

Summer 2011

MOUNT Angel Letter



*123rd Class Graduates from
Mount Angel Seminary*





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Summer 2011 | Volume 64, Number 2

DIRECTORY

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ABBAY LITURGY SCHEDULE
Weekdays and Sundays
Vigils (Office of Reading) 5:25 a.m.
Saturdays (for Sunday) 7:30 p.m.
Lauds (Morning Prayer) 6:35 a.m.
Sundays 6:40 a.m.
Community Mass 8:05 a.m.
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
Vespers (Evening Prayer) 5:20 p.m.
Sundays 5:20 p.m.
Compline (Evening Prayer) 7:30 p.m.
Sundays 8:05 p.m.

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abbeystore@mountangelabbay.org

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503-845-3066 or 800.845.8272
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503-845-3112
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503.845.3123
vocation@mountangelabbay.org

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On the Cover: Seraphin Bamouni, Archdiocese of Seattle, received his BA on Saturday, May 7, 2011.

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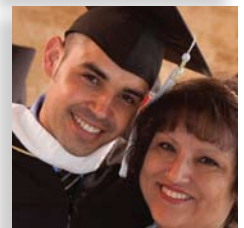
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GOOD LUCK GRADUATES

Mount Angel Seminary's 123rd commencement ceremony is over, but for our graduates it is an opportunity to begin anew. The faculty, staff and monks wish them all the best as they follow their calling.

The MOUNT ANGEL LETTER is the official publication of Mount Angel Abbey & Seminary. A Newsletter for the friends and family of Mount Angel Abbey, Monastery, Guest House, Library, Seminary, and Our Lady of the Angels Priory, Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Please send comments and address changes to:
Mount Angel Letter - The Abbey Foundation of Oregon
PO Box 501, St. Benedict, Oregon 97373-0501
MAL@mountangelabbay.org or 503.845.3066 or 800.845.8272

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Dear Friends

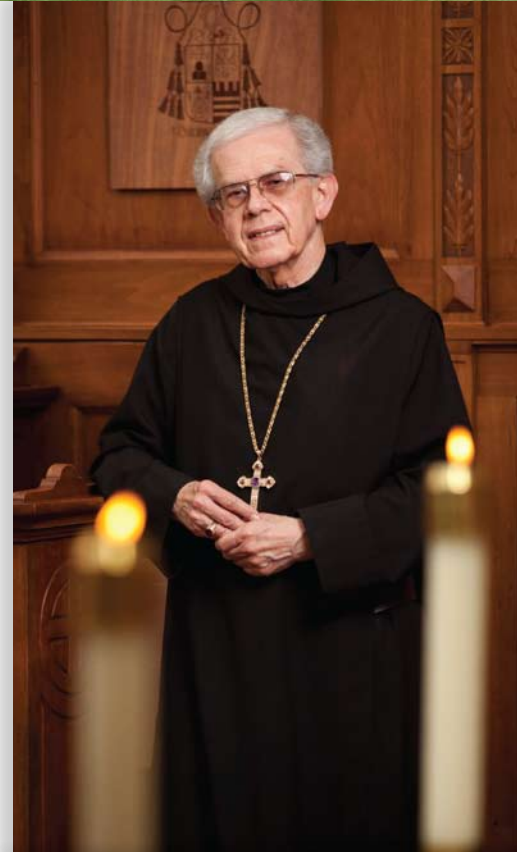
It's Easter Monday as I begin to write this letter and the great and central celebration of the Lord's dying and rising is still very much on my mind, and no doubt yours as well. But by the time you receive this issue of the *Mount Angel Letter* around the end of June you will have found the month of June itself quite packed with no less than six other liturgical solemnities – or seven if we include July 1! Ascension and Pentecost follow Easter at definite intervals, and three other solemnities, Trinity Sunday, the Body and Blood of Christ, and the Sacred Heart are celebrated in the weeks immediately following Pentecost. The two remaining solemnities of June are always celebrated on definite dates, the Birth of John the Baptist on June 24, and Peter and Paul on June 29.

So, with the late celebration of Easter this year, the month of June has turned out to be a liturgical treasure trove! Of course, the whole liturgical year is such a wellspring of grace for the Catholic praying and worshiping community. In this regard I would like to share with you a statement that I found just recently:

“The celebration of the liturgical year possesses a distinct sacramental force and efficacy because Christ himself – in his mysteries and in the memorials of his saints, especially of his Mother – continues his mission of infinite mercy. Therefore his faithful people not only recall and contemplate the mysteries of redemption but also lay hold of them, enter into communion with them, and live by them”
(Daily Roman Missal, p. 820).

