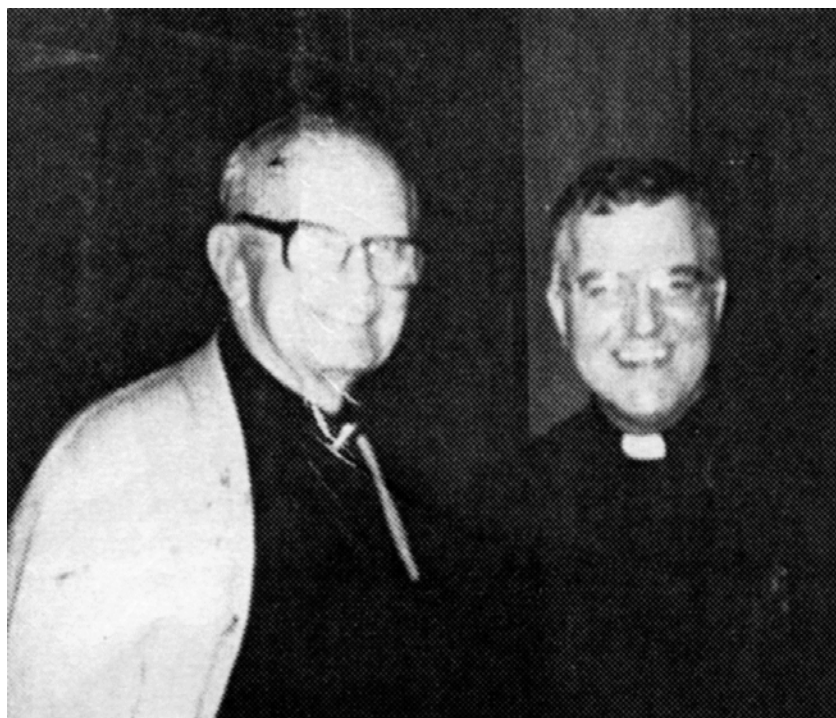


A NEWSLETTER ABOUT RESEARCH ON THE HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN
The most frequent Shroud-related publication in the English Language
published in Australia for Worldwide circulation since 1980
edited by REX MORGAN, Author of several books on the Shroud
Issue Number 98 **OCTOBER 1996**



REVEREND FATHER ADAM OTTERBEIN CSsR
60 years a seminarian and 50 years a Shroudie
45 years Founder and President of the Holy Shroud Guild
recently described at the New York Shroud Seminar
as Old Faithful of the Shroud
pictured with Revd Fr Fred Brinkmann organiser of the Seminar
in New York August 1996

EDITORIAL

This issue is devoted entirely to my report of the Shroud Symposium held in New York in August.

This was scheduled to coincide with the sixtieth anniversary of Revd Father Adam Otterbein as a seminarian. Otterbein has been President of the Holy Shroud Guild for 45 years, centred at the Mount Alphonsus Redemptorist Seminary at Esopus on the Hudson River in New York State which also houses the Wuenschel Collection of Shroud materials, probably the most extensive in the world including, from my observation, the Centro Internazionale di Sindonologia in Turin, Italy.

As Father Adam has advanced in years so Father Fred Brinkmann has taken over the active reins of the Guild which remains the central clearing house for information and materials in the United States. Father Otterbein was also the guiding light, along with the late Father Peter Rinaldi, behind the formation of the Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP) which conducted all the tests and scientific studies programme on the Shroud in 1978.

The seminar was very well organised, the quality of papers presented was high and there was a large attendance both of well known Shroud researchers and general public at most sessions. Amongst the highlights were the celebration of Father Otterbein's work; a paper by Isabel Piczek in which she showed 142 slides with an average projection time of seven seconds and in the process demolished most of the current nonsense theories about the Shroud; and an ecumenically attended Mass in the magnificent chapel.

I was pleased to be able to give a paper reporting on my May 1996 expedition into the Roman Catacombs pursuing my research on the earliest portrait of Christ.

REX MORGAN

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST 1996

Report by REX MORGAN

No stone left unturned

What was billed as a Holy Shroud Seminar Retreat from 23 to 25 August this year was keenly anticipated by a number of people as a likely success. They were not disappointed. The brilliant organiser, Redemptorist Father Fred Brinkmann CSsR, made certain that no stone was left unturned for the efficient running of the whole exercise and for the comfort and convenience of the delegates.

Mount St Alphonsus

I have described Mount Saint Alphonsus before in *Shroud News*. It is a magnificent institution owned and operated by the Redemptorist Fathers and now that the numbers studying for the priesthood all over the world are dwindling, like so many other institutions, academic campuses, stately homes and all the rest, they are putting their facilities to commercial use for such arrangements as seminars and retreats for the general public.

The magnificent building sits overlooking the beautiful Hudson River and has what must be the longest central corridors outside the Vatican (one can hardly see from one end of them to the other), stately stone facades, quite comfortable (by monastic standards) rooms, good operational bathrooms, wholesome and plentiful food, excellent conference facilities and surely one of the most beautiful chapels in Christendom.

Los Angeles and New York

I had been engaged in other agenda in Los Angeles having flown there by United Airlines. This airline has nothing particular to recommend it on its international sectors except that I was astonished to find it serves Blue Label whisky. And, having partly sidestepped the temptations of Rodeo Drive shopping, I flew to New York where I spent the night at what had been proclaimed to me as the best hotel there. The Pierre on Fifth Avenue overlooking Central Park is just alright but I am unable to recommend it and have some astonishing pictures of the plumbing to share with other hotel and travel writers. I note that this month an eleven room apartment is for sale in its Towers.

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

Getting from downtown New York to Esopus is quite a problem if one is neither a local nor does one have a motor car. Accordingly I took the most convenient option (and in the end almost as cheap) and went the eighty miles by taxi.

