

Gifted to the University — An Extraordinary Collection of Ethiopian Manuscripts

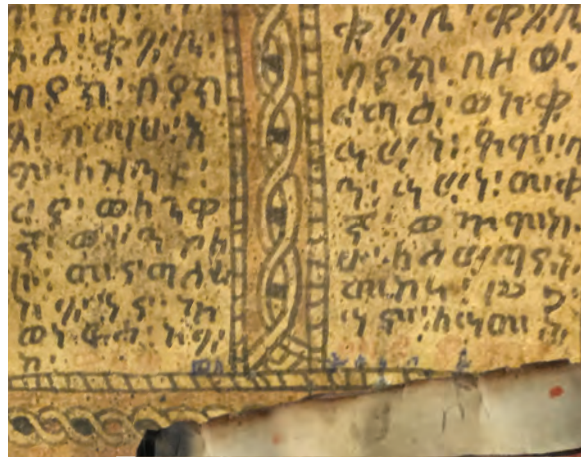
When Chicago collectors Gerald and Barbara Weiner sought an appropriate home for their extensive collection of one-of-a-kind Ethiopian religious manuscripts, The Catholic University of America emerged as the clear choice. “I wanted to give them to a university that would use the materials for teaching and research and make them available to the Ethiopian community,” said Gerald.

Valued at close to \$1.5 million, the Gerald and Barbara Weiner collection at Catholic University includes more than 125 Christian manuscripts, 215 Islamic manuscripts, and 350 personal prayer scrolls known as “magic” scrolls. It is the fifth largest collection of Ethiopian Christian manuscripts in the United States and the largest collection of Ethiopian Islamic manuscripts outside of Ethiopia.

Steve Delamarter, director of the Ethiopic Imaging Project, highly recommended the University’s Semitics Department and Ethiopian Studies program to the Weiners “based on the impressive quality of its teaching and respect for Ethiopic studies,” according to Gerald. Additionally, Washington, D.C., has the largest Ethiopian community in America, making Catholic University an especially good home for the collection where the manuscripts can be available to both scholarly and cultural communities thanks to the Weiners’ generosity.

The manuscripts will be housed within the library of the University’s Institute of Christian Oriental Research (ICOR). The institute is a research auxiliary of the Semitics department. In addition to these new materials, ICOR’s world-renowned library includes 50,000 books and journals as well as antiquities, photographs, and archival materials documenting early Christianity in the Middle East.

The handmade manuscripts, which date back to the 18th and 19th centuries, reflect Ethiopia’s still-flourishing culture of handmade books. Made from goat, sheep, or calf hides, the manuscripts, which range in size from less than two inches to more than a foot long, often contain ornate hand-painted illuminations.



Aaron Butts, assistant professor of Semitic languages and literatures, is already incorporating the manuscripts into his classes. “The Gerald and Barbara Weiner collection at Catholic University provides unparalleled primary sources for the study of Eastern Christianity,” he said. “The donation reaffirms ICOR’s standing as one of the leading places to study the languages, literatures, and histories of Christianity in the Near East, including Arabic, Coptic, Syriac, and now Ethiopic.”

University Provost Andrew Abela added, “Preserving these ancient languages and cultural artifacts helps today’s Catholics and other Christians, particularly those around the world who face persecution and displacement, to remain connected to their heritage and faith. From languages and history to theology and even politics, Catholic University is deeply committed to growing this scholarship and study of Christianity’s origins.”



130

THE
FOUNDERS
DAY
GIVING
CHALLENGE

Happy 130th Birthday, Catholic University!

On April 10, 1887, Pope Leo XIII’s Pontifical Charter established The Catholic University of America, providing “the Church with worthy ministers for the salvation of souls ... [and giving] the Republic her best citizens.”

Catholic University impacted all of our lives in a meaningful way. What better way to say thank you than with a Founders Day gift?

To celebrate Catholic University’s founding, our alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends worldwide participated in the April 10, 2017, Founders Day Giving Challenge. Together, we honored and supported our beloved Catholic University with a day-long event of giving and gratitude.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE!
Visit cuatoday.com/gift
through April 30 to make your gift.

#CUA130



“A noble cause will surely find generous hearts ...”

