



The Hebrew Catholic

"And so all Israel shall be saved" (Romans 11:26)

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The views expressed in the published articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the AHC.

The Association of Hebrew Catholics aims at preserving the heritage and vocation of Israelites within the Church. By gathering the People Israel within the Church, the AHC hopes to help enable them to serve the Lord, His Church, and all peoples within the mystery of their irrevocable gifts and calling. (cf. Rom. 11:29)

The *kerygma* of the AHC announces that the divine plan of salvation has entered the phase of the *Apostasy of the Gentiles*, prophesied by Our Lord and St. Paul, and of which the *Return of the Jews to the Holy Land* is a corollary.

*“Consider the primary aim of the group to be,
not the conversion of the Jews
but the creation of
a new Hebrew Catholic community life and spirit,
an alternative society to the old.”*
A counsel from Elias Friedman, O.C.D.

The Association of Hebrew Catholics is under the patronage of
Our Lady of the Miracle
(who in the Church of St. Andrea della Fratte in Rome,
on 20 January 1842, converted Alphonse Ratisbonne)
and
Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)

Miriam, Our Lady of the Miracle, pray for us!
Saint Edith Stein, pray for us!

What They Have Said

*“Give thy servant therefore a listening heart ...
that I may discern between good and evil.”* (1 Kings 3:9)

“With the petition ‘thy Kingdom come’ (not ‘our kingdom’), the Lord wants to show us how to pray and order our action in just this way. The first and essential thing is a listening heart, so that God, not we, may reign. The Kingdom of God comes by way of a listening heart. That is its path. And that is what we must pray for again and again.” (pg. 146)

Pope Benedict XVI, *Jesus of Nazareth*, ©2007, Doubleday

ברוך הבא בשם יהוה
(*Baruch haba b'Shem Adonai*)

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord

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News and Notes

About this Issue

It has been much too long since our last issue, #83. We are always late, and we always have the usual reasons: too much work, too few hands, etc. This time, however, we have some outstanding *heavenly* reasons, reasons which we are sure you will be thankful for: our Lord has been answering prayers, yours and ours.

The full story follows on the next page in the article titled: *On Wings of Prayer*.

Right now I would like to call your attention to this abbreviated issue. We have fewer pages for two reasons: (1) so there's no further delay letting you know what has taken place since last summer, and (2) so that we could keep our costs down and use this issue in our fund-raising effort.

We will resume producing a normal-sized issue, hopefully on schedule, with the fall issue, #85.

About the cover

The statue is of Saint Louis, King Louis IX of France, who reigned from 1226 till his death in 1270 during the Eighth Crusade. Canonized in 1297 by Pope Boniface VIII, the city of St. Louis, Missouri is named after him.

The second symbol representing the city of St. Louis is the Gateway Arch. The construction of this monument was completed in 1965 and is a major attraction of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, a 91-acre park established to commemorate several historic events.

On our various tours of the area, we took pictures of the Arch and of the statue of St. Louis. The combination of the two provided the cover for our first issue from St. Louis.

Since our last issue

We have relocated to St. Louis, Missouri and have been primarily occupied with getting ourselves reestablished here. Along with the work of business and personal matters, we were blessed with a number of visitors and hosted a few events. See *On Wings of Prayer*.

Please answer & return the enclosed form

Now that we have our headquarters, we look forward to many new initiatives. However, to help us discern the possibilities, it is important for us to get your feedback.

Therefore, I ask you to please answer the questions on the enclosed form and then return it to us as soon as possible. Please be assured that any information you provide, including all contact info such as your address and phone number, will never be given out without your permission. We will use the answers you provide to update our records and to help us in our discerning. Thank you.

President's Memo

Shalom Chaverim (Friends)!

As always, it is good to get another issue of *The Hebrew Catholic* completed and into the mail. No, it is more than *good*. This issue was a joyous event, enabling us to share with you all that our Lord has done.

We walk to daily Mass full of gratitude, in awe of the script that God has written and we are discovering. Our imagination is full of possibilities, yet we know that fruitful endeavors must be in accord with the Lord's will.

So, we will move ahead in this wonderful place, doing what we believe needs to be done. And while we move ahead, we will remain vigilant, listening for the quiet whisper of our Lord as He leads us forward.

As you will read in the story of our journey to St. Louis, beginning on the next page, Martin Barrack and Fr. Ed Fride joined our Board of Directors. Marty is author of *Second Exodus* and leads the Marian Catechist Writers Apostolate. Fr. Fride, pastor of Christ the King Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan, is also a Secular Carmelite and is able to serve Mass in Hebrew. We are grateful for their collaboration, and we will include their biographies in our next issue.

Now that the bulk of the work in getting reestablished is almost done, I expect to begin giving talks about the *irrevocable calling* and *collective witness* of the People Israel from within the Church. I believe our Lord has reserved the collective witness of Hebrew Catholics, and other new movements, for precisely this time in history. From these talks, awareness and local support of our work will grow.

On May 15 we were interviewed by Teresa Holman of Covenant Network Radio, a Catholic radio network.

In addition to talks and interviews, we look forward to the establishment of a local havurah. And we are already speaking to a few people regarding seminars that we can offer here.

Our efforts, however, will remain limited in scope until more people come forward to participate in this profound work of God.

After you read *On Wings of Prayer*, please pray and consider the ways you could participate to help advance our Lord's work in this new phase of salvation history.

Finally, please return the enclosed form, including any thoughts, suggestions and questions you might have.

Wishing you a spiritually refreshing summer

In Yeshua, Miriam and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross,

David

On Wings of Prayer

*“Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to do far more abundantly
than all that we ask or think,
to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.”*

Ephesians 3:20-21

We are humbled and awed at what our Lord has done in response to your prayers and ours. For, as Scripture testifies, He has done so “*far more abundantly than all that we*” had asked or even thought. And we are filled with gratitude and joy.

Before I describe all that our Lord has brought to pass, for the sake of new members and readers, let me repeat a little of what was written in the last two issues.

