



Current Projects

Greg Peters, ObISB has written an article entitled "An 'eccentric genius': (Athanasius) Francis Die-drich Wackerbarth and the Re-introduction of Monasticism into the Church of England," which has been accepted for publication this summer in *ABR*. His article, "Institutionalizing Theology: A. B. Goulden and the Community of Reparation to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament" is under review at *Anglican & Episcopal History*. This summer at the ABA meeting in Kansas he will assume the presidency of the Academy.

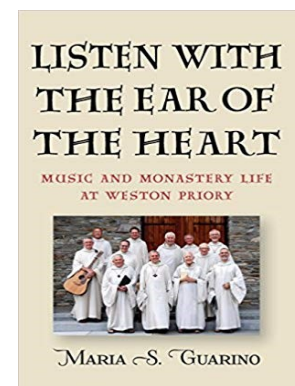
Judith Valente, ObISB of Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison is co-chair of the upcoming "Being Benedictine in the 21st Century" conference planned for June 26-28 in Atchison. She will do a speaking tour in Australia on her book, "How To Live: What The Rule of St. Benedict Teaches Us About Happiness, Meaning and Community," July 26 to Aug 8. She was the keynote speaker in February for the annual public lecture sponsored by the Oblates of St. Scholastica Monastery in Chicago.

Hugh Feiss, OSB writes that he is steadily at work on his *Benedictine Reader 2: 1530-1930*. "It is enjoyable, but difficult since my

specialization is medieval. I'm working on four or five chapters simultaneously. I have received completed submissions from Fr. Joel Ripinger (on Marmion, Wimmer, Virgil Michael) and Dcn. Owen F. Cummings (Newman on Benedictines). I plan to have the whole [volume] to the publisher by Jan. 1, 2021, God willing."

Kathleen Norris, ObISB reports: "I participated in a "Movies and Meaning" festival in North Carolina; conducted a writing workshop, and was on several panels. I introduced and led a discussion about a film I love - and recommend highly - "After Life" - from Japan, about a way station between life and death where people are asked to choose the one memory they can take with them into eternity. I continue to publish regularly in *Give Us This Day*."

Jeanna Visel, OSB, checks in with the following news: "After almost seven years as an administrator, I applied for and was granted adjunct faculty status at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. This past fall and this spring I am teaching a course on painting icons... In December I finished an egg tempera icon of St. John the Theologian, [and] a large acrylic on canvas icon of St. Cecilia is now complete for my monastery. In late January I



helped to offer a weeklong workshop on Gregorian chant. A recital provided a chance to sing some chant of St. Hildegard. For fun I have been sitting in on a "Consecrated Life" class taught by Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, and am preparing for a faculty reading group discussion of Soloviev's "Lectures on Godmanhood."

Maria Guarino, PhD, "an ethnomusicologist at the University of Virginia, is excited to announce the forthcoming paperback edition of her book *Listen with the Ear of the Heart: Music and Monastery Life at Weston Priory* (University of Rochester Press, 2018). Building on more than ten years of fieldwork, and taking inspiration from the monks' own way of encountering the world, this book offers a contemplative engagement with Benedictine music, prayer, and everyday life. The ethnographic narrative evokes the rhythms of

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Current Projects 1-2

Publications 3

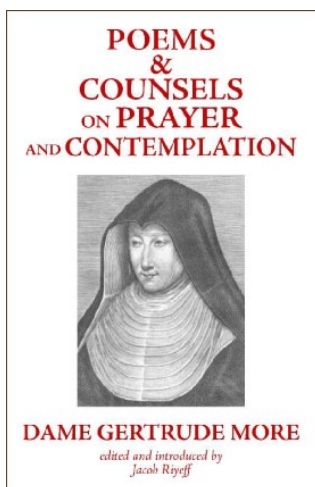
Presentations 3

Notices 3

Contributors

- **Greg Peters**
- **Judith Valente**
- **Hugh Feiss**
- **Kathleen Morris**
- **Jeanna Visel**
- **Maria Guarino**
- **Tom Piazza**
- **Jacob Riyeff**
- **Ephrem Hollermann**
- **Julie Upton**

CURRENT PROJECTS CONT.



Dame Gertrude More was one of the earliest women writers printed in the English language. This new edition of her work shows a powerful, rare voice from the early modern cloister, speaking with wisdom of the contemplative life and the mysteries of the human soul.
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**Happy Feast Day to all
March 21**



learning among Benedictines to show how monastic ways of being, knowing, and musicking resonate with humanistic inquiry and the pursuit of knowledge and understanding."

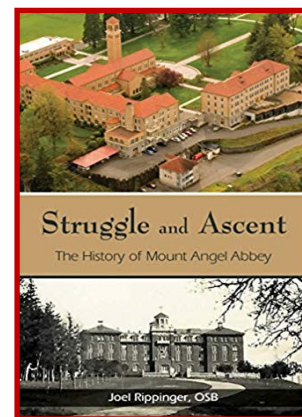
Tom Piazza's article on membership trends in the African monasteries of Benedictine men was accepted for publication in the *ABR* and will appear in a future issue. Tom is currently working on an article that will outline some possible variants of monastic life that might be viable in the future.

Jacob Rlyeff, OBlSB writes: "I am happy to say that a scholarly forum studying how lived faith among scholars can contribute to the study of Old English literature and culture that I helped organize and edit will be appearing in *Religion & Literature* soon. My own contribution to the forum is on how reading modern monastic authors can help scholars bridge the gap between the modern secular world and Anglo-Saxon religious texts, and it includes contributed readings of an Old English poem from Br. Paul Quenon, OCSO and Sister Sarah Schwartzberg, OSB. My edition of *The Poems and Counsels on Prayer and Contemplation* will be appearing in April of this year from Gracewing, and

there's some early movement on other projects as well. I will be offering a retreat entitled "The Upanishads and Christian Contemplation" with Prior Cyprian Consiglio, OSB Cam. at New Camaldoli Hermitage this June 19-21."

