



SANT' ANSELMO

THE INTERNATIONAL BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY
ROME



Pope Benedict XVI and Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., Rector Emeritus of Sant' Anselmo, at Christmas.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ABBOT PRIMATE



Dear Friends,

There is much happening in Sant'Anselmo. Our restoration and renovation operations have center stage right now. For the past few weeks there has been a huge crane directly in front of the balcony of my office. Every morning at eight o'clock the workers continue the work of restoring the roof of the church. While

the main beams are sound, the minor beams that support the roof-tiles crumble in one's hand. When the roof is finished the interior of the church will be completely repainted. The Atrium of the church is now gleaming in renewed splendour. The stone capitals and entrance portal of the church have been restored to their original brilliant white.

The crane will remain in front of my window for a long time. Once the church is finished we intend to excavate the cloister garden. Half of the new space underground will be used to provide a new aula and the other half for extra storage-space for the Library. This space will be given a solid roof to form a floor at cloister level which in turn will be roofed in glass to provide a covered courtyard, a practice that is becoming popular in many places. The resulting space will provide an aula which we hope to use for the next Congress of Abbots in September 2008. We are going to have to wait for the definitive Aula Magna under the second courtyard, along with all the changes associated with this building.

In the autumn we were able to finish the complete

renovation of our laundry. Shortly, the firm of Schindler will replace the lift near the sacristy, renovate the lift near the Portineria and install a completely new lift in the stair-well that leads to the laundry. All of this has been arranged by Father Markus Muff. All of these activities are a source of much extra work and an enormous challenge for our Economo, Father Gerardo and our Treasurer General, Abbot Laurence. I am grateful to the abbots and their communities and to several generous benefactors who have financed these costly projects to date. We have established two foundations with



the object of putting Sant'Anselmo on a firm financial footing. The scope of the former Pontifical Institute of Liturgy (PIL) foundation in the United States has been broadened to include all of Sant'Anselmo and will in future be known as the "Saint Benedict Education Foundation". Here, I should like particularly to thank the American Abbeys and Priories that have assumed the start-up financing of this foundation for the first three years. A foundation needs a few years before it can become self-financing and begin to make funds available for various projects. My special thanks go to Archabbot Douglas of Saint Vincent, the unflagging driving force behind this foundation. Again, some days ago we were able to establish a foundation for Europe under the name of "Foundation Benedict". This foundation has its official office in Lucerne, Switzerland. The Abbey of Engelberg has generously released Father Markus Muff to take care of development activities

within Europe. He is in the process of building up a network of contacts and has already been successful in attracting some gifts. Nor should I like to forget the help of the Abbot of Ganagobie who has been instrumental in obtaining some donations in France.

None of this means, however, that we are now swimming in money. Foundations need a long time to bear fruit. The two foundations mentioned above are intended to secure the financial future of Sant'Anselmo by establishing endowments for professorial chairs, student scholarships and the maintenance of the buildings. But in the immediate future we shall need funding to pay for current renovation measures. On Ash Wednesday when I was explaining these measures to the Holy Father on his arrival here and told him



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THE SAINT BENEDICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**Faith Seeking
Understanding**

Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2007

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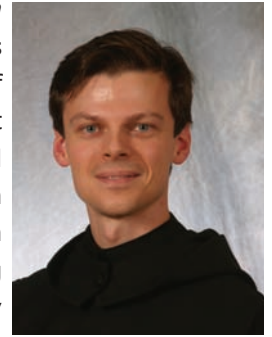
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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the second issue of *Faith Seeking Understanding* goes to press it is a pleasure to introduce myself to you as the president of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation, and to share with you the impact which life at Sant' Anselmo has had on me, and on so many others. Having entered the Benedictine community of Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe,