The Hebrew Catholic #82, Fall 2005-Winter 2006

In 1999, Elias Friedman OCD, our founder, passed over to eternal life, having charged me with the responsibility to spread the message of the AHC which he and Andrew Sholl had launched in 1979.

Fr. Friedman, conventual at Stella Maris Monastery, Haifa, Israel, from 1954 till his death, was a very gifted man, with much of the prophet and mystic in his Jewish and Carmelite soul. He had definite ideas about a Hebrew Catholic community: it would be a juridically approved community which would preserve the heritage and identity of Jews who had entered the Catholic Church. It was through this community that he believed the offspring of the People Israel, and their election, would be preserved; this same community would again provide an enduring collective witness to Jesus and His Church.

As Fr. Friedman departed this world in 1999, our Lord called me to move from Highland, New York to Mt. Upton, New York to affiliate with the development of a new two year Catholic College.

Two years later, in 2001, our Lord again called and we moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan to affiliate with Ave Maria College.

In both cases, the community and resources we had anticipated never fully materialized. Instead, our Lord had brought us to these places for reasons other than we had expected. And in both cases, our time has been fruitful.

Mt. Upton provided the opportunity for Kathleen and me to work together and ultimately to marry. I also was able to visit with Cardinal Schonborn, Fr. Cantelamessa and many others to discuss our work.

Ypsilanti provided the opportunity to get our first ap-

probation and blessing from a Bishop, to make contacts with a number of supportive professors at Sacred Heart Seminary, and to join an orthodox and reverent parish that is supportive of our work.

On Wings of Prayer . . .

Now, once again, we await our Lord's direction. Ave Maria College in Ypsilanti has become Ave Maria University in Naples, Florida. The College here in Ypsilanti will close at the end of this spring semester and its property will be going up for sale. The house we live in and conduct the AHC work belongs to the College.

As you will recall, we have been asking your prayers for a place to live and center our work. Kathleen and I live on a very modest pension and are generally not able to afford the prices of property in the surrounding area.

So, whenever we become aware of something promising, we are quick to investigate. So far, nothing has seemed appropriate, until very recently.

Kathleen and I were invited to look at some property in Washington DC, which we did in November 2005. For a variety of reasons, we did not believe our Lord was leading us there. We continue with our review.

The Hebrew Catholic #83, Spring-Summer 2006

On Wings of Prayer ... (continued)

In the last issue, I briefly reviewed the previous six years, leading to our current need to find a new place to live and center our work. Although we have been asking your prayers for this intention for a few years, it has become more immediate as Ave Maria College here in Ypsilanti has closed, and their property, including the house we live in, is up for sale.

The leadership of Ave Maria College has been very kind in assuring us that we will be able to stay here at least six months beginning this June, while we look for a new situation. Beyond that, it will be month-to-month until a buyer is found.

However, thanks be to God, Heaven has heard all of our prayers, and we now believe that our Lord is leading us to the place where the AHC will become firmly established.

From a number of conversations and other indications over a period of approximately a year and a half, we felt led to make an appointment with Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri.

Kathleen and I drove from Ypsilanti to St. Louis on May 17 to stay at the Carmelite Monastery there. Mother Stella Maris, Superior of the Monastery, prays for our work and was one of the people who encouraged us to make an appointment with the Archbishop. It was a welcome note that Mother's religious name, "Stella Maris", was the same as that of our founder's monastery in Haifa, Israel.

Another who encouraged us to consider St. Louis was Martin Barrack, author of Second Exodus. Marty, who works with Archbishop Burke in the Marian Catechist Apostolate, had already introduced the AHC to the Archbishop more than a year ago. In addition, he sent a letter of recommendation in advance of our meeting.

We met with Archbishop Burke on May 19 and found him warm and welcoming. He has a wonderful grasp of our work which you will discover as you read his much-appreciated letter of support in this issue. Archbishop Burke welcomed us to relocate to his archdiocese and has asked some of his staff to see if there is available diocesan property that we might be able to use.

St. Louis is a very Catholic city, named after King Louis IX of France who was canonized in the 13th century. At one time, St. Louis was called the "little Rome of the West" because of the large numbers of religious orders and Catholic institutions there.

One priest, who also sent a letter of support in advance of our meeting, suggested that the Archbishop consider our development into a canonical Association of the Faithful. Such a development, recommended by Fr. Friedman for the advancement of our work, would give us ecclesial status along with the associated oversight by a bishop.

If diocesan property is not available, then we will have to see what we can find through other channels. In any case, whether it is to establish ourselves in diocesan property or in other property, it appears that we will have to raise some funds to make this all happen.

We anticipate sending out a letter as soon as we can reasonably estimate what will be needed to move and get established. One priest, in faith and in the hope of encouraging others, gave us permission to mention his contribution of \$9,000 this past May.

On Wings of Prayer ... to the present

Kathleen and I returned to Ypsilanti after our meeting with the Archbishop, elated and believing that God was now going to bring us to the soil where we would finally be planted. We now had to think of returning to St. Louis to look for property.



Before our visit to Archbishop Burke, we had met and visited with Dan and Laura Van Slyke at a friend's house. Dan had a brief teaching assignment with the College and now had to find a new assignment. After we returned from St. Louis, we went to the last Mass to be held at Ave Maria College. For the second time, we met the Van Slykes and discovered that Dan had accepted a position with Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis. We were thrilled and told them about our visit and hoped-for relocation there. They then recommended a wonderful Catholic realtor in St. Louis, the same realtor who had helped them find their home.

Finding the soil ...

We returned to St. Louis for the last two weeks of July, once again staying at the Carmelite Monastery guest house. This was a period of some major tornados in St. Louis, when the temperature ranged in the high 90's, and over 500,000 people were without electricity.

Joanna Nelson, the realtor the Van Slykes had recommended, and her husband Rich drove us around St. Louis over this two week period, as we learned about neighborhoods and looked at houses.

