Dear Friends,

“Greetings from Collegeville!”

This greeting has for well over a hundred years signaled Benedictine monastic life, a vibrant intellectual life, and a life lived in service of the Church. It is proclaimed to individuals—friends and strangers alike—seeking wisdom and a life of prayer.

Liturgical Press is a mission of Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, and, in partnership with Cistercian Publications, publishes a wide array of books on monastic spirituality and history from the desert fathers to our own day.

We are pleased to present this Monastic Resources catalog and hope you can find a few moments to browse it. As the table of contents indicates, you will find an assortment of our new and recently released titles as well as a handful of themed selections expressing both the uniqueness and universality of monastic values and practices.

May the strength of God’s vulnerability be our peace.

Hans Christoffersen
Publisher
Academic and Monastic Markets

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*20% less than print book price. Some exclusions may apply.
The Rule of Benedict
An Invitation to the Christian Life
A New Translation of the 2005 Edition
Translated by Mark Thamert, OSB

In this new translation, based on the completely revised seventh edition of Die Benediktsregel, Holzherr has created a profoundly rich commentary using up-to-date research methods and the latest translations of ancient monastic texts. At the same time, this commentary is meant not only for experts in the field of ancient monasticism but also for all lay and monastic readers interested in delving into the teachings and spirituality of Saint Benedict and his spiritual predecessors in the East and in the West.

“I heartily recommend the commentary of Abbot Georg Holzherr on the Rule of Benedict. Abbot Georg was abbot of Einsiedeln Abbey when he first published this commentary about 1980. Even as a busy abbot, he must have continued to keep abreast with the new research on the Rule, because after his retirement he published a new edition, which we have here. Holzherr is especially good on the patristic background of the Rule, but he is an overall judicious commentator.”

Terrence G. Kardong, OSB
Assumption Abbey

“It is state-of-the-art commentary and translation with meticulous edits. Holzherr brings forward what we know and treasure about our Rule, as well as new insights and questions that could come only from someone who has lived the monastic way of life. This Abbot of Einsiedeln writes from experience. He’s done the work—all we have to do is read, enjoy, and linger long into these insights.”

Mary Margaret Funk, OSB

Georg Holzherr, OSB, entered monastic life at the Abbey of Einsiedeln in Switzerland in 1949, and was elected abbot of Einsiedeln Abbey in 1969. Holzherr is recognized as one of today’s leading experts on the Rule of Saint Benedict and its sources, spirituality, and applicability to everyday life.

Mark Thamert, OSB, is a monk of Saint John’s Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota. Since receiving his PhD in Germanic languages and literatures from Princeton University in 1985, Thamert has taught all levels of German in the Language and Cultures Department at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University.
In *Benedict Backwards*, Terrence Kardong builds the case that the Rule of Benedict is best read “backwards,” that is, with emphasis on the last chapters, not the first ones. Benedict starts out dependent on the Rule of the Master, but he ends on a much more self-assured note, revealing more about his own thoughts on matters of monastic life. Kardong shows the final chapters of the Rule are primarily about community, and they provide insight into Benedict’s vision for his monks.

“The subtitle of Terrence Kardong’s brief collection of essays, *Reading the Rule in the Twenty-First Century*, does not mean that the author writes in emoji. It does mean that this thoroughly American Benedictine scholar, like a high-res audio technician, lets the clear tone of Benedict himself stand out from the many other voices that Benedict allowed to coexist in his sixth-century Rule. Kardong has distilled and presented a lifetime of rigorous scholarship in crisp prose—not lacking, though, verbal emoji winks, grimaces, and shrugs.”

Mark A. Scott, OCSO
Abbot of New Melleray

“Benedict Backwards is both a delight and a challenge to read for twenty-first-century followers of St. Benedict. This is a book that will definitely make a deep impact on Benedictine life in the future.”

The Reverend Jamie Parsley, OblSB
Oblate, Saint John’s Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota
Priest at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, Fargo, North Dakota

“Oblates who follow Kardong on his exploration through the Rule will see fresh ways to be shaped for Christ’s service in their daily lives under the wisdom and guidance of Benedict.”

The Very Reverend Mark Strobel, OblSB
Oblate, Saint John’s Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota
Dean, Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral
Fargo, North Dakota

Terrence G. Kardong, OSB is a monk of Assumption Abbey, Richardton, North Dakota. He has been editor of *The American Benedictine Review* since 1982 and has written many books and articles.

