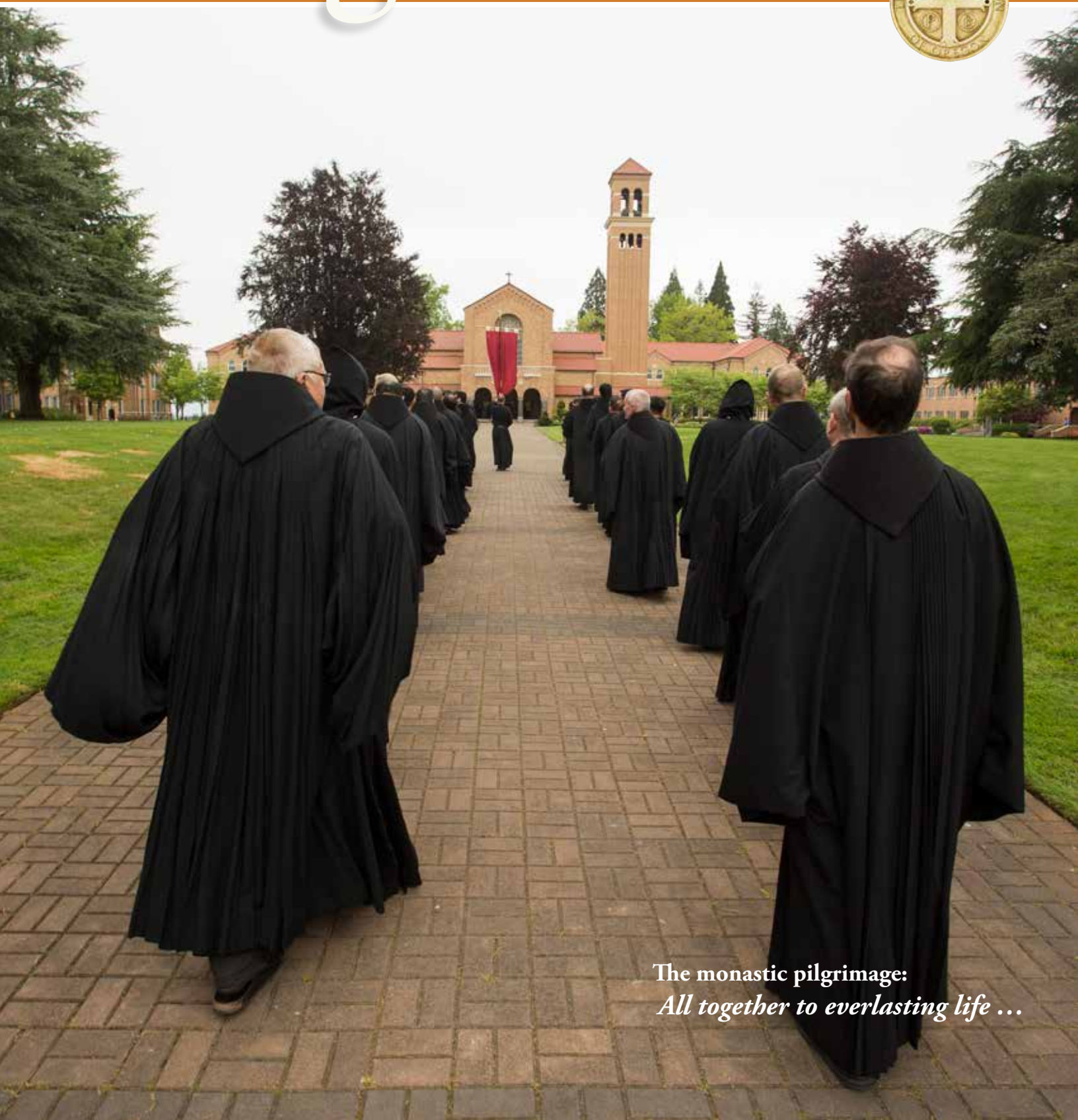


Summer 2018

MOUNT *Angel Letter*



The monastic pilgrimage:
All together to everlasting life ...



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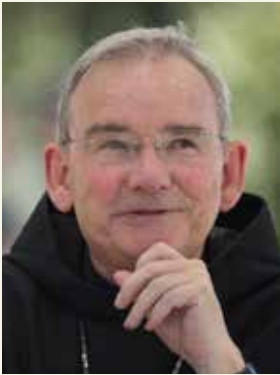
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Editor: Theresa Myers



Dear Friends



Each July, on the Saturday closest to the Feast of St. Benedict (July 11), we monks of Mount Angel Abbey open our doors and welcome close to a thousand people who come to celebrate the Saint Benedict Festival with us.

