



Current Projects

Laura Swan, OSB is working on a chapter entitled, "Prayer in the Benedictine Tradition," for *Handbook of Prayer in the Catholic Tradition: Learning, Practicing & Sharing Approaches to Spiritual Intimacy*, edited by Robert Wicks.

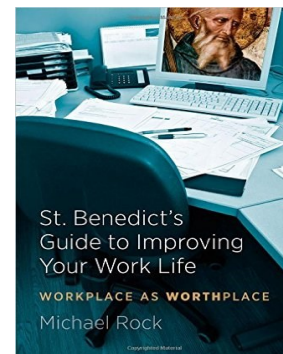
Jacob Riyeff, ObISB is in the final stages of revision for his essay on the fifteenth-century Benedictine poet John Lydgate, which has been accepted for publication by *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*. He is also still at work on his translation of St. Aethelwold of Winchester's Old English version of the *Rule of St. Benedict* for Cistercian Publications. His other book project, *Making the Divine Economy: The Old English Poetry of Prayer*, takes a new look at a group of Old English poems copied into manuscripts during the tenth- and eleventh-century Benedictine reform, through the lens of phenomenology of religion and anthropology of religion. In addition, as part of an upcoming forum on "Old English studies and religion" for the journal *Religion & Literature*, Jacob has composed a short essay on utilizing modern-day monastic authors as sources for scholars working on medieval literature (with contributions from Br. Paul

Quenon, OCSO and Sr. Sarah Schwartzberg, OSB).

Greg Peters, ObISB has recently published a book and an article on Benedictine monasticism (See Publications section on p. 3). He is finishing the editing of *A Companion to Priesthood and Holy Orders in the Middle Ages, to be published by Brill* in November.

Terrence Kardong, OSB reports: "I am spending my old age revising some of my previous writings. Not correcting them! They are flawless! But reworking them into popular form so they might be gathered into a book. It is interesting, and sometimes humbling, to go over what one has written 30 years ago. I am also continuing work on some aspects of Irish monasticism in 7th century France. Especially in regard to the Rule of a certain Father for Virgins. I now think it was not written by a "Father" but by a "Mother," indeed, Abbess Fare of Eboriac. You go, girl!"

Aaron Raverty, OSB, was invited to give two conference presentations at the annual "Friends of Benedict" retreat at the Episcopal House of Prayer located adjacent to Collegeville and the SJU campus, September 22–27, 2015. The overall retreat theme was "Balance in Modern Life: Work, Study,



Prayer, and Rest." His conference titles were: #1 "Balance in General and Benedictine Balance in Particular;" #2 "Achieving Balance through the Pursuit of Our Understanding of God's Will." In a recent article in the *Abbey Banner* entitled "Abbey Apiary" 15:2 (Fall 2015), 28–29, he tells the story about how pioneer monks established Saint John's Abbey Apiary in Collegeville to harvest honey for consumption and beeswax for candles. The enterprise continues even today. Aaron writes: "Acknowledging the significance of bee evolution and their indispensability for the future flourishing of flowering plants and agricultural productivity, this article features past and present apiary overseers, including beekeeping methods for hive maintenance and honey extraction, and chronicles the use of beeswax for monastic candle making." **Cheryl Crozier Garcia, ObISB**, writes: "This semester, I've received approval from Hawaii Pacific University's Internal Board

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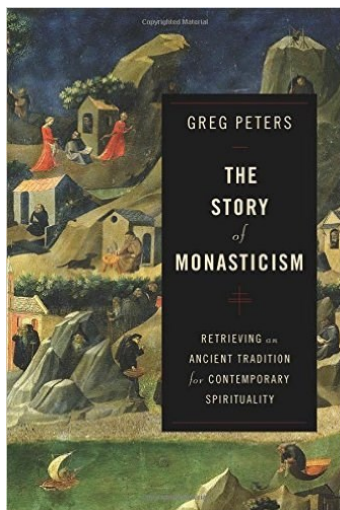
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- **Timothy Joyce, OSB**
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Peters recovers the riches of the monastic tradition for contemporary spiritual formation and devotional practice, explaining why the monastic impulse is a valid and necessary manifestation of the Christian faith for today's church.



An intimate biography by Tom Roberts

to conduct a study on the efficacy of teaching MBA students to use the traditional Hawaiian values of *aloha* (inclusivity, compassion, kindness, gentleness), *pono* (righteousness, justice, equality, equity, fairness), and *kuleana* (responsibility, accountability, internal locus of control) in business decision-making. The study is called, *Enhancing Graduate Curriculum to Encourage Values-Based Behaviors in HR Students Using Traditional Hawaiian Values Across the Curriculum: A Study in Three Parts*. I've amended the program's curriculum to include exercises and discussions that ask students to practice using these values in their business and management decision-making. I'll be collecting data over the next three years, and then integrating the results into program review and hopefully writing a paper for publication.

