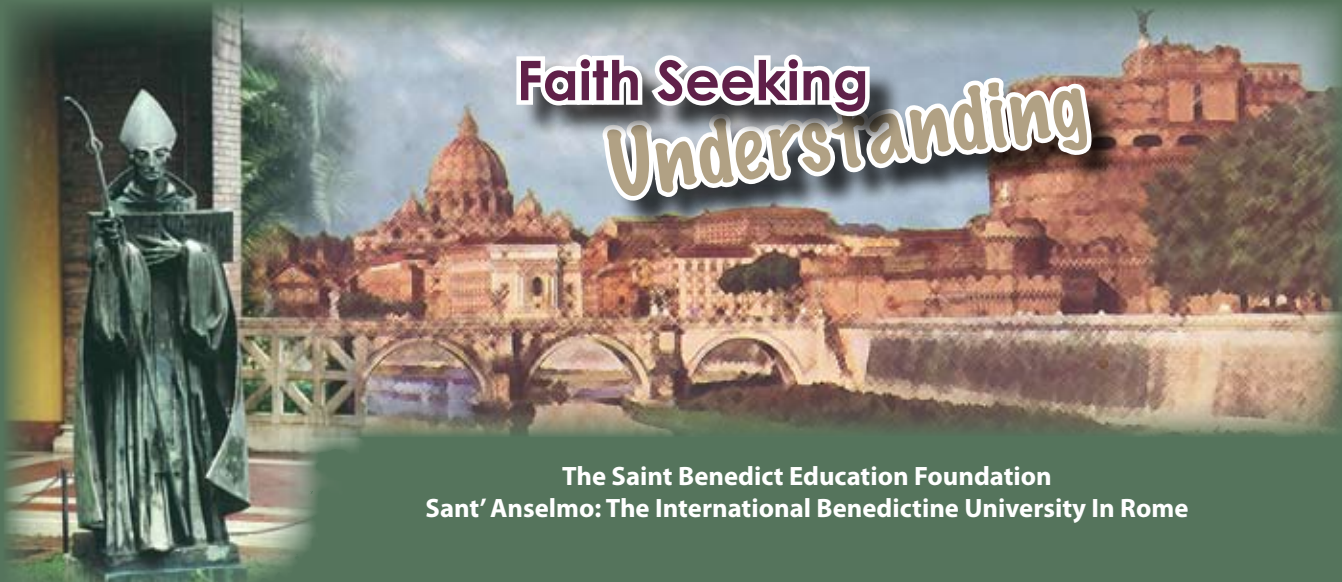


Faith Seeking Understanding



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

Volume 3, Issue 1



Pope Benedict XVI during the Ash Wednesday service at Sant' Anselmo, Rome. At top right he walks with Abbot Preme Notker Wolf, O.S.B. In the bottom right photo he greets Cardinal Augustin Mayer, O.S.B., a former rector and faculty member at Sant' Anselmo. At left, he prays in the Basilica of Sant' Anselmo prior to the start of the Ash Wednesday service.



From left, some of the many students who have been assisted by the generous contributions to scholarship funds at Sant' Anselmo, Brother Lukas Koller, O.S.B., Brother Pedro Ampo, Jr., O.S.B., Brother Joseph Dolera and Brother Leandro Posadas, O.S.B.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings from the Saint Benedict Education Foundation! I am happy to report to you that the Saint Benedict Education Foundation is moving into the summer having recently granted substantial assistance to Sant' Anselmo, the Benedictine Pontifical University in Rome.

At its April Board of Directors meeting, the members of the Board voted to approve among other items the following requests from Sant' Anselmo:

- Full or partial scholarships for seven students (four Benedictine monks and three diocesan priests) from financially needy communities.
- Full salary and academic support for a professor of Liturgy in Sant' Anselmo's Liturgical Institute.
- A large contribution for the expansion of the library collection at Sant' Anselmo.
- Academic and professional assistance for a professor of the Liturgical Institute.

This assistance has been provided to Sant' Anselmo



through the generosity of supporters of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation like you, who value the contribution which Sant' Anselmo makes to Catholic education at the international level.

Your continued support will enable our Benedictine University to improve the quality of its programs and to expand its impact on the entire Church by bringing students from throughout the Benedictine world into contact with recognized experts in theology, liturgy, and monastic studies.

Specific projects sponsored by the Saint Benedict Education Foundation include the Saint Scholastica Scholarship for Benedictine sisters and laywomen, the Salvatore Marsili Professorship in Liturgical Theology, and the Cardinal Augustin Mayer Professorship in Sacramental Theology. Each of these initiatives of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation is bearing fruit for Sant' Anselmo as it experiences exciting growth and changes.

