Hill Museum & Manuscript Library
The Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML) is a global organization that advances manuscript research and scholarly inquiry by digitally preserving, providing access to, and interpreting manuscript collections from around the world. HMML places a special priority on manuscripts from regions endangered by war, political instability or other threats.

HMML is currently preserving manuscript collections at sites in Croatia, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jerusalem, Lebanon, Mali, Malta, Ukraine, and Yemen. With more than 540 partner libraries worldwide, HMML holds the world’s largest collection of online resources for the study of manuscript cultures both east and west. These manuscripts are available through the new vHMML Reading Room at vhmml.org.

Illuminations is a publication of the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library and is published for scholars and friends of HMML twice a year.

Fr. Columba Stewart, OSB, executive director and contributing writer
Erin Lonergan, contributing writer and editor
Wayne Torborg, contributing writer and editor, imaging
Blue Moon Design, graphic design
Spectrum Marketing Service, printer
Set in Junicode typeface.

© 2018 Hill Museum & Manuscript Library
Dear Friends,

HMML is justly famous for its collection of manuscript photographs, the “library of libraries” of which we often speak. But to really learn about manuscripts, the images are not enough. They cannot convey the full reality of a manuscript as a three-dimensional physical creation, one meant to be touched, opened, and even venerated. Monks have always held books in the highest regard, and HMML continues this Benedictine tradition in its care for rare books, *The Saint John’s Bible*, and associated art works, thereby linking “Manuscript Library” to “Museum.”

The kernel of the collection is the historic Saint John’s Abbey rare book collection, sent to Minnesota from ancient German abbeys in the late 19th century to anchor the new monastery in the Benedictine tradition of reverence for the written word. Over the decades the collection grew as monks and abbots traveled back and forth between Collegeville and Europe to study and to visit monasteries. They often brought back trunks full of books. The result was a genuine research library nurturing the life of the Abbey and its schools.

After HMML was founded in 1965, we began to receive our own gifts of manuscripts and rare printed books, including beautiful Books of Hours and other magnificent examples of the book arts. With the growth of the rare book collection came a sense that these treasures should be more widely shared. This became imperative after Frank Kacmarcik’s gift of the Arca Artium collection of rare books and associated art works and then the creation of *The Saint John’s Bible*. These witnesses to human creativity have been entrusted to HMML’s care with the mandate to make them accessible to a wide audience. Thanks to renovated exhibition spaces at HMML and in the Alcuin Library, and to the dedicated work of HMML’s curators, we now really are a “museum” as well as a “library.” Come and see! And if you can’t make it to Collegeville, our exhibitions will soon be available online as well.

Sincerely,

Columba Stewart, OSB
Executive Director
When the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library reorganized in 2005, its name changed to the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library. HMML already had a long-standing tradition of sharing small exhibitions of manuscript facsimiles and original manuscripts. Newly added responsibilities for *The Saint John’s Bible*, the Arca Artium Collection, and Saint John’s Rare Books increased HMML’s opportunities to bring art and books into conversation with various audiences, but with limited space for displays. Fast forward to 2018, and we find that the Library’s exhibition spaces have expanded dramatically to include *The Saint John’s Bible* Gallery, the Genesis Gallery, the Culhane Gallery, and the HMML Reading Room. HMML’s ability to share stories in these spaces has grown accordingly. Merriam-Webster defines a *museum* as “an institution devoted to the procurement, care, study, and display of objects of lasting interest or value.” The term comes from the Muses, Greek goddesses who protected and inspired poets, composers, dancers, etc. Today, “museum” connotes not only an institution for storage and exhibition, but also a community that engages audiences through programming and interaction with exciting and intriguing stories from around the world. This is certainly true for the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library. “A good exhibition will not provide visitors with all of the answers,” says Tim Ternes, Director of *The Saint John’s Bible* and for HMML Programming. “It is more important for them to enter into a conversation with the materials, the people who produced them, and also with other visitors. The muse of HMML’s museum prompts us to share our responses through discussion and listening.”

