



Stained Glass, first Chapel, St. Joseph Monastery, St. Marys, Pennsylvania.

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Current Projects

Hugh Feiss, OSB writes: “I organized and contributed to an online session at Kalamazoo on how medieval Benedictine monasteries were able to handle crises. For the session I delivered a paper on the Abbey of Petershausen... •The ABA session for next May [2023] at Kalamazoo (in person) is about Benedictine balance between work, liturgical prayer and reading. What is the evidence about such a balance in medieval Benedictine monasteries? *If any researchers would like to submit a paper for the session, we would love to have your contribution.* • *Benedictine Reader 2: 1530-1930* is now at Liturgical Press for typesetting. Greg Peters, Jacob Riyeff, S. Colleen Maura McGrane, and S. Ephrem Hollermann have chapters in it. • I am working on a book on the Tabernacle in the biblical exegesis of Richard of St. Victor, or maybe better, Richard’s approach to the Bible as illustrated by his commentaries on the Tabernacle of Moses.”

Kathleen Norris, ObISB reports as follows: “I continue to write for *Give Us This Day*, and also an e-newsletter about film, “Soul Telegram,” which is now issued weekly rather than bi-weekly. My recent articles have been on Iranian cinema, and films set in or about Ukraine.”

issued weekly rather than bi-weekly. My recent articles have been on Iranian cinema, and films set in or about Ukraine.”

Aaron Raverty, OSB continues to write feature articles for *The Abbey Banner* of St. John’s Abbey, Collegeville. His recent article entitled “*The Ortmann Benedictines*” reports that the Ortmann families that settled in central Minnesota, beginning in the nineteenth century were exemplars of their German Catholic heritage and faithfully provided a trio of Benedictine priests—Fathers Anselm, Odilo, and Cyril—to serve the people of God. Their varied ministries issued from their monastic and priestly commitments to Saint John’s Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, and Mount Angel Abbey in Oregon.

Judith Valente, ObISB writes that she was “honored to be one of two people asked to respond to the keynote addresses at the June 2022 colloquium marking the 150th anniversary of the St. Scholastica Federation of monasteries.” •In July, she was elected to the board of the American Benedictine Academy. • Judith’s article “Humor Can Evangelize: Why Don’t Priests Use It Well?” on using humor from the

pulpit appeared in the May 2022 issue of U.S. Catholic magazine.

•Judith also reports that she has nearly completed her manuscript on what Americans can learn from Italians about living a more contemplative life, based on her many stays in Italy. She will guide a contemplative-cultural-culinary pilgrimage-retreat to little-known Benedictine sites in the Italian region of Abruzzo May 17-30, 2023. For more information on the Italy retreat please contact Judith at

JValente17@msn.com
Greg Peters, ObISB, spent several weeks in residence at St Edmund’s College, University of Cambridge, in May writing a paper on the history and theology of Anglican episcopacy for an upcoming meeting of the Anglican Church in North America-Roman Catholic Church ecumenical dialogue. He is currently revising his paper “Bare ruined choirs?: The Death and Life of Anglican Monasticism” for publication and will be giving a retreat on Bernard of Clairvaux’s *On Loving God* at St. Andrew’s Abbey, Valyermo, CA.

Tom Piazza has an article on “Regional Trends in the Benedictine Confederation” that will appear in the September issue of the *ABR*. He is also working



CURRENT PROJECTS CONT.

on an article on membership trends among Benedictine monks in Brazil.

John Glasenapp, OSB has accepted a one-year teaching position at Saint Anselm College (NH) teaching music history and a section of their first-year undergraduate Humanities Core called "Conversatio."

Jeana Visel, OSB reports: "I have been asked to teach our two incoming postulants community history this fall. Ultimately, I've been asked to use archival research and other sources

to write a new, more scholarly book about the history of Monastery Immaculate Conception and the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana. Here's hoping we see the project to completion!"

Jacob Riyeff, ObISB writes: "I offered a retreat with Fr. Cyprian Consiglio at New Camaldoli in Big Sur entitled "Soul and Spirit, Joints and Marrow: Models of Integral Contemplative Anthropology" in July. ●I am also currently preparing a book manuscript based in the same ideas, namely

monastic wisdom regarding how integral the body and soul are in the spiritual life.

●My chapter on Dame Gertrude More will also be appearing in Cistercian Publications' *A Benedictine Reader, Vol 2* in the coming months. ●And, in addition to many individual poems published, my second collection of poems, *Be Radiant: A Sonata Poem*, is now under contract with Fernwood Press."

