



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI58  
A.Y. 2022-2023

**TO :** THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY

**FROM :** OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**RE :** PLENARY INDULGENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE DOUBLE JUBILEE IN THE LIFE OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS (2023-2025)

**DATE :** 27 January 2023

The University, through the Office of the Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs, announces the celebration of the **Double Jubilee in the Life of Saint Thomas Aquinas**, which marks the 7<sup>th</sup> centenary of his canonization, and his 750<sup>th</sup> death anniversary. The **Apostolic Penitentiary** benevolently concedes the **Plenary Indulgence** from **28 January 2023 until 28 January 2025**, under the usual conditions (Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, and Prayer for the intention of the Pope) to the Christian faithful, who are truly penitent and compelled by charity.<sup>1</sup>

In his letter to the Dominican Family, Very Rev. Fr. Gerard Francisco P. Timoner III, OP, Master of the Order of Preachers and Chancellor of the University, wrote: "In order to enkindle further our spirit of gratitude to the Lord, the Giver of all graces, we petitioned the Holy See for the granting of *plenary indulgence* on the properly disposed faithful who will participate in the *Eucharistic celebrations* organized by the Dominican Family in our *churches and schools* on the important occasions of the jubilee of the canonization and death of St. Thomas Aquinas, and on the faithful who will make pilgrimages to Churches, shrines and oratories under his patronage."<sup>2</sup>

The faithful who will participate in *pilgrimages*, special *jubilee rites*, or, at least, devote a considerable time in *pious reflection* in Dominican Churches, concluding with the *Our Father*, the *Creed*, and an *invocation to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Thomas Aquinas*, under the usual conditions, will obtain the *plenary indulgence* (*ibid.*). The *plenary indulgence* may also be applied, by way of suffrages, to the *poor souls* in purgatory.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, it can be obtained by the elderly, the sick and those who cannot leave their home because of serious reason by participating *spiritually* in the jubilee celebrations, by offering their *prayers* and *sufferings* to the merciful GOD, in the presence of any image of St. Thomas Aquinas with the intention to fulfill the *usual conditions* as soon as possible.

With gratitude, let us praise the Lord for His great love is without end! (cf. *Ps* 135:1).

  
**FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, O.P.**  
*Secretary-General*

<sup>1</sup> cf. Paenitentiaria Apostolica, *Decretum*, Prot. N. 1353/22/I, dated 20 January 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Timoner, OP, *Letter to the Dominican Family on the Jubilees of St. Thomas Aquinas*, 25 January 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Norm no. 20, *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*, 1999.



*Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul*

Goa, India, 25 January 2023

*Prot n. 50/22/677 Jubilee St. Thomas Aquinas*


## Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Dominican Family,

We celebrate the 7<sup>th</sup> Centenary of the canonization of our esteemed brother St. Thomas Aquinas, *Doctor of the Church*, on 18 July 2023 and his 750<sup>th</sup> death anniversary on 7 March 2024. We gratefully remember that in 1974, St. Paul VI wrote the Apostolic Letter *Lumen Ecclesiae* to commemorate the 7<sup>th</sup> centenary of the death of the Angelic Doctor.

In order to enkindle further our spirit of gratitude to the Lord, the Giver of all graces, we petitioned the Holy See for the granting of **plenary indulgence** (see attached rescript) on the properly disposed faithful who will participate in the Eucharistic celebrations organized by the Dominican Family in our churches and schools on the important occasions of the jubilee of the canonization and death of St. Thomas Aquinas, and on the faithful who will make pilgrimages to Churches, shrines and oratories under his patronage. The double jubilee celebrations will be from 28 January 2023 to 28 January 2025. Please provide the necessary catechesis on the meaning of indulgence as well as the conditions prescribed by Holy Mother Church for its worthy reception.

As a Doctor of the Church, St. Thomas remains an excellent model and teacher for us today. As St. Paul VI noted, the Angelic Doctor conceived of "the relationship between the whole created order and the order of religious truths and especially of the Christian message" not in terms of opposition but a of certain *ordered harmony*: "Grace does not diminish nature but brings it to fulfilment, while nature is subordinate to grace, reason to faith and human love to divine charity"<sup>1</sup>. Moreover, in faithful fidelity to St. Dominic who either *spoke with God* (prayer) or *about God* (preaching), Thomas enunciated a way to hold in fruitful tension the contemplative (study and common prayer) and apostolic dimensions of our Dominican life: "For even as it is better to enlighten than merely to shine, so is it better to give to others the fruits of one's contemplation than merely to contemplate"<sup>2</sup>. Mindful of this important dimension of Dominican spirituality, our general chapters have reminded us to maintain always the harmony and synergy between our Dominican life and mission.

