



Current Projects

Hugh Feiss, OSB, reports that the presentation he gave at the American Benedictine Academy Zoom Convention in July 2020 "on learning from Benedictine history things that might point the way to the future" will be published in *ABR* and *Erbe und Auftrag*. Hugh reports on additional items:

- "*Benedictine Reader 2*, to which a number of ABA members contributed, is almost all at the copy editor. Abbot Primate Gregory agreed to write a foreword, and he has an unedited version of the texts (but one). I hope he finds it worthy."

- "Volume 9 of Victorine Texts in Translation is at the publisher now. I contributed a chapter on Richard of St. Victor's *De questionibus regule S.* which has some interesting connections with the *Rule of Benedict*."

- "I am currently working on a transcription and translation of a manuscript of Richard of St. Victor's *De exterminatione mali et promotione boni*. This is by way of a warm-up to writing a monograph on Richard of St. Victor's religious worldview which, God willing, I will get started on before too long, and finish before my demise and judgment for spending too much time in the Middle Ages."

Tom Piazza is writing an article on some possible variants of monastic life that might be viable in the future. It is being revised for future publication in the *ABR*. Tom is also currently working on an article about the metaphors used to describe the monastic life and how they may need to be updated in order to be more understandable to younger people today. He is also preparing for a future presentation for the "Being Benedictine" series of conversations hosted by Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison, Kansas.

John Glasenapp, OSB, of Saint Meinrad Archabbey reports that he defended his dissertation last April at Columbia University in historical musicology entitled "To Pray without Ceasing: A Diachronic History of Cistercian Chant in the Beaupré Antiphoner (Baltimore, Walters Art Museum, W. 759-762)." In early November, he (virtually) presented the paper, "To Be Continued: The Long View of Cistercian Chant at the Abbey of Beaupré," based on that dissertation at the American Musicological Society/ Society for Music Theory's annual conference.

Laura Swan, OSB, writes: "I am wrapping up a revised and updated *Forgotten Desert Mothers* at the request of Paulist

Press. Then I will return to my "gargantuan" project of a history of monastic women who follow the *Rule of Benedict* from Benedict to probably the early 1800s. This is born of my frustration over a lack of accurate and women-focused monastic history in teaching our women in formation. My reading of recent scholars is providing a corrective to tired, old, and inaccurate narrations of our history (if women are even remembered at all)."

Jacob Rieff reports as follows: "My edition of Dame Gertrude More's *Poems and Counsels on Prayer and Contemplation* appeared from Gracewing in April and my translation of the Old English *Advent Lyrics* (with introduction and commentary co-authored by my wife, Mamie; artwork imitative of Anglo-Saxon manuscript design by Daniel Mitsui; and a foreword by Br. Paul Quenon, OCSO) came out from Gracewing



Beaupré Antiphoner

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Current Projects 1-3

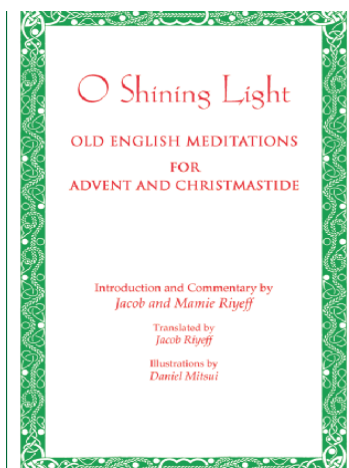
Publications 3-4

Notices 4

Contributors

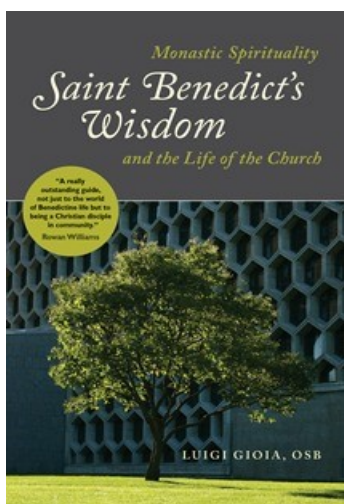
- **Hugh Feiss**
- **Tom Piazza**
- **John Glasenapp**
- **Laura Swan**
- **Jacob Rieff**
- **Kathleen Norris**
- **Greg Peters**
- **Aaron Raverty**
- **Julie Upton**
- **Judith Valente**
- **Tracy Rittmueller**
- **Samuel Torvend**
- **Colleen McGrane**

CURRENT PROJECTS CONT.