In all of these liturgical celebrations of the mysteries of Christ and his saints, know that we monks of Mount Angel Abbey will be praying and worshiping with you! Benedictine spirituality, after all, is primarily a Christ-centered liturgical spirituality. The sons and daughters of St. Benedict strive to realize the two great preferences enjoined upon them in the Holy Rule: “Prefer nothing whatever to Christ” (chapter 72, verse 11), and “Nothing is to be preferred to the Work of God” (chapter 43, verse 3). If we understand “the Work of God” as the liturgy, then gathering these two preferences together finds its deepest realization in that truly Christ-centered liturgical spirituality which is the very spirituality of the Church!

Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB



“
The sons and daughters of St. Benedict strive to realize the two great preferences enjoined upon them in the Holy Rule: “Prefer nothing whatever to Christ” (chapter 72, verse 11), and “Nothing is to be preferred to the Work of God” (chapter 43, verse 3).

”

Monastery

THREE POSTULANTS ENTER THE MONASTERY

By Brother Basil Lawrence, OSB

May the blessings of this holy season of Easter be upon you! The monks of Mount Angel Abbey are once again excited to share with you some of our recent happenings.

The abbey is pleased to welcome three new members to our monastic community: Br. Jackson Conocido, Br. Juan Manjares, and Br. Michael Stephenson. The three men began their postulancy – a period of discerning and “questioning” – in March and will be eligible to enter the novitiate in September.



(Left to right) Br. Jackson Conocido, Br. Juan Manjares and Br. Michael Stephenson.

EASTER LIGHT SHINES AT OUR LADY OF ANGELS PRIORY

Priory

By Prior Konrad Schaeffer, OSB



Subprior, Brother Bernardo, putting the finishing touches on an Easter candle.

During the hot Lenten season, urgencies converged in the monastery: the ripe coffee craved to be harvested — oblates and friends are helping us with the picking. Before Easter the candle production was at its peak, and various brothers lent a hand to decorate the splendid shafts of Easter light.

The sica palm produced new fronds just in time for our Palm Sunday procession. More effervescent this year than ever, the procession began in the chapel grove with the waving of palm branches, the tinkling of happy little bells and the cheerful pace of some 500 faithful who attend our Holy Week liturgies.

Holy Week and Easter celebrations filled the chapel. Near mid-day on Good Friday the ‘Way of the Cross’ wound up the hill to the monastery; then the devout faithful relaxed and waited in the chapel woods for the afternoon ‘Adoration of the Cross.’

After Easter, we took a needed respite from the urgencies and routine of daily life with our Easter week picnic. Early Tuesday morning, following prayer and the Eucharist, we packed into a bus and drove to Las Estacas, a fantastic water park, for a day of frivol and fun, barbecue, swimming and games.

As we anticipate our move toward autonomy as an abbey, we have established a Foundation at Mount Angel Abbey and one in Mexico, that will help show our viability as a monastery in the Swiss American Congregation. We never stop thanking you for your share in this dream coming true.

In the Library

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

By Victoria Ertelt, Library Administrator

At the Oregon Library Association annual conference, Sandi Ritchey, Mount Angel Abbey library interlibrary loan manager, received recognition as Library Employee of the Year. The Oregon library community also acknowledged the important part Mount Angel Abbey library plays in the national library association.

Sandi Ritchey has worked at the Mount Angel Abbey library for nearly thirteen years and for most of those years she has been the library's interlibrary loan manager. While the library has a large and extensive collection, it doesn't have everything that is requested by the students,

faculty and monks. When they cannot find the documents they need, they turn to Ritchey – often for something fairly obscure. She devotes her expertise and energy to ensuring that they always get what they need.

In addition, she assists other Portland scholars, including those studying in Rome for the Portland Archdiocese. She has been described as helpful, collegial, cheerful and kind. Because of her vast experience she can anticipate difficulties and knows how to prevent them. In addition to all the work she does for the hilltop community, she also works with the wider Oregon and national library



Sandi Ritchey (right), interlibrary loan manager, and Victoria Ertelt (left), library administrator, shown at the Oregon Library Association awards ceremony.

community, sending items from our collection to scholars at other institutions.

Everyone at Mount Angel Abbey extends a congratulatory hand to Sandi Ritchey. Please take a moment to congratulate her the next time you are in the library.

