CISTERCIAN PUBLICATIONS
Texts and Studies in the Monastic Tradition
DEAR READERS,

This new 2018 Cistercian Publications catalogue begins with a colorful overview of what we’ve published in the past two years. The authors and topics reach from the fourth century through the sixth, twelfth, and seventeenth centuries (with additional stops along the way) and into the twenty-first. They include a moral treatise from Pachomian Egypt, early monastic rules for both men and women, an influential commentary on Job, an Old English translation of the Rule of Saint Benedict, eulogies on Saint Bernard, reflections of a regular visitor to Benedictine and Cistercian monasteries in the American Midwest, and a Festschrift honoring one of the great teachers of contemporary Cistercians. And, of course, they include new translations of patristic treatises and medieval Cistercian sermons (with more foreseen in the next couple of years).

And those are just the newest Cistercian Publications books, in our three series: Cistercian Fathers (translations of Cistercian writers), Cistercian Studies (scholarly studies and translations of non-Cistercians), and Monastic Wisdom (books exploring personal spiritual life and growth). Meanwhile, as a quick glance at the catalogue also reveals, many of our most important earlier publications are still available, including sermons and treatises by such Cistercian writers as Hildegard of Bingen, Bernard of Clairvaux, Aelred of Rievaulx, Gertrud of Helfta, and Thomas Merton, as well as books about them and about monastic history, life, and thought.

Compiling even such a partial list of the books that Cistercian Publications has published both recently and in the past always surprises and impresses me—and makes me eager to see what’s coming next.

William of Saint-Thierry says that two eyes are necessary to see God: the eye of reason and the eye of faith. While each is important on its own, the two must work together for true vision. We will continue to offer you some of the finest books that reflect the work of those eyes—working individually and together—as we seek to guide you in your own thought, work, and faith.

With my warm wishes for you all as fellow readers,

Marsha L. Dutton
Executive Editor, Cistercian Publications
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CISTERCIAN PUBLICATIONS
2018 – 2019 Catalog
“In this one little book is distilled whatever wisdom Merton had found in the monastic tradition that he taught and tried to live. But this is his distillation, and as such it represents a unique, idiosyncratic, and highly personal late-twentieth-century rendition of the call to contemplation, yet as fresh and challenging now as when it was first compiled.”

– From the foreword by Sarah Coakley

While he wrote it for other monastics, all seekers drawn to explore the full dimensions of prayer will be enriched by his words, especially as they take on added meaning in today’s dizzying world.

The climate in which monastic prayer flowers is that of the desert, where human comfort is absent, where the secure routines of the “earthly city” offer no support, and where prayer must be sustained by God in the purity of faith.

“This is a gorgeous and wise book: the mature Merton at his best. I found myself with renewed gratitude, even after all these years, for his witness, ripened and made spacious by years of attentive awareness. Merton offers in this his last book, not a method of prayer, but a vision of human life suffused by prayer in all its various-ness and utter simplicity. He urges us to silence, listening, and existential questioning, yes. But also to emptiness, darkness, dread, and an eschatological longing born of the ‘fervor of contemplation.’ I will return to engage these pages again and again.”

Wendy M. Wright
Creighton University

“In this his final book, Thomas Merton draws on years of extensive study and practice to provide a guide to prayer and contemplation. This is essential reading for those interested in understanding contemplative Christian theology and practice, as well as for all who want to understand the spirituality of one of the most important American Catholics of the twentieth century.”

Gregory K. Hillis
Bellarmine University
“The climax of a lifetime spent in both the practice and the theory of prayer. Its particular benefit is that it takes as its focus the negative experiences that sometimes come to people who pray regularly, the ennui, the confusion, the anxiety, the dread. He tackles these difficulties head on and seeks to find a response to them in the wisdom of monastic tradition. Fifty years after it was written the book retains a surprising relevance with solid teaching expressed in Merton’s typically relevant language. It will come as a revelation to many readers.”

