

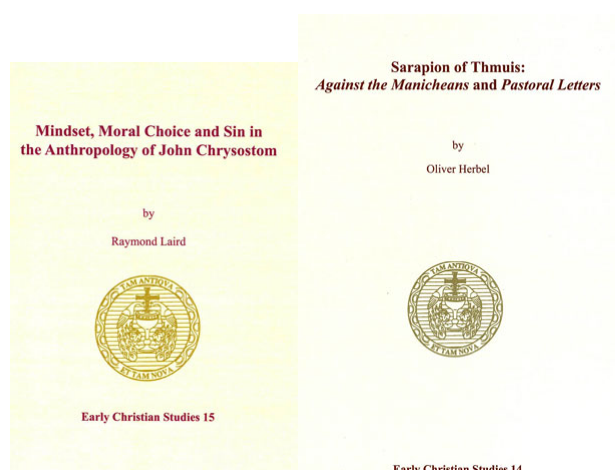
NEWS AND EVENTS 2011

Pauline Allen and Bronwen Neil will received funding of \$262,000 for three years for their ARC Discovery Project "**Crisis management in late antiquity: the evidence of Episcopal letters**", which started in 2010.

Publications

In late 2011, the Centre published volume 14 of its monograph series with the title of *Sarapion of Thmuis: Against the Manicheans and Pastoral Letters* by Oliver Herbel. This book introduces the thought of this early Egyptian monastic bishop, highlighting the importance of both Sarapion's biblical hermeneutics and his utilization of Stoic philosophy. It includes an argument for Sarapion's authorship of the Letter to the Monks as well as translations of Sarapion's three extant writings: Letter to Bishop Eudoxios, Letter to the Monks, and Against the Manichaeans.

Volume 15 is authored by Raymond Laird, titled *Mindset, Moral Choice and Sin in the Anthropology of John Chrysostom* which discusses the traditional positions of Western and (Near) Eastern branches of the Church on sinners.



Conferences

Over the course of two days, March 2-3, 17 members of the Centre for Early Christian Studies and one doctoral student came together at the Banyo Campus in Brisbane to share their current research, report on the progress of funded projects, and plan for future research projects and collaborations. Research papers presented on the first day reflected the breadth of the interests of the Centre (from the New Testament period to the rise of Islam). Sarah Gador-Whyte, who was

awarded her doctorate in 2011, gave a paper stemming from that research (*Typology and New Creation in Romanos the Melodist*). Ian Elmer presented an aspect of his recent work on the Gospel of Mark (*The Faith of Fisherfolk: The Jesus Movement in Mark's Gospel*). Both papers occasioned much interested discussion. They were followed by reports on work in progress by Andrew Prince, a doctoral student attached to the Centre (*Contextualisation of the gospel: A new evangelical approach in the light of Scripture, the Church Fathers and anthropology*), and two of the Centre's esteemed Japanese colleagues,



Kazuhiko Demura (who discussed his four concurrently funded collaborative projects in Japan), and Naoki Kamimura (who outlined his collaborative 2011-13 Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Project in Japan on Augustine's Early Commentaries on the Pauline's Epistles).



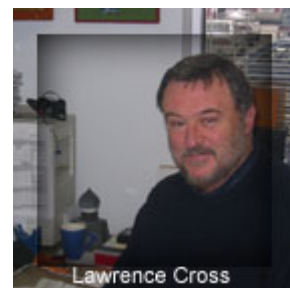
It was pointed out that the research collaboration between Japanese members and friends of the Centre and the Australian members with a specialty in Patristics has born considerable fruit in recent years, with a number of the Japanese projects being inspired by Australian projects or their competitiveness strengthened by direct collaboration and vice versa. The acceptance by the German publisher De Gruyter of a second volume of collected essays by members of the

Centre on the topic *Religious Conflict from Early Christianity to Early Islam* for publication in the second half of 2103 was also reported. The second day was devoted to internal business, with discussion of strategies for strengthening the Centre for the future. Overall the two-day meeting highlighted the quality of the research produced by members across the Centre, and the deservedness of its status internationally as a major contributor to the study of the early Christian world. The next annual meeting will take place in Melbourne in October 2013 preceding the international conference *Early Christian Centuries 1*.

Other News

Retirement

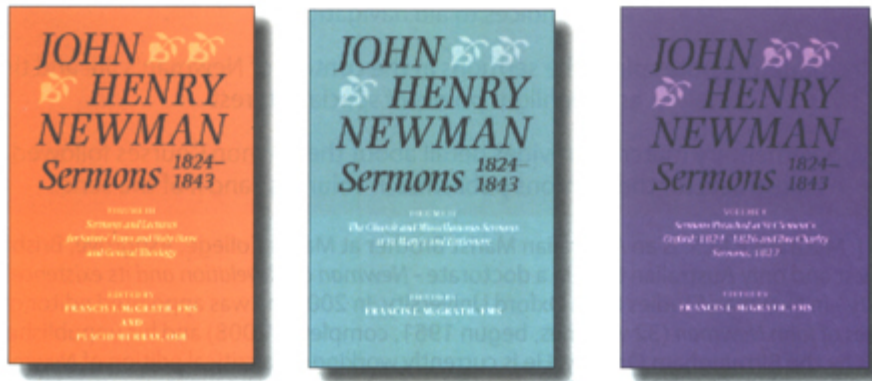
Associate Professor Lawrence Cross has retired from the Australian Catholic University. His retirement celebration was held at St Patrick's campus, ACU, Melbourne, on 6 March 2013. Professor Pauline Allen, the Director of Centre for Early Christian Studies delivered an address. The edited version could be found [here](#).



Fellowship Application

The two colleagues of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven) are inviting applications for 2 research fellowships on, respectively, John Chrysostom's Homilies in Genesim and Anastasius the Sinaite's Commentary on Genesis. A team of scholars consisting of members of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, the Faculty of Arts, and the Institute of Philosophy, has recently been granted funding for a research project on 'From Chaos to Order – The Creation of the World. New Views on the Reception of Platonic Cosmogony in Later Greek Thought, Pagan and Christian'. The team will study various aspects of this reception history. For more information, please download the information sheet [here](#).

Book Launch



Dr. Francis McGrath FMS, an Australian Marist brother at Marist College, Ashgrove, has recently edited the final three volumes of John Henry Cardinal Newman's unpublished writings. These volumes complete the monumental project, begun 60 years ago at the Birmingham Oratory, that has brought all of Newman's unpublished manuscripts into print. The vast majority of the manuscripts are housed in the archives of the Birmingham Oratory, which Newman founded in 1848.

The occasion was celebrated on Thursday 18 October with a festive book launch at Australian Catholic University under the auspices of the Centre for Early Christian Studies. The event was hosted by Br Jeffrey Crowe FMS and Professor Pauline Allen FAHA of the Centre, and the volumes were launched by Dr. David Earnest, emeritus professor at Murray State University in Kentucky and editor of the critical edition of Newman's Oxford University Sermons published by Oxford University Press.



Dr. David Earnest & Dr. Francis McGrath FMS

Western Pacific Rim Patristics Society is now called **Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society**. All news and correspondence for WPRPS are now using the name Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society .