

Faith Seeking Understanding



**The Saint Benedict Education Foundation
Sant' Anselmo: The International Benedictine University In Rome**



Left, Sister Agnietė Ivaškevičiūtė, O.S.B. and Sister Marianne Cablar, O.S.B., helped by Saint Scholastica Scholarship Fund.



Archbishop Sartain gives annual Saint Benedict Education Fund Lecture.

Faith Seeking Understanding

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Sant' Anselmo,



Greetings from Saint Vincent.

Since our last newsletter in the fall, we have been quite busy here.

As you will read in this new edition of *Faith Seeking Understanding*, many activities have been taking place, and our foundation is making good progress.

In October, Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B., and I visited Saint Mary's Abbey in Morristown, New Jersey, where Abbot Giles Hayes, O.S.B., and Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., prior of Sant' Anselmo and a monk of Saint Mary's Abbey, hosted a reception to promote the Saint Benedict Education Foundation.

At the end of October we had the great pleasure to host at Saint Vincent a lecture by the newly appointed Archbishop of Seattle, Most Rev. Peter Sartain, a distinguished alumnus of Sant' Anselmo who gave a lecture for supporters of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation.

In November, the Foundation held its board meeting in Lisle, Illinois, followed by a fund raising dinner hosted by

Saint Procopius Abbey and the Benedictine sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery. Thanks to their great hospitality and generosity, it was a successful event. We hope to continue to build our network of friends in the midwestern part of the United States.

In December, we held our first meeting of the Friends of Sant' Anselmo for the Western Pennsylvania Chapter in a small, family style Italian restaurant in Greensburg. We are planning a follow-up gathering on March 20 at the Saint Vincent Gristmill in Latrobe.

In January, I traveled to Savannah to promote the Foundation. The event was hosted by Kimi and Harry Haslam at their home. It was a great joy for me to have the opportunity to discuss Sant' Anselmo and to express thanks for their kindness and generosity. Our network of friends now continues to expand in the south.

The Saint Benedict Education Foundation is one way to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and we are grateful for your support of our efforts. Let us continue to work together to help those young men and women who have chosen to give their lives to Christ.

Peace,
Father Benoit

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Add Me To Your Mailing List!

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THE FRIENDS OF SANT' ANSELMO

In our last newsletter, we provided an introduction of the concept of the formation of support groups throughout the United States. We are calling these groups “chapters.” Those chapters have the charter to raise funds for scholarships for needy students at Sant’ Anselmo, the Benedictine University in Rome.

We are pleased to report progress in this regard as the first Chapter has been formed in Western Pennsylvania; officially known as the “Friends of Sant’ Anselmo in Western PA.” The chapter met for the first time in December at a small (Italian, of course) restaurant in Greensburg. Approximately 20 members were gathered that evening, and since that time 10 more people have expressed an interest in joining the group. As of this publication, the second meeting will take place on March 20th at Saint Vincent Archabbey.

The chapter has agreed to raise approximately \$20,000, the amount needed for one scholarship for one student for one year, by the October timeframe. In mid-October, the group is planning a visit to Rome in which we would meet with



*Paul Whiteside
Director of
Development*

Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B., the head of the Benedictine Order worldwide and the Chancellor of Sant’ Anselmo; enjoy the celebration of the opening of the academic year; and then meet with other faculty members and administrators, along with the student who is being sponsored by our chapter. The trip will encompass 10 days and will include tours of Rome as well as other beautiful parts of Italy, including the Umbria Region.

We have recently met with interested people outside the Western Pennsylvania region including Chicago, New York, Tampa, and Savannah, and we are hopeful that support chapters will eventually form in several of those areas also. If you are interested in joining a chapter, or forming one in your area, please do not hesitate to contact us.

ESTABLISH A ‘FRIENDS’ CHAPTER
If you are interested in establishing a chapter
in your area, please contact Mr. Paul R. Whiteside,
Director of Development at (724) 532-6740 or
email pwhiteside@stbenedictfoundation.org.

SAINT BENEDICT IN SAVANNAH

By Father Benoit Alloggia, O.S.B.

A few years back, I met Harry and Kim Haslam, a couple from Georgia. Harry was an alumnus of the Benedictine Military School in Savannah. He was very active and remained an enthusiastic supporter of his *alma mater* throughout the years.

In 2009, Harry and Kim took a trip to Rome and visited Sant' Anselmo. I met them on this trip, and we have been friends ever since. When I became president of the Education Foundation, the Haslams and I reconnected. They fondly remembered their trip to Sant' Anselmo and asked how they could help promote the school's vision to be recognized internationally.