This year, the theme is “Make a pilgrimage to Mount Angel Abbey.” The idea of pilgrimage may seem contrary to a community of monks who make a vow of stability. But in many ways, our entire life as Christians, as Catholics, and as monks is a pilgrimage. We are sojourners on this earth, seeking the things that are above. We are on a journey toward the fullness of life with our heavenly Father.

There are many stories in this issue of Mount Angel Letter that touch on the theme of pilgrimage. Foremost in my mind are the tributes to two of our brothers who reached the end of their earthly pilgrimage in February of this year: Fr. Alexander Plasker and Fr. Athanasius Buchholz. They were two men who profoundly marked this community by embracing the journey of life as Benedictine monks of Mount Angel. The lesson that reverberates when reading about them and the other stories here is: We don’t walk this journey alone.

Close to the end of the Holy Rule of St. Benedict, we are admonished to “prefer nothing whatever to Christ,” so that he may “bring us all together to everlasting life.” The key point here is that we go “all together to everlasting life.” We walk together, we struggle together, we work and pray together. We support one another on the journey. Equally important, we allow our brothers to support us when we need a bit of help.

For some, the point is the journey itself. Putting one foot in front of the other on the path you are on. For others, the goal is to keep one’s gaze fixed on the destination. Both methods seem to work. What’s important is that we strive daily to make progress, together, and to remember that we don’t walk alone.

St. Benedict was writing a rule for monks when he admonished them to prefer nothing whatever to Christ, and to remember that we get to everlasting life “all together.” But it’s good advice for all Christians, no matter their vocation in life. Even though we don’t live all together with each of you reading this, in the beauty of the Church and the Communion of Saints, we can still journey together.

We can be united in the Eucharist, in the reading of Scripture, and in the knowledge that we walk together the path toward our heavenly Father.

God bless you,

+ *Jeremy Driscoll, OSB*

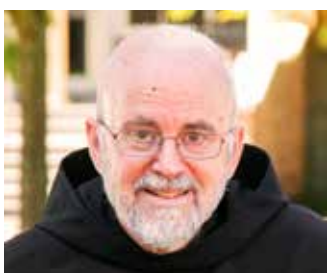
The Right Reverend Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B.
Abbot and Chancellor
Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary

MONKS' CORNER



POPE FRANCIS GREETAS ASSEMBLY OF BENEDICTINES IN ROME

Abbot Jeremy was in Rome this spring for the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Benedictine Confederation and the founding of the Primatial Abbey of Sant' Anselmo, home to the Benedictine college where he taught for more than 20 years. On April 19, he and other Benedictines met with Pope Francis in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace. Read the Pope's talk on the Abbey website, www.mountangelabbey.org/hilltopnews.



THREE MONKS CELEBRATE ORDINATION JUBILEES

Abbot Peter Eberle, O.S.B., celebrated his 50th, and Fr. Pius X Harding, O.S.B., and Fr. Aelred Yockey, O.S.B., celebrated the 25th anniversary of their ordinations on May 27, during the Mass of Trinity Sunday.

Abbot Peter, who was born and raised in the town of Mt. Angel, served the community as abbot from 1988 until 1997. He was president of the Swiss-American Benedictine Congregation from 1999 to 2011. He is currently the director of human formation at Mount Angel Seminary.

Fr. Pius is the guest master of the Saint Benedict Guesthouse and Retreat Center, and also serves as oblate director for the Abbey. Prior to serving as guest master, Fr. Pius was the manager of the Benedictine Press (now closed).

Fr. Aelred came to the Abbey in 2002, from the Benedictine community of Corpus Christi Abbey in Texas, which was closing. He currently serves as a spiritual director and adjunct professor of religious studies for Mount Angel Seminary. Fr. Aelred is also chaplain at Providence Benedictine Nursing Center.



Three men began their postulancy at the Abbey in May. From front left, Br. Valentin Alfaro, Br. Michael Hamilton, and Br. Tay Nguyen stand with Fr. Odo Recker, Master of Postulants.

NEW POSTULANTS BEGIN MONASTIC JOURNEY

On March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph, the community welcomed three new postulants:

Br. Valentin Alfaro, 41, was born in Mexico and moved with his family to the United States as a boy. He has been living and working near Modesto, Calif., area for many years and is an experienced roofer.

Br. Michael Hamilton, 39, hails from Keizer, Oregon. He is an expert computer programmer, who also has experience as a filmmaker and a video game designer.