Preliminaries

Contrasting with the arrival at any conference organised, say, in Europe, there was an immediate and fulsome welcome from Fred Brinkmann and the provision of a portage trolley to get one's bookstock to one's chambers.

As far as I could tell there were only three delegates from outside the United States namely Ian Wilson (Gt Britain - lives in Australia), Fr Louis Marie from Kandy, Sri Lanka and myself. However many of the American greats of sindonology were there including some of whom one had heard very little for a long time.

Father Adam Otterbein

The entire weekend seminar was geared as a tribute to Father Adam Otterbein who, since Father Peter Rinaldi's death, has virtually assumed the mantle of the Grand Old Man of sindonology in America. His enormous work for the knowledge of the Shroud for more than fifty years is legendary and he has been a seminarian for sixty which is what the celebration was really about. He was to be seen throughout the conference cheerfully gliding about the building on his silent electric people mover thoughtfully provided for him now that he finds walking progressively more difficult.

Roll call

As well as some of the great Shroud researchers of the ilk of the megastar Jacksons, Isabel Piczek, Al Alder, Dan Scavone, the Whangers, Wilson, Crispino, Dreisbach and so on, one found a goodly number from the original STURP team and some of the shakers and movers over the years like Tom D'Muhala, Michael Minor, Kevin Moran, Bob Dinigar and Joe Marino. There were also a number of familiar faces of those who go along for the ride and a number of local interested parties.

Facilities

The tasteful influence of Michael Minor was evident at the outset with the presentation to each delegate of a gold covered souvenir programme (extra copies \$20) of the weekend containing signed tributes to Otterbein from such

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

luminaries as Bill Clinton, a handful of cardinals and various Shroudies. There was also, for once, a useful list of the delegates, information frequently omitted at other conferences and a souvenir Holy Shroud Guild pen bearing the name of Father Otterbein.

The conference hall was properly airconditioned, had an excellent public address system and there was plenty of room to move about on the perimeter, an essential aspect of any conference which escapes the majority of conference organisers. There was no formal agenda on the first afternoon as it was devoted to registration, assimilation and valuable gladhanding with old friends and new. There was set up a sales table at which various individuals and organisations were welcome to place their wares. Magnanimous Kevin Moran undertook the supervision of this exercise and did a very commendable job throughout the conference. Everything from Holy Shroud Guild tee shirts through booklets and propaganda pamphlets to rescued leftover filmstrips and audio tapes from the late Father Frank Filas's chambers appeared on the tables. It is significant that much of it had been sold before the conference even began, such is the interest in Shroud work and so few are the opportunities to buy such material.

Acquisitions

I added two new books to my extensive collection: *The Shroud of Turin and the C14 Dating Fiasco* (there's a familiar description) by T. W. Case; *Santa Sindone: The Shroud of Turin: The Holiest of Relics or the Hoariest of Hoaxes?*, Philip St Vincent Brennan. I managed to reinvest every cent of my own book sales and more in buying everyone else's material including some very expensive computer discs with unannotated pictures on them.

A display of enlarged photographs from my recent Catacomb research connected with the paper I presented caused a great deal of interest and I could have sold many copies had I taken any for sale. The limited stock of some of my own books also sold very rapidly.

The Conference begins

The conference began with a jolly supper at 6 p.m. thus setting the scene for those very early meal schedules beloved of seminaries, gaols, hospitals and the military after which we repaired to the Alphonse Hall, nerve centre of the weekend, for an Orientation introduction by Fr Fred Brinkmann. He quickly engendered a relaxed, positive attitude in everyone with his sensible housekeeping announcements and a brief history of the district and the

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

venue. We were reminded that the seminary houses one of the finest theological libraries in America as well as the famous Wuenschel Shroud Collection, probably the most important Shroud archive in the world.

Dr Alan Adler

The first paper *Updating Recent Studies on the Shroud of Turin* was not really a paper since Adler is a master of the impromptu. There could be no better first speaker than Dr Adler to get an audience relaxed and enthusiastic with his inimitable style of, one could almost say, entertainment. And yet Adler is one of the most erudite Shroud researchers there is. Despite considerable discomfort from a leg in plaster as a result of a spider bite Adler spoke for an hour packed with slides rarely seen of his remarkable chemical studies of the Shroud particulate matter taken in 1978. These were accompanied, as usual, with one of the most convincing commentaries on why the Shroud could not have been painted, let alone in the Middle Ages, and the proofs of human blood and not pigment on the linen.

His lecture began (as did that of many speakers) with a reminiscence of his first meeting with Father Otterbein and his subsequent work with him. After his standard opening of "What's a nice boy brought up as a conservative Jew supposed to know 'about the Shroud of Jesus Christ?'" he demonstrated, nonetheless, his vast knowledge of the Shroud based on his own enormous research work through chemical science over many years. He recounted in detail the work in which he and the late Dr John Heller found traces of every conceivable matter on the Shroud surface and made sure we understood that his conclusions were based on proper scientific evidence and principles consistent with most sets of other facts working on particles of one hundred million millionths of an ounce. This contrasts, as he pointed out, with the claims of McCrone's paint based on optical microscope observations. He talked of his one thousand separate microchemical tests, of the birefringence of everything on the linen, of the fluorescence on the tops of each *flagrum* mark which can only be seen under ultraviolet light and so cannot be pigment and a dozen other hard scientific facts which make a mockery of any claims of manufacture.

Dr Alan Whanger

The next scheduled speaker Dr Robert Bucklin, another STURP original, was unable to attend the conference and so we moved on to another typically fascinating presentation from Dr Alan Whanger entitled *An Adventure with the Images on the Shroud: An Examination of the Face and Many Non-Body*

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

Images. Having distributed the necessary filter viewers to the audience Whanger set about a resume of most of his work using his polarized overlay process.

