parish Priest), Fr. Yasir Paul OP (Principal), Deacon Bashir Francis OP (Incharge of Boys Hostel & Tribal Ministry) and Bro. Irfan Christ OP welcomed the guests with an open arms. There was arranged a food kits distribution program among tribal people at Yazman Mandi. In the evening of 7th July 2020, we all reached Yazman Mandi.

Bro. Irfan Christ OP introduced the respective guests (Very Rev. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP & Fr. James Channan OP) to the Hindu Tribes. After that Vice-Provincial, Fr. Younas Shahzad OP offered a prayer for all of them. While talking to them, Fr. James Channan OP said that we are happy that during the critical situation of Covid-19 you all are present here. Moreover, he said that we all are with you and always ready to help you in your difficult and life-threatening time. After that food kits were distributed among them by the hands of Fr. Younas Shahzad OP, Fr. James Channan OP, and all the friars of St. Dominic's Priory, Bahawalpur.

In the end, Bro. Irfan Christ OP thanked all the friars, especially our worthy and distinguished guests.