

*Spring 2013*

# MOUNT *Angel Letter*



*Rev. Paschal Cheline, OSB*



## DIRECTORY

MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY  
503-845-3030  
WWW.MOUNTANGELABBAY.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@mountangelabbey.org

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT  
503-845-3066 or 800.845.8272  
development@mountangelabbey.org

BENET HALL RETREAT HOUSE  
503-845-3025  
retreat@mountangelabbey.org

ABBAY LIBRARY  
503-845-3303  
circulation@mountangelabbey.org

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

MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY  
503-845-3951  
registrar@mountangelabbey.org

VOCATIONS  
Fr. Odo Recker, O.S.B.  
503.845.3123  
vocation@mountangelabbey.org

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM  
800.845.8272 or 503.845.3066  
volunteer@mountangelabbey.org

**On the Cover:** Rev. Paschal Cheline,  
OSB - Mount Angel Seminary vice  
rector, assistant professor of liturgy,  
director of liturgical and spiritual  
formation and executive director of  
the Abbey Bach Festival.

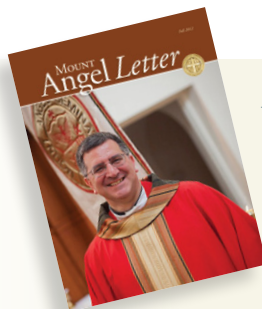


I N S I D E

# This Issue

Spring 2013 | Volume 66, Number 1

- 4 **COMMUNITY:** News about Mount Angel Abbey
- 6 **CALLED HOME:** May perpetual Light shine upon them, Lord!
- 8 **FORMATION:** News about Mount Angel Seminary
- 11 **FELLOWSHIP:** News for Alumni
- 12 **GENEROSITY:** News for Benefactors and Volunteers
- 14 **HOSPITALITY:** News about Hilltop events
- 15 **CONTEMPLATION:** Reflections from the Hilltop



Would you like to receive Mount Angel Abbey publications, invitations, news and information via email?

Send your email address to: [development@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:development@mountangelabbey.org)

Do you have any special requests regarding the mail you receive from Mount Angel Abbey? Simply call us at 503.845.3066 or toll free 800.845.8272.

Best of all, send the mailing label with comments to the Development Office: Mount Angel Abbey, One Abbey Drive, St. Benedict, Oregon 97373.

MOUNT ANGEL LETTER, the official publication of Mount Angel Abbey, is a magazine for the friends of Mount Angel Abbey, Monastery, Retreat 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@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:MAL@mountangelabbey.org) or 503.845.3066 or 800.845.8272

[WWW.MOUNTANGELABBAY.ORG](http://WWW.MOUNTANGELABBAY.ORG)

[Facebook.com/MountAngelAbbeySeminary](https://Facebook.com/MountAngelAbbeySeminary)

## Dear Friends



*Yes, dear friends, in  
the risen Jesus we are  
Easter people, and  
Alleluia is our song!  
A very Happy Easter  
to you and yours, from  
the monks of Mount  
Angel!*

It may not be the usual Lenten greeting, but let me wish you a Happy Lent! Usual or not, it is in the spirit of those beautiful words of St. Benedict from the 49th chapter of the *Holy Rule* on The Observance of Lent, where we are encouraged to “Look forward to holy Easter with joy and spiritual longing.” It is that longing that should shape the meaning of our Lent, and so let me offer some thoughts on those three great days of the Easter Mystery that lie at the end of Lent and that meet our deepest hopes: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

When we look forward to the Holy Thursday aspect of the Easter Mystery we spiritually join the Apostles at table with the Lord and gratefully receive from the Master the most precious gift of his Life and his Love, the very Body and Blood of Jesus! “This is my body that is for you.” We hear him say words which invite our own words of consecration in response: “Thank you, Lord; and this is my body that is for you!” Yes, this should be the ongoing, and not only Lenten, dialog of a truly Eucharistic people!

And then there is Good Friday... When we look forward to this aspect of holy Easter we stand in spirit at the foot of the cross on Calvary, painfully mindful of our sins that put the Master there, but also profoundly grateful for the unspeakable love that led Jesus to bear all the terrible weight of humanity’s sin, even to “be sin,” as St. Paul says (2 Cor 5:21), so that he might render for our salvation the perfect sacrifice of himself on the cross! It doesn’t say so in the Scriptures, but Jesus could rightly have said from the cross what he said at table the night before: “This is my body that is for you!” And we in turn, at the foot of the cross, could also rightly have said again: “Thank you, Lord; and this is my body that is for you!” Yes, and this should be the ongoing dialog of a people called to conversion.

And then Holy Easter itself, the culminating event of the Lord’s Resurrection! When we look forward to the Resurrection we should stand before the risen Master and let him speak our names, just as he spoke the name of Mary that first Easter morning. Let us hear the risen Jesus say: “[Your name]! Receive Life! Be my witness! Await my Spirit! Live by my law of love! Peace be with you!” Yes, dear friends, in the risen Jesus we are Easter people, and Alleluia is our song! A very Happy Easter to you and yours, from the monks of Mount Angel!

*Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB*

Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB



# Community

## NEWS ABOUT MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

### DANISH EVENING IN THE COFFEE SHOP

*Br. Niels Nielsen, OSB*

In December, Mount Angel monk Br. Niels Nielsen, and St. Martin's Abbey monk Br. Nicolaus Wilson, honored their patron Saint, Blessed Niels Stensen (a.k.a. Nicolaus Steno, 1638-1686) of Denmark, on his feast day with a Danish Evening. The full house of multi-faith attendees enjoyed Danish foods, such as pickled herring, Danish blue cheese and rye bread.

Br. Nicolaus opened the evening with a talk about Bl. Niels' discoveries in the fields of anatomy, geology and mineralogy, his conversion from Lutheranism to Catholicism, and his balance of faith and reason. As a Catholic bishop, Bl. Niels lived an ascetic life as he supported his Scandinavian and German converts, and in 1988, became the first Scandinavian beatified in over 400 years.