On January 29, Harry and Kim hosted a dinner on Tybee Island in Georgia to help show their support for Sant' Anselmo. They invited twenty of their close friends. Father Paul Taylor, O.S.B., and I introduced the guests to Sant' Anselmo and showed them the needs of the Education Foundation.

We had a wonderful time visiting the Haslams and their friends. Father Paul and I are thankful for the great hospitality we experienced during our trip to Georgia and



Above, Foundation President Father Benoit Alloggia, O.S.B., meets with Kim and Harry Haslam of Savannah during a recent visit to their home on Tybee Island.

we hope to continue our companionship with our friends in Savannah.

FOUNDATION EVENT HELD IN LISLE, ILLINOIS



Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B., plays the flute during a vespers service in Lisle, Illinois.

Nearly sixty people attended an event in Lisle, Illinois, hosted by the Saint Benedict Education Foundation.

Foundation Board Member Sister Judith Ann Heble, O.S.B., former Prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery, and current Moderator of the international conference of Benedictine women, *Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum* (CIB), took on much of the planning for the Lisle event. Father Becket Franks, O.S.B., Director of Abbey Advancement as well as Assistant to the Abbot at Saint Procopius Abbey, also played an important role in planning for the affair.

The two Benedictine communities in Lisle, a suburb of

Chicago, are “neighbors.” Saint Procopius, a community of Benedictine men, and Sacred Heart, a community of Benedictine women, hosted a wine tasting and dinner social.

Sister Judith Ann arranged for space at Villa Saint Benedict, a continuing care retirement community on the campus of Sacred Heart Monastery, to hold the event, and she and Father Becket arranged the guest list.

The evening started with Vespers, including a flute performance by Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B., who traveled from Rome to take part. A social hour and dinner followed. Guests partook in a delicious five course meal

that complemented the flavor of the various wines paired with each course. Throughout the meal, the attendees were addressed by four speakers who told



Father Becket Franks, O.S.B., Director of Abbey Advancement as well as Assistant to the Abbot at Saint Procopius Abbey, talks with Bill Carroll, President of Benedictine University, Lisle, who came to hear about the foundation.

FOUNDATION EVENT HELD IN LISLE, ILLINOIS

the story of Sant' Anselmo, and the importance of the Education Foundation's mission in support of that goal. The speakers included Abbot Notker, Sister Judith Ann, Dr. Stephen Butler, chairman of the Foundation Board, and Mr. Paul Whiteside, Saint Benedict Education Foundation Director of Development.

Sister Judith Ann stated that "the five chefs in the kitchen certainly outdid themselves. The Executive Chef at Villa Saint Benedict is anxious to do an event like this again. The wait staff, chosen from student servers at Villa Saint Benedict, were most gracious and attentive to everyone's needs. This allowed the meal to flow in an orderly and professional manner.

"Folks are still talking about the event," she added. "We enjoyed hosting the event. When you have a lot of good people in place to carry it off, it isn't much work at all."

"The funds raised through ticket sales were almost entirely donated to the Education Foundation and subsequently to Sant' Anselmo," Whiteside said. The guests were delighted with



At top, left, Sacred Heart Monastery and Saint Procopius Abbey, Lisle, Illinois, hosted a dinner event for the Saint Benedict Education Foundation. Abbot Hugh Anderson, O.S.B., of Saint Procopius, now the Abbot President of the American Cassinese Congregation, is pictured with Susan Kessel, a foundation supporter from Florida.



At bottom, left, Foundation Board Member Sister Judith Heble, O.S.B., held a major role, along with Father Becket Franks, O.S.B., in planning the event.

the food, wine, prayers, and music," he noted, adding that "they are looking forward to doing it again."

SAINT MARY'S ABBEY MONKS HOST FOUNDATION EVENT



By Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B.

The evening of Friday, October 15, 2010, Abbot Giles Hayes, O.S.B., of Saint Mary's Abbey in Morristown, New Jersey, hosted a reception for the Saint Benedict Education Foundation in the "Old Main" building of the Benedictine run Delbarton School in Morristown. Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., the Prior of Sant' Anselmo and a monk of Saint Mary's Abbey was a guest of honor at the reception, together with Mrs. Anne Evans Estabrook and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ferguson.

