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St. Michael's

University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto Alumni Magazine



BOTANICAL BOUNTY

The gift of a private library makes PIMS a prime source for historical works on botany and horticulture

St. Michael's

The University of St. Michael's
College Alumni Magazine

EDITOR

Mechtild Hoppenrath

SENIOR EDITOR

Esmond Donnelly

COPY EDITORS

David Curtin 9T1

J. Barrett Healy

Fr. Robert Madden CSB 5T2

PHOTOGRAPHY & PHOTO RESEARCH

Eva Wong

DISTRIBUTION

Ken Schnell

ART DIRECTION & DESIGN

S. Dale Vokey / James Ireland

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Please send comments, corrections
and enquiries to Ken Schnell,
Manager, Annual Campaign
Alumni Affairs & Development
University of St. Michael's College
81 St. Mary Street
Toronto, ON M5S 1J4
Telephone: 416-926-7281
Fax: 416-926-2339
Email: ken.schnell@utoronto.ca

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Transitions: Change and Growth in Keeping with our History



Members of the Chancellor's Party at the UofT Convocation for the St. Michael's College Class of 2007, at Convocation Hall on June 14. From left to right: Richard Alway, President of the USMC; the Hon. Greg Sorbara, Minister of Finance for Ontario; Rose Patten, then-Chair of the UofT's Governing Council; and the Hon. David Peterson, UofT Chancellor

SITTING ON THE STAGE AT CONVOCATION HALL IN JUNE, AT THE University of Toronto Convocation for St. Michael's College, throughout the familiar ritual the notion of 'transitions' came to mind. The St. Michael's Class of 2007, newly launched into the world, includes 685 graduates, the largest class in our history. Estimates at press time indicate a record first-year class this autumn of more than 1,200 students – young people, many living away from home for the first time, and all beginning the great adventure of a university education.

I thought also of the transitions represented by my colleagues on the stage. Former Ontario Premier David Peterson was presiding at his first series of June Convocation ceremonies as Chancellor of UofT. Rose Patten, a generous supporter of St. Michael's, was concluding her term as Chair of Governing Council. Our speaker, the Hon. Greg Sorbara, Minister of Finance for Ontario, recalled his family's long association with the College in various forms over almost seven decades. And I myself am looking ahead to the end of my 18 years as President next June.

In the midst of all these transitions, in the ways that most matter, the fundamentals stay the same. As you will see in this issue of *St. Michael's*, our students and alumni still find here a place to study and live out their Catholic faith. We continue to make an important contribution to the wider UofT, which remains an institution of out-

standing academic breadth and achievement, Canada's leading university. At the same time, the College's unique academic programs thrive and grow, and today more students are being taught in more courses on our campus than ever before in our history. In fact, for reasons too numerous to mention here, with the continued support of alumni and friends, one senses that our best years are still to come.

It is a happy accident that the subject of one of the articles in this issue is a program called Transitions. Through a partnership between St. Michael's and J. Clark Richardson High School in Ajax, students at risk of not completing high school are invited to work on their final credits in a dedicated space here at the College. It provides the students a new and stimulating environment in which to finish their diploma, and through interaction with St. Michael's faculty and students, it inspires them to consider applying to university. In terms of numbers, the program is small, but in its success and impact on the lives of participants, it is hugely significant. And it is another expression of St. Michael's continuing commitment both to higher education and to service to individuals and the community around us, in the tradition of goodness, discipline and knowledge established by our Basilian founders.

RICHARD ALWAY 6T2

PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

Anti-God Books

The God they don't believe in is certainly not great

BY DENYSE O'LEARY

WHY THE RECENT SPATE of popular “anti-God” books? Books like *Breaking the Spell: Religion as a Natural Phenomenon* (Daniel Dennett), *The God Delusion* (Richard Dawkins), *God: The Failed Hypothesis* (Victor J. Stenger), *God Is Not Great* (Christopher Hitchens) and *Letters to a Christian Nation* (Sam Harris) dominate the charts, with some help from conferences such as Beyond Belief and campaigns such as the YouTube Blasphemy Challenge.

I researched this genre recently, while Montreal neuroscientist Mario Beauregard and I were writing *The Spiritual Brain*. At first sight, the genre is puzzling for several reasons. First, it does not follow a surge in atheism. Indeed, according to the 2007 Princeton Survey for *Newsweek*, only 3 percent of Americans self-identify as atheists. And despite Europe's vaunted secularism, outright atheism is rare there too, all the rarer after communism's fall.

The timing is odd too. This publishing boomlet is *not* driven by grand new ideas. Eighteenth-century *philosophes* said it all long ago. Recent works trot out evolutionary psychology—that is, they argue that spiritual practices derive from unidentified genes that enabled our Pleistocene ancestors to survive, rather than from transcendent experiences. But as theologian David B. Hart noted in the January 2007 issue of *First Things*, a New York-based journal of religion, culture and public life, these speculations do not arise from new discoveries in science. They merely “use biological metaphors to support (or, really, to illustrate) an essentially unfounded philosophical materialism.”

Fear of Islamist extremism surely drives many sales. But the reader is due for disappointment. The anti-God squad too often conflates post-World War II extremism with traditional religion—an odd approach in a world where, far from an age-old curse, suicide bombing is a radically *new* phenomenon. The books against God offer no



politically compelling policy for managing the conflict either. On the contrary, extremists can point to them as further evidence against godless Western civilization.

The most obvious feature of the anti-God books and their attendant campaigns is the note of panic over religious belief. That is a valuable clue. On Good Friday, 1966, *Time* magazine asked “Is God dead?” The clear implication was yes, with atheism's eventual triumph a certainty. Fast forward to 2005, when *Newsweek*, reflecting on that historic *Time* story, noted, “Nobody would write such an article now.”

The panic is well justified. It's not clear that God was even on vacation in the intervening forty years. Interest in spirituality has, if anything, increased worldwide. One reason, as political analyst Michael Novak recently pointed out (*First Things*, June/July 2007), is that secularism has not succeeded in replacing transcendent commitments; indeed,

secularism is more vulnerable than most habits of thought to a destructive post-modernism in which no ethical standards can be confidently asserted.

The key driver of the genre, I suspect, is that many people are mad at God, as they understand him. And the God they don't believe in is certainly not great. Buying the books is their declaration of independence from a God unworthy of belief. If so, the anti-God books provide a valuable service in a time of spiritual renewal, somewhat like William James's Indian sage who kept saying No! No! to all popular conceptions of God—on behalf of a deeper Yes. **SM**

Denyse O'Leary is a Toronto-based Canadian author, journalist, and blogger who is co-author, with Montreal neuroscientist Mario Beauregard, of The Spiritual Brain: A neuroscientist's case for the existence of the soul (Harper: September 2007).

CAMPUS NOTES

VICTORIOUS AT LAST

The St. Michael's College Men's Division Two Basketball team started off the 2006-7 year in stellar fashion. In the fall semester the team went undefeated during the regular season, crushing opponents left, right and centre. Entering into the post-season as the first seed, set on winning the championship, St. Mike's fought all the way to the end. In the finals, they came up a tad short, losing by only two points against the Woodsworth Wolf Pack due to a controversial late foul call.

In the winter semester, determined to get back to the Division Two finals, St. Mike's went 4-1 during the regular season—losing only to the Woodsworth Wolf Pack. In the post-season playoffs, they went 3-0 and edged out Phys. Ed. in the finals by a score of 47-41 to claim the Sifton Cup as the Division Two intramural Men's Champions!

The fan support throughout the season helped a lot to lead the team to victory. Thanks to all who came to cheer. Good luck to the team next year as they enter the Division One intramural league and look to bring another championship back to St. Mike's.

Jeff D'Souza



PHOTO: COURTESY JEFF D'SOUSA

THE WINNERS, back row, l to r: Colin Buerger, Mike MacNeil, Ryan Smylie, Paul Neville, Sean Hsu, Markus Yuen, Josh Buck, Jeffrey D'Souza **Front row, l to r:** Michael Bennett, Nemoy Lewis, Moe Mahdi.

MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

This year's Spring Reunion weekend touched a lot of alumni hearts, among them Tom Flynn 5T2, who writes: "My only regret is that more of our classmates did not come..."

I was hesitating on coming to the reunion. Not attending would have been a great mistake on my part. Just seeing my classmates that did attend reinforced for me what great people they are, how fortunate I am to have them as friends, what a great time we had together 55 years ago at St. Mike's, and how fortunate I am to be able to see them again."

*Dates for the next Spring Reunion: May 30-June 1, '07.
Mark your calendar now.*

From left to right: Paul Blake, Barbara Blake 5T2, John Nelligan 4T2, Marion Nelligan, Joan (Garvey) Regan 5T2, John Regan 5T3, Alice Flynn and Tom Flynn 5T2



GENETIC TESTING

In June, the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute (CCBI) launched the published proceedings of its first academic symposium ever, “Ethics and the New Genetics.” Held in Guelph, Ontario, the symposium scrutinized advances in human genetics and the ethical dilemmas they create. The new publication outlines the different stances taken by the symposium’s interdisciplinary group of experts, examining them in the context of Roman Catholic moral and religious thought. For details, go to the Institute’s recently redesigned website at www.ccbi-utoronto.ca.

DEAN’S CUP: IN YOUR FACE

Last winter’s Dean’s Cup Charity Drive raised more than \$4,000 for the Daily Bread Food Bank. Some residence teams carolled for cash in Yorkville and the Eaton Centre, but the hit money-maker, organized by the women of Elmsley 1st, was a pie-throwing contest, with targets including Dean of

PHOTO: ROSALIA RUGGIERO



SMC residence carollers raised funds for the Dean’s Cup Charity Drive

Students Duane Rendle—a crowd pleaser that made it into the *Toronto Star*.



David Cramer lets Duane Rendle have his cake

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

AS the home of the UofT’s Department of French, St. Michael’s can now also boast the Centre d’études de la France et du monde francophone—Centre for the Study of French and the Francophone World. The Government of France has created 14 of these interdisciplinary centres, at Columbia University and UCLA, for example, but UofT’s is the only one in

Canada. According to French ambassador Daniel Jouanneau, its selection “acknowledges over 150 years of graduate training and research in French studies at the highest level.”

The Centre’s location at St. Michael’s will allow it to draw on the resources of the French Department. Also readily available to the new centre on campus, the Kelly Library’s Joseph Sablé Centre for 19th-Century French Studies and the Zola Collection, along with the St. Michael’s Books and Media Studies program.