Br. Niels continued the evening with a casual, narrative concert of Danish folk, medieval, jazz, and contemporary music, assisted on percussion by seminarian Emilio Gonzalez. The program featured the world premiere of Silverton, Oregon composer Christopher Wicks' piece Variations on *Nu Vagne Alle Guds Fugle Små* (Now all of God's little birds are waking, tune by C.E.F. Weyse), for solo douçaine. The douçaine is a rare type of early oboe used in Western Europe in the late Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Danish Evening brought many attendees to the Hilltop for the first time, having come out of an interest in early music, in Danish culture, or to learn about a lesser-known Catholic Blessed who is likely to become canonized. In honor of Bl. Niels' efforts to help those in need, some attendees brought food donations for St. Joseph's Shelter/Mission Benedict.

*Lovet være Jesus Kristus – i al evighed.* (Praised be Jesus Christ forever. Amen)



### BR. BASIL LAWRENCE, OSB TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Br. Basil had the pleasure of being ordained to the transitional diaconate by Archbishop John Vlazny in December.

After a year at Mount Angel Seminary studying for the Diocese of Las Vegas, he began to discern a call to monastic life. In the spring of 2006 he withdrew affiliation with the Diocese of Las Vegas and became an affiliate of Mount Angel Abbey. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in philosophy in the spring of 2006 and made his monastic profession in 2008.

Br. Basil's duties have included serving as secretary to the abbot, public relations liaison, abbey vocations team member, schola member and barber. While on the vocations team, he helped abbey discerners, co-produced an abbey DVD, and served as representative on the archdiocesan vocations committee. In addition, he was the religious seminarian representative to the seminary pastoral council and gave abbey tours and talks to visiting youth groups on the side. He is currently the assistant vocation director and assistant guest master for the retreat house.

Through it all, Br. Basil has still found time to continue his priestly studies and formation. He completed his Clinical Pastoral Education last summer in Mesa, AZ, and will receive his MA, Masters of Divinity and STB degrees this spring. He will be ordained in the summer of 2013.

### LISTENING THIS LENT

*Fr. Pius X Harding, OSB*

"Listen to my voice; then I will be your God and you shall be my people" (Jeremiah 7:23-28). In the Lenten liturgy the prophet Jeremiah speaks to the Church, and points out to us that we cannot live a covenant life without listening.

Saint Benedict teaches as much, when he begins his monastic rule of life with: "Listen, O my son, to the master's instructions, attend to them with the ear of the heart. They are from a father who loves you."

The prophet and the monk are one in this teaching. If we are to truly be a People of God, we must listen to His Word. We hear the Word through our participation in the sacred liturgy, through prayerful pondering of the sacred Scriptures, through obedience to Christ in His Church.

The Latin word for obedience is *obedire*. This word is composed of two others: *ob* and *audire*: literally, for or toward to hear. Obedience is the response we make to having heard the Word. If we hope to be obedient to God, then we must listen. "Listen to my voice; then I will be your God and you shall be my people."

We are called by the Word to live in covenant relationship with God and with one another, so we're not just striving to hear God's voice, but also, the voices of our brothers and sisters. The life of charity we share with one another is an incontestable measure of our love, and the vibrancy of our covenant relationship with God.



### MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY PILGRIMAGES

**May 13-30 Bible Lands:** *An 18-day trip to Israel and Jordan.* Led by Fr. Odo Recker, OSB and LaVern Hayworth, associate director of oblates. *Itinerary: 4 days on the shore of the sea of Galilee, 2 days at a Dead Sea resort, 2 days at Petra, 2 days at Eilat Red Sea resort and 6 days in Jerusalem.*

**November 4-17 Turkey:** *A 14-day journey to the cradle of Christianity.* Led by Fr. Ralph Recker, OSB, and LaVern Hayworth, associate director of oblates. *Itinerary: 2 days in Istanbul, then to Adana, Antakya, Tarsus, Cappadocia, Konya, Pamukkale, Izmir, Ephesus and Canakkale, ending with 2 days in Istanbul*

To learn more: [www.mountangelabbey.org/pilgrimage-home.htm](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/pilgrimage-home.htm)

FROM OUR LADY OF ANGELS PRIORY, CUERNAVACA

### PADRE JAIME VELASCO RIVERA, OSB, CELEBRATES HIS SILVER JUBILEE OF MONASTIC PROFESSION

*Prior Konrad Schaefer, OSB*



In December, we celebrated the silver jubilee of Padre Jaime's monastic profession, with the Eucharist and a lively luncheon in the guesthouse. For all people he mirrors the portrait of Saint Benedict. In addition to his service in the business office and in the kitchen, he receives the continual flow of people who come to our door for confessions, blessings and an attentive ear. His charity and counsel is much sought, as Padre encourages the

people to live the Catholic Christian life even in the direst of circumstances with the gifts of faith and God's boundless grace.

The smile is never absent from Padre's face, as he receives and greets the confreres and guests. We appreciate Padre Jaime as a monk and priest who has experienced and transmits God's love day by day, smile after smile, service upon service, in our community and toward our visitors. Gracias, dear God, for manifesting yourself in the monastic life of our dear Brother; gracias, Padre Jaime, for imaging Christ and Saint Benedict and for playing an important role in our Benedictine life!



### AÄLTO EXHIBIT

The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture in Spokane is presenting an exhibit of Modern Architecture: 1948-1973 (March 2, 2013-November 2, 2013), a major part of the exhibit is devoted to some of the library's Aälto furniture.

*The 2012 Christmas tree display in the Aälto Library was created by Library Administrator Victoria Ertelt.*

### Are you called to be a monk?

Discerning a vocation to the monastic life is best done by personal experience and an encounter with the monks in the cloister. Men who are at least 16 years old and discerning a vocation are invited to come and join us for a three-day monastic discernment experience.

