



News Release

Contact: Sandra Soliz  
713-906-7912  
solizs@stthom.edu

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Houston (Jan 5, 2008)

**University of St. Thomas to Host 2009 Aquinas Lecture  
“The Ripest Fruit:” Aquinas as commentator on the Letters of St. Paul**

**WHAT:** Fr. Leo J. Elders, SVD, professor of philosophy at Rolduc Seminary, The Netherlands will deliver the 2009 Aquinas Lecture on “The Ripest Fruit:” Aquinas as Commentator on the Letters of St. Paul. **For more than a half century, Father Leo Elders has been in the scholarly vanguard of interpreters of Aristotle and St. Thomas Aquinas.**

**WHEN:** Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009  
7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon  
University of St. Thomas  
Parking available in the Moran Center,  
Graustark and West Alabama

**Background:** It is particularly fitting that, during the period which the Catholic Church has proclaimed **The Year of St. Paul**, the annual Aquinas Lecture at the University of St. Thomas should focus on Thomas Aquinas as a Pauline commentator. It is only recently that Thomists have become interested in Aquinas’s biblical commentaries and have begun to discover the unsuspected treasures of these numerous texts. Thomas’s lectures on the *Letters of Paul* have been called "the ripest fruit and the most perfect example of medieval scholastic exegesis."

Modern scriptural exegesis is marked by its philological and historical orientation. The medieval theologians, by contrast, examined in the first place and above all the doctrine contained in the text and its relevance for the moral life. This makes the study of the commentaries of St. Thomas a spiritual excursion through Sacred Scripture. We listen in silence and open our mind as part of the history of salvation unfolds before our eyes.

**Cost:** Free and open to the public

**Contact:** For more information, contact Pam Butler at 713-525-3591.