TO: The Members of The ITMS

FROM: Geoffrey M. Robarge

Reflections on the Second General Meeting of The International Thomas Merton Society

I arrived on Thursday afternoon — the campus had its own silence even with so many friends of Merton on the grounds. The first night I was lost — one path led here — another led there — but did I want to go here or there? Opt for a look in the program — focus, things came into view — names came to mind plus faces — we all had stepped out of the world into country, calm, peaceful, silent. OK, the world was out there — the birds told us — the train told us — the wind told us. As the meeting moved on — we moved closer together — all but one — Tom — who looked down on his friends from the sycamore tree just to the right of the front entrance to the Arts Center. "Hi, Tom!"

"Adam & the Animals"
Ivory Diptych
Museo Nazionale Borgello,
Florence