



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Current Projects 1-2

Publications 3



Contributors

- Terrence Kardong
- Hugh Feiss
- Greg Peters
- Judith Valente
- Donald Richmond
- Tom Piazza
- Jacob Riyeff
- Joel Rippinger

Current Projects

Terrence Kardong, OSB, reports as follows: "I have an article entitled "Who Wrote the Rule of Walbert?" in a new festschrift for Michael Casey called *A Not-So-Unexciting Life* (Cistercian Publ. \$40). I wrote this article a couple of years ago. At that time, I thought Walbert did NOT write that Rule (*Regula Cuiusdam Patris*) but since that time I have changed my mind. I now think he DID write it. Moral: I reserve the right to change my mind."

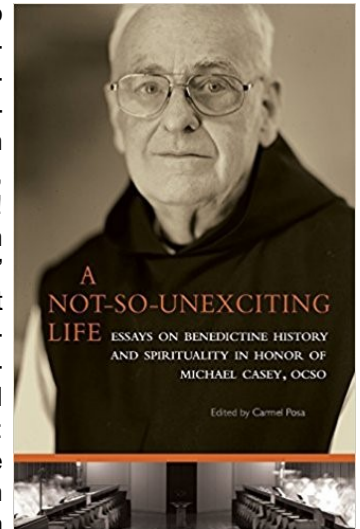
Hugh Feiss, OSB, informs us of "the publication of the *Brill Companion to Victorine Studies*, which I edited with my friend Juliet Mousseau, RSCJ, and to which I contributed articles on Victorine theology on the Trinity and on their pastoral work of preaching and hearing confessions.

•Translating and editorial work for Victorine Texts in Translation, vol. 8, *Sermons on the Liturgical Year*, is 99% finished. I'm just waiting for a couple of colleagues who are vetting sections, then off it will go to Brepols. The same is true of Victorine Texts in Translation, vol. 10, *On the Sacraments*, which is about 90% finished, but will require more editing, when the last articles are finished. Finally, the *Benedictine Reader, 530–1530* is

copy-edited and will go to the editor at Cistercian Publications as soon as a colleague finishes the introduction. If I am still alive when all these books are finished, what a liberation that will be! Meanwhile, I am working on some encyclopedia articles."

•Hugh goes on to say that "the ABA session for Kalamazoo is all set: four speakers on Benedictine biblical exegesis in the Middle Ages: Michael Martin, "Benedictine Exegesis in the North Italian Homiliary (ca. 800)"; Nathan Haydon, "Strangers in This Life: Aelfic, Exile, and Exegesis"; Hugh Feiss, OSB, "Christ in the Commentaries of Rupert of Deutz and Gregory of Narek on Song of Song 1"; Jacob Riyeff, "John Lydgate's Public Monastic Exegesis." I know few monastics have time or opportunity to go to Kalamazoo any more (I wish more would come and give papers in the ABA panel), but it is good we have a presence, and most of the papers in our sessions are subsequently published somewhere."

Greg Peters, ObISB, has submitted his completed book manuscript, *The Monkhood of All Believers: The Monastic Foundation of Christian Spirituality*, to his publisher, Baker Academic. The book is a theology of monasticism for the twenty-first century and will be released in fall 2018. Greg will



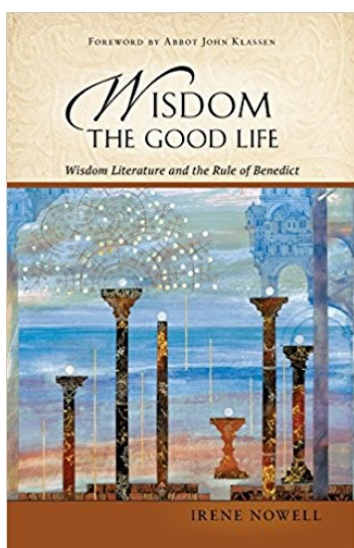
Essays in Honor of Michael Casey, OCSO

be attending the International Oblate Congress in Rome from November 4-9.

Judith Valente, ObISB, will lead an Advent Retreat on "Reclaiming a Sense of Wonder," Dec 1-2 at the Sophia Retreat Center at Mount St. Scholastica in Atchison, KS. She has been invited back by St. Patrick's of Merna Catholic Church in Bloomington IL to give the reflection for the annual Advent Candlelight gathering on Dec. 5. Her theme will once again be "wonder." Judith will attend the International Oblate Congress in Rome, November 4-11, as a representative of Mount St. Scholastica Monastery, Atchison, Kansas. Judith's book on the *Rule* and the art of living will be out in April, 2018.



CURRENT PROJECTS CONT.



What is Wisdom? Who is wise?
Who is this Wisdom who knows
God's works and teaches us
how to be wise?
—Nowell

"Irene Nowell, OSB, has drawn
deeply from the well of wisdom,
sourced in Scripture and
the Rule of Saint Benedict."
—Schwartzberg

•Judith is also starting work on a new book project about people who are addicted to anger, using her own struggles as a basis. She would like to hear the stories of others about how they were able to deal with their own struggles with feelings and outbursts of anger. She is especially interested in how monastic practices can help us in this regard. She is also interested in source material on the topic of anger others can suggest. If you have something to share with her, contact her at jvalente17@msn.com

Richmond, Donald P. OLSB, of Saint Andrew's Abbey, Valyermo, California, writes: "A book is in process on the Apocalypse dealing with who, not what, is revealed in this controversial Revelation of Saint John."

