

RMLetter

Your news about the Library

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016

The Forgotten Collection: Pamphlets "B4" and After

Tucked away in the corner of the library—almost forgotten—is the Pamphlet Collection, a section of our catalog that is often met with confusion. If you have ever done a search, and received a result like "A113" or "Z2," it is not a strange code; merely, the book you're looking for is not a book at all, but a pamphlet, and is located in one of the gray boxes by Reference.

RML defines our Pamphlet Collection by its size: if the item is too small or thin to be spotted easily in the Main Stacks, it is given a unique number in a sequence based on its subject matter and put into the appropriate box. Earlier this year, none of the pamphlets could leave the library—but now, we have

Pamphlet Subjects by Box	
A – Spiritual Guides to Christian Living	Issues
B – Doctrines and Beliefs of the Catholic Church	N – Lent, Holy Week, Easter Season
C – Ecumenical Topics	O – USCCB Pamphlets
D – Practical and Pastoral Concerns	P – Liturgy
E – General Prayer Books and Prayer Guides	Q – Blessed Mother
F – Encyclicals and other Documents <i>by</i> Popes	R – Male Saints, Blesseds, Venerables
G – Publications <i>about</i> Popes	S – Female Saints, Blesseds, Venerables
H – Church History, General World History, American History	T – Priesthood, Diaconate, Religious Orders
I – Armed Forces	U – Moral Issues
J – Art, Music, Poetry	V – Sacraments
K – Family Life, Youth Issues, Sex Instruction	W – Scripture
L – Special Devotions	X – Archdiocese of Philadelphia
M – Mental and Physical Health	Y – Other U.S. Dioceses, Noteworthy International Locales
	Z – Miscellaneous

given each pamphlet a barcode and the permissions to circulate, making the only difference between them and the Main Stacks their size and location.

Think of this collection as bite-sized knowledge: there are a number of interesting pamphlets in these boxes, on all different subjects. We at RML encourage you to crack open a box and see what you find.

Note from the Director's Desk

Somewhere on the continuum of printed matter, between the paperbound ephemerality of the magazine and the hard-bound solidity of the book, lies the irrepressible effervescence of the pamphlet—the preferred medium, for centuries, of itinerant preachers, espousers of unpopular causes, peddlers of potted thought and controversialists on both sides of any contentious issue. Even with the rise of mass

media in the twentieth century, many groups still found the pamphlet an effective means to instruct, implore and inflame.

You'll find those agendas and more on display in RML's extensive collection of twentieth-century pamphlets, the majority of which were put out by Catholic publishers to provide their readers with a specifically Catholic viewpoint

on subjects ranging from child-rearing to Church history, environmental conservation to saintly living. I urge you to check out this month's featured article on the Pamphlet Collection, and to check out the collection itself. Taken as a whole, it forms a fascinating picture of the Church's response to the socio-historical developments of the last hundred years.

Spring 2016 Hours

Monday-Thursday:
8:30a-10:00p

Friday: 8:30a-4:30p
Saturday: 9:30a-4:30p
Sunday: 1:00p-10:00p

**Easter Break
Hours (Mar. 18-
Apr. 2)**

Monday-Friday:
8:30a-4:30p

Saturday-Sunday:
CLOSED

**RML will Close on
Mar. 24-25 for
Easter**

Important Links:

[Library Homepage](#)

[Online Catalog](#)

[LibGuides](#)

[Course Reserves](#)

Calendar of Events:

Lenten Concert & Art Show	Mar. 6
Comic Caption Contest	Ends Mar. 11
Turabian Redux Workshop	Mar. 15 (repeat on Mar. 16)
Easter Break	Mar. 18 -Apr. 3

Why RML only has one e-book collection (written by James Humble)

In the last issue, I went over some of the reasons why RML has only just started to enter the realm of e-books. Many of them come down to the fact that our access options were to some degree unsatisfactory, largely because of the restricted nature of our subject interests. I'll use two of these options to illustrate the limitations of the more common distribution models.

