

**Daily log**  
**CIB Symposium 2010**  
**Sister Nancy Bauer, OSB**  
**Entry: September 15, 2010**

How many Benedictine Sisters can you get on a Rome city bus? A lot.

We began the last day of the CIB Symposium by squeezing onto a bus that was already filled with people on their way to work. We stood in the aisle, toe to toe, hip to hip, and shoulder to shoulder. When one of us giggled, we all shook.

When we got off the bus we walked a few blocks and blended in with thousands of other people who were headed to the weekly papal audience. We were pleased when, in his greetings to various groups, Pope Benedict XVI welcomed the CIB Symposium participants. Of course, we expected no less from a pope who took the name of our monastic founder.

In our concluding session in the afternoon, we submitted suggestions for topics for the next Symposium which will be held in 2014. Then we talked about how wonderful it was to be together and that we look forward to the growth of *Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum* and increasing solidarity among Benedictine women around the world.

For our final prayer service, we formed *statio*. In this Benedictine tradition, the Sisters line up in silence to enter the monastery chapel two by two. Each pair bows to the altar and then to each other before being seated. Sister Judith Ann Heble, the CIB moderator, led the service in which we all blessed each other and sent each other off to be witnesses of hope in our own communities and regions.