## DOMINICANA

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## SANCTIFY THEM IN TRUTH

RUTH is emblematic of the Order of Preachers; devotion to Truth, the indispensable virtue of Dominican life. Through seven centuries sons of St. Dominic have gone forth from cloistered cells, armed with the sword of Truth, to combat

falsity and error. God Himself revealed to St. Catherine the mission of Dominic: "His office was the same as that of the Word, My Only Begotten Son." Dominic fulfilled that office by continuing the Redemptive Act of Calvary in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, by dispelling darkness and pouring forth light in preaching the Truth. Celebrating the Truth of Christ's Sacrifice at the altar, preaching the Truth of His Word in the pulpit, Friar Priests, after the heart of St. Dominic, follow in the footsteps of their Founder, the *Doctor Veritatis*. To share in the priesthood of Jesus Christ through the character of Holy Orders; to hold membership in the religious family of St. Dominic through solemn profession—how sublime is the priestly vocation in the Dominican Order!

Each year young Dominicans from three provinces in the United States receive the crown of this noble calling in their ordination to the priesthood. In future years some will journey to foreign lands, bringing the light and love of Christ's teaching to pagan peoples; some will mould the minds of youth by teaching theology, philosophy, the arts and the sciences; others will be engaged in home mission work, preaching novenas, retreats, and missions; still others will devote their labors to writing, organizational work, and the various special activities of the Order. All will be priests of Jesus Christ, bearing to God the prayers and supplications of sinful men, returning from God to man with His graces and blessings. All will be Dominican priests, inflamed with a love of Truth, the everlasting, unchangeable Truth of Jesus Christ.

To the newly ordained Friar Priests, *Dominicana* extends sincere congratulations. With them, their parents, and relatives, we share the joy of their ordination. For them we humbly pray, "Keep them in Thy Name. . . . Keep them from evil. . . . Sanctify them in Truth."