We had prayed that our new AHC center would be near a Church that would not soon be closed down, where the Blessed Sacrament was available for Adoration, where the parish was pro-life, the pastors were orthodox, and the homilies were edifying. And of course, the surround-





ing neighborhood should be conducive to our work. The center itself should have discreet areas for visitors, office space, living space for Kathleen and me, and room for group meals and studies.

During the second week, after encountering house/property prices as high as \$700,000, we went to a mortgage investment broker to discuss our lack of financial resources. The broker assured us that he could find a bank that would help us with our financing if we could first raise a significant down payment over \$100,000, to back up our commitment to repay the mortgage.

On Saturday, Joanna took us to look at the house of a friend of hers. After leaving the house, we noticed a house on the same street with a private *For Sale* sign. Joanna said she would investigate.

That evening, we met Joanna at a celebration held at the Van Slyke's house. She had arranged for us to see the house the following morning before we returned to Michigan.



Kathleen and I were totally intrigued by the look of the house from the outside. As we entered the house, it immediately appealed to us. In the entrance foyer, to the right, there was a fireplace. On the wooden mantel, there was inscribed the word *Salve*. We immediately felt that our Blessed Mother was welcoming us home.

We proceeded to explore the house and

property, knowing the whole time that our Lord had brought us home, home to the new AHC center.

... where we would be planted.

We agreed to meet with Joanna later in the afternoon to sign the contracts. *Sign the contracts?* Oy! Would the owners wait until we raised the money for a down payment? Would we find a bank to give us a mortgage? Would our monthly donations increase enough to pay a mortgage?

We had previously learned through a friend that there might be people who wanted to help us. So, before we drove to the Nelsons' place, we called our friend to find out what kind of help might be available. On the phone, our friend informed us that a benefactor, who wished to remain anonymous, wanted to give us a no-interest loan to purchase the property. That would mean a loan of \$540,000, with no down payment and no bank. *Baruch haShem!* The new AHC Center was real. I don't think our feet ever touched the ground from that point all the way back to Michigan.

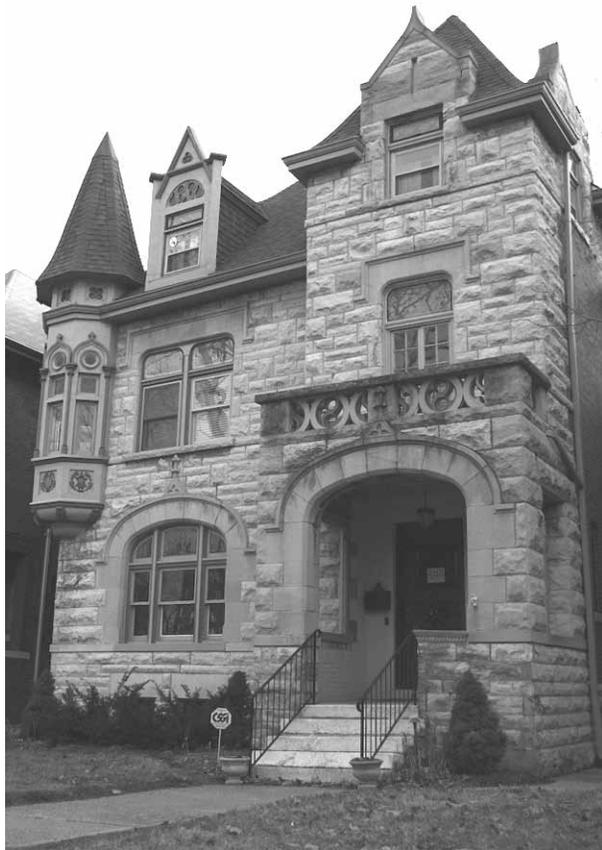
The closing was set for October 20 in St. Louis. About a week before the closing, we learned from the Title company that they needed a letter from an AHC officer, stating that I was an authorized representative of the AHC. But more significantly, we had to have a resolution from the Board of Directors authorizing the purchase of property.

The Board of Directors had originally consisted of four people. At this time, there were only two: myself and Andrew Sholl in Australia. In order to draw up the resolution needed by the Title company, the Board had to be restored to four members, one of which had to be a priest.

I first called Marty Barrack, a long time member of the AHC and author of *Second Exodus*. Marty told me he would speak to his "boss" and get back to me. I then called Fr. Ed Fride, pastor of our parish in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Father told me he would speak to his "boss" and get back to me. Marty called back and told me his wife said *yes*. Father called back and told me Jesus said *yes*.

Local lawyers drew up the resolution authorizing the purchase of the property and by phone, fax and email, everything was authorized, signed and delivered to the title





company in time for the closing. Baruch haShem!

The new AHC Center and Environs

After the closing, we returned to Michigan to pack up. We moved into our new quarters during the first week of November. Having lived in a 1,000 square foot house, we did not have much furniture to bring to St. Louis, certainly not enough for a place more than three times the size. Fortunately, the people from whom we purchased this house had furniture that had been purchased only about three years before, and we were able to purchase many pieces at a significant discount.

All of our prayers, in terms of the Center itself and in terms of the surrounding area, were answered.



The house has three floors, providing discreet areas for guests, private quarters for ourselves, office space, and gathering space for meetings, dinners, and study.

The surrounding area is also an answer to our prayers. We are able to walk to the Cathedral Basilica for daily Mass where orthodox priests and bishops give wonderful homilies. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in a special chapel for worship and visits, with Exposition once a week.

The Cathedral includes magnificent organ and choral music at the weekly 10 am Mass. It also hosts a number of Sacred Music concerts open to the public throughout the year, two of which we have been blessed to attend.

We are in walking distance of the Chancery, the post office, groceries, and a large variety of restaurants, stores, and services.