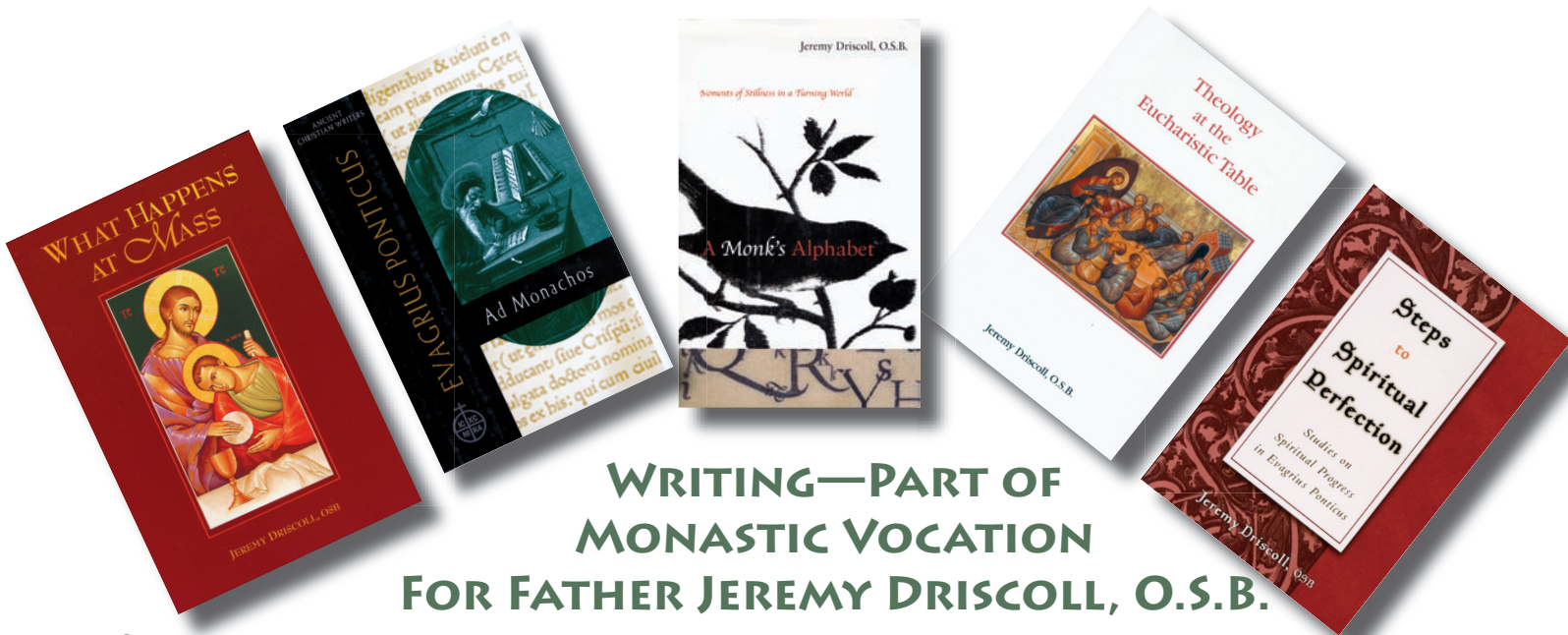
Pennsylvania, in July 1994, I was first sent to Sant' Anselmo in the jubilee year of 2000, in order to begin studies in biblical exegesis and systematic theology. I arrived in Rome just a few months after being ordained to the diaconate, and so had the opportunity to serve as deacon during many of the liturgies which were part of the Congress of Benedictine Abbots that was held at Sant' Anselmo in September 2000. We recall that when the apostles commissioned the very first deacons to assist them in their evangelical work, they announced that the diaconate was to be fundamentally a ministry of service (Acts 6: 1-7). It was my privilege during those days of the Abbots' Congress, and throughout my time in Rome, to witness in person the tremendous zeal of the students, faculty, and staff of Sant' Anselmo to put their talents at the service of the gospel, making our Benedictine University truly 'a school for the Lord's service' (*Rule of Saint Benedict*, Prologue, 8).

Although my studies took me to schools outside of the Athenaeum, during my five years in Rome I lived at Sant' Anselmo and happily took part in each element of Anselmian life, from the daily liturgy, to waiting on tables in the dining room, recreation with the community, and participation in the on-going monastic formation sponsored by Sant' Anselmo. I learned that the Benedictine presence in Rome plays an important role in the life of the Church by introducing to each other new generations of religious, clergy, and laity from every possible background and from every part of the globe, establishing friendships which often last for a lifetime. Beyond this, Sant' Anselmo has long stood at the forefront of several movements central to the Church's mission: the training of new preachers and teachers of the Catholic faith—focusing especially on the field of liturgical studies—and the promotion of Christian unity.

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On The Cover:

Pope Benedict XVI and Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., Rector Emeritus of Sant' Anselmo, at Christmas. See page 9 and the insert for more on the Cardinal Mayer Chair.



WRITING—PART OF MONASTIC VOCATION FOR FATHER JEREMY DRISCOLL, O.S.B.