APPOINTMENTS

• RICHARD ALWAY,

President of the University of St. Michael’s College

Chair of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada Appointed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper for an unprecedented third five-year term, Dr. Alway was first appointed to the position by then-Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in 1996 and was reappointed in 2001. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board advises the federal gov-

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Parents’ Day

Sunday, September 23, 2007
11 am to 3 pm,
Brennan Hall

Family Day & Boozer

Brown Football Game
Saturday, October 13, 2007
11 am to 3 pm,
Charbonnel Lounge and
Orientation Field



Book Sale’s Caroline di Giovanni

St. Michael’s College Book Sale

Tuesday to Saturday,
October 23 to 27, 2007
Reading Room, Kelly Library
Tuesday 6 pm to 9 pm
(Reception Lecture and
Preview \$25)
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,
10 am to 8 pm
Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm
For more details, email
usmc.booksale@utoronto.ca

Santa Claus Parade

Party at St. Mike’s
Sunday, November 18, 2007
11 am to 3 pm,
The Coop, Brennan Hall

Christmas Tea

Wednesday, December 5, 2007
2 pm to 4:30 pm,
Charbonnel Lounge

For information on alumni events, please call Eva at 416-926-7260 or visit our website at www.utoronto.ca/stmikes

ernment on the commemoration of nationally significant aspects of Canadian history. During Dr. Alway's tenure, Ottawa has begun commemorating events outside Canada, such as the Dieppe Raid, the liberation of the Netherlands and the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

• **MOST REV.**

THOMAS COLLINS,

Archbishop of Toronto

Chancellor of the University of St. Michael's College

At its May 7 meeting, the Collegium appointed Archbishop Collins to succeed Cardinal Aloysius Ambrozic as Chancellor of St. Michael's, effective July 1, 2007. Earlier in March, the Senate approved the conferral of an honorary doctorate on Toronto's new archbishop. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, at St. Basil's Church on June 14 (see HONOURS, p. 28.)

• **YIFTACH FEHIGE**

Assistant Professor,
Christianity and Science

After an extensive search to fill this new and very specialized tenure-stream position, the Christianity and Culture program announced the appointment of Dr. Fehige, who has a background in Physics and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Mainz, Germany. He is currently completing post-doctoral research in the UofT Department of Philosophy and a second doctorate, in Theology. In addition to teaching he will assist Catholic students majoring in science programs, building networks across the wider UofT and responding to media enquiries.

• **MARK MCGOWAN**

Principal of St. Michael's College

Appointed to a second three-year term as Principal, Professor McGowan is also Director of the Christianity and Culture program and a member of the UofT Department of History. Recommending his reappointment, President Alway noted that Professor McGowan "has led important new initiatives, helping found our Book and Media Studies program and spearheading St. Michael's partnership in UofT's Concurrent Teacher Education Program." His new term of office begins July 1, 2008, running to June 30, 2011. He is on administrative leave for the current academic year.

• **MICHÈLE MULCHAHEY**

Leonard E. Boyle Chair in
Manuscript Studies, Pontifical
Institute of Mediaeval Studies

One of Father Boyle's last pupils prior to his becoming Prefect of the Vatican Library, Dr. Mulchahey is a leading authority on the religious and intellectual culture of the late Middle Ages. She has taught at St. Mary's College of California, the University of Victoria, Fordham University in New York and the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. In 2003-04 she was a Visiting Professor at Harvard, teaching at the Villa I Tatti in Florence. The Leonard E. Boyle Chair is designed to continue the Pontifical Institute's strong emphasis on the manuscript sciences. Aspects of its curriculum include palaeography, codicology, diplomatics and the editing of texts.



FAREWELL KATHLEEN

In late June, Kathleen Ancker resigned as Director of Alumni Affairs and Development to become National Development Director of Catholic Missions in Canada. In her three and a half years with the College, Kathleen made significant contributions to her department, most notably to the Annual Fund Campaign, Spring Reunion and other alumni events, along with improvements to this magazine. Congratulations to her, and even more to her 'new' employers and colleagues, who are not so new to her since she has returned to whence she came when she began St. Michael's.



Top: Brian O'Malley (left), Executive Director of Alumni Affairs & Development, and Mimi Marrocco (right), Director of Continuing Education, bid farewell to Kathleen Ancker. **Above, l to r:** Marilyn Elphick, Director of Chaplaincy Services, Annual Campaign Manager Ken Schnell, Alumni Office Executive Assistant Eva Wong, Kathleen Ancker, Fr. Dan Donovan and USMC Controller Ian Tytler.

• **YVES ROBERGE**

Acting Principal of
St. Michael's College
Overseeing St. Michael's
undergraduate Arts and
Science operations until June
2008, Professor Roberge is a
Fellow of St. Michael's, a
member of UofT's Depart-

ment of French and current
President of the Canadian
Linguistic Association. He is
a nine-time recipient of the
Dean's Excellence Award in the
Faculty of Arts and Science,
and received the Faculty's
Outstanding Teaching Award
for 1995-1996. **SMM**

FACULTY EVENTS

FR. TILLARD LECTURES

on Fridays, 7:30 - 9 pm,
Muzzo Family Alumni Hall 100

October 19, 2007

'A Short-Lived Cold' or
'A Serious and Long-Lasting Chill':
The Future of Anglican-Roman Catholic
Relations by the Rt. Rev. John Hind,
Bishop of Chichester, UK.

November 2, 2007

Ministry and the Local Church in the
Theology of J.-M. R. Tillard, by
Fr. Thomas F. O'Meara OP, William
K. Warren Professor Emeritus,
University of Notre Dame, IN.

November 30, 2007

The Office of the Bishop within the
'Communio Ecclesiarum':
Insights from the Ecclesiology of
Jean-Marie Tillard by Prof. Dr.
Richard Gaillardetz, Margaret and
Thomas Murray and James J. Bacik
Chair, University of Toledo, OH.

FURLONG LECTURE

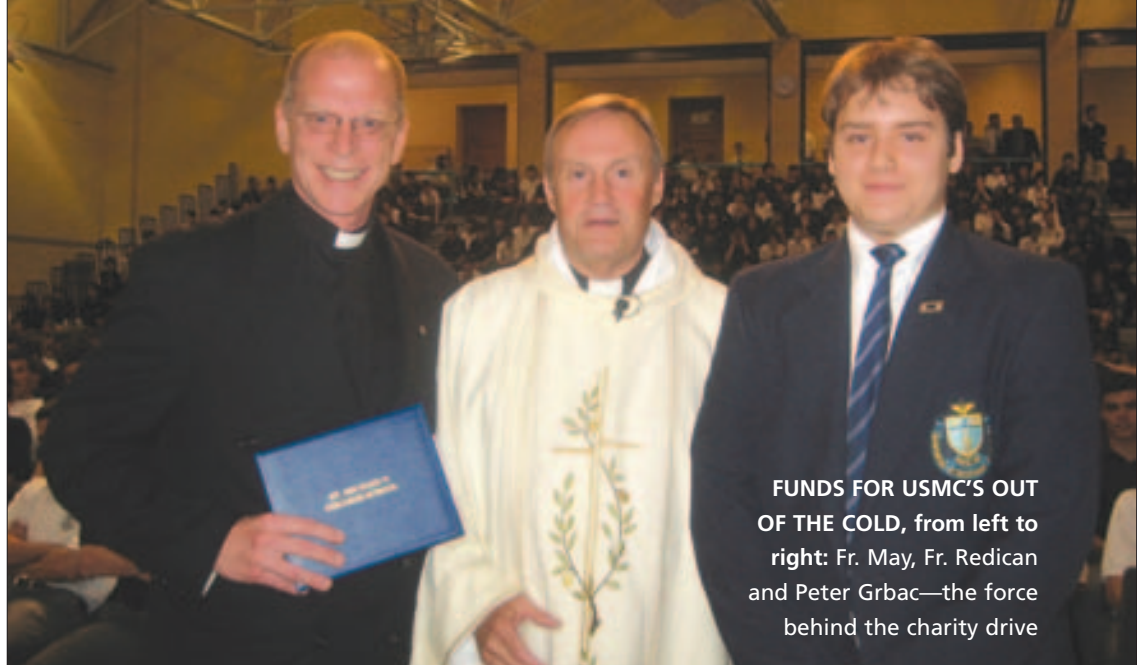
Sunday, October 28, 2007

Abraham in Judaism,
Christianity, and Islam
8 pm, Sam Sorbara Auditorium,
Brennan Hall
The speaker, Prof. Jane McAuliffe,
of Georgetown University,
Washington, D.C., is a senior
fellow at the Center for Muslim-
Christian Understanding and a
former Chair and Professor in the
Department for the Study of
Religion at UofT. A symposium,
with presentations by other
scholars, will follow on Monday,
October 29, 2007, in the Madden
Auditorium, Carr Hall.

USMC CONVOCATION

November 3, 2007

2 pm St. Basil's Church
For the conferral of St. Michael's
degrees in theology and the
awarding of diplomas for
Continuing Education Division
certificate programs. Honorary
degrees this year: Prof. Mariel
O'Neill-Karch, Doctor of the
University, Fr. Thomas O'Meara
OP, Doctor of Divinity, and
Thomas Reilly, Doctor of
Sacred Letters.



FUNDS FOR USMC'S OUT
OF THE COLD, from left to
right: Fr. May, Fr. Redican
and Peter Grbac—the force
behind the charity drive

GIVING

School Drive

Resourceful raffling plus spirited drive equals funds for SMC charity

All 1,100 boys attending Toronto's St. Michael's College School had filed into the school's vast gym, which had been set up for the final Mass of the school year. They were itching to get on to other things, but were also clearly pleased to see they had a visitor, Fr. Bill May CSB, Chaplain of the University of St. Michael's College. The high school's president, Father Joe Redican, told them that Father May had come to receive a cheque from them, their contribution to USMC's student-run Out of the Cold program at St. Basil's Church. When they heard the amount—\$3,000—there was a gasp and a big round of applause.

Peter Grbac, the Grade 11 student who had done most of the organizing of the fundraising, explained that \$1,500 had come from a raffle in which the prizes were three premium tickets to a Leafs game, two tickets to the National Ballet and a copy of the new Microsoft software package, Windows Vista. Another \$900 had come from sales of Mother's Day gift baskets. A 50-50 draw had raised \$400 more, with an equal amount—half the ticket sales total—going to the draw winner. The school then kicked in \$200, to round off the final total.

The St. Mike's boys were well aware too that the high school has a very special relationship

with Out of the Cold. The charity, which provides hot meals and overnight accommodations to homeless people, actually started at the high school in 1987, organized by a group of students led by Sr. Susan Moran OLM 9T6. A few years later, some alumni from the high school established the Out of the Cold program at USMC. And the idea has spread. Out of the Cold now operates in at least 50 Toronto churches and synagogues and in dozens of other communities across Ontario.

Peter Grbac, who presented the cheque to Father May, has been volunteering for four years at the Out of the Cold program run by Our Lady of Peace Catholic and St. Matthew's Anglican churches. Most recently, he has coordinated the weekly setup of beds, tables, and so on. That one program, he said, attracts about 50 dinner guests each week, and provides beds for 30 of them. The rest either bring sleeping bags or are bussed to other shelters.