Michael Casey, OCSO
Tarrawarra Abbey
Author of Seventy-Four Tools for Good Living
Ludolph of Saxony

The Life of Jesus Christ
Part One, Volume I
Chapters 1–40
Translated by Milton T. Walsh

The *Vita Christi* of Ludolph of Saxony, fourteenth-century Carthusian, is the most comprehensive series of meditations on the life of Christ from the late Middle Ages. Ludolph assembles a wealth of commentary from the fathers of the church and the great medieval spiritual writers and weaves them into a seamless exposition on the Gospel. This is the first full English translation of this classic work, and it is also the first edition in any language to identify the thousands of sources used by Ludolph, both those he quotes and the many he cites without attribution. It will be of great interest to students of Christian spirituality, but it is intended, as was the original text, for ordinary believers seeking to enter more deeply into the meaning of the life of Christ. When it is complete, there will be four volumes.

“ACCESSIBLE AND READABLE, WALSH’S TRANSLATION SHOULD BE ON THE SHELF OF EVERY LIBRARY.”

ERIC LELAND SAAK, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Forthcoming volumes in the four-volume series.
“An invaluable tool for scholars researching the late medieval engagement with the humanity of Christ, while simultaneously catering for general readers and religious practitioners interested in learning more about a traditional and influential imaginative meditational practice.”

Christiania Whitehead
University of Warwick

Milton T. Walsh holds a doctorate in sacred theology from the Gregorian University in Rome. For many years, he taught theology at St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, California. He is the author of several books, including Second Friends: C. S. Lewis and Ronald Knox in Conversation, In Memory of Me: A Meditation on the Roman Canon, and Witness of the Saints: Patristic Readings in the Liturgy of the Hours.

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A Not-So-Unexciting Life
Essays on Benedictine History and Spirituality in Honor of Michael Casey, OCSO
Edited by Carmel Posa, SGS

This volume, written by eighteen monks, nuns, and lay scholars from seven countries and four continents, aims to recognize the contribution that Michael Casey has made to Cistercian and Benedictine life over the past forty years. Acclaimed as one of today’s most significant writers in the Benedictine and Cistercian tradition, Casey has published over one hundred articles and reviews in various journals, written more than eighteen books, and edited many more books and journals. He is a world-renowned retreat master, lecturer, and formator.

Contributors include:
David Barry, OSB
Bernardo Bonowitz, OCSO
Mary Collins, OSB
Austin Cooper, OMI
Elias Dietz, OCSO
Bernhard A. Eckerstorfer, OSB
Elizabeth Freeman
Terrence Kardong, OSB
Helen Lombard, SGS
Margaret Malone, SGS
Katharine Massam
Constant J. Mews
Francisco Rafael de Pascual, OCSO
Carmel Posa, SGS
Bishop Graeme Rutherford
Manuela Scheiba, OSB
Columba Stewart, OSB
Brendan Thomas, OSB
David Tomlins, OCSO

“Through the years, monastic men and women have been treated to the writings of Father Michael Casey. With an intellectual undercurrent, he has been able to communicate to us some of the important spiritual and pastoral elements of life under the Rule of Saint Benedict in a manner that is consistently inviting, useful, and inspiring. That same spirit pervades the series of articles that rightly honor his contribution to monastic literature in these recent decades.”
Abbot Primate Gregory Polan, OSB
Sant’Anselmo, Rome

“This is a marvelous and creative collection of essays designed to honor Michael Casey for his pivotal contributions to monastic thinking in our time. The essays help us to know Michael’s thought better in two different ways. Some engage him directly and dialogue with him. Others take their inspiration from themes that he himself has opened up and explored. So many of us are grateful for Michael, and I am grateful for this book which does him honor.”
Abbot Jeremy Driscoll, OSB
Mount Angel Abbey
Terrence G. Kardong, OSB

Saint Columban
His Life, Rule, and Legacy

Saint Columban: His Life, Rule, and Legacy contains a new English translation of a commentary on the entire Rule of Columban. Columban was a sixth-century Irish monk who compiled a written rule of life for the three monasteries he founded in France: Anegray, Luxeuil, and Fontaines. This volume also includes the first English translation of the *Regula cuiusdam Patris ad Virgines*, or the Rule of Walbert, compiled by the seventh-century Count Walbert from various earlier rules designed for women, including those of Columban, Benedict, Cassian, and Basil. This book begins with an extensive introduction to the history of Columban and his monks; it also contains various indices and notes, which will be of interest to students and enthusiasts of monastic studies.

"Kardong [the Rule of Columban] presents it in a clear contemporary translation, accompanied by interesting and detailed commentary. Although it appears last in this volume, those interested in rules for women's communities will certainly not want to miss the rule that Columban's successor Walbert wrote for nuns."

