



Exams are to crown this month of Mary, and I fear it may be an especially heavy crown for some of us, very much including myself, whom I am pleased to present to you: the new and last writer of these Newsletters of Navigare, Stephen Suddjian. After the humorous entries of Gabriel Innerst, mine is the auspicious task of bringing this narrative to a scripted end, and I am as anxious as you must be to see what the coming weeks will bring to the Disciples and to America. In a group study session, we asked Br. Cesar when our History of Philosophy exam would be (the Spaniards always seem to be more in on this sort of thing) and were unpleasantly surprised to know that is actually this Tuesday! This event characterizes our disposition upon entering this exam season: it is just difficult to get into the “spirit” of exams this semester. Well, anyway, we already knew the coronavirus is changing our lives in many ways...



On a more positive note (and a very positive note indeed), the House of Formation this week has continued enjoying a rather high quality of food this Easter season through the donations of some very generous benefactors – the del Pino-Osborne family. They have sent us a whole array of manifestations of the seven days of creation. For the fifth day, chicken, turkey, various creatures that lived in the sea (tuna, hake, monkfish, swordfish even!). For the sixth, all variety of cuts of beef, veal, lamb, and Iberian preparations of the pig (sirloin, filets, chorizo, salami, and the crown jewel, jamón

serrano - shown left). The meats are so diverse and gracious to eye and palette that Brs. Erik Reuter and Tomas Basallo even gave a presentation (called a eureka) about it, explaining the cuts of different animals.

Br. Juan Puech also presented a eureka about friendship, a topic very central to the life of the Disciples, and how to foster friendship and community. Our Leader of Navigare, Br. Tomás Sastre, also gave an interesting eureka about Fyodor Dostoyevsky’s book *The Idiot*. We discussed the topic of life as a gift to be cherished, not thrown away as in the novel.



Br. Tomás Sastre:
El idiota (The Idiot)



Last Sunday, the 10th of May, after many months of Navigare causing soccer game losses for the brothers, a match was played Navigare vs. the others. Proof of much improvement, Navigare won. It was a good moment of camaraderie between us, especially because shortly after, on the 13th of May, feast of Our Lady of Fatima, Mark Lederhos and yours truly asked Fr. José Granados (Superior General of the DCJM) for admission to the Institute as postulants and were accepted that same





day. On Thursday the 14th our admission was made known to us two, and on Friday the 15th it was announced to all the Disciples, to our families, and we personally surprised the House of Formation with a "eureka" from Mark about magic which then turned into both of us "putting our cards down on the table" (as Fr. José Noriega had said often) and announcing our entrance to the family of the



Disciples. The trick was a complete fraud; it never happened. The night continued with toasts corresponding to the number of people in our house (and the amount of liquor left in the bottles), night prayer, and a very rude march down to the pool to "celebrate" (I did not consent). And so half of Navigare have started our way in the Disciples. Please pray that the Virgin Mary may keep us straight on it. It is the beginning of the end to this year, but also the beginning of the start of our true navigation.