See also page 20.
Irene Nowell, OSB
Wisdom: The Good Life
Wisdom Literature and the Rule of Benedict
Foreword by Abbot John Klassen, OSB

We all want to live well, but how can we put that desire into action? With thoughtful reflection on the biblical wisdom writers and the Rule of Benedict, Irene Nowell shows us how we too can live the good life. Each chapter includes reflection questions and meditative prayers, guiding us on a renewed journey toward wisdom and encouraging us to embody this wisdom more in our daily lives.

“The topic of wisdom is uniquely suited to Irene Nowell. She has lived for years under St. Benedict’s Rule, which is a kind of Wisdom literature, as it insists that the holy is to be found in our everyday experiences and everyday encounters with other people. Nowell is also a Hebrew scholar and brings a treasure house of biblical knowledge to bear on the subject of what it means to be wise and to seek the wisdom that allows us to live a richer, more holy, and more loving life.”
Kathleen Norris
Author of Dakota and The Cloister Walk

“Irene Nowell has crafted a work that can both delight the general reader and open more profound insights for those who wish to ponder further.”
Abbot Placid Solari, OSB
Belmont Abbey

“Irene Nowell has drawn deep from the well of wisdom, sourced in Scripture and the Rule of Saint Benedict. She offers a set of simple yet profound reflections, points to consider, and prayers perfect for times and seasons of spiritual renewal and retreat.”
Sarah Schwartzbeg, OSB
Editor, Spirit & Life
Christine M. Fletcher

Saint Benedict for Boomers
Wisdom for the Next Stage of Life

Saint Benedict for Boomers is based on the idea that no one can retire from being a Christian; we are to love God and our neighbor throughout our life. And it recognizes that aging presents us with change, loss, and death, as well as new growth and opportunities for deep gladness and peace. The Christian vocation is valid when we are healthy and strong and when we are weak and sick.

Taking Saint Benedict of Nursia as a guide, Christine Fletcher insists that those in the autumn of their lives still have much to contribute to society and to those around them, even when they are ill and dependent. Benedict’s wisdom is perennial, and it remains helpful to those who negotiate new challenges in living well, preserving bodily health, discerning purpose in new stages of living, deepening faith, and ultimately, facing sickness and death.

Christine M. Fletcher is associate professor of theology at Benedictine University and an oblate of St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle, Illinois. She is the author of 24/7 Christian: The Secular Vocation of the Laity, published by Liturgical Press.

“This broad-ranging book gives much practical advice for living conscientiously in today’s world.”

Judith Sutera, OSB
Mount St. Scholastica
Atchison, Kansas

“Countless people in the Western world need this painfully honest and deeply wise book.”

Aidan Nichols, OP
Blackfriars

24/7 CHRISTIAN
The Secular Vocation of the Laity
Christine M. Fletcher

In 24/7 Christian, Christine Fletcher brings the riches of the Second Vatican Council with its teachings on the universal call to holiness, the freedom of conscience, and the role of the laity in the world together with the wisdom of the Rule of St. Benedict to provide a practical guide to becoming a Christian 24/7.

978-0-8146-4968-8  Paperback, 128 pp., $14.95

Christine M. Fletcher
Saint Benedict for Boomers
Wisdom for the Next Stage of Life
To Prefer Nothing to Christ
The Monastic Mission of the English Benedictine Congregation
Foreword by Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Monastic life involves a continual return to the Gospel, and this exploration begins on the road to Emmaus, in the company of downhearted disciples who were astonished to discover the Lord in their midst. Inviting the reader to a renewed encounter with the Lord on the road, this book explores the Rule of Saint Benedict and illustrates how the English Benedictine Congregation is responding to Christ’s call today. It will inspire all clergy, religious, and laypeople who value the consecrated life.

Foreword
Introduction
Chapter One: Monastic CONSECRATION in the English Congregation
- The Word who calls
- Encounter and journey with Jesus
- Encountering Jesus in monastic community
- Spiritual paternity
- Formation and growth to our full stature in Christ
- Monastic profession
- Evangelical counsels, evangelical lives

Chapter Two: Monastic COMMUNION in the English Congregation
- A theology of monastic communion
- A school of communion
- Monastic integrity and communion
- Communion and solidarity in the EBC

Chapter Three: Monastic COMMISSION in the English Congregation
- Monastic consecration for the sake of mission
- Monastic communion for the sake of mission
- Mission and the work of the monastery
- Source and summit of monastic life

“An exceptional tool for all monastic leaders and those involved in formation and vocation ministry. The authors ground the prayer, apostolic work, and life of each individual monastic and the community in the monastic consecration to and communion with Christ... A rich, nourishing, and fresh integration of the monastic call, using the resources of recent papal teaching (Popes John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and Francis) as well as developments in Christology, ecclesiology, trinitarian theology, and missiology.”

