



Explanation of this piece on the 800 Dominican Anniversary

by Barbara Schwarz OP

The Order is celebrating from 2006 to 2116 the 800th Anniversary of the Order.

Across the top is the 800, star over Dominic: the fireball over Fanjeaux that showed Saint Dominic where to have the monastery at Prouihle. St. Catherine representing the Laity of the Order; The Dominican Cross.

Across the Middle we have the tower of the Guzman's at Calaruega where Dominic was born; Saint Dominic with the Gospel; Fanjeaux on the hill overlooking Prouihle; the dog with the torch to set the world on fire from the dream of his mother (Jane de Aza) before his birth; Dominican Youth Preachers and laity, from the Dominican volunteers in Homecoming and Opening Word to Rockaway build and the ministries of our Laity and Youth preachers.

Across the third row is 1206 the year the women were founded at Prouihle. They have been Cathar women converted to Catholicism. They would be renounced by their families and community so Dominic helped to found the monastery which would be a locus of laity, nuns, friars and a future of the Dominican family. 1216 is when the Order received its papers from Rome and in Toulouse Dominic officially received the friars. The last panel shows sisters, associates in prayer as we live out of our contemplation.

Across the bottom is the English translation of *Laudare, Benedicere, Praedicare*, a motto of the Order: To Praise to Bless and to Preach. All are an expression of *veritas* the Gospel truth we are called to share.