*Once upon a time, a library clothed itself in glass walls and wood trim, creating new spaces that transported students to a magical world of books, manuscripts and art. There, the students learned about distant lands like Ethiopia and Malta, about distant times of religious and intellectual change like the Reformation and the Middle Ages, and about different cultures with languages like Syriac, Arabic, Armenian, and even Latin!*
Since HMML’s 2014 renovation, the Library’s curators have introduced audiences to topics as diverse as *The Siege of Malta in 1465* (2015), *Ethiopia, Europe and Collegeville* (2016), *HMML & Syriac Manuscripts* (2016), *Terra incognita: Tracing Western Understanding of the Earth through Maps* (2016–2017), *Fragmented Beauty* (2017), and *Rebirth, Reform, Revision: Reading the Bible during the Reformation* (2017–2018). Because these exhibitions take place in HMML’s Reading Room and its adjacent Wallin Classroom, students may encounter art, history and books even when they are simply looking for a quiet place to study.

The opening of *The Saint John’s Bible* Gallery in October 2017 offered the opportunity to bring the rare books and manuscripts at Saint John’s into conversation with that extraordinary work of art. Two recent exhibitions (*Rebirth, Reform, Revision* and *Living Prayer*) offer responses to *The Saint John’s Bible*—as a Bible, as a manuscript, and as a locus for communal prayer and reflection.

In *Living Prayer* (February–May 2018) visitors encounter questions about how to structure one’s own life and time. In today’s busy, multitasking world, most people find that their time is prescribed for them in very specific, synchronized ways. In an age before wristwatches or smartphones, people lived on different kinds of temporal cycles. One such cycle for monastic and religious communities centered on the Divine Office, which provided for eight separate times each day for praying the Psalms—a schedule imitated in Books of Hours intended for lay use. Similar to *The Saint John’s Bible*, the exhibition challenges its audience to reconsider presuppositions about life itself. At the same time, it provides both a venue to display interesting books and art, and an environment of reflection and beauty for students and library visitors.

As Father Columba Stewart, HMML’s executive director says, “While HMML’s primary mission remains the digital preservation of endangered manuscripts, exhibitions of rare books and art support that mission by showing how our digital work reflects the breadth and depth of human creativity.”

Part of HMML’s mission also includes the training of future scholars and manuscript specialists. Over the past decade, several students have had the opportunity to work with curators to prepare exhibitions on diverse topics. Other students have prepared online versions of exhibitions. In 2017, one student intern followed up her work on the *Fragmented Beauty* exhibition with another internship at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. In Spring 2018, an honors English class met weekly in the Wallin Classroom to prepare an exhibition on the African experience across the Atlantic, that will be on display during the 2018–2019 academic year. The Library’s curators look forward to future opportunities for engaging students with HMML’s rich resources.

HMML’s museum work does not take place only on the Saint John’s campus. The recent *Rebirth, Reform, Revision* exhibition consisted of two parts, one at HMML and one at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. Katherine Goertz, registrar for the Arca Artium Collection, selected woodcuts, engravings and rare books for the off-campus display. For those located near (or visiting) the Twin Cities before July 8, 2018, there is also an exhibition on *The Manuscript Meets the World* at the Minnesota Center for the Book Arts in Minneapolis, complementing HMML’s spring 2018 lecture series at the Center.

Today, the CSB and SJU communities are interacting with art, history and culture in new and stimulating ways. Students come to the university library and become immersed in a cultural dialogue; visitors come to *The Saint John’s Bible* Gallery and find displays of medieval manuscripts, early printed books, maps, and art from around the world. In the process, they also learn about these various cultures and communities, and how HMML builds relationships throughout the world.

The story continues!
Where We’re Working
Greek Catholic Patriarchate, Damascus, Syria

By David Calabro

Damascus, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities of the world and the capital of Syria, is home to many Christian churches. The rich Christian heritage of the city dates back to the first century CE, when Ananias hosted the newly converted Apostle Paul there (Acts 9). Having witnessed countless wars over the centuries, Damascus was recently the scene of intense fighting between government and rebel forces, including the Rif Dimashq offensive east of the Old City in February of 2018. Such fighting carries with it the fear that the Christian churches of the city will suffer violence along with their written heritage.

These pages from an Arabic Leitourgikon describe part of the preparation for the Eucharist. The diagram on the left shows the stamp which is impressed on the eucharistic bread, and the accompanying text describes how the priest is to lance and cut the bread while reciting part of Isaiah 53. Some of the priest’s words in the surrounding text are in Greek.

GCPD 00001, fol. 43r–42v. Manuscript on paper, dated May 1661. 20.5 x 14.5 x 3 cm
HMML’s preservation work in Syria began in 2005 and expanded to include multiple projects in the cities of Homs and Aleppo. In December 2010, HMML began its first project in Damascus, digitizing 182 manuscripts from the Greek Catholic Patriarchate. The photography of these manuscripts was completed in February 2011.