By Kim Metzgar

"But if I am a monk, that means also that I am just a man, connected with all other men and women in my time... and in other times. I am searching, like we all do. I struggle to believe, like we all do. Life is lovely, life is hard— this is true for me like it is for us all. That is why I think to share my alphabet. Not because monks are different and so worth a visit to see them in a zoo, but because my monastic life has given me the space to think about things that we all care about and all have to face. Life poses huge questions. Terrible questions, glorious questions. We must face them. Avoiding them makes us dangerous and makes the world go crazy." —Father Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B., *A Monk's Alphabet*.

Father Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B., thinks of writing as a part of his monastic vocation. The author of eleven books and more than 50 scholarly articles, has recently reached popular success with two of his latest books, *What Happens at Mass* (2005), and *A Monk's Alphabet: Moments of Stillness in a Turning World* (2006). He writes both from his home monastery at Mount Angel, in Oregon, and from Sant' Anselmo, the international Benedictine university in Rome, where he once studied and where he now teaches.

Although he is monk, priest and teacher, Father Jeremy considers writing as part of his monastic vocation. "It may sound odd to say it, but I think of it as somehow exercising the monastic virtue of hospitality. It is my way of sharing the fruits of the monastic life with guests to the monastery—in this case, with readers.



Photo courtesy of Patrick Brennan

"Monks try to practice mindfulness," he adds. "They strive to be aware of God all the time, and all of the age-old monastic practices have this as their goal. But one can't just think directly about God. Being aware of God's presence in the course of a given day will mean a wide range of things to be attentive to, extending from the Word of God and the sacraments in the various liturgies to whatever is happening that day in the world, in the monastery, in my life. That will sometimes mean letting oneself be struck by even the most unexpected of things as the revelation of God. I write to keep myself mindful and to record, for myself and others, what I have come to understand, what I struggle to understand. In this sense writing is woven into the whole fabric of my day."

A Monk's Alphabet has sold more than 12,000 copies in the first four months. Father Jeremy notes he is writing to "believer and unbeliever alike and trying to share with all the perspectives that monastic life makes possible."

He has used his training in theology to write *What Happens at Mass*. However, he notes "to understand our faith on a profound level it should not be necessary to be a professional theologian, even if I am convinced that professional theology is one way of faith pursuing understanding in a profound way. And professional training in theology is useful in guiding others who may not be professionally trained."

After completing two graduate degrees at Mount Angel Seminary School of Theology, Father Jeremy's abbot sent him to Rome for a degree in patristics. He completed the first

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A Monk's Alphabet

By Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B.

Cross. I was praying before the painted cross in the abbot primate's chapel. It is hundreds of years old, going back to the thirteenth or fourteenth century. It is beautiful. The dead body of Christ is so giving, filled with light, and surrounded by angels. I thought of it hanging somewhere, looking like that, every day during all those centuries. I thought of all the events of history that have unfolded. And no matter how diverse the materials of history and the continents on which all the various things have happened, this cross was hanging somewhere, absorbing the events and judging them all, suited to every situation. It is art's way of saying what the sacraments also accomplish in their own way: the hour of Jesus' dying is an hour which does not pass away, which draws all things to itself.

Testaccio. ... I was standing on a particular morning in a very crowded Zia Elena (coffee bar) and was working my way over to the cash register to pay. One of my closest friends in the bar was Stefania, who collected the money, counted change back, and carried on several other conversations all at once. When she saw me that day, even while returning money to someone else, she said excitedly, 'O Je! (short and friendly Roman version of my name, Jeremy) I wanted to ask you something. Yesterday I was praying the Our Father,' she explained, 'and I suddenly realized that I wasn't able to say the words "forgive us as we forgive" because there's lots of people that I don't forgive and don't want to. What should I do?' she bluntly asked. ... I continued, 'When Jesus was dying on the cross, he prayed for those who were putting him to death saying, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." That was perfect forgiveness. ... Jesus is praying in you when you pray the Our Father. So let his perfect forgiveness be in you. Say the prayer with him praying in you and you will learn to forgive. If you wait until you've already forgiven

enough, you'll never pray it. But if you let Jesus pray it in you, you will learn from him to forgive.'

White. White smoke from the chimney on the Sistine Chapel indicates to people gathered in St. Peter's Square that a new pope has been elected by the cardinals gathered in conclave. John Paul II added something new to this tradition when he decreed that, in the election that would follow his death, the huge bell on the left side of the façade of St. Peter's Basilica should be rung, proclaiming in its own way what the white smoke declares.