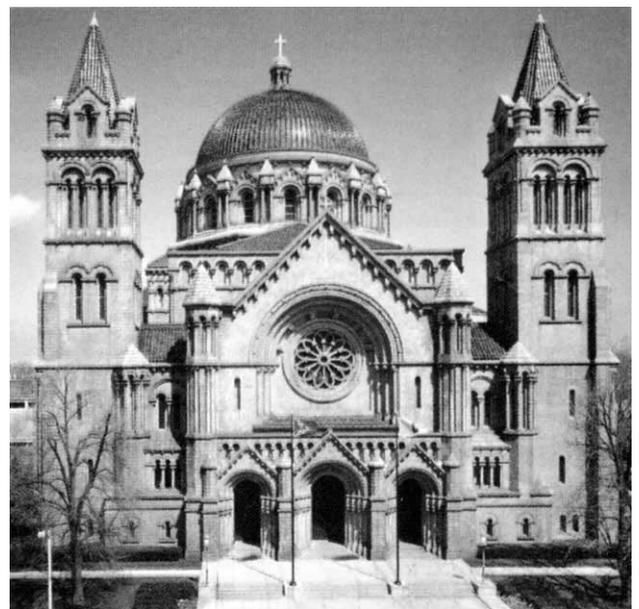
The Central West End neighborhood where our Center is located has its own organization overseeing the care and security of this neighborhood.

There are many other religious groups in this area. We are within walking distance of St. Louis University, and Washington University is about a ten minute drive.

Two bus lines have stops within a block or so walking distance. And within a five block walk, there is a metro train that takes you in one direction for a 20 minute ride to the airport, or in the other direction for a 10 minute ride to downtown St. Louis.

We are also within walking distance to one of the major research hospitals of the nation, Barnes-Jewish. And for jogging, walking, bike riding, and row boats, we can take a 20 minute walk (or drive a little more quickly) to Forest Park. Within or connected to the Park, there is a Performing Arts center with Broadway type shows, a major zoo, and museums for science, the arts, and history.

Finally, St. Louis is a very Catholic city with approxi-



mately 185 parishes in the Archdiocese, 16 of which offer Perpetual Adoration. We understand that Archbishop Burke welcomes all apostolates, ministries, orders, etc. as long as they are led by the Holy Spirit and are faithful to the Magisterium. Thus, within a few minutes drive, we can find many different religious orders, apostolates, and parishes of many different cultures and spiritualities. We have already visited a parish offering charismatic worship as well as the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales where the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest celebrates the Tridentine Mass.

Getting reestablished ...

After moving in, there was much that we needed to do to get established here. With regard to the house, there was the purchase of new beds, linens, some furniture, dinnerware, and many other items that were needed.

The house was originally built in 1895, and although it had been updated and refurbished a number of years ago, and its overall structure was in very good shape, there were a number of repairs that had to be undertaken.

Additionally, all of our accounts in Michigan, both for our personal lives as well as for the AHC, had to be closed and started anew here in Missouri.

It has taken quite awhile to get reestablished, and we are almost finished. We are most grateful to our Blessed Mother Miriam who has interceded for us in all these matters. We were able to obtain tax exemption for our property, saving approximately \$7,500 per year. We are now working to lower our insurance costs which also come to about \$7,500 per year.

... as the gathering begins.

One essential way that the new AHC Center will serve our work is as a place for members of the AHC, inquirers, and others to visit, pray, study and celebrate together.

Shortly after we arrived, Athol Bloomer came from Australia in December to stay with us for three months. It was a joyous visit with much discussion. Athol gave talks at the Carmelite Monastery in St. Louis and at a Carmelite hermitage in the midwest.

In January, Fr. Donald Arsenault from Moncton, New Brunswick arrived for a stay of three weeks. Father leads two havurot in Moncton, one for French-speaking Catholics, and the other for those who speak English.

We have had visits from Roy Schoeman, Ronda Chervin, my sister Rosalind, my son Matthew, and others.

Consecration and Enthronement

After a Sunday Mass in January, we were able to greet Archbishop Burke as we left the Cathedral. He asked us if our house had been blessed yet or had an image of the Sacred Heart Enthroned. When we answered *no*, the Archbishop offered to do the Enthronement. He suggested that we call the Office of Worship to obtain the necessary materials to prepare for the Enthronement.

Over the next few weeks, we read and prayed in preparation. Then, on February 14, the memorial of St. Valentine, Archbishop Burke arrived at our Center to consecrate the work of the AHC to the Sacred Heart and Enthroned an image of the Sacred Heart in our Center.

Attending the Consecration and Enthronement were Msgr. Henry Breier, Secretary to the Archbishop, Fr. Brian van Hove SJ, Deacon Ed Grotpeter and his wife Terry, Larry and Marsha Feingold, Athol Bloomer, David Mur-



ray, Kathleen and myself.

The entire ceremony was very moving, and we sensed the special presence of our Lord.

We were reminded that our founder, Elias Friedman OCD, passed into eternity in 1999, on Friday, the Feast of the Sacred Heart. We were told by another Carmelite friar that the Carmelites consider it a great blessing to leave this world on a Friday, and that it was a sign of God's approval of his life to leave the world on the Feast of the Sacred Heart.

We consider it a special grace that we now honor the Sacred Heart in our Center, the very Feast which commemorates Fr. Friedman's entrance into eternity. And we consider it a special grace and connection with this Archdiocese that a Shrine to the Sacred Heart is being established in the Cathedral Basilica. A mosaic image of the Sacred Heart, similar to the one enthroned in our center, will be Enthroned in the Cathedral on June 17.

The text of our *Covenant with God and Certificate of Consecration*, along with a picture of the image enthroned in our Center, is included elsewhere in this issue. A holy card containing this image is included in this issue. If you wish additional copies, please write us.

A Hebrew Catholic Passover Seder

Bill Windel from West Plains, Missouri, and Ariela LeGendre from Hardy, Arkansas, offered to come and cook for the first celebration of a Hebrew Catholic Passover Seder in our new Center.

Coming also from Hardy to help prepare and serve the Passover meal were Sr. Judith Ayers and Gail Demarest. Also from Hardy were Marty and Irene Barrack.



Ken and Flora Wilsker drove in from Noblesville, Indiana. Larry and Marsha Feingold, from Chesterfield, Missouri, within the Archdiocese of St. Louis, also joined us.