May our celebration of the double jubilee in the life of St. Thomas propel us to serve God and the Church with great dedication and profound humility - he told Reginald - "*mihi videtur ut palea*, all that I have written seems like straw to me"; and to seek no reward in this world except to be with God - *Domine, non nisi Te*, "Lord, nothing but you."

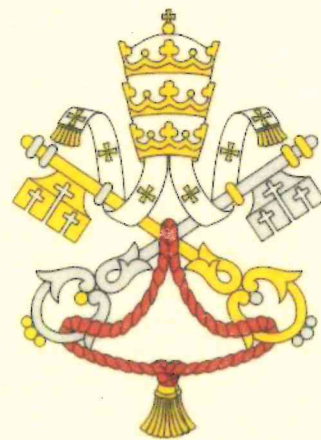
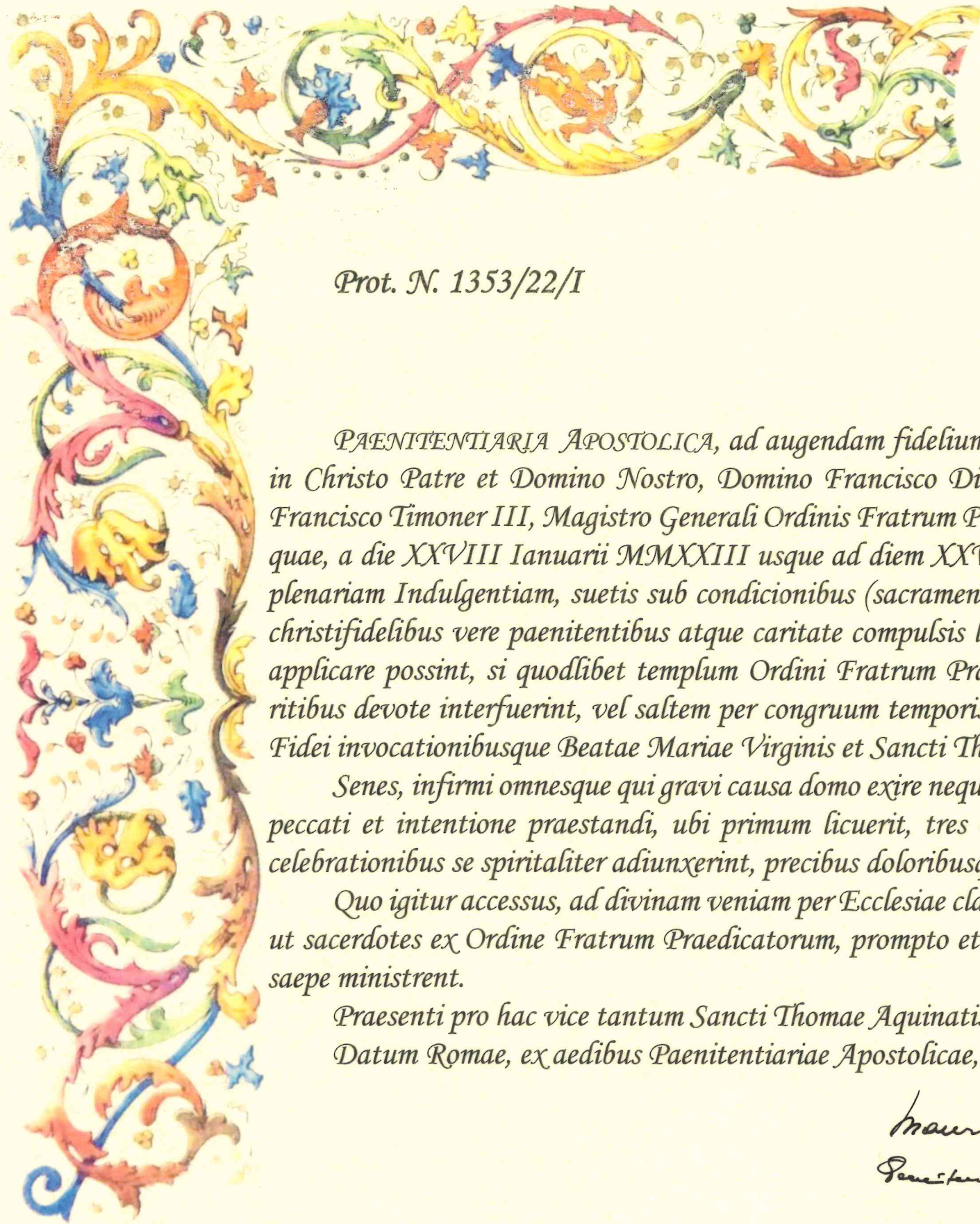
  
Fr. Gerard Francisco Timoner III, OP  
Master of the Order

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<sup>1</sup> *Summa Theologiae*, I, q. 1, a. 8, ad 2.