All of us who were gathering in the square when the election of Benedict XVI was announced could not tell for sure if the smoke was really white. It seemed black and then gray at best. But it kept vigorously puffing away. People would shout, 'It's black,' then, 'It's white,' but it was really never white; it was just only sometimes not black. This was a unique tease, incredibly dramatic. Where do you ever get a black-and-white question posed like this? As we continued watching and trying to decide, we inevitably kept turning toward the bell to see if it would start to move. If it did, then we would know what color the smoke was. Finally, at first nearly imperceptibly, the mighty bell began to stir. That faintly discernible movement raised an enormous roar of excitement in the huge crowd. The bell could gather its momentum only slowly, so massive and heavy was it. So there it was swaying, swinging, but not yet sounding, gathering its drive; and it seemed our shouting was gradually lengthening the reach of its thrust. At last its deep tone sounded, and the sound propelled the movement into ever wider arcs in both directions of its sweep. Other bells swung into the song as the wide arms of the square embraced the gathering throng.

I do not mean to recount here all the details of that exciting hour. I only mean to utter a small testimony as to how beautiful at first was that swinging, silent bell.

From A MONK'S ALPHABET by Jeremy Driscoll, © 2006. Reprinted by arrangement with Shambhala Publications, Inc., www.shambhala.com

part of this degree at the Augustinianum, a patristic institute; but lived at Sant' Anselmo.

"Since I wanted to write my doctorate on Evagrius Ponticus, Sant' Anselmo's specialized department of monastic studies (the Monastic Institute) seemed the best place for writing it," he said. "I got interested in Evagrius during a seminar at Sant' Anselmo during my first round of studies here in Rome in 1983. I was fascinated by both the style and the content of his writing, and I realized in that

seminar that he is crucial for understanding the spiritual life of a monk. I had the good fortune of making some original discoveries in my research, and the importance of Evagrius in a program of monastic studies emerged more forcefully in my own doctoral work. So, when I was finished with my doctorate, I was invited to teach the very things I discovered in my own research and at the same Institute in which I had made the discoveries."

His yearly semester in Rome and his work at Mount Angel

WRITING—PART OF MONASTIC VOCATION FOR FATHER JEREMY DRISCOLL, O.S.B.

(Continued from page 4)

and at Sant' Anselmo, contribute to Father Jeremy's writing, as well as his teaching.

"At Mount Angel I feel very much inserted with my students into the scene of the Church in the United States," he notes. "At Sant' Anselmo my students come from many nations and from many different local churches and cultures. This is a tremendous richness. I think my closeness to the Church in the United States brings something to my teaching at Sant' Anselmo that it might not otherwise have. Naturally something similar is true in the opposite direction. The international perspective I gain at Sant' Anselmo enriches my teaching in the United States.

"I write about what I teach about," he said. "Working questions out with students refines and clarifies what I want to write. But once I have gotten something put into writing, I don't hesitate to use it in my teaching because anything I would be willing to publish is certainly my best effort at stating the question. So time given over to teaching is time given to writing, and vice versa.

"This is true even of my more popular books, *What Happens at Mass* and *Monk's Alphabet* because in both of these I am making a pastoral application of my scholarly work; and I make this a dimension of my academic teaching as well."

The opportunity to study and pray in Rome provides many occasions for inspiration, he adds. "Roman Catholic

liturgy developed in this city under the influence of Peter's successors, the popes, and under the influence of the imperial culture. The scores of churches throughout the city each bear witness to a different layer of the history of the community, still alive today, that descends from the apostles. The streets, the buildings, the piazzas, the abundant art, the very way of life—all these are witnesses to the history of Christian faith in this city and its spread from here. So, one feels it all the time, sometimes directly in examining it, sometimes in the background of what one is studying and praying about."

Father Jeremy has several more writing projects planned. He notes, "I have just finished writing an article on the liturgical theology of Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict XVI. This will be part of a volume which is a birthday gift to the Pope on his eightieth birthday, presented to him by the Pontifical Academy of Theology, of which I am a member.

"I have published two major articles on the Polish Nobel prize winning poet Czeslaw Milosz. I am planning two more. I would also like to write another popular book about liturgy like *What Happens at Mass*, maybe on the Liturgy of the Hours or on the Creed. I would also like to write another book in the same genre of *Monk's Alphabet* because I enjoy writing in that style and people seem to enjoy reading it. I want to focus the subject matter a little more tightly on questions of desire for people and places, desire for things to turn out a certain way. Desire is a beautiful, dangerous, fruitful mystery."