Br. Tay Nguyen, 25, was born in Vietnam and came to the United States with his family as a teenager. Br. Tay has a degree in biology, and has worked as a medical lab technician.

All three postulants were introduced to Mount Angel through the Abbey's Monastic Discernment Retreats, three-day monastic discernment experiences open to men who are at least 18 years old and who are discerning a vocation. The next retreat is July 20-22. For information, please email Fr. Odo Recker, O.S.B., at vocation@mtangel.edu.



NEW STRUCTURE TIES INTO OLD

With joy, we see the expansion of our Saint Benedict Guesthouse and Retreat Center rising from the southern embankment. At this writing, generous benefactors have donated and pledged \$14.5 million of our \$16 million goal. The expansion and renovation of the existing facility is scheduled to be complete in one year. Watch for announcements of the grand opening! Meanwhile, due to construction activity, the facility has been completely closed as of June 11. We expect the guesthouse to re-open early in 2019. Watch the progress by visiting www.mountangelabbey.org and clicking on the Guesthouse Renovation Webcam.



MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, PRAY FOR US

Br. Claude recently created an icon in honor of the decree by Pope Francis that established the Monday after Pentecost as the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. The new icon, which will grace the Abbey sanctuary on this and other Marian feast days, is based on a mosaic commissioned by Pope John Paul II and located in St. Peter's Square. Because the Vatican's mosaic is not an "icon" per se, Br. Claude deviated from his usual style and used a fine-arts approach to this piece, resulting in a lovely reproduction of the mosaic which will bless the halls of the monastery cloister when it is not displayed in the sanctuary. The community is truly blessed by and grateful for this new addition to its collection of icons.

In Memoriam

Fr. Athanasius Buchholz, O.S.B. (1928-2018)



Fr. Athanasius Buchholz, O.S.B., passed peacefully to the Lord on February 22, at the age of 90.

Born in Mt. Angel, Oregon, Fr. Athanasius made his monastic profession of vows in 1949. After his solemn profession in 1952 he was sent to Rome to study theology at the Benedictine

College of Sant' Anselmo, and in the following year he was ordained a deacon at Mount Angel's motherhouse, Engelberg Abbey in Switzerland. Solesmes Abbey in France was the site of his ordination to the priesthood in 1954.

Upon his return from Europe, Fr. Athanasius taught languages in the seminary, but much of his time and attention over the years was devoted to the Abbey's library and to the books for which he had such great love, especially as a collector of rare and beautiful works on plants and birds. When he became interested in a subject, he studied it and became an expert, as with his award-winning passion for growing daffodils.

In his eulogy of Fr. Athanasius, Abbot Peter Eberle lauded him as "a lover of opera, a horticulturist, a bibliophile, and an eccentric, a cantankerous but always delightful curmudgeon . . . (but) overarching everything was Fr. Athanasius the monk, a faithful pupil in the school of the Lord's service."



A memorable story - which has been told and retold at the Abbey - relates the time when then-Abbot Bonaventure Zerr walked into Powell's City of Books in Portland and found Fr. Athanasius working there as an employee. When he asked Fr. Athanasius what he was doing, he replied, "Well, we all have our little secrets." Fr. Athanasius had kept this little secret from his abbot in order to earn money to buy books. The library's fine collection of beautifully photographed volumes of birds is proof that he knew which books to obtain. In memory of Fr. Athanasius, a room in the library was opened this year containing the books he acquired and gave to the library. To view the collection, inquire at the library's circulation desk.

Community

NEWS ABOUT MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY



REFLECTIONS on a Holy Land PILGRIMAGE

I've been privileged to be the spiritual guide on a few pilgrimages to the Holy Land in recent years. Most recently, in May I accompanied a group of about 40 – including several of our Benedictine Oblates. To walk in the footprints of Christ is an incredible experience. I'll be back home reading the bible and find myself thinking, "I remember when I was there!"

With each pilgrimage group, we have a prayer that we say every morning. It begins, "If some things do not happen as they are scheduled, Lord, may I remember that I am a pilgrim, not a tourist!" If the bus breaks down or we have a bad situation, we say the prayer. If someone's luggage is lost, or if someone else buys the last item on the shelf, we say the prayer: "Remember that I am a pilgrim, not a tourist."

If I look at life as a pilgrimage, I can face it in the same way. I remember, I'm heading to my ultimate destination, and that's what's important. I'm a pilgrim, not a tourist.

