



NAVIGARE

VOLUME 1.3

Fun Facts

1. Spain became part of the European Union on Jan.1, 1986.
2. Spain is known for being the location of many UNESCO World Heritage sites.
3. La Tomatina is a massive tomato fight in the city of Bunol in August.

Did You Know?

A *punte* in Spain is equivalent to a 3-day weekend.

2 Truth and a Lie

1. Robert has worked in a pharmacy.
2. Stephen overcooks his eggs.
3. I was born originally in New Jersey.

Wait until the end for your answer.



Group Picture!

El Pilar

As the October leaves change color, we started adjusting to new schedules and going to school every day. With the Disciples, study and education is a must and there's no better place to do it than the University of San Damaso. Each of the Navigare have their classes to keep themselves busy and we always have one of the Navigare or brothers in our classes in case we need extra help understanding or taking notes. From Logic to Greek Literature, we gain new knowledge and learn what it really means to study (don't worry, we haven't forgotten about Spanish either).

Our days are full of learning, planning, and working. Yet, we do have our times to rest and enjoy the days together. October 12 is the feast day of El Pilar, a day to commemorate the first Marian apparition to the Spainards in 40 A.D. (to St. James the Apostle). To celebrate, the House of Formation decided to go on a little hike (little is relative). With Mass on the mountain, complete with a community picnic, it was a day well-spent (we slept very well that night).





You can never escape the school photo.

Who Are We?

Now, it occurs to me that I've been writing about all these big events, traditions, and gatherings, but I don't think I've formally introduced this year's Navigare. Without further ado, your Navigare of 2021-2022.

1) Meet Stephen Danos or as we affectionately call him here in the House of Formation, *Padre Pio* (due to the striking resemblance). Stephen is definitely the glue that keeps the Navigare together. He has a tremendous sense of humor, a big smile, and an everlasting love for sleeping. Stephen always brings something new to the table, whether it be an insight, an idea, and a new connection.

2) The man with a good sense of fashion, coffee enthusiast, and an artist: Robert Perez! Robert speaks fluent Spanish and can easily follow conversations (a big help to Stephen and I). Robert, for this first trimester, is the House of Formation La Gavia chef—meaning he helps make sure all the Navigare and Disciples are well-fed and well awake (the coffee is important). He also adds his Mexican culture to the food with special dishes and desserts.

3) And I'm Dominik Scelza. Here, in the House of Formation, I'm a man of many names: Dominik, Superman or one of my personal favorites, The Man without Hunger. I am the reader of the Navigare, you can always find me turning the pages of Homer, C.S. Lewis, and also comic books.



Saintly dining.



The table is prepared.

St. John Paul II Symposium

The week of October 18th is very special to the Disciples because October 23rd marks the feast day of St. John Paul II. To emphasize how important this week and day is, the order has three days of prayer and preparation or a triduum (akin to Easter) before celebrating with a magnificent Symposium at the end of the week. St. John Paul II is an influential figure to the Disciples because he, alongside St. Ignatius of Loyola, is one of the most prominent inspirations of the order with a dedication to the youth and families.

Now, if you're scratching your head, trying to understand what a Symposium actually is, relax and let me break it down. According to fellow Br. Juan Peuch, symposium comes from Greek, meaning to drink together (in other words, a good excuse to grab some wine and beer of your choice). Jokes aside, a symposium is not merely for drinking, it's about preparing a dinner centered around a theme, great food, and generating great conversation (small talk ain't an option, so stop talking about the cold weather, we know). A symposium is done in the following order: small appetizers (bread, sandwiches, etc) usually coupled with beer and a official toast or *brindis*, strong and moldy cheese (I'm told the moldier a cheese is, the better-let's just hope our stomachs agree), and; a light first dish (soup, pasta, salad), water, and wine to accompany the food; the main course as the second dish-usually some kind of meat, and then dessert. It's meant for the guests of the symposium to return the gift of well-prepared meals with the gift of generating good conversation (no weather talk-I'm serious).



The Americans Take Over Segovia!

Following such a massive celebration, the Disciples had a day with their families. Seeing as we Navigare are a little stranded here in Spain, we decided to have our own little family day with the Americans. with a little visit to the old Spanish city of Segovia meant we could speak all we wanted in English without any weird glances from the Spaniards and a chance to reconnect with our American brotherhood. We celebrated Mass at the Segovia Cathedral, while we stood in awe (and thirst) of the old Roman Aqueduct. We then fortified ourselves among the Alcázar (literally translated fortress). Afterwards, we snagged a spot in Restaurante El Cordero. While we were there, we got to eat a culturally important Spanish dish: cochinillo asado (baby pig). The meat is so tender, you can't cut it with a mere knife, you can only cut it using a plate. It's possible to add hidden blades or add special material, so to prove that the plate is not fake, the waiter smashes the plate on the ground. Restaurante El Cordero is one of two restaurants in Spain that is allowed to display this practice and we happened to get a first glance. With all the special events and numerous celebrations, what united all of them was our common brotherhood and community. The brotherhood of the Disciples, the brotherhood of the Americans, and our brotherhood with the Lord.

Answer: Stephen actually **undercooks** his eggs because he hates them dry.