This fall Sant' Anselmo will welcome a class of new Benedictine students which will fill the resident College to its capacity. In addition, Sant' Anselmo will have a new Prior—the head of the resident monastic community—and a new academic Rector. The new Prior is Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., a monk of St. Mary's Abbey in Morristown, New Jersey. Father Elias is an experienced canon lawyer, and a former Prior and formation director at his home abbey. Our new Rector is Father Juan Javier Flores-Arcas, O.S.B., a member of the Benedictine community of the Abbey of Silos in northern Spain. Father Juan Javier has long served as a faculty member at Sant' Anselmo, and more recently as President of the Liturgical Institute.

Your generosity is critical in helping the Saint Benedict Education Foundation in its task of developing our Benedictine University to its fullest potential. With gratitude for your continued support I remain,

Yours in Christ and Saint Benedict,

Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B.

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THE SAINT BENEDICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Faith Seeking
Understanding

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Rector

Very Rev. Juan Javier Flores-Arcas, O.S.B.

President

Rev. Edward M. Mazich, O.S.B.

president@stbenedictfoundation.org

Director of Development

Paul R. Whiteside

pwhiteside@stbenedictfoundation.org

Editor

Kim Metzgar

kmetzgar@stbenedictfoundation.org

Associate Editor

Elizabeth Cousins

Administrative Assistant

Ana Lucia Pereira

info@stbenedictfoundation.org

Photographs by:

Elizabeth Cousins

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Published by

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300 Fraser Purchase Road

Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650-2690 USA

Telephone: 724-805-2890 Fax: 724-805-2891

[email: info@stbenedictfoundation.org](mailto:info@stbenedictfoundation.org)

<http://www.stbenedictfoundation.org>

The Pontifical Athenaeum and College of Sant' Anselmo

Piazza Cavalieri di Malta, 5

I-00153 Rome, Italy

Telephone: 011-39-06-579-1323

Fax: 011-39-06-579-1409

<http://www.santanselmo.org>

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NEW RECTOR, PRIOR AT SANT' ANSELMO

A new rector and prior were recently named at the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant Anselmo, Rome.

Father Juan Javier Flores Arcas, O.S.B. Rector

Father Juan Javier Flores Arcas, O.S.B., was elected Rector of the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant' Anselmo on March 19, 2009, with his election being confirmed by the Holy See on April 3, 2009. Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B. oversaw the process in which Father Juan Javier was elected by his colleagues on the faculty of Sant' Anselmo.



At the time he enters office on June 24, 2009, Father Juan Javier will be responsible for the three Faculties or academic divisions of Sant' Anselmo; namely, the Faculties of Theology, Philosophy, and Liturgy. Within these three main departments and stemming from their primary fields of endeavor, Sant' Anselmo also offers specialized courses of study in the History of Theology, Monastic Studies, and Philosophy and Mysticism.

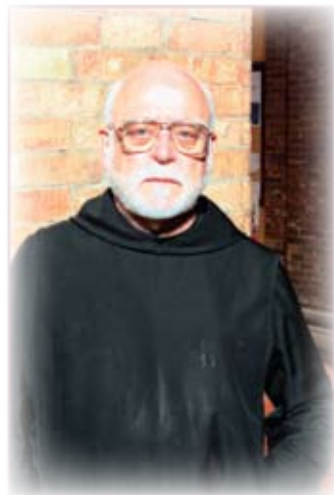
Father Juan Javier was born in the city of Linares, in southern Spain, in 1951. He studied at the University of Granada and the Università Complutense in Madrid, receiving degrees in Philosophy and Spanish Literature. He began his monastic life at the Abbey of Santo Domingo di Silos, near Burgos in northern Spain in 1977. Father Juan Javier was ordained to the priesthood in 1983, and received his licentiate in Liturgy in 1988, and his doctorate in Liturgy in 1995, both at Sant' Anselmo. Since 1997 he has been a member of the Faculty at Sant' Anselmo, teaching a variety of courses in the areas of Liturgy and Sacramental Theology. In 2000 Father Juan Javier was elected President of the Pontifical Liturgical Institute—a position he held until 2008—and in 2003 he was further appointed as Professor of Liturgical and Sacramental Theology at Sant' Anselmo. Father Juan Javier served as a consultant to the 2005 Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist, and the 2008 Synod on the Word of God in the Life of the Church.