Joining the monastery is a bit like a pilgrimage. At Mount Angel, we have a keen awareness of not journeying alone. We walk in the footsteps of Christ. Jesus couldn't save us until he walked the earth as we do, as one of us. God took a pilgrimage on this earth, and he traveled with us. Now, it's our job to make our pilgrimage in this place so we may, at the end of it, join God.

– Fr. Ralph Recker, O.S.B.



I don't want to go to heaven without you!

The annual Feast of Saint Benedict, this year celebrated on July 7, invites participants to “make a pilgrimage to Mount Angel Abbey.”

As they prepared for the festival, a few of the monks shared their thoughts on the idea of monastic life itself as a pilgrimage. Several voiced the conviction that no one arrives alone at the destination of eternal life with the heavenly Father.

Br. Anselm, a junior monk in simple vows, said he realizes already that, “we can’t do anything on our own, and that drives us to make friends. Friends and companions are an important part of life and pilgrimage. When you’re down, it’s hard to pick yourself back up. You have to have people there with you.”

Speaking on how he deals with rough days in the monastery, Br. Anselm referred to his brother-companions along the journey: “When I am having a bad day,” he said, “I look at the older monks and say: ‘Wow. They are here for 60 years, and they haven’t given up!’ And when



I see the newest monks, I find courage that men are still interested in loving God and in living this life!”

Among the “older monks” is Abbot Peter, who celebrated 50 years of priestly ordination in May. In spite of the difference in their years of experience, Abbot Peter echoed many of Br. Anselm’s thoughts. “My novice master told us,” recalled Abbot Peter, “the way you’ll be formed in

monastic life is by the community itself. We always had a keen awareness of being *a monk of Mount Angel*, and all of these monks I live with are my brothers.”

Thinking of life as a journey, Abbot Peter added, “When I was elected abbot, I didn’t have a motto. But if I had, I think it would have been: ‘All together to eternal life.’ And that is,” he said, “a journey sort of statement. I’ve always envisioned life as putting one foot in front of the other, on the path I’m on at the moment.”

Being in the moment is also an important aspect of spiritual pilgrimage for Br. Justin, another of the Abbey’s junior monks. “My pilgrimage in life has been a series of steps to find God,” he said. “First when I became Catholic, at the age of 22. Then I came to the seminary at age 24, and to the monastery when I was 27. But I realized that was just another beginning. And on this earth, it’s not about the destination but the journey.”

“...the reasons you come to the monastery are not the reasons you stay. The reason you stay is that you have found others.”

Fr. Pius, who celebrated his 25th anniversary of priestly ordination in May, reflected that men often come to the monastery in search of something. “Stability of life, beautiful liturgy. The silence and solitude,” he said. “But over the years, life being what it is, you may not find that. And the reasons you come to the monastery are not the reasons you stay. The reason you stay is that you have found others.”

Another reason men find themselves remaining at Mount Angel Abbey is the sheer beauty of the place. This is what struck Fr. Aelred when he first arrived. Fr. Aelred, who is also celebrating 25 years of priestly ordination this year, said, “I notice many people speak of peace when they come to Mount Angel Abbey. The physical situation of the monastery is important. It’s restful here, with the gentle architecture combined with the beautiful views. The rock that Mount Angel sits on,” he continued, “symbolizes stability, and the rock-like quality of God whom we long to see.”

In his role as guest master at the Abbey, Fr. Pius is keenly aware that many people come to this sacred place to find



peace, to find God. “Everyone who comes to the Abbey arrives as a pilgrim,” he said. “They’re all on a pilgrimage in life, and they’ve all made a pilgrimage to Mount Angel, whether that be for a day, a week, or a lifetime.”

That sense of sharing their journey with all who come to the Abbey, of welcoming all as Christ, is pervasive at Mount Angel Abbey. It’s a place of hospitality for pilgrims even while it’s a community on pilgrimage. That seems a daunting task at times, Fr. Pius said. “We come to the monastery thinking that the Lord is going to ‘remove the thorns from our side.’ But he doesn’t.

“We are who we are,” he continued. “His grace is enough for us. And the most significant contributions that we make to the monastery are not our perceived strengths, but our weaknesses that call forth the charity of others. And we will supply for the weakness in someone else.

“But we don’t have to be perfect,” he said. “We just have to be faithful. Christ’s grace is enough. It’s the sacramental encounter with grace that keeps it all moving.”

