

Loome Theological Booksellers
Library Development

Loom Theological Booksellers



Founded in 1981 by Dr. Thomas M. Loom, D.Th., Loom Theological Booksellers is the world's leading specialist in secondhand theological, philosophical and all books in related areas. We operate two stores and several warehouse facilities in the historic river town of Stillwater, Minnesota, as well as LoomBooks.com for our internet patrons. Our regular stock of books consists of upwards of 200,000 volumes of monographs, sets and periodicals. It is our goal to provide discerning readers and scholars with the books they require and to assist religious and academic institutions with the development of libraries – in short, to foster the Christian intellectual tradition.



Over the years Loome Theological Booksellers has worked with many religious and academic institutions to supplement their existing holdings as well as to create new special collections. We have also created several entire libraries from the ground up. We are particularly well suited to the development of Christian libraries:

- ◆ We have worked with Christian and other books since 1981 – we know the books.
- ◆ Our professional staff is educated in theology, philosophy, history, library science and other areas, and is competent in Latin, the Romance languages, Greek, German and the Slavic tongues – we know how to use the books.
- ◆ Our staff has traveled extensively throughout North America and Europe both in academic and religious pursuits as well as in pursuit of academic and religious books – we are well connected with those who use books and we are eminently capable of acquiring books.
- ◆ We have assisted numerous libraries, large and small – we know how to help others use the books.
- ◆ We share the same goal as the libraries we serve – service to God and the Church.

Our Mission

We seek to serve God and His Church by preserving and providing important theological and other works for the use of religious communities, academic libraries, clergy, scholars and laity. We firmly believe that books are vital to the sustenance and development of a Christian culture. It is our hope then, that our work assist the Church in Her care of souls, in the formation of Her ministers, and that it might continue to foster throughout the world the great Christian intellectual tradition.



Library Development

Library development requires more than the mere collecting of books, even more than the collecting of strictly “religious” books. Library development requires a mind at work, a mind which comprehends both the needs of the particular group whom the library serves as well as the books best suited for that library.

Loomer Theological Booksellers offers the knowledge and experience needed for genuine library development.

“Loomer Theological Booksellers has a remarkable capacity to assist both individuals and institutions in the development of a first-rate library. . . I commend Loomer Theological Booksellers to any person or institution dedicated to developing an excellent library.”

Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, Prefect of the Apostolic Signatura

Loomer Theological Booksellers has created entire libraries for new institutions throughout the world. These have included:

- ◆ Ave Maria University (Ave Maria, FL)
- ◆ Champion College (Sydney, Australia)
- ◆ Seat of Wisdom Theological Seminary (Owerri, Nigeria)
- ◆ The University of Asia and the Pacific (Manila, Philippines)
- ◆ International Theological Institute (Gaming, Austria)
- ◆ The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)

We have also worked closely with an assortment of institutions in developing already existing libraries.

These have included:

- ◆ Archdiocesan Seminary Library (Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia)
- ◆ Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Rome)
- ◆ St. John's Seminary (Archdiocese of Boston)
- ◆ Mount Angel Abbey (St. Benedict, OR)
- ◆ Mepkin Abbey (Moncks Corner, SC)
- ◆ Florida International University (Miami, FL)
- ◆ Abilene Christian University (Abilene, TX)
- ◆ Asbury Theological Seminary (Wilmore, KY)
- ◆ Christian Theological Seminary (Indianapolis, IN)
- ◆ University of Dallas (TX)
- ◆ Pontifical North American College (Rome)
- ◆ Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (Ponce)
- ◆ Franciscan Provincial House of Studies (Bogota, Colombia)
- ◆ Pitts Library of Emory University (Atlanta, GA)
- ◆ Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, CA)
- ◆ Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia (Nashville, TN)

Furthermore, we have developed many "special collections", those collections of a narrow subject matter and often consisting of rare works. Some special collections we have developed include: Catholic Americana, Catholic Recusancy in Great Britain, Christopher Dawson, Jansenism, and John Henry Newman and the Oxford Movement.



"Thank you for your generous and effective help in building the library of the International Theological Institute in Gaming. In order to build a library near Vienna one is best advised, it appears, to go to Stillwater."