This collection of Old English Advent O Antiphons comes in a modern English version that retains both the timbre and the poetic technique of the original, together with a commentary that breaks open their devotional riches for personal or group reflection.

A New Book of Note



Monastic Spirituality and the Life of the Church
Luigi Gioia, OSB; Translated by Barry M. Hudock

in September too—the *Advent Lyrics* are a tour de force rumination on the O Antiphons and "Monastic O's of Advent and Christmastide." A more popular article I wrote, "Monasticism and the Problems of Big Tech," appeared in *The Windhover* this summer too. Less monastic strictly, but important to me, my first actively anti-racist essay, "The Catholic Church Is Not the Latin Church," appeared in *Dappled Things'* blog in July—arguing from ecclesiology for increased acceptance by Euro-American Catholics of non-Western cultural, theological, and aesthetic traditions in the Church. And my translation of the Old English "A Journey Galdor" (copied out and preserved most likely by Benedictine monks) made it into the premier issue of *Trinity House Review* (trinityhousereview.com). (see p. 3 of this newsletter for citations). I'm at work on a book on Christian contemplation in light of the deep Benedictine tradition and a digest of the *Institutes of Blosius*."

Kathleen Norris, OlsB, writes: "I have a reflection for All Saints, All Souls, entitled "Time Eclipsed By Love," in the November issue of *Give Us This Day*. [Also], with writer/film critic Gareth Higgins, I'm teaching a 5 week class on cinema from November 9 through December 7 entitled "It's

A Beautiful Day: A Whole Life In Five Movies." It's a look at films covering the stages of life, from childhood to death. More info is at: theporchcourses.com.

Greg Peters, OlsB, has had several articles and book chapters published in the last few months (see p. 3 of this newsletter for citations). You will recall that he became the new president of the American Benedictine Academy in July 2020.

Aaron Raverty, OSB, has written an article on the impact of Covid-19 on St. John's Abbey. He writes: "The coronavirus pandemic of 2020 has upset and challenged Saint John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, by forcing accommodations in our traditional Benedictine monastic community life. As documented [in the article], hygiene requirements, table service and dining, hospitality, proxemics, ministry, daily routines and organizational dynamics, travel, liturgy, and work assignments have all been impacted in the wake of COVID-19" (citation on p.3.)

Julie Upton, RSM, writes: "Retirement is busier than I had expected. In July my article "The Use of It's Never Too Late Technology (iN2L) in Enhancing Well-being Among the Elderly in a Residential Setting," was published in the *Journal of Women & Aging*.

•In October I presented a

lecture at the Australian Catholic University's Centre for Liturgy, "Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics."

•Now I am preparing two essays: one on the spiritual and pastoral needs of older people living at home or in other residential settings for *Health Progress*; the other "Are We All In This Together?" on the health inequities evident in the current pandemic for the *Journal of Vincentian Social Action*.

Judith Valente, OlsB, reports that she has "recently completed a book with Brother Paul Quenon OCSO of the Abbey of Gethsemani based on letters they exchanged over the years on a variety of topics ranging from knowing when to leave a job, coping with disappointment, to the practice of meditation and the importance of observing silence. Tentatively titled, *How to Be*, the book will be out next fall from Hampton Roads/Red Wheel Weiser in Boston."

•Judith has also created an online retreat in four parts called "Thomas Merton's Contemplative Wisdom for the 21st Century," which covers a wide range of Merton's writings on such topics as prayer, nature and social justice and which she has led online for several retreat centers across the country and for the International Thomas Merton Society and Contemplative Outreach of Chicago. If interested, contact Judith. jvalente17@msn.com
Her blog, "Sunday Thoughts"

CURRENT PROJECTS CONT.

which focuses on themes of mindfulness and contemplation in the age of Twitter, continues to appear Sundays on Facebook and Twitter.

Tracy Rittmueller, OlsB, of Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN, reports that her "essay, "Therefore Create Silence," co-winner of the 2020 ABA Monastic Essay Contest will be published in the Fall/Winter 2020 issue of *Benedictines*. Tracy is also in the final revision process of *Book of Transformations*, from which portions of the essay were excerpted. The book is a hybrid collection of poetry, essay, and memoir about growing into

a Benedictine way of life as a spousal caregiver, exploring habits and practices common to monastics and poets. In September 2020, the Central Minnesota Arts Board awarded her a \$3,000 Artist Care Development Grant, funded by the McKnight Foundation, to support the work of researching and writing a book proposal, and seeking a publisher.