From the Foreword by Abbot John Klassen, OSB
Saint John’s Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota
Gregory the Great was pope from 590 to 604, a time of great turmoil in Italy and in the western Roman Empire generally because of the barbarian invasions. Gregory’s experience as prefect of the city of Rome and as apocrisarius of Pope Pelagius fitted him admirably for the new challenges of the papacy. The Moral Reflections on the Book of Job were first given to the monks who accompanied Gregory to the embassy in Constantinople.

This third volume, containing books 11 through 16, provides commentary on six chapters of Job, from 12:6 through 24:20. Whereas volume 1 concentrated largely on the moral reading of the first four chapters of Job and volume 2 on the mystical interpretation of the next seven, volume 3 offers a rapid overview of nearly thirteen chapters in their original oral format, including a brief comment at the beginning of each of the six books to explain its contents.

Br. Brian Kerns has been a Trappist for sixty years, seventeen years at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, and the rest at the Abbey of the Genesee in upper New York state, interrupted by a year at Oxford, North Carolina, and five years at Genesee’s foundation of Novo Mundo in Parana, Brazil.
In addition to being a prolific spiritual writer and the abbot of the premier Cistercian monastery in northern England, Aelred of Rievaulx somehow found the time and the stamina to travel extensively throughout the Anglo-Norman realm, acting as a mediator, a problem solver, and an adviser to kings. His career spanned the troubled years of the civil war between King Stephen and Empress Matilda and reached its zenith during the early years of the reign of Henry II. In this work, Jean Truax focuses on the public career of Aelred of Rievaulx, placing him in his historical context, deepening the reader’s understanding of his work, and casting additional light on his underappreciated role as political, mediator, and negotiator outside his abbey’s walls.

“Jean Truax has accomplished a mammoth service by organizing an incredible amount of resources so as to create and evaluate the influential public life of this Cistercian abbot. Aelred is presented in his contemporary setting moving among friends and rivals as spiritual abba, abbatial administrator, historian, builder, mediator, and counselor to kings and to St. Thomas Becket.”

Abbot Thomas X. Davis, OCSO
Abbey of New Clairvaux

“This meticulously researched, thoroughly documented study describes fully for the first time Aelred of Rievaulx’s political career. Uniquely, Jean Truax uncovers his friendships for and support of cloistered women, which he saw as equal to monks, and his opposition to Archbishop Thomas Becket, which shaped Aelred’s posthumous reputation. This important new perspective enriches the massive scholarship on Aelred.”

Sally N. Vaughn
Professor, Department of History
University of Houston

“With an abundance of well-documented detail, Jean Truax portrays Aelred as a man of exceptional energy, who remained actively engaged in monastic and public affairs up to the end of his life. By sticking to the historical record and avoiding sterile discussions of Aelred’s personality or motivations, she brings out the rich texture of the abbot’s life within the context of Rievaulx, the wider church, and the Anglo-Norman world. This book offers the fullest portrayal to date of his role as a mediator in all of these areas.”

Elias Dietz, OCSO
Abbey of Gethsemani
David N. Bell

A Saint in the Sun

Praising Saint Bernard in the France of Louis XIV

This volume contains translations or summaries of the most important panegyrics in praise of Saint Bernard that were preached during the reign of Louis XIV. Some of the preachers were and are regarded as the greatest orators ever to grace the French pulpit. All the translations are extensively annotated, and there are three introductory chapters providing a necessary background for appreciating the sermons. Sixteen preachers are represented, and, with one exception, none of the material has ever appeared in English. For those interested in the afterlife of Saint Bernard, as he was used, and sometimes abused, in the reign of the Sun King, this collection provides essential primary sources.

“A Saint in the Sun makes available a selection of these largely inaccessible texts and provides a wealth of contextualizing detail. This masterly study will serve to make clear this important phase in the history of the reception of Bernard’s writing. David Bell is to be congratulated for throwing light on this neglected area of scholarly research.”