Christoph Cardinal Schönborn, O.P., Archbishop of Vienna





*M*odus operandi

Loome Theological Booksellers offers a unique array of library and collection development services to both academic and religious libraries. We can develop in consultation with you a library development arrangement based on your particular situation and needs such as:

1. The purpose of your library
2. The space available
3. The budget available
4. The availability of qualified and other personnel to handle the collection



We have worked with diverse institutions and individuals, tailoring our methods to accommodate each. Typical methods have included:

- ◆ In some select cases we have purchased entire libraries, sorted through them, supplemented them with books from our store and other purchases, and sent the result, a newly constituted and sizable library, to the new institution.
- ◆ In the case of smaller institutions, particularly religious houses, we very often can constitute an entire library simply from our present holdings.
- ◆ In other situations, we have agreed on a monthly or annual budget with an existing library. We then select books both from our store and as we newly acquire them. The selection is based on the fittingness of particular books to the library's collection and whether the library already possesses the books. This method allows a library to acquire good and relevant books with minimal expenditure of effort. In effect, we work as an acquisitions agent for the library.
- ◆ In the event the institution is possessed of an acquisitions librarian or bibliophilic scholar, we often will host him at our premises and assist him in the selection of books.

These are but a few of the more common scenarios. But whatever the situation, we are ready to work with you to design and build a library suited to your needs.

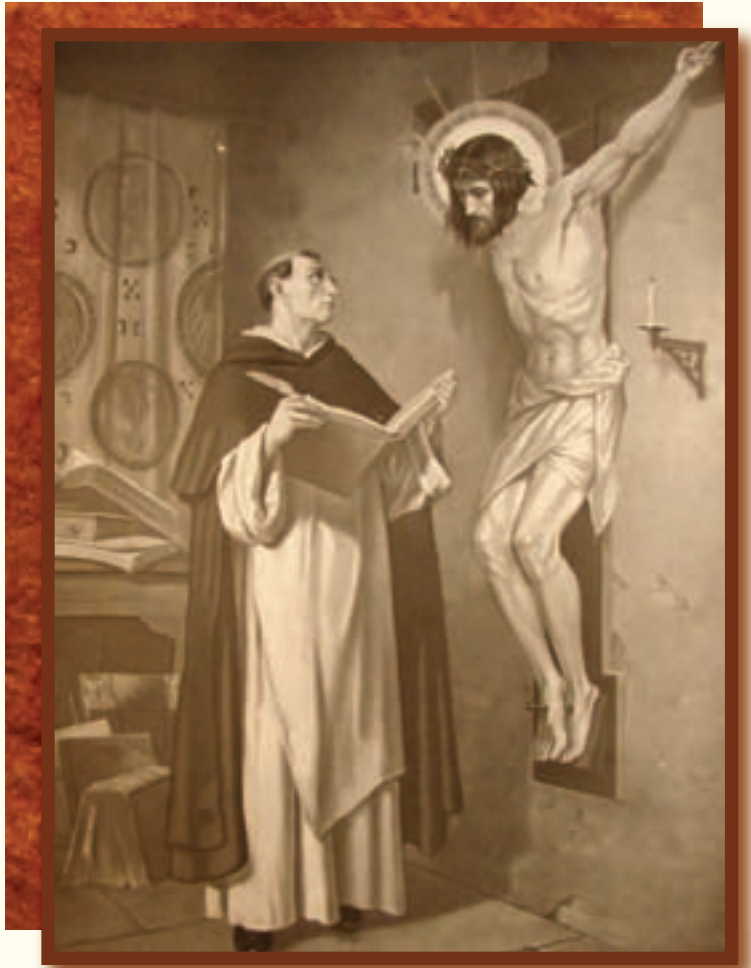


"With the assistance of Loomer Theological Booksellers, Ave Maria University has assembled the foundations for a world-class graduate theological research library."

Rev. Matthew Lamb, Ave Maria University



Need assistance funding your library?
Interested in helping libraries without financial means?
Please contact the Catholic Library Renewal Network:
www.CatholicLibraries.org.



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All photographs in this brochure were taken at Loome Theological Booksellers.