Time is spent in prayer with the monks, silent reflection and conferences on the monastic way of life. There is ample opportunity to discuss vocational discernment with novices and junior monks and with your fellow retreatants.

APRIL 12-14, 2013 JULY 19-21, 2013

*All discernment retreats are FREE and begin with Vespers Friday evening and conclude Sunday afternoon.*

To learn more: [www.mountangelabbey.org/monastery/vocation-discernment.html](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/monastery/vocation-discernment.html) or contact Fr. Odo Recker, OSB – [vocation@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:vocation@mountangelabbey.org).



# Called Home:

## MAY PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM, LORD!

Rev. Jerome Young, OSB – December 8, 2012 at Mount Angel Abbey. After a long struggle with leukemia, Fr. Jerome’s condition grew worse at the end of November, which only strengthened his resolve to be ready to meet the Lord.

Born in Portland, Fr. Jerome studied first in Eugene before going on to Harvard College where he received his AB in Classical Languages. He made his profession in 1982. In 1986, he received a Theology MA from Mount Angel Seminary and was ordained a priest by Archbishop William Levada. He went on to earn an STL in Moral Theology in 1994 while studying in Rome.

He excelled in classical languages and theology and taught moral theology in the seminary where he won respect not only as a teacher but also as a spiritual director. For many years he served as secretary to the Senior Council and the Chapter and was the abbey acquisitions librarian and library board member. He also assisted in the formation of monks as junior master and as a member of the Formation Council.

Fr. Jerome exemplified dedication and observance at the *Opus Dei* and the Eucharist. Some of Fr. Jerome’s notable characteristics included a strong devotion to our Blessed Mother, love for classical and liturgical music, his gift as a pianist and organist, his skill with languages and his wit.

His undaunted acceptance of serious health challenges over the past ten years gave witness both to his strong personal faith and to his monastic convictions. As his health declined, he could be seen joining in the community prayers from the balcony. His legacy to all is his joyful witness to holiness and fidelity.

He is survived by his sisters Marilyn Ellis (and husband John) and Elizabeth Clark (and husband Daniel), his nephews Ryan Ellis (and wife Heather) and Colin Young, his nieces Lauren Clark and Rose Young, and his two great nephews Gavin and Preston Ellis.

He will remain a blessing for many who knew him and will be greatly missed.

Gifts of gratitude, offered in memory of Fr. Jerome’s loving ministry, will be designated to the Fr. Jerome Young Memorial Scholarship Fund.



*In his homily at the Mass of the Dead for Fr. Jerome, Abbot Gregory Duerr, OSB spoke of his Rosary Calendar:*

Each year Fr. Jerome prepared a Rosary Calendar that included the dates and names of confreres, family members, relatives and friends for whom he would pray the rosary on the occasion of their birthday, name day, or anniversary of death. On December 3, the day of the fall that precipitated his death, his calendar listed his rosary intentions: Abbot Xavier Connelly, OSB, of St. Benedict Abbey in Still River, MA and Fr. Benito Verber Rodríguez, OSB, an elderly and venerable monk of our priory in Cuernavaca, for his birthday. Well, at least here in the monastery, as any of the monks can attest, whenever Fr. Jerome would pray a rosary for us he would also put a little slip into our mailbox – a slip that pictured a rosary, with the words “I prayed a rosary for you.”



## Excerpts from the Eulogy for Fr. Jerome by Fr. Paul Thomas, OSB:

The love of Christ was the dominant force in the life of Fr. Jerome, empowering him to bear the Cross of sickness with relative composure and peace, for his faith taught him that the Cross has the power to transcend human weakness and finiteness. While one naturally asks, “Why the Cross of sickness?” and while we cannot entirely answer this question, we can say that, though his sickness ended Fr. Jerome’s earthly life, in Christ we believe his sickness at the deepest level was curative, it led to his sanctification, to the resurrection and to eternal life and, thus, to the glorification of God.

And so, as have countless blessed before him, Fr. Jerome interpreted for us the Paschal Mystery as a mystery of divine mercy. For in sacrificing himself for us, Christ gave a new meaning to suffering, opening up a new dimension, a new order: the order of love. Impelled by this vision, Fr. Jerome silently suffered and loved in communion with Christ, and that is why his suffering will bear much fruit. *Nihil amoris Christi praeponere.* “Prefer nothing to the love of Christ.” – *Holy Rule*, Chapter 4

## From a conference given by Fr. Jerome in 2006, words that bring Fr. Jerome himself to mind:

We must allow our personalities to speak for themselves, as did Blessed Peter Favre, of whom we are told by a contemporary [that] “in his dealings with others, there was a singularly charming sweetness and grace... By some means or other, he would win their friendship, gradually steal into their hearts, and with his amiable manner and slow, pleasant words, kindle in them a mighty love of God.”



Br. Bernabe Robin del Rosario, MSPS (seminarian) – November 2, 2012 in Mt. Angel, Oregon, as the result of a tragic car accident. He was 35 years old. He joined the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit in 2005, made his Novitiate in Long Beach, CA and professed his first vows in August 2007. After completing his philosophical studies and his first two years of theology at Mount Angel Seminary, Br. Robin worked last year in vocations ministry and at St. Martha Parish, in Huntington Park, CA. He had just recently completed preparation for final vows and was beginning his third year of theology. May our faith in Christ give us consolation and strength.

## OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO MEMBERS OF THE MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY AND SEMINARY COMMUNITY WHO DIED IN 2012.