"It's about giving companionship more than bread," he says. "It's humbling to be able to serve the guests. They teach us about the real things." Grbac is starting to shop around for a university for himself. He plans to study biological sciences, which in his case is code for "pre-med." We hope he will come to St. Mike's. **SMM**

Latte in the Library

A cup of java when you need it, where you need it
BY DEAN PEÑAFIEL, FORMER SMCSU PRESIDENT (2006-2007)



CHECKING IT OUT: Students Lindsay Coyne (left) and Danielle Tasson (right)

COMMUNITY—IT'S ONE OF THE most important factors in providing students with the best possible learning environment. Over the past year, SMCSU has strengthened its commitment to improving the community aspect at St. Mike's. Not only do students benefit from the hard work provided by the Student Union or the myriad organizations and clubs it sponsors, but also through other projects that create a better communal environment, funded by the Student Facilities Maintenance Fund. These projects include the completion of the interlocking stone along Elmsley Place and the installation of

new lighting fixtures in the Odette Student Lounge in Brennan Hall. The greatest impact, though, will result from the creation of something new at the University of St. Michael's College: The Kelly Café.

Located in the Reading Room of the Kelly Library, the Café opened in April to serve the constantly growing number of people who use the library's extensive services. The Kelly Library has gradually transformed into another student hub, aside from Brennan Hall, where students come to study or to meet up with others to relax and take a break from their hours of studying.

SMCSU was proud to pay half of the capital

costs needed to establish the Kelly Café, using the Student Facilities Maintenance Fund. In return, any profits made through the Café will go towards funding other student initiatives.

It's truly amazing to see how the library has become a hotspot for students, particularly late at night, when it has extended hours for exam preparation. It's even reached the point where students refer to the library as "Club Kelly," since no other place in the area is open after midnight for friends to congregate. With the addition of the Kelly Café, people won't have to go very far when it's time to hit the books again—or when they need that bracing cup of java. **SMM**



Brother José Otero in the cloisters of Our Lady of the Angels Trappist Monastery, built by hand 50 years ago in the hills near Azul, 300 km south of Buenos Aires.

LIFE ROCKS

A million bricks and 50 years later,
Brother Tomas (Robert Ringwood 5T1) has made
his home in the quiet hills of Argentina

BY GRAHAM F. SCOTT



Brother Tomas shows off 'Seabiscuit' and the sprawling monastery grounds to John Regan, visiting on a trip with his wife, Joan, both SMC schoolmates of Brother Tomas.

“I WOULDN’T HAVE CONSIDERED MYSELF VERY PIOUS OR OBSERVANT when I was younger,” says Robert Ringwood, a St. Michael’s College graduate of 1951. But today, a lifetime later and halfway around the world, Ringwood—now known to all as Brother Tomas—can be considered very observant indeed. A monk in the Cistercian Order of the Strict Observance, generally known as the Trappists, Brother Tomas is among the last of a group of North American monks who travelled to Argentina in the 1950s to build, by hand, a new foundation in Latin America.

Brother Tomas says it was his time at St. Michael’s, and learning from the Basilian Fathers at the College, that instilled in him the

LEFT PHOTO: JORGE BOSCH / TOP PHOTO COURTESY: JOHN REGAN



Above: Tending cattle on the 1,200 hectares of donated land. **Below:** Toronto visit in August 2006, (clockwise) Lourdes Wust, Joan Regan, Miguel Wust, Raoul Aguirre, John Regan, Brother Tomas

religious conviction to pursue his vocation. The following spring after his graduation from UofT, Robert Ringwood entered St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts, to devote himself to prayer, contemplation, and work. But just what kind of work, he was soon to find out.

Our Lady of the Angels Trappist Monastery sits on a rolling tract of land roughly 50 kilometers southwest of the city of Azul, Argentina. The land, 1,200 hectares of it, was donated to St. Joseph's Abbey by a wealthy Argentine landowner in 1958, on the condition that the order would establish a monastery there. Twenty-five monks from the abbey, including the young Brother Tomas, volunteered to travel to Argentina to build it.

"We started from scratch," he recalls. The 25 monks worked alongside more than 50 local men in building the monastery. "We supervised the work, and most of us worked as labourers as well. There was no electricity here for the first five years, and the water pumps were driven by windmill." The monks lived in temporary quarters for sev-

eral years, as together the group laid the million bricks that make up the monastery's buildings today. Brother Tomas was assigned to bricklaying, and recalls that he was turned down for his permanent resident's ID card at first because the rough work had left him



with no fingerprints to record. "I had to work as a carpenter for 10 days until my fingerprints returned," he says, laughing. It took seven years of work to finish the monastery, digging foundations, laying bricks, and cultivating the landscape—all by hand. For all the strain and toil it took to build the place, however, today it exempli-

fies the tranquil simplicity of monastic life.

A trappist monk's day starts hours before dawn, as the brothers gather for first prayers of the day at 3:30 am. (Brother Tomas, conceding that he's not as spry as he used to be, rarely attends this first prayer of the morning. "The good ones get up at 3:15," he jokes, "but I don't do that anymore.") Breakfast is at 4:30 am, followed by Mass at 6:30. The brothers perform the day-to-day tasks of running the monastery from 8 am until 4 pm, with a short break for lunch, a brief *siesta*, and more prayers. Then the monks study privately until prayers at 5:30, a meal at 6:30, and bed at 8 pm. It's an austere, deliberate schedule, intended to split the day into equal time for communal worship, private contemplation and productive work.

The monks at Azul sell honey, run a guest house for visitors, and raise cattle, although the brothers themselves don't eat meat. Over the years, Brother Tomas has held a variety of jobs, including selling the monastery's honey in town each week, and doing the monastery's shopping. The locals, as a term of endearment,



Above, left to right: Brother Mario, Father Leandro and Superior Augustin gathered in prayer and song.
Below: Our Lady of the Angels, simplicity nestled in the hills.

call him *Tomasito*, or “little Tomas.” But his longest and most enjoyable assignment, he says, has been as guest master for the monastery’s *hospedería*, or hostel. In that role, he’s met people from all over the country, who retreat to the monastery’s contemplative atmosphere for their own spiritual renewal.

Last year, however, Brother Tomas welcomed two guests from considerably farther afield. John and Joan Regan, both also St. Michael’s College alumni (5T3 and 5T2), visited their former schoolmate in April. Bob Ringwood, as they first knew him, was one year ahead of Joan and two years ahead of John at St. Michael’s. (Regan and Ringwood had known each other because, as Americans, both had to complete an introductory year at UofT to fulfill the requirements for grade 13, which were unique at the time to Ontario.) The Regans had dated for one year while at St. Mike’s but ultimately parted ways. Having both been widowed in recent years, however, they got in touch again and were married in March 2006. For their wedding trip, the new Mr. and Mrs. Regan travelled to Azul to see

their classmate of more than 50 years ago.

“He’s a marvelous host,” says John. “He seems to know everyone in town, all the shopkeepers know him.” Together they visited Buenos Aires and toured the countryside, visiting people Brother Tomas knew



through the monastery. And Brother Tomas repaid the visit last August when he travelled to Toronto, only his fourth return to North America in over 40 years. Gatherings of former classmates held receptions for him in Toronto and Rochester, NY. “It was very nice to be back,” he says, simply.

The monastery, like many others around the

world, has dwindled in population over the last few decades. Today, there are just 16 monks at Azul, and as Brother Tomas puts it, using the Latin American slang for North Americans, “only four or five of us gringos left down here.” He has his place reserved in the small cemetery beside the church on the monastery grounds, a fact that he drops casually into conversation without prompting. Azul is where he’s lived longer than anywhere else—it’s home. That’s not to say there aren’t things he misses about New York State and Toronto.

“There’s no snow here,” he says. “I miss the snow, especially at Christmas. But that’s the depth of summer here, harvest time.” Snow or not, he clearly loves the country and people that have welcomed him and the rest of the brothers. “The people are very hospitable, it’s a pleasant place to be, the monastery’s really a gem.”

“You know, I learned a new phrase from my niece recently: ‘life rocks.’” He pauses, savouring the MTV-era aphorism before continuing decisively. “And it’s true, that’s the way I look at it. Life rocks.” **SMM**

PHOTOS: JORGE BOSCH



BOTANICAL BOUNTY

The largest gift of books ever to PIMS makes the Institute a prime source for historical works on botany and horticulture

BY CHARLES OBERDORF

AS ANY GARDENER'S SPOUSE WILL ATTEST, GARDENERS CAN BE VERY driven. About having the blackest tulip, the most perfect bonsai or every known variety of hosta. At the end of the 16th century, the Prince Bishop of Eichstätt, Germany, Johann Conrad von Gemmingen, first wanted—and got—the largest botanical garden outside Italy, then decided to record it for posterity. The result, the *Hortus Eystettensis*, is now among the world's most valuable books.

This month's cover comes from the *Hortus*, as do the illustrations on the next spread. A superb modern reprint was one of some 4,000 books presented last year to the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies by another determined gardener, Dr. Arlette Waris Thomas. Dr. Thomas's library, the largest gift of books ever received at one time by the Institute, focuses broadly on mediaeval gardens, covering everything from herbals and medicine to climate and cosmography, linen, silk and dyes to textiles and tapestries, travel to bestiaries and treatises on farming to monographs on craftsmen and commerce.

Arlette Waris Thomas grew up in Epernay, the heart of French champagne country. Her family were champagne producers, but she trained as a concert organist until a broken wrist nipped that career in the bud. Travelling in Canada, she met and married Scots engineer Frank Thomas, took a doctorate in French literature at UofT and for many years taught at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton. It was after retiring to Ottawa's Rockcliffe Park that her passion for gardening took full flower, as she and her husband planted their own mediaeval garden and began amassing their library. A downsizing move to Toronto two years ago prompted the gift to PIMS.



The Institute passed Dr. Thomas's 1,500 books of French literature “downstairs,” to the Kelly Library. Two hundred other books duplicated ones it already had. Nine hundred of the remaining books are catalogued in other Toronto libraries, but 1,700 are unique in the city and make the PIMS library one of the country's best sources for historical works on botany and horticulture.

Probably the rarest treasure in the trove is a complete facsimile edition of the *Album de Croÿ*, one page of which appears opposite. In the late 16th century, through inheritance and marriage, Duke Charles de Croÿ came to rule vast land holdings in Flanders and northern France. In 1595, recognizing that the management of his domain required a high degree of administrative organization, the Duke engaged his court painter, Adrien de Montigny, of Valenciennes, to make careful studies of his many castles, estates and towns. By the time Montigny finished his assignment, in 1611, he had produced more than 2,500 paintings, sorted geographically into about two dozen albums. Unfortunately, in 1614, soon after the duke's death, the albums were put up for sale in Brussels and disbursed across Europe. A 1988 facsimile edition brought the images back together for the first time. Dr. Thomas has given the Institute all 26 of its volumes. Harvard owns four.

The Thomas collection is of course about more than avid gardeners and pretty pictures. For centuries, until well after the Middle Ages, botany attracted the world's foremost scientists, along with its painters, troubadours and winegrowers. Scholars of all kinds will find much to chew on. But they will also find an extraordinary feast for the eyes. **SMM**



Above: Village de Salle, from Volume I of the Album de Croÿ. Although painter Adrien de Montigny was commissioned to document his patron's extensive land holdings, he clearly also regarded his hundreds of illustrations as works of art. Even in reproduction, they demonstrate his mastery of the watercolor medium, for example, by using atmospheric perspective to indicate distance. Many foregrounds, like this one, include images of villagers at daily activities—fishing, farming, caring for children. Borders around some pictures are simple black frames with gold or silver ornament, but many, like this one, include meticulous renderings of flowers, fruit, birds or insects. Opposite page and cover: Sunflower, from the Hortus Eystettensis.