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Pope Benedict XVI At Sant' Anselmo On Ash Wednesday

Pope Benedict XVI began the liturgy of Ash Wednesday at Sant' Anselmo in 2007. Above, he processes to the Church with Abbot Pribate Notker Wolf, O.S.B.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 3)

Concerning academic training, the Pontifical Liturgical Institute, the Mabillon Institute, and the Monastic Institute each make an outstanding contribution to the formation of future leaders in the Church. Sant' Anselmo alumni Cardinal Geraldo Majella Agnelo of São Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, Archbishop Jerome Hanus of Dubuque, Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Atlanta, Archbishop Daniel Beuchlein of Indianapolis, Bishop Thomas Tobin of Providence, and Bishop Peter Sartain of Joliet each benefited from the education they received at Sant' Anselmo, and stand out as leaders in the 'new evangelization' called for by Pope John Paul II and by Pope Benedict XVI.

With respect to ecumenical matters, Sant' Anselmo carries on the Benedictine custom of welcoming into dialogue representatives of various Christian denominations to further our joint understanding of our faith, and to seek common ground in our activities and our beliefs. Recent efforts in this regard can be seen in the presentation at Sant' Anselmo of lectures by the distinguished German Evangelical theologian

Eberhard Jüngel, and the autumn 2006 visit to the Athenaeum of Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury and leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Additionally, in recent years Sant' Anselmo has hosted scholarship-winning students (clerical and lay students alike) of the Orthodox Churches of Russia, Bulgaria, Romania, and Moldova, as they complete their studies in Rome, and deepen bonds of friendship between the Christian east and west.

Sant' Anselmo, the Benedictine University in Rome, is steadily moving forward toward the realization of long-held goals for renewal in its academic programs and in its physical plant. As I see this progress unfolding, I have great hopes for its students—present and future—who will profit from their Anselmian educational experience, and who are eager to share the fruits of their labors with the Church throughout the world. I am happy to assist anyone who wishes to join the Saint Benedict Education Foundation in promoting the efforts of the Benedictine Order at Sant' Anselmo, forming the next generation of ministers for the service of Christ's gospel.

Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B.
Saint Vincent Archabbey
July 2007

Sant' Anselmo Alumni Spotlight

Bishop J. Peter Sartain

On Tuesday, May 16, 2006, the Apostolic Nuncio announced the appointment of Bishop J. Peter Sartain (pronounced Sar'-tin) as the Fourth Bishop of Joliet, Illinois. The new Bishop, who was installed on June 27, 2006, joins a growing cadre of Sant' Anselmo alumni who have taken leadership positions within the Church.

"I thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent at Sant' Anselmo," Bishop Sartain said. "I found the academic programs were very fine, and the professors that I had encouraged us to study, not by their words but by their expectations."

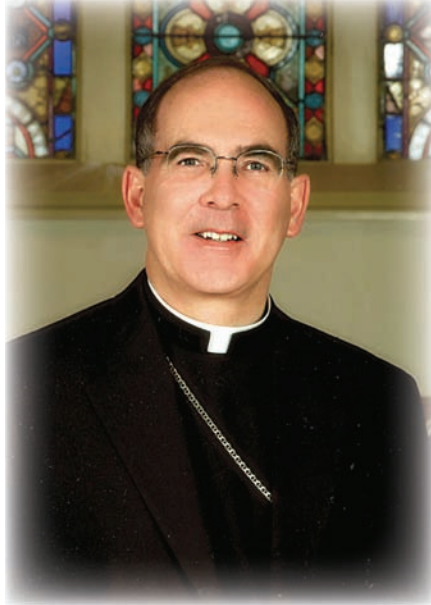
The Bishop added that he was "fortunate to attend Sant' Anselmo when several giants of sacramental and liturgical theology" were on the faculty, including Cyprian Vagaggini, Adrian Nocent, and Basil Studer.

The academic programs were extraordinary, he added. "I worked very hard and I enjoyed the work a lot. I felt that I was treated as a colleague by the professors, who encouraged me to research and delve deeply into theology or other things that I found to be interesting."

Because the academic programs were so good, and because research and learning were encouraged, he continued, "I came away with a desire to continue learning, which has remained to this day."