Guesthouse

A PLACE OF PRIVATE RETREAT

Father Pius X Harding, OSB, Guestmaster

The Lord provided us with a wet and windy spring this year. This was especially evident to anyone whose retreat room in the Abbey's guesthouse overlooked the valley toward the south and west. Oregon's famous Pacific storms approach the Abbey from this direction, sweeping up the hillside, causing the windows of the guesthouse to whistle and wail. Add a good book, the time to read it, and guests can experience one of the great joys of making a personal retreat: holy leisure.

In the midst of this solitude one may be tempted to check email or make

a phone call on one's cell phone, but it is better to let such everyday communications have some time off. It takes a bit of effort to enter into real silence. But it is there, in profound quiet, that the Word is received most sincerely. It takes a while for the exterior noises that have worked their way into one's interior life to be extracted through the process of prayerful listening.

It must be early to bed however, for the heart of Mount Angel Abbey's monastic life beats early in the morning with the office of Vigils. Before the night gives way to the

coming day, the community gathers in the Abbey church to offer to God the first fruits of that new day: "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise."

Throughout the day divine praise is offered, meals are shared and more books are read. Then, soon enough, the night winds are whistling at the window again: another peaceful night and another day of praise to follow. And so goes the private retreat.

Seminary SPECIAL ISSUE

SENIOR PROJECTS

Each year, both the graduate and the undergraduate program require a final senior project from seminarians. Jeffrey Nicholas and Nancy Holt provide below a summary of each of these project requirements. Michael Andrade and Joshua Clifton have written a brief summary of their projects. All senior projects, for this year and for past years, can be found in the Abbey library. If you would like to read the full text of Andrade's and Clifton's papers you will find a link on the Mount Angel Abbey Newsletter web page. www.mountangelabbey.org.

Undergraduate Capstone Summary

Jeffrey Nicholas, associate professor of philosophy

The senior capstone comprises a 20-30-page thesis paper that demonstrates the knowledge and research skills students gain in their tenure as undergraduates at Mount Angel Seminary. At the end of their third year classes, students select an interdisciplinary topic, typically with emphasis in philosophy, literature or religious studies, and a committee to guide their research and writing.

Over the summer, students read in their topic area and develop a formal thesis statement. The thesis is written in the fall semester of their senior year. The committee provides extensive comments on formal drafts of the paper at the end of January. The paper is finalized in early spring before each student presents a summary in an open forum.

The best papers represent scholarship in research, excellence in writing, an ability to integrate

at least two fields of research and enthusiasm in presentation. Ideally, students relate their topic to their future ministry during their oral presentations. The Capstone Committee (Stewart King, Jeffrey Nicholas and Duncan Parks) coordinate faculty committees, give general direction to students, and provide grading standards. We are delighted with the quality of research and the variety of topics students exhibit.

Master of Divinity Integrative Projects

Nancy J. Holt, adjunct faculty and supervisor for MA and MDiv standards

Throughout the Master of Divinity course of study, the seminarian acquires a sound base of theological knowledge and develops the practice of theological reflection. Through a series of supervised pastoral placements, the seminarian develops pastoral skills.

In the fourth year of theological studies the degree completion process offers the seminarian an opportunity to reflect deeply and

cumulatively on his formation for ministry. Each seminarian selects a topic based on his pastoral experiences and, collaboratively with a director, reader and English standards reader, prepares both a written and an oral presentation of the topic. In these he demonstrates his ability to integrate theological knowledge with pastoral experience through the process of theological reflection. The two-semester Master of Divinity seminar offers faculty guidance and peer response throughout the preparation process. The public, especially members of the parishes at which the seminarian has served, is invited to hear the final presentations.

Make Me Believe: Blessed John Henry Newman's Influence on Graham Greene's Catholic Novels

Michael Andrade, college 4 - Diocese of Fresno

Embarking on my yearlong capstone journey in the spring of 2010, I was sure that I wanted to focus on the English author Graham Greene. Greene captivated me early on in my time at the Seminary

when I read *The Power and the Glory* in College I. I began to search for a theological framework that I could place over Greene. It was then that I discovered Blessed John Henry Newman. With Newman and Greene as my guides and inspiration, I began my capstone journey.

My research focused on Newman's idea that virtues are meant as weapons in a battle and that conflict develops those virtues. I applied this aspect of Newman's theology to Greene's Catholic novels (*The Power and the Glory*, *The End of the Affair*, *The Heart of the Matter*, and *Brighton Rock*). After summarizing the specific aspects of Newman's vast theology pertinent to my study I analyzed how Greene uses Newman's ideas.