Above: Cyclamen, from the Hortus Eystettensis, one of 367 large-format, hand-coloured engravings in the book. The world's first great example of botanical illustration, the Hortus was produced by a team of artists and engravers led by botanist-apothecary Basilius Besler. Essentially scientific illustrations, the engravings show all parts of each plant, including roots or tubers. Names of some plant species have changed in the four centuries since the book's publication, but the drawings themselves still appear regularly in botany and gardening books, often because they are still the best available.



Above: Irises, from the Hortus Eystettensis. Some plates in the book show a single plant, but many show groups, illustrating a total of more than 1,000 species. First produced in a run of 300 copies, the Hortus was printed on the largest paper available at the time, 57 by 46 centimetres. There were two editions: one black-and-white, with text, meant as a reference for apothecaries, and a hand-coloured luxury version without text but on better paper. These sold for 500 florins apiece, about a fifth the cost of a house in Nuremberg's best neighbourhood. Regardless, the first printing sold out within four years.



Above left: Martagon lily from the Hortus Eystettensis. In a rare burst of exuberance, publisher Basilius Besler used two of the book's giant plates to indicate the towering height of this lily. Not all is science. No blossoming martagon was ever this perfectly conical. On the other hand, it took a scientist's eye to note the two different sets of roots above and below the lily bulb. Above lower right: Three tulips, also from the Hortus Eystettensis, but from a different modern reprint in the Thomas collection.



Opposite page top right and above: Designs from L'Ornement des Tissus. Also in the gift of books from Dr. Arlette Waris Thomas to the Pontifical Institute library, L'Ornement des Tissus is a lavish catalogue of largely botanical design motifs from textiles, wallpapers and similar sources over many centuries.

The 17th-century designs shown above seem to come mainly from upholstery textiles. Other groupings focus on plant species—18th-century miniature landscapes, 14th-century designs incorporating asters, etc.



Virginia Hatfield
as Leah, Lawrence
Wiliford as Roy and
Melinda Delorme as Mona
in the Canadian Opera
Company Ensemble
Studio production of
Swoon, 2006

VOICE RECOGNITION

A recent SMC resident tells about her big first step towards an operatic career

BY MELINDA DELORME

“OH MY GOSH, MOM, I WANT TO LIVE HERE!” I remember the moment well, that summer day in 1998, when I entered the Christie Mansion’s music room at St. Joseph’s College, the recently closed women’s residence at St. Michael’s. It was a hot day, and my mom and I had been all over UofT in search of a place for me to live in residence, not an easy task for a professional-faculty student. St. Joe’s was our last stop, and I fell in love with a place that would inspire me through many working hours.

PHOTO: MICHAEL COOPER

People ask me when I decided to become a singer, and I always have the same answer: I didn’t choose this path, it revealed itself to me. In fact, I first applied for both science and music at university, and to this day I cannot remember a conscious decision to abandon the science for the music. After completing my Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance in 2002, I took one year of the Opera Diploma program at the UofT Opera School and later, in 2005, obtained my Master’s of Music in Operatic Performance.

Now came the big question: What next? Ideally, a young singer auditions for a position in a professional training program that will further her artistic development and bridge the gap between student and professional. These positions are extremely limited, but here I was, that August two years ago, offered a spot in the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio, straight out of school! I felt truly blessed to get my first choice, close to my family, at a time when I was about to transition from mezzo-soprano repertoire to soprano. Knowing I

would be guided and supported on a daily basis was an incredible feeling.

In the Ensemble our days are very full. We are constantly challenged and always singing. The COC's own gifted professional staff coach us regularly; we have sessions and master classes with visiting teachers, coaches and conductors; perform smaller parts in the COC's mainstage productions and also understudy larger roles. Watching a working company put a show together is an extraordinary experience all by itself. But we also get to know the artists in the various shows. Their advice and insights about the life and business of a singer are invaluable.

I was lucky to have joined the company during its final season at the Hummingbird Centre and be part of the inaugural celebrations and opening season at Toronto's brand new Four Seasons Centre. When the ribbon was cut and our national anthem playing, my eyes were filled with tears. New opera houses aren't built every day, and I will never forget being one of the lucky first people to sing in one of the most beautiful halls in the world.

It was in my time at St. Joe's that I discovered what I have to offer and how I want to contribute—to connect with others through breath, sound and beauty. Being able to sing and perform is a celebration of life and a sharing of what it is to be human. Life at St. Joe's epitomized these everyday miracles. I will always remember the Sisters allowing me to sing in the chapel before important occasions. Each time I finished warming up, I would lay my hand on the stained glass windows and breathe. The smooth, coolness of the glass centred me, and the colours infused me with the energy, vibrancy and joy that to me are the essence of singing. Now in my third and final year with the COC Ensemble Studio, I recall this ritual often, as I know that how far I've come and where I am heading is founded on where I've been.

In March 2006, Melinda Delorme joined St. Joseph's one last time, singing at the Sunday Mass marking the official closing of the residence. She chose Ubi Caritas, the Holy Thursday Mass hymn derived from plainchant, representative of the Sisters of St. Joseph's charism, Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Last



Nicola Beller Carbone (left) as Katerina and Melinda Delorme (right) as Aksinya in the COC's production of *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, 2007



Above left: Melinda Delorme. **Above right:** At St. Joseph's College, back row, l to r: Lorie Polsinelli, Mary Crane, Sr. Anne Marie Marrin CSJ, Sandra Doyle, Sr. Conrad Lauber CSJ, Sophie Nedumphra. Front row, l to r: Alex Jong, Melinda Delorme

season she had parts in the COC's Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk and Elektra as well as in the COC Ensemble Studio's production of Swoon. During the 2007/08 season, she will sing the roles of Berta in The Barber of Seville, and

Donna Elvira in the Ensemble Studio production of Gazzaniga's Don Giovanni. She will be understudying Countess Almaviva in The Marriage of Figaro and Tatyana and Madame Larina in Eugene Onegin. SMM

PHOTO BOTTOM RIGHT: COURTESY OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF TORONTO ARCHIVES OTHER PHOTOS: MICHAEL COOPER

COOL SCHOOL

The Transitions program finds a soft spot on campus for teen underdogs

By AMY STUPAVSKY OT8

“IF YOU DO WHAT YOU’VE ALWAYS done, you’ll get what you’ve always gotten.” That’s what Susan Martin-Willis 8T6 drums into her students, a piece of advice pointing to the crux of self-transformation. “It’s time to try a new way, guys,” she’ll say.

A teacher at J. Clark Richardson Collegiate in Ajax, Ontario, she spearheads the school’s Transitions program, designed to help students at risk of dropping out of high school to complete their credits on a post-secondary campus. Originally set up at Durham College, Transitions branched off to St. Michael’s College in 2005, a movement spurred by Martin-Willis, who graduated from St. Michael’s with a degree in English, Psychology, and Political Science.

Transitions began in the 2004-2005 academic year in response to then-Minister of Education Gerard Kennedy’s education reform program for Ontario. When previous attempts failed to reduce the staggering 30 per cent dropout rate among high school students, Martin-Willis heeded her own advice and, along with JCRC colleagues Tammie McGee and Principal Pamela Christoff, looked for other ways.

“We needed to find a creative solution for credit recovery,” she says. She cites core problems within the education system as the reason for the many dropouts. In the mainstream high school environment, the focus is on high-achievers, and students are not expected to deviate from the norm. “If they question authority, they’re considered to be insubordinate.”

The Transitions students, ranging in age from 17 to 19, appear to be your classic underachievers and wayward teen-age self-saboteurs. But for every time a teacher tells them they’d never amount to anything, for



ILLUSTRATION: KEVIN GHIGLIONE

every trip to the principal's office, Martin-Willis begs to differ. "I've always had a soft spot for the underdog," she says, her voice bubbling with warmth and effervescence, radiating a passion for teaching. "They are so worth the effort. It's really part of my philosophy of education. They are students who are marginalized, and that's a problem."

She's dubbed them 'bad-ass geeks.' Toxic friends, lack of support at home, and socio-economic conditions all contribute to their poor school performance. "Intellectually, they out-geek some of the geeks, but they don't fit into the mould," she explains. She can sympathize with many of their problems. "Oh, I really didn't like school in Grades 9 and 10," she says. "I was the kid who asked the toughest questions. It was my English teacher who saw something in me and helped me turn it around. He was an inspiration."

"St. Mike's has made me who I am," Martin-Willis continues. "I felt that St. Mike's was an environment that was open to everything. It's opened a lot of doors for me." With this in mind, she approached Principal Mark McGowan at an alumni event to talk about the possibility of setting up Transitions in the university's class space. "He said yes right away."

Soon after, in 2005-2006, SMC hosted two of the Transition program's modules every Tuesday.

McGowan's eager reception of the program was in keeping with the philosophy of the college. "Historically, St. Michael's has always had public outreach programs," he says. "It just seemed natural, given the character of the College. If people are in need, we should be doing something about it."

Once taken away from the bells and the halls, the students feel like they can be themselves. "When they're away from regular school, they're not afraid to show that they're smart," says Martin-Willis.

The change from high school to a post-secondary campus proved successful. No more than a year later, as of 2006-2007, Transitions calls SMC its full-time home, the students experiencing a well-rounded slice of university life. They have full access to the Kelly Library, they interact with university students, attend lectures and workshops and are involved with the Out of the Cold program. By auditing lectures and writing reflections, the students also have the opportunity to earn a certificate in one of four programs: Book and Media Studies, Celtic Studies, Mediaeval Studies or Historical Studies.

Exposure to the post-secondary milieu also encourages the Transition students to look beyond high school, the name of the program suggesting the bridging of two worlds, from high school to university. "It demystifies what that's about," Martin-Willis says. "Many of them believe that if you're not successful in high school, you can't be successful at university."

This past semester has been the program's most successful, with

all but one of the participants on track and set to graduate on time. One has been admitted to St. Michael's, another accepted at a different college. "These are students who never thought in their wildest dreams that they'd go to a post-secondary institution," says McGowan of their success. "They see that they have options and opportunities. Education is a wonderful gift and we try to nurture the love of learning in them."

TRANSITIONS ACCEPTS A MAXIMUM OF 14 STUDENTS PER MODULE. Susan Martin-Willis selects each student based on an interview. The

timetable is rigorous, classes beginning at 8:30 every morning. If a student misses more than two classes a month, he or she is dismissed from the program.

Martin-Willis tailors the students' individual programs to allow creative interplay between course materials and the student's own interests. "I give them a lot of choice. If they have their own ideas for projects, I listen." Encouraging their curiosity awakens their desire to learn, she remarks. "When they come to me, they're really beat up, as if school has just sucked the life out of them. But then, suddenly, they go from feeling like the least serviced kids in the school to being the most looked after."