— Bishop John Lancaster Spalding

Toward the end of the 19th century, the first discussion about a national Catholic university arose at a meeting of U.S. bishops. Among those interested was Bishop John Lancaster, a dynamic writer with a passion for education.

The proposal to create a national Catholic university in America reflected the rising size and influence of the nation’s Catholic population and also an ambitious vision of the Church’s role in American life. Bishop Spalding and his peers believed that by developing new leaders and new knowledge the University would strengthen and enrich Catholicism in the United States. Indeed, Bishop Spalding predicted that it could become a national intellectual center of the highest caliber, a rich merger of American energy and Catholic wisdom, where Catholic youth would become “intimately conscious of the truth of their religion and the genius of their country.”

In 1885, a committee was appointed by the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore to develop and establish the University and included Bishop Spalding of Peoria, Bishop John Ireland of St. Paul, and Cardinal James Gibbons of Baltimore. On April 10, 1887, Pope Leo XIII gave his formal written approval for the establishment of The Catholic University of America.

Visionary philanthropist Mary Gwendoline Caldwell was the first donor to the University. A co-heiress with her sister to her parents’ fortune, Caldwell carried out her father’s wishes that one third of the inheritance be used to boost the Church’s prominence in American society. Her support — a donation equivalent to \$7.5 million today — made it possible for the American bishops to proceed. Caldwell Hall, Catholic University’s first building, is named in her honor.



Join Us for Spring Receptions

WITH PRESIDENT GARVEY

After a tour of winter receptions, including events in New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco, President John Garvey will travel this spring to Florida, Indianapolis, Boston, and other locations to meet with Catholic University alumni, parents, and friends.

Hosted by local archbishops, cardinals, and University alumni, and attended by the University's senior leadership team, the events offer attendees a unique and personal opportunity to be part of Catholic University's forward progress.

By forging relationships with committed, philanthropic Catholics who support the University's mission and the President's vision for the future, Catholic University can extend its reach in service to the Church, the nation, and the world.

If you live near one of the cities where a reception will be held, we would love to see you there! Check our events calendar at cuatoday.com for more information or to register.



Brothers Establish Endowed Scholarship with \$1.1 Million Law School Commitment

Twins Anthony and Michael Ambrosio remember their time on campus with pride and gratitude. Giving back in support of their alma mater is a natural expression of that gratitude.

On the occasion of their 50th reunion, the brothers pledged \$100,000 to establish The Anthony and Michael Ambrosio CUA Law Class of 1966 Endowed Scholarship. In addition, Michael made a \$1 million bequest in his estate plans and, with this bequest, joined the Catholic University School of Law Columbus Society.

More than any other type of support, endowed scholarships demonstrate a public and meaningful vote of confidence in Catholic University. Such scholarships do not give the gift of a distinctive Catholic University education to just one student; rather, they ensure that generations of deserving students can follow their dreams by providing support in perpetuity.

Not only did the brothers have the opportunity to study law under interesting and inspiring professors and in the “classrooms” of the Supreme Court and the Library of Congress, but they also experienced an education that challenged their hearts as well as their minds. It is an approach Michael has followed in teaching the students in his legal philosophy and professional responsibility courses at Seton Hall University where he is professor of law.

In addition to his work at Seton Hall, Michael has appeared as an attorney or legal expert in more than 400 cases involving legal malpractice, attorney discipline, or attorney disqualification. Anthony, who is in private practice, has also appeared as an attorney or legal expert in more than 400 malpractice cases.

“I loved being at Catholic University’s Columbus School of Law, where I was reminded of the presence of God and his wisdom, his justice, his mercy, and his love,” said Michael. “By emulating my Catholic University professors in promoting truth and justice, I have done my best to explore the moral dimension of law and lawyering.”



A Mission of Generosity

In 1976, Reverend Raymond C. O’Brien, M.Ch.A, D.Min., a professor at the Columbus School of Law, purchased a condominium in southwest Washington, D.C. Today, the market is “hot,” and Father O’Brien considered this an excellent time to sell the property and contribute the proceeds to his long-supported charities. Thus, in late 2016 he contributed \$100,000 to the law school to establish the O’Brien Endowment in honor of his grandparents.

The Endowment will support the continuation of the O’Brien Fellowship and the O’Brien Scholarship and will further shore up the mission-oriented focus of the law school through increased funding for this specific purpose.