Rosalind, my sister, flew in from California for the Seder and flew out for a conference 2 days later.

Finally, our guests of honor at the Seder were Archbishop Raymond Burke and Deacon Noah Waldman.





Deacon Waldman, a Hebrew Catholic seminarian at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, had been ordained two days earlier to the Transitional Deaconate at the Cathedral. He will be ordained a priest of God early next year. *Baruch haShem!*



I put together a first draft of an AHC Haggadah for this Seder. My thought was to reflect what a Hebrew Catholic Hagaddah might look like when Hebrew Catholics once again function as a People within the Church. Because my time was limited, and because their work was good, I drew much material from the Haggadah written by Marty Barrack, Roy Schoeman, Bill Windel and others, with gratitude to each.

Everyone took a copy home with our request to send back their critiques and suggestions. When all updates are made, we will publish the Haggadah for use by others.

With Bill, we concluded the Seder with the traditional wish that we may celebrate the Passover

***Lashanah haba'ah b'Yerushalayim!
Next Year In Jerusalem!***

Wings of Prayer ... into the "mystery of Israel"

Looking back to 1999, when our Lord asked us to pack our bags and travel to a far country, we can only be filled with gratitude for all that we have experienced.

We are most grateful for our years in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The parish community of Christ the King Church wonderfully supported and nourished us in our five years there as we prayed to discern where God intended the AHC to set up its headquarters.

We are now planted! Lord, help us to grow!

And now, the AHC has a real address, a place where people may gather and our work may proceed.

Ahead of us, we see the continuation of what we have already been doing, including:

- *publication of The Hebrew Catholic;*
- *further development of the resources on our website, made freely available to people all over the world;*
- *further development of our online discussion group enabling people from around the world to meet, be edified, be supported;*
- *continuation of talks, interviews and conferences;*
- *continued support for inquirers and other pastoral needs;*
- *continued promotion of AHC havurot;*
- *continued service of our web store; etc.*

We look forward to:

- *the development of a havurah here at our Center;*
- *our hosting of studies and seminars;*
- *gatherings for holy days and other occasions;*
- *developing the resources to teach the Jewish roots of our faith;*
- *developing the literature to preserve our heritage*



within the Church and to enhance our collective witness;

- *continuing to explore and develop ways to spread our message and gather the People Israel in the Church, so that they may live out their heritage and exercise their collective calling.*

There are, of course, many other items that we must also attend to, the practical nuts and bolts that enable any apostolate to function, such as: maintenance of property, pastoral matters, accounting, government reporting requirements, etc.

We look forward to the people that our Lord will send to continue this work and its development.

You are invited - Your help is needed.

You are invited to help with your prayers. We see the fruit of our prayers in all that our Lord has brought to pass. Our work moves on *wings of prayer*.

You are invited to help with the stories of your spiritual journey, articles on the themes of our work, your art and your music, all of which will contribute to illustrating the rich heritage of the People Israel within the Church.

You are invited to help establish or participate in a havurah, a local prayer and study group in your area. Here the Jewish background to our faith can be studied and celebrated, and the group can pray for each other, for our work, for the Church, and for the People Israel.

And, of course, you are invited to help financially. In addition to our loan of \$540,000, we have an annual budget of approximately \$25,000 per year. (Due to our relocation, we will be undertaking a major review of our financial requirements; we will have a more precise annual budget by the end of the year). Our current budget is low because we have, so far, not had to pay any salaries.

We have included a form with this issue which we ask you to fill out and return. The questions are intended to: (1) get our records up to date and (2) ascertain what we must do to repay the loan and move on with our work.

We are grateful for your prayers and for the support you have already provided. Our Lord has brought us to a wonderful place where this unique and profound work of His can flourish. In accord with His will, may our efforts and yours enable this work to flourish and to hasten the day when *all Israel* shall proclaim,

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

I am grateful for you and wish you every blessing

In Yeshua, Miriam and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross,

David

From our Shepherds

From Msgr. William A. Carew

Ed. Extracted from a letter to Fr. Friedman, dated June 25, 1979. Msgr. Carew was then Apostolical Delegate of Jerusalem.

I personally, believe that we should enable them (the Jews) to accept Christ and his Church without assimilation.

From the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Southern Africa

Fr. Friedman wrote of supporting recommendations twice sent by the Bishop's Conference of Southern Africa to the Holy See for the establishment of an Israelite community within the Church.

From the Holy See

Ed. The certificate containing this blessing first appeared in The Hebrew Catholic, #70.

His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing to the members of the Association of Hebrew Catholics on the occasion of the Canonization of its co-Patroness - Saint Edith Stein - October 11, 1998 as a pledge of heavenly favors.

From Bishop Carl F. Mengeling

Ed. Extracted from a letter to David Moss, dated March 19, 2002; included in The Hebrew Catholic, #76.

The organization and David Moss are faithful to the magisterium and work with the intent of communion with the See of Peter. Mr. Moss and the Association have my approbation and blessing.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Signed by Carl F. Mengeling, Bishop of Lansing, Michigan

From Archbishop Raymond L. Burke

Ed. Extracted from a letter to David Moss, dated May 19, 2006; included in The Hebrew Catholic, #83.

First of all, permit me to express my esteem for the apostolate of the Association of Hebrew Catholics. The mission of your association responds, in a most fitting way, to the desire of the Church to respect fully the distinct vocation and heritage of Israelites in the Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Church knows and treasures the particular and privileged part in the economy of salvation, assigned by God the Father to the People Israel. ...

Invoking God's blessing upon Kathleen and you, and upon your most worthy apostolate, I am

Yours devotedly in Christ,

Signed by (Most Rev.) Raymond L. Burke, Archbishop of St. Louis

Covenant with God and Certificate of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Eternal Father, we, the members of

THE ASSOCIATION OF HEBREW CATHOLICS

unite ourselves with the altar of sacrifice in the Mass, and accept the loving
Kingship of Jesus Christ, Your Son, over our family.