A friendly crowd of thirty guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as they learned more about the contributions which Sant' Anselmo makes to the life of the universal Church through its educational programs and initiatives, and heard of the improvements which are being made to the physical plant and the community life of Sant' Anselmo under the di-

At top, left, are Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B., a consultant with the Saint Benedict Education Foundation, and Abbot Giles Hayes, O.S.B., of Saint Mary's Abbey, Morristown.

At bottom, left, Father Luke Beckett, O.S.B., a student at Sant' Anselmo demonstrates a new window. Donations from the October event helped fund the ongoing window restoration project.



SAINT MARY'S ABBEY MONKS HOST FOUNDATION EVENT

rection of Father Elias.

Saint Benedict Education Foundation President Father Benoît Alloggia, O.S.B. spoke with the guests in attendance along with Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B., past President and current advisor to the Foundation. The guests made combined pledges and gifts totaling more than \$60,000—their generosity helping to ensure that all of the students and faculty members of Sant' Anselmo will be able to continue their scholarly and pastoral work in a well-maintained and state of the art environment.

The Saint Benedict Education Foundation offers its thanks to all of those, in particular Abbot Giles, Father Elias, Mrs. Estabrook, and Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, who helped to make the October 15th reception at Delbarton such a resounding success!

Pictured with Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., Prior of Sant Anselmo, at right in both images, are, in the top photo, Tom and Betsy Ferguson.

In the bottom photo, from left, are Anne Estabrook, and Sharon and Peter Coccoziello.



ARCHBISHOP SARTAIN LECTURES ON LITURGY, EVANGELIZATION

By Elizabeth Cousins

The Saint Benedict Education Foundation hosted a lecture recently by Archbishop J. Peter Sartain on the campus of Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

Archbishop Sartain was recently named Metropolitan Archbishop of Seattle by Pope Benedict XVI, and prior to that served as the bishop of the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois. He spoke on "The Sacred Liturgy and the New Evangelization."

"Sant' Anselmo can be seen from many parts of Rome," he said, referring to the international Benedictine university, where he earned a licentiate of sacred theology. "These cities set on hills are meant to evangelize," he added.

Archbishop Sartain is an authority among the American



Among the guests attending the lecture of Bishop J. Peter Sartain in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, were, from left, Saint Vincent Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Abbot Austin G. Murphy, O.S.B., Saint Procopius Abbey, Lisle, Illinois; back row, from left, Dr. Stephen Butler, chairman of the Board of Director of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation and Dr. Martin Girling. Dr. Butler and Dr. Girling traveled from Tampa to attend the lecture.

ARCHBISHOP SARTAIN

Catholic Bishops on matters of liturgy and sacramental theology, referred to the Benedictine tradition several times, noting that the tradition, "with its training and formation is one of the great blessings we have in the church. One of the greatest blessings of my life is my roots in Benedictine spirituality."

A Memphis native, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Memphis. He was appointed as Bishop of the Diocese of Little Rock on January 4, 2000 and was ordained on March 6, 2000. He was installed as Bishop of Joliet on June 27, 2006. He was named Archbishop of Seattle on September 16, 2010. He attended Saint Meinrad College in Indiana, and also studied at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas in Rome.

In addition to his pastoral experience, Archbishop Sartain served as a Director of Vocations, Chancellor, Moderator of the Curia, Vicar for Clergy, and Vicar General. He has also been a chaplain, academic dean for the permanent diaconate formation program, and a member of the Advisory Council for the Institute for Priestly Formation.

He currently is a member of the Administrative Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

GLOBAL BENEDICTINE INITIATIVE

"The event launched at Saint Mary's Abbey/Delbarton School, called the Global Benedictine Initiative, was a great success!

Some of the major benefactors of the abbey and school gathered on October 15, 2010 to learn more about the international character of the Benedictine order, as it is lived in Rome with 120 residents from 54 different monasteries in 40 countries at Sant' Anselmo. Since the College opened its doors in 1896 little work has been done to maintain this grand structure. We are now busy replacing roofs, installing new windows, and purchasing new furniture for the student rooms. These friends of Delbarton were asked to help secure new furniture. At the end of the night we received \$30,000.00 in cash gifts and another \$30,000.00 in pledges. This is a great start!!

We hope other monasteries can host a similar event among their donors to further this Global Benedictine Initiative."—*Prior Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B.*



*Prior Elias
Lorenzo, O.S.B.*

LETTERS FROM ROME

November 11th, 2010, Rome



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Pax et benedicite!