My project highlighted the conflict and development of virtue in a diversity of Greene's characters – an alcoholic priest, an adulterous author and his lover, a suicidal police officer and a teenage gangster. Each of these characters experiences a conflict that allows them to develop virtue and move closer to God. When analyzed in light of Newman's deep theological insights, Greene's novels come to life and reveal God's power in every human life. This project had a profound impact on my priestly formation and has inspired me to see God's grace working in the conflicts of daily life.



(left) Joshua Clifton and (right) Michael Andrade.

Loving the Unloved: Ministry to the Incarcerated

By Joshua Clifton, theology IV - Diocese of Monterey

One of the traditional corporal works of mercy is to visit the imprisoned. The scriptures and the pastoral leaders of the church point to the duty for priests and laity to reach out to the imprisoned. Currently there are over 2,000,000 incarcerated individuals in the United States including another 5,000,000 on probation or parole. This is roughly one out of every thirty-two adults.

The cycle of violence, drugs and abuse in families is the source of much of the motivation towards criminal activity. While justice does not permit that criminals be

excused for their crimes, mercy insists that they be treated with compassion and that the root causes of criminal behavior be addressed. My time working in the jails around Santa Cruz County in California freed me from many of the common misconceptions about criminals and incarceration. I came to understand that among the incarcerated we have an opportunity to follow the Gospel call to love those who may be the hardest to love. My experience has shown me that ministry to the incarcerated can effect a real, positive change in their lives. It is imperative that clergy and laity respond to the Gospel call to serve in this much-needed ministry.

Seminary SPECIAL ISSUE

CLASS OF 2011 GRADUATES UNDER RAINY SKIES

*Kathryn Akiyama, associate professor and director
of English communications*

Persistently inclement weather on Saturday, May 7, derailed the usual academic procession from Damian Center to the Abbey Church.

Fr. Paul Peri led the march from the church portico into the Abbey church with the new academic mace in hand (see the seminary blog at masjournalism.blogspot.com for more information about the academic mace). Bright academic regalia in vivid blues, reds, purples and yellows brightened a campus that had been drenched by record-breaking rainfall through a long winter and spring. The church was packed with the graduates' families and friends. Non-graduating seminarians cheered from their balcony perch, generously leaving room for guests in the main floor pews.

Master of Ceremonies and Academic Vice President, Elaine Park, greeted everyone at the start of the ceremony, flanked by Abbot Gregory Duerr, President-Rector Monsignor Richard Paperini, Academic Undergraduate Dean Katherine Kirsch, Registrar Marina Keys and other seminary board members.

Mary Jo Tully, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Portland and an adjunct professor of systematic theology in the seminary, gave the commencement address. Rev. Mr. Matt Ramsay, Diocese of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, represented the graduates in his speech, which emphasized the importance of service and the inspiration offered worldwide by the ringing of church bells.

Five departing members of the seminary community were recognized for their service as they retire or pursue other studies or jobs: James Cassidy; Frank Engel; Katherine Kirsch; Fr. Celso Marquez, MSpS; and, Br. Jonah Wright, OSB.

Sunlight warmed the hilltop as the graduates stepped out from the Abbey Church, tassels now swinging from the left side of their caps. Celebrating family and friends snapped photos before joining in the Damian Center for cake and punch. We wish all the best to the 2011 graduates.





Seminary SPECIAL ISSUE

CONGRATULATIONS 2011 GRADUATES!

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Michael Joseph Andrade
Diocese of Fresno

James Salas Balajadia
Diocese of Chalan Kanoa

Seraphin Bamouni
Archdiocese of Seattle

Peter Francis Stephen Berger
Diocese of Yakima

Raj Rommel Derivera
Diocese of Sacramento

Alexander Andres Estrella
Diocese of Sacramento

Arjie Dacua Garcia
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Brother Matias Herrera, MSpS
Missionary of the Holy Spirit