Sr. Colleen Maura McGrane, OSB
Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration

"The productiveness of Fr. Terrence Kardong is astounding and from it we have all benefitted. Here, once again, he makes accessible to us a literary monument of the ancient monastic tradition, this time the Rule of Columban, written not more than fifty or sixty years after the Rule of St. Benedict. With the meticulousness and erudition and wit that we have come to expect from him, Fr. Terrence provides fresh and lively translations of this historically significant Rule and one of its epigones, the Rule of Walbert. What a wealth of fascinating—and strange—material one finds in these texts!"

Mark DelCogliano
Associate Professor of Theology
University of St. Thomas
Gertrud the Great of Helfta

The Herald of God’s Loving-Kindness:

Book 4

Translated, with an introduction and notes, by Alexandra Barratt

Gertrud the Great (1256–1302) entered the monastery of Helfta in eastern Germany as a child oblate. At the age of twenty-five she underwent a conversion that led to a series of visionary experiences. These centered on “the divine loving-kindness,” which she perceived as expressed through and symbolized by Christ’s divine heart. Some of these experiences she recorded in Latin “with her own hand,” in what became book 2 of The Herald of God’s Loving-Kindness.

Books 1, 3, 4, and 5 were written down by another nun, a close confidant of the saint, now often known as “Sister N.” Book 4 records Gertrud’s many vivid spiritual experiences, which took place on various liturgical feasts when she was too sick to take part in the community’s worship. Foregrounding visions of the court of heaven and dialogues with Christ, the Virgin Mary, and other saints, they further develop devotional themes already present in the earlier books. Often profoundly indebted to the liturgy of Mass and office, they have been carefully arranged according to the ecclesiastical year by the medieval compiler.

“Having now translated the first four books of Herald of God’s Loving-Kindness, Alexandra Barratt has made an invaluable contribution to studies on Gertrud the Great and the women religious at Helfta. Barratt’s introduction and notes helpfully elucidate the role of liturgy and music especially central in this book of the Herald. Her translation achieves the delicate balance between being faithful to the singular charisma of Gertrud of Helfta and being accessible to the contemporary reader.”

Ella Johnson
St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry

“Gertrud the Great of Helfta’s Legatus divinae pietatis was translated into different European vernaculars from the late Middle Ages onward, and has been influential ever since. Alexandra Barratt’s lucid and eloquent translation into modern-day English reopens its reception to a general readership, and gives a comprehensive introduction to the historical background and the text’s style. This commendable piece of scholarship provides a crucial base for the study of visionary hagiography in medieval Europe.”

Racha Kirakosian
Harvard University
Saint Æthelwold of Winchester

The Old English Rule of Saint Benedict with Related Old English Texts

Translated and introduced by Jacob Riyeff

Saint Æthelwold (904/909–984), abbot of Abingdon and bishop of Winchester, made the first translation of the Rule of Saint Benedict into English (or, indeed, into any vernacular language) as part of the tenth-century English Benedictine Reform. This movement dramatically affected the trajectory of religious life in early medieval England and influenced the ways in which secular power was conceived and wielded in the kingdom. Æthelwold’s translation into Old English reworks Benedict’s Latin text through numerous silent additions, omissions, and instances of explanatory material, revealing an Anglo-Saxon ecclesiastical and political reformer intent on making this foundational Latin text more readily accessible to the new monks and nuns of the Reform and to the laity. Presented with related texts composed in Old English, this volume makes Æthelwold’s transformation of Benedict’s Rule available in Modern English translation for the first time.

CS264P, 978-0-87907-264-3
Paperback, 204 pp., 5 ½ x 8 ½, $29.95
E eBook

Jacob Riyeff teaches in the English department at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Specializing in Old English poetry and medieval monastic culture, he also translates Old English, Middle English, and French poetry and writes original verse. Jacob is a Benedictine oblate of Osage Deanery in Sand Springs, Oklahoma.

“This terrific book will be a boon both to scholars of the history of Benedictine monasticism and to those who seek to explore the spirituality of St. Æthelwold and his reform. The scholarly apparatus will facilitate deep study of the Old English Rule as well as its affinity with the Latin Rule. The translation, while eloquent, is faithful to Æthelwold’s own language and to his intentions for the education of monastics.”

