

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Saint Dominic* is represented by the abbreviation **SD**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week’s daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON-WED**, and **THUR** abbreviations. The written assignments may be done on Thursday or over the weekend, but are due on Monday. We suggest assigning the weekly written assignment at the beginning of the week. This will allow the student time to think about the assignment while he is reading.

◆◆◆ **SAINT DOMINIC** ◆◆◆

PREACHER OF THE ROSARY AND FOUNDER OF THE DOMINICAN ORDER

WEEK 1	
Historical Figures and Events to Research using www.wikipedia.org: Catharism (the Albigensian heresy), The Albigensian Crusade, Pope Innocent III, St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Honorius III.	
SD	Chapter 1 – Chapter 9. After reading each chapter, answer the Study Questions. Written Assignment: What are the methods used by Dominic and by the Church as a whole to fight the Albigensian heresy? Which are the most effective?
MON to WED	Read Chapter 1 – Chapter 9. Chapter 1. At the beginning of the story, Dominic de Guzman is twenty years old and a student in Palencia, Spain. There is a terrible famine, and Dominic sells all his possessions, including his books, to help the poor. This, along with Dominic’s success in his studies, impresses the Bishop of Osma, and he employs Dominic as his assistant when Dominic becomes a priest. When this bishop dies, the new one, named Diego, keeps Dominic in his service. Dominic accompanies the Bishop on a trip to Denmark as an ambassador for the King. On the way, they find that southern France has been devastated by a group of heretics. They are called Albigensians, and they believe that there is a good God and a bad God: the good one created the soul and the bad one created the body. These heretics persecute anyone who will not follow their teachings. The Bishop cannot stay to help the persecuted Catholics, although he wishes he could. Chapter 2. Once they return from Denmark, the Pope orders Bishop Diego and Dominic to go to France to aid in the work with the Albigensians, despite Diego’s desire for martyrdom by the Tartars. Arriving in France, Diego and Dominic find that the monks at Citeaux are extremely discouraged with their work among the heretics. Dominic’s suggestion about how to help the situation is that they find women to work with them. Chapter 3. Dominic hopes to find women to head up schools which will combat the heresy. He and Bishop Diego set up headquarters in Fanjeaux, under the authority of Bishop Foulques. After traveling about for some time with little success in converting people, Dominic realizes that he needs Our Lady’s help to fight the heresy. He comes up with the devotion of the Rosary as his most powerful weapon. One day, Mary tells him in a vision that he must use the church in Prouille as a tool in his mission. Chapter 4. Dominic is preaching to a group of nine women heretics, unable to convince them of the error of their ways. Suddenly, a frightening manifestation of the devil appears, and Dominic dispels it in the name of God. When Dominic tells the women that this creature is the result of their beliefs, they convert at once. They become the first inhabitants of the convent at Prouille, where they live a cloistered life, full of silence and sacrifice. Before long, other women join them. Suddenly, bad news reaches Fanjeaux: one of the monks working to convert the Albigensians has been murdered. Chapter 5. Count Raymond of Toulouse was the powerful heretic who had ordered the murder of the priest. Pope Innocent III gathers an army to oppose him, led by