Located in the Bab Sharqi (East Gate) neighborhood of the Old City of Damascus, just a block south of the “Straight Street” where the Apostle Paul met Ananias (Acts 9:11), the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Dormition houses the manuscript collection of the Greek Catholic Patriarchate. The cathedral was established in 1834. The Greek Catholic community, also known as Melkite, follows the Byzantine rite in its liturgy. The manuscripts in the Patriarchate’s collection are in the Arabic language. They consist of Bibles, commentaries, liturgical books, theological treatises, and historical works. Among the manuscripts are works by Jesuit authors such as a commentary on the Pauline Epistles by Cornelius Cornelii a Lapide (1567-1637) and a book of theology by Jean Claude de la Poype de Vertrieu (1655-1732), which were translated from Latin into Arabic for missionary purposes in the early 18th century. The manuscripts themselves date mainly to the 19th and 20th centuries.

The collection, known by the HMML project prefix GCPD, is currently being cataloged and will be made available to the public in vHMML Reading Room.

### Syrian Collections Digitized by HMML

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection (with project code)</th>
<th>Religious Community</th>
<th>When Digitized</th>
<th>Number of Manuscripts</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diocese of Homs (HOMS)</td>
<td>Antiochian Orthodox</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Homs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of Saint Elian (LIAN)</td>
<td>Antiochian Orthodox</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Homs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint George al-Humayrah Monastery (HMIR)</td>
<td>Antiochian Orthodox</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Mishtayah (near Homs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Catholic Archbishopric of Aleppo (GCAA)</td>
<td>Greek Catholic (Melkite)</td>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georges and Mathilde Salem Foundation collection (GAMS)</td>
<td>Greek Catholic (Melkite)</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syriac Catholic Archdiocese of Aleppo (SCAA)</td>
<td>Syriac Catholic</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syriac Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo (SOAA)</td>
<td>Syriac Orthodox</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syriac Orthodox Archdiocese of Homs (SOAH)</td>
<td>Syriac Orthodox</td>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>Homs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenian Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo (AODA)</td>
<td>Armenian</td>
<td>2010-2012</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Catholic Patriarchate of Damascus (GCPD)</td>
<td>Greek Catholic (Melkite)</td>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>Damascus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HMML Staff Receive Minnesota Library Association’s ARLD Innovators Award

Daniel Gullo, Eileen Smith and David Calabro from the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library were recipients of the 2018 Minnesota Academic Innovators Award, presented on April 27 in Chaska, Minnesota, during the Minnesota Library Association’s Academic and Research Library Division (ARLD) Day. The award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to advance the mission of academic libraries through innovative projects, programs or services.

Since August 2016, Gullo, Smith and Calabro have developed methods to create new authorities for underrepresented communities not commonly found in the authority records established by the Library of Congress and others. The authority file provides standardized data for names of persons, organizations, events, places, and titles. This results in uniform access to bibliographic resources and produces consistent, searchable data for authors and titles from early modern and medieval Eastern Christian and Islamic texts, especially those from areas where HMML continues to work, such as the Middle East, Mali, and the Western Mediterranean.

“HMML is recognized for its leadership in the digital preservation of manuscripts from endangered libraries and archives around the world, but our goal is also to create access to these collections,” said Gullo, Joseph S. Micallef Curator of the Malta Study Center. “Our team of scholars is dedicated to providing access to these rare collections through hours of analysis and cataloging. It is the patient, time-consuming, and highly skilled labor of catalogers that makes the content of these collections discoverable to the world.”

Summer Hours for HMML and The Saint John’s Bible Gallery

Guests are always welcome to view HMML’s exhibitions during Alcuin Library hours. Check times at: https://www.csbsju.edu/libraries/about-us/hours

HMML offices are staffed:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Saint John’s Bible Gallery is open:
Monday–Friday | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturdays | 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.
June 2 to December 15, 2018

For more details, go to http://hmml.org/manuscripts/the-saint-johns-bible/
HMML at Conferences

Cláudia Garradas, HMML Malta Study Center Site Director
*Metadata, Digitization, and vHMML Reading Room. Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the National Archives, Rabat, Malta, April 5*