<sup>2</sup> *Summa Theologiae*, II-II, q 188, a. 6.





Prot. N. 1353/22/I

## DECRETUM

*PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA, ad augendam fidelium religionem animarumque salutem, vi facultatum sibi specialissimo modo a Sanctissimo in Christo Patre et Domino Nostro, Domino Francisco Divina Providentia Papa tributarum, attentis precibus nuper allatis a Rev.do Gerardo Francisco Timoner III, Magistro Generali Ordinis Fratrum Praedicatorum, occasione sollemni in honorem Sancti Thomae Aquinatis celebrationum quae, a die XXVIII Ianuarii MMXXIII usque ad diem XXVIII Ianuarii MMXXV peragentur, de caelestibus Ecclesiae thesauris benigne concedit plenariam Indulgentiam, suetis sub condicionibus (sacramentali Confessione, eucharistica Communionem et oratione ad mentem Summi Pontificis) a christifidelibus vere paenitentibus atque caritate compulsis lucranda, quam etiam animabus fidelium in Purgatorio detentis per modum suffragii applicare possint, si quodlibet templum Ordini Fratrum Praedicatorum ubicumque spectans, in forma peregrinationis inviserint et ibi iubilantibus ritibus devote interfuerint, vel saltem per congruum temporis spatium piis vacaverint considerationibus, concludendis Oratione Dominica, Symbolo Fidei invocationibusque Beatae Mariae Virginis et Sancti Thomae Aquinatis.*

*Senes, infirmi omnesque qui gravi causa domo exire nequeunt, pariter plenariam consequi poterunt Indulgentiam, concepta detestatione cuiusque peccati et intentione praestandi, ubi primum licuerit, tres consuetas condiciones, si coram aliqua Sancti Thomae Aquinatis imagine iubilantibus celebrationibus se spiritaliter adiunxerint, precibus doloribusque suis vel incommodis propriae vitae misericordiam Deo oblatis.*

*Quo igitur accessus, ad divinam veniam per Ecclesiae claves consequendam, facilius pro pastoralis caritate evadat, haec Paenitentia enixe rogat ut sacerdotes ex Ordine Fratrum Praedicatorum, prompto et generoso animo, celebrationi Paenitentiae sese praebeant ac S. Communionem infirmis saepe ministrent.*

*Praesenti pro hac vice tantum Sancti Thomae Aquinatis valituro. Non obstantibus in contrarium facientibus quibuscumque.*

*Datum Romae, ex aedibus Paenitentiarum Apostolicarum, die XX mensis Ianuarii, anno Domini MMXXIII.*

*Maurus Card. Diacenus  
Penitentiarius maior*

*Christophorus Nykied  
Referens*





## PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA

THE APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY—for the purpose of deepening the devotion of the faithful and the salvation of souls; by virtue of the faculties having been granted in a very special manner to itself by the most holy father, Pope Francis, in CHRIST and our LORD, by divine providence; having been recently attentive to the requests presented by Reverend Father Gerard Francisco Timoner III, Master General of the Order of Friars Preachers; on the occasion of the solemn celebrations in honor of St. Thomas Aquinas, which will be completed from the 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023 until the 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025—benevolently concedes from the heavenly treasures of the Church the **PLENARY INDULGENCE**, which is to be acquired under the usual conditions (Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, and Prayer for the intention of the Supreme Pontiff) to the Christian faithful, who are truly penitent and are compelled by charity; which may also be applied, by way of suffrages, to the poor souls of the faithful in purgatory; if visiting any Church of the Order of Friars Preachers wherever in the form of pilgrimage, and there, they devotedly participate in the jubilee rites or will at least devote a considerable space of time in pious reflection, which are to be concluded with the Lord's Prayer (The Our Father), the Profession of Faith (The Creed), and an invocation to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Thomas Aquinas.

The elderly, the sick and all those who, for serious reason, are unable to leave their home, can equally obtain the plenary indulgence, having been conceived the renunciation of sin, and the intention to fulfill the three usual conditions as soon as possible, if, in the presence of any image of St. Thomas Aquinas, they join themselves spiritually to the jubilee celebrations, offering their prayers and sufferings or the inconvenience of one's own life to the merciful **GOD**.

Until, therefore, the access to the attainment of divine forgiveness through the keys of the Church, can more easily obtain it, by means of pastoral charity, this Penitentiary earnestly requests that the priests from the Order of Friars Preachers present themselves, with generous and disposed mind, to the celebration of penance and administer often the Holy Communion to the sick.

The present Decree will be valid only for this period of St. Thomas Aquinas. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary by whatsoever.

Given in Rome, from the Offices of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on the twenty-second day of the month of January, in the year of our Lord 2023.

Mauro Cardinal Piacenza  
Major Penitentiary

Christopher Nykiel  
Regent