

**About *Journées Dominicaines Romaines***  
**27 August – 1 September 2009**

The Journées Dominicaines Romaines, held every four years, is a gathering of Dominican women and men living in Muslim countries or working with the Muslim community elsewhere. The last meeting in 2005 considered issues arising from the experience of dialogue such as “What does it mean to take the fact of religious pluralism seriously? What are some of the theological implications for Christians?” These were further explored in the meeting in Rome which had the theme “Universal Salvation: Challenged by Religious Identity.” Forty-five Dominican men and women attended.

Professor Peter Phan, a Vietnamese American priest, the Ignacio Ellacuria Chair of Catholic Social Thought at Georgetown University and a former President of the Catholic Theological Society of America, was the keynote speaker. The plenary sessions focused on a study of the Christian and Muslim traditions for a historical approach to the most important Christian documents and Muslim statements on Salvation, in a context of religious pluralism. Salvation was examined in its two dimensions: the first one in the here and now and the second in eternity. Workshops took up such themes as The Role of Religions in Solving Conflicts, Promoting Education as a Way of Salvation, Islam Online and Fatwas on Violence, Economics and Religion, and Women and Salvation.

The meeting was conducted in French and English. The participants were drawn from many countries – Algeria, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, USA as well as Australia. About one third were women.



The Conference, held at the Missionari del Preziosissimo Sangue in Rome, contained some thought-provoking lectures.

Panel (L – R):  
fr Darren Dias (Canada),  
fr Emilio Platti (Belgium)  
and Prof Peter Phan (USA)



fr Olivier Poquillon  
(Switzerland) and  
fr Jean-Jacques Perennes  
(Egypt) take a break.

The two working  
languages were French  
and English







Workshop led by fr Claudio Monge (Turkey) and Muslim scholar Adnane Mokrani (Italy)

Working party (L-R): frs Jean-Jacques Perennes (Egypt), Claudio Monge (Turkey), Scott Steinkercher (USA) and Emmanuel Pisani (France)



Discussion group (L-R): sr Marie-Emmanuel Raffanel (France), fr Prakash Lohale (Italy), fr Paschal Paulus (Pakistan) and Prof Peter Phan

Friendships were created over meals (L-R): frs Jean-Paul Vesco (Algeria), Yvon Pomerleau (Canada) and Adrien de Fouchier (Egypt)



Srs Nazik Matti (Iraq), Trish Madigan (Australia), Francisca Igweilo (Nigeria) and Hildegardis Mardiana (Indonesia)

Evening on Santa Sabina terrace – frs Jean-Jacques Perennes (Egypt), Grzegorz Dabkowicz (Poland) and sr Josephine Michael (Pakistan)







Discussion continued over meals (L-R): Thierry-Marie Coureau (France), Francisca Igweilo (Nigeria), Melanie Meihl-Lemmen (Germany), Jean-Jacques Perennes (Egypt) Peter Phan (USA), Andreas Kurniawan (Indonesia)

Front (L-R): frs Grzegorz Dabkowicz (Poland) and Xabier Gomez (Spain)  
Back (L-R): srs Trish Madigan (Australia) and Anna Morrone (Italy)



After the Conference we experienced the hospitality of the Iraqi Dominican sisters in Rome (L-R): srs Marianne Goffoël (Belgium), Sherine Panoor (Iraq), Susan van Baalen (USA), Mary-Ann Pevas (USA), Marie-Therese Hanna (Iraq), Trish Madigan (Australia)