

## PREFACE

Archimandrite Boniface Luykx has been a professor of the Sheptytsky Institute's unique summer graduate school at Mount Tabor since its inception in 1987. As the founder of the monastery in which the Sheptytsky Institute took its first academic steps, Fr. Abbot Boniface is much more than just one of the teaching staff. He is in very real terms the embodiment of what the Sheptytsky Institute hopes to achieve: a union of scholar and staretz, (elder) embodying both senses of what it means to be a theologian: an academic and a man of prayer. For this reason the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies is proud to present as one of its first scholarly publications this Festschrift in honour of Archimandrite Boniface.

The volume is composed of five sections. The first is a collection of personal reflections and reminiscences that are sometimes theological and sometimes quite sentimental. They offer a portrait of the jubilarian as scholar, spiritual father and seeker of truth. Here the reader will find both a living "snapshot" of the kind of man that Fr. Boniface is through the revealing interview conducted by Hieromonk Joseph of Mount Tabor as well as an almost complete bibliography of the abbot's scholarly output.

Part two is a gathering of articles on monasticism and religious life. Their connection with the life and work of Archimandrite Boniface is obvious. Parts three and four focus on iconography and liturgy, respectively. Part five brings in a variety of other concerns, as broad in interest as the jubilarian himself.

A number of acknowledgements are in order. Dr. Isabelle Massey of Toronto, a woman of incredible talent and zeal for the Kingdom, took upon herself the mammoth task of meticulously harmonizing the varied works submitted into a stylistic whole. Her knowledge of theology and her command of language were an invaluable asset in the preparation of this festschrift for publication. The actual solicitation and collection of articles was carried out by Hieromonk Michael of Mount Tabor. This collection is, in a very real sense, a sign of his love for his spiritual father. For additional typing and an indefatigable spirit in the office of the Sheptytsky Institute in

Ottawa, thanks is due to Mrs. Maria Hentosz, the institute's secretary. A generous dose of gratitude I offer to my amazing wife, Halyna, who makes my work possible. Finally, our thanks go to Samir Rohayem who did the computer scanning and so many other aspects of the publishing of this book, and to Fr. Seraphim of Mt. Tabor for converting the scanning for Typesetting.

Two of the articles published here have appeared elsewhere, albeit in somewhat different format. Thanks to Homiletic and Pastoral Review for permission to reprint "The Light of Tabor in Northern California" and to Stauropegion Publishing for the article, "A Theological Commentary on the Iconography of Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Church in Chicago," which appears here in revised form and in English translation.

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