– Theresa Myers



BENEDICTINE BREWERY JOINS VENERABLE TRADITION

To many beer lovers, Christian monks are the archetypes of brewers. It's not that monks invented beer: archeologists find it in both China and Egypt c. 5,000 B.C., long before any Christian monks existed. And it's not that the purpose of monks is to brew beer: Their purpose is to seek and to serve God, through a specific form of spiritual life. But if monks did not invent beer, and brewing is not their defining vocation, they did play a major role in Western brewing from at least the second half of the first millennium.

While the oldest monastic breweries are Benedictine, the best known today are undoubtedly Trappist. About a dozen Trappist monasteries operate breweries, the oldest dating from the sixteenth century and the others from the nineteenth or twentieth. They are renowned for their Belgian-style ales. To combat infringement on their monastic identity by commercial breweries, the monasteries established the Authentic Trappist Product label.

In the minds of many today, monastic brewing is identified with these Trappist products.

Within this long heritage, where does the Benedictine Brewery at Mount Angel Abbey stand? Although the brewery was legally formed in A.D. 2013, the Abbey's practice of brewing far precedes that. The diary of the founding prior, Fr. Adelhelm Odermatt, O.S.B., contains the following entry, dated November 26, 1885:

The monastery proper now consists of the dryer, the cheese house, the carpenter shop, the cider press, the grinding mill, a "Locomotivehall", a fruit house, sheep shed, horse and cow shed, hog pens, the hay and straw sheds, a residence for workers, a big wood shed, 2 smoke houses, the bakery, the blacksmith shop, beehouse and the Guest house and the brewery. The property consists of seven farms lying about the hill.

The brewery mentioned here probably produced beer for the consumption

of the monks and their guests, not for commercial sale. But it is evidence that the monks of Mount Angel take the heritage of monastic brewing seriously. With our commitment to producing fine beer at Benedictine Brewery, we intend to uphold the tradition.

– Fr. Martin Grassel, O.S.B.

Highlights in monastic brewing history

- As early as the Roman Empire, monastery beer provided drink and nourishment for the monks, as well as for guests, pilgrims, and the poor.
- Monks were the first to employ hops in brewing. German monks began the practice c. A.D. 1200, finding hops useful both as preservatives and for flavor.
- The term "liquid bread" came from monks, as bread and beer come from similar ingredients and beer was used for sustenance during periods of strict fasting, such as Lent.
- The oldest continuously operating brewery in the world, established in A.D. 1040, is that of the Benedictine abbey of Weihestephan, itself established in A.D. 725.
- Benedictine Brewery, established by the monks of Mount Angel Abbey, will open in September of A.D. 2018, offering ales and lager using locally grown hops and time-honored methods and recipes.

Learn more at www.benedictinebrewery.com

Formation

NEWS ABOUT MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY

COMMENCEMENT AT MOUNT ANGEL SEMINARY

The students of Mount Angel Seminary's graduating class of 2018 celebrated their Baccalaureate Mass on Friday afternoon, May 11, and Commencement exercises the following morning. Most Reverend Robert W. McElroy, Bishop of San Diego, presided at the Mass and gave the Commencement Address.

Bishop McElroy began his talk with the inspiring story of the 2015 free ascent of El Capitan by Kevin Jorgeson and Tommy Caldwell. The successful completion of the ascent was almost anti-climactic compared to the struggle of Jorgeson to conquer the 15th pitch and the steadfast accompaniment of his teammate, Caldwell, who refused to continue the ascent without his partner.

Caldwell, said Bishop McElroy, stayed with Jorgeson "even at the cost of sacrificing his own life's dream." He continued, "That example lies at the center of the formational experience which you have had here at Mount Angel. And it constitutes a pivotal foundation for the life of priesthood and all true service to the Church." Bishop McElroy reminded the graduates that Pope Francis has repeatedly called the entire Catholic faith community to accompaniment. Quoting Pope Francis, he said, "We need a Church capable of walking at peoples' side, of doing more than simply listening."

In presenting the Senior Farewell, Reverend Brent Crowe, from the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, noted that the commitment to accompaniment and letting oneself

be open to discipleship can be a terrifying endeavor. He likened it to a young child on a roller coaster with his mother. The mother symbolizes the Holy Spirit and is filled with joy and laughter during the wild ride. The face of the young child, instead, is filled with terror and he is hanging on tightly to the support rail.

That young child is you, Deacon Crowe told his classmates. Seminary life, at times, he commented, feels like a roller coaster ride. But in spite of having come from all walks of life and many diverse cultures, he and his classmates learned to accompany one another. "God," he reminded his friends and fellow graduates, "writes straight with crooked lines."

