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# Touch of Hollywood Helps Audiences Understand Biblical Accounts of Mary

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**TOUCH OF HOLLYWOOD HELPS AUDIENCES  
UNDERSTAND BIBLICAL ACCOUNTS OF MARY**

DAYTON, Ohio — When Biblical movies come to mind, we may think of the classic *The Ten Commandments* and the powerful Charlton Heston in the role of Moses. The Rev. Bert Buby, S.M., uses more contemporary Hollywood actors to bring the Bible, particularly stories of Mary, to life for his audiences.

"I try to put myself in the shoes of characters such as Mark, Luke and John," says Buby, assistant professor of religious studies at the University of Dayton. "I speak in the first person for the presentation and try to really take on the characteristics of the writer. When I speak as Luke, I imagine Kevin Costner, sensitive and intelligent. Mark resembles Patrick Swayze, full of energy and quickness."

Buby's talks are part of a speakers program sponsored by UD's Marian Library, which houses the world's largest collection of printed materials on Mary and is strengthening a 10-year-old speakers bureau that caters to the interests of Catholic organizations and schools in the Miami Valley.

Topics and speakers are listed in a new brochure that is available by calling the Marian Library at (937) 229-4214.

The original Marian Library's speakers bureau began with a list of three speakers in 1989 under the direction of the Rev. Johann Roten, S.M., director of the Marian Library-International Marian Research Institute at UD, where Buby is a researcher. The Rev. Louis Bonacci, S.J., has built the list to 17 graduates and faculty members of IMRI.

"The speakers bureau provides opportunities and an environment to people who want to know Mary, the church and God more fully," says Bonacci, chaplain for international students at Xavier University and assistant researcher for the Marian Library. "Mary is a vehicle for understanding Jesus and making him human."

With more than 45 speech topics offered, specific programs range from "Mary and Music" to the "Consecration of Mary's Immaculate Heart" and "Storytellers of Mary."

Bonacci says his future plans are to extend the target audience of the speakers bureau to the Columbus and Indianapolis dioceses.

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For more information on the Marian Library's speakers bureau or for media interviews, call the **Rev. Bertrand Buby** at (937) 299-3286 and the **Rev. Louis A. Bonacci, S.J.**, at (513) 569-4882.