

Winter 2009/2010

MOUNT *Angel Letter*





DIRECTORY

MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY
503-845-3030
WWW.MOUNTANGELABBEY.ORG

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.

BOOKSTORE
503-845-3345
abbeystore@mtangel.edu

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT
Steve Beaird
503-845-3181
steve.beaird@mtangel.edu

BENET HALL RETREAT HOUSE
503-845-3025
retreat@mtangel.edu

ABBAY LIBRARY
503-845-3303
circulation@mtangel.edu

OBLATE PROGRAM
Fr. Pius Harding, O.S.B.
503-845-3112
piusx@mtangel.edu

MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY
503-845-3951
registrar@mtangel.edu

VOCATIONS
Fr. Odo Recker, O.S.B.
503.845.3123
vocation@mtangel.edu

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
Marge Doleac
503-845-3036
marge.doleac@mtangel.edu

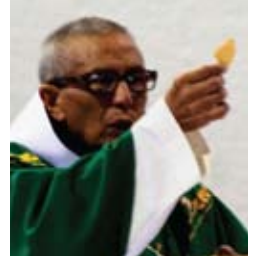
On the Cover: Newly elected Abbot Gregory Duerr was presented with the Engelberg pectoral cross immediately following the election. The cross, a gift to the Abbey's first abbot in 1904, was given to Mount Angel Abbey by the motherhouse, Engelberg Abbey in Switzerland, when the Oregon community officially became an Abbey.

INSIDE

This Issue

Winter 2009/2010 | Volume 61, Number 4

- 2 Monastery News
- 3 Priory News
- 4 Pastoral Formation
- 5 Alumni Continuing Education
- 6 Seminary News: Summer Immersion Courses
- 8 Library and Retreat House News
- 9 Development - Dieringer and Abbot's Circle
- 10 Special Events
- 11 Faculty & Alumni News
- 12 Monastic Journal



ORDER THE 2009 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT NOW!

The 2009 Abbey Christmas ornament will feature the icon *Mother of Tenderness* written by Br. Claude Lane, OSB.



2009 Abbey Christmas Ornament



First Annual Abbey Christmas Ornament.

This is the second in the series of the Annual Abbey Christmas ornaments. Last year's ornament featured the Abbey Church. Due to popular request last year's ornament has been reprinted and is also available. Start your collection now!

Each ornament is made of solid brass, finished in 24 karat gold with a color screen print and packaged in a gift box.

Price: \$15.95 each (not including shipping).
To order please contact the Abbey Store
(abbeystore@mtangel.edu or 503.845.3345).

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@mtangel.edu or 503.845.3066 or 800.845.8272
WWW.MOUNTANGELABBEY.ORG





Habemus Abbatem) – We Have an Abbot!

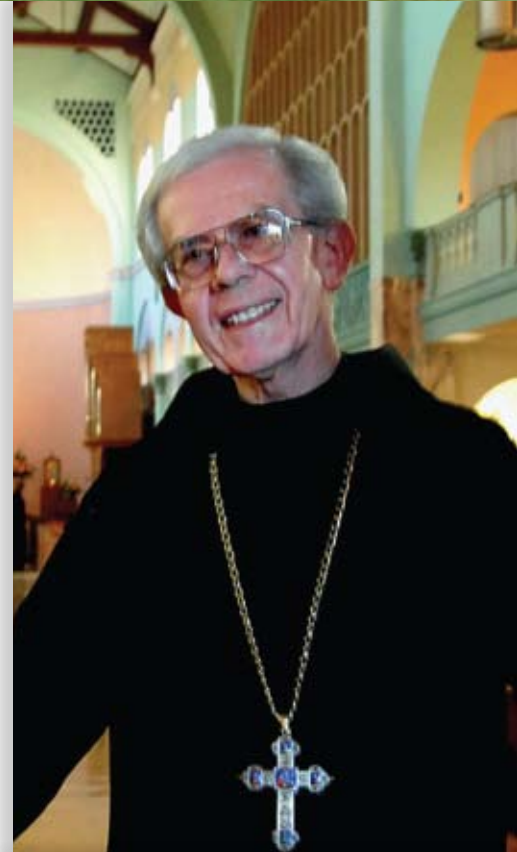
With joy and thanksgiving to God our Father, the monks of Mount Angel Abbey announce the election of their brother in Christ, Prior Gregory Duerr, OSB, as abbot on November 18, 2009. Abbot Gregory is the 11th abbot of the 127-year-old monastic community.