Then comes the magical moment when she notices the changes taking place: "With some, you see it right away. They feel like they're home, as if this is what education should be. With others, you see it later

because their self esteem has been so compromised, though usually by the end of the first month they're feeling confident."

While Martin-Willis offers up the education in Transitions, she has also learned from her students. "What touches me the most is how they buy into kindness. I buy them muffins, and they're bowled over by this. They've had many negative experiences, with teachers talking down to them." Martin-Willis also stays in touch with her former students. They meet for coffee or chat on the phone. "They always want to know if the program is still going on. They say that if the funding stops, they'll go to the Ministry of Education themselves. It's really gratifying."

Her main goal is to keep Transitions running. "After five semesters, I've changed it and tweaked it. I've learned more with each round of students, and now it feels right. Sometimes I just have to pinch myself to believe that it's still going." But she will also persevere in trying to effect an overall change in the educational system, hoping one day Transitions will become accessible to all students. "No matter how many times I say, 'okay, I've done my part,' something keeps pulling me back. When all kids can feel like they have a place in a public school and can make education work for them, then I've done my job." **SMM**



TRANSITIONS AT WORK

Left to right: Derek Murphy, Lian Williams, Simone Grant, Sarah Anderson, Niké Dixon, Sandi Grad, Amber Black, Shannon McLean, Kaitlyn Novotny, Nicole Doucette, Stephen Roy. Kneeling: Cassandra Arsenault. Of the original 12 high school students enrolled in the Transitions program last spring, 11 graduated—three as Ontario Scholars, one returning to SMC as a full-time student.

THE GREENEST CHURCH

USMC graduate Roberto Chiotti's design receives the City of Toronto's Green Award

FIFTEEN YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTALISM AT ST. MICHAEL'S yielded special fruit this year when Toronto's St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin, on Sheppard Avenue near Bayview, won the City's 2007 Green Award for Design. Served by the Passionist Community, the church in North York had already received the LEED Canada-NC 1.0 Gold rating, the first worship space in North America to do so. (LEED is the continent-wide standard for sustainable design in the building industry.)

Architect for St. Gabriel's was Roberto Chiotti 9T8, of Larkin Architects, a graduate of the Faculty of Theology and USMC's Elliott Allen Institute for Theology and Ecology (EAITE). Fr. Stephen Dunn CP, who founded the Institute in 1991 and was its first director, served as project coordinator. In its concern for the ecological crisis of the planet, the Institute seeks 'integrative methods for contributing to the healing of the Earth in all its life systems,' and anyone who would see the tenets of EAITE's eco-theology made manifest need only go to Sheppard Avenue.

Unlike most churches, built to instill a sense of other-worldliness, this one emphasizes that we gather to worship in the greater context of creation. No muted inner sauctum here. Instead, a vast wall of glass

looks out to a garden, extending the space of worship into the world outside—and in winter providing passive solar heating.

Where most suburban churches have huge parking lots, St. Gabriel's has put its parking underground — a big investment, but one that reduces the building's impact on the urban heat island effect and leaves

most of its grounds for a garden that recalls primordial ecosystems and provides a range of wildlife habitats.

The garden, with its drought-tolerant plants and drip irrigation, reduces the church's potable water use by 78 percent. Waterless urinals, dual flush toilets and solar-powered low-flow faucets provide an additional 47 per cent water reduction. Also, the new building has cut St. Gabriel's energy use in half. Energy-conserving features include a well-insulated shell, energy efficient windows, extensive use of natural ventilation and daylight, and sensors to control lighting levels.

St. Gabriel's embodies the vision of the Passionist Community, to establish a mutually enhancing human-earth relationship. Says Fr. Paul Cusack CP, the current Pastor at St. Gabriel's, "While reducing energy costs was one of the reasons for building a green church, our primary motivation was to establish a link between the sacredness of the gathered community of faith and the sacredness of the earth." **SMM**



Above: Outside St. Gabriel's, an ecosystems garden attracts wildlife. **Opposite:** More than 10 per cent of the building materials came from the original church, including pews and the stained glass windows illuminating the stations of the cross.



The Little Program that Could

A wealth of Celtic talent stands ready to grow

BY AMY STUPAVSKY OT8



CELEBRATING, from left: Máirín Nic Dhiarmada, Richard Alway and his Excellency Declan Kelly, Irish Ambassador to Canada,

AS ST. PATRICK'S DAY NEARED WITH THE USUAL PARADES and pub nights, a unique Celtic institution in Canada provided an additional reason to celebrate. On March 16, as the folk tunes played and the Guinness flowed, more than 100 people filled Charbonnel Lounge in celebration of the Celtic Studies Department's 30th anniversary.

It's not by the luck of the Irish alone that the department has reached this milestone. "It's a testimony to the value and strength of the program and to the talent of the people who run it," said President Richard Alway in his welcoming remarks.

The program has come a long way since its 1976 inception, when it began with just 10 students. It now boasts close to 400 students in 18 courses and has become a significant part of USMC's identity. Said Prof. Ann Dooley, one of the program's founders, "We may still be

small at UofT, but there's nothing small in the hearts of our students and friends."

Faculty members Mark McGowan (SMC Principal), Ann Dooley, David Wilson, and Máirín Nic Dhiarmada each addressed the guests in celebration. Irish Ambassador to Canada Declan Kelly also extended his congratulations.

"It's a fantastic success story and it's great to be a part of it," said Prof. David Wilson, "We'd like to get more support from St. Michael's, so we can further expand the program. There's momentum here and it's very important to keep that up."

Keep it up they do! Philip Armstrong, co-director of the Ireland Fund of Canada, presented a \$40,000 cheque to

finance a new Artist-in-Residence program, which will encompass readings, interviews and workshops. The much-lauded, Belfast-born writer Bernard MacLaverty starts in October.

In addition, Sorcha Ní Chonchubhair this September begins a three-year appointment to teach Issues of Irish Contemporary Culture. The program hopes that fundraising efforts will ensure that this becomes a permanent post.

The lively celebrations also served as backdrop for the launch of Prof. Dooley's latest book, *Playing the Hero: Readings in the Táin Bó Cuailnge*, the first book-length study of the most famous of early Irish sagas. Yet most of all, the evening presented an opportunity for staff, patrons, professors, alumni and students to pay tribute to the past and look forward to the years ahead. "There's past and present in this room," said Ann Dooley, "but here's, lads, to the future!" **SMM**

Notes to Live By

BY LAUREL-ANN FINN

"Music can name the unnamable and communicate the unknowable."

— LEONARD BERNSTEIN

IN PAST YEARS, ST. MICHAEL'S Continuing Education students have had some of Toronto's best musical minds guide them through the intricacies of Bach's St. Matthew Passion, Gregorian chant and Gospel music. In fact, illuminating spiritual lives through music has been one of the program's greatest successes.

This fall, Classical Kids composer and author Douglas Cowling joins Continuing Education to teach *Music in Renaissance Rome* and *Music of the Tudor Court*. He wonders why "in an age when technology is everywhere in our lives, people are running out to try meditation and listen to Gregorian chant?" He notes that "despite the convenience of the digital revolution, people still yearn for an experience of the transcendent or an encounter with something not in their Blackberry."

For Rick Phillips, of CBC's *Sound Advice* and a very popular CE instructor since 2004, the most satisfying part of offering courses at St. Michael's College is "when the light bulb goes on. Yet sadly today, we tend to use music mainly as entertainment. We hear it in elevators, shopping malls, dentist's offices, etc. We might be aware of it, but we don't really listen to it. Music has



Joining the CE team of instructors: Classical Kids composer and author Douglas Cowling

become the background to our hectic lives."

Centuries ago, before stereos, CD players and iPods, people used it as a language. Composers wanted to communicate emotions and ideas. After the first performance of *Messiah* in London, an English nobleman is said to have approached G.F. Handel, raving about how entertaining the oratorio had been. The master allegedly replied, "I should be sorry if I have only succeeded in entertaining them. I wished to make them better."

Mr. Handel would approve of SMC's CE students, their steady enrolment speaking to a need for the courses offered. This year, Rick

Phillips wants to inspire with *The Music of Christmas* and *The Music of Easter* in preparation for Advent and Lent, and with additional 2007/2008 courses, *Handel's Messiah*, *The Artistry of Glenn Gould*, and *Great Concertos*. **SMM**

Music courses run one day each, Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm, lunch included. For specific dates, cost and more information on these and other Continuing Education courses, please go to www.utoronto.ca/stmikes, phone 416-926-7254 or email continuinged.stmikes@utoronto.ca



TO SPAIN IN APRIL: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

**In partnership with St. Jerome's University,
CE invites you (alumni and friends) to nourish mind and spirit on a trip
to Santiago de Compostela and the relics of St. James the Great.**

Organized by the University of Waterloo's long-time travel associates at Pauwels Travel Agency, of Brantford, Ontario, the special tour is scheduled for April 2008, with itinerary, costs and other details to be finalized this fall.

Interested? Call Continuing Education at
416-926-7254 or email:
continuinged.stmikes@utoronto.ca

HONOURS

Honoris Causa

AT its March 21 meeting, the Senate approved the conferral of an honorary degree on the Most Rev. Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, in recognition of his record of service as a leader of the Church in Canada and as a scholar, seminary educator and pastor. Said Professor Emeritus of St. Michael's Fr. Dan Donovan in his citation when presenting the Archbishop for the conferral of the Doctor of Divinity degree:

"On January 28 of this year, even before his formal installation as the bishop of Toronto, Archbishop Collins came here to St. Basil's to lead a *lectio divina* of a text from one of his favourite New Testament books, the Apocalypse or Book of Revelation. His warmth and humour, his deep faith and his love and knowledge of the Scriptures made a profound impression on the considerable number of students and others who were present.

"Teaching is at the heart of a bishop's ministry. It is something that takes many forms and that he has to both do himself and ensure that it is being done by others throughout his diocese - in parishes, schools and elsewhere. ... It is a priority to which Archbishop Collins has committed himself. In addition to his other responsibilities in this area, he is the liaison bishop for Catholic universities in Canada.

"The University of St. Michael's College is honoured that Archbishop Collins has accepted our offer of an honorary degree in theology. It celebrates and gives visible form to the collaborative

relationship that has always existed between St. Michael's and the Church of Toronto and its leaders. We hope that the new Archbishop's presence here this morning will mark the beginning of a long and fruitful friendship between him and St. Michael's."

The ceremony took place at a special USMC Convocation, immediately prior to the Baccalaureate Mass at St. Basil's Church on June 14, 2007. A few weeks earlier, on May 7, the Archbishop had been appointed the new USMC Chancellor, succeeding Cardinal Aloysius Ambrozic.



PROUD DIGNITARIES: USMC President Richard Alway (left) and newly-hooded Honorary Doctorate recipient, the Most Rev. Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto and, since May, USMC Chancellor

St. Michael's Students Receive 2007 Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Awards

ON March 1, five St. Michael's College students received the 2007 Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Award, given for their outstanding extra-curricular contributions to the university. Established in 1994 by the University of Toronto Alumni Association and the University of Toronto Division of University Advancement, the award is named after Gordon Cressy, former UofT Vice-President of Development and University Relations in recognition of his commitment to higher education and leadership in fundraising and community service.

