

## **Benedictine Institute Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Benedictine Institute is to strengthen and articulate in fresh ways the Catholic and Benedictine character of Saint John's University that has been its hallmark since it was founded by the monks of Saint John's Abbey in 1857. The institute does so by:

Nurturing in students, faculty, and staff, as well as alumni, parents, and friends, an understanding and appreciation of Benedictine tradition, spirit, and values, and of the many-faceted Catholic intellectual tradition;

Fostering interaction between the monks of Saint John's Abbey and the students, faculty, and staff of Saint John's University;

Promoting intellectual and scholarly activity between the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Theology•Seminary, the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, the Collegeville Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, the Jay Philips Center for Interfaith Learning, and The Saint John's Bible;

Collaborating with the College of Saint Benedict, Saint Benedict's Monastery, and other Benedictine colleges and communities to address issues of material and spiritual welfare in the modern world in the light of Benedictine tradition.

The Benedictine Institute will undertake its mission through existing programs and new initiatives to promote a lively, rich and authentic understanding and appreciation of Benedictine life and culture on campus.

Orienting new faculty and staff to Saint John's history and the Benedictine character and ethos underlying it will be one goal. Exploring the bearing of historic Benedictine values and practices on educational and vocational goals will be another. Sponsoring visiting scholars and organizing symposia on matters of particular concern to contemporary Benedictines will be a third. Planning study tours for faculty and staff to Catholic and Benedictine sites as funding allows will be a fourth.