Paul Dirkes, OLSB, of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, St. Benedict, LA, has been giving classes to cradle Catholics and recent converts on the Old Testament, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and how we got the Bible. He will offer future sessions in 2018 on "The History of the Mass, and The Eucharist: A Modern Take on An Old Prayer." Paul goes on to say "I have given talks on my article, "Jesus and the

Stone" which is my assertion that the Magdala Stone is a post-resurrection archeological artifact of a visit by the exulted Jesus to Magdala in the Galilee.

•I also gave a presentation on my theory that the problem of the existence of dark energy has a biblical explanation along with the "Big Bang" theory—given to a group of physicists in Scotland in August. That was weird a experience as you can imagine."

Tom Piazza and Sister Felicitas Seisenberger, OSB, have submitted two analyses of membership trends among Benedictine women for publication – trends in the Bavarian Federation to the *ABR*, and trends in the American federations to *Benedictines*. Tom has also submitted an article on options for expanding membership in monastic communities to *ABR*. That article is currently being reviewed.

Jacob Riyeff, OLSB, writes: "My translation (and study) of the *Old English Rule of St. Benedict* is due out in December from Cistercian Publications--final proofs are submitted and we're just waiting on any final details. Also, very thankfully, my translation of the collected poems of Swami Abhishiktananda (*In the Bosom of the Father: The Collected Poems of a Benedictine Mystic*) was

picked up by Resource Publications (an imprint of Wipf and Stock) and should be out next year. I am finishing up my edition and translation of two fourteenth-century Latin novice treatises from Middle English poet John Lydgate's monastery and hope to have them submitted to a journal within the next month or two. Finally, I have started shopping around a verse translation I've done of the Old English *Advent Lyrics*--a poem that is a prime example of medieval monastic ruminative theology and was copied down in a western English monastery in the tenth century--which includes illustrations by Catholic artist Daniel Mitsui."

Joel Rippinger, OSB, reports that he gave a presentation on September 15, 2017, to the Synod of Abbot Presidents held at St. Meinrad Archabbey. The presentation was on "The Development of Benedictine Life in North America." It will appear in German translation in a future issue of *Erbe und Auftrag*, a journal published at Beuron.



PUBLICATIONS

Feiss, Hugh, OSB. Book Review: *A Companion to Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167)*. ed. Marsha L. Dutton, (Boston: Brill, 2017) in *ABR* 68:3 (September 2017) 332-333.

Kardong, Terrence, OSB. *The Murderous History of Bible Translations* by Harry Freedman (New York: Bloomsbury, 2016) in *ABR* 68:3 (September 2017) 336-338.

Piazza, Tom, and S. Felicitas Seisenberger, "Trends in Membership for Benedictine Women in the American Benedictine Federations," *Benedictines* LXX:2 (Fall/Winter 2017) 33-39.

Richmond, Donald P., ObISB. "Robes of Righteousness" [Mercy as practical holiness], *Valyermo [Benedictine] Chronicle*, Fall 2017.

_____ "Religion as Resistance." *Ancient Future Faith Network*, Summer 2017.

_____ "The Broken Baroque." *Ancient Future Faith Network*, Summer 2017.

_____ *Then Shall They See* [Advent Meditations]. Anglicans for Renewal, Canada, 2017.

Romey, Linda, OSB. "Setting Moon, Rising Sun," *Global Sisters Report* <http://www.globalsistersreport.org/column/spirituality-trends/setting-moon-rising-sun-48561>

Swan, Laura, OSB. Book Review: *Medieval Cantors and their Craft. Music, Liturgy and the Shaping of History, 800 -1500* .eds. Bugyis, Kraebel, and Fassler (York Medieval Press, 2017) in *Magistra* 23:1 (Summer 2017) 99-101.

_____ Book Review: *The Valiant Woman: The Virgin Mary in Nineteenth- Century American Culture* by Elizabeth Hayes Alvarez (University of North Carolina Press, 2016) in *Magistra* 23:1 (Summer 2017) 102-103.

Valente, Judith, ObISB. Book Review: *The World Will Be Saved By Beauty*, by Kate Hennessy (Scribner, 2017) in *Benedictines* LXX:2 (Fall/Winter 2017) 41-42.

In Case this Good News Has Slipped Your Mind...

Back issues of the *American Benedictine Review* are available in digital storage at the

HathiTrust' s Digital Library, University of Michigan

<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000598411>

Notice

Next MR Newsletter, February 2018
Compiled and edited
by Ephrem Hollermann, OSB
Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN
Comments/suggestions welcomed
ehollermann@csbsju.edu

2018 ABA Convention

July 19-22
Saint Benedict's Monastery
St. Joseph, Minnesota
"Artisans of the Monastery"