- Mel Amsberry '79
- Ercole A. Battilega '36
- Thrasilla M. Bauman
- Philip V. Berning '53
- Thomas W. Bischoff '57
- Eugene S. Clark '48
- Virgil M. Diehl '46
- William Doyle '82
- Paul N. Drnjevic '54
- Virginia M. Esser
- Jerome C. Fitzgerald '45
- Leonard A. Frank '39
- James J. Grosjacques '55
- Rev. Edward Herrera '91
- Stephen Lenzer
- Ralph Lulay
- Sr. Frances Madden, SNMM
- Nicholaus Marenga (seminarian)
- Elizabeth May
- Thomas F. Miller '60
- Br. Ambrose Moorman, OSB
- Patricia Nizic
- Rev. Timothy Sander, OSB '33 '38 '42
- Robert J. Scott '52
- Anthony Seidl '37
- Leonard A. Strobel
- Marcel Van Driesche
- Robert E. Vanderzanden '53
- Lawrence W. Zach
- James Zitzelberger '59



# Formation

NEWS ABOUT MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY

## SEMINARIAN DIARY

Daniel Robert Watts  
Pre-Theology I, Archdiocese of Portland



For a thirty-something like me, the adjustment to seminary life at Mount Angel is really different from what our college guys experience.

I earned a B.A. in English Lit back in the '90s, when some of my fellow seminarians here were still unborn. (I wish I were kidding.) They've spent most of their lives in school. I've spent much of mine working for big corporations. Many of my classmates are living away from their parents' homes for the first time. I've downsized from a spacious apartment to a snug dorm room. These days, instead of making presentations to executives and lunching in style, I'm taking notes in philosophy classes and

eating in the school cafeteria.

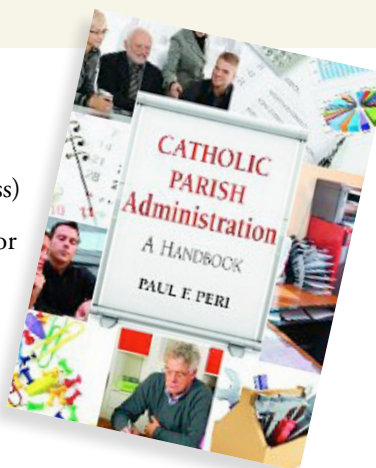
Remember the social anxiety of walking in with your tray and looking for some friendly faces to sit with? Here at Mount Angel Seminary, it's not as bad as those new-kid-in-the-cafeteria scenes from "Mean Girls" or "The Shawshank Redemption," but it's still awkward in the beginning. It's a good thing seminarians are friendlier than those teenage girls and prison convicts!

Some of us seminarians are college age, some are thirty-somethings and some are older. But we're all human. Occasionally, we stress out, we get competitive, we act petty and we trade gossip. Yet we share something far more powerful than all of that: It's our strong faith in Jesus Christ and this nagging pull to serve God and His people as priests. It's not what the world says will make us happy, and it sure won't ever be glamorous or lucrative. But, it's our vocation. We get it.

Mount Angel seminarians pray unceasingly, we laugh constantly, and we root each other on at our basketball and soccer games. We form emergency study groups to help everyone succeed at midterms and finals. We make tight friendships and share our personal struggles. We sing and chant psalms with Benedictine monks. We mourn and pray when we lose a fellow student. (Two of our brother seminarians died tragically and unexpectedly in 2012.) We wish our friends well when they "discern out" of seminary to seek another path, and we welcome new discerners throughout the year with smiles and encouragement.

Do I ever miss my old life as a working professional in the city? Sometimes. I certainly miss having my own bathroom! But Mount Angel is where I'm discerning God's call to priesthood for the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon. It's a privilege to live on our beautiful hilltop and be on this adventure.

I love it!



## FACULTY AUTHORS

**Rev. Paul F. Peri, *Catholic Parish Administration: A Handbook*** (Paulist Press)

Fr. Paul F. Peri, director of pastoral formation at Mount Angel Seminary, writes especially for seminarians, which distinguishes the book from anything currently on the market.

An experienced pastor, Fr. Peri views administration as a worthy vocation and claims that pastors will typically devote one-half of their time to it. The book is rich in practical insight for the pastor. For Fr. Peri, the mature priest must be able to act prudently and to seek help when it is needed.

Fr. Peri notes in his acknowledgements: "For some time, I have had in mind writing a short uncomplicated book on Catholic parish administration. So many seminary students today have little to no experience in any kind of administration. Those that come from other countries are unfamiliar for the most part with the way parishes work in the United States. All of the students are usually pretty anxious about administration. They are good men, ready to preach and listen and minister the sacraments with confidence. But administration and what it entails is another matter. Thus this text." *This book is available through Amazon.*

## FACULTY AUTHORS

**Dr. Owen Cummings, *Liturgical Snapshots*** (Paulist Press).  
*Ed Langlois, Catholic Sentinel*

You won't be able to attend Mass the same way after you've read Deacon Owen Cummings' new book, *Liturgical Snapshots*.

Cummings, Regents' chair of theology at Mount Angel Seminary, also writes the *Catholic Sentinel's* regular question and answer column. More to the point, he's a husband and father of five whose workaday experience makes his work meaningful in everyday life.

The amiable Scotsman writes about our worship not only with insight, but with good humor and compassion about the human condition. Along with St. Augustine he is convinced that we are restless until we rest in God. He understands that we try a lot of dumb things first.

*Liturgical Snapshots* begins where all Christian thought should — with the Trinity. But this is no far-flung attempt to explain the mathematics of mystery. Cummings says liturgy is nothing less than the moment we encounter the lavish and abiding invitation to join the Trinity's loving communal life.

"The liturgy, the entire economy or history of salvation, indeed creation itself, is about God's deifying us, about our participation in God," Cummings writes. "The Communion that is God is not content to remain in God-self."

So much for thinking about football during Mass.

Cummings operates from an admirable blend of scholarship and accessibility, a rare feat in a world prone to indecipherable theology and fluffy religious blogs.

The book's chapters may at first glance seem only remotely linked, but Cummings' treatment of each section is consistent: sensible, enthusiastic, optimistic — never naive. His methods unify the book. And so does his conviction that theology of liturgy has not kept pace with liturgical renewal. His writing gives that body of thought a nice boost.

