



# Benedictine Bits

## IOGD



Have you ever walked past the west tower of the Quadrangle on Saint John's campus and wondered what the huge initials I.O.G.D. represent? These initials, highlighted in yellow brick, refer to a Latin phrase referenced in chapter 57.9 of the Rule of Saint Benedict: *In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus*, meaning "that in all things God may be glorified." This motto is a staple of the Benedictine way of life and underscores the monastic routine of communal and private prayer, spiritual reading, and manual labor. This phrase is intended to remind all of us to grow in relationship with God using the gifts He has given us and the gifts we work daily to develop. With this awareness we can see God not in the abstract, but in the ordinary events of the day. We are tasked to pause and ask whether our thoughts and actions honor our relationship with God, not just in prayer, but in all aspects of our daily life.