In addition to his teaching, Father Juan Javier has been active in scholarly writing, publishing numerous books and articles on the subject of the liturgy and the sacraments. He has also taken a prominent role in the administration of

(Continued on Page 6)

FATHER EPHREM CARR NEW LITURGICAL INSTITUTE LEADER

Father Ephrem Carr, O.S.B., a Benedictine monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, and a long-time member of



the faculty at Sant' Anselmo, was elected President of the Pontifical Liturgical Institute on November 13, 2008. Following approval by Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, O.S.B., Father Ephrem began his four-year term of office in December. The Pontifical Liturgical Institute was established in 1961 by Blessed Pope John XXIII in order to deepen and strengthen the historical and theological study of the

Church's liturgy, which is the heart of its prayer life.

Father Ephrem is eminently qualified to take on this new and great responsibility. He has been a Professor of the Liturgical Institute since 1987, where he teaches courses in Oriental Liturgy, Oriental Monasticism, and Syriac. He further teaches Patristic Greek at the

Augustinianum in Rome, and Early Church History at the Pontifical College of St. Bede. Father Ephrem has published and edited many scholarly articles and books in his thirty-year teaching career, and remains active in academic research and writing. He received his doctorate in Liturgy from Sant' Anselmo in 1978, having already completed a Licentiate in Oriental Studies at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in 1970.

In addition to teaching at Sant' Anselmo and at other Roman academies, Father Ephrem served his own monastic community as an Instructor and later Professor at St. Meinrad Seminary from 1970 until 1986. He also served as Sub-Prior of St. Meinrad Archabbey from 1978 until 1985. A native of Toledo, Ohio, Father Ephrem entered the monastic community of St. Meinrad in 1962, professing simple vows in 1963. He made his solemn profession of vows in 1966, and was ordained to the priesthood the following year. Having spent many years of his Benedictine life at Sant' Anselmo, Father Ephrem is excited to begin a new chapter of his life of service to the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant' Anselmo, to the Benedictine Order, and to the universal Church.

PETER KREEFT ON "THE SHOCKING BEAUTY OF JESUS CHRIST"

Dr. Peter Kreeft served as the inaugural speaker for the Saint Benedict Education Foundation's annual lecture. Dr. Kreeft's speech examined the powerful theme of Christianity in an increasingly secular world, including theological aesthetics, considered Beauty as the "third absolute", along with Truth and Goodness. He also

explained how Jesus himself exemplifies true Beauty, and thus continues to "shock" all those who meet him for the first time.

"Christ changed every human being he ever met," Dr. Kreeft stated. "He changed history, splitting it open like a coconut, and inserting eternity into the split between BC and AD."

Dr. Kreeft spoke about boredom, and the havoc it creates within humanity and the secular world, suggesting that boredom is "one of our major psychological problems today." The antidote to boredom is not pleasure or happiness, but joy, which includes surprise.

"The unsurprising life is not worth living," he continued. "Everything God does is a surprise."

DVDs and CDs of the lecture are available by mailing a check payable to the Saint Benedict Education Foundation for \$10 for each DVD or \$5 for each CD, plus \$3 for shipping and handling to Saint Benedict Education Foundation, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA 15650.

The second lecture in the series, set for Friday, October 23, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. on the campus of Saint Vincent College, will feature Father Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B. Father Driscoll is the author of a number of books, including *What Happens at Mass* and *A Monk's Alphabet: Provisional Approaches to the Mystery*.



More than 300 persons attended the lecture by Peter Kreeft sponsored by the Saint Benedict Education Foundation in Latrobe, Pa. Above, foundation President Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B., greets the author.

RECENT DONORS TO THE SAINT BENEDICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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NEW RECTOR, PRIOR

(Continued from Page 3)

several Benedictine Congregations at the international level, and continues to serve as a consultant to the Congregation for Divine Worship of the Holy See.

Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B.

Prior

Father Elias Lorenzo, O.S.B., will assume the office of Prior of Sant' Anselmo in September 2009. As such, he will be responsible for the daily operations of a large and complex international community—home to Benedictines of many nations, cultures, and languages. The Prior is the Abbot Primate's principle assistant in overseeing the growth and health of the Benedictines who live and study in the heart of Rome.



Father Elias is no stranger to leadership positions in Benedictine life: he has been a member of the Benedictine community of Saint Mary's for twenty-five years. He entered the Morristown, New Jersey, monastery in 1984, and was ordained as a priest in 1989. During his time at Saint Mary's Father Elias served in many positions within his community, as well as in the Diocese of Metuchen. Father Elias has been Prior of Saint Mary's Abbey, Director of Monastic Formation, and Director of Liturgy. At the Delbarton School—run by the monks of Saint Mary's—Father Elias served for many years as teacher and chairman in the religious studies department, as the director of campus ministry, and as the Vice-President of Delbarton for External Affairs. He also serves at present as the Vicar for Religious of the Diocese of Metuchen.