JUSTIN FRANCIS GOCE JALEA

Since 2003, **Justin Jalea** has been a member of the St. Michael's Liturgical Choir and in 2005 became the Director of Music. Justin is a member of several UofT choirs, including the Hart House Chorus and Macmillan Singers. The philosophy specialist also contributes to St. Michael's Chaplaincy program and has served as Day Students Advisory Council Commissioner on the St. Michael's College Student Union. Justin is an effective leader with a gentle yet passionate style and an uncanny knack for being able to recognize the unique abilities of others.

PATRICIA JOSEPH

Patricia Joseph is well informed on issues relating to social justice. The political science specialist represents St. Michael's with WaterCAN, a UofT program that helps Eastern African communities develop ways to access fresh water and build sanitation systems. A member of the UofT Students' Administrative Council Equity Commission, she helps organize events, including UofT's annual Xpression Against Oppression Week, and also finds time to play on the tri-campus women's basketball team.

REZA KETABI

A former SMCSU President, **Reza Ketabi** led significant renewal and expansion projects, including a renovation of the Coop cafeteria, the creation of new student offices and the installation of a wheelchair-accessible entrance to the Odette Student Lounge. The human biology undergrad also served as

the Orientation Coordinator in 2005 and as an athlete and coach in intramural soccer. Reza's various involvements have contributed greatly to a new flourishing of interfaith and cross-cultural dialogue at the College.

SARAH LEONARD

During Frosh Week at St. Michael's, **Sarah Leonard** has served as a Leader, a Marshal and most recently as the Chair of the Executive Committee. The biological anthropology undergrad serves as an Ambassador on the St. Michael's Recruitment Committee. She

has served as President of House Council at Loretto College, her involvement with the residents continuing well past her term. Sarah has also been Coach and Captain of St. Michael's inner-tube water-polo team.

MICHAEL MAKSIMOWSKI

A past member of the SMCSU Executive, **Michael Maksimowski** has also served on the College's Orientation Committee. During Frosh Week, he oversaw the finances, ensured that everyone was included and helped organize team-building activities. The psychology and zoology double-major has also volunteered with Peace by Peace,

which trains university students to teach Grade 5 children how to peacefully resolve conflict in their lives, schools and communities.

French Honours

On February 21, 2007, Professor Emerita Paulette Collet has received "Les palmes académiques", one of the French Government's most distinguished awards. Conceived originally by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1808, the prize honours eminent members of academia and society at large for their exceptional contribution to the development of the French language and culture. Professor Collet is known at SMC and in the francophone community of Toronto for her engagement and tireless promotion in the field of French studies. Although retired from classroom teaching, she is still active as Director of *La troupe des anciens de St. Michel*, a theatre group of current students and St. Michael's alumni who produce two plays every year. **SMM**



YOUNG LEADERS: From left, Mark Maksimowski, Sarah Leonard, Reza Ketabi, Justin Jalea and Patricia Joseph

BULLETIN BOARD



"Bulletin Board" publishes pertinent information received about developments in the lives of St. Michael's alumni. Thank you for the contributions you have made. Please keep the "newsbits" coming; the effectiveness of "Bulletin Board" depends on YOU!

BY FATHER ROBERT MADDEN CSB 5T2 robert.madden@utoronto.ca

Richard Aguglia 6T7 continues as Counsel with a Washington, DC law firm and lives in Rockville, MD with his wife, Joyce Earnshaw, who is a remedial reading specialist working with minority children. Daughter Angela is a massage therapist; daughter Jackie works with disadvantaged adults and plans to attend law school; son Chris recently graduated from Loyola of New Orleans, having spent a "Katrina semester" at Loyola of Chicago.

Christina Attard 0T3 and James Farney were married 9 June '07 in St. John the Evangelist Church, Caledon East, ON. Christina formerly worked in Gift Planning for the St. Michael's Office of Alumni/Development and is now Gift Planning Officer for Queen's University, Kingston, ON. Jim teaches at Queen's. Among Christina's attendants were St. Michael's/UofT grads **Elizabeth Balogh 0T3** and **Katherine Van Driel Bader 0T1**. Katherine also sang Bach's *Ave Maria* during the ceremony.

Michael Bator 7T2 is retiring 31 October, after 13 years, as CEO/Director of Education for the

Dufferin-Peele Catholic School Board. During his 34-year career in education, Michael was classroom teacher, principal and vice-principal, superintendent of schools, and superintendent of curriculum and of planning. In addition, he has served as faculty council advisor and adjunct professor at York University, Toronto, and on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association. Michael has also served in leadership positions in several community organizations, among them: Co-chair, National Council on Education, Conference Board of Canada; Executive Committee, World Youth Day 2002; member of the Collegium of the University of St. Michael's College. Michael has also worked with the ambassadors and consuls general of Canadian, Philippine and Chinese governments to establish student exchange programs. Speaking for the Dufferin-Peele Catholic District School Board, its chair said, "Michael's leadership, knowledge, commitment to Catholic education and friendship will be greatly missed by trustees and staff alike." Michael lives in Mississauga.

Ann-Marie Carayiannis Beauclair 9T5 and her husband, Martin, welcomed their first child 12 May '07, son Maxime Maurice, 7lbs, 2oz. Anne-Marie, Martin and Maxime Maurice live in Toronto.

Mary Kay Brennan 7T5 reports, "I live and thrive in Charlotte, NC", where she maintains a private practice in massage therapy. Besides her Master's degree, she has earned an RN and an LMBT, a license to practice massage therapy. After serving as Vice-President of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) for three years, she has been elected to become President in March '08. AMTA has over 56,000 members in 22 countries. Mary Kay has three sons: Ben, who, with his wife, lives in Charlotte; Christopher, who works in Charlotte; Jeff, who is in the Navy and entered the Naval Academy in June.

Dudley Brown 8T5 and his family have survived a difficult South Australia year of draught, wind and heat; in his words, "Just a hard year to be a farmer." But this did not deter him from developing new releases of his Inkwell wines, harvesting and making wine from

what grapes grew in the uncooperative weather, and returning to a bit of consulting work. Dudley's wife, Karen, also returned part-time to consulting work as a Project Manager for an oil and gas company based in Adelaide. Their two children, Parker, 10, grade 5, and Hailey, 9, grade 3, have adjusted well and are enjoying their second year in their Australian school.

Colleen LaPrairie Clarke 5T5, retired from social work and living in Ottawa, has welcomed her 32nd grandchild, Veronica, in April '07. She announces, without prejudice, "16 handsome grandsons and 16 beautiful granddaughters." BRAVO, COLLEEN!

Diane Clarkson 8T9 and Douglas Hamilton were married in Toronto in 2006, 17 years after they met on a UofT ski trip. In April '07, Diane and Douglas welcomed their son, Tyler Clarkson Hamilton. The family now lives in San Francisco. Diane was formerly in New York City as a Travel Industry Analyst with a research company.

Dana Colarusso 8T7 and **Paul deMelo** were married 24 February '07 in St. Monica's Church, Toronto.

Donald Dudar 7T5 has been appointed Justice of the Peace by Order in Council. Donald and his wife, **Grazyna (Celejewski) 9T1**, live in Etobicoke, ON. They have three children: Stephanie, Elizabeth, and Adam.

Alexandra Dunsmuir 9T2 and Peter Kukovica welcomed their second child, Sophie Angelique Simard Kukovica, 26 March '07, a little sister for Madelaine Grace. Sophie was baptized in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, 17 June, where her parents were married and Madelaine was baptized. Fr. Bob Madden CSB 5T2 officiated.

Lori Dupuis 9T7 (below) was inducted 23 May '07 into the UofT Sports Hall of Fame. Lori played on the Varsity Blues women's hockey team from 1991-97, serving as captain for three of those years. She received five OWIAA all-star awards; her two OWIAA records for overall points (136) and assists (78) have yet to be broken. Lori



played on four Blues OWIAA gold medal teams and was twice nominated as UofT Female Athlete of the Year. She won gold in all three world championships in which she participated, and won an Olympic gold medal on the Canadian national women's hockey team at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics.

Christian Elia 9T5 has followed up his BA, MA and BEd (U.of Ottawa) with a PhD from

OISE/UofT in 2006. Christian and his wife, **Linda De Ciantis Elia 9T9**, live in Toronto, where Linda has been teaching with the Catholic School Board.

Brigid Elson 6T1, MA, PhD was winner of the second place poetry prize in the *UofT Magazine* contest for her poem "France 1992" (see www.magazine.utoronto.ca.) Brigid, a freelance writer and translator, lives in Toronto.

Michael and Sara Figueiredo Franca 0T1 live in Toronto and celebrated their first anniversary 29 April '07. Sara is Communications and Liaison Officer of UofT's Department of Computer Science; Michael is in Marketing with Dell Canada.

Kate Figueiredo 0T2 and Gregor Wallace were married 14 July '07 at Rochester, NY in the Colgate Divinity School chapel. Fr. Bob Madden CSB 5T2 officiated at the ceremony. Greg and Kate met while studying at the University of Edinburgh. Gregor's parents, grandparents and other relatives and friends came from Scotland for the wedding. It was an international occasion and also a St. Michael's reunion. Among SMCers in attendance were: **Rui 7T6** and **JoAnn Tierney Figueiredo 7T6** (parents of the bride); Rui's brothers, **Victor 7T9**, **Neal 8T7** and **Dennis 8T8**; **Patty Edelman Bertucci 7T1**, her daughter **Erica Bertucci 0T1** and Jean Clark. Kate's brothers and sisters, all from St. Michael's, were involved in the wedding celebrations: **Sara Figueiredo Franca 0T1**, **Joe 0T4**, **Emily 0T5**, **Steve 4T4** (4th year SMC), and **Mari** (2nd year SMC). Kate and Gregor are working in Laos with an environmental consulting company.

Frederico Gonzalez 9T4 has recently produced a music video for a pro-peace song based on his

REV. RICHARD BERTRAM DONOVAN CSB, 1923-2007

St. Michael's has lost one of its most beloved teachers, with the passing of Fr. Richard Bertram Donovan CSB on July 11, 2007.

He graduated from St. Michael's College in 1947 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1950, and that same year he completed an MA in French at the University of Toronto. He received a PhD in French Language and Literature at Yale University where he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for study and research in France and Spain.

In 1956, Father Donovan was appointed to the University of St. Michael's College, where he taught for thirty years. He was French department head from 1962 to 1975. As Registrar from 1977 to 1989, he was known as the priest who "went the extra mile" to counsel and support students.

He was greatly admired as a devoted teacher and scholar who inspired his students with a love for languages. We thank God for the gift of the life of this exceptional priest and teacher.

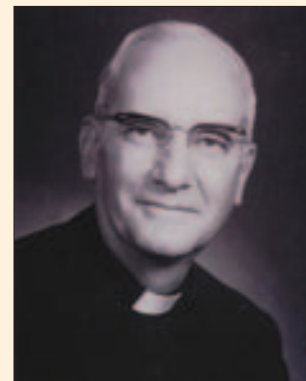


PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE BASILIAN FATHERS

wife, Sianna's great-great-great aunt's poetry from the mid-1800. The poem, "Rock Me to Sleep Mother", was set to music and sung by Civil War soldiers. Although a lamentation of those dark times, it inspired hope for a brighter future. Frederico adds, "This is not a political song/video—it's a universal one."