He ranged over the work of Bulst and Byzantine images, the Filas coin images, coronal discharge theory, demonstrated the Pilate coin UCAI marking on Pia's original photo which he showed was even clearer than in the later ones. He took us through the 1988 sampling and reported that only two days before the conference he had come to the conclusion that the seam on the Shroud is, in fact, a tuck in the cloth attaching it to the backing cloth. He showed us the astonishing congruences of the Shroud face image with the markings on the Oviedo cloth where he had 120 matches of marking.

He then talked of his more controversial discoveries of off-body images such as a nail, a spear, a sponge, and 28 species of flowers of which 20 grow in Jerusalem and the other eight within 12 miles and none of them grow in Europe. Many of these also match the Frei pollens. Regrettably during Whanger's excellent presentation some of the well-known talkers began an alternative agenda at the back of the hall which annoyed some of the audience (such as me) but Whanger continued undaunted. He gave us a further catalogue of items from his huge research programme expanding on the Carter X-ray proposals, positive and negative 3-D work, and even evidence from the Shroud image itself of the Space of Destot's four bones shown separated by the penetration of the crucifixion nail.

Alan's conclusion that "realism is not destroyed for lack of explanation" was a well made and well taken point. Those of us who have become used to Whanger's enthusiasm and the efficiency of his elaborate equipment were not disappointed. He made sure that his wife and co-worker, Mary, controlled the equipment rather than some ardent volunteer or indolent mechanic and so there were no breakdowns usually endemic at most conferences. It was encouraging that since his retirement from his professional practice Alan Whanger has developed a far more fluent and commanding style of delivery than of old.

Moran video

The evening's activity was concluded with a fifteen minute presentation of some of Kevin Moran's large library of home movies. He has been an avid video man at every congress since the seventies and was able to show us

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

early anecdotal material of Father Otterbein. There were also some scenes from the Paris conference particularly a meeting to form a scientific group. Otterbein had presided over discussions amongst Wilson, Dreisbach, Crispino and some Frenchmen who didn't get a word in. In the event nothing more was heard of this group. The next clip recorded a meeting in 1992 between Maloney, Adler, Dreisbach and Otterbein to formalise the Holy Shroud Guild's project to disseminate documentation. These are valuable archival movies in the Shroud annals of the twentieth century.

Barbara Sullivan

The first presentation on day 2 was given by Barbara Sullivan. After some prayers and poems she explained that she had been ill and had changed from the original topic entitled, *The Shroud of Turin: Critical Analysis of Alternative and Disjunctive Propositions*. Whilst it would have been instructive to find out what this meant the speaker gave instead a brief resume of some of her other research. Her first proposition was that the wrinkles and creases in the Shroud had been ironed into it at the time of the fire. She did not mention why therefore they appear in much earlier artistic representations of the image. She also explained that having made some paper overlays ("these tedious overlays" as she herself described them) and having eliminated the creases (tucking the folds) the curvature of the original linen is shown as it might have been draped over a body.

Barbara then moved to another of her research topics namely that in which she has shown that a German sculptor of the fourteenth century one Claus Sluter had made a statue of Christ obviously from access to the Shroud Image since he lived close in time and place to de Charny. She cited the similarity between this and the work of Vala and quoted numerous bibliographical references. A religious quotation from a 19th century historian was proposed as final proof of her conclusion.

Rex Morgan

The second presentation of the day was my report on *Discoveries in the Roman Catacombs Relating to the Holy Shroud*. I began with a tribute to Father Otterbein and a brief resume of my own Shroud studies over the past eighteen years. I mentioned the "scoop" in *SN* 96 of the Turin wall painting and in *SN* 97 of the 1998 Exposition logo. I talked briefly of the received likeness of Christ in history and the work by various researchers on this matter. I have long held that a unique portrait in an obscure and non-public section of the Roman Catacombs is both first century and of the same man as

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

depicted in the Shroud image. The work of Thomas Heaphy in the 19th century was described including the book I had written on the subject in 1986 and my initial expedition into the Catacombs where my photographs confirmed the discovery by Sylvia Bogdanescu (GB) of a very early portrait of Christ in the Orpheus Cubiculum and copied last century by Heaphy. Until that time it had been disputed whether Heaphy had ever seen such a portrait or had invented it.

Bogdanescu and I had been following independent research until we met and have collaborated ever since. She has done a massive amount of original research on the cubiculum, on early maps published, their errors and speculation on the entrances to the original tunnels, and on the detailed histories of those families who lived in Rome at the time and owned the burial grounds. One object of my May 1996 expedition was to examine those tunnels to postulate a different entrance from the present one which would confirm the very early date of the catacombs of that area.

We also set out with art expert Isabel Piczek to examine the nature and technique, plaster, pigments, style etc of the paintings in that area and particularly in the Orpheus cubiculum. Piczek preliminary conclusions are that the painting is indeed first century. We made observations of climatic conditions, took a full photographic record with full-scale equipment including infra red (which showed no underpainting), mapped the tunnels and recorded a good deal of the graffiti names and dates of earlier expeditioners since the sixteenth century.

Our conclusions are contained in an exhaustive site report by Christopher Morgan which will be published in due course along with the books by Bogdanescu and R Morgan.