Julie Ann Smith
University of Sydney

“Riyeff makes accessible a seminal text of the Benedictine Reform translated by its foremost intellect, St. Æthelwold of Winchester. Appendices gather together further Old English witnesses to the context and influence of this text. Riyeff’s commendable translation is well introduced and annotated, drawing on the best recent scholarship from both Benedictine studies and Old English. No student of the Anglo-Saxon church should be without this book.”

Derek Olsen
Author of Reading Matthew with Monks: Liturgical Interpretation in Anglo-Saxon England
Jean Truax

Aelred the Peacemaker
The Public Life of a Cistercian Abbot

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 politician, mediator, and negotiator outside his abbey’s walls.

“This meticulously researched, thoroughly documented study describes fully for the first time Aelred of Rievaulx’s political career. This important new perspective enriches the massive scholarship on Aelred.”

Sally N. Vaughn
University of Houston

“This careful study deserves to be in all academic libraries supporting graduate history programs.”

Daniel Boice
Catholic Library World

Jean Truax obtained her PhD in medieval history from the University of Houston in 1995 while working in the IT department of an oil service company. Now that she has retired from the business world she is an independent scholar and the author of a study of three twelfth-century archbishops of Canterbury: Ralph d’Escures, William of Corbeil and Theobald of Bec: Heirs of Anselm and Ancestors of Becket. She comes to her interest in Aelred of Rievaulx and the Cistercians because of the welcome extended to her at the Cistercian and Monastic Studies Conference, which meets every year in conjunction with the International Congress on Medieval Studies held at the University of Western Michigan in Kalamazoo.

“Aelred is eminent for his monastic teaching and spiritual doctrine on friendship. Presenting Aelred as politician and peacemaker, this book offers a brilliant perspective into a previously neglected feature in the life of the most distinguished abbot of Rievaulx. 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.”

Abbot Thomas X. Davis, OCSO
Abbey of New Clairvaux

“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. Although Jean Truax does not claim to have unraveled all the complexities of Aelred’s biography, her study gently loosens some of its most resistant knots.”

Elias Dietz, OCSO
Abbey of Gethsemani
Three Pseudo-Bernardine Works

Translated and annotated by Catena Scholarium

Introduction by Dom Elias Dietz, OCSO

During the “Silver Age” of the Cistercians (the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries), pseudepigraphical compositions bearing the name Bernard flourished. Important for the history of monasticism and, more broadly, of Christian spiritual formation and practice, these little-studied writings interpret, appropriate, transform, and apply Saint Bernard of Clairvaux’s authentic works, transmitting them to new audiences. Under the direction of Ann Astell and Joseph Wawrykow, with the assistance of Thomas Clemmons, a talented team of young scholars from the University of Notre Dame (the Catena Scholarium) offers here a complete translation of three of these Pseudo-Bernardine treatises, providing notes that identify sources, clarify allusions, highlight rhetorical strategies, and demonstrate overall a fascinating, intertextual complexity. The Bernard who emerges from these texts speaks with many voices to herald a living, Bernardine tradition.

“Why should we know about texts once wrongly attributed to St. Bernard? The fact that some of them were extremely popular while others were not or were in vogue only regionally suggests that readers looked beyond the name Bernard to the contents of the manuscripts. Lovingly translated and beautifully annotated, these works offer new and valuable glimpses into twelfth- and thirteenth-century religious mentalities.”

Barbara H. Rosenwein
Loyola University Chicago

CS273P, 978-0-87907-173-8
Paperback 176 pp., 5 ½ x 8 ½, $29.95
 eBook
Available April 2018

Ann W. Astell is professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of six books on medieval literature and spirituality, including The Song of Songs in the Middle Ages (1990), Job, Boethius, and Epic Truth (1994), and Eating Beauty: The Eucharist and the Spiritual Arts of the Middle Ages (2006).


“In modern times we rightly value authentic works over pseudonymous ones, but this should not lead us to neglect the ‘pseudo-Bernard,’ who has much to tell us about the saint’s fame and the subsequent history of his ideas. This valuable translation provides readable and well-annotated versions of three pseudo-Bernardine meditative texts particularly useful for the religious formation of monks. It is a welcome addition to our knowledge of Bernard’s afterlife and the history of the medieval monasticism.”

Bernard McGinn
Divinity School, University of Chicago
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

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.

