

Letter from Jean Leclercq, osb

The following is a transcribed letter from the Benedictine scholar Jean Leclercq written in the late 1980's, exact date uncertain, and accompanies the original as posted here. It concerns his remarks with the general approach to lectio divina I had adopted which later developed into the homepage at hand. Please note that the original spelling errors are included.

Thank you for showing me your commentary on the Canticle. You're quite in the tradition of the Cistercian Fathers, including the fact that you commented only the first verses of it.

I realise you know a lot, not only of Hebrew and Greek, but in Bible, and how much you're in love of Jesus, of his Father, in the Spirit. It's nice that you cannot be just a scripture scholar, but a monk, pouring out all your knowledge and love, and speaking of Christ since the start.



I hope y'll continue up to the end of the Canticle and of your life. And y'll be able to draw from it a New Cistercian Commentary on the loveliest Song.

The originality of your work is that it does not enter in any of the literary genres or (*word difficult to recognize*) presently existing. Y're creating a new one, in the form of monastic Florilegia.

J Leclercq

[Original document follows below]

SAINT JOSEPH'S ABBEY
SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS 01562

Thank you for ~~not~~ showing me your commentary in the Canticle. You're quite in the tradition of the Listerian Fathers, including the fact that you commented only the first verse of it.

I realize you know a lot, not only of Hebrew and Greek, but in Bible, and how much you're in love of Jesus, of His Father, in the Spirit. It's nice that you cannot be just a Scripture scholar, but a monk, pouring out all your knowledge and love, and speaking of Christ since the start.

I hope you'll continue up to the end - of the Gentile and of your life. And you'll be able to draw from it a New Listerian Commentary on the lowliest Song

The originality of your work is that
it does not enter in any of the
literary genres or categories presently
existing. You're creating a new one,
in the form of monastic Florilegia.

J. Udey