Father Elias holds degrees in Psychology, Liturgical Studies, and Canon Law. In addition to his responsibilities as the Prior—the superior—of the College of Sant' Anselmo, Father Elias will serve as the Abbot Primate's canonical consultant on affairs involving the Benedictine Order and the Holy See.

His canonical work on behalf of the Church in the United States in recent years has brought Father Elias recognition as one who is deeply committed to the long-term strength and vibrancy of the Church, and the care of all of its members, especially those who are the most vulnerable. To this end, he has served as canonical counsel for Praesidium, Inc., certifying the performance of American dioceses in

protecting the rights and safety of children in the Church.

Father Elias is an experienced hand in Benedictine affairs at the international level: he was a founding member of the International Commission on Benedictine Education, and continues to be involved in matters related to the Commission as well as to other international charitable initiatives.

SISTER JUDITH ANN HEBLE, O.S.B. JOINS FOUNDATION BOARD

Sister Judith Ann Heble, OSB, Prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery in Lisle, Illinois, has been named to the Board of Directors of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation, which supports the international Benedictine university in Rome, Sant'Anselmo. Prioress of her community since 1993, she has also been serving as the Moderator of the Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum (CIB) for the past three years. She has been active in this international conference of Benedictine Women for the past twelve years. She likewise serves on the honorary advisory board of The Beit Benedict Foundation.



Sister Judith Ann is the past President of the Conference of Benedictine Prioresses, having served in that capacity for twelve years.

Since 1995, Sister Judith Ann has been a Trustee at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois. She is an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors of Villa St. Benedict, Lisle, Illinois since 1993, a continuing care retirement community on the campus of Sacred Heart Monastery. Since 1992, she has served on the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Diocese for Joliet.

A teacher by profession, she taught elementary school for eleven years, served as Director of Adult and Religious Education for twenty-two years at Saint Joan of Arc, a local parish in Lisle, Illinois. She was also a part-time instructor of Scripture at Benedictine University.

Sister Judith Ann earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History from the College of Saint Francis, Joliet, Illinois; Master of Education Administration, (K-12) from Loyola University, Chicago; and a Master of Theological Studies in Scripture from the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago. She did post-graduate study in Scripture in Israel for a semester.

PATRONS OF SANT' ANSELMO

The Saint Benedict Education Foundation is pleased to announce the formation of the "Patrons of Sant' Anselmo" – an organization designed to invite you to become more actively involved in the activities of the Foundation and a social network to join others in some interesting and enjoyable activities.



Each state will be entitled to form a chapter of the Patrons of Sant' Anselmo. Each chapter will be comprised of a set of officers and up to 25 members. The annual fee of

\$500 will entitle the members to participate in the activities of the chapter which may include speeches, visits to special Benedictine sites, dinners, and other activities that may be germane to the location of the given chapter.

Each year the members will have the opportunity to choose a unique project that will, in some way, benefit the students of Sant' Anselmo in Rome. Projects could include scholarship assistance for a given student, a repair or restoration of a part of the campus, or assistance for a faculty member. In order to bring these projects to "life" the members will be invited to regular visits to Sant' Anselmo in Rome at which time they will have the opportunity to meet their respective students, faculty members and/or to tour the facility. The Foundation will work to ensure a meeting with the Abbot Primate, the leader of the Benedictine Order and Sant' Anselmo. In addition, unique and interesting tours will be arranged

to make the visit to Rome as fulfilling and stimulating as possible.

If you are interested in starting a chapter in your state, please contact us. We would love to hear from you. Please contact me at your earliest convenience: Mr. Paul R. Whiteside, Director of Development at (724) 532-6740 or email pwhiteside@stbenedictfoundation.org.

Scholarships, Chairs Honor Benedictines

Three chairs of theology and one scholarship have been established to support studies at Sant' Anselmo. Each has a goal of two million dollars.



- 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.

- A chair of theology has been named in honor of Abbot Salvatore Marsili, O.S.B., the founder of the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy.

- Funding has begun for a Chair of Eucharistic Theology in honor of Abbot Anscar Vonier, O.S.B. The second abbot of Buckfast Abbey was a renowned theologian.

- The Saint Scholastica Scholarship provides financial assistance for Benedictine women to pursue advanced studies at Sant' Anselmo.

SANT' ANSELMO CHAIRS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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THE SAINT BENEDICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNUAL LECTURE

Father Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B.

A Monk's Alphabet: Provisional Approaches to the Mystery

7:30 p.m., Friday, October 23, 2009

The Fred M. Rogers Center, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania

Free and Open to the Public. Seating is Limited.

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