

RMLetter

Your news about the Library

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016

We have E-books!

RML has been taking baby steps into the twenty-first century – and its latest step was to acquire a collection of e-books that can be checked out by students and faculty.

The collection is small, containing 45 Biblical commentaries from various series. We have many of these volumes in print format – you may recognize such titles as the Old and New Testament Library, Interpretation and Ancient Christian Writers – but some of them only exist in our catalog in their digital version.

Reading them is a cinch. Using your My Library Account, current seminarians and faculty members can access the e-book collection at any time,

rain or shine, and read it like a PDF on computers or iPads. Since RML only owns one “copy” of the digital book, each e-book can only be accessed by one person at a time; however, RML may opt to purchase more copies, should the e-books prove popular.

Unfortunately, many Catholic publishers that we get many of our books from have yet to jump whole-heartedly on the e-book train. Because of this, it may take some time for the



Check out our E-Book Collection!

(for current students and faculty only)

The E-Book Collections at RML currently consist of Bible commentaries from various series, able to be accessed day and night by current students and faculty.

Seminary to have a grand collection of digital books. That being said, RML is hoping that it will be able to take more baby steps towards the future of academia sooner rather than later.

Note from the Director's Desk

In 2015, after an extended period of weeding, RML was left with some empty shelves in its Reference collection area. A few weeks ago, these shelves were removed, and the empty space was filled with a set of six new computer stations to supplement the six public-access computers already available near the Circulation desk.

A doomsday prophet might read this anecdote as an alle-

gory on how reading is being supplanted by watching, the page turned aside by the tyranny of the screen. But in truth, much of what we access on our computers has a verbal component. These days, students are as likely to read an assigned chapter or article in PDF or HTML format as they are to read it between the boards of a book. And more books are being published in digital versions now than ever

before—although, as you'll see, this valuable and very convenient format has opened up questions of access and availability that libraries never had to contend with in the world of paper.

In this issue you will find several articles devoted to RML's efforts to introduce electronic books to our collection—both what we have so far, and what is coming down the road.

Spring 2016 Hours

Monday: 8:30a-10:00p

Tuesday: 8:30a-10:00p

Wednesday: 8:30a-10:00p

Thursday: 8:30a-10:00p

Friday: 8:30a-4:30p

Saturday: 9:30a-4:30p

Sunday: 1:00p-10:00p

Important Links:

[Library Homepage](#)

[Online Catalog](#)

[LibGuides](#)

[Course Reserves](#)

Calendar of Events:

Rector's Weekend	Feb. 12 -15
One-Shot Workshop	Feb. 17, 3-4pm
RML Contest Begins	Starts Feb. 19
Mid-Terms (Seminarians)	Feb. 22 -Mar. 4
Mid-Terms (STS)	Feb. 29 -Mar. 2

Did You Know? St. Valentine's Day edition

(compiled by Chelsea Post)

While the Valentine's Day we know is over-commercialized, the origin of the holiday reveals its true spirit. After doing a bit of research, I've created a list of facts about Valentine's Day and the various traditions we are familiar with. Enjoy!

- There is no definite answer on the identity of the "real" Saint Valentine. Two, sometimes three, men have been listed as the appropriate saint, all of whom were martyred or imprisoned by Emperor Claudius II.
- What they have in common, however, is the theme of love in their legends. In one story, Valentine healed the sight of his jailer's daughter, and on the morning of his death, he apparently wrote her a farewell message signed "from your Valentine." Another legend has him marrying couples after Claudius II banned the act of marriage.
- The feast date on February 14 stems not only from the day St. Valentine was supposedly martyred, but also by the belief that birds chose their mates around that date—so observed by Geoffrey Chaucer.
- The act of giving flowers was supposedly started by a daughter of King Henry IV of France, after she threw a party in the saint's honor and gave every lady who attended a bouquet.

Sources:

- Bunson, Matthew, et. al. *Our Sunday Visitor's Encyclopedia of Saints*. Huntington, ID: Our Sunday Visitor, 2003.
- Guiley, Rosemary Ellen. *The Encyclopedia of Saints*. New York: Facts on File, 2001.