Abbot Vincent Bataille, from Marmion Abbey in Illinois, in the name of Abbot Peter Eberle, the Abbot President of the Swiss-American Benedictine Congregation, presided over and confirmed the election. Abbot Gregory succeeds Abbot Nathan Zodrow who resigned in August having served as abbot for eight years.

Abbot Gregory was born in Pierz, Minnesota, and moved with his family to Mt. Angel in 1943. He entered Mount Angel Abbey as a novice in 1957, professed temporary vows in 1958 and was ordained a priest in 1964. He holds an MA in classical languages from the University of Washington and an MA in formative spirituality from Duquesne University. Among his many responsibilities at the Abbey, Abbot Gregory has served as Postulant Director and Novice Master in the monastery and, since 2007, he has served as Prior, assuming the role of Prior Administrator on August 1, 2009.

In his spontaneous address after being elected, Abbot Gregory commented that: “the sun is shining but when I cast my eyes down, as they should be, I see this chain around my neck. And, hanging from the chain, not a bed of roses, but a cross. But, that is okay because we are Christians and we have a certain attitude about chains and crosses and we are even told that we can glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Please join the monks of Mount Angel Abbey in praying for their new abbot so that, united in the bonds of charity and peace, they may with great devotion and zeal, continue in their pilgrimage to the heavenly homeland, witnessing to their love of God and neighbor through lives dedicated to prayer and work. *The date of Abbot Gregory's abbatial blessing is Friday, February 26, 2010.*



Newly elected Abbot Gregory Duerr

FORMER ABBOTS

Thomas Aquinas Meienhofer 1904-10

Placidus Fuerst 1910-21

Bernard Murphy 1921-34

Thomas Aquinas Meier 1934-50

Damian Jentges 1950-74

Anselm Galvin 1974-80

Bonaventure Zerr 1980-88

Peter Eberle 1988-97

Joseph Wood 1997-2001

Nathan Zodrow 2001-2009



Monastery NEWS

TWO NEW MONKS AT MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

In early September, Prior Gregory Duerr, OSB received monastic vows from Novice Brothers Tarry Le and Jeffery Beaty. Each then took a new name as a symbol of their new life in religion.

Br. Tarry Le was born in Garden City, Kansas. Before coming to the Monastery, he studied at the University of Portland where he received a BS in Theology and Life Science. After college, he worked with the Salesian Missioners program. Having felt a call to the priesthood since his teen years and being drawn to the Abbey as a result of a discernment retreat, Br. Tarry has now professed his simple vows and has taken the monastic name of Br. John Paul, OSB.

Br. Jeffery Beaty is from Eugene, Oregon. He earned a BA in Psychology from the University of Oregon and went on to work in retail management. In 1997 he had a conversion experience and dedicated his life to Christ. He entered the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program in 2003 and the following Easter received the sacrament of confirmation and his first Eucharist as a Catholic. In RCIA Br. Jeffery began to sense that God might be calling him to religious life. With his simple profession, Br. Jeffery has taken the monastic name of Br. John of the Cross, OSB.



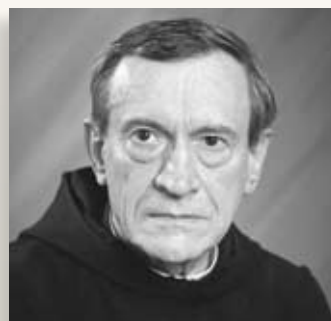
Br. John Paul Te, OSB



Br. John of the Cross Beaty, OSB



Fr. Edmund Smith, OSB



Fr. Athanasius Buchholz, OSB

JUBILEE CELEBRANTS

On September 13 Fr. Edmund Smith, OSB renewed his vows to celebrate 50 years as a monk and Fr. Athanasius Buchholz, OSB renewed his vows to celebrate 60 years as a monk.

Fr. Athanasius was born in Mt. Angel, Oregon and attended Mount Angel Prep and High School as well as the Seminary before he became a monk in 1949. In 1952 he went to Rome and studied at the international Benedictine school, Sant'Anselmo. He was the first Mount Angel seminarian to be ordained deacon at Engelberg Abbey, the Swiss motherhouse of Mount Angel Abbey. He was ordained a

priest in 1954 at the Benedictine community, Solesmes Abbey, in France. Upon returning from his studies in Europe, he taught languages in the Seminary College.