Ian Wilson

Doyen of the Shroud Crowd, Ian Wilson, gave a paper *The Shroud in History: Ancient and Modern*. As usual his was an erudite presentation, very varied in its scope and very interesting with a large number of slides. He ranged over fascinating material including the Cluny medallion of 1357 and the St Bees mummy as a fourteenth century example of wrapping totally different from the Shroud. He referred to Robert de Clari whose memoirs of the 4th crusade in 1204 talk of the Shroud pre-dating the medieval claims. Continuing back in time he demonstrated an 1190 picture with hands folded shroudlike and spoke of references in the 11th century. It was described in

[continued on page 16]



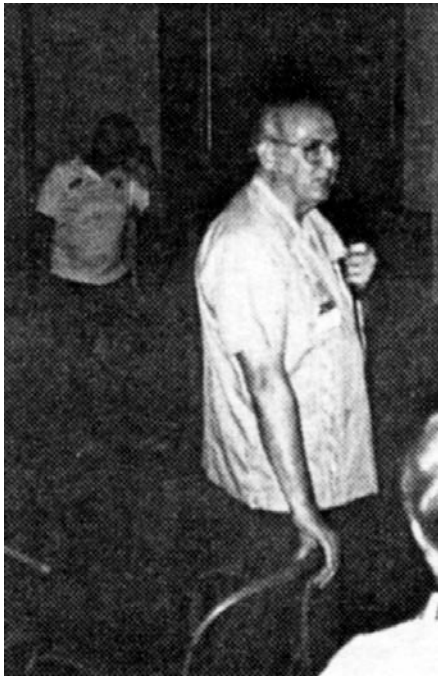
Fr Fred Brinkmann, Chairman



Morgan with Dorothy Crispino



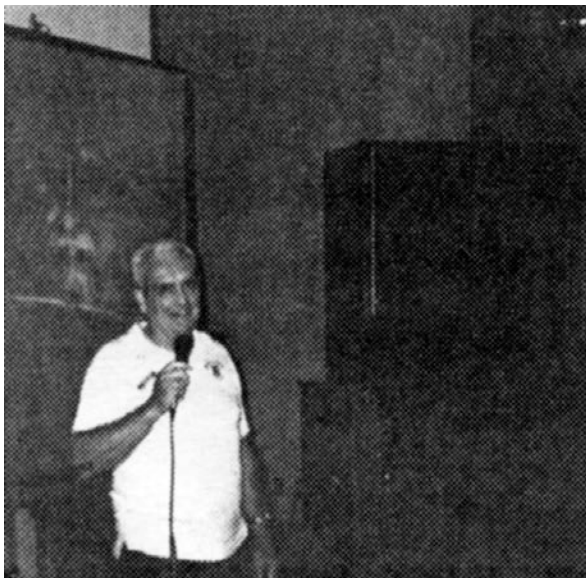
John and Rebecca Jackson



Dr Alan Whanger



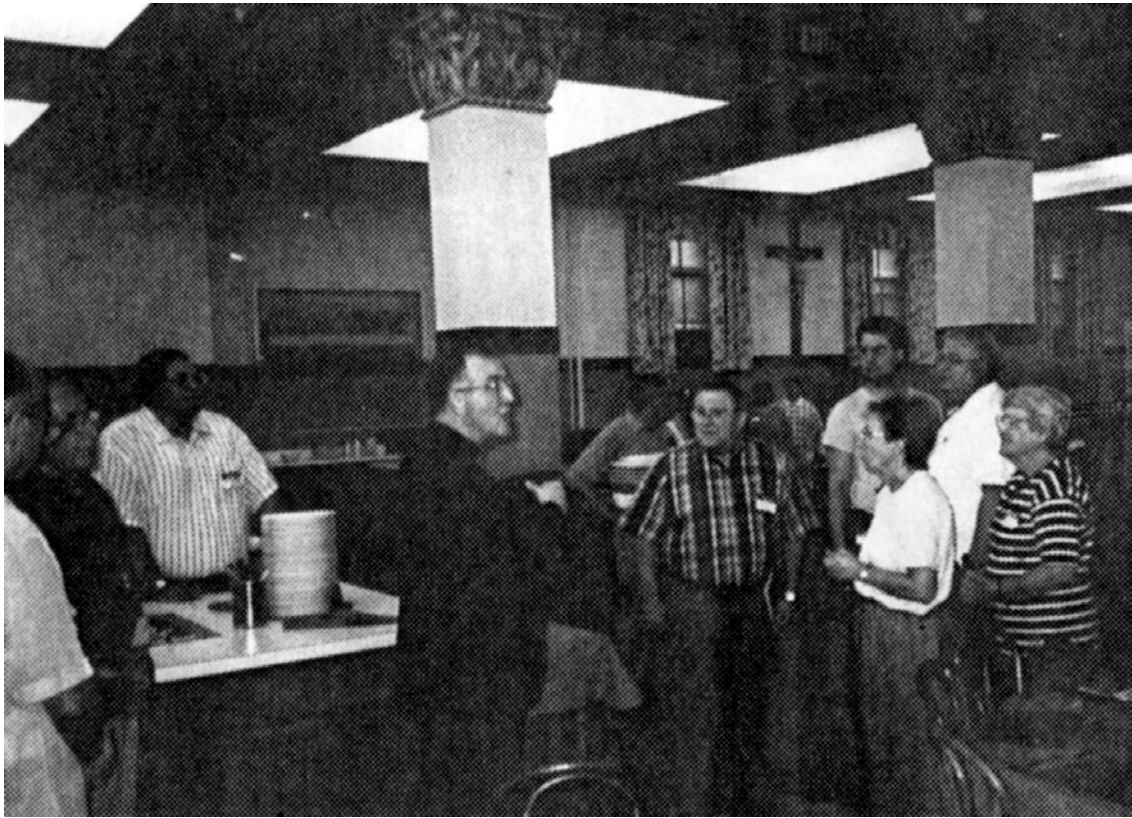
Barbara Sullivan assisted by Fred Brinkmann