In one model, an aggregate vendor makes a group of titles accessible through a database. We would pay to have all of these titles made available for patron check-out in much the same way we subscribe to a journal database to be given access to all the articles it indexes. For RML, the aggregators' efforts to supply titles across the spectrum of collegiate subjects meant that we would end up paying for a lot of e-books that had little or no chance of ever being circulated, such as those in the hard sciences and engineering. In addition, in the field of most interest to us, religion, Catholic theology was often woefully un-

derrepresented. So most of the options we saw according to this model simply didn't work in a cost-benefit sense.

An alternative model, which some libraries have used with success, is PDA. No, that's not "public displays of affection"—librarians are not as chummy with e-book vendors as all that. PDA stands for "patron-driven acquisition," which is an attractive premise for every library user who has lamented the lack of a certain title on the shelves at their moment of greatest need. In this model, the library's catalog would allow the user to search through bibliographic citations the vendor provides. The library would not, however, have the e-books themselves in the catalog. Instead, the user, by selecting a title, would "borrow" the book—a transaction for which the library would be charged a fraction of the book's cover price. Only after three or five rentals like this would the book automatically be "bought" by the library. In PDA, user interest becomes

a driver of library purchases.

There are a number of benefits to this model, not the least of which is the fact that libraries will no longer have to buy books based on a projection of future use. Some might question the idea that the library would leave potentially useful items off its digital shelves until a student or faculty member seeks it out, but in reality PDA reflects a new philosophy of collection management unthinkable in a pre-digital age: the substitution of "just in time" for "just in case."

This sounds ideal, but here we run into the same problem that we had with the aggregate vendor: the fact that not enough Catholic resources were available in e-book format to libraries. However, this imbalance is constantly being rectified by Catholic publishers. In future issues I will outline RML's plan to make these relevant e-books fully accessible to our students.

Did You Know? St. Patrick's Day edition

It may be a little early to break out the green, but St. Patrick's day is close at hand. But who *was* St. Patrick? Did he really drive the snakes out of Ireland? Why do we wear green on his holiday? Only one way to find out—by doing some research in RML!

- Patrick (or "Patricius") was a Roman nobleman living in Britain before he was kidnapped and sold into slavery in Ireland. For six years, he tended sheep for his master, learning to lean on God through prayer and fasting during this time. Then, prodded by a vision, he fled his captor and got on a boat back to Britain—only to *return* to Ireland to preach to those who had enslaved him!
- Unfortunately, the myth of St. Patrick driving the snakes from Ireland is

utterly false, along with the story of him explaining the Trinity with a shamrock. Still, they *do* add color to this mysterious saint...

- Speaking of colors, wearing green on St. Patrick's Day has more to do with Ireland's nickname of "the Emerald Isle" and Irish nationalism than an association with Patrick. His official color is actually blue, and the cross of St. Patrick is red and white, like the Union Jack on the English flag.

Sources:

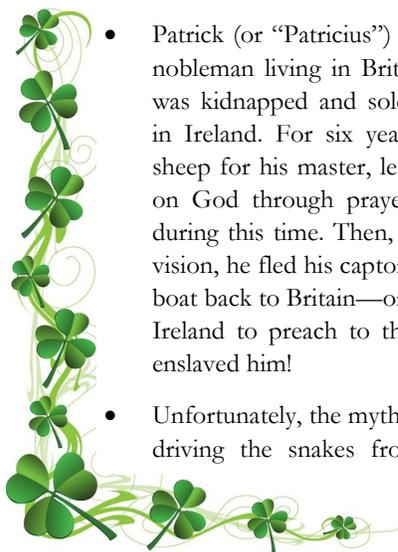
Cronin, Mike, & Daryl Adair. *The Wearing of the Green: a History of St. Patrick's Day*. New York: Routledge, 2002.