Fr. Edmund was born in the French Prairie area of the Willamette Valley. After graduation from eighth grade, he entered the seminary. On September 8, 1959, he made profession as a monk. He studied at Fordham University in New York City, completing a Masters degree in Catechetical/Applied Theology in 1967 and was appointed vice-rector and later dean of the high school. In 1980 he was appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Othello,

Washington and later pastor of St. Matthews Parish in Kalispell, Montana. Returning to Oregon in 1991, he served as pastor at St. Mary's Parish, Mt. Angel. In 2002, Fr. Edmund returned to serve as the Procurator for five years before taking up his current role as Retreat House director.

PADRE BENITO, O.S.B., FIFTY YEARS A PRIEST

Cuernavaca, Mexico

This harvest season we toast our eldest monk and priest, Padre Benito Verber, OSB, who celebrates fifty years of monastic priesthood. On August 17, Padre Benito presided at the morning Eucharist. In the atrium after the Eucharist, everyone indulged in hot tamales and Padre's heartwarming embrace.

The youngest of five children, José (Benito) Verber Rodríguez was born in 1922, at Pénjamo, Guanajuato. He was three years old, when his father emigrated to California and the single parent family had to make their own living. They moved to León, Guanajuato, where they opened a fresh produce market. The local parish priest inspired his zealous adolescent altar server to enter the diocesan seminary and study Latin. After seminary, he returned home to work in the family business for ten years while the seed of the vocation germinated in his heart.

José entered the fledgling Benedictine foundation of Monte Casino near Cuernavaca in 1947 and received the monastic habit on Christmas Eve. A month later his novitiate came to an abrupt and tragic halt with the closure of the monastery. However, Benito continued his resolve with one of the founders, Dom Gregorio Lemercier, at Santa María de la Resurrección Monastery. Benito restarted his novitiate in 1950, professed temporary vows a year later, and three years later professed solemn vows. After theological studies



Padre Benito Verber, OSB (seated at the right) surrounded by his community at Our Lady of Angels.

in Morelia, Michoacán, he was ordained a priest on August 16, 1959.

In 1967, after the Vatican suppressed the monastery, Padre Benito transferred his vows to Mount Angel's new foundation of Our Lady of the Angels in Cuernavaca where he was received on November 20, 1972.

The harvest of Father's monastic and priestly life can be measured in the bountiful obedience and friendly kindness toward his confreres and guests. Padre has assisted in parishes, trained novices and junior monks, and since his arrival has been in charge of the monastery kitchen and farm. Now in his golden years Padre Benito oversees the avocado orchard and the cloister garden, and his is the leading hand in the coffee production. He spends Wednesdays in the bakery turning out his famous chocolates, cookies and candied dates. He beautifies our environment with flowers and shrubbery, and he gives meaning to our monastic life by his compelling charity.



Abbot Nathan Zodrow, OSB surrounded by the newly professed brothers at Our Lady of Angels.

THREE BROTHERS TAKE TEMPORARY VOWS

On August 15th three young men professed their temporary vows: Brothers Damián, Pablo and Santiago. In the same Eucharist, Brother Clemente professed solemn vows. For us the feast of Our Lady's Assumption is a luminous day, when nearly all of our fifteen monks commemorate their monastic profession.



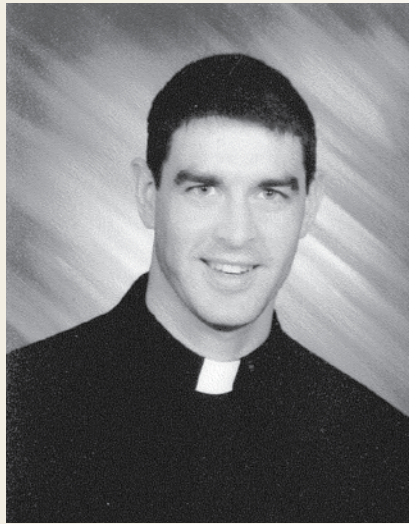
MOUNT ANGEL *Seminary*

PASTORAL FORMATION CONFERENCE

In September, the faculty and staff of Mount Angel Seminary welcomed 168 collegiate and graduate seminarians for the 2009-2010 academic year. They are coming not only to study, but also to involve themselves in the process known as “formation.” In contrast to professions where one studies and trains in order to gain expertise, a priest becomes ready for his ordination by studying, to be sure, but also by conforming himself to Christ and the Church. He must perform well in the arena of intellectual formation, but he also participates in spiritual and human formation.

The culminating aspect of all formation is pastoral formation, which teaches the seminarian the skills and abilities of a mature Christian man for building up the Church, that is, for building up the People of God. As Christ lived on earth in relationship with us to serve us, so the seminarian works to transform his focus from “self as self” to “self as minister.” This ongoing intentional learning process works through both field education and community living.