“While impressively clarifying and well-researched, Schneider’s concise, accessible prose allows the reader to forget the fear of heady tediousness that the title may provoke. She instead provides the insights and background necessary for the text itself to become accessible to a Western, English-speaking audience.”
Englewood Review of Books

“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.”
Dr. Janet A. Timbie
The Catholic University of America
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 brilliant narrative on and sourcebook of the ways in which French churchmen during the reign of the Sun King used the life of Saint Bernard in their homilies. Recommended for academic libraries supporting graduate work in French or religious history.”

Catholic Library World

“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
University of Copenhagen
Everyday Life at La Trappe under Armand-Jean de Rancé

A Translation, with Introduction and Notes, of André Félibien des Avaux’s Description De L’abbaye De La Trappe (1689)

This is an annotated translation of the classic Description de l’abbaye de La Trappe, the most important eye-witness account of life at the abbey of La Trappe under Armand-Jean de Rancé. The work includes a map showing the physical layout of the abbey and detailed discussions of the monks’ daily life and practice. It was written by André Félibien des Avaux for Jeanne de Schomberg, duchess of Liancourt, in 1671, with a new and enlarged edition being published in 1689. That is the edition translated here, with copious notes to help the reader appreciate Félibien’s account.

David N. Bell

David N. Bell is professor emeritus of religious studies at Memorial University and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He retired as head of the department of religious studies at the end of 2011. He has published some two dozen books, more than a hundred articles, and a great number of book reviews. His most recent book, published in 2017, is A Saint in the Sun: Praising Saint Bernard in the France of Louis XIV (Cistercian Publications).

Also of Interest

See pages 29, 33, 37, 43, and 44 for more by David N. Bell
Gregory the Great

Moral Reflections on the Book of Job, Volume 4 (Books 17–22)

Translated by Brian Kerns, OCSO

Introduction by Mark DelCogliano

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 fourth volume, containing books 17 through 22, provides commentary on eight chapters of Job, from 24:21 through 31:40.

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. He hails originally from Pottsville, in the anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania. For many years he worked in the library at Genesee and Novo Mundo, and he has interested himself in various translation projects, among which is the life of Dom Gabriel Sortais, abbot general of the Trappists in the early 1960s. That volume has also been published by Cistercian Publications, in the Monastic Wisdom series. The first three volumes of his translation of Gregory the Great’s Moral Reflections on the Book of Job were published by Cistercian Publications in 2014, 2015, and 2016.
Aelred of Rievaulx

The Liturgical Sermons

The Durham and Lincoln Collections

Sermons 47–84

Translated by the Catena Scholarium, Lewis White, and Kathryn Krug

Edited with an introduction by Ann Astell

Aelred, abbot of the Yorkshire Cistercian abbey of Rievaulx from 1147 to 1167, wrote six spiritual treatises, seven historical treatises, and 182 liturgical sermons, many of which he delivered as chapter talks to his monks. Translations of the first twenty-eight of these sermons appeared in CF 58 in 2001, translated by Theodore Berkeley and M. Basil Pennington, and sermons twenty-nine through forty-six appeared in CF 77 in 2015, translated by Marie Anne Mayeski. The current volume contains thirty-eight sermons for feasts from Advent through the Nativity of Mary, taken from the Durham and Lincoln collections, edited by Gaetano Raciti in CCCM 2B.

Ann W. Astell is professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame. The author of six books on medieval literature and spirituality, she has published recently on Aelred of Rievaulx in Cistercian Studies Quarterly. With Joseph Wawrykow, also a professor of theology at Notre Dame, she worked with the Catena Scholarium (a team of young theologians at Notre Dame) to translate and annotate the five Lincoln sermons included in this volume.

Lewis White has been a teacher and translator at the Language Center of the Universidad Tecnológica de la Mixteca, Huajuapan de León, Oaxaca, Mexico, since 2009. He was a member of Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, Virginia, from 2002 to 2009.

Kathryn Krug has an MA in medieval studies from the University of Chicago. Her translations of medieval and renaissance writings are published in works including Angela of Foligno (Paulist Press), Music in the Castle (University of Chicago Press), and The Earliest Franciscans (Paulist Press).
Aelred of Rievaulx
Homilies on the Prophetic Burdens of Isaiah

Translated by Lewis White with introduction by Marsha L. Dutton

During his twenty years as abbot of the Yorkshire monastery of Rievaulx, Aelred preached many sermons: to his own monks, in other monasteries, and at significant gatherings outside the cloister. In these thirty-one homilies on Isaiah 13–16, together with an introductory Advent sermon, Aelred interprets the burdens that Isaiah prophesied against the nations according to their literal, allegorical, and moral senses. He sees these burdens as playing a role both in the history of the church and in the progress of the individual soul. This collection of homilies is an ambitious, unified work of a mature monk, synthesizing biblical exegesis, ascetical teaching, spiritual exhortation, and a theory of history.