O’Brien Fellowships fund current students who desire to work in summer pro bono activities; applicants must write an essay explaining the way the student’s religious perspective integrates with a future legal career. Past recipients have been enabled to work with refugees, victims of human trafficking, and immigration applications; religious perspectives have included Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Muslim, and Hindu. O’Brien Scholarships are awarded to entering students who describe their convictions in the application essay.

Father O’Brien has supported these endeavors in honor of his grandparents because he hopes to emulate what they did for him and for others, and he routinely asks others to contribute to the project as well. His grandparents were people of service, motivated by their religious faith and conviction above all.

“My grandparents believed you had a duty to give back. Gifts to the law school, to support our mission and our students, are what they would have asked of me. And while they are not here to see the fruits of their good works, their spirit permeates those serving now through the fellowships and scholarships.”

“By providing scholarships to students at The Catholic University of America, you have made it possible for them to receive an education they can’t get anywhere else.”

— University President John Garvey

Opening Doors

A SCHOLARSHIP ROUNDUP

More than any other type of philanthropic investment, scholarship support directly and immediately invests in our greatest asset — our students. Without scholarship funding, many qualified students simply cannot attend or complete their studies at Catholic University.

The generosity of our scholarship donors strengthens our mission and helps us nurture, grow, and develop global citizens and leaders with the singular ability to think and act with purpose, through both reason and faith — the kind of citizens and leaders needed by the Church and the world now more than ever. Visit cuatoday.com/scholarships to find out more.

On behalf of the entire community, we thank and recognize the following donors who recently established scholarships. Your generosity opens the door for students to study at Catholic University.

Luis Alberto Ambroggio '69 and Lilliam A. Ambroggio, The Ambroggio Family Foundation
Luis Albert Ambroggio Scholarship for Study Abroad

Anthony P. Ambrosio, Esq. '66 and Michael P. Ambrosio, Esq. '66
The Anthony and Michael Ambrosio CUA Law Class of 1966 Endowed Scholarship Fund

Marguerite and Brian Baker
The Baker Family Scholarship

Sister Mary Ann Dardy
The Dr. Henry “Hank” D. Dardy Memorial Scholarship for Physics

The Flatley Foundation
The Flatley Foundation Scholarship

Rev. Raymond C. O'Brien '75, '85
The Charles and Louise O'Brien Supplemental Endowment Fund

Scott and Elizabeth Rembold
The Raymond Thomas Brown '28 Scholarship



Cardinal Weekend

OCTOBER 27–29, 2017

1957 | 1962 | 1967 | 1972 | 1977 | 1982
1987 | 1992 | 1997 | 2002 | 2007 | 2012 | 2017

CLASS YEARS ENDING IN A 2 OR A 7 ARE CELEBRATING REUNIONS.

There are two ways you can start to plan:

1. Serve as a reunion committee volunteer for your class. You will work with the Alumni Association to encourage classmates to come back to campus and build financial support for the University. Visit cuatoday.com/CardinalWeekendVolunteer for more information.
2. Share pictures on social media. Have a great shot of your friends? We want to see it! Submit photos via social media using the hashtag #CardWknd17. You can also send them to us by email: cua-reunions@cua.edu. Please include your name and class year.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

2017 ALUMNI AWARDS A CARDINAL CELEBRATION



Rev. David Dwyer



Vincent Sica



Ellen Shultz



J. Peter Donald



Brendan and Maureen O'Reilly



Gary Sinise

The Catholic University of America Alumni Association is pleased to honor the following distinguished alumni during the biennial Alumni Awards dinner on April 8. The Cardinal Gibbons Medal will also be presented to Gary Sinise, a philanthropist and actor known for his work supporting U.S. military members and their families.

Sinise was featured in the fall 2016 magazine. Look for photos from the dinner in the summer 2017 issue. Visit cuamagazine.cua.edu.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Presented to alumni who have distinguished themselves as leaders in their respective fields of endeavor.