Timothy Joyce, OSB, has been speaking in a number of venues, both Catholic and ecumenical on the Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si*. He is also giving a three week workshop on *Evolution, Ecology and Spirituality*.

Tom Piazza of Richmond, CA, and Sister Felicitas Seisenberger, OSB, of Abtei Venio in Munich are making some progress with their project to digitize the *Catalogus* information on Benedictine women. They were able to digitize the information on members of some of the monasteries

in the Bavarian Congregation and analyze membership trends by years of age and of profession. A preliminary report and analysis was prepared and presented to the recent CIB (Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum, an organization of worldwide Benedictine women similar to the Confederation of Benedictine men) meeting in Europe and to the International Team of AIM Europe. They expect to make further progress in the months ahead.

Hugh Feiss, OSB, writes: "I am still working on three books, but will be finished with all three before the end of 2016. (1) I, Ronald Pepin and Maureen O'Brien are currently putting the finishing touches on a reader on Benedictine Monasticism, 530-1530. We've been working on it for over a decade and badgered other people to contribute. It consists of about 30 texts of about 10 pages each with a page or two of introduction. It is meant to represent many different genres from the entire 1000 years. Should be out from Liturgical Press/Cistercian within a couple of years. (2) As soon as the above is off to the editor, I am putting together volume 8 of Victorine texts in translation. This volume will be sermons on the liturgical year by members of the abbey of St. Victor (1120-1220 AD) or people closely associated with the abbey. Most of the translations and introductions are finished, but it will take some doing to put

everything in order. This is for Brepols. (3) With Sr. Juliet Mousseau (Aquinas Institute at St. Louis U) I am coediting a Companion to Victorine Studies for Brill. Hope to have this to the publisher by May, but with 15 contributors many things can go wrong. I am contributing chapters on Pastoral Care at St. Victor and on Victorine thought on the Trinity."

- I delivered a paper on the Trinity at an excellent conference on Achard of St. Victor's *De unitate* held in Caen, Avranches and La Lucerne in Normandy in April 2015. It will be published next year.

- I have an article under review at ABR on Robert of Chaise-Dieu and ideas about action and contemplation in the Middle Ages and since. Another article is forthcoming in ABR on lectio divina in Peter of Celle's *Book of Breads*.

- I gave a retreat at the Benedictine Center in St. Paul and another (the third I've given there) at Holy Trinity Abbey in St. David, AZ. In them I tried to wrestle with the how St. Benedict thought about Christ and how that might tell us something.

John Smith, ObISB from North Melbourne, Australia, was Chaplain to the University of Divinity intensive, "Prayer and Hospitality," led by Professor Katharine Massam at Holy Trinity Abbey, New Norcia in September. He gave two seminars, one on "RB 53", and another on "Benedict in the world".

Judith Valente, ObISB reports that in addition to several presentations listed on p. 4 of this *Newsletter* she will again sponsor the

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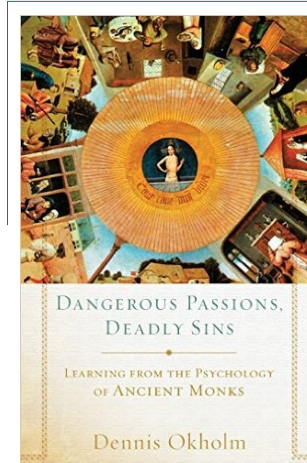
Valente-Blihar Families Distinguished Poet series at St. Peter's University in New Jersey, her undergraduate alma mater, and then speak on a panel following a viewing of "The Rule," a documentary about how a group of monks at St. Benedict Academy in Newark are passing on Benedictine monastic values to high school boys in the inner city.

- In September, Judith reported the story of a group of pilgrims from central

Illinois who traveled by van to Philadelphia to see Pope Francis for the National Public Radio affiliate in Illinois, WGLT Radio. The report is available at www.wglt.org.

- She was awarded two national Edward R. Murrow Awards in New York on Oct. 12 for her work this past year covering police and race relations for WGLT Radio.

Joel Rippinger, OSB, writes that he will be giving the annual Damasus Winzen lecture at Mount Saviour Monastery at the end of April, 2016. It will be on the relationship between Damasus Winzen and Thomas Merton. He is also scheduled to give the annual Benedictine Heritage Lecture at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois in March, 2016. It will be on the topic of "Benedictine Presence in the Chicago Metropolitan Area."



