



NEWSLETTER

Queen's College Faculty of Theology

December 2017

This short Newsletter is distributed electronically, it will have links to more information on our website www.queenscollege.nl.ca

Peace and joy of Christmas to you and yours from our faculty, staff and students at Queen's College.

Thank you for all you do for the College in your prayers, donations, support and encouragement. We continue to have good growth and expansion of the College programs. We look forward to continuing to be a resource to the Church.

As we bring 2017 to a close, I wish to say thank you for the support and cooperation I have received from the Corporation of Queen's College, the Faculty and Staff, the students, the bishops and clergy of the three dioceses, the representatives of other denominations, and representatives from Memorial University. I appreciate the insights, advice, and support.



Thank you to our Leadership Team (Fr. Neil Kellett, Rev. Dr. David Bell, and Dr. Carmel Doyle), who are generous beyond limits in their contribution to Queen's College to ensure we provide solid theological education, pastoral training and spiritual formation for students preparing for ordained and non-ordained ministries. Our entire faculty brings expertise and diversity that delivers our students the essential rich experience of a faith-filled learning community.

This message contains the unique bitter-sweet expression of thanks to Ms Susan Foley, who retires at the end of 2017. Her thirty-two years of service has been a blessing to the College in many ways: the number of years of faithful service; outstanding attendance; amount of change and uncertainty; new technologies; competency in all matters of Queen's College administration; and training seven provosts. Our blessings and best wishes are with Susan and her family as she moves into retirement.

I am pleased that our recruitment of a new Administrative Assistant proved to be very fruitful. Ms Dana Bishop has been with us since October, and she has had thorough orientation from Susan. Dana is quite up to the task and she will hopefully be with us for a long time. We welcome Dana to our Queen's College team and community.



We had a busy and good fall semester. We have a great line up of courses and a strong community for the winter. We will continue to nurture the faith-filled learning community experience. We will have our Days of Awareness, Continuing Education for Clergy and Pastoral Workers Sessions and sessions on spirituality along with the regular activities in chapel and courses.

May the Joy of Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year be with and your loved ones.

Rick Singleton

Note from Susan the Retiree



As most of you know, I am retiring after working 32 years at Queen's College. I thank each and every one of you for all the wonderful well wishes and notes for a great retirement that I have received over the past couple of months. As I reflect over the many years I have worked at Queen's College, I am most thankful for all the wonderful people I have had the privilege to know. Many of you have found your wings through your time spent at Queen's College and have gone on and become great leaders and gifts to humanity in many of the communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, across Canada and around the world. The friendships and relationships I have formed with you through working at Queen's College is what I will miss most of all in the years to come.

***Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
Susan***

Christmas Message from Cyprus

It's great to have been asked to contribute something to the Queen's Newsletter at Christmas. In Cyprus and the Gulf we are feeling, increasingly, part of the Queen's family – and that's a family that is growing all the time. We already have over twenty external students and expect, soon, to have around fifteen more. Of course, this isn't just about a formal arrangement, but hopefully about sharing some experiences of our contexts and of training for ministry within them.

Christmas in Cyprus is very obviously Christian, with lots of street decorations and a general air of festivity. In my village we have a life-sized crib with real animals. Of course, it's warm here (around 20 degrees, this week before Christmas), but it's still dark enough for the symbolism of light and darkness to have traction. There is a strong emphasis in our churches on this as a time of giving. Last week all