How to Access the RML E-Book Collection

1. First, **make sure you have a My Library Account!** If you do not have a library card, then you don't have an account. Ask a librarian for a card, and they will gladly give you one after you fill out a form.
2. To access the My Library Account, **click the My Library Account link on the top right side of the RML catalog.** Type your **library barcode** as the username— hint: all usernames start with "272270100"— then put in your unique password.
3. Important Note: The RML staff does **not** know your password; you will need to set up an account from scratch if you do not remember it by using your library card.
4. If you have never set up the account before, no problem! **Click the "Set/reset password" link under the username/password boxes to send yourself an email with the set-up link.** After that, simply create a password and you've made your account!
5. The E-Book Collection is in the EBSCO database. **Go to the "Journal Databases" page on the RML website, click "EBSCOhost," then log into your My Library Account.** Scroll down to the bottom of the EBSCO database page. The E-Book Collection is the last link.
6. **Now pick a book, and enjoy!**



RML One-Shot Workshop

Notetaking & Reading



When? Feb. 17
Where? Library Classroom
Time? 3-4pm

Bring a pen, pencil & notebook!

E-books: Reading the Future of Libraries Today

Written by James Humble:

Whenever I introduce myself as a librarian to someone new, I have learned to expect, at some point in the conversation, a variant of the following: “Isn’t everything available online nowadays?”

Given the ubiquity of the Internet in every corner of our lives, this is perhaps a sensible question; but there is a difference between everything being *available* online and being *accessible* online. As it is, there is more printed material in digital format now than at any time in the past, thanks to the efforts of Google Scholar and to the adaptability of major publishing houses.

But only a fraction of these are freely available through the porous filaments of the World Wide Web. Once we’re dealing with copyrighted publications—that is, nearly everything published after 1923, which of course encompasses most of the books students need to use for research—we run into issues of access, such as purchasing, subscription, licensing, ownership and concurrent usage. And it’s these very issues that have so far kept RML, like other small academic libraries, at the starting-line of the e-book race.

There is no doubt that e-books have been welcomed by many readers, particularly those who need to access materials at odd hours or for whom another book in the backpack is a burden. And libraries, which have always seen it as their duty to store and provide printed information to their patrons, are willing to acquire and incorporate e-books into their collections just as they have printed

matter. But the history of library-publisher relations over e-books has been marked by struggle to come to terms agreeable to both sides.

First and foremost is the matter of ownership. When a library purchases a printed book for its collection, it has, based on what is known in the legal

world as the “first sale doctrine,” the ability to hold on to that book for as long as it likes; to lend that book to as many patrons as it likes; to loan it to other libraries in fulfillment of consortia lending agreements; to withdraw it from the

collection when it chooses; and even to re-sell the book to a third-party. It has, in other words, ownership of that copy of the book.

However, e-books do not pass into the hands, so to speak, of the purchaser; as the American Library Association puts it, “Print books are purchased as physical copies that the library owns. Rights holders typically license—rather than sell—access to digital resources.”

Thus, publishers could restrict the number of times, say, a book was checked out before it “disappeared” from a library’s system, necessitating the purchase of a new copy. Or they were not allowed to loan the e-book to other libraries, a common practice with physical books.

Libraries have had to negotiate with publishers for agreements that best allowed them to perform the same services for their patrons they have always provided. To a large extent, these stumbling-blocks have been smoothed out. However, the e-books

**THE HISTORY OF LIBRARY
-PUBLISHER RELATIONS
OVER E-BOOKS HAS BEEN
MARKED BY STRUGGLE TO
COME TO TERMS
AGREEABLE TO BOTH
SIDES.**



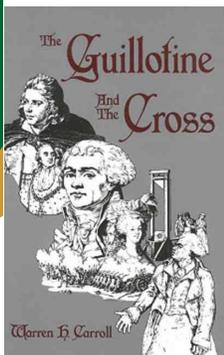
**Do e-books have a place in RML?
Maybe someday sooner than you
think...**

themselves, while easily purchased by individuals, are still not readily available for purchase on a one-by-one basis by libraries, who often have to buy them in packages or aggregates. This usually entails buying a large number of titles to get access to only the fraction of the whole that will actually be of use to our patrons.