Joseph Manalang Malinis
Diocese of Sacramento

Mathew David Olson
Diocese of Sacramento

Timothy Joseph Pearson
Diocese of Tucson

Brian Brandon Perez
Diocese of Sacramento

Alvaro Joel Romero
Diocese of Fresno

Alan Valencia
Diocese of Tucson

Guadalupe Vargas
Diocese of Fresno

MASTER OF ARTS

Br. Raymond Bueno, OCD
Order of the Discalced Carmelites

Joshua Winston Clifton
Diocese of Monterey

Fr. Joseph Frez

Richard Joseph Anthony Gorman IV

Br. Juan Elias Medina, OCD
Order of the Discalced Carmelites

Br. Jason William Parrott, OCD
Order of the Discalced Carmelites

Doroteo Rojas-Serrano
Diocese of Reno

Br. Paul Andrew Rowe, OCSO
Trappist

Lisa Michelle Sadowski

Margaret Ann Toole

Br. Peter David Tynan, OSB
Order of St. Benedict
St. Martin's Abbey

Br. Benoit Vu Van Trieu, OSB
Order of St. Benedict
Thien Phuoc Monastery, Viet Nam

BACCALAUREATE IN SACRED THEOLOGY

Joshua Winston Clifton
Diocese of Monterey

Matthew Joseph Ramsay
Diocese of Saskatoon

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Hector Coria Gonzalez
Diocese of Sacramento

Mark Ontiro Gikenyi
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Jason Gregory Hiner
Diocese of Spokane

Faitau Lemautu
Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago

Matthew Joseph Ramsay
Diocese of Saskatoon

Raul Armando Sanchez-Flores
Diocese of Fresno

David Wayne Severson
Diocese of Helena

Jesus Angelo A. Te
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Br. Peter David Tynan, OSB
Order of St. Benedict
St. Martin's Abbey



THE IRISH BAND: HOW SEMINARIANS RELAX WITH MUSIC.

Matt Ramsay, Theology IV – Diocese of Saskatoon

Seven years ago, a few seminarians put on a St. Patrick's Day party. Because the key part of any good St. Patrick's Day party is good Irish music, these seminarians created the Mount Angel Seminary's Irish Band.



The Irish Band performed at the 2010 Seminary Benefit Dinner.

Over the years, many band members have graduated from the seminary, but new seminarians come along each year to keep the band going by playing guitar, banjo, tin whistle, piano, fiddle, accordion and bodhran (an Irish frame drum). The Irish band has included many honorary "Irish" members from Vietnam, the Philippines and Samoa, as well as non-seminarian friends. In addition to the Saint Patrick's Day party, the band has performed at formal dinners at the Abbey and in Portland. A few members have also been invited to perform in Victoria and Vancouver, BC.

The band's importance goes beyond enjoying Irish music and culture. It is, believe it or not, a tool in priestly formation. Seminarians practice singing, talking, shouting and performing in front of boisterous crowds. Somehow, chanting the prayers at Mass seems much less intimidating after singing "The Parting Glass" in front of a noisy group of seminarians and friends. Most of this year's band is graduating, so we look forward to seeing how next year's ensemble will develop.

STUDENT AND FACULTY AWARDS

SAINT ANSELM AWARD: outstanding academic achievement from an undergraduate seminarian.
Craig Hanley, pre-theology II – Diocese of Helena

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS AWARD: outstanding academic achievement from a graduate seminarian.
Br. Peter Tynan, OSB, theology IV – St. Martin Abbey

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL AWARD: creation of a new program or special contribution to an existing program.
Bert Mello, theology II – Diocese of Fresno

SAINT BONAVENTURE AWARD: outstanding contribution from a faculty member.
Andrew Cummings, associate professor of philosophy

SAINT BENEDICT AWARD: outstanding progress in human formation.
Matthew Ramsay, theology IV – Diocese of Saskatoon
Peter Berger, college 4 – Diocese of Yakima

SAINT PAUL AWARD: outstanding progress in developing preaching skills.
David Severson, theology IV – Diocese of Helena

Development News

NEW DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BRINGS BANKING EXPERTISE



Katherine Larpenteur joined the Development staff in May as a Development Officer, replacing James Randles, who is pursuing a career in sales. Among her responsibilities, Katherine will work to increase membership in the Abbot's Circle, the society of donors who make annual leadership gifts to the Abbey of \$1,000 or more. In addition, she will play a key role in attracting event sponsorships and major gifts, while working with Abbey Ambassadors throughout the region to enhance our Parish Relations program.

Formerly a Relationship Manager for First Independent Wealth Management in Portland, Katherine brings 16 years of experience as a banking professional to her role, in addition to her history as an Abbey volunteer and benefactor. She served as chair of the 2010 Table Sponsorship Committee for the Mount Angel Seminary Benefit Dinner and continues as chair in 2011. Dedication to Mount Angel Abbey has long been a family affair; her husband, Jim Larpenteur, was a founding member of The Abbey Foundation of Oregon's Board of Directors. Katherine belongs to St. Agatha parish in Portland, serves on the board of the Providence St. Vincent Brain & Spine Institute, and spends time in the painting studio as a member of the Oregon Society of Artists. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Katherine.