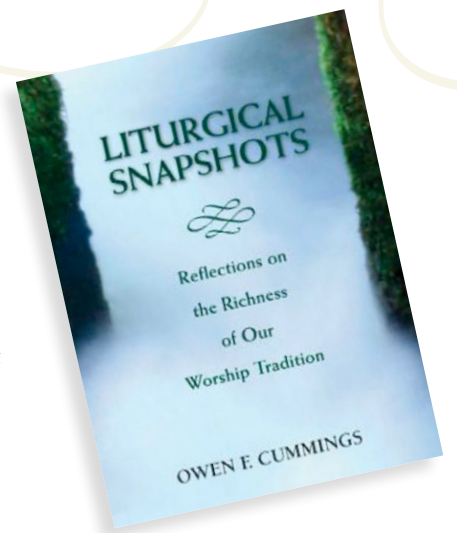
One fascinating essay explains how the movements of the liturgy are based on the movements of human social life. Eucharist, Cummings says, can help tired and anxious people re-focus on what it means to be truly human.

"The liturgy, the entire economy or history of salvation, indeed creation itself, is about God's deifying us, about our participation in God," Cummings writes. "The Communion that is God is not content to remain in God-self."

Prayer, worship and even hearing scripture are communal, not individual acts, he reminds us.

A welcome section points out the Holy Spirit's presence in the Eucharist, which we Roman Catholics have under-valued, preferring a historical and christological view.

The Counter-Reformation's Council of Trent (1545-1563) has become a pariah for some Catholics. But Cummings insists it had some very good ideas, including the notion that the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is not limited to the eucharistic gifts, though that is the presence *par excellence*. Christ is also present in the liturgical assembly,



the Word of God and presider. Such insight, which has been muted since Vatican II embraced it, will change the way people engage in Mass.

Other chapters take up preaching, benediction and the origins of the Eucharist. Cummings tackles some of the most pressing questions with

common sense — Do prayers change anything? Is it all right to ask things of God? What does the Eucharist say about God and the existence of evil? He reflects on death and "God's lovely presence."

Because Cummings is not plying new ground, but instead tidying up centuries of thought, his easy but disciplined ways bring coherence. He uses terms like "oodles" or "warp and woof" and cites *West Side Story* in a section on marriage. He is neither progressive nor utterly traditional — he's prudent. Most of all, his enthusiasm for God is catching.

*This book is available through Amazon.*



# MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY EDUCATES LAY LEADERS

*Sr. Hilda Kleiman, OSB, and seminarians Raul Barriga (Archdiocese of San Francisco) and Peter Lawongherd (Diocese of Oakland)*



Barb Anderson, a lay alumna of Mount Angel Seminary, is grateful for her Master’s in Theology from the seminary. In a phone interview, she described the ways it has shaped her work as a pastoral associate for St. Mary’s Parish in Corvallis.

As a pastoral associate, she works with RCIA and adult education, gives retreats, takes communion to the sick, makes pastoral visits, and works on a variety of additional projects with other members of the parish staff. “I love being a pastoral associate,” said Anderson, “because it is hard and I can share my love of God with others who are different every day.” She has worked in the parish since 1990 and as the pastoral associate since 1994.

When asked why she wanted to study theology, Anderson said, “I wanted to read much more, read original documents. I wanted to know why we do what we do.” Mount Angel Seminary was the closest Catholic graduate school, and since she works with priests, she said she wanted to have some of the same teachers and formation as they did.

A current project that draws on her theological experience is a screening of Fr. Robert Barron’s new series on Catholicism. Anderson explained that her theological background enables her to answer people’s questions that are raised by the series or to properly direct them so they can discover the answer on their own.

When asked if she had a favorite course at the seminary, Anderson said, “I loved all of them!” Her thesis focused on the spirituality of the laity in the work of St. Francis de Sales and was directed by Sr. Brigid Merriman, OSF.

Since her graduation from Mount Angel Seminary, Anderson has continued to study theology on her own through preparation for her teaching in RCIA, by reading current encyclicals and through her research for retreats. She recently did a school staff retreat, and in November, she offered a retreat on St. Hildegard of Bingen. According to Anderson, her pastor, Fr. Steve Clovis, is very supportive of education and is encouraging her study of Spanish at the local community college as well.

Anderson explained that while she expected and received a rich intellectual experience at Mount Angel Seminary she also had a deeply spiritual experience as well. Through the intermingling of study and prayer, Anderson said, she was being formed all day long.

Because she has experienced the love of God through her studies, said Anderson, it is easier to share that love with others. Anderson concluded “the whole emphasis of my time at Mount Angel was to discover the love of God in a deeper way.”



## CELEBRATIONS IN THE SEMINARY

In October, Mount Angel Seminary celebrated the ordination of two men to the Diaconate and eight men to the rite of admission to the candidacy for ordination.

### DIACONATE ORDINATION

*Archdiocese of Portland*  
Crispine Otieno

*Diocese of Sacramento*  
Carlos Tejano

### MASS OF CANDIDACY

*Archdiocese of Portland*  
Peter Andele  
Francisco Bringuela  
Martin Tavares Hernandez

*Diocese of San Diego*  
Alexander DePaulis  
Minh Do  
Lauro Minimo

*Diocese of Vac*  
Pál Juhász

*Archdiocese of Santa Fe*  
Dominic Pierson

*Diocese of Spokane*  
Brian Sattler



# Fellowship

NEWS FOR ALUMNI

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2013 ALUMNI CONTINUING EDUCATION RETREAT

“The New Evangelization: Does it make a difference in our parishes?”