– Theresa Myers



LEARNING TO CARE FOR THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW

In the spring of 2017, the annual Formation Symposium at Mount Angel Seminary featured two speakers from Catholic Relief Services, Mikaele Sansone and Fr. Tom McQuaid. Two years before that, the seminary had formed a partnership with CRS, whose goal is to help future priests better integrate Catholic social teaching and learn how that can be carried out in the seminary's curriculum, based on its overarching theme of Communion Ecclesiology.

The workshops held during the symposium focused on practical ways seminarians could live in communion and global solidarity in the parishes they hope one day to serve as priests and pastors.

Among those deeply impressed by the talks was Bonaventure Okoro, a theology student at Mount Angel. Mr. Okoro, from Nigeria, is sponsored by the Diocese of Fresno, for which he hopes one day to be ordained. Speaking of the symposium, Mr. Okoro recalled, "I

"Being a pastor is to be a man of communion. You must know the people you serve."

sat right in the front row, taking in everything. I already had the desire to serve the less privileged and people who are suffering. The stories and vision of the CRS speakers caught my attention."

On the last day of the symposium, Mr. Okoro was invited to share lunch with the CRS team and Dr. Katy Leamy, Associate Professor of Moral Theology at Mount Angel, invited him to become more involved.



The culminating event of the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, D.C., was a trip to Congress. There, the delegation from Mount Angel Seminary practiced their newly learned advocacy skills with various Representatives from Oregon. In the photo above, from left, Bonaventure Okoro and Zach Stokes, the Senior Legislative Assistant to Congressman Kurt Schrader, are outside the office of Rep. Kurt Schrader.

"I lead the CRS student group at Mount Angel and participate in regular phone conferences with seminary CRS groups across the US. This is where my interest has always been: Touching the lives of those who are suffering, who are denied freedoms, who are going through pain, abandoned and neglected."

Last spring, Mr. Okoro attended the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. There, he

learned that being involved with CRS is not only about mission work overseas, but it means first and foremost the importance of helping one's neighbors and parishioners encountered every day.

As a seminarian in Fresno, Mr. Okoro said he has been able to assist in an area where 90 percent of the people are farmers. "With the knowledge I am getting from CRS," he said, "I know that I must play a role and advocate for their support. With CRS, I am learning to help people advocate for themselves."

A big lesson Mr. Okoro learned at the conference was that CRS is not interested in merely handing out money. "One of the presentations," he said, "was by a sister who went

to Kenya with CRS where they established a school for kids who had no hope of attending school. Then they began a small farm to feed those kids. From the food they sold, they were able to build a hospital. So now the people have education, work, and healthcare.”

To his surprise, Mr. Okoro found that he was the only seminarian attending the conference, even though CRS partners with a few seminaries in the United States. “So many bishops at the conference approached me to ask about the CRS partnership at Mount Angel,” he said. “They wanted to know how Mount Angel Seminary incorporates the CRS mission and activities into the seminary formation program and activities.”

Reflecting on his future life as a pastor, Mr. Okoro said, “Being a pastor is to be a man of communion. You must know the people you serve. You must know each of your parishioners and what they are going through. Pope Francis has said that holiness is about reaching out in solidarity with people.

“At Mount Angel,” he said, “the formation program teaches Communion Ecclesiology, which means reaching out to care for one another, to accept each person as he or she is. Being involved with CRS helps me to do that. It helps me to develop the heart of Christ.”

– Theresa Myers



Seminarians Peter Laughlin and Luke Stager are ready to start off on a walking pilgrimage from Mount Angel Seminary to The Grotto, an outdoor Marian shrine in Portland.

WALKING PILGRIMAGE IS ANNUAL HIGHLIGHT

Each year my diocesan brother and classmate Luke Stager and I have made a walking pilgrimage from Mount Angel to some holy site in Portland, such as the Marian shrine at The Grotto or a local parish church. We were inspired to make these pilgrimages because we had both made pilgrimages in Europe prior to seminary: Luke had walked the pilgrimage from Hilaire Belloc’s “The Path to Rome,” and I had walked the French route of the Camino de Santiago. We also recognized a lack of religious pilgrimages and their spiritual sense in the United States.

To make a pilgrimage is to emulate in a small way the entirety of the Christian life because the pilgrim

relies entirely on the providence of God to reach the destination. Along the way, the pilgrim builds that relationship with God and consequently builds relationships with the brothers and sisters they travel with and those they meet along the way. Prayer is the heart of making a pilgrimage, so Luke and I make a point of attending daily Mass, praying the Divine Office, and the rosary along the way. We also commit an hour to walking in silence each day for powerful occasions of encountering God.

