

## Father Thomas P. Acklin, O.S.B. and Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B.



**Father Thomas P. Acklin, O.S.B.**, is a priest and monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. He is known as a spiritual director, counselor, retreat master and psychoanalyst. He is the author of two books, *The Unchanging Heart of the Priesthood*, published in 2005 by Emmaus Road, and *The Passion of the Lamb* published 2006 by Servant, and co-author of *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love*, published in 2017 by Emmaus Road and written with Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B. He has been a monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey since 1978, and a priest since 1980. He received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 1971, a master of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne in 1975, and a master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1978. He earned a licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1980, a doctor of philosophy degree in 1982, and a doctor of Sacred Theology degree in 1983 from the University of Louvain, Belgium. Father Thomas has also received professional psychoanalytic training and formation from the Belgian School of Psychoanalysis (1980-1982); Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Center (1982-1985); and the Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute (1985-1994). He is a former rector of Saint Vincent Seminary and has been a faculty member since 1976. Father Thomas has given many retreats, especially to priests, Benedictines, and members of contemplative religious orders. He has also been a guest and host on "The Inner Life" on Relevant Radio and on EWTN. He hosted the program "Insights, Religion from a Psychological Perspective," on WEDO Radio, McKeesport for 20 years, and was co-host of "Real to Reel," WTAE-TV, Pittsburgh, a magazine-format religious program for 8 years.



**Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B.**, is a Benedictine monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Since his ordination to the priesthood in 2004, he has provided spiritual direction for many men and women, including married couples, seminarians, consecrated religious, and priests, even while completing his PhD in computer science at Penn State University. He became the programming manager and an on-air contributor for We Are One Body® Catholic radio in 2010 and has recorded thousands of radio programs on theology and the spiritual life. Father Boniface has extensive experience as a retreat master for laity, consecrated religious, and priests. He became the director of Spiritual Formation for Saint Vincent Seminary in 2016 and has offered courses there on spiritual direction. Together with Father Thomas Acklin, OSB, he is the author of *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love*, published by Emmaus Road Publishing.

### ***Words of Praise for Spiritual Direction:***

"In *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love*, the authors have written a superb guide to giving spiritual direction, and receiving it as well, worthy of the masters. I highly recommend it." —Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. Archbishop of Philadelphia

"The demand for sound spiritual directors far outpaces the supply, leaving so many who could be helped toward sanctity stumbling on the journey.... That's why Fathers Acklin and Hicks have done the whole Church, present and future directors, and the directees they will guide an enormous service in fusing the Church's spiritual wisdom and their extensive experience into a superb, systematic primer." —Fr. Roger J. Landry, National Chaplain, CatholicVoices USA, CatholicPreaching.com