MAY 1-2, 2013

- Reconnect with faculty
- Share insights and challenges
- Renew friendships with fellow priests
- Explore how to become an evangelizing parish

Guest presenter is Paulist Fr. Frank DeSiano, CSP, (president of Paulist Evangelization Ministries in Washington, DC). He will encourage us to become more active in “spreading the Good News,” a dynamic process that starts with deepening and renewing our own faith, and leads us to share our faith with others. “Evangelization is not magic,” Fr. DeSiano has said. “It takes consistent application”

### BIOGRAPHY

Fr. Frank DeSiano, born in New York City, was ordained a Paulist priest in 1972. He has served as pastor in downtown parishes in both New York and Chicago and as vocation director for the Paulists. He received a DMin degree from Boston University in 1990 after completing a thesis on Parish Based Evangelization. He served as a consultor for the US Bishops’ Committee on Evangelization for more than 12 years. In 1994, he was elected President of the Paulist Fathers. He has written numerous books and articles on evangelization, discipleship, and spirituality, and is frequently published in periodicals like The Priest, Catechetical Leader, and Deacon Digest. In 2009, he became president of Paulist Evangelization Ministries in Washington, DC. This organization seeks to “reach the unreached in faith.”



The 5th in a series of Alumni Retreats, the schedule begins with breakfast on Wednesday, May 1 and ends with breakfast on Friday, May 3. There will be time to join in question and answer discussions, visit with fellow alumni and enjoy the excellent food prepared by Chef Paul Lieggi. Lodging is available in the Retreat House.

To learn more and register please contact: Steve Anderson at alumni@mountangelabbey.org or Telephone: 503.845.3057 or Toll free: 800.845.8272

## HOMEcoming REUNION AT THE ABBEY AND MT. ANGEL OKTOBERFEST

WED-THUR, SEPT. 11-12, 2013

All Alumni! Gather at the Hilltop for a reunion, renewal and re-connection. Save the date for Homecoming at the Abbey, along with Mt. Angel’s annual Oktoberfest.

Come early or stay late: Oktoberfest dates are September 12-15, 2013.

Interested alumni are invited to join us in planning. Please contact Steve Anderson at: alumni@mountangelabbey.org or Telephone: 503.845.3057 or Toll free: 800.845.8272

## POPE NAMES THREE ALUMNI MONSIGNORS

Mount Angel Seminary congratulates three of its own on their appointments as monsignors.

**Rev. Msgr. Joseph Betschart**, current President-Rector, studied at the Seminary before going on to finish his formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome and the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.

**Rev. Msgr. Patrick Brennan**, currently pastor at St. Mary’s Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, graduated from Mount Angel Preparatory School in 1969 and received a BA from the Seminary in 1973 before finishing his formation at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

**Rev. Msgr. Donald Buxman**, currently vicar for the clergy of the Archdiocese of Portland, studied at Mount Angel Seminary College and St. Thomas Seminary in Kenmore, Washington.



# Generosity

NEWS FOR BENEFACTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

## PRAYING WITH THE MONKS OF MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

*Pray for us.* (Hebrews 13:18)

This request appears hundreds of times in the scriptures – and even more often in Mount Angel Abbey’s answering machines and email inboxes! The monks write down your intentions and post them where all the brothers can see them; slips of paper cover a large bulletin board in the cloister!

Prayer is the ministry of the monks. Some of their prayers are devoted to worship and thanksgiving, others to repentance and intercessions for the monks’ personal and communal needs. The rest are for you. The monks want you to know someone is praying for you, bringing your needs before the face of God. The monks intercede for your concerns as though they were their own. They hope this knowledge helps you trust that God in His mercy truly will meet your deepest needs – and that you will share in the peace of this Holy Mountain.

### UNCEASING PRAYER

Five times a day, the Benedictine monks of Mount Angel Abbey meet in the church to praise and thank God for His creation and also to offer prayers for the needs of the world. The Liturgy of the Hours is woven into all they do throughout the day – in unceasing prayer – from Vigils at 5:20 am to Compline at 7:30 pm. The community celebrates the Eucharist daily at 8 am.

## YOU BELONG AT MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, Br. Mark Parker was the son of a gold miner, the grandson of a Swedish countess – and a Catholic convert at the age of 33. He visited Mount Angel Abbey for the first time in 1983, after a frustrating discernment process that first led him to explore life with the Franciscans. When God made it clear he was not called to be a Friar, Br. Mark demanded that He send a clear, unambiguous sign. Three days later, he encountered a Benedictine sister who gave him a direct order: “You belong at Mount Angel.” He entered the Abbey in October of 1984.

Today, Br. Mark is in charge of Oremus, the Abbey’s program that involves thousands of friends and their loved ones in the prayers and Masses of the monks. He makes just one request of those who participate: “On the prayer request forms, please print all names in block letters!”



Br. Mark Parker, OSB,  
intentionarist and Oremus  
Prayer Program director.

## OREMUS –“LET US PRAY”

The monks of Mount Angel Abbey invite you to participate in their life of prayer through the Oremus Program, which includes:

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Individual Mass Intentions

The priest-monks of the Abbey offer a Mass each day. They invite you to submit your special intentions.

#### Memorial Masses

Each month for one year, ten Masses are said for the deceased enrolled in this program. We provide a card you may send to inform the family you have asked the monks to say Masses on behalf of the deceased.

#### Daily Community Mass Enrollment

Enrollees are perpetually included in the intentions of the monk’s daily community Mass. The person who requests the enrollment will receive a framed scroll in the name of the enrollee.

### ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE

A Mass is offered each day for those enrolled in this program. At the beginning of the month, you will receive a letter listing those enrolled for that month. As Br. Mark Parker says, “This program is not an appeal for money. It is a service for God’s people that we’re called to do.”

### NOVENAS AND PRAYER SERIES

Program participants celebrate five prayer series during the year with the Abbey monks. You are invited to submit prayer intentions and you will receive remembrance prayer cards.

- All Soul’s Month of Prayer (Nov. 2-30)
- Christmas Octave of Prayer (December 25-January 1)
- Saint Joseph Novena (March 11-19)
- Saint Benedict Novena (July 3-11)
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Novena (August 7-15)

For more information about these Oremus opportunities, visit our website at [www.mountangelabbey.org/monastery/oremus/htm](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/monastery/oremus/htm). To contact Br. Mark Parker, send an email to [prayforus@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:prayforus@mountangelabbey.org) or call 503-845-3404.