– Peter Laughlin,
Second Year Theology
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Fellowship

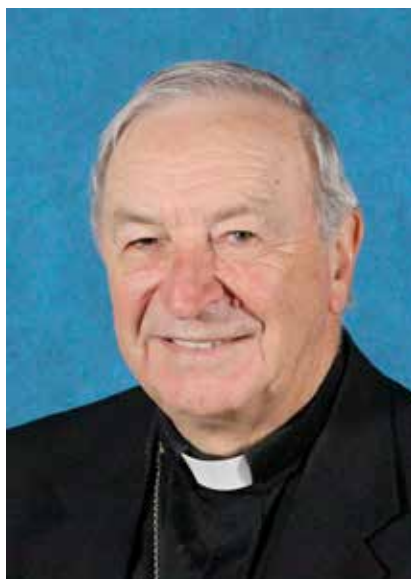
NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

PAYING IT FORWARD FOR SEMINARIANS

Bishop Kenneth Steiner's journey toward a lifetime of service and ministry got a boost from a poke in the ribs.

"I was going to a Catholic grade school in Nebraska," he recalled, "when the priest came around and asked how many boys were interested in the priesthood. They all raised their hands except me. Then a boy right behind me, a neighbor, jabbed me in the ribs and said, 'Raise your hand. I heard your dad say you wanted to be a priest.'"

Kenneth did indeed want to be a priest. When his family moved to Portland, Oregon, the future bishop finished his eighth-grade year at St.



He spent his early years as a pastor in parishes like Coos Bay, Coquille,

Over the 40 years since his ordination as bishop, his unassuming manner, boundless energy, and heart for serving people have endeared "Bishop Ken" to countless Oregonians. From prisoners on death row to divorced and single Catholics to high school retreatants at the Fr. Bernard Youth Center in Mt. Angel, Bishop Steiner continues to touch lives today, even though he is "officially" retired.

Vocations to the priesthood have always been a focus for Bishop Steiner. In the same spirit that his first year of high school at Mount Angel was paid for – unknown to him at the time – by the pastor of St. Rose, Bishop Steiner has established an endowment fund for seminarians at Mount Angel Seminary.

At age 81, his connection to Mount Angel is as strong as ever.

"I kind of regret that I don't get up to Mount Angel as often as I should, but it is deep in my heart. I owe everything to Mount Angel. Maybe I'll retire and go live there."

– Steve Ritchie

"[Mount Angel] is deep in my heart. I owe everything to Mount Angel. Maybe I'll retire and go live there."

Rose School and then enrolled in Mount Angel Seminary High School. He remembers that about half of his class got homesick in the first few months and went home.

Bishop Steiner was on the hilltop for eight years, completing high school and college before leaving to attend St. Thomas Seminary in Seattle for theology. One of his classmates at Mount Angel was the future Abbot Bonaventure Zerr, one of several close friends who became Benedictine monks at Mount Angel Abbey.

Myrtle Point and Powers. "That's where I learned to be a pastor," he said.

Even though the young priest was far from the population center of the Archdiocese, he was chosen by Archbishop Cornelius Power in 1978 to become one of two auxiliary bishops. Initially reluctant – "I was happy being a priest" – he was ordained bishop on March 2, 1978, and went to work in Portland at the chancery.

Generosity

NEWS FOR BENEFACTORS & VOLUNTEERS

HISTORIC ABBEY LIBRARY FINDS CURE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE



In May, Mount Angel Abbey gratefully received news that the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust has awarded a grant of \$279,000 to help refurbish the Abbey library in time for its 50th anniversary in 2020. Especially during our increasingly hot summers, extremes of temperature and humidity have taken a toll.

After nearly a half century of service, the building itself is in excellent

condition. However, the HVAC system is running at half the required air volume to provide consistent temperatures and humidity control. Installation of a new system, plus an updated electrical system, will ensure energy and cost efficiency while providing relief for the thousands who use the library throughout the year.

Preparations for the anniversary include such projects as repairs to the

building's "envelope," and installation of ADA restrooms and an enhanced security system. These needs, among others, were identified during a comprehensive master planning process funded by a generous grant from the Jean Vollum Fund, in honor of Howard and Jean Vollum's leading role in supporting the original construction of the Abbey library in 1970. Many other friends and benefactors also have contributed to the library's 50th anniversary-readiness project. All are deserving of our utmost gratitude.

The Abbey library is an architectural gem in the Pacific Northwest. It is one of only two buildings in the United States (the other is at MIT) designed by Alvar Aalto – one of the early giants of modern architecture.