Louise Gaffney Gross 6T8 is living in Pittsburg, PA, and finds teaching English as a second language as a volunteer with the Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council most rewarding. Louise reports of her daughters: Molly is married and lives in Brookline, MA, with her husband and child; Kate, "full of life, and love, and music" lives in Chicago, IL; Anna, after Environmental Science at Yale and working in Boston in architectural design, joined the Peace Corps and works in El Salvador; Margaret is a student at Bates College in Maine. **Rick Hayward 7T0**, after 38 years of university service, including sev-

eral years at St. Michael's in administrative posts in Student Services and in the Registrar's Office and as UofT's Associate Registrar of the Faculty of Arts and Science and Manager, Associated Student Information Systems, has retired from his UofT position as Director, Student Information Systems. Rick and his wife, **Pat Conway Hayward 6T7, MDiv 9T1**, live in Toronto. They have five children: Kelly, Christopher, Caitlin, Kieran and Colin.

Cheryl Hickman, Loretto College Resident '88-'91, received her B.Music and a Diploma, Opera Division from UofT in '93, followed by a Master of Music degree in voice from the Julliard School of Music in NYC. Cheryl has since sung regularly with opera companies, symphony orchestras and choirs in several cities in the US, often in NYC, and many times in at least eight Canadian major cities, including St. John's, Newfoundland, her home

province. She has sung soprano roles with the Canadian Opera Company and has performed on the CBC. Her abilities have been recognized by first prize in the George London Competition in NYC and a Gluck Fellowship, along with awards from the Toronto Symphony, the McCormack Foundation, the Women's Musical Club, and others. One can understand why one author wrote that she "is poised to take her place among the outstanding sopranos of her generation."

Dean Higgins 6T8 and Pam Wright married in St. Clement's Church, the Redemptorist church in Saratoga Springs, where Dean and Pam make their home. Dean reports, "All our combined 8 kids attended and it was a wonderful evening. The **Kerwins (Ed 6T8 and Ann)** and the **Deeneys (Mashall 6T8 and Marie Elena 6T8)** came." Dean reports that son Patrick is at the University of California, Berkley, and daughter Rita recently graduated from McGill University in Montreal.

David G. Hunter MA Faculty of Theology 8T0, formerly Professor of Religious Studies, Msgr. James A. Supple Chair of Catholic Studies, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, has been appointed to the Cottrill-Rolfes chair of Catholic Studies in the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. David and his wife, Lynn, have two sons, Gregory, a student at Carleton College in Minnesota, and Robert, who finished his junior year at Ames High School. David's latest book, *Marriage, Celibacy, and Heresy in Ancient Christianity: the Jovinianist Controversy* was published this past spring by Oxford University Press.

Michael James 9T6 and Kathleen Martin 9T5 were named winners of the Gold Conservation Award in the Canadian Environmental Award, 2007 for their ground-breaking work on the protection of the endangered leatherback sea turtle, the world's largest reptile. Several years ago, they founded the Nova Scotia Leatherback Turtle Group (NSLTWG), enlisting the help of fishermen, tour-boat guides and others along the coast of Nova Scotia to track the migration patterns of the leatherbacks. One of the posters they circulated in their campaign portrayed a leatherback with the words, "Have you seen this turtle?" NSLTWG issues newsletters, makes school visits and conducts workshops that communicate findings about the natural history of the more than 90-million-year-old species. The coverage of the group in the 14 May issue of *Maclean's Magazine* notes that its work "has spawned a revolutionary model for marine conservation." The Canadian Environmental Awards is a national program established by Canadian Geographic Enterprise in 2002 through a partnership with the Government of Canada and support from the private sector. The presentation was made at the "Awards Gala" held in Montreal 4 June '07. Kathleen is the daughter of **Jim 6T9 and Kathleen Fowlie Martin 6T8**; Michael is the son of **Joe James 6T7 and Jane McNabb James 6T7**. Kathleen, Michael and their children, Aidan and Kate, live in Halifax, NS.

Kevin Janus 9T6 informs us that his show, *The Comedy Igloo*, moved to "New York's hottest new comedy club, Comix." The show's opening performance coin-

cided with Canada Day weekend. *TimeOut New York* has lauded the show as "Critic's Pick" and "Don't Miss", and *Comedians* magazine has called the show "one of the best stand-up programs in town."

Seung Hee Kang MDiv Faculty of Theology 0T3, CAPPE certified hospital chaplain and certified spiritual director, resides in Hamilton, ON. Seung Hee is a doctoral candidate in pastoral theology at St. Michael's. He has recently published "Birth of a Star" with Thomas O'Connor and Suzanne Joyce in *Through Conflict to Reconciliation* (2006 Novalis, Ottawa, ON); "Tending the Soul of the Terminally Ill", *Counseling, Psychotherapy and Health*, Vol. 2, Issue 1; a poem "A Stolen Identity", *Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling*, Vol. 60, No. 4, Winter 2006.

Sr. Susan Kidd CND MDiv 9T9, BEd OISE/UofT left in August to join other members of her Congregation, the Sisters of Notre Dame, in Kumba, Cameroon for an initial two-year period. She expects to be involved in youth ministry. The Sisters have been in Cameroon since the early 1970's.

Edward King 5T7 received a Clark Award from the University of Windsor in October '06 for outstanding volunteer service.

Michael Kuiaik 8T4 reports, "Retirement not being to [my] liking, [I am] enjoying a second career at Great West Life Assurance in London, ON." His wife, Shannon, is a pension fund manager; he notes that their children, Adam, 14, Simon, 12, and Leah, 8, "are all operating within acceptable industry parameters."

Michael is also working on his second novel and third poetry collection—so much for "retirement"!

Clare Loughlin-Chow 9T1 has accepted the post of Dean of Academic Affairs and Registrar at Richmond, The American International University in London. Clare took up her new responsibilities in the summer '07 term and looks forward "to no longer having to commute into central London", where she had been Director of Florida State University's London Study Centre. Clare and her husband Martin live in Richmond-upon-Thames and, in her words, "urge old UofT friends to get in touch if they find themselves in the UK."

Rose Golle Maggisano 7T0 has brought her talent to the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute (CCBI), located at St. Michael's. Rose continues to shape the palliative care section of the CCBI's website in order to provide public knowledge of resources in that field. In December '06, she presented an informative and well-attended colloquium on palliative care to which she invited guest speakers, including **Dr. Ed Rzakdi 5T6**.

Roberto Martella 8T5 was the subject of the Alumni Profile in the Spring '07 issue of *UofT Magazine*. Roberto, proprietor of the famous "Grano" restaurant on Yonge St. in Toronto, recently received the Jane Jacobs Prize, which celebrates "Toronto's unsung heroes." Jane Jacobs was a Toronto urban philosopher and activist who stressed the importance to urban living of 'commensality', building community by breaking bread together. On several occasions Roberto collaborated with Jacobs in creating opportunities for such

'commensality'. He hosts the Grano Speakers Series and "Language and Linguini" that bring people from all walks of life together to share ideas, to learn, and to eat! Roberto, his wife and Grano chef, Lucia (BSc, Erindale '85), and their four children live in an apartment above the restaurant and view it as an extension of their living room. Roberto plans to use the prize money to establish, with city council members and developers, the Piazza Jane Jacobs, a space where vibrant and varied community life can thrive.

Kathleen Martin 9T5, please see: **Michael James** and **Kathleen Martin** entry above.

Fr. Armand Maurer CSB 3T8, Senior Fellow Emeritus of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, has been honored by the recent publication of *Laudemos Viro Gloriosus: Essays in Honor of Armand Maurer, CSB*, published by the University of Notre Dame Press and edited by R.E. House, Professor of Philosophy at the University of St. Thomas and the Center for Thomistic Studies, South Bend, IN. The volume contains fifteen essays by internationally recognized scholars, many of whom studied under Fr. Maurer at the Pontifical Institute and UofT. The book also contains a recollection by Fr. Maurer and a bibliography of his work compiled by Fr. James K. Farge CSB, Fellow of the Pontifical Institute and Institute Librarian. One reviewer commented that the book is "a fine tribute to an extraordinary scholar." For more information on the book: www.undpress.nd.edu. Fr. Maurer lives at St. Michael's College and is preparing an edition of a series of six unpublished lectures of Etienne Gilson.

Fr. Luis Melo SM 8T2, Director of Ecumenical and Inter-religious

REV. JAMES FRANCIS MALLON CSB, 1906-2007

Many members of the St. Michael's community will have heard the sad news of the death of the Rev. James Francis (Frank) Mallon CSB, on June 13, 2007.

A member of the St. Michael's College Class of 1929, Fr. Mallon was ordained a priest in 1934. From 1935 to 1957 he taught at Assumption University in Windsor, and from 1957 to 1975 he served at the Newman Centre at the University of Toronto. Due to failing health, from 1997 until his death he resided in Anglin House in the Cardinal Flahiff Centre.

Fr. Mallon was known and loved by countless alumni of St. Michael's. He was a devoted and tireless supporter of the college, providing invaluable assistance to Alumni Affairs. His skill as a photographer at Alumni events was legendary.

Before his death, Fr. Mallon had the distinction of being St. Michael's second-oldest alumnus and the second St. Michael's recipient of an Arbour Award for services to the University of Toronto. We give thanks for the life and contributions of this extraordinary priest.

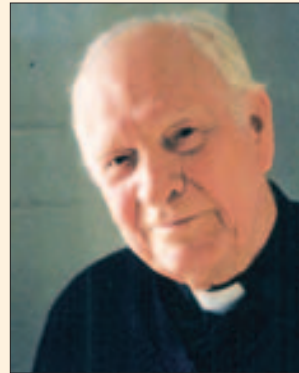


PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE BASILIAN FATHERS

Affairs for the Archdiocese of St. Boniface, MB, and Professor of Catholic Studies in the Department of Religion, St. Paul's College, University of Manitoba, has accepted the invitation of Cardinal Walter Kasper, President of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, for membership in the Joint Working Group between the Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches. The JWGC is a consultative body entrusted with initiating, evaluating and sustaining the many forms of collaboration between the Church and the World Council. The mandate of the JWGC lasts seven years, from one General Assembly of the World Council of Churches to the next. The plenary of the JWGC meets in Europe once a year, usually for five full working days. For five years, Fr. Melo has been responsible for ecumenical activities of the Archdiocese of St. Boniface, co-chairing the Mennonite-Catholic Dialogue, the Jewish-Catholic Dialogue and the Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic

Dialogue, and serving on numerous ecumenical boards and committees. Fr. Melo has also worked with the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Russian Orthodox Church, and served as a volunteer and translator at Kibbutz Gat and Kibbutz Ga'lon in Israel. He holds a Doctorate in Ecumenical Theology from the Angelicum in Rome. Of his appointment Fr. Melo said, "I am most happy to have been called to this new responsibility and look forward to contributing to its ongoing work of rapprochement of Christians for the life of the world."