## PROCURATOR’S CORNER

St. Benedict understood very well the rewards and challenges of life in a monastic community. Communities thrive when they have a clear sense of their mission and a plan to achieve it. At the same time, with many ideas and voices it can be difficult to articulate a vision that all can embrace. When was the last time you tried to achieve consensus in a group of 50 strong-minded individuals?

It may not be easy, but it is essential. That’s why Abbot Gregory has asked the monks, Hilltop employees and Abbey Foundation of Oregon trustees to embark on our first long-range planning process in ten years.

*As often as anything important is to be done in the monastery, the Abbot shall call the whole community together...*

– Rule of St. Benedict

Guided by a 10-year vision, 11 working groups with nearly 100 participants will meet for the next six months to review the current status, challenges and opportunities of key Hilltop areas, including monastic vocations, the Abbey’s culture, prayer and common life, parishes and chaplaincies; the Seminary, Library and Retreat House; facilities; technology; enterprises; external relationships; and business practices.

Ultimately, when Abbot Gregory and the monks approve the plan, it will express and prioritize the needs and aspirations of the whole Hilltop community. Many of you have joined or led such planning exercises in your workplace, parish or volunteer setting. Most likely, you are aware of the pitfalls we hope to avoid! First, the monks will guide every stage of the plan; to be useful, it must be brief and practical. Second, it will be used in our everyday work to guide decisions, develop budgets and help set priorities. We don’t want a plan that gathers dust on the shelf or is used as a doorstop.

Finally, when the plan is complete in December 2013, it will shape the Foundation’s fundraising goals. We look forward to sharing our vision and plan for Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary with you!



To learn more about opportunities to support the Abbey and Seminary, contact Jodi Kilcup, Director of Development: [jodi.kilcup@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:jodi.kilcup@mountangelabbey.org) or 503.928.0173.

Contributions are tax-deductible and are acknowledged gratefully in our annual report. Please make checks payable to the Abbey Foundation of Oregon. You also may make

your gift online using a credit card at our secure website: <http://www.mountangelabbey.org/donate.html>



## A NEW SET OF WHEELS

Two generous donors responded to our appeal for new or used cars to transport seminarians and monks to their service sites. Deacon Leo and Catherine Appel dropped off a used Ford Explorer and Ray and Renee Edwards donated a used Honda Odyssey, both in fine condition. We



are grateful for these safe and sturdy vehicles and welcome donated cars and vans. Imagine more than 150 monks and seminarians traveling around the Archdiocese. Parents who transport their kids to sports, music, scouts and youth groups can identify with our weekly traffic to and from the Hilltop!

### WANT TO DONATE A VEHICLE?

We can use more cars in good condition to provide transportation for monks and seminarians on service assignments. Or, do you have a golf cart you no longer use that can be put to service on the Hilltop for transportation for monks and visitors who have difficulty walking long distances? Please contact Debra King at: [development@mountangelabbey.org](mailto:development@mountangelabbey.org) or 800.845.3066



# Hospitality

NEWS ABOUT HILLTOP EVENTS

## SEMINARY BENEFIT DINNER BREAKS FUND-RAISING RECORDS

The Ninth Annual Mount Angel Seminary Benefit Dinner in Portland was held on Sunday, November 4, at the Oregon Convention Center. Stephen Zimmer, 2012 Chair of the Dinner, announced that fundraising broke all previous records, with an increase of 12% over 2011. "Our sponsors and their guests filled the room with a spirit of love and generosity," he said. "They met the men who will be our next generation of priests and saw the huge impact their gifts can have on the future of the Church. It is rewarding to see that spark in their eyes when they recognize what a difference they can make."

The date for the Tenth Annual Seminary Benefit Dinner is November 3, 2013. For sponsorship, volunteer participation and event information please contact the development office: SBD@mountangelabbey.org or 503.845.3066 or 800.845.8272



## CHRISTIAN IN THE WORLD

Join us at the Hilltop for our integrated program series of study, prayer and discussion for Catholics who want to live their faith more deeply. The Spring 2013 theme is: The Church looks at Herself in Relation to the World (ad extra). Time: 9 am-1:15 pm (lunch available). Location: Mount Angel Abbey Library. To learn more please call Cecile Beckerman at: 503.393.5041

## Can you help? A call for auction items....

The silent and live auctions are a highlight of the Festival of Arts & Wine, to be held June 29, 2013 from 1-5 pm, at the Abbey. Abbey friends and the monks contribute a variety of auction treats – from themed baskets to vacation get-away lodging.

We need your help to gather these packages. Auction baskets are a fun project that you can organize with your parish or friends. Just pick a theme and gather the items. You don't even need to provide the basket - we will wrap your donation!

Monks and friends contribute in their own special way – Fr. Martin Grassel, OSB, procurator, donates his handmade icon mosaics. Trustee Les Fahey and his wife

Nancy donate a fishing get-away in Mazanita.

Join the fun - donate an auction basket, a special dinner, a painting or sculpture, vacation adventure, hot air balloon ride... let your imagination be your guide. We welcome your contributions.

Contact Lee Ann Reed: FAW@mountangelabbey.org or 503.845.3067 or 800.845.8272.



# Contemplation

REFLECTIONS FROM THE HILLTOP

## DARE TO BE HOLY

*An interview with Fr. Paschal Cheline, OSB*

**You sometimes speak of "daring to be holy." What does that mean?**

Not only do you have to dare to be holy – you have to dare to live! I have a little phrase that I use with lots of people: "Are you living your life or is your life living you?" Now, I don't know how that comes across to people, but it has real meaning to me. I think we must grab the gift of life and live the whole thing until God says, "Okay, that part of your existence is over, come on."

A lot of people have the wrong idea about holiness. I just think holiness is being who God meant us to be – profoundly, energetically, actively, all the time. And that does take a certain daring. Sometimes when I get to my room, I am exhausted. And, I think, it is because *I have lived!* I think we *should* be exhausted when we get home. It is because we have lived with a kind of intensity.