Freely we make this covenant of love with You, Father, and dedicate to the Heart
of Jesus all that we are, all that we have, without any reservation on our part. We
offer this covenant in reparation for those who sin against Your authority, and
for the extension of the reign of the Sacred Heart over society.

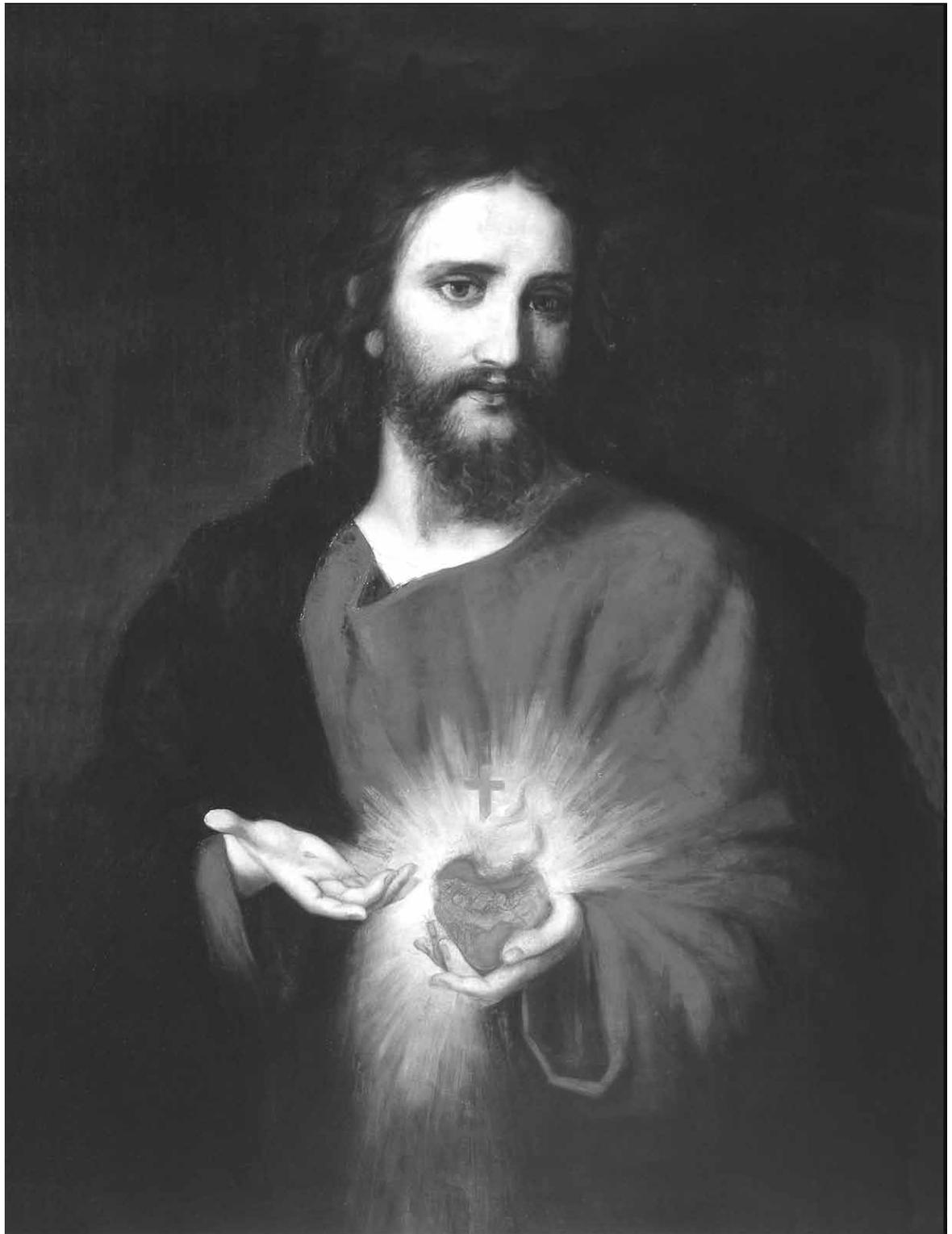
Almighty Father, send Your Holy Spirit to sanctify our lives; share with us our
joys and comforts, our trials and labors; teach us truly to love one another in our
home, in our neighborhood and in our world. Sustain us with holy hope in times
of human weakness; refresh us with the life-giving water from the wounded
Heart of Your divine Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, the King and center of our lives.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, be our intimate Friend forever; live this life of love with us,
inspiring us by the example of Your gentle and humble Heart.

Image of the Most Sacred Heart Enthroned: February 14, 2007

All sign here:

*+ Raymond Leo Burke
Archbishop of Saint Louis*



On Jews Within the Church

Compiled by David Moss

From a transcript of my talk given in New York, March 2005, and included in *The Hebrew Catholic*, #82,

As part of the preparation for the grafting, Fr. Friedman believed strongly that the Jews who had entered the Church needed to preserve their identity and their heritage and to once again exercise their collective and irrevocable calling, especially with regard to their collective witness to Jesus and His Church. This thinking has seemed to so fittingly and providentially accompany the Church's call for a new evangelization, a re-evangelization, the dialogue with the Jewish people, and the Church's exploration of the "mystery of Israel." Here are some thoughts of leading Churchmen in accord with the thinking of Fr. Friedman.

From *The Church of God* by Fr. Louis Bouyer; included in *The Hebrew Catholic*, #78.

Judeo-Christianity cannot be considered a transitory phase of abolished Christianity, forever surpassed by pagano-Christianity, which would have triumphed over it. The Christian synthesis must always be renewed by renewing its contact with the primary and, in a sense, definitive expression of the Gospel, in the categories and forms of Judaism.

Judeo-Christianity, as Paul and Peter recognized and proclaimed, remains forever the mother form of Christianity, to which all other forms must always have recourse. It is therefore a weakness for the Church that Judeo-Christianity, from which it was born and from which it cannot free itself, no longer subsists in her except in tracings. It can be believed that she will not reach the ultimate stage of her development except by rediscovering it — fully living in her.