Bishop Sartain added that he believes that Sant' Anselmo plays a very important role in the life of the church. "Because Sant' Anselmo has both the Liturgical Institute and the School of Theology, I think students who go there have a full sense of what the liturgy and theology is all about."

He added that he learned how important it is to truly



study the liturgical rites. "It is crucial to an understanding of Catholic Sacred Theology. Studying the rites and learning how to study the rites affects how I celebrate the rites and how I teach them, even now, as a bishop."

"A good part of my education has been with Benedictines," Bishop Sartain said. "And Benedictines have been a part of my ministry as well."

While serving as bishop of Little Rock, Subiaco Abbey was nearby, the Bishop said. "And here in Joliet, we have both Marmion Abbey and Saint Bede Abbey nearby."

"The Benedictine background has been very influential in my life," the Bishop added.

Bishop Sartain stops in to visit Sant' Anselmo when he is in Rome, slipping unobtrusively into the chapel to pray before continuing with the tasks that brought him to Rome.

"Overall, Sant' Anselmo was a good experience for me," Bishop Sartain concluded. "I enjoyed every minute of it."

Bishop Sartain was born on June 6, 1952 in Memphis, Tennessee. On July 15, 1978 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.

In addition to his pastoral experience as a parochial vicar and as a pastor, Bishop Sartain also has considerable

administrative experience, having served as 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, as well as the Chair of the USCCB Committee on the Home Missions.

Bishop Sartain attended St. Meinrad College in Indiana, studied at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas in Rome, and earned a licentiate of sacred theology from the Pontifical Athenaeum San Anselmo in Rome in 1979.

I found that the academic programs [at Sant' Anselmo] were very fine, and the professors that I had encouraged us to study, not by their words but by their expectations.

Scholarships, Chairs Honor Benedictines



Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., of Saint Vincent Archabbey, right, meets with Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., former Rector and faculty member of Sant' Anselmo. The Cardinal Mayer, O.S.B., Chair in Sacramental Theology was established to honor him.

Three chairs of theology and one scholarship have been established by the Saint Benedict Education Foundation to support studies at Sant' Anselmo. The Saint Scholastica Scholarship, the Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., Chair in Sacramental Theology, the Marsili Chair in Theology, and the Chair of Eucharistic Theology in honor of Abbot Anscar Vonier, O.S.B.

The new Chair in Sacramental Theology was established to honor Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., a former rector and member of the faculty at Sant'

Anselmo. The Donahue Family Foundation of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has pledged \$100,000 to the Cardinal Mayer Chair as a start to the campaign.

A major gift of \$500,000 to found a chair of theology was received from Mrs. Erika John of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At the request of a former Abbot Primate, the chair has been named in honor of Abbot Salvatore Marsili, O.S.B., the founder of the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy.

The monks at Buckfast Abbey have contributed \$150,000 to begin funding a Chair of Eucharistic Theology in honor of Abbot Anscar Vonier, O.S.B. Abbot Anscar was the second abbot of Buckfast and a renowned theologian.

Funding for the Chair of Oriental Theology has been opened by the Athenagoras Society of Kansas City, Missouri, with a gift of \$25,000.

The Saint Benedict Education Foundation has set a fundraising goal of two million dollars for each chair and scholarship.

The Saint Scholastica Scholarship will provide financial assistance for Benedictine women to pursue advanced studies at Sant' Anselmo. At the February meeting of Benedictines in the United States, a plea was made to the monasteries of Benedictine sisters to support the scholarship.



SANT' ANSELMO CHAIRS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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NEWS FROM SANT ANSELMO



Father Mark Sheridan, O.S.B., Rector of Sant' Anselmo, offers his congratulations to Monsignor Crispino Valenziano on the honorary doctorate presented to him on May 24 in Rome.

Honorary Doctorate

On May 24, 2007 Monsignor Crispino Valenziano, a priest of the Diocese of Cefalù in Sicily, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Sacred Liturgy *Honoris Causa* during a ceremony held in his honor at Sant' Anselmo in Rome. A native of Cefalù, Msgr. Valenziano began his seminary studies there before being sent to Rome for further training. He completed his doctorate in Philosophy at the Pontifical Gregorian University and subsequently began a long and distinguished period of service to the Church as a teacher and scholar.

Beginning in 1965 Msgr. Valenziano taught theology first at Genova, and then Palermo, all the while serving as a visiting professor at several Roman academies, including Sant' Anselmo. His association with Sant' Anselmo began in 1969, and he has taught courses there and has supervised many doctoral dissertations in the field of sacred liturgy ever since.