Rev. David P. Dwyer, C.S.P., M.Div. 2000

Rev. David P. Dwyer, C.S.P., M.Div. 2000, is the executive director of Busted Halo Ministries and publisher of BustedHalo.com, the Paulist Fathers' ministry and media outreach to Catholics in their 20s and 30s. Father Dave is the host of "The Busted Halo Show with Father Dave," a daily talk show on SiriusXM's Catholic Channel; the co-host of the weekly TV show "Conversation with Cardinal Dolan" on EWTN; and host of the "Sacraments 101" video series on YouTube. He has offered commentary for Fox News Channel, CNN, the History Channel, *NBC Nightly News*, *The Today Show*, *The New York Times*, *The Daily Show*, and *Entertainment Tonight*.

Before his career in media, Father Dave served in campus ministry at both the University of Colorado and the University of Texas and helped develop ministry programs for the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Prior to his ordination in May 2000, he directed television for MTV and Comedy Central. In addition to his M.Div. from Catholic University, he holds a bachelor of science in communications from Syracuse University.

Vincent N. Sica, B.M.E. 1983

Vincent "Vinny" Sica, B.M.E. 1983, is vice president and general manager for Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company Mission Solutions, which develops, delivers, and operates affordable engineering and sustainment solutions for commercial, military, and intelligence users across the globe. Sica was recently a leadership donor to Murphy's, a new lounge and restaurant in the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, which opened in fall 2016. In addition to his philanthropic efforts, Sica currently serves on the board of directors for Volunteer Fairfax, a nonprofit organization that promotes local volunteerism, and he is a member of the Catholic University School of Engineering development board.

Originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., Sica earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Catholic University. He and his wife, Ellen, have four children and reside in Fairfax Station, Va.

Ellen Shultz, B.A. 1992

Ellen Shultz, B.A. 1992, is the executive vice president of talent and inclusion for *The New York Times*. She joined the organization in June 2016. Previously, Shultz worked for Media General as vice president and head of human resources. Before that, she worked at Time Inc., where she served as vice president of human resources operations and systems. Shultz joined Time Inc. in 1999 and held various successively senior positions at the company, including human resources director for *Time Magazine* in London from 2005 to 2010. She returned to New York as executive director before being promoted to vice president in 2013.

Shultz began her professional career in the retail sector before moving to talent recruitment in 1997. She earned her bachelor of arts from the Department of Drama at Catholic University in 1992.

YOUNG ALUMNI MERIT AWARD

Honors those who have demonstrated high levels of professional achievement, leadership ability, and commitment to service early in their careers.

J. Peter Donald, B.A. 2010

J. Peter Donald is assistant commissioner for communication and public information for the New York City Police Department (NYPD), which has 50,000 employees and a budget in excess of \$5 billion. Donald advises the police commissioner, mayor, and senior management on issues of perception, reputation, and media. Donald joined the NYPD in June of 2015 as director of communication and was promoted in July 2016. Previously, he was the top spokesman for the FBI's largest office in New York. Earlier in his career, Donald worked at a boutique public relations firm in Washington, D.C., and on John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign.

Donald earned his bachelor's degree in politics at Catholic University and is currently pursuing his M.S. at New York University. He was recently recognized in *PRWeek's* "40 Under 40" list.

GEORGE J. QUINN, CLASS OF '50, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Recognizes alumni who have given conspicuous and meritorious service to the Alumni Association.

Brendan T. O'Reilly, B.A. 1987 and Maureen Devine O'Reilly, B.A. 1987

Brendan O'Reilly, B.A. 1987, is a financial advisor with RidgePoint Financial Partners, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial in Langhorne, Pa. He has been very active in the Alumni Association at the regional level, serving as the president of the Philadelphia alumni chapter and representing the Office of Admission at high school college fairs. In addition, Brendan served on the Board of Governors from 1997 to 2007, holding the vice president position from 2001 to 2003.

Maureen O'Reilly, B.A. 1987, is a credit analyst with Ascena retail group. During her undergraduate years, Maureen played softball for the Cardinals. She was also a resident advisor in both Spalding and Monroe halls. Maureen has kept close ties to the University, hosting and participating in many Philadelphia alumni events, notably the Philadelphia chapter St. Patrick's Day party.

Among their many accomplishments and contributions, "CUA Sweethearts" Brendan and Maureen are known in the alumni community chiefly for the Philadelphia freshman send-off party, which they have hosted at their home every year since 1996. Over the past two decades, the O'Reillys have opened their doors to hundreds of incoming students and their families.

Married for 26 years, Maureen and Brendan live in Yardley, Pa., with their children, Bridget, Aidan, and Molly.