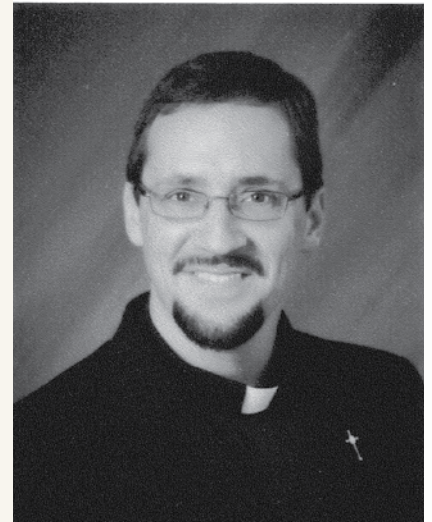
On the afternoon of September 10, 2009, a Pastoral Formation Conference was held at the seminary to continue to foster awareness of the goals of pastoral formation. The first part of the session consisted of a presentation by Linda Showman, Associate



Fr. Jeff Meeuwsen, St. Anthony Parish, Forest Grove.

Director of Pastoral Formation, entitled “Thoughts on Mission, Ministry and the Reign of God.” She encouraged the students to view ministry through the lens of Jesus’ motivation, his purpose in life as he himself stated in Luke 4:43: “But he said to them, ‘I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.’” And in Matthew 20: 28 he announces a further purpose: “Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as ransom for many.” Thus ministry for the priest as for Jesus consists in proclaiming the Reign of God and in serving.

This message was confirmed by Rev. Kenneth Sampson, Pastor of St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Astoria, and Rev. Jeffrey Meeuwsen, Pastor of St.



Fr. Ken Sampson, St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, Astoria.

Anthony Parish in Forest Grove, recent graduates of Mount Angel Seminary as they led a discussion revolving around their life of service. They first considered formation in seminary, principally pastoral formation, and they urged their future colleagues to challenge themselves in their commitment to learning and developing relational skills especially in their field education. They furthered the conversation with examples of these skills as they play out in their lives. While Frs. Ken and Jeff painted an honest picture of the complexities of ministry, their joy was evident as they described their daily work as serving and proclaiming the Reign of God.

ALUMNI CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE OFFERED

Wednesday & Thursday, April 28-29

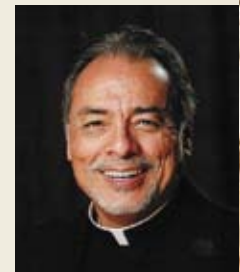
Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas, the pastor of St. Pius X Parish in El Paso, Texas has led the development of some 30 lay ministries in his parish. Convinced that we do not need more “volunteers” but for lay people to claim their baptismal call and chrismation which leads to them to be “ministers.” Msgr. Bañuelas will come to Mount Angel Seminary and speak on lay ministry in the parish on Thursday, April 28 as the keynote speaker for the 2nd Annual Priests’

Alumni Continuing Education Program.

Very Rev. Richard Paperini, President-Rector of the Seminary, noted that the Priests’ Alumni Continuing Education days are a wonderful opportunity for the seminarians to get to know priests from across the West and to have the opportunity to spend time with priests from their own dioceses and religious orders. Moreover, it is a chance for the alumni to renew

friendships with classmates and faculty. “The alums are part of the Seminary family,” Father Paperini said, “we look forward to their coming back to the Hill for a time of renewal and relaxation!”

To learn more please call: 503.845.3333 or email: ContEdu@mtangel.edu



THE BEAUTIFUL GAME – CATHOLIC STYLE

By Andrew Cummings, Assoc. Professor of Philosophy and Athletic Director

Anyone who has been on the hilltop recently might have noticed the lush, emerald-green turf of the soccer field, tucked away below the faculty parking lot. Not only is its superb condition a credit to the hard work and skill of our grounds crew; it is also a signal that the Seminary soccer team is gearing up for the season. We are proud to announce our participation in the newly formed Cascade Collegiate Soccer League. The league is divided into North and South Divisions, with six teams in each. Mount Angel competes against Reed College, the University of Portland, and maybe even the University of Oregon.