Michael Casey, OCSO
Tarrawarra Abbey, Australia

“This volume is vintage David Bell. It brims with verve and erudition. With its informed introductions and rich explanatory notes, Bell’s collection of grand-siècle representations of Bernard of Clairvaux offers valuable insights for anybody interested in the fate of the medieval Cistercian through the ages or the religious landscape of Early Modern France.”

Mette Birkedal Bruun
Professor of Church History
University of Copenhagen
This book introduces a beautiful fourth-century Coptic discourse on love and self-control in its first English translation. The text’s heading attributes it to Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, but this attribution is questionable. Exploring issues of authorship and context, this book locates the origins of On Love and Self-Control in the Upper Egyptian Pachomian monastic community of the mid-fourth century. It then traces the various uses of On Love and Self-Control to the late eleventh and early twelfth centuries, when the single surviving manuscript was copied as part of an anthology at the Monastery of St. Shenoute of Atripe. A partial reconstruction of this now dismembered codex is provided.

“In this excellent book of meticulous scholarship, Carolyn Schneider restores a neglected Coptic text to its original context in early Egyptian monasticism. Schneider persuasively argues that On Love and Self-Control originated within the Pachomian monastic community, probably during the turmoil that followed Pachomius’s death in 346, and that the leader Horsiesios could have been its author. She then traces the history of the text and its reception, from late antiquity, to a medieval scriptorium in the White Monastery, to its rediscovery by modern scholars. A clear and accurate English translation makes this rich discourse available to a wide range of readers interested in the history and spirituality of early Christian monasticism.”

David Brakke
Ohio State University

Carolyn Schneider
The Text of a Coptic Monastic Discourse, On Love and Self-Control
Its Story from the Fourth Century to the Twenty-First

Carolyn Schneider is associate professor of church history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong, where she serves as a missionary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

“Schneider has written the first thorough study of On Love and Self-Control (with English translation), carefully comparing it to related Pachomian texts and also to similar material in the Apocalypse of Samuel of Qalamun. The detailed review of the monastic manuscripts in which these texts are preserved also raises many interesting questions. Her work will certainly encourage further work on fourth- and fifth-century ascetic contexts in Egypt.”

Janet A. Timbie
The Catholic University of America
The contribution of monks to the evangelization of lands not yet reached by the preaching of the Gospel has certainly been remarkable. The specific witness that the monastic community gives is of a radical Christian life naturally radiating outward, and thus it is implicitly missionary. The process of inculturation of Christian monasticism in China required a bold spiritual attitude of openness to the future and a willingness to accept the transformation of monastic forms that had been received. In Christian Monks on Chinese Soil, Matteo Nicolini-Zani highlights the willingness of foreign monks to encounter the cultural and spiritual realities of China and the degree of acceptance by the Chinese of the form of monastic life that was presented to them by the missionaries.

“I recommend Christian Monks on Chinese Soil to students of Chinese history, Christian missions, and monasticism, as well as to anyone interested in intercultural dialogue.”

Timothy P. Muldoon, PhD
Boston College

Matteo Nicolini-Zani is a monk of the Community of Bose (Italy) and coordinator of the Italian Commission of Monastic Interreligious Dialogue. He holds a Master of Arts Degree in Chinese Language and Literature. His main interest of research is the history of Christianity in China, a topic upon which he has published several articles and books.

Introduction
Monastic Life and Mission among the Nations
Toward a Chinese Christian Monasticism
Chapter 1
The Luminous Monks
Chapter 2
The Carmelites
Chapter 3
The Trappists
Chapter 4
The Benedictines
Chapter 5
The Chinese Monastic Apostles
Not a few figures—writers, poets, activists, teachers—have focused on the presence of the Holy One in the ordinary, on the many possibilities of worldly spirituality. In this book, pastor, teacher, and theologian Michael Plekon introduces us to several persons of faith from both the Western and Eastern Church traditions to illumine God’s presence in everyday living: the world as sacrament. In this discovery of liturgy and life entwined, Plekon shows how these lives, and our own lives, are texts about looking for and following God in everyday existence.

“Reading Michael Plekon’s essays is like being told by a trusted mentor, ‘Come and meet some of my friends.’ Warm, wise, and conversational, this book unveils the habit of holiness right in the thick of things. You’ll come away richer for the experience.”

Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
Institute for Ecumenical Research
Strasbourg, France

“Michael Plekon’s diverse and ecumenical company of spiritual teachers includes monks, priests, nuns, and lay people. But what they all have in common is a call to plumb the sacred depths of ordinary existence. We don’t have to escape to a special ‘religious’ place to find God. As Merton exclaimed, “The gate of heaven is everywhere!”

Robert Ellsberg
Author, Blessed Among Us

“The World as Sacrament bears witness to the truth of a Russian proverb, ‘The walls we build on earth do not reach to heaven.’ Michael Plekon’s life has provided him with a grand tour of Christianity, Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox. In crossing borders, he has locked no doors. Among those lighting his path have been the remarkable people he writes about in these pages. All of them men and women with souls on fire who sought God in everyday experience; all of them a challenge to each of us.”

Jim Forest
Author of The Root of War Is Fear: Thomas Merton’s Advice to Peacemakers
Archbishop Michael Louis Fitzgerald

Praise the Name of the Lord

Meditations on the Names of God in the Qur’an and the Bible

Foreword by Mary Margaret Funk
Afterword by Zeki Saritoprak

Christians and Muslims both have an abundance of names for God. The Bible provides Christians with a rich array of names for God, and the ninety-nine Names that Islam gives traditionally to God are drawn from the Qur’an. Praise the Name of the Lord is an offering of texts, from the Qur’an and the Bible, meant to lead to meditation and prayer.

To pray starting from the texts of another religion can help us to acquire a better appreciation of that religion. It is possible that we will find different echoes that can capture our attention and may nourish our prayer, encouraging dialogue with the persons among whom we are living.

“In this little volume, Archbishop Fitzgerald’s meditations bear the mark of one who has studied deeply and with great integrity over a lifetime the sacred texts and languages of the Abrahamic faiths. Without compromising in the least his faithfulness to the Christian tradition, he deftly manages to present Muslim and Jewish renderings of the Names of God with the respect and objectivity reflective of his long years spent in dialogue with these communities. Importantly, while learned readers will surely benefit from his erudition, those currently laboring away at interreligious dialogue will also find themselves to be fortunate recipients of a wonderful model for doing intertextual studies of sacred texts.”

Dr. Anthony Cirelli
Associate Director
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

“Archbishop Fitzgerald offers an insightful exploration of divine names drawn from both the Bible and the Qur’an, producing a volume that combines a fascinating excursus in comparative theology with a compendium of passages that can serve as material for a group retreat or for personal reflection.”

Jane McAuliffe, PhD
Director of National and International Outreach
Library of Congress

Archbishop Michael Louis Fitzgerald, MAfr, has dedicated his life’s work to interreligious dialogue. He was ordained priest as member of the Society of Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) in 1961, obtained his doctorate in theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in 1965, and received a BAhons in Arabic from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, in 1968. He served on the General Council of the Missionaries of Africa and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. From 2006 to 2012, he was apostolic nuncio in Egypt and delegate to the League of Arab States.
Within the Eastern tradition of Christianity, the eikon, or religious image, has long held a place of honor. In the greater part of Western Christianity, however, discomfort with images in worship, both statues and panel icons, has been a relatively common current, particularly since the Reformation. In the Roman Catholic Church, after years of using religious statues, the Second Vatican Council’s call for “noble simplicity” in many cases led to a stripping of images that in some ways helped refocus attention on the eucharistic celebration itself but also led to a starkness that has left many Roman Catholics unsure of how to interact with the saints or with religious images at all.

Today, Western interest in panel icons has been rising, yet we lack standards of quality or catechesis on what to do with them. This book makes the case that icons should have a role to play in the Western Church that goes beyond mere decoration. Citing theological and ecumenical reasons, Visel argues that, with regard to use of icons, the post–Vatican II Roman Catholic Church needs to give greater respect to the Eastern tradition. While Roman Catholics may never interact with icons in quite the same way that Eastern Christians do, we do need to come to terms with what icons are and how we should encounter them.

“This intelligent study, noting everything from aesthetics and liturgical studies to theology, is an indispensable work for those who want to incorporate icons into Western worship and devotions. Grounded in solid scholarship and gracefully written, it is a most welcome volume on a quite timely topic.”

Lawrence S. Cunningham
The University of Notre Dame

“Sr. Jeana Visel writes with great lucidity, sensitivity, and learning about the need for the Western Church to embrace icons as part of its patrimony. After outlining the historical and theological background of the icon, she boldly and intelligently addresses the contemporary challenges facing the icon’s integration into the Western Church. A book for all Roman Catholic laypeople, and of great interest to Orthodox readers also, at the very least it should be mandatory reading for every Catholic seminarian, priest, and church architect.”