Kevin Moran describes his movies



Piczek and Adler



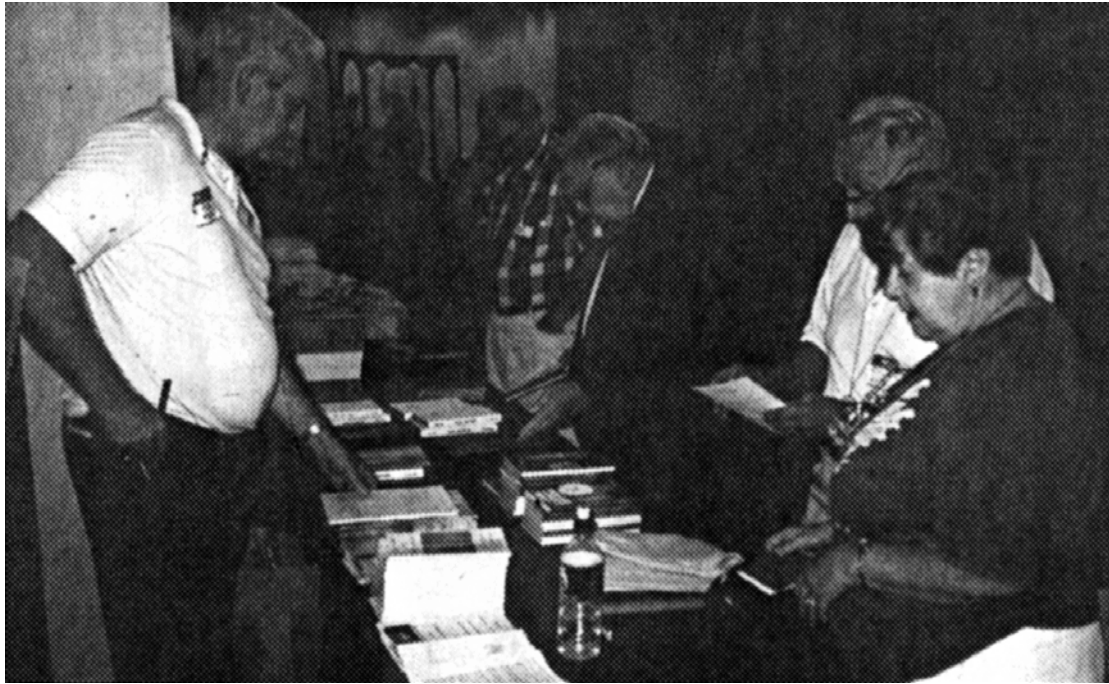
Fr Fred Brinkmann gives instructions to delegates in the dining hall



Alan Adler



Michael Minor



Kevin Moran at the book table with Dr Joe Wesley Dickerson and Connie Apple



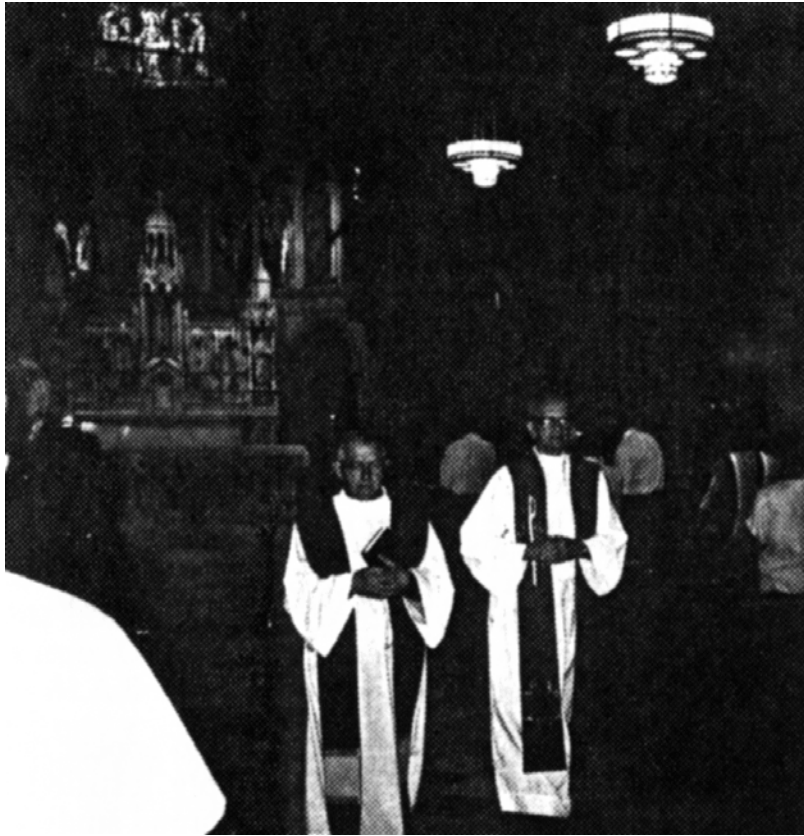
L to r: Morgan, Ian Wilson, Kevin Moran, Fr. Joe Marino, Prof. Dan Scavone



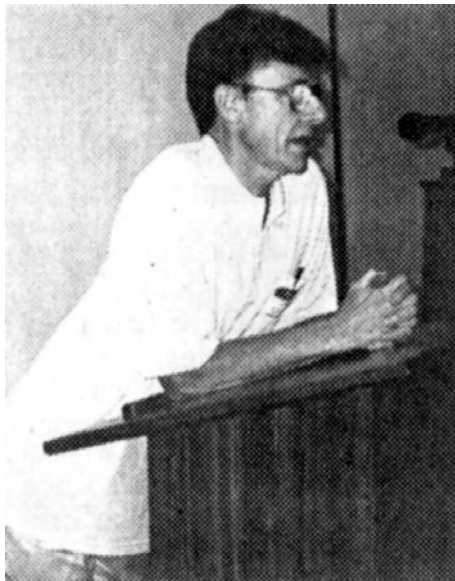
Raymond Schneider and Dr Joe Wesley Dickerson of Texas