‘The beautiful game,’ as aficionados throughout the world have known soccer, is perhaps the most universally acclaimed of sports today. It is heartily embraced by



our multi-ethnic student body. As young men in preparation for the priesthood, it is also a question of presenting the Seminary, and its Catholic vision, to outsiders. As Alvaro Romero, Mount Angel’s soccer coach puts it, “as we come together as a team, we develop a bond amongst players and learn how to fight not for one’s self, but for the whole.” The important connection between representing the

Seminary in sports, and “reinforcing all the pillars of formation,” as team-captain Chris Bernabe puts it, is not an armchair philosophy. In the heat of competition, there is a genuine opportunity to let this Christian ethic take shape – to be in the world, yet not of the world. And well, yes, to win some games as well!

Learn more: www.ccsloregon.blogspot.com

MOUNT ANGEL *Seminary*

SEMINARIANS LEARNING A LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The Church is presented with a challenge and a tremendous opportunity in the rise of Hispanic Catholics in the US. Many Catholic parishes in this country have a significant Hispanic presence. This is a significant pastoral challenge. How does a pastor minister effectively to parishioners who speak another language and come from another culture? Charity is a universal language, but words are also necessary, especially when it comes to the sacraments, family counseling, education and spiritual guidance. Hispanic immersion courses help Mount Angel seminarians learn to minister to their Spanish-speaking flocks.

SPANISH IMMERSION EXPERIENCE IN MEXICO

By Jesus Angelo Te, Theology III, Archdiocese of Portland

After serving my internship year in Eugene, Oregon, I was sent to Mexico City for eight weeks of Spanish immersion. I feel blessed to have been given the opportunity to learn Spanish and know that it will help me reach out and communicate to Spanish-speaking members in the Portland Archdiocese.

With the little Spanish background that I learned from the language course CD-Rosetta Stone, I landed in Mexico City just a week after the H1N1 scare. Getting through customs and immigration was in itself a crash course to Spanish language. The driver who picked me up at the airport barely spoke a word of English and the family I was staying with also spoke no English. I've never felt so helpless in my life. Being in a new country, not speaking the language and barely understanding even the simple phrases are just few of

the challenges I faced. My first day in Mexico City was enough motivation to not just learn the language but to learn it well.

Being unaccustomed to large cities, I got lost on the first day of classes. With my directions written in Spanish and several attempts at asking directions, I finally made it to school after an hour on the subway.

During my studies, I spent four hours of one-on-one sessions learning Spanish each day. The rest of the day was spent learning about the history and culture of the Mexico. Every day was an opportunity to grow in my knowledge of the language, from talking to the professors to riding the bus or buying food from the street vendors.



School trip to Xochimilco, the Venice of Mexico. Right to left: Charles Pham (San Francisco), me, Brian (Virginia), Adriana (South Africa), Fabienne (France) and Caroline (France).

Patrick Brosamer hiking in Guatemala.

From my experiences in Mexico, I realized that it is not enough to just learn the language. Learning about the culture and being immersed in the way of life of the Mexican people will make me a better and more effective speaker. Understanding the Mexican culture will make me a more effective servant to God's people, able to meet people's needs at a deeper level.



SPANISH IMMERSION EXPERIENCE IN GUATEMALA *By Patrick Brosamer, Theology II, Diocese of Anchorage*

This summer I spent ten weeks in Antigua, Guatemala studying in a Spanish immersion course. It is increasingly necessary for American seminarians to learn Spanish, due to the large numbers of Spanish-speaking parishioners in many parishes throughout the country. My own diocese of Anchorage has a population of Spanish-speakers that is quickly growing.

Immersion programs are not only about learning a new language; they are a cultural experience, too. During my stay in Antigua I met many other seminarians from around the US and made several good friends. On the weekends we often left the city to visit other parts of the country, which gave us a great opportunity to speak Spanish with locals. We climbed an erupting volcano, visited several Mayan ruins, toured the jungle and visited the Shrine of the Black Christ at Esquipulas. These excursions taught us a lot about Guatemalan culture; I know those experiences will help me in my future work with parishioners.

I attended Spanish Mass every day where my Spanish language comprehension was truly tested. It was a good way for me to learn what it is like for non-English speaking Catholics in the American churches where there are no Spanish speaking priests. I am now more committed to my Spanish language studies and intend to seek further Spanish learning during my diaconate in 2012. My experience in Guatemala was invaluable and I look forward to expanding my understanding of other Spanish speaking cultures.



School trip to the Catedral Metropolitana de la Asunción de María, the oldest and largest Cathedral in the Americas and the seat of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Mexico. From the right is me, Lian (Australia) and Max (Germany).

In the Library

BOOKS OF HOURS

Through the generosity of Mrs. S. Eberly Thompson and other donors, Mount Angel Abbey Library is privileged to be the repository of ten illuminated Books of Hours, as well as several early printed books of hours and related prayer books.



