

PASSING THE TORCH: DOMINICAN PREACHING ACROSS GENERATIONS
Dominican Preaching Network North American Colloquium
Weber Retreat and Conference Center, Adrian, Michigan
16–19 October 2019

“Evangelization in the Mission of Jesus and in Our Mission as Church”
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17 October 2019

Introduction: Theology as analogy, metaphor, approximation, attempting to ‘comprehend’ God

1. The Eternal Mission of the Trinity
 - God is Ultimate Mystery
 - *Bonum diffusivum sui*
 - God’s breathing: in and out
 - All of creation is embraced by God’s mission
2. Mission brought down to earth
 - Jesus, the incarnation of the eternal mission. He gave his life; it cost his life
 - Evangelization as the way Jesus embodies the mission
 - Core elements or pillars of Jesus’ mission
 - Proclamation, Witness, Dialogue, Liberation
 - Encounter, Table-Fellowship, Foot-Washing, Boundary-Crossing
3. Mission in Our Time: Discipleship (our participation in God’s mission)
 - Participating in the Evangelizing Mission: giving our lives
 - “The imitation of Christ”: following The Way of Jesus
 - Ministry of ‘restoration’ and ‘liberation’. Theosis: ‘divinization’ of humanity
 - Ministry at the margins
 - Ministry in diversity: “The Dignity of Difference”
 - To the Ends of the Earth: global ministry
4. God is the subject of Mission
 - God’s Mission has a Church
 - God’s Mission has the Dominicans
 - God’s Mission has each of you.
 - Instruments, not executives
 - Witnesses to the Realm of God
 - Preachers of the Kingdom
 - Encounter, Table-Fellowship, Foot-Washing, Boundary-Crossing

Conclusion

- A polarized world of “us” and “them”. We need to live and preach Ephesians 2, especially 13-14.
- Rabbinic story: “When do you know it is dawn?”

This talk can be found as Chapters 1, “Mission: Discerning God’s Grand Design,” and Chapter 2, “Evangelization: The Form and Content of Jesus’ Mission,” in Anthony J. Gittins, *The Way of Discipleship* (Liturgical Press, 2016).