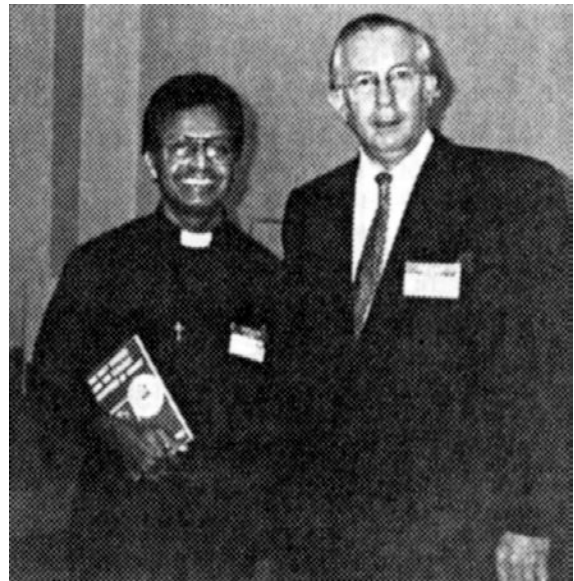
Thomas D'Muhala and Isabel Piczek



Fr Otterbein (r) leaves the St Alphonse Chapel after celebratory Mass



Ian Wilson



Fr Louis Marie of Kandy, Sri Lanka

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[continued from page 9]

Constantinople in 944, back to Edessa and the features are depicted on a Syrian vase of the 6th century and a coin of Justinian in 690.

As Wilson rightly concluded we should be pooling our resources into a new dimension of history in order to take another step along the road in Shroud study. It was, then, regarded by a number of people at the conference as somewhat inexplicable that Ian opened his presentation with a lengthy further attempt to discredit the work of Thomas Heaphy about whom I had just spoken. In making his point about using "accurate information" he could not have settled upon a less convincing example than Heaphy because the Morgan/Bogdanescu work is based not on Heaphy's copies (whether accurate or not) but on our photographs of the actual painting which we have discovered and accurately recorded. It was Heaphy who simply led us to the painting despite scepticism. When a number of conference members asked me afterwards why I thought Wilson had introduced this red herring into his discussion magnanimity obliged me to reply that I did not know ... as it does now.

The Jacksons

Whenever the Jacksons (John and Rebecca) are billed to appear there is a kind of hushed awe at their presence. This is amply justified by the enormous work of John Jackson who really moved Shroud study into the twentieth century when he masterminded the original American scientific studies and led the team of investigators at Turin in 1978. Rebecca began the presentation, *Various Aspects of New Developments on the Shroud of Turin*, with a much more polished performance than she gave in Rome in 1993. She spoke of their new Shroud Center in Colorado Springs and their co-authored book on Marian images. She described how their tour of Russia had led to a re-awakening of interest in the Shroud and then described her own life history and conversion from Judaism to Catholicism.

She touched on her controversial theory that the Shroud was the Last Supper tablecloth and talked of Jewish symbolism in the Shroud. She spoke of their exciting plans to take the Shroud story to China where there had been Fatima-like events but these had been suppressed by the authorities.

Following Rebecca's relatively short talk Dr John Jackson began with a tribute to Father Otterbein talking of his involvement with the scientists since the sixties. He described the full length 3D enhancement statue he and Eric Jumper had made and which was subsequently presented to the Vatican.

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

Then followed a remarkable and very interesting first hand description of the assassination attempt on the Pope. This was on the day that Otterbein and Jackson were to see the Pope but that meeting never took place. He spoke of the C14 dating in 1988 and described at length of the condition of the Shroud having changed in connection with the ratio of C14 and C12 as well as contamination which would skew the C14 results.

He claimed that the results of the Garza-Valdes theory of coating on the fibrils is not valid and then proposed a new hypothesis that molecular collisions in the atmosphere release exchanging carbons. This has caused carbon to be measured which was deposited on the cloth at the time of the fire and not from the original linen date.

This part of Jackson's presentation was highly technical for a general audience and although a good contrast with Rebecca's folksy reportage left many just not understanding the formulae and equations. A technical question from Dr Bob Dinegar led to a highly scientific exchange between them. Dr Al Adler interjected by saying that all the equations were pie in the sky and a major academic dispute arose between him and Dinegar. Adler claimed again that the sample measured in 1988 was not from the Shroud at all but from the selvedge.

This was quite a jolly conclusion to an excellent interlude.

Isabel Piczek

World famous artist and nuclear physicist Isabel Piczek's *Alice in Wonderland and the Shroud of Turin?* was, as always, a masterpiece of research, of presentation and of impact on the astonished audience. She began by showing, in her accustomed rapid fire way, dozens of slides of her own greatest masterworks at the rate of one every five to ten seconds leaving no-one in any doubt of her bona fides for commenting on art and science. She presented brilliant images which boggled the mind, "Crossing," as she put it, "the borders of a cultural milieu and of its event horizon."

With her well known authority and incisive delivery she proceeded to make mincemeat of several shallow theories doing the rounds of the popular media. She destroyed the fatuous Da Vinci painting theory in a trice by pointing out again that Da Vinci lived a hundred years after the Shroud was exhibited in 1357. She went further to say that most of Da Vinci's much praised inventions were impossible to make, his paintings deteriorated before his

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

death and that he was, in any case, "one of the most unsuccessful people in history" and had never written about the Shroud.

Next came the despatch of the South African theory about hanging a body in the sun for three days, using materials unavailable at the time, gross mistakes such as lenses used for image formation which were not known in the middle ages and that the lighting was wrong to produce the photo of the experiment.

She made equally short work of the carbon dust transfer technique, the German theory that Christ did not die on the cross, McCrone's continuing saga about submicron paint particles. "Think small" says McCrone. "He does," says Piczek.

Isabel Piczek is a diminutive, sweet, delightful, charming woman off stage. Put her into action and her destruction of pomposity, ballyhoo, poor science and art expertise from non-artists is like the firing of a machine gun from the hip rather than a few hand-wringing apologetic potshots. Her contrast on and off stage is similar to that of a very henpecked and timid little orchestra conductor I once knew who once he was at the rostrum became a giant of his field of expertise and a five star commander of his army and their audience. Piczek is one of the greatest and most lucid influences in sindonology today as it goes into the 21st century and in this presentation little Alice grew and grew and grew.