Daniel Gullo, Joseph S. Micalef Curator of HMML’s Malta Study Center
*No Better than Animals: Aristotle’s Politics and Constitutional Reform at Montserrat. Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 23*

Daniel Gullo, Joseph S. Micalef Curator of HMML’s Malta Study Center
Eileen Smith, HMML Cataloger and Metadata Librarian
David Calabro, HMML Lead Cataloger of Eastern Christian and Islamic Manuscripts
*vHMML Reading Room: Building a Bibliographic Database for Digital Archives, Manuscripts, and Books. Minnesota Library Association Academic and Research Library Division (ARLD) Day 2018, Chaska, Minnesota, April 27*

David Calabro, HMML Lead Cataloger of Eastern Christian and Islamic Manuscripts
*King Solomon's Magic Carpet Ride: An Arabic Tale and Its Contexts. 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 11*

Matthew Heintzelman, HMML Curator of the Austria/Germany Study Center and Curator of Rare Books
*Hill Museum & Manuscript Library. 17th Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 23*

Columba Stewart, OSB, HMML Executive Director

*Introduction to vHMML 3.0. NEH Office of Digital Humanities Project Directors Meeting, Washington, DC, February 9*

*Illuminating the Word for a New Century: The Saint John’s Bible, a Hurting World, and the Human Reach for the Ineffable. Christ Church Cathedral, Houston, Texas, February 18*

*What a (Modern) Monk Does: Digital Preservation of Endangered Manuscripts from the Earth’s Most Threatened Communities. Annual Chair of Catholic Studies Lecture, Saint Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa, March 21*

*vHMML Reading Room: Metadata Standards, Authority Control, and Initial Steps Toward Linked Data in a Comparative and Comprehensive Cataloguing Environment. Hamburg University Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg, Germany, May 9*

*Re-Situating Aphrahat’s Demonstrations and the Book of Steps in the Ascetic Landscape of Late Antique Mesopotamia: Marcionites, Manichaeans, and Other Conversation Partners. North American Patristics Society, Chicago, Illinois, May 25*

*A Modern Monk’s Work: Preserving the Manuscript Heritage of Endangered Christianity in the Middle East. Canadian Society for Patristic Studies, Regina, Saskatchewan, May 27*

*Wisdom Tradition and Modern Culture: the Rule of Benedict and Higher Education Today. Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities, Manchester, New Hampshire, May 30*
Father Columba Stewart Published in The Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity

Fr. Columba Stewart, OSB, served as an area editor and author of several entries in The Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity, recently published by Oxford University Press. The two-volume compendium covers every aspect of history, culture, religion, and life in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Near East between the mid-3rd and the mid-8th centuries CE.

Former member of HMML’s Board of Overseers and the faculty of the University of Minnesota, Oliver Nicholson, served as the general editor. Look for the volumes on the Oxford University Press website at global.oup.com

vHMML Updates

Digital Copies of Yemeni Manuscript Collections Now Available in vHMML Reading Room

Digital copies of the Rossi, Ansaldi and Caetani collections of Yemeni manuscripts are now available in vHMML (Virtual HMML) Reading Room. The Zaydi Manuscript Tradition project at the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) in Princeton, New Jersey—in collaboration with the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei e Corsiniana (BANLC) in Rome—contributed the digital surrogates to HMML. Find these collections in Reading Room simply by typing “ZMT” in the search box labeled “HMML Project Number.”

vHMML Reading Room Adds New Features

HMML continues to add new features to vHMML Reading Room. New image viewing technology allows for easier comparison and enhancement of manuscript images. Users can now email and print object records from the database system. A new featured called My List allows users to create custom object metadata lists that can be exported, emailed, or permanently stored for future reference. To see video demonstrations of these features, go to HMML’s YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/user/HMMLPreservation

Type “vHMML” in the YouTube search box to find informational videos.