Books of Hours were the books most commonly produced in Christian Europe from around 1250 to 1500 AD. Fundamentally, they are prayer books that contain a simplified form of the liturgy of the hours said by priests, monks and nuns. The laity wished to share in the liturgy of the hours, and since devotion to Mary was at a peak, it was the office of the Blessed Virgin that was adapted for lay use.

The popularity of such an expensive artifact, hand-written and hand-decorated, rested on the emergence of a literate middle class who could afford to purchase and display such a book. The wealthy had lavish books made to order with prayers and paintings of their favorite saints. The less affluent purchased more standardized, mass-produced versions. In either case, using a book of hours the laity could pray at regular intervals through the day. They prayed the psalms, antiphons and orations slowly and probably out loud. They took their books of hours to Sunday mass if the basic mass texts were written in the book. How closely connected were the prayer life of the laity and their books of hours is indicated in the illuminations of the books themselves: in the paintings of the Annunciation the young lay woman Mary is often shown with her book of hours.

Several of the Library's books of hours have been digitized and are available on the Library's webpage at <http://www.mountangelabbey.org/library/manuscripts.htm>.



ABBAY LIBRARY BOOKPLATE PROJECT

Reserve a place in our Catholic Center of Living. For each gift of \$100 the Library will place your personalized bookplate in a new book. Learn more: Telephone: 503.845.3066 or Email: Debra.King@mtangel.edu.

Development NEWS

REMEMBERING BOB AND EVELYN DIERINGER

Thank you to longtime Mount Angel Abbey friends Bob and Evelyn Dieringer. Bob was a founding member of the Abbey Finance Council during the early 1990s. He and Evelyn were founding sponsors of the Seminary Benefit Dinner that has grown into our largest fundraising event.

They were passionate supporters of training the very best priests. They were generous to many Catholic causes, including The Abbey Foundation of Oregon. During their lifetimes and in their estate, they donated \$200,000 to establish the Bob and Evelyn Dieringer Family Fund. The purpose of the fund is to provide ongoing support for the



education of seminarians at Mount Angel Seminary.

Bob passed away in August 2007 followed by Evelyn in April 2009. Their spirit lives on in their 12 children, numerous

grandchildren and great grandchildren, and all the charities they supported. Thank you Bob and Evelyn. We are all the better thanks to you!

JOIN THE ABBOT'S CIRCLE

The Abbey Foundation appreciates all friends who support the work of Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary.

Over 80% of our support for the education of seminarians, building projects and endowments come from Abbot's Circle members. The Abbot's Circle was established in 2001 for those who lead in the support of the Abbey and Seminary with an annual donation of \$1,000 or more.

The annual Abbot's Circle membership drive is under way. Presently, there are nearly 600 Abbot's Circle members. The Abbey Foundation has a long-term goal of 1,000 Abbot's Circle members.

Your donations to The Abbey Foundation make possible the education of future priests attending Mount Angel Seminary. You help grow the resources of Mount Angel Abbey Library and sustain the Benedictine community of Mount Angel Abbey. Your generosity preserves Mount Angel Abbey as a center of Catholic learning and renewal for those seeking to deepen their relationship with God.



For more information about the Abbot's Circle or establishing a named fund please contact: Mr. Steve Beard, Executive Director for Development. Telephone: 503-845-3181. Email: steve.beard@mtangel.edu

Special Events



Jane and Frank Beales of Carlton and Paul and Louann Collins of Canby raise a toast at the 3rd Annual Festival of Arts and Wine a fundraiser in support of the Mount Angel Abbey Library.

FESTIVAL OF ARTS & WINE

Volunteers, led by board member Les Fahey, presented the 3rd Annual Festival of Arts & Wine on June 20 that raised \$110,000 for the Abbey Library. Over 500 guests attended and learned about the Abbey Library, one of only two facilities in the United States designed by legendary architect, Alvar Aalto.

Twenty of Oregon's premium wineries and local restaurants presented delicious offerings. The event included an icon exhibit, library exhibits of the extensive illustrated bird book collection, paintings by William Henry Price from the monastery collection, artist displays and music.

Of special interest was the Auction that included more than 100 items. A dinner hosted by Fr. Odo Recker, OSB, his brother Fr. Ralph Recker, OSB and Abbey Chef Hans d'Alessio drew the most bidding interest. The 4th Annual Festival of Arts and Wine is scheduled for Saturday, June 26, 2010.