Aidan Hart
British Iconographer and Writer
“All subsequent work on Narekats’i will be measured by [this book’s] high standard.”

James R. Russell
Harvard University

“Terian’s volume is a precious gift, worthy of the learned monk whose work it is no exaggeration to describe as an act of Divine grace. It is thanks to the efforts and the very considerable talent of authors like Abraham Terian that St. Gregory of Narek is gradually becoming the universally accessible mystical poet and theologian that his Armenian oeuvre proclaims.”

Theo Maarten van Lint
University of Oxford

“Dr. Terian unlocks the essence of these poems, consistently exposing their biblical matrix and patristic roots, introducing readers to the latest research in these fields, and basing his translation on the most reliable textual foundation.”

S. Peter Cowe
UCLA

Abraham Terian is professor emeritus of Armenian theology and patristics at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, Armonk, New York. A recipient of the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in the Humanities award and Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, he has extensive publications in the fields of Hellenistic, early Christian, and Armenian religious literature.

978-0-8146-6318-9  Hardcover, 464 pp., 6 x 9, $39.95

“This is the best of guides to the world of medieval monasticism: a fresh, novel, exciting, detailed, reliable account of how monastic life developed over twelve centuries and of the many paths to perfection and salvation it created for both women and men.”

David Luscombe
Fellow of the British Academy
The University of Sheffield

“The fruit of long study of medieval monks, ascetics, mystics, and the rules that they lived by, The World of Medieval Monasticism is a lively and erudite companion for any reader interested in exploring the many astonishing forms of Western religious life.”

Barbara H. Rosenwein
Loyola University Chicago

Gert Melville is senior professor for medieval history at Dresden University. He is the founder and director of the Research Center for the Comparative History of the Religious Orders (FOVOG) and the author of scores of essays on medieval religious and cultural history. He is also the lead investigator on a number of long-term international projects. The most recent of these includes a study (established in conjunction with the Saxon and Heidelberg Academies of Sciences) of “Monasteries in the High Middle Ages” as focal points of innovation in European life.

CS263P,  978-0-87907-263-6
Paperback, 462 pp., 5 1⁄2 x 8 1⁄2, $44.95

Rights: World, English

The Festal Works of St. Gregory of Narek
Annotated Translation of the Odes, Litanies, and Encomia

Abraham Terian

The World of Medieval Monasticism
Its History and Forms of Life
Translated by James D. Mixson
Foreword by Giles Constable

Gert Melville

978-0-8146-6318-9  Hardcover, 464 pp., 6 x 9, $39.95
Charles Cummings, OCSO
Monastic Practices
Revised Edition

“In the School of Prophets throws fresh light on the integral relationship between prophecy and mysticism in Merton’s life and writings. Mining a range of sources sometimes overlooked in Merton studies, Ephrem Arcement ably guides the reader beneath the surface of the many-faceted diamond that is Merton’s paradoxical spirituality of solitude and social engagement, resistance and hope. . . . An aptly rich and multilayered study of Merton’s Christ-haunted spirituality.”

Christopher Pramuk
Associate Professor, Theology
Xavier University

Ephrem Arcement, OSB
In the School of Prophets
The Formation of Thomas Merton’s Prophetic Spirituality

“In the School of Prophets is a thoughtful, challenging treatise that underscores Merton’s stature as a true man of God, like the prophets of old, calling us forward and challenging us to labor for the fidelity to God to which Merton himself strived. This is a refreshing and vital approach to understanding Merton’s prophetic vocation.”

Dr. Paul M. Pearson
Director and Archivist
Thomas Merton Center, Bellarmine University

“An insider’s guide to life in the monastic world. Although specifically directed at monastics, it offers secular readers much worthy of pondering value. Drawing on his lifetime in a Trappist abbey, Fr. Charles offers a richly austere, very beautiful volume.”

Marjory Lange
Western Oregon University

“As an aspiring monk, I found the first edition of Monastic Practices to be a treasury of both wisdom and practical information for living the monastic life. Each chapter covers an aspect, beginning with ‘Sacred Reading’ and concluding with ‘From Death to Life.’ And now, as a professed monk of several years and vocation director of New Melleray Abbey, I am excited to have the opportunity to recommend the new edition of this fine book to the next generation of aspiring monks.”