Freeman, Philip. *St. Patrick of Ireland: a Biography*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004.

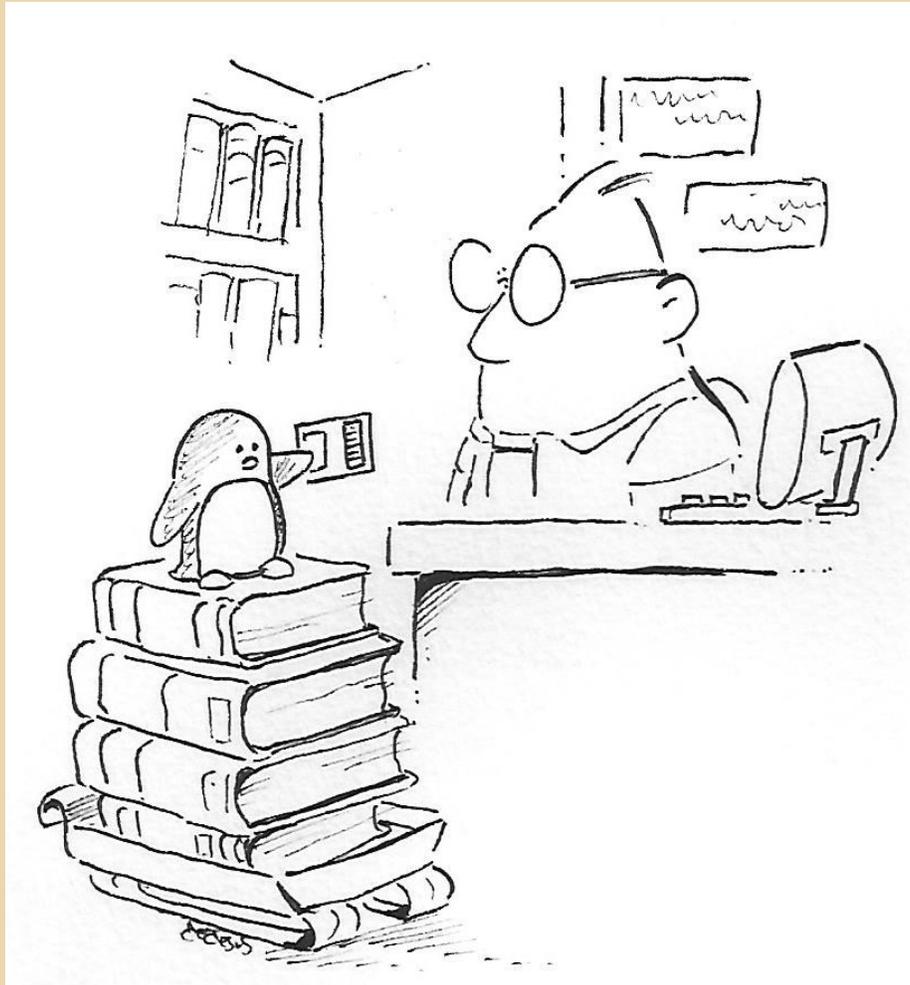
The Art Sale is back on!



Sunday, March 6 at
1-4 and 6-8pm



Comic Caption Contest!



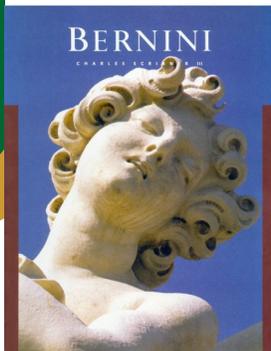
Come up with a caption for this comic, drawn by our very own, Juan De Jesus!

Submit your caption to rmlibrary@scs.edu.

Winner gets a Barnes & Noble gift card!

Contest Ends Friday, March 11!

Staff Picks for March 2016



“The period of elaborate detail, drama, and beauty that gave the world the music of Handel and Vivaldi—the Baroque—is also the home of one of the most versatile sculptors of his time, Gianlorenzo Bernini.