Professor Dan Scavone

The last paper of the day was Dan Scavone's *Joseph of Arimathea, the Holy Grail, and the Edessa Icon*. This quiet, persuasive, erudite, urbane, engaging and most pleasant man is surely one of our greatest scholars. He gave an address of enormous significance utterly supported by his references reflecting the minutely tuned research of which he is capable. After a tribute to Otterbein's unfailing assistance with research in the Wuenschel Collection, Dan speculated on what the Holy Grail actually was.

History and legend suggest it was the cup from the last supper, the dish used to wash Christ, a bleeding head, a stone jewel, the burial sheet of Christ. Scavone took us methodically through every known historical reference to the Grail, to Joseph of Arimathea and to Phillip. We heard of the hidden grail and its mystery; we heard of clear references since 212 AD; of Abgar and the Mandylion; of the framed face in the Byzantine chapel; of the Welsh saga of the Grail; of Gregory's sermon about the body image. The combined

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

pictorial and written evidence, says Scavone, and the identification of Joseph of Arimathea with both the burial sheet and the Grail establishes that the Shroud is indeed the object inspiring all the legends. "There never was a cup or a dish."

He spoke of another fascinating link with the "British King Lucius" reported in 170 AD and again by Bede in the 8th century showing strong connection with Glastonbury. Lucius was, in fact, as Scavone has discovered, Abgar VIII, the first Christian King of Edessa.

The lecture was an extraordinary catalogue of sources from both East and West to indicate the Grail was in fact the Shroud, the only object known connected with Joseph of Arimathea. This supports the insight of Wilson's hypothesis and cups and facecloths are but invented descriptions. At the end of the address Wilson himself commented that Scavone had given a very significant report and had untangled the web of Abgar and Lucius. "It is a revolution," he said.

Testimonial Dinner

On the way to the testimonial dinner for Father Adam Otterbein, a delegate who had been studying the photographs taken during my 1966 expedition into the catacombs and about which I had given an hour's talk that day asked me, "Have you ever been in the Catacombs?" Ah well, they say sleep is a comment...

The dinner itself was punctuated with thunderous applause from the audience every time Otterbein's name was mentioned and he himself got up to thank them several times. The evening began with a tribute from Michael Minor who also welcomed many delegates by name. Researcher Richard Orareo gave an invocation and then original member of STURP and big name in Shroud history, Eric Jumper, spoke. He has been out of the mainstream for some time and many Shroud followers had never met or heard him. All remember the famous photographs of him on the screen of, and talking about, the VP8 Image Analyser when he and Jackson discovered the three dimensionality of the image.

Eric Jumper

What Jumper had to say was significant. "I found it," he said, "somewhat ironic that the test we had stated in peer-reviewed reports to be the definitive test, and after Dinegar had gone to so much effort to put together a protocol,

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to then have STURP excluded from participation in this test because we were accused of being religious bigots"

"The purpose was: once the Carbon dating was done the kinds of things that are happening now would not happen. No matter what date came out we knew that every single thing that went into that carbon dating would be questioned."

Knowing of Jumper's fundamental involvement in so many tests which are either inexplicable or corroborate the evidence for the possible authenticity of the Shroud, many of the audience were perplexed and disappointed to hear Jumper then say, "I have no reason not to believe that if another sample of the Shroud were dated the same date would be obtained."

On reflection later an interpretation that could be put on Jumper's remark is that those who would seek to discredit the Shroud and its study would always have the political power to see to it that such popularly accepted headline getting tests as C14 would be carried out with collusion and dishonesty.

He recalled the difficulties of being placed in a court of law against Revd Ken Stevenson, "There were many heartaches." And on the issue of McCrone he reaffirmed that in all the STURP tests where samples were taken expertly there was no pigment on the Shroud. "Let us build on the credible things of the past: the articles we wrote were correct and honest"

Other speakers

Dr Bob Dinegar recalled how he and Jackson had set up STURP with Otterbein's help and he then read out many letters of greeting to Father Adam. Dorothy Crispino commented on the history of the Holy Shroud Guild the text of which was fortunately printed for posterity in the official programme.

Kevin Moran responded to Jumper's remarks by saying that it didn't matter what he thought about the C14. "This group of the Shroud Crowd has made great progress this weekend with co-operation and 'real presence'

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

Fr Kim Dreisbach, who was not listed to speak, reminisced that as a "separated brother" he was, nevertheless, taken in by Father Adam, saying, "The Shroud is greater than both of us." Dreisbach described Otterbein as "old reliable" in the face of Shroud researchers who took the limelight. "May it be," concluded Dreisbach speaking for everyone present, "that God raises up another Adam Otterbein for the next generation: they're going to need it more than we did."

Prayer Service

There followed a well prepared ecumenical service celebrating the Holy Shroud and the work of Fr Otterbein during which I had the privilege of reading a lesson and at which Fr Kim Dreisbach gave an inspiring sermon

Thomas D'Muhala

The first paper of the third day was given by one of the originators of the STURP organisation. Having begun modestly by stating, "I have nothing to say, I have not worked on the Shroud," D'Muhala recalled how Otterbein had been the pragmatist always sticking to the facts and not wasting time. Tom believed that the weekend seminar had been a gathering of the intelligentsia of the Shroud, "The most notable figures are here."

He observed that when Jumper has said he believed the C14 date this had a marked effect on everyone. "But," he pointed out, "if you took 1,000 experts in C14 and they dated the cloth, 999 getting a first century date and one getting medieval, which would you pick?" The analogy underlines that C14 is one datum point only and he listed some of the numerous facts which point to non-fraudulence, these are the 999. There is no need to stop work for one result we don't understand.