PUBLICATIONS

- Burkhard, Marianne, OSB** Book Review: *Hildegard of Bingen: Solutions to Thirty-Eight Questions*, trans. By Beverly Mayne Kienzle, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 216-218.
- Carruth, Shawn, OSB** Book Review: *Dangerous Passions, Deadly Sins: Learning from the Psychology of Ancient Monks*, by Dennis Okholm, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 225-227.
- Feiss, Hugh, OSB** "Food for the Soul: The Reading and Writing of Peter of Celle's *De Panibus* (On Breads), *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 171-198.
- Forman, Mary, OSB** Book Review: *A Critical Study of the Rule of Benedict*, by Adalbert de Vogue, vol.1, translated by Colleen Maura McGrane, in *Tjurunga* 86 (Advent 2014) 96-98.
- Frigge, Marielle, OSB,** Book Review: *Thomas Merton: Faithful Visionary*, by Michael W. Higgins, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 220-222.
- Joyce, Timothy, OSB** Book Review: *Seventy-Four Tools for Good Living: Reflections on the Fourth Chapter of Benedict's Rule*, by Michael Casey, OCSO, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015), 219 -220.
- Kardong, Terrence, OSB** Book Review: *Kommentar zur Vita Benedicti*, by Michael Luzicha, OSB, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 214-216.
- _____ Book Review: *New Monks in Old Habits: The Formation of the Caulite Monastic Order* by Philip C. Adamo, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 223-225.
- _____ Book Review: *Longing to Belong*, by Mark Tierney, in *Tjurunga* 86 (Advent 2014) 101-104.
- Peters, Greg, OBlSB** "Historic Monasticism, the New Monasticism and the Problem of Authority in the Protestant Evangelical Church" (co-written with Donald Richmond) in *ABR* 66.3 (September 2015) 268-282.
- _____ *A Companion to Priesthood and Holy Orders in the Middle Ages*. Boston, MA: Brill (Due out in November).
- Richmond, Donald, OBlSB** "Historic Monasticism, the New Monasticism and the Problem of Authority in the Protestant Evangelical Church," (with Greg Peters) *ABR* 66:3 (September, 2015) 268-282.
- _____ *Beholding His Glory: Transfiguration and Human Transformation*. Ancient Future Faith Network. Published online, August 6.
- _____ *Creed and Community*. Ancient Future Faith Network. Published online, September 21.
- _____ "Mustard Seed Missions," *The Valyermo [Benedictine] Chronicle* Summer, 2015.
- _____ "The Broken Body: A Lay-Monastic Perspective," Ancient Future Faith Network, July 31.
- _____ "Three Points on Poetry & Spirituality," *Seedbed*, August 11.

_____ "Every Christian A Mystic," *Seedbed*, August 31.
_____ "Leador Cede: The Pastor and Worship," Ancient Future Faith Network, September 24. Topic of radio interview, Epiclesis Community, September 26.

_____ Series of articles in the *Victor Valley Daily Press*: "Language, Life, and Speaking Truth, July 31; "Freedom From...Freedom For, August 8; "The Politics of non-judgment," August 15; "The Infernal Noise," August 22; "In Defense of Doubt," August 29; "Biblical Ignorance," September 5; "The Faith Journey," September 12; "Black Like We," September 19.

_____ "Liturgical Preaching" <http://www.ancientfuturefaithnetwork.org/abbey/liturgical-preaching/>

Sautner, Adel OSB Book Report: *Prayer, Study and Work: Renewing the Benedictine Ideal*, by Daniel J. Heisey, OSB, in *ABR* 66:2 (June 2015) 222-223.

Smith, John ObISB "Rosendo Salvado and Ecumenical Relationships: The Reverend Douglas Boutflower's 1872 Visit to New Norcia," *New Norcia Studies* (November 5, 2015).

_____ "All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ...(RB 53.1): An Investigation of RB 53:1-15 and Some Thoughts On Its Implications for Today," *Tjurunga* 88 (2015)



Presentations

Carruth, Shawn, OSB gave two presentations under the title, "Monastery-Marketplace: Two Ways to the Good Life," at a Conference entitled "A Benedictine Conversation: Refocusing the Benedictine Tradition for the 21st Century," held at Monastery Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana, September 30-October 4, 2015.

Hollermann, Ephrem, OSB gave two presentations under the title, "Perspectives on Decline and Reform in Benedictine Women's History," at a Conference entitled "A Benedictine Conversation: Refocusing the Benedictine Tradition for the 21st Century," held at Monastery Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana, September 30-October 4, 2015.

Valente, Judith, ObISB "The Art of Pausing," 2015 Annual Meeting of Contemplative Outreach of Chicago, October 3, 2015.

_____ "Honoring the Writings of Joan Chittister," Chittister Symposium on Ancient Traditions, Contemporary Questions, Penn State University, October 14, 2015.

_____ "My Life as a Print, TV and Radio Correspondent," St. Gabriel Parish, Charlotte, NC, October 18, 2015.

_____ Annual Tagliabue Lecture for the Jesuit Honor Society, St. Peter's University, New Jersey, November 10, 2015.

Notice

Next MR Newsletter, February 2016
Compiled and edited
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Comments/suggestions welcomed
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2016 ABA Biennial Convention

July 21-23, 2016
Benedict Inn Retreat
and Conference Center
Beech Grove, Indiana