Msgr. Valenziano has been a consultant to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, and to the Office of the Papal Master of Ceremonies. In 1965 Msgr. Valenziano was invited to join the 'Consilium' which helped to direct the reform of the Church's liturgy following the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), and he made many contributions towards this effort over the years. The discourse given in his honor on May 24th was presented by an old friend of Msgr. Valenziano, Archbishop Piero Marini, who has long served as the Papal Master of Ceremonies, and is himself an alumnus of the Benedictine academy of Sant' Anselmo.

New Abbot

On March 24, 2007, Father Daniël Hombergen, OCSO, a monk of the Trappist Abbey of Maria Toevlucht ('Our Lady of Refuge') in Holland and the Dean of the

Theological Faculty at the Pontifical Athenaeum of Saint Anselm, was elected Abbot of his community.

Abbot Daniël has been resident at Sant' Anselmo since 1996. He was a doctoral student in the Monastic Institute from 1996 till 2000, publishing his dissertation, *The Second Origenist Controversy. A New Perspective on Cyril of Scythopolis'*



Monastic Biographies as Historical Sources for Sixth-Century Origenism, in 2001. From the fall of 2000 until the present semester Abbot Daniël has been teaching Patristics and Monastic Studies, having been appointed Lecturer in 2000, and Assistant Professor of Patristics in 2003. In August of 2005 Abbot Daniël was appointed Dean of the Theological Faculty at Sant' Anselmo. He has published numerous scholarly articles and has given lectures in several countries on the topics of the Fathers of the Church and monastic spirituality.

Abbot Daniël was born in Holland but spent his youth in the Dutch Antilles in the Caribbean. He entered the Trappist community of Maria Toevlucht in 1979. He completed his seminary training in Holland, and received a Licentiate in Patristics from the Augustinianum in Rome, before being ordained to the diaconate in 1994. Abbot Daniël was ordained to the priesthood in August of 2000. Prior to entering the monastic life Abbot Daniël taught art and the history of art in a middle school in Holland.



Featured In German Publication

In an article entitled, "The Benedictines in Rome: Education for the World Church," Father Markus Muff, O.S.B., the Development Director (Europe) for Sant' Anselmo, gives a thumbnail sketch of the famous Benedictine theological school on the Aventine Hill (*Weltweit* 1/2007 4-5).

Rome is for many people a "world capital," not only in reference to its historical and cultural significance, but for Catholics also in regard to its being the center of their Christian faith and life. Most Catholic organizations and religious institutes have their headquarters or some representation here. Sant' Anselmo, named after the sainted monk-bishop Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109), is an important

NEWS FROM SANT ANSELMO

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place for some 25,000 men and women who live according to the Holy Rule of Saint Benedict of Nursia.

Founded in 1887 by Pope Leo XIII, Sant' Anselmo is not an actual monastery as such; but it is a place where hundreds of people study, research, work, and pray in common in a Benedictine atmosphere. Once an international house of studies for only Benedictines, today's university is open to a broader range of people. More than three quarters of its students are men and women from many dioceses and from more than 80 nations; the approximately 80 faculty members also come from around the world, although the majority comes from Italy.

Besides philosophy and theology, languages form an important part of the curriculum. The University features special areas of study in monastic formation, the Institute for Liturgy and Sacraments, and the Jean Mabillon Institute for the History of Theology. The school contributes importantly to the formation of leadership in the Catholic Church. Alone in 2005 eight of its alumni were ordained to the episcopacy. And many of the abbots and theologians in the Benedictine Order have studied here.

FROM THE ABBOT PRIMATE

(Continued from Page 2)

that I was looking for the necessary money he said, "Saint Benedict will help." I replied, 'No, this is Saint Joseph's responsibility.' He laughed and said, "You're right again."

But now to the life of the house itself. This year the Athenaeum, or university, had 380 students. The college, with 120 residents from 43 nations, was completely full. We have had additions

to our personnel: Abbot Pius Engelbert from Gerleve, for many years a professor of Church History here and editor of the "Corpus Consuetudinum" has, following his resignation, returned to Sant'Anselmo and taken over the archives of the Confederation. Father John Seddon from Ramsgate Abbey has come to work as a librarian. Since the autumn, Father Denys Bernard Cazes from the French Trappist monastery of Mont des Cats has been teaching in the Faculty of Philosophy. Sister Leena of the Indian Saint Lioba Sisters is working in



the Portineria and in the Rector's office.