Samuel Torvend writes: "My research on early monastic commitments to environmental sustainability includes a study of the terrains surrounding the Sacro Speco at Subiaco and Monte Cassino. In particular, I am working on what monastic *chronica*

reveal concerning fish, plants, and fruits available to Benedict and the early communities in the Subiaco Valley and area surrounding the abbey at Monte Cassino. While visiting the Sacro Speco in early March, I noticed for the first time a painting of Benedict fishing in the Anio River. The correspondence between the regional gifts of nature and the psalms of thanksgiving is of particular interest. As Wendell Barry once remarked, the Bible and its Psalms need to be read *outdoors* - for then the "miraculous" in nature becomes ever more apparent.

Colleen Maura McGrane, OlsB, is researching Mechtilde de

Bar and the milieu in which she wrote the *Constitutions* for her country. The fruit of this will appear in *Benedictine Reader 2* with a translation of a small section of the *Constitutions*. I am working on translating significant chapters of the *Constitutions* for a community in the Netherlands to use with new members who speak English. Now that the research for the above is done I hope to get back to translating Vogue, as well as beginning work on comparing Carolingian commentaries on the fourth step of humility for Kalama-zoo.

Publications

DeGracia, Rosemary, OlsB. "Benedictine Stability Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic: A New Meaning for Shelter in Place." *Benedictines* 73:2 (Fall/Winter, 2020), 41-44.

Feiss, Hugh, OlsB. "Louis de Blois (Blosius): Remembering Jesus," *ABR* 71:3 (September 2020), 331-347.

Book Review: *The Life of Jesus Christ: Part I. Vol. 2, Chapters 41-92 by Ludolph of Saxony*, trans. Milton T. Walsh. Collegeville, MN: Cistercian Publications, 2019, in *ABR* 71:3 (September 2020), 350-352.

Meadows, Lynn Elisabeth, OlsB. Book Review: "Wrestling With God: Finding Hope and Meaning in Our Daily Struggles to Be Human," by Ronald Rohleiser, OMI. New York: Penguin Random House, Image Books, 2018, in *Benedictines* 73:2 (Fall/Winter 2020), 54-55.

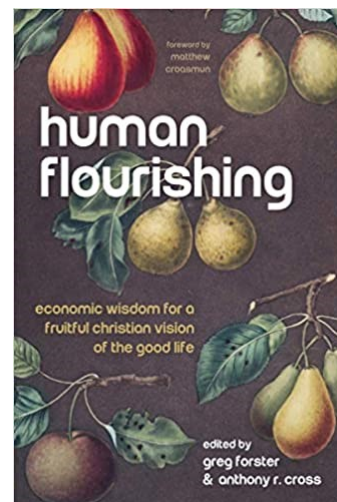
Peters, Greg, OlsB, "Paying It Forward: Medieval Monastic Economies of Salvation," in *Human Flourishing: Economic Wisdom for a Fruitful Christian Vision of the Good Life*. Greg Forster and Anthony R. Cross, eds. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2020.

"An 'Eccentric Genius': (Athanasius) Francis Diedrich Wackerbarth and the Re-introduction of Monasticism into the Church of England," *ABR* 71:3 (September 2020), 313-330.

"Institutionalizing Theology: A. B. Goulden and the Community of Reparation to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." *Anglican and Episcopal History* 89 (2020), 143-163.

"Ramon Lull (1232-1316)" in *The History of Apologetics: A Biographical and Methodological Introduction*. Benjamin Kelly Forrest, Joshua D. Chatraw and James K. Dew, eds. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2020.

Raverty, Aaron, OlsB. "COVID-19 and Collegeville." *Abbey Banner* 20, no. 2 (Fall 2020), 20-21.



"Human Flourishing challenges the reader to think deeply about intellectual questions that have everything to do with how we actually live in this world and what we as Christians have to offer to it."

—Mark D. Roberts

Rippinger, Joel, OSB. Book Review: "Boniface Wimmer: Abbot of Saint Vincent in Pennsylvania. By Father Oswald Moosmüller, OSB. Trans. Maria von Mickwitz and Warren Murrman, OSB. Latrobe, PA: Archabbey Publications, 2019, in *ABR* 71:3 (September 2020), 352.-353.

Rittmueller, Tracy, OLSB. "Therefore Create Silence." *Benedictines* 73:2 (Fall/Winter), 2020, 32-40.

Riyeff, Jacob. "A Journey Galdor." *Trinity House Review* 1, 2020.

"Catholicism Is Not the Latin Church." *Deep Down Things*, Blog: "Dappled Things" July, 2020.