This prodigy of the arts, who carved his first sculpture works by the age of ten, became the official Architect of Saint Peter's for over fifty years and became the preferred artist of various Popes and Kings, will be of interest for those with a passion for the classical and mystical in works of art.

Want to know more about his controversial “Ecstasy of St. Teresa” or his monumental “Baldacchino”? Then read *Bernini* (N6923 .B5 1991) by Charles Scribner. And who knows, it might inspire you to create beautiful works of your own.”

-JDJ

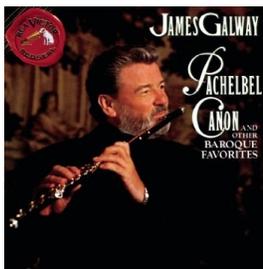
“The Baroque art movement that Bernini belonged to swept across Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries—

but music also came out of this time period. Thus, with spring quickly approaching, it seems only appropriate to suggest a Baroque master who composed music about all four seasons: Vivaldi, specifically his ‘Spring’ movement found in James Galway’s *Pachelbel Canon and Other Baroque Favorites* (M1020.G35 P33 1994, in the Audiovisual section).

As the primary flutist on the album, Galway flits like a spritely bird above the music, his notes soaring over the rest of his limited orchestra. From the lively Vivaldi to the solemn Bach and wedding-favorite Pachelbel, this disc contains many of the Baroque greats.

If you are looking for something less ‘flute-heavy,’ then *Air of Spring* from the *In Classical Mood* series (A-V CD M1000.C61 v.7) would be a great choice for orchestral music to get you in the mood for spring.”

-CP



Collection Corner

Having read the front-page article on our forgotten Pamphlet Collection, perhaps you’d like to learn about some of the more interesting ones in the catalog? Say no more, as we’ve assembled the oddest titles across all the boxes to give you some fun things to read, either for a laugh or for curiosity’s sake:

- “*Tips for Fun*”: *Catholic Recreation Handbook*, compiled by Thomas Fay, Rosemary Hendron, and Jane Crump. Pamphlet Z8.

Printed in 1947, this pamphlet was loosely bound and typed on a typewriter, filled with various activities that could be done in groups or individually. With tongue-twisters, Mad Lib-like stories and riddles, this pamphlet could very well make your next gathering a fun event.

- *Thirty Pieces of Silver*, by Clarence B. Kelland. Pamphlet J29.

This pamphlet is advertised as a play, but truly it is a novella of a man who is transported to the moment of Judas’ betrayal through one of the thirty pieces of silver. It is reminiscent of *A Christmas Carol*, in the idea of a sinner being transformed in a single night, but still, it is an interesting read.

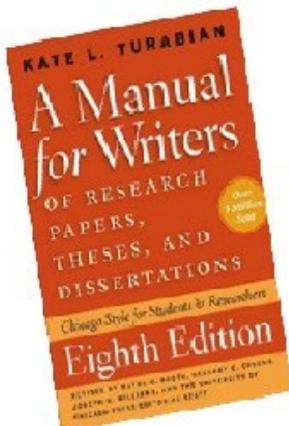
- *Take Your Hat Off, Son!*, by Charles Simpson. Pamphlet D111.

One of those humor books, *Take Your Hat Off, Son!* is a smattering of various observations of church life and the funny things that can happen. Simpson has taken many of the events from his own ministry work and transcribed them here for his reader’s enjoyment.

- *I Love Lent*, published by Catechetical Guild. Pamphlet N50.

There is a baby on the cover of this pamphlet—and rightly so, as each page within has a different picture of a baby with a single caption, all related to Lent. The captions are usually amusing in nature, and perhaps you won’t get any spiritual direction from it, but it is still good for a chuckle during this Lenten season.

RML One-Shot Workshop



Turabian Redux

When? March 15 & March 16 (replay)

Where? Library Classroom

Time? 3-4pm