40th Abbey Bach Festival

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 27-29

JULY 27-29

5:15 PM Sing vespers w/the monks
6 PM Church Performance
6:30 PM Picnic Supper
8 PM Feature Performance

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

6 PM Debra Huddleston, organ
8 PM Hekun Wu, cello
Elise Yun, piano

THURSDAY, JULY 28

6 PM In Mulieribus, choir
8 PM Daniel Bolshoy, guitar
Paul Marleyn, cello

FRIDAY, JULY 29

6 PM In Mulieribus, choir
8 PM Alon Goldstein, piano

*General Admission \$45/night
General Subscription \$120/3 nights
All tickets include the picnic supper.*

*www.mountangelabbey.org
Toll Free: 800.845.8272 or BACH@mountangelabbey.org*

5TH ANNUAL MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY FESTIVAL OF ARTS & WINE 'II

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1-5 PM

Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB and the monks of Mount Angel Abbey invite you to join them for the 5th annual Festival of Arts and Wine: a fundraising event in support of the monastery, library and guesthouse.

Tickets: \$50/pp includes silent and oral auction, jazz music on the lawn and chant in the library, a wine wall, art displays and sales, discounted wine and beer sales, hearty hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and artisanal food tastings.

Special group of four discount: \$160 - save \$40!

Special group of eight discount: \$300 - save \$100!

Patron Tickets: \$125/pp includes all of the above plus a tax-deductible donation of \$75.

*www.mountangelabbey.org/festival-arts-wine.htm
Contact: 800.845.8272 or FAWT@mountangelabbey.org*



NEWS

ALUMNI NEWS

Elizabeth Farley, MA '07

Recently awarded a Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) at the International Marian Research Institute, affiliated with the Marianum in Rome. Mrs. Farley said: "The foundation and background in Theology and Sacred Scripture I received at Mount Angel Seminary enabled me to pursue further studies leading to the STL. I am most appreciative of the efforts of the entire faculty at Mount Angel Seminary. My studies here enriched my life in a most meaningful way." Mrs. Farley will be teaching a course in Mariology at Mount Angel Seminary in the fall of 2011.

FACULTY NEWS



Owen Cummings *Regents chair of theology*

Led annual retreat for the permanent deacons of the Diocese of Yakima in Lake Chelan, WA. Three articles published: "Eucharist as Theodicy," *Emmanuel* 117 (2011), 100-109; "Prayer of Petition and Intercession, Some Thoughts," *Emmanuel* 117 (2011), 224-236; "Eucharist in the Syriac Tradition," *Oblation: Liturgy and Evangelization* (University of Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, online blog/journal), April 1, 2011.



Fr. Jeremy Driscoll, OSB

*Professor of systematic
theology*

Gave an address
in Rome to the

convention to study the thought of the Italian monk Divo Barsotti on the fifth anniversary of his death. The translated title of his talk, given in Italian, is "The Contemplative-Monastic Vocation of Every Christian in the Thought of Divo Barsotti."

One of twenty theologians invited to the Vatican to join in study and discussion around the theme of future directions for the newly established Vatican department called "New Evangelization." The new department, headed by Archbishop Fisichella (who was a guest professor twice at Mount Angel Seminary in the 1990s), is concerned with reawakening faith in countries and cultures that already have a Christian history.

Gave a retreat entitled The Paschal Triduum and the Monastic Vocation to monks and nuns for the monastic formators program in Rome.



Nancy J. Bowman Holt

Adjunct Faculty
Attended a Landmark
Institute workshop
on Universal Design

in Education.



Jeffery Nicholas

*Associate professor of
philosophy*

Edited the volume
Dune and Philosophy
from Open Court

Press, now available at Powells and for the Kindle at Amazon. The book comprises a collection of essays discussing philosophical issues in Frank Herbert's *Dune* saga, including issues of personal identity, freedom and foreknowledge, human nature and ecology, and power, among other issues.

Nicholas also published the article "Local Communities and Globalization in Caritas in Veritate" in the journal *Solidarity*. The article examines the notion of the common good as used in Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate*, and what such a common good means for a the Pope's call for a UN with teeth.

The University of Notre Dame Press has approved publication of Nicholas' *Reason, Tradition, and the Good: Alasdair MacIntyre's Tradition-Constituted Reason and Frankfurt School Critical Theory*. Publication is expected for the Spring 2012 catalog.