First of all, I would like to introduce myself. My religious name is Sister Marianne Cablar and Milagros Cablar is my baptismal name. I was born on April 22, 1968. I am a perpetually professed nun of the Benedictine Nuns of the Eucharistic King in the Philippines. At present, I am in my second year at Sant' Anselmo in Rome taking up the Diploma program in Monastic Studies. If given another chance in the future, I wish to continue to the Licentiate in Monastic Studies. After my studies, I hope to be of service to my community. I intend to be of help in whatever way I can be in Formation or in any other task that my Superior would ask me to do. I would be very willing to share the things that I have learned from my studies. Other than my community, I would also make myself available to our oblates and other Benedictine

communities who might need my assistance.

Finally, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who have helped me to sustain my studies. I cannot thank you enough for your willingness in sharing your resources considering the fact that you do not even know me. I will forever be grateful for the kindness and generosity that you have shown me and my community as well. I can only repay you with my prayers. Rest assured that I will include all your intentions in my prayers and sacrifices. May God reward you and your respective families and communities.

In Christ,

Sister Marianne Cablar, O.S.B., Milagros Cablar

LETTERS FROM ROME

November 15th, 2010, Rome

Dear Friends,

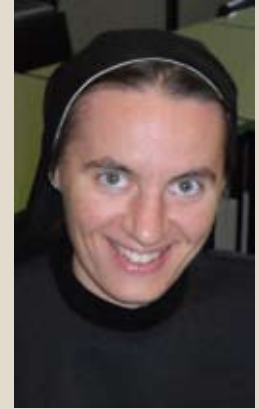
I am Sr. Agnietė Ivaškevičiūtė, from the Monastery Benedictine Sisters of Kaunas, Lithuania. Born in 1977, I attained the Licentiate in Pastoral Theology at the University of Vytautas Magnus in Kaunas and in 2005 I joined the community of Benedictine Sisters. In July 2010 I made my final profession. For the last four years I was involved in the pastoral care of adults who come to our church. This is my second year of monastic studies at Sant' Anselmo Pontifical University and after finishing the studies I will be involved in the formation within the community.

When the Independence of Lithuania was re-established in 1990, our Sisters had to strive hard to revive community life and were made to search for their monastic identity anew. Due to long years of Soviet isolation, our Sisters were not able to acquire appropriate and consistent Benedictine formation. At the moment there are 36 finally professed sisters and half of them are at the age of 23-45. This year we have three novices of the same age group. In the meantime, the greatest need is the formation of the formators. Since there is no institution in Lithuania providing such kind of education, monastic studies at Sant' Anselmo is a great possibility to obtain the knowledge needed.

Your financial contribution is a great help to me and to the whole community. We thank you wholeheartedly for your generosity and keep you in our daily prayers. May the Lord bless you all and your ministry.

Sincerely,

Sister Agnietė Ivaškevičiūtė, O.S.B.



SAINT SCHOLASTICA SCHOLARSHIP



The Saint Scholastica Scholarship for Benedictine Women was established to provide financial assistance for Benedictine sisters from monasteries worldwide which are unable to provide support for the education of their members in formation.

The fund supports Benedictine women who are enrolled in programs at Sant' Anselmo by providing scholarship assistance. Your gift will enable Sant' Anselmo to provide an opportunity for Benedictine sisters who will return to their communities and countries to help with the evangelization of God's people.

If you are able to help, please direct your gift to the Saint Benedict Education Foundation and note on the check that your gift is to be directed to the Saint Scholastica Scholarship Fund.

Contributions may be made to the Saint Benedict Education Foundation, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA, 15650-2690.

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HELP EDUCATE A BENEDICTINE THE GIFT OF GIVING

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta often spoke of the great gift she personally received from the giving that was involved in her life of service to the poor and outcasts of Calcutta. Her response when asked about her care for the sick and dying was: "They give me far more than I could ever give them." The Saint Benedict Foundation invites you to receive the same gift by giving to Benedictine students at Sant' Anselmo who are from economically disadvantaged communities.

SANT' ANSELMO CHAIRS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Enclosed is my gift in support of the students and programs of Sant' Anselmo:

\$1,000 President's Council \$500 Fellow \$250 Associate Member \$100 Century Member Other _____

Please direct my gift to the: The Cardinal Mayer Chair Saint Scholastica Scholarship Fund

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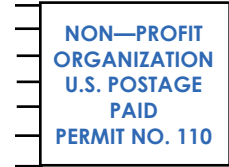
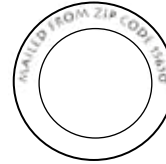
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