FUTURE PRIESTS 'GO MARCHING IN'

The Sixth Annual Mount Angel Seminary Benefit Dinner was held November 1 at the Oregon Convention Center with a near capacity crowd of over 770 people. Guests were treated to the inspirational talents of two musical groups, the Seminary Choir and the Renaissance Schola, made up of seminarians and Seminary faculty. In honor of the event being held on the Feast of All Saints, the theme was When the Saints Go Marching In. The event raised over \$470,000 that will be used for seminarian education costs.

"The Seminary Benefit Dinner is a way for Mount Angel to introduce outstanding future spiritual leaders and for our guests to learn what inspires a young man to consider the priestly vocation," said Very Reverend Richard Paperini, President-Rector of Mount Angel Seminary. Guests are especially fond of this opportunity to support the Seminary and meet seminarians. "This is my favorite event to attend," said Vivian Hibbler of Madeleine Parish. "I love meeting our future priests and seeing their wonderful talents."

Chris Corrado will be Event Chair for 2010, tentatively scheduled for October 22. Learn more about Abbey events: www.mountangelabbey.org or telephone: 800.845.8272.

BACH FESTIVAL

Once again the Abbey shared beautiful music and picnic suppers with a nearly sold out crowd for three nights in July. Guests were entranced by Nadina Jackson's blue hair and superb bassoon playing and the charm of her accompanist Guy Few on the trumpet and corno. The Infinitus Trio wowed everyone with their beautiful performance of classic Schumann and Bach, but what amazed the crowd was the improvisational encore – using their instruments in creative ways. Friday night saw Lucille Chung attack our 9' Baldwin piano in a way that left no question who was in charge.

Exciting plans are underway for the 39th Annual Bach Festival, July 28-30 – you won't want to miss the opportunity to join the monks and friends on the hilltop next summer.

Learn more: www.mountangelabbey.org/bach-home.htm. or 503.845.3066 or 800.845.8272.

NEWS

FACULTY



Fr. Jeremy Driscoll, OSB
Professor of Systematic Theology

Fr. Jeremy gave a retreat to the monastic community of Douai in England in the spring. In late July, he participated in the Summer Conference at the University of Portland. In late August, he was in Rome attending the Vox Clara meeting, the Vatican committee concerned with a new translation of the Roman Missal into English. In the fall, he gave a series of retreats on the Gospel of St. John. In October, Fr. Jeremy was a speaker at the Annual Lecture of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation at St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. The foundation exists to provide funding for the Benedictine University of Sant' Anselmo in Rome.

His recent publications include: "Romans 12: 1. Loghiké latreia as the Foundation of Authentic Christian Worship" in Paolo di Tarso, *tra kerygma, cultus e vita*, eds. Manlio Sodi and Paul O'Callaghan. Rome, 2009, pp. 171-182.

"Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Church's Communion" in *Called to Communion*, Vatican II on the Church, eds. Steven Boguslawski and Robert Fastiggi. Scranton, Pennsylvania, 2009, pp. 107-127.

"Romans 12: 1. Loghiké latreia as the Foundation of Authentic Christian Worship" in *PATH, Periodicum Internationale Editum a Pontificia Academia Theologiae* 8 (2009): 131-142.

Member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the Ancient Christian Writers series from Paulist Press.



Seymour House
Professor of Literature and Church History

"A Companion to Thomas More" was published this fall by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, in which House has a chapter on More's Tower Works.

In November, House was part of an ATS team performing an accreditation review of St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary in Pennsylvania.



Duncan Parks
Assistant Professor of Science and Mathematics

Dr. Parks and his collaborators published an account of the evolutionary history of the Ensatina salamander titled "Closing the ring: historical biogeography of the salamander ring species *Ensatina eschscholtzii*" in the *Journal of Biogeography*, Volume. 36, no.5. This species is the subject of intense study as a textbook case of "ring species" - species that diverge in a circular pattern, then recontact each other at the point of greatest divergence. The study used a new set of DNA data to evaluate several hypotheses (informed by California geology) of how this sort of ring closed in *Ensatina*.

ALUMNI NEWS



In late September, close friend from Seminary days, Msgr. Harvey Fonseca '92 (left) and Fr. Michael Schneider '90, visited the hilltop and attended the Mt. Angel OktoberFest.