Fr. Jeremy and Owen Cummings are both regular columnists now in a new online journal called "Oblation: Liturgy and Evangelization." The journal is a project of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy. Their articles can be found at <http://blogs.nd.edu/oblation/>.

MONASTERY NEWS



Golden Jubilee: Fr. Cosmas White, OSB

It is with great joy that the abbey celebrated with Fr. Cosmas White his golden jubilee of priesthood on Sunday, May 15, 2011.

A native of Long Island, NY, Father Cosmas came to Mount Angel Abbey in 1947 after two years of Army service. A street preacher in Los Angeles influenced his vocation. After ordination in 1961, he began pastoral and education assignments. He was high school principal at Sacred Heart Parish, Tillamook, served at the Monastery of the Ascension (Mount Angel Abbey's sister house in Idaho) and served as pastor of St. Agatha Parish, Portland. He is now chaplain at the Mount Angel Tower retirement center.



On Holy Saturday, Rev. Ralph Recker, OSB and seminarians climbed Saddle Mountain in the coast range and prayed the Stations of the Cross on the summit!

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Nikki Martin, pastoral formation staff

The third annual Alumni Priests' Continuing Education Program was held March 29-30. This year's program featured Reverend Donald Senior, CP, a distinguished New Testament scholar and author from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and Reverend Rory Pitstick, assistant professor of scripture at Mount Angel Seminary.

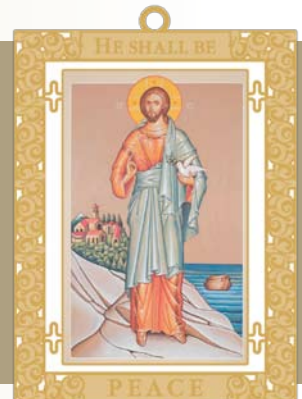
The topic for the program was "Preaching the Scriptures of the Triduum" and designed to help priests prepare the texts for the homilies. Fr. Senior discussed the Holy Thursday and Good Friday texts and Fr. Pitstick spoke about the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday texts.

There was ample time for catching up with old friends and visiting with classmates, alums, faculty and current seminarians. This year's participants represented ten different dioceses. It was a great time to learn, renew friendships and meet with colleagues. Look for announcements in upcoming newsletters for the 2012 Spring Alumni Priests' Continuing Education Program.

ORDER THE 2011 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT NOW!

Number 3 in the annual Abbey ornament series: 'He shall be peace' an icon written for Abbey Gregory Duerr's abbatial election by Mount Angel Abbey monk, Br. Claude Lane. Text from Micah 5:4. Each ornament is made of solid brass, finished in 24 karat gold with a color screen print - in a gift box.

Price \$18,95/each (not including shipping). To order please contact abbeystore@mountangelabbey.org or 503.845.3345.