The Holy Father was here briefly on Ash Wednesday. On 21st November last, the head of the Anglican Communion, Archbishop Rowan Williams, came here along with Cardinal Kasper and delivered a brilliant and much acclaimed lecture on "Benedict and the Future of Europe". The Benedictine women held their symposium, "RB 64,19. Wisdom Leadership" here last September. At the end of this symposium, on 15th September, Sister Judith Heble of Sacred Heart Monastery, Lisle, Illinois was elected the new Moderator of the CIB. She succeeds Mother Máire Hickey, Abbess of Dinklage. In the meantime preparations have begun for the second World Congress of Oblates which will take place in 2009. But our main preparations at the moment are focused on the Congress of Abbots in 2008. The preparatory commission met at the last Synod of Abbots President at Downside and again on 26th February at Sant'Anselmo.

Finally, I should like to mention briefly some of my travels. I was able to be present at the large meeting of Latin-American Benedictines, Cistercians and Trappists at Belo Horizonte in Brazil which had as its theme "Peace as Gift and Challenge". Following this I flew to Mount Angel in the north-west of the United States for the dedication of a new wing of their seminary. I spoke to several abbots and Cardinal Levada about our Saint Benedict Education Foundation. In January I went to San Francisco for the Workshop of North-American Abbots and Prioresses. The theme was "The Following of Christ in the Light of Chapter 72 of the Rule of Benedict". Abbess Máire Hickey and the Trappist Abbot Armand Veilleux set the scene for the discussions. The annual meeting of the Superiors of India and Sri Lanka was held at the Sylvestrine Priory of Vijayawada. One of the emphases was on the question of solid monastic training and continuing monastic formation. Similar questions were dealt with at the Abbey of Inkamana where the conference of the eleven communities of southern Africa met.

Throughout all of these journeys I was accompanied by a photographer who plans to publish a book on the global presence of Benedictines. During the Pope's visit to Bavaria I was invited by Bavarian Television to be co-commentator for their transmissions. The members of this team were fascinated by the variety of Benedictine life and its rootedness in different cultures throughout the world. Benedict is at home not only in Europe but, over the last century-and-a-half, has put his stamp on the Church in the United States. Benedict's *Rule*, based on the Gospel, is increasingly esteemed in India and even in the vast expanses of Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe, Saint Benedict is no longer a stranger.

In Christ's Love,
J. L. Wolf

Notker Wolf, O.S.B.

Sant' Anselmo Alumni Spotlight

Sant' Anselmo Graduate To Head New Office In Atlanta

By **ERIKA ANDERSON**,
Staff Writer, *The Georgia Bulletin* (reprinted with permission) from the November 9, 2006 issue.

ATLANTA—For the past five months a new archdiocesan office has been quietly assisting parishes and the Archdiocese of Atlanta as a whole in creating rich, tradition-filled liturgies.

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory officially established the archdiocesan Office of Divine Worship this past June and appointed Father Theodore Book as its director.

The purpose of the office, Father Book said in an e-mail, "is to assist the parishes and the archdiocese to worship God in ways that are as rich and beautiful as possible."

"Its primary scope is to be a resource for the parishes



by providing programs and workshops that are useful to parish clergy, volunteers and staff and by being available to answer questions or provide help in other ways," he said.

Archbishop Gregory, whose own background is in liturgy—he earned his doctorate in sacred liturgy from Sant' Anselmo and once taught liturgy at Mundelein Seminary in Illinois—first established the Atlanta Liturgical Commission in 2005. The Office of Divine Worship, Father Book said, was created in conjunction with the commission.

Father Book holds a license in sacred liturgy from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome and was ordained in 2002. He said he is looking forward to assisting more parishes with their liturgical needs.

"My hope is that the office can become a resource that is useful for all of the worshipping communities that we have in the diocese—whether they be small or large, urban or rural, of all ethnic backgrounds," he said, adding that he is counting on Atlanta Catholics to assist him. "To do that, I know that I will need the help of many people—but knowing the wonderful kindness of the people of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, I am sure that we can put together a program that will reflect the many talents and perspectives that make Atlanta such a great place to be Catholic."

Editor's Note: Some of Father Book's writings appear, with permission, on the Saint Benedict Education Foundation Website: <http://www.stbenedictfoundation.org>.



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