Please send Alumni updates to MAL@mtangel.edu or Telephone: 503.845.3066 or Mount Angel Abbey, Development Office, One Abbey Drive, St. Benedict, Oregon 97373

Monastic Journal

By Abbot Peter Eberle, OSB

A topic of enduring interest throughout the summer has been the latest seminary construction project. Last May the long awaited renovation of the lower level of Anselm Hall began. Sixteen private rooms were to be constructed on the north side and the northeast wing, and the remaining space was to be completely reconfigured to create a new Commons area, a new chapel and a new laundry room. It was (and is) a wonderful plan that utilizes previously wasted space and, with the new rooms in place, Subiaco, the mobile unit on the north side of the hill, could be honorably retired. The plan was to have it all finished by late August when the students arrived for the new school year.

Alas, a fellow named Murphy has formulated the one overarching law that seems to govern all abbey and seminary construction projects: "If anything can go wrong, it will." The project was behind by the end of Phase I, Asbestos Removal. There was more asbestos than expected.

The actual reconstruction eventually got going but by July the average sidewalk inspector who walked through the site divined it wouldn't be ready by the end of August. His intuitions were correct.

In October the renovations were finally complete and they were definitely well worth the wait. The rooms are spacious and cheery,



Frs. Ralph Recker and Martin Grassel performing the final inspection of the newly remodeled chapel in Anselm Hall.

the new chapel is exquisite, the Commons area is brighter and roomier than this reporter had imagined. The seminarians are now all comfortably settled into their new rooms and enjoying the newly renovated space. Fr. Ralph commented on his way to

noon prayer that he "just loved his new room." Seminarians are feeling newly inspired as they work and study in such delightful surroundings.





Our thanks to chef Hans d'Alessio for his 7 years of devotion to the Abbey.

ABBHEY CHEF RETIRES

As we will soon be entering a new phase in the life of Anselm Hall, so we have begun a new phase in the life of the Abbey and Seminary Food Service. Our great chef and food manager for the past several years, Hans d'Alessio, retired in early September. His right hand assistant, Dianne Mitchell, has succeeded him. The transition has gone smoothly. Certainly the quality of our food service hasn't gone down in the least. Now, as then, no one is starving and no one has reason to complain about the food. Hans did a great job and Dianne is following in his footsteps.

Retreat House Remodel

The Feast of the Transfiguration, on August 6, was a significant day for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Retreat House and the blessing of two newly remodeled areas.

The lower level now hosts a meditation room and a chapel. Both areas are conducive to reading, prayer and reflection. The meditation room has a library, comfortable chairs and a fireplace. Adjacent to the meditation room, the chapel holds the Blessed

Sacrament with an icon by Br. Claude nearby. The ambiance of the chapel is further enhanced by the gardens seen through the window.

On the lobby level there is a new a visitor's center/coffee bar and lounge. This new area is a welcome area for visitors and guests to share hospitality.

Thank you to all of our friends who have contributed to the continuing renewal and renovation of the Retreat House. The Retreat House is a vital part of Benedictine

hospitality and we would not be able to maintain and improve it without your prayers and generous support.



Guests enjoy the new meditation room in the Abbey Retreat House.



THE ABBEY FOUNDATION OF OREGON

PO Box 501

St. Benedict, Oregon 97373-0501

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. BENEDICT
OREGON
PERMIT NO. 3

Events

CALENDAR



DECEMBER	12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
	12	Christian in the World Program. Mary in the Liturgy. Speaker: Abbot Peter Eberle, OSB
	24	Christmas Vigil Service 11:15 pm followed by Midnight Mass, Abbey Church
	25	Solemnity of the Birth of the Lord. Christmas, Mass 10:00 am Abbey Church
<hr/>		
JANUARY	1	Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
	9	Christian in the World Program. Scripture and the Saints. Speaker: Fr. Rory Pitstick
	15-17	Women's Silent Retreat
	29-31	Lawyer's Retreat with Robert J. McWhirter – for Lawyer's and spouses
	29-31	Monastic Discernment Retreat
<hr/>		
FEBRUARY	2	Feast of Presentation of the Lord. Candlelight Procession. Mass 7:00 pm.
	5-7	Benedictine Spirituality Retreat
	13	Christian in the World Program. History of the Saints. Speaker: Fr. Ezekiel Lotz, OSB
	17	Ash Wednesday – Seminary Day of Recollection
<hr/>		
MARCH	12-14	Lenten Retreat
	13	Christian in the World Program. Modern Day Saint Making. Speaker: Abbot Peter Eberle, OSB
	21	Feast of the Passing of St. Benedict
	22	Reconciliation Service – 7:00 pm Abbey Church
	25	Feast of the Annunciation
	25-28	Oblate Monastic Living Retreat
	28	Palm Sunday, beginning of Holy Week