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*Bishop Earl G. Hunt, Jr., The Commencement Speaker*

## One Hundred And Two Belmont Abbey Seniors Receive Bachelor's Degrees



Bishop Earl Hunt, Jr.

One hundred and two seniors were granted bachelor's degrees during commencement exercises on Sunday, May 16.

The following students graduated with honors: Summa Cum Laude — Dana S. Carrol, Kay Warren Emmett, Rion J. Forconi, Jean Marie Kilpatrick, Glenn D. Lahti, and Bruce M. Milburn.

Magna Cum Laude — John P. Marchwinski, Dominick O. Mattera, Francis M. Munchinski, Lynn C. Reinhardt, and Joan T. Spollen.

Cum Laude — William W. Arrowood, Gregory Hollingshead, William D. Owensby, Tim Lee Patti, Betty Lou Seay, Marie W.

Whitaker, and Brenda Sue McClure.

Robin Ray Roberts, a Political Science Major from Jacksonville, Florida, won the sought after "Abbeyman of the Year" award.

Lawrence O. Agumade of Aroke, Nigeria, graduated with distinction when he received the Wall Street Journal Student Achievement Award. Agumadu, who received his degree in Business and Economics, was presented with the citation by Fr. James Solari, the Academic Dean.

Jean Marie Kilpatrick of Coral Gables, Florida, received the Thomas Oestreich award for her academic excellence in

History.

The graduates, representing numerous states and several foreign countries, attended a solemn academic Mass on Sunday morning in the Abbey Cathedral. The baccalaureate sermon was delivered by the Reverend Alfred A. McBride, O. Praem, of Washington, D. C.

Honorary degrees were bestowed upon Bishop Earl G. Hunt, Jr., Monsignor John P. Manley, Reverend Alfred A. McBride, O. Praem, and James Edward Stowe, from Gastonia, North Carolina.

Bishop Earl G. Hunt, Jr. gave the commencement address.

## Belmont Abbey Celebrates Its 100th Birthday

Friends and relatives of the monastic community at Belmont Abbey joined in celebration with numerous priests and abbots from around the country on Monday, May 24th. The festivities were in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Benedict's Order at Belmont, North Carolina.

Abbot Jude Cleary, O. S. B., who addressed the congregation at the centennial Mass, said, "We want to express our appreciation to Almighty God for the rich blessings that have come upon this place and to those 100 monks who lie in our cemetery."

The Very Rev. Egbert Donovan O. S. B., Archabbot of St. Vincent's Monastery in Latrobe, Pa., said his homily for the centennial Mass, "It's true our semi-

narians have dropped from 49,000 they tell us, ten years ago, to 17,000 today.

"The name of the game today seems to be criticizing the church," he commented. "When did our Lord set a numerical criterion on Catholicism?"

"We're living in an age when too many of us are listening to the prophets of doom," said the Archabbot. "When we celebrate the second century at Belmont Abbey, we'll celebrate a living church, a church that's under the guidance of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Visiting dignitaries at the celebration were: Reverend Thomas A. Donnellan, Archbishop of Atlanta, Georgia; Bishop Michael J. Begley, of Charlotte; Bishop George E. Lynch, DD, Auxiliary Bishop of Raleigh; Ar-

chabbot Egbert Donovan, O. S. B., St. Vincent Archabbot, Latrobe, Pa.; Abbot Martin Burne, President of the American-Cessinese Federation of the Order of St. Benedict; Abbot Brian Clarke, O. S. B., St. Mary Abbey, Morristown, N. J.; Abbot David Melancon, O. S. B., St. Joseph's Abbey, St. Benedict, Louisiana; Abbot Robert Dodson, O. S. B., St. Gregory's Abbey, Shawnee, Oklahoma; Abbot An-

selm Coppersmith, O. S. B., Conception Abbey, Mo.; Abbot Jerome Koval, O.S.B., St. Andrews Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio; Prior Harold Heiman, O.S.B., New Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Arkansas; and Prior Aelred Beck O. S. B., Benedict Military School, Savannah, Georgia.



Archabbot Egbert Donovan, O.S.B., of St. Vincent's Monastery, and Fr. Joseph Kelleher, of Albemarle, N.C. at the Abbey's 100th birthday.