Br. Paul Andrew Tanner, OCSO
New Melleray Abbey
Peosta, Iowa

Charles Cummings, OCSO, is a Trappist-Cistercian monk and priest of Holy Trinity Abbey, Huntsville, Utah. He grew up in northern Minnesota and joined the monastery in 1960. He has a master’s degree in formative spirituality and has been engaged in writing, editing, teaching, counseling, chaplain ministry, and monastic interreligious dialogue for most of his monastic life.

MW047P, 978-0-87907-050-2
Paperback, 210 pp., 5 ½ x 8 ½, $19.95

Ephrem Arcement, OSB, is a monk of St. Joseph Abbey in Louisiana. He earned his PhD in spirituality from The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, and currently teaches courses in Scripture and spirituality at St. Joseph Seminary College. His first book, Intimacy in Prayer: Wisdom from Bernard of Clairvaux, appeared in 2013.

CS265P, 978-0-87907-265-0
Paperback, 244 pp., 5 ½ x 8 ½, $24.95
“More than mere devotional practice, this contemporary, existential, and artistic Way of the Cross is at once a guide to meditation and a path to encounter Christ in whom we are and find what we are searching for: a fullness of joy and life beyond our own darkness and our daily struggles.”

Georges Ruyssen, SJ
Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Rome

“Bert Daelemans, SJ, gently guides us in the contemplation of the Passion of Jesus through a series of sculptural images. As we, reverently or even shyly, approach Jesus in this via crucis, we are led to discover that it is Jesus who walks with us during the course of our lives. By way of a dialogue with this Jesus, so truly meek and humble, we are encouraged to experience a moving encounter with him in a journey of discernment so as to grow in his likeness.”

Miyako Namikawa, RSCJ
Madrid, Spain

“This little book covers the 14 Christian qualities that give meaning and purpose to the author’s life, including humility, community living, hospitality, awareness of God, and peace. She opens each chapter with a Scripture reading, followed by an inspiring meditation, and questions to open the heart, mind and soul.”

Spirituality & Practice

“The Benedictine rules are known for their rigourness. Ritger brings them to an everyday audience in her book Benedictine Living. This collection of reflections and questions follows the timeless themes of the Rule of Saint Benedict which include awareness of God, listening, hospitality, humility, and others. It will boost your daily contemplation.”

U.S. Catholic

“Kate Ritger reminds readers of the daily process of being mindful. With a keen sense for finding the sacred in the ordinary, Ritger poses a challenge for readers to create a space for Benedictine meditation in their lives. The reflections paint a local picture on a timeless rule lived out in the 21st century and express the truthfulness of a life lived in the spirit of Saint Benedict.”

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Anselm Grün, OSB, is a monk of the Benedictine abbey of Münsterschwarzach, Germany, where he has been cellarer since 1977. He is the author of many books, lectures, and courses on themes of spiritual life.

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_Bieke Vandekerckhove_ (born 1969) lived in Kuurne, Belgium. In 1988, when she was a psychology major at the University of Leuven, she was diagnosed with ALS and became paralyzed from the pelvis up. With round-the-clock help from husband Bart Verhulst and various assistants, she led an active life of teaching, counseling, and writing for, among others, Volzin and Tertio. She regularly conducted Zen meetings and retreats at the Benedictine Sint-Andries Abbey in Zevenkerken, Belgium. In 2014 Bieke Vandekerckhove received formal transmission as Zen Master (Ch’an Ssu) in the Chinese Ch’an tradition from internationally known Zen Master Prof. Ton Lathouwers, himself the Dharma-Successor of Ch’an Master Teh Cheng, longtime head of the Guang Hua Ch’an School in China. On the occasion, she received the name Xia Fan Zhi Guang, meaning “Light of Kenosis.” Bieke passed away in her home, early in the evening on September 7, 2015.

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See also page 4.
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Tjurunga

Pius Engelbert, OSB, is the former abbot of the Abbey of St. Joseph at Gerleve in Westphalia, Germany. For many years he was professor of ecclesiastical history at Sant’Anselmo, where he was also responsible for the reorganization of the institute’s archives.

“Liturgical Press merits a note of gratitude for providing a translation of the German original and packaging it in a durable, elegant edition. Engelbert has certainly given us the historical groundwork for an institution that until this book has lacked a scholarly and synthetic treatment.”

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American Benedictine Review

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