Ephrem Hollermann, OSB has completed her book on the history of the first Benedictine monastery of women in North America.

The Federation of St. Scholastica, as the entity that commissioned her to write it, holds the copyright. The president and council agreed to use online publishing with the print on demand feature. *Like A Mustard Seed* is available for purchase at this site:

<https://www.lulu.com/en/us/shop/ephrem-rita-hollermann/like-a-mustard-seed/paperback/product-wnj82d.html?>

Publications

Bogue, Edith, OSB. Book Review: *Come into the Silence* by Thomas Merton. (Notre Dame IN: Ave Maria Press, 2021) in *ABR* 73:1 (March 2022), 115-116.

Feiss, Hugh, OSB. "A History of Benedictine Libraries and Their Afterlives" (Part Two) *ABR* 73:1 (March 2022), 32-55. (Part One was published in *ABR* 72:4 [December 2021] 368-383).

Book Review: *The Life of Jesus Christ: Part Two, Vol 1, Chapters 1-57* by Ludolph Saxony, trans. Milton T. Walsh. (Collegeville, MN: Cistercian Publications, 2021 in *ABR* 73:1 (March 2022), 104-106.

Hollermann, Ephrem, OSB. "Holding Fast and Letting Go: Living the Paradox in the Twenty-First Century." *Benedictines* 75:1 (Spring/Summer, 2022), 57-67.

Like A Mustard Seed: A History of the First Benedictine Women's Monastery in North America, 1852-2014 (Durham, NC: Lulu Press, Inc.), 2022.

McGrane, Colleen Maura, OSB. Book Review: *Monastic Experience in Twelfth-Century Germany: The Chronicle of Peterhausen in Translation*, ed. and annotated by Alison I Beach, et al (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2020) in *ABR* 73:1 (March 2022), 101-104.

Peters, Greg, ObISB. Book Review: *The Sayings and Stories of the Desert Fathers and Mothers. Volume 1:A-H*," trans and intro by Tim Vivian (Collegeville, MN: Cistercian Publications, 2021, in *ABR* 73:1 (March 2022), 106-108.

Piazza, Thomas. "Regional Trends in the Benedictine Confederation," *ABR* 73:3 (September 2022) 322-330.

Richmond, Rev. Donald, ObISB. "Piety As Holy Fear," *Valyermo [Benedictine] Chronicle* (Summer 2022).

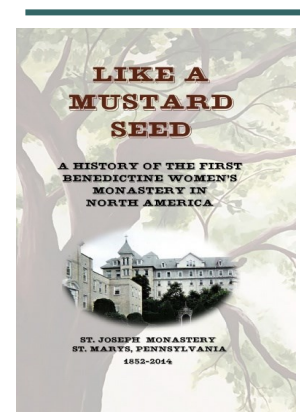
Romey, Linda, OSB. "At 100 Years, Federation of St. Scholastica Supports the Unfolding Vision of Benedictine Life," *Global Sisters Report*, (August 2, 2022).

Sutera, Judith, OSB. "The Past 100 Begins the Next 100," *Benedictines* 75:1 (Spring/Summer, 2022), 17-22.

Valente, Judith, ObISB. "Benedictine Life: A vision Unfolding' Focuses on the Next 100 Years," *Global Sisters Report* (August 3, 2022).

"Oblates Embrace a Future as Co-Bearers of Benedictine Values." *Benedictines* 75:1 (Spring/Summer, 2022), 51-55.

"Humor Can Evangelize: Why Don't Priests Use It Well?" *U.S. Catholic* (May, 2022).



**This story is about
"a community
deeply embedded
in the German-
American Catholic
Culture of
Pennsylvania."
—Hugh Feiss, OSB**

Feiss, Hugh, OSB. "Networks and Resilience: Petershausen Abbey, 983-1164," International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 9-14, 2022 (online).

Hollermann, Ephrem, OSB. "Looking Back to Look Ahead: Drawing Hope and Strength from Our Foremothers," Chapter of the Monastic Congregation of St. Benedict," Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, Minnesota, July 22, 2022.

Richmond, Rev. Donald, ObISB. "The Well Wrought Word," ABA Virtual Convention, July 19, 2022.

_____ "Christianity and the Arts," St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Auburn, CA.

_____ "Saints and Sainthood," The Dead Theologians Society, Auburn, CA.



Notice

Next MR Newsletter, October 2022
Compiled and edited
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Comments/suggestions welcomed
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2024 ABA Convention

August 7-11
St. Meinrad Archabbey
St. Meinrad, Indiana.
