

Pope Benedict's words on St. Boniface, the missionary to Europe, March 11, 2009.

“Boniface’s courageous witness is an invitation to us all to welcome the Word of God into our lives as an essential point of reference, to love the Church passionately, to feel a joint responsibility for her future, and to seek unity around Peter’s Successor. At the same time, he reminds us that Christianity, favoring the spread of culture, promotes the progress of mankind. Now it is up to us to show ourselves worthy of such a prestigious heritage, and to bring it to fruit to the advantage of coming generations”. Boniface promoted “the encounter between Roman Christian culture and Germanic culture. Transmitting the ancient heritage of Christian values, he gave the people he evangelised a more humane lifestyle, thanks to which the inalienable rights of the person enjoyed greater respect.”



His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI

“God is not solitude, but perfect communion. For this reason the human person, the image of God, realizes himself or herself in love, which is a sincere gift of self.”

BENEDICT XVI, *Angelus*, Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, Sunday, 22 May 2005.



King Ludwig's palace, on the Men's Isle. (Herreninsel)



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Benedict's Bavaria

Chiemsee (the Bavarian Sea)



A Summer Seminar

August 8 to 16, 2009

Inspiration:

Joseph Ratzinger was a brilliant theologian, a holy and gentle priest, an effective archbishop, a formidable cardinal prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Now he is the shepherd and chief pastor of more than a billion Catholics. His is a voice of reason and compassion for all people in a world in turmoil.



Spend a week with us exploring Catholic Bavaria which shaped this great man. It is a land of tidy farms, wooded hills, lakes and mountains. It is a land of pilgrim sites and roadside shrines. Visit the Benedictine monastery where Father Ratzinger conducted retreats, pray in the massive Cathedral in Munich where Archbishop Ratzinger preached, visit the Marian shrines he knew and loved. Allow yourself to be shaped by this simple yet rich Catholic culture as Benedict himself was.

Location:

Chiemsee (the Bavarian Sea), Site of Frauenwörth Monastery.

The trip will take place from August 8 until August 16. We will travel to southern Bavaria on the Austrian border and make our way by ferry to the ancient Benedictine monastery of Frauenwörth on “the Dames’ Isle” on Chiemsee, the Bavarian Sea.

The monastery was founded in 740, predating the crowning of Charlemagne by Pope Leo III in 800. In fact, one of Charlemagne’s great granddaughters, Blessed Irmengard, was Abbess of Frauenwörth in the 9th Century. The men’s monastery on the Men’s Isle is long gone, and the island now boasts one of King Ludwig’s grand castles.



Frauenwörth on “the Dames’ Isle”

Excursions:

Excursions will include Ludwig’s castle on Herreninsel (the Men’s Isle); Markt am Inn, the birthplace of Pope Benedict; Altötting, his favorite Marian shrine known as the Lourdes of Bavaria; a cable car ride to an Alpine peak



crowned with a cross overlooking the Bavarian Sea and countryside; and a falcon show at the Hohenaschau Castle. Leaving the region of Chiemsee, we will travel to Freising, the original

site of the Archdiocese of Munich with its great cathedral and bishops’ fortress. Father Ratzinger taught at the seminary here.

A day will be spent in Catholic Munich with its Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque churches, its lively markets, and the playful bells and statuary of the Town Hall clock. Lectures will cover the early history of Catholicism in Germany, Church-State relations today, the intellectual tradition of Pope Benedict and his efforts at liturgical restoration.



Munich

Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Hannah-Barbara Gerl-Falkovitz, Prof. Dr. Nikol aus Lobkowicz, Prof. Dr. John M. Haas, Sister Scholastica, OSB, Mr. Florian Huber.

Cost:

\$1,950 for room and board, lectures, excursions and receptions.

If you have any interest in participating in this unique event, please respond immediately to drhaasbavaria@aol.com or by calling 215-877-9910. Enrollment must be limited to 25 participants.