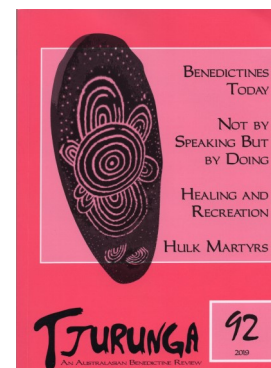
Ephrem Hollermann, OSB has completed a first draft of the history of the now-closed St. Joseph Monastery, St. Marys, Pennsylvania. Entitled, *Like a Mustard Seed: The History of St. Joseph Monastery, St. Marys, Pennsylvania, First Monastery of Benedictine Women in North America*, it chronicles the arrival of Mother Benedicta Riepp, OSB, and two companions in this country from St. Walburg Abbey, Eichstätt, Bavaria in 1852, up to the monastery's closing in 2014. The book was commissioned by the president and council of the Federation of St. Scholastica, the entity which will oversee the publication of the manuscript. The projected publication time frame is late 2021.

Julie Upton, RSM, completed the Masters Degree in Public Health in May 2019 and is now in her last semester of full-time teaching at St. John's University in New York. She will retire from the university in June 2020 and will spend a six-month sabbatical listening for where God leads her next.



Joel Ripinger, OSB has completed a manuscript now awaiting publication by The Liturgical Press in July 2020. *Struggle and Ascent* is the history of Mount Angel Abbey in Oregon.

Michael Casey, OCSO, wrote a delightful editorial on Terrence Kardong, OSB, in *Tjurunga: An Australasian Benedictine Review* 92 (2019), 5-8, entitled, "You Don't Write Big Books Watching Ball Games: In Memory of Terrence Kardong."



Presentations

Ephrem Hollermann, OSB. "Esteem for Silence in the Vision of Benedict" at Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, Minnesota, December 7, 2019.

Jeanna Visel, OSB. "Engaging the Tradition: Monastic Customaries as Memories of Ecclesial Identity," Generative Communities Colloquium (This year's theme was "Freeing Memories: How to Remember."), Atchison, KS, January 2020.

_____ "Praying with Icons," Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology Board of Overseers, February 2020.

_____ "The Art of the Sacred Texts: Reflections of the Sublime in Diverse Holy Writings" (on icons and scripture), as part of an interreligious panel at Marian University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

PUBLICATIONS

Feiss, Hugh, OSB. "Christ in the Commentaries on the Song of Songs by Gregory of Narek and Rupert of Deutz." *ABR* 70:4 (2019), 445-464.

_____ "Benedict's Rule." Chapter 16 in *Great Christian Jurists and Legal Collections of the First Millennium*. Ed. Philip L. Reynolds (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 334-352.

_____ "The Trinity in [Achard of St. Victor's] *De unitate: Metaphysics and Theology*." *Ad Argumenta. Quaestio Special Issues 2* (Turnhout: Brepols; Bari: Edizioni di Pagina, 2019), 33-56.

_____ *On the Sacraments. Vol. 10: Victorine Texts in Translation*, ed. and tr. Hugh Feiss. (Turnhout: Brepols, 2020).

_____ Book Review: *Gusti aristocratici in Puglia tra Ottocento e Novescento. Il Ricettario dei Lenti Bacile* by Mariella Intini and Mariarosaria Lippolis. (Noci Bari: Edizioni 'La Scala, 2019) in *ABR* 70:4 (December 2019), 474-475.

Richmond, Donald, ObISB. "Enthronement" [God's Written Word elevated in our homes] in the *Valyerma* [Benedictine] *Chronicle* (Winter 2020).

_____ "Catholic Enough?" [An evaluation of essential ecumenical catholic faith] in *Forward in Christ*, pending.

Sutera, Judith, OSB. Book Review: *Mystical Prayer: The Poetic Example of Emily Dickinson* by Charles M. Murphy (Collegetown, MN: the Liturgical Press, 2019) in *Magistra* 25:2 (Winter 2019), 98-99.

_____ Book Review: *The Letters of Blessed Maria Gabriella* by Gabriella Sagheddu, trans. By David Lavich, OCSO (Athens, OH: Cistercian Publications, 2019) in *Magistra* 25:2 (Winter 2019), 99-100.

_____ Book Review: *On Being Unfinished: Collected Writings* by Anne E. Patrick, SNJM, ed. By Susan Perry (New York: Orbis Press 2017) in *Magistra* 25:2 (Winter 2019), 101.

Swan, Laura, OSB. Book Review: *Hild of Whitby and the Ministry of Women in the Anglo-Saxon World* by Anne E. Inman (Lexington Books/Fortress Academic, 2019) in *Magistra* 25:2 (Winter 2019), 94-95.

_____ Book Review: *Nun's Literacies in Medieval Europe: The Antwerp Dialogue*, ed. By Virginia Blanton et al. (Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2017) in *Magistra* 25:2 (Winter 2019), 96-98.

Upton, Julie, RSM. "These Hallowed Halls: Remembering and Giving Thanks," *The MAST Journal* 26.1 (2019) 39-43.

Notice

Next MR Newsletter, June 2020
Compiled and edited
by Ephrem Hollermann, OSB
Saint Benedict's Monastery,
St. Joseph, MN
Comments/suggestions welcomed
ehollermann@csbsju.edu

2020 ABA Convention

July 16-19
Benedictine College
Atchison, Kansas "2020 Vision:
Seeing the World in a Single Ray of Light"