Completed in 1970, the library received the 2014 World Monuments Fund Award. Recently, Oregon architects voted it the second most iconic building in the state, after Timberline Lodge at Mt. Hood. Because the library represents some of the finest work of a master architect, it may become eligible for the National Historic Registry in 2020. With its improved internal climate, it will serve as a hospitable environment for monks, seminarians, staff, visitors and scholars, as well as the collections they enjoy.

If you are interested in helping prepare the Abbey's historic library for its 50th anniversary celebration, please contact Jodi Kilcup at 503-845-3030.

Follow Abbot Jeremy on Abbey's first podcast!

Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary produced its first podcast series in 2018! Titled *Theology at the Eucharistic Table*, each episode features Abbot Jeremy Driscoll in conversation with four seminarians studying at Mount Angel Seminary.



The first episode was released March 19, under the protection of St. Joseph. In the series, Abbot Jeremy discusses questions of theology and faith important to all Catholics. He fields questions from the seminarians, including: "What is the relationship between faith and reason?" "How does the celebration (and adoration) of the Eucharist aid the study of theology?" "How do I discuss questions of faith with people with whom I strongly disagree?"

A professor of theology at Mount Angel for more than 20 years, Abbot Jeremy has a gift for guiding his students systematically into the deeper mysteries of the Trinity, especially as these mysteries are made accessible in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Abbot Jeremy's students often refer to his theological lectures as retreat experiences. One pupil affectionately remarked, "Abbot Jeremy could read the side of a cereal box to you and you would feel edified."

The episodes are released every other Monday and can be streamed at <http://theologyatmtangel.com> or subscribe on your favorite podcast app.



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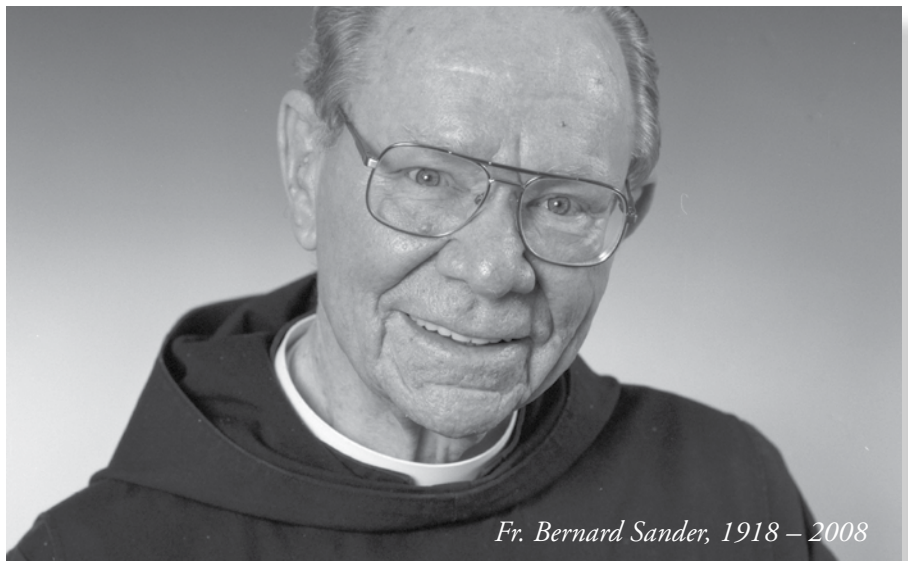
Join the monks of Mount Angel Abbey for the Liturgy of the Hours

WEEKDAYS

Vigils: 5:20 a.m.
Lauds: 6:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist: 8:00 a.m.
Midday Prayer: Noon
Vespers: 5:20 p.m.
Compline: 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAYS AND SOLEMNITIES

Vigils: 7:30 p.m. (Saturday)
Lauds: 6:40 a.m.
Holy Eucharist: 9:00 a.m.
Midday Prayer: Noon
Vespers: 5:20 p.m.
Compline: 8:00 p.m.



Fr. Bernard Sander, 1918 – 2008

If a monk, spiritual director or teacher has changed your life ...

If mentors at Mount Angel have challenged you or a loved one to grow in new ways or opened doors to God, please consider planning a gift or bequest to honor them. That way, others will have life-changing opportunities as well.

For information, contact Susan Gallagher at 503-845-3077 or susan.gallagher@mtangel.edu.

*Please note, when writing your will, our legal title and address is:
The Abbey Foundation of Oregon, 1 Abbey Drive, Saint Benedict, OR 97373.
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