Most Rev. J. Michael Miller CSB 6T9 was named coadjutor Archbishop of Vancouver, BC by Pope Benedict XVI on 1 June '07. He will become Ordinary of the archdiocese when the present Archbishop, Raymond Roussin, leaves that position. Archbishop Miller has served as Secretary of the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education since 2004.

Douglas Moggach 7T0, Professor, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa, has been awarded a Killam Research Fellowship, with release from teaching for two years. Doug reports that although he loves teaching, he will appreciate the opportunity to concentrate on research and writing on German philosophy from Leibnitz to the Hegelian School, focusing on aesthetics and politics.

Terrence Moloney 9T4 and his wife, Susan, welcomed their second child, Rose, 15 November '06, a baby sister for son Jude. The family lives in London, England, where Terrence is with a London law firm and Susan is revising her doctoral dissertation for publication and preparing to direct a month-long archaeological project in June in Greece, for which she and two colleagues have received funding. Terrence and the children will join her.

Eparch Kenneth Nowakowski 8T4 was ordained Eparch (Bishop) of the Ukrainian Eparchy of New Westminster, BC, 24 July by Lubomer Cardinal Husa, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kyiv, Ukraine. Most recently Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic Seminary of the Holy Spirit in Ottawa, Eparch Nowakowski earlier served as Chief of Staff for His Beatitude Myroslav Ivan Cardinal Lubachevsky's Rome office, and returned to the Ukraine with the Cardinal in 1991, assisting during the next ten years in the re-establishment of the administrative and pastoral structures of the Church there. Eparch Nowakowski is a native of North Battleford, SK, and was ordained priest for the Ukrainian eparchy of Saskatoon in 1989. The New Westminster Eparchy includes all of British

Columbia, the Yukon and part of the Northwest Territories.

Jason Ohler 7T7, President's Professor, University of Alaska, has recently published a new book, *Digital Storytelling in the Classroom: New Media Pathways to Literacy, Learning and Creativity*. Short excerpts from the book can be found on his web journal, www.Subtechst.com.

Mariel O'Neill-Karch 6T2 has completed her terms as Principal of Woodsworth College, UofT. To mark her retirement and celebrate her accomplishments as Principal, "The Woodsworth College Whimsical Productions" presented, as the announcement poster declared "The Halls Are Alive with The Sound of Students: A Tribute to Mariel O'Neill-Karch, Starring Mariel O'Neill-Karch, co-starring Pierre Karch and the Woodsworth Faculty and Staff. Rated PG, (some material may induce fond memories)." The extravaganza took place 28 June '07.

Margaret Ostrowski 7T1 graduated from the University of British Columbia Law School in '79, practiced law in Vancouver and was appointed Tribunal Judge, Immigration and Refugee Board in 2005. Margaret continues to live in Vancouver; she and her husband, Chris Holmes, have two sons.

Alexei Plocharczyk 9T1 is an Associate in a Hartford, CT, law firm. Alexei and his wife, Emily, have two children, Ray and Daisy; they live in West Hartford.

Maria Rivera Quinn 9T0 and former SMC student Anthony Quinn were married in June 2000 in Guardian Angel Cathedral in Las

Vegas, NV. They live in Toronto. Maria and Anthony welcomed their third child, Mary Frances Grace, 7lbs, born in St. Michael's Hospital on 13 June '07. Anthony is a TV producer and Maria, now on maternity leave, worked part-time at the Royal Ontario Museum and was busy at home with their two daughters, Adelaide, 4, and Charlotte, 2; now she is busy at home with three daughters!

Curt Russell 5T7, apart from celebrating his 50th anniversary of graduation at this past June's Spring Reunion, was inducted into UofT's Sports Hall of Fame 23 May. Curt was recognized for his performance as Co-captain and MVP of the Varsity Blues '58 championship



football team and for his All-Star performances on the Varsity football and basketball teams in his undergraduate and graduate years. In his address to the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, he spoke of the priceless benefits gained from the experience of participating in sports, noting, "Discipline, teamwork, self-knowledge and character represent some of the more important returns on the investment of time and work and pain." Curt lives in Manchester Center, VT, and heads a business consulting firm.

Bambi Stokes Rutledge 7T1, formerly Executive Director of the deVeber Institute for Bioethics and

Social Research, and Acting Administrative Supervisor at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, has accepted the position of Administrator at the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute, located at St. Michael's College. Bambi and her husband John have two children, Justin and Clare.

The Slades: Krista 9T3, having enjoyed an extended leave, returned 5 February to her position as Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne. Krista reports that brother **Mark 9T6** and his wife, Prachayawan, who live in Singapore, welcomed their first child, daughter Kate, 5 October '06. Kate was baptized 5 January '07 in Lombok, Indonesia.

Georgina Steinsky-Schwartz 6T8 was interviewed in a spring issue of *Maclelans Magazine* about the developing role of corporate business in charitable agencies and projects. Georgina is President and CEO of Imagine Canada, a Canadian national organization that fosters corporate citizenship and encourages partnership between charities, nonprofits and business to build stronger Canadian communities. Georgina lives and works in Toronto.

Dr. James Wiley 5T0 may no longer be Assistant Dean of the medical faculty of the University of Ottawa and no longer practice orthopaedic surgery, but he remains active in the medical alumni, and in recent years, has published three books containing recollections of and reflections on his years in medical practice: *You Just Can't Hardly Believe It*, Burstown, General Store Publishing, 1989; *I Was Just Standing There*, Ottawa, Legas,

1996; and his latest book, *My Learning Tree: Some Medical Anecdotes*, Legas, New York Ottawa, Toronto 2006. Proceeds from sales go to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

Christina Wong 0T3 had the opportunity to be with the fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre Company's playwriting unit to develop and hone her skills as a playwright. On 14 May an excerpt from her play was presented at the Factory Theatre, Toronto, as part of the Crosscurrents Festival. She was also invited to present an excerpt from her last year's Fringe Festival show in the "New Plays for Children" section of the first annual "Seedling Festival (Theatre Direct Canada): New Plays for Young Audiences." The festival took place 16-17 June '07 at the Tarragon Theatre, Toronto.

REST IN PEACE

In Memoriam

Bergeron, Lilia A. (Vasis)	6T9
Boaretti, Louie	4T8
Carlton, Richard A.M.	6T1
Robert Dickson	6T5
Donavan, Rev. Richard CSB	4T7
Dunn, John Patrick	4T1
Flannigan, Colin	3T2
Hayes, Sister Frances CSJ	6T7
Kelly, Rev. John CSB	5T0
Klix, Robert P.	5T6
Lechky, Olga K.	7T2
Mallon, Rev. J. Francis CSB	2T9
Moran, W. Lawrence J. CSB	4T4
Paterson, Lorraine	3T2
Peart, John Arthur	5T4
Quinlan, Betty A. (Marshall)	5T9
Tempkins, Charles R.	4T9
Trischler, Peter A.M.	7T7
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Weis, Francis Edward	5T6
Weis, John Albert	4T2

Home Page

Today it's co-ed and web-connected, but the spirit of SMC residence life goes on as ever

BY DAVID CURTIN

STEPS FROM THE REFLECTIVE QUIET OF THE ST. MICHAEL'S campus, briefcase-carrying men and women bustle to their Bay Street meetings, but these days, students and faculty sometimes come across a refreshing exception. St. Michael's Dean of Students Duane Rendle, who lives nearby, is on parental leave and has been seen strolling down Bay Street at a more leisurely pace and with a much more precious cargo—his baby daughter, Jacqueline. Duane and his wife are sharing full-time parenting duties in their growing, two-career family.

Reflecting life in the broader world, this image is just one indication of how residence life at St. Michael's has changed in recent years. But it also signifies something familiar to generations of former residence students: in a fast-changing and increasingly impersonal world, at St. Michael's individuals still matter. Creating a community where everyone is cared for and can flourish remains a priority.

"I tell parents, if you want your son or daughter to come home at night to a place where people care about them, St. Mike's is the place to be," says Dolores Lanni, a senior don of Wall House in Sorbara Hall and in her final year of the Master of Divinity program in the Faculty of Theology. "In my house, everyone goes to the Canada Room for dinner together. It's really like a family. If someone needs help, there's a strong support network."

Dolores's status as a don points to the most noticeable development in recent years: Last year, after 95 years of service on campus, the Sisters of St. Joseph restructured their ministries and closed St. Joseph's College, prompting the creation of women's houses within the SMC residence for the first time ever in the college's history. Staff and students have made a virtually seamless transition since, and with Loretto College continuing as a single-sex option, women students now can also choose co-ed residence life—divided by floors, mind you.

Many alumni will remember the days when all residence dons

were priests or sisters, and the high standard they set as mentors and role models. Today's dons are lay students—graduate and pro-fac students and senior undergraduates—who carry on in the tradition of their predecessors, helping maintain that special, caring SMC residence environment.

The residence buildings themselves are also changing. In recent years, Elmsley Hall and the Queen's Park houses have been upgraded. Also, an entirely new building, Sorbara Hall, came on line, and the historic Elmsley Place houses are currently undergoing massive restorative surgery for the first time in their 100-plus years.

Alumni from decades past would be impressed at what is now standard accommodation. First-year students have double rooms, but everyone else gets a single. All have individual phone lines and Internet connectivity. Many rooms sport carpeting and new built-in furniture, some of them are even air conditioned.

Fr. Robert Madden CSB, Executive Director Emeritus of Alumni Affairs and Development and Professor Emeritus of English at St. Michael's, remembers serving as don of Elmsley House in 1956-7, the last year before it was demolished for the construction of the present Elmsley Hall.

"There was one shower in the basement, for 35 residents. Partly because of the excavation of Elmsley Hall, we had a rodent problem, and these weren't mice! Two of the students put up a sign at the bottom of their door, 'No Rats Allowed'!"

The rats may have been impervious to orders, but students in those days were used to observing them. Fr. Madden remembers walking the halls of Elmsley House ringing a wake-up bell. Students were expected to attend daily Mass in the morning and required to be back in the house for evening prayers by 7 pm. After that, they could leave the house only to go to the

library, or to the Co-op, and then only with permission.

Residence life is no longer quite so strict, yet the spirit that informed the rules of past decades lives on. In its residence operation no less than in its academic programming, St. Michael's still endeavours to foster goodness, knowledge and discipline in its students, according to the Basilian motto, still providing many opportunities to take part in the life of the Church. Residence students serve as lectors and acolytes, for example, and sing in the choir at St. Basil's Church.

They also bring new life to old traditions, the Dean's Cup competition among the residence houses a case in point. Until recently it involved only intramural sports, but today includes a social-service component, raising funds for The Daily Bread Food Bank, for instance. *Plus ça change...* inspired by the same ideals that have guided the College from the beginning, that's a good thing. **SMC**



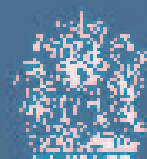
A 50's good time in the Christie Mansion's Common Room at St. Joseph's College

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Office of Alumni Affairs and Development
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1J4