From *The Mystery of Christmas* by Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa; included in *The Hebrew Catholic*, #72.

If Christ is "the glory of his people, Israel", we Christians must do all we can, first of all to acknowledge this ourselves and then to remove the obstacles that prevent Israel from acknowledging it.

...

... the Church is responsible for Israel! It is responsible in a unique way, differently from how it is to all other people. The Church alone guards in her heart and keeps alive God's project for Israel.

...

What is required is that the Israel according to the flesh enter into and become part of the Israel according to the Spirit, without for this having to cease being Israel also according to the flesh which is its only prerogative

... because only in Christ is the destiny of the Hebrew people fulfilled and its greatness discovered.

...

... it is certain that the rejoining of Israel with the Church will involve a rearrangement in the Church; it will mean a conversion on both sides.

From Chapter 14 in *Epiphany: A Theological Introduction to Catholicism* by Fr. Aidan Nichols OP; included in *The Hebrew Catholic*, #78.

Judaism's distinctive continuing light can add to the Church an orthopractic concern with the mitzvot, the divine precepts, whose actualization is a sign that makes present the Creator's reign and a celebration of a total liturgy, referring the creation to the Creator and so consecrating it to God through human agency.

*Since Judaism is not in the fullest sense a different religion from Christianity, there can be and are such a thing as Hebrew Catholics, Jews who have entered the Church but with every intention of maintaining their Jewish heritage intact. They insist with Paul that "God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew," for "the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable" (Rom 11:29). A Catholic Christian, contemplating the mystery of Israel, can be, accordingly, only a qualified supersessionist. Inasmuch as Israel's Messiah has come, and fashioned his new community, the call of Israel is indeed superseded. Yet the vocation of Israel, to witness that the One who has come is truly her long-expected Savior and that the salvation he wrought is the genuine fulfillment of the promises of the Hebrew Bible, remains intact. For the Paul of Romans, the prospect of this perduring election of Israel reaching full term is a cause of eschatological joy: "If their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!" (11:12). **Hebrew Catholics, meanwhile, have a special place within the Church; their association enables them to experience a common identity as the prototype of the Israel of the end, and not merely a random collection of assimilated Jews.***

From an article on *The Jewish People and their Sacred Scriptures in the Christian Bible* by Roch Kerestzy, O Cist. in the Winter 2002 issue of *Communio*; included in *The Hebrew Catholic*, #80.

*Reflecting upon Israel's resistance, we should ask ourselves if God does not allow it because we have ignored the significance of historic Israel, the noble olive tree into which we Gentile-Christians have been grafted and in whose rich sap we share (Rom 11:17-18). What should we say to the Jews who think that any baptized Jew is a loss for the people of Israel? The cross of Jesus Christ has removed the separating wall between Jews and Gentiles and united us into one body, into his own Body. Should Israel turn to Christ, it seems that its great challenge would be to die to its own separate status and to embrace all humankind in the Church. However, analogously to the individual Christian whose dying with Christ results in a new risen life with Him, **an Israel that would die to its own refusal of Christ would be exalted to a new life in Christ. It would not lose its identity but rather discover its own transcendent perfection and dignity.** It would look upon its privilege of being the firstborn son of God as a service for all the nations. Its great joy and pride would spring from the fact that 'the fullness of the world is elevated to the dignity of Israel.'* **Then it would discover in the face of Jesus its own deepest mystery, the face of the eternal Israel of God.***

*. "ut in Israeliticam dignitatem totius mundi transeat plenitudo"
(Prayer of the Easter Vigil in the Roman Rite).

From *Christ's Fulfillment of Torah and Temple* by Matthew Levering.

In recognizing that Israel prefigures Christ, one does not therefore dismiss Israel as a reality in itself. Rather, as Aquinas explains, each aspect of Israel's history takes on importance in a way that no other ancient people's history does. (p. 27)

From *Behold the Pierced One* by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger.

In the time of Jesus, too, Passover was celebrated in the homes and in families, following the slaughter of the lambs in the Temple. ... Israel had to make a pilgrimage, as it were, to the city every year at Passover in order to return to its origins, to be recreated and to experience once again its rescue, liberation and foundation. A very deep insight lies behind this. In the course of a year, a people is always in danger of disintegrating, not only through external causes, but also interiorly, and of losing hold of the inner motivation which sustains it. It needs to return to its fundamental origin. Passover was intended to be this annual event in which Israel returned from the threatening chaos (which lurks in

every people) to its sustaining origin; it was meant to be the renewed defense and recreation of Israel on the basis of its origin. And since Israel knew that the star of its election stood in the heavens, it also knew that its fortunes, for good or ill, had consequences for the whole world; it knew that the destiny of the earth and of creation was involved in its response, whether it failed or passed the test.

Jesus too celebrated Passover according to these prescriptions, at home with his family; that is to say, with the Apostles, who had become his new family. ... thus the Church is the new family, the new city, and for us she signifies all that Jerusalem was - that living home which banishes the powers of chaos and makes an area of peace, which upholds both creation and us. ... There are many reasons, I believe, why we should take a new look at these factors at this time and allow ourselves to respond to them. For today, we are quite tangibly experiencing the power of chaos. ... We realize that neither money nor technology nor organizational ability alone can banish chaos. Only the real protective wall given to us by the Lord, the new family he has created for us, can do this. From this standpoint, it seems to me, this Passover celebration which has come down to us from the nomads, via Israel and through Christ, also has (in the deepest sense) an eminently political significance. We as a nation, we in Europe, need to go back to our spiritual roots, lest we become lost in self-destruction.