A major upgrade of vHMML will be launched this fall. Improvements to vHMML have been made possible by The National Endowment for the Humanities.
HMML Scholars

ROBERT KITCHEN
Retired Minister/Teacher, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada
*Project Title: Resurrecting the Library of Mar Behnam Monastery, Mosul*

Dietrich Reinhart OSB, Fellowship in Eastern Christian Manuscript Studies: January 6—April 27

BR. CHARLES HILKEN
Professor of History at Saint Mary’s College of California, Moraga, CA
*Project Title: The Chapter Room and the Formation of Monastic Identity*

Nicky B. Carpenter
Fellowship in Manuscript Studies: May 13-23

CATHERINE BROWN TKCAZ
Independent Scholar, Spokane, WA
*Project Title: Ecce morior: Susanna and the Passion of Christ in a Sermon by Johannes Contractus*

Nicky B. Carpenter
Fellowship in Manuscript Studies: May 29—June 13

ALEX C. J. NEROTH VON VOGELPOEL
Ph.D. Candidate in Liturgical Studies at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
*Project Title: Manuscripts Containing the East Syriac Rites of Preparing the Eucharistic Gifts*

Swenson Family
Fellowship in Eastern Christian Manuscript Studies: April 20—May 19

Heckman Scholars

January 1—June 30, 2018

BRITTANY POE, Ph.D. Candidate in Pre-Modern European History at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
*Project Title: Beyond Paris: Alan of Lille and the Reception of Scholastic Theology in Occitania and Iberia*

March 11-30

KYLE CONRAU-LEWIS, Ph.D. Student in Classics at Yale University, New Haven, CT
*Project Title: Classical Reception in Medieval Indices*

April 29—May 6

JOHN BURDEN, Ph.D. Candidate in History at Yale University, New Haven, CT
*Project Title: The Early History of Gratian’s Decretum (c. 1140) North of the Alps*

April 30—May 7

GABRIEL FORD, Assistant Professor of English at Converse College, Spartanburg, SC
*Project Title: Towards a Critical Edition of Disciplina Clericalis*

June 10-30

Visiting Scholars

Michael Norton, Associate Professor of Computer Science at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, March 5-9

Steffan A. Spencer MA, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of African History at the University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN, March 16

Melanie Batoff, Assistant Professor of Music at Luther College, Decorah, IA, March 26-29

Steve Delamarter, Professor of Old Testament at George Fox University, Portland, OR, April 2-5

Mike Cooke, Senior Pastor at Columbia River Foursquare Church, St. Helens, OR, April 2-5

Peter Churcher, Independent Scholar, Alberta, Canada, April 22-27

James Mixson, Associate Professor of History at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, June 3-7

Carin Ruff, Executive Director at the Cleveland Park Historical Society, Washington, DC, June 4-8

Eric Dursteler, Professor of History at Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, June 18-21
Want to receive periodic updates about HMML’s latest adventures? Send your email address to hmml@hmml.org and we will add you to our list.

We promise not to spam you, or ever sell or rent your personal information.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/visitHMML

HMML 2017–2018 Board of Overseers

Chady AlAhmar
*Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Cathy Ballman
*Saint Paul, Minnesota

Thomas J. Barrett
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dennis Beach, OSB
*Collegeville, Minnesota

John Beuerlein
*Edina, Minnesota

Bert Colianni, Chair
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Lucia Lahiff Crane
*Edina, Minnesota

Paul Diekmann
*Saint Paul, Minnesota

Judith Healey
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Michael Hemesath
President of Saint John’s University
*Collegeville, Minnesota

Jim Wm Johnson
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Suzanne Joyce
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Tom Joyce*
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Charlie Kelley
*Orono, Minnesota

Abbot John Klassen, OSB
*Collegeville, Minnesota

Andy LeFevour
*Sunfish Lake, Minnesota

Joseph S. Micallef*
*Saint Paul, Minnesota

Robert Mitchell
*Medina, Minnesota

Richard Oliver, OSB
*Collegeville, Minnesota

Shelly Regan
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Kathryn Reyerson
*Arden Hills, Minnesota

Dan Riley
*Bloomington, Minnesota

Lois Rogers
*Pleasant Valley, Arizona

Tamrah Schaller O’Neil
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Rachael Scherer
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sue Shepard
*Sartell, Minnesota

Patricia Simmons
*Saint Paul, Minnesota

William Skudlarek, OSB
*Collegeville, Minnesota

Barbara Slade
*Minneapolis, Minnesota

Marshall Smith
*Marine-on-St. Croix, Minnesota

Columba Stewart, OSB
*Collegeville, Minnesota

Bradford Wallin
*Edina, Minnesota

Corine Wegener
*Alexandria, Virginia

Stephen Wehr
*Edina, Minnesota

Brian Wenger
*Saint Paul, Minnesota

S. L. Williams
*McLean, Virginia

Stephen Wolfe
*Chicago, Illinois

*Lifetime Member