

**Jeremy Driscoll OSB**  
**A Monk's Alphabet**  
*ISBN 9780 2325 2643 1*  
*DLT, 2006, £9.95*

Jeremy Driscoll OSB, Benedictine Monk and Priest, has produced a collection of reflections and meditations which echo such writers as the Desert Fathers. This is a collection of short reflections, which are intended to draw the reader in to the spiritual journey.

he thoughts are presented in alphabetical order by title, not subject, so there is no specific order to the contents.

Although the book is laid out A-Z dictionary style, the reader's route need not be so linear. We are invited and encouraged to explore the contents in any number of ways; cover to cover, leafing to a particularly attractive entry, or by following a word or phrase and the thoughts it provokes, as can be done with a standard dictionary.

Jeremy Driscoll does not write specifically about his life as a monk, although elements of this do permeate the book. What he does achieve, is something of great value to a wide readership, for these reflections show how rooted in everyday experience and endeavour the monastic life is. Jeremy Driscoll effectively allows us to join his spiritual quest, and thereby come to focus on our own. Everyday situations and events become part of the lifetime spiritual journey we all share, Priest, Religious and Lay.

Each short reflection can stand alone, so this is a very useful book to have at hand during prayer times, when a little interior focus is needed. I also suspect that this will on occasion be a very helpful volume for kick-starting the odd homily outline!

**Maximilian SSF**