***This feast needs to become a family celebration once again,** for it is the family that is the real bastion of creation and humanity. Passover is a summons, urgently reminding us that the family is the living home in which humanity is nurtured, which banishes chaos and futility, and which must be protected as such. But we must add that the family can only be this sphere of humanity, this bastion of creation, if it is **under the banner of the Lamb**, if it is protected by the power of faith which comes from the love of Jesus Christ.* (pgs. 104-106)

From *Lovely Like Jerusalem* by Aidan Nichols OP

*It does not suffice us as Catholic Christians, thinks Von Balthasar, to have the text of the Old Testament. Equipped merely with the text, we might content ourselves with being philologists, antiquarians, or historical-literary critics. What **the Church needs** is more than texts. What she needs is **the heart of Israel.** The Church "does not want its praise of God to derive simply and solely from the written word, but from the mind and heart of the Jews at prayer, from those who first formed the words, so that it can embrace them in its living tradition."* (pgs. 273-274)*

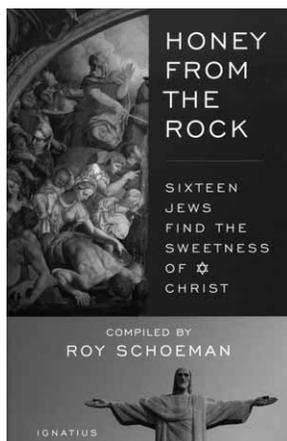
* Von Balthasar, *Martin Buber and Christianity*, p. 78

From our book shelves

In this column, we bring to your attention items that have recently been published or that have recently come to our attention. Most likely, we have not reviewed the items presented. We quickly examine each item to assess whether it is related to the themes of our work.

As always, your comments are welcome. We are always looking for people to review books that are related to our work. If you are willing to write a review, please let us know.

All items are available from us, by mail or through our web store (<http://www.hebrewcatholic.org/ahcstore.html>).

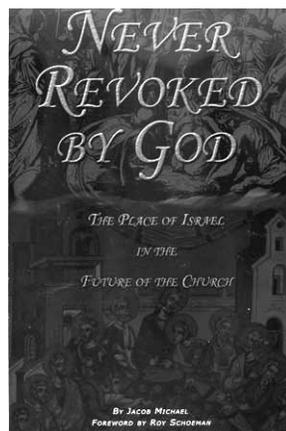


Honey From the Rock Sixteen Jews Find the Sweetness of Christ

Compiled by Roy Schoeman
Ignatius Press, Soft cover
289 pages, \$16.95

The stories of sixteen Jews from a variety of backgrounds, including: secular, atheistic, Orthodox and Hasidic. "Their common link ... was that they all had a profound longing for God which gave them no peace until they found God Himself in the Catholic Church." [From the cover]

The sixteen Jews whose stories are told include: Alphonse Ratisbonne, Hermann Cohen, David Goldstein, Rabbi Israel Zolli, Charlie Rich, Fr. Arthur B. Klyber CSSR, Sonia Katzmann (Sr. Mary Samuele), Ronda Chervin Ph.D., David Moss, Rosalind Moss, Judith Cabaud, Marilyn Prever, Fr. Peter Sabbath, Steven Block, Bob Fishman BSCD, and Roy Schoeman.

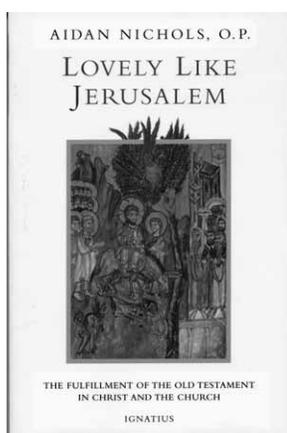


Never Revoked By God The Place of Israel in the Future of the Church

Jacob Michael
Foreword by Roy Schoeman
Soft cover, 268 pages, \$16.50

"The Jews have survived for 2,000 years with neither land nor temple - is there an explanation for this phenomenon? Is God finished with the Jews in the plan of Salvation History? Was their role strictly temporary? Has the Old Covenant been abrogated and revoked? This book walks you through Old Testa-

ment salvation history and attempts to explain the relationship between the Old and New Covenants, highlighting the special role of Israel as God's "first-born son," a priestly nation meant to bring salvation to the Gentiles. Looks at how Israel failed to fulfill this role, and what this means for the future. Includes quotes from Catholic saints rarely (if ever) seen in English." [From web, description by author.]



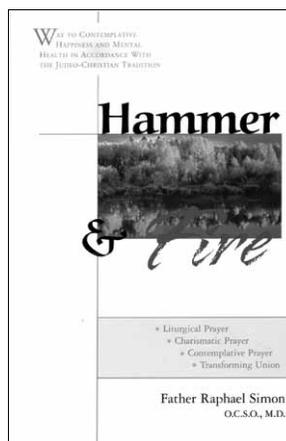
Lovely Like Jerusalem The Fulfillment of the Old Testament in Christ and the Church

Aidan Nichols, OP
Ignatius Press, Soft cover
279 pages, \$16.95

"In this marvelous work of biblical theology and patristic *ressourcement*, Aidan Nichols illumines the pattern of God's promises in salvation history in a manner that will be accessible and informative to students, pastors, and scholars. Other than Pope

Benedict XVI, no theologian writing today has mastered so well the approach to Scripture set forth by such giants as Jean Danielou, Louis Bouyer, and Henri de Lubac. This book should be read by everyone who seeks an understanding of Scripture and of the early Christian Fathers."

Matthew Levering, Associate Professor of Theology,
Ave Maria University
[From the cover]



Hammer & Fire Way to Contemplative Happiness and Mental Health in Accordance with the Judeo-Christian Tradition

Fr. Raphael Simon
Zaccheus Press, Soft cover
323 pages, \$15.95

"There is a way to happiness that is meant for all, but the path is known by few. It is a tradition that has existed in Judeo-Christianity from the beginning, founded on the Scriptures, and nurtured by the Church. It is the way of prayer and

contemplation, and its goal is to become fully human and alive, integrated and mature, through a transforming union with Jesus Christ through which we become truly ourselves. This book is about that transforming union - God's plan for our happiness." [From the cover]

Shipping charges: \$3.50 for first book, \$1.00 each additional book via media mail in U.S. Please write for other options or use our web store.