



**Father Mark Haydu, LC**

As International Coordinator of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, Father Mark Haydu leads and oversees the International Patrons' affiliate chapters. In his work within the Patrons Office, he has coordinated the funding of such restorations as the last two frescoes that Michelangelo ever painted, the lateral mural frescoes of the Sistine chapel, the frescoes of the Raphael Rooms, the frescoes of Pinturicchio in the Borgia Apartments, the excavations of Santa Rosa in the Vatican, as well as hundreds of other projects. Fr. Mark has over 20 years experience in communicating the faith through art and images. Originally from Akron Ohio, he left the states to begin his missionary activity at age 16 in Mexico and, from there, has spent extensive time in Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Spain. Fr. Mark's interests go beyond development, art, and Christian archaeology. He has two undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Theology and is close to obtaining two licentiate degrees (STL) in Political Moral Philosophy and Christian Moral Theology from the *Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum* in Rome. Through the years, Fr. Mark has become a language aficionado, achieving fluency in English, Spanish, and Italian as well as reading proficiency in French, Latin, and Greek. Before coming to the Vatican Museums, he was one of the few English speaking guides certified by the Vatican to lead pilgrims on the Scavi tour of the tomb of St. Peter. Father Mark has also pursued an extensive career in writing, starting during his years of study, when he collaborated with [www.catholic.net](http://www.catholic.net) in their scriptural reflections for young people. Ever since, his articles and interviews have appeared in various publications such as National Catholic Register, EWTN, Rome Reports, Alpha and Omega, Victoria and Albert Museum catalogue, and the Vatican Museums Bulletin. He oversees the publishing of a yearly volume entitled "Wishbook of the Vatican Museums" as well as a quarterly newsletter "The Vatican Museums Report" and the "Restaurare" E-newsletter. His first book, *Meditations on Vatican Art*, is being published by Liguori Press this fall. Annually, Fr. Mark hosts multiple Catholic, Non-denominational, and business groups in private visits to Rome and the Vatican Museums, where he has lived for the last ten years.

Since 2007, Father Mark Haydu, LC has worked as International Coordinator of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, overseeing the Office's operations within the Vatican Museums and leading the 24+ Patrons chapters worldwide. Fr. Mark is originally from Akron, Ohio, but has lived in Rome for the past 10 years and has travelled all across the globe for missionary activity since the age of sixteen. He has mastered fluency in English, Spanish, and Italian, holds a dual undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Theology, and will obtain two licentiate degrees (STL) in Political Moral Philosophy and Christian Moral Theology from the *Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum* in Rome. Aside from coordinating the funding of hundreds of restoration projects for the Vatican Museums, he has garnered a career in writing and public speaking, contributing articles to major Catholic and Museum publications, corresponding interviews for major world news stations, and even authoring his first book, *Meditations on Vatican Art*, which is publishing with Liguori Press this fall.