<https://dappledthings.org/17176/catholicism-is-not-the-latin-church/>

Dame Gertrude More's *Poems and Counsels on Prayer and Contemplation*. Herefordshire Leominster: Gracewing, 2020.

"Monasticism and the Problems of Big Tech." *The Windhover*, 24.2, 2020.

and Mamie Riyeff. *O Shining Light: Old English Meditations for Advent and Christmastide*. Herefordshire, Leominster: Gracewing, 2020.

Sutera, Judith, OSB. Book Review: *Piroska and Pantokrator: Dynastic Memory, Healing and Salvation in Komnenial Constantinople*. Ed. Marianne Saghy and Robert Ousterhout. New York: Central European University Press, 2019, in *Magistra* 26:1 (Summer 2020), 98-99.

Swan, Laura, OSB. Two Book Reviews: *The Care of Nuns*, 2019, and *Medieval Cantors and Their Craft*, 2017, by Katie Ann -Marie Bugyis. Oxford University Press and the University of York Press, in *Magistra* 26:1 (Summer 2020), 93-98.

Upton, Julie, RSM. "The Use of It's Never Too Late Technology (iN2L) in Enhancing Well-being Among the Elderly in a Residential Setting," in *Journal of Women & Aging*, July, 2020.

Vanorny, Hannah, OSB. "Awakenings: Bravely Sharing the good News." *Benedictines* 73:2 (Fall/Winter), 2020, 46-49.

PLEASE NOTE

The *American Benedictine Review* encourages Benedictine monastic researchers to submit articles for publication review.
Guidelines for submission are available at:
<https://www.americanbenedictinereview.org/submissions>

The Terrence G. Kardong MONASTIC STUDIES GRANT

ABA members are invited to apply for Monastic Studies Grants to support projects that "cultivate, support and transmit the Benedictine heritage within contemporary culture." Applications will be selected on the basis of quality of the proposal (originality, feasibility, clarity of purpose), potential benefit for monastics, and relevance to the purposes of the Academy. More details are on the ABA website.

To apply for a grant please supply:

Name, address, phone number, e-mail

Religious or academic affiliation (if any)

A brief description of the proposed project

The goal(s) of the proposed project

An itemized budget which includes:

total cost of project

sources of funding other than the ABA

sum requested from the ABA

Send applications to: Greg Peters

THI, Biola University

13800 Biola Avenue

La Mirada, CA 90639

or submitted by email as a Word document to

greg.peters@biola.edu

Notice

Next MR Newsletter, February 2021
Compiled and edited
by Ephrem Hollermann, OSB
Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN
Comments/suggestions welcomed
ehollermann@csbsju.edu

2022 ABA Convention

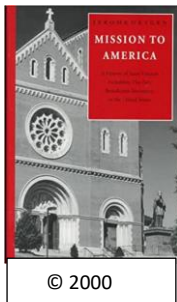
GIVE ME A WORD...
July 7-9
St. Benedict Center
Schuyler, Nebraska

Addendum to...

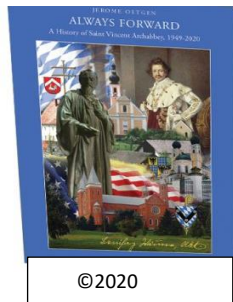
ABA Monastic Researchers Newsletter October 2020

A Timely Note from Hugh Feiss, OSB

"This is something that the monastic researchers might be interested in. Fr. Alkuin, an Austrian Cistercian, is editing a dictionary of Cistercian saints, all 1500 or so of them. **He is looking for contributors.** Maybe someone in the researchers group has some expertise on one saint or another. Here is Fr. Alkuin's email address: "**P.AlkuinSchachenmayr**" nota@schachenmayr.net



© 2000



©2020

A Welcome Announcement from Jerome Oetgen

"This link -

<https://saintvincentarchabbey.org/2020/10/15/always-forward-saint-vincent-history-published/> is to the announcement of my recent book on the history of Saint Vincent, Latrobe, Pennsylvania."

Always Forward, Saint Vincent History Published

Saint Vincent Archabbey Publications announces the release of *Always Forward, A History of Saint Vincent Archabbey 1949-2020*. Authored by Jerome Oetgen, a Saint Vincent alumnus who is perhaps the foremost expert on the history of Saint Vincent Archabbey, the book completes the other volume in the series, *Mission to America: A History of Saint Vincent Archabbey, The First Benedictine Monastery in the United States...*