Monastic Journal

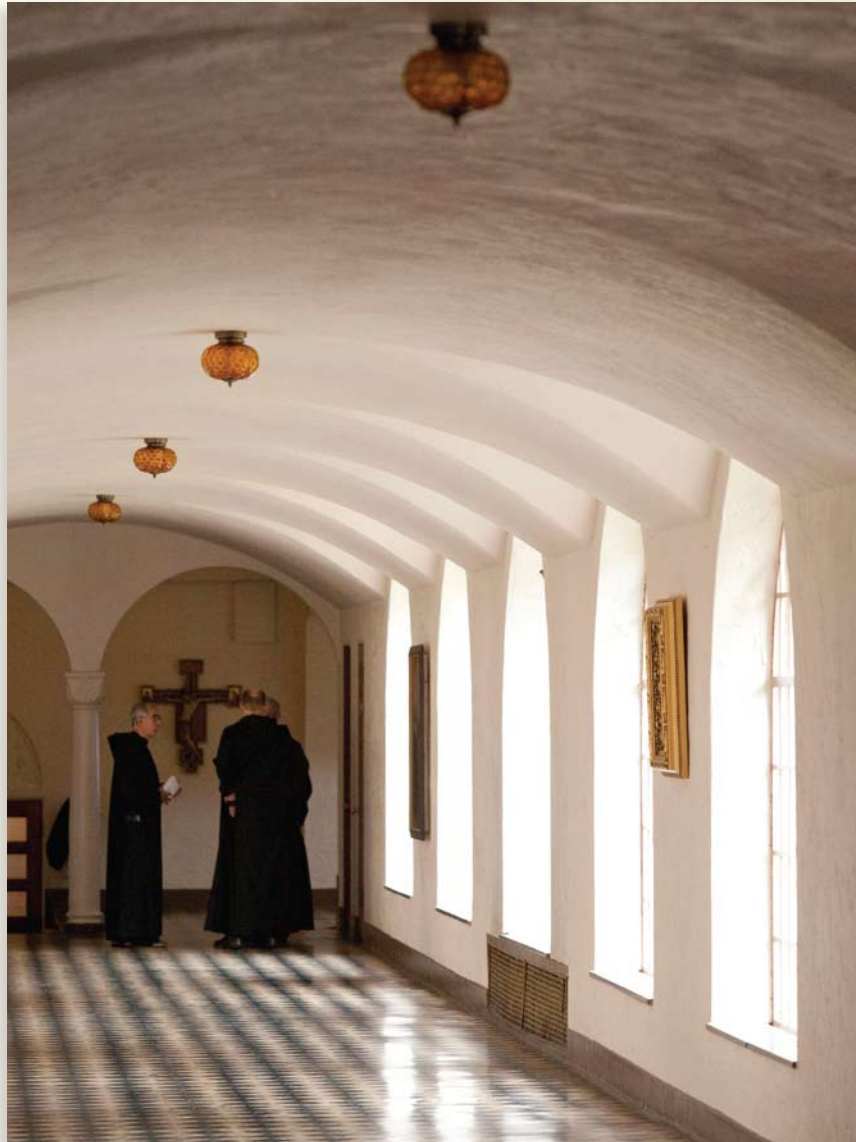
By Brother Jonah Wright, OSB

As I write my journal, now two days after graduation, Anselm and Aquinas Halls are empty and quiet. This is a bittersweet parting for most of the monks. We will miss the seminarians, and yet we are glad to reclaim our tranquil and prayerful existence. As a professor in the seminary I experience their departure as one who is left alone with his monastic family after many months of intense work with friends. It's a time to turn inward, to remember what it is to be a monk, to remember why God has chosen us to be stewards of this hilltop – to remember the humbling fact that we are the spiritual source of all that flourishes upon it.

Grounds work begins with a vengeance; postulants, novices and juniors scour the hilltop, dodging varmints and feral cats, in search of weeds. Monks materialize for prayer and meals, and then seem to vanish leaving only silence echoing in hallways. Yet, we all look forward to the annual retreat.

The monastic retreat is a time for a renewal of vows, prayer, and fraternal relationships. Many of our monks who have been on assignment fill the refectory and choir stalls, and remind the postulants and juniors just how rich and deep is our life at the Abbey. Traditionally we have a retreat leader, sometimes one of our own, who meets with us for a morning and afternoon session. Silence is strictly observed throughout the day, but we gather for recreation in the evening to relax and visit.

It is ironic, a vow of stability would seem to make everything so very flat, ordinary, and ... well ... stable. But the more you stand still in this world, the faster the world seems to spin around you, and a monk is one who knows when to hold on and when to let go.





THE ABBEY FOUNDATION OF OREGON

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Events

CALENDAR



JUNE	25	5th Annual Festival of Arts & Wine
JULY	7-8	Oblate Leadership Conference
	8-10	Oblate Annual Get-together and Picnic
	11	Solemnity of St. Benedict
	15-17	Monastic Summer Silent Retreat
	22-24	Monastic Discernment Retreat. Contact Vocations at 503.845.3123
	27-29	40th Annual Abbey Bach Festival
	31-Aug 20	Intensive Spirituality Retreat for Seminarians
AUGUST	15	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	19-21	Monastic Spirituality Retreat: exploring the Rule of St. Benedict and the Liturgy of the Hours
SEPTEMBER	10	Christian in the World Program: Translation and the New Roman Missal, The Translation of Scripture. Reverend Rory Pitstick
	20-22	Benedictine Oblate Retreat
	23-25	Benedictine Oblate Retreat
	29	Solemnity of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels and All the Angels, titular patrons of Mount Angel Abbey
OCTOBER	15	Christian in the World Program: The New Roman Missal. Reverend Jeremy Driscoll, OSB
	28-30	Monastic Discernment Retreat. Contact Vocations at 503.845.3123
	30	8th Annual Seminary Benefit Dinner - Portland
	30	Mount Angel Abbey Foundation Day (1882)

The Mount Angel Letter is also available on the Web:
www.mountangelabbey.org/newsletter.html

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