Where does all this leave RML? Like many small specialized libraries, we did not find it cost-effective to subscribe to one of the aggregate vendors, since most of what they offered served students in fields other than our specialties. The more prudent path was to wait until more Catholic materials were available, and preferably in a situation in which RML had more latitude to choose which individual titles to buy.

That time may be upon us now. In the next issue we will update you on a new consortia venture we intend to enter into, which should grow our holdings of philosophy and theology e-books exponentially.

Staff Picks for February 2016



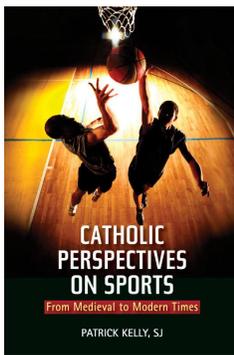
“The French Revolution made its mark in history with a rebellion of the common people against their rulers in the bloodiest fashion imaginable. And like many other big events in the course of history, it also became the victim of myths, fallacies and embellishments by those who claimed to know the true reasons of its genesis.

The Guillotine and the Cross (DC 158.2 .C37 1991) by Catholic historian Warren H. Carroll aims to correct the distortions of many of the events in the aforementioned rebellion and to bring forth details previously unknown to the general public for a long time.

Did Marie Antoinette tell the starving people, ‘Let them eat cake?’ Read and discover it for yourselves.” -JDJ

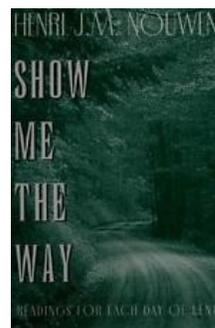
“Another year, another Super Bowl—and with this one as its fiftieth anniversary, it seems appropriate to choose a sport-centric book from our collection to recommend for this month. Imagine my surprise when I find a number of academic books on sports, including a philosophy book!

However, the book I have chosen is *Catholic Perspectives on Sports: From Medieval to Modern Times* (GV706.42 .K45 2012), in which author Patrick Kelly traces the history of sports from Middle Ages Europe to today’s America. His goal is to show how Catholics have engaged in the act of ‘play,’ and he concludes the book by connecting physical activities with the spiritual aspects of our lives: a very intriguing proposition, indeed.” -CP



Collection Corner

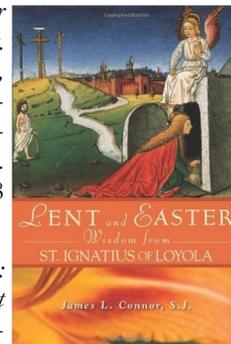
As the season of Lent begins, it becomes more important than ever to stay connected to God through prayer: not only to resist temptation, but to grow closer to him in this holy time before Easter. The RML has a number of materials regarding the celebration of Lent that could be useful in your reflection; consult the small list below for ideas on where to start browsing.



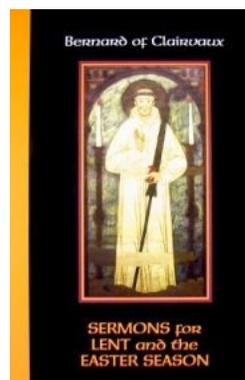
1. *Show Me the Way: Readings for Each Day of Lent*, by Henri Nouwen, Crossroad Publishing, 1992. BX2170.L4 N6813 1992

2. *A Lent Sourcebook: The Forty Years*, edited by J. Robert Baker, Liturgy Training Publications, 1990. BX2170.L4 L39 1990

3. *Lent and Easter Wisdom from St. Ignatius of Loyola*, by James L. Connor, Liguori Publications, 2009. BX2170.L4 I38 2009



4. *Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter*, various authors, Plough Publishing House, 2003. BV85 .B663 2003



5. *Lent and Easter Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton*, edited by Thom Satterlee, Liguori Publications, 2007. BV85 .C473 2007.

6. *Sermons for Lent and the Easter Season*, by Bernard of Clairvaux, Liturgical Press, 2013. BV4277 .B47 2013

Stay tuned!

The next RML Contest begins on Friday, February 19th!

Juan De Jesus ©2016