For me one of the really sad, sad things – I see talents and possibilities [in people] they don't see them in themselves, and so they are not going to grab them and run with them. They say, "Well, I am just me," and they kind of whimper through life. What a tragedy! You don't have to be smart. You don't have to have special talent. You just have to be YOU. And that takes a certain daring.

From some people I hear, "Well, I would like to be like so-and-so." My response would be, "No. Don't be like so-and-so, but see the things you like in that person and put them in yourself and BE YOU. And if some of those qualities aren't in you – because God didn't give them to you – well, who cares? You have whatever makes YOU."

I was just telling a guy last night, [who] was wondering about what happens in the future, "Don't fuss over that! Get on the road, where you know it is (and you know the conclusion) and don't get off. Now, you may rest a while, you may go to this side or that side a little bit, but don't get off the road because you know that road is leading you where you want to go and where you should go. If you get off the road, which could happen, well, get back on! Don't let your life fall apart! Grab your life and live it! I think that's what God wants and I think that's what holiness is.



## BELOVED MONK INSPIRES SEMINARIANS, CONFRERES, AND FRIENDS OF THE ABBEY

Fr. Paschal Cheline, OSB, arrived at Mount Angel Abbey at the age of 14, more than 60 years ago. Many of those years were dedicated to teaching, whether at Kennedy High School in Mt. Angel, as a pastor, or as a member of the Mount Angel Seminary faculty. For ten years, he has served as Executive Director of the Abbey Bach Festival – just one of his many roles. Among monks in the Abbey choir stalls, he is known as one who "cannot sing a wrong note."

His courses begin with a prayer and a bang. Mount Angel Seminary's beloved teacher, spiritual director and administrator conveys his love of the Catholic faith with the vigor of his Viking heritage. Fr. Paschal seldom leaves you wondering what he may think about a given topic. "What is the basic point of a homily?" he asks. "Is it moral living? Trying to tell jokes or make the hearers feel good? Pious babbling? No. The basic point is preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

Fr. Paschal embodies a priest's deep love of liturgy. At the same time, he is completely a Benedictine monk, shaped at the cellular level by 60 years spent praying the Divine Office in community. And, too, he is a pastor, loving each person he meets – and encouraging their faith in the eternal beauty and glory toward which we are drawn.





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

7TH ANNUAL

MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

# FESTIVAL OF ARTS & WINE '13

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1-5 PM

Tickets: \$50/pp includes auctions, jazz band, wine wall, art displays and sales, hearty hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer tasting, and wine and beer discounted sales.

Tickets are available online:

[www.mountangelabbey.org/festival-arts-wine.htm](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/festival-arts-wine.htm)

Contact: FAW@mountangelabbey.org  
or call Toll Free 800.845.8272

Find us on: Facebook.com/AbbeyFestivalArtsWine



## The Sacred Triduum

### Holy Thursday

5:20 am Vigils  
6:45 am Lauds  
11:55 am Midday prayer  
3:55 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass  
Hour of Vespers is omitted  
7:25 pm Compline

### Good Friday

5:20 am Vigils  
6:45 am Lauds  
11:55 am Midday prayer  
2:55 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death  
Hour of Vespers is omitted  
7:25 pm Compline

### Holy Saturday

5:20 am Vigils  
6:45 am Lauds  
11:55 am Midday prayer  
5:15 pm Vespers  
Hour of Compline is omitted  
7:55 pm Easter Vigil

### Easter Sunday

8:25 am Solemn Lauds  
10:55 am Mass of Easter Day  
Midday prayer is omitted  
5:15 pm Pontifical Vespers  
7:25 pm Compline

### Easter Monday

6:20 am Vigils  
7:30 am Lauds  
8:55 am Mass  
11:55 am Midday prayer  
5:15 pm Vespers  
8:00 pm Compline

Abbey  
Bach  
Festival

JULY 24-26

JOIN US FOR GREAT MUSIC AT THE  
42ND ANNUAL ABBEY BACH FESTIVAL

Tickets: \$55/pp includes concerts and picnic supper  
Tickets available online: [www.mountangelabbey.org/Bach.htm](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/Bach.htm)  
Contact: BACH@mountangelabbey.org or 800.845.8272  
Find us on: Facebook.com/AbbeyBachFestival

# Events CALENDAR

## MARCH

- 5 Senior Citizen's Lenten Day of Reflection Retreat
- 9 Christian in the World Program – The Decree on Ecumenism and the Declaration on Religious Freedom. Presenter: Mary Jo Tully
- 11-12 Seminary Theological Symposium
- 19 Seminary Annunciation Dinner
- 20-24 Monastic Living Retreat led by Fr. Jacob Stronach, OSB and Br. Basil Lawrence, OSB
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 26-31 2013 Holy Week and Easter Retreats. Private retreats available Tuesday to Sunday of Holy Week and Easter including Easter weekend
- 28-April 7 Seminary Easter/Spring Break
- 29 Good Friday
- 31 Easter Sunday

## APRIL

- 13 Christian in the World Program – Vatican Council II, Fifty Years Later. Presenter: Fr. Richard Keolker
- 23 Seminary Appreciation Dinner
- 24-25 2013/2014 Pastoral Intern and Supervisor Workshop
- 29 St. Peter Chanel Mass

## MAY

- 1-2 Continuing Education Retreat. Presenter: Fr. Frank DeSiano
- 1-31 Valley Calligraphy Guild exhibit. Aalto Library foyer.
- 10 Baccalaureate Mass
- 11 Seminary Commencement
- 16 Seminary Board of Directors meeting

Mount Angel Letter is also available at  
[www.mountangelabbey.org/newsletter.html](http://www.mountangelabbey.org/newsletter.html)

Facebook.com/MountAngelAbbeySeminary  
[WWW.MOUNTANGELABBEY.ORG](http://WWW.MOUNTANGELABBEY.ORG)