He pointed out that he had seen many things in Shroud study which suggested it could not be authentic and then later interpretation of that matter suggested the opposite and there is a wealth of information yet to be discovered in the Shroud. He suggested that it is the duty of Shroud researchers to continue the work they are doing until new tests are sanctioned. He strongly advocated reducing what information we have to electronic format for access by others on the internet as well as good archiving of the material in existence. Also the conservation issue is paramount.

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)

He concluded by exhorting all delegates to find young blood to carry on the work with energy and vision, commitment and sensitivity. Things incredible today become reality tomorrow.

Fr Joe Marino

Father Joe Marino has long been one of the keenest minds in Shroud circles and has the great advantage of youth on his side. His paper, *The Disciples on the Road to Turin* began with an explanation that there is an analogy with the disciples on the road to Emmaus wherein their expectations were misguided and the disarray and confusion over the results of the 1988 C 14 testing.

Just as the people had the choice of believing that the body of Jesus was stolen from the tomb or that he had risen from the dead so people have the choice of believing the C 14 date is correct or it is wrong because of discrepancies and inconsistencies which do not match most of the other evidence.

There are many accepted similarities between the Shroud and the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ but Father Joe then catalogued a remarkable series of similarities between the Shroud and the recorded life of Jesus at every stage. As it is intended that this most interesting paper will be published in *SN* 100 early next year I shall not report further detail here.

Wuenschel Collection and Library

The penultimate item on the conference agenda was a visit to the Wuenschel Collection superbly housed in chambers in the seminary. This is one of the finest collections of original Shroud related material in the world and consists not only of publications of all kinds but of a vast wealth of unpublished manuscripts, letters and photographs.

The group was then introduced to Joan Durand, for many years the chief librarian of the seminary. She described the magnificent library in detail and delegates had the opportunity to glimpse some of its rare and valuable deposits and to understand its enormous scope. Richard Orareo also spoke as one who owns one of the biggest private libraries of Shroud material in the world.

THE NEW YORK SHROUD SEMINAR AUGUST (cont'd)**Eucharist**

This extraordinary weekend finished with a celebratory Eucharist in the amazing chapel. Particularly for a separated brother like me, to be part of a Mass concelebrated by ten priests was quite an experience. With enormous dignity and a sense of the propriety of the work we are all doing the weekend seminar was brought to a close.

It was a very high-powered conference and stands among the best since 1978. There was ample opportunity to conduct discussions and meetings with friends old and new outside the formal sessions. Among the very positive matters, major and minor, concerning its success I noted plenty of space; perfect timing; excellent chairman control (Fr Fred moved to the side of the lectern two minutes before each speaker was scheduled to stop thus ensuring that he or she did so); large speaker's lectern; excellent microphone and p.a. system; a large video screen; comfort facilities nearby and adequate; good breaks between programme items; good food; popular provision of materials sale tables; a fullsize image of the Shroud centre stage to keep the mind focussed on the topic; thoughtful provision of pads and pens.

My only criticism is that there were no CVs of the speakers, nor were they introduced giving any idea of their background or work. This would have been helpful especially for those who were not long-term Shroudies. But that tiny detail aside Fred Brinkmann and Michael Minor and the Committee of the Holy Shroud Guild are to be congratulated for facilitating a superb conference. I only wish that those set to organise the next few (in Europe), if they are to be anything like their predecessors, had been there to learn.

Shroud News began in 1980 when Rex Morgan, author of three books on the subject of the Holy Shroud (*Perpetual Miracle*, *Shroud Guide* and *The Holy Shroud and the Earliest Paintings of Christ*) and editor of several others, began sending a few notes about current developments in the study of the Shroud of Turin (Sindonology) for a small circle of interested people in his home country of Australia. He didn't expect it to go beyond a few issues.

Today, the bulletin, now highly acclaimed, reaches subscribers all over the world and is written, produced and disseminated more quickly than any other Shroud publication in the English language. It contains information, news, articles and illustrations gathered from sources of Shroud study worldwide through Rex Morgan's extensive network of personal connections with what has been described as the "Shroud Crowd".

Rex Morgan is a frequent traveller overseas which gives him the opportunity to keep abreast of latest developments in Shroud study and research at first hand. He was present at the world media preview of the Shroud itself in August 1978 in Turin, Italy and has met and knows numerous Shroud researchers in many countries. His quest for Shroud information became, as he described it, "a passionate hobby". He took the world famous Photographic Exhibition created by Brooks Institute, California, to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Macau, and Canada and during those tours it attracted more than 600,000 visitors. The exhibition was subsequently donated by Brooks to the non-profit making organisation, The South East Asia Research Centre for the Holy Shroud (SEARCH) of which Morgan is President. He is also a Board member of the US based Association of Scientists and Scholars International for the Shroud of Turin (ASSIST) and was a member of the scientific team which conducted environmental experiments in a Jerusalem tomb in 1986 (ESSJ). He has made a number of original contributions to Shroud research has presented major papers at international Shroud conferences has written numerous articles and has given hundreds of broadcasts and telecasts on the subject in many countries.

The list of *Shroud News* subscribers continues to increase internationally and it has been described many times as one of the best available. *Shroud News* comes out six times a year. Its production is obviously privately subsidised as we request a subscription in Australia of only \$6 for six issues posted. The USA subscription is \$12 (posted airmail - there is no longer any surface mail from Australia). Postage to other countries varies. ALL back issues are available for \$1 (US or Aust) each plus postage. The famous 50th issue is \$3 plus post. Customers should note that as it costs us \$8 to negotiate each foreign cheque we request all payments be made in currency banknotes of your country or charge to Visa, Master or Amex cards.

All information and opinion in this private newsletter is published in good faith. It is edited by Rex Morgan and published by

THE RUNCIMAN PRESS, POB 86, MANLY, 2095, NSW, Australia
(24 hour Fax No: 61 - 2 - 982 9956)