CF083P, 978-0-87907-183-7
Paperback, 440 pp., 5 ½ x 8 ½, $29.95

Available August 2018

Lewis White has been a teacher and translator at the Language Center of the Universidad Tecnológica de la Mixteca, Huajuapan de León, Oaxaca, Mexico, since 2009. He was a member of Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, Virginia, from 2002 to 2009.

Also of Interest

See pages 28 and 29 for more by Aelred of Rievaulx
**No End to the Search**

**Experiencing Monastic Life**

A monastery is not just for monks. Laypeople enjoy visiting monasteries and learning from the women and men who live there. The silence of the monastery is a retreat from the clatter and bluster of city and suburb. In *No End to the Search* Mark Plaiss, married with a wife, children, and grandchildren, writes of his visits to various monasteries while striving to delve into the experience and meaning of monasticism. What is behind that wall? What is the appeal of monastic life? To what degree can such a life be lived by persons who are married, and why would they wish to do so? This book explores the relationship between the vowed life of monks and the life of laypersons who are unable to live such vows but desire to share just a sliver of that life.

**Mark Plaiss**

Deacon Mark Plaiss teaches in the department of religious studies at Carmel Catholic High School, Mundelein, Illinois. Since 1997 he has been a monastic associate at New Melleray Abbey, near Dubuque, Iowa. He was ordained deacon in the Roman Catholic Church on June 7, 2003, at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels in the Diocese of Gary, and is currently serving at St. Gilbert Church in Grayslake, Illinois. He tries to pass on the monastic wisdom he has absorbed over the years from New Melleray and other monasteries to his students and parishioners.

“Mark Plaiss describes in detail the daily routine of a monastic’s life. He explains, as well, how the monastic values and routine have influenced his own life, a married layman in the teaching profession. This book might be an invaluable resource for someone discerning a monastic vocation. All the pieces are there.”

Abbot Vincent Bataille
Marmion Abbey
Aurora, IL
Benoît Standaert, OSB

SPIRITUALITY
AN ART OF LIVING

A Monk’s Alphabet of Spiritual Practices

Translated by Rudolf Van Puymbroeck

Spirituality: An Art of Living was born out of a generous impulse: to pass on lessons from the monastic tradition to laypeople so as to help them achieve a more ardent and fulfilling spiritual life. In this book, Benedictine monk, teacher, and scholar Benoît Standaert provides ninety-nine entries covering topics like abba, humility, listening, and time. The entries are divided into twenty-six chapters, according to the letters of the alphabet. A perfect book for all spiritual seekers to sit with and enjoy again and again.

Benoît Standaert is a Benedictine monk of Saint Andrew’s Abbey in Bruges, Belgium. He teaches Scripture, spirituality, and interreligious dialogue. After completing a doctorate at the University of Nijmegen on the composition and literary genre of the Gospel of Mark, he published numerous works on Scripture and spirituality in Dutch, several of which have been translated into French, English, and Italian. He is also the author of Sharing Sacred Space: Interreligious Dialogue as Spiritual Encounter (Liturgical Press, 2009).

978-0-8146-4517-8
Hardcover with ribbon 432 pp., 6 x 9, $39.95

“A spiritual gem.
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978-0-8146-4618-2
Paperback, 142 pp., 6 x 9, $17.95

Terrence G. Kardong 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. His latest research concerns the Irish monks of St. Columban, who were the first transmitters of the Rule of Benedict north of the Alps.

“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.”

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Aquinata Böckmann, OSB, PhD, is a member of the Benedictine Missionary Sisters of Tutzing, Germany. She has taught in Rome since 1973 at the Pontifical Institute for Spirituality and Moral Theology Regina Mundi and as the first woman professor at Sant’ Anselmo. She is the author of Perspectives on the Rule of Saint Benedict, Around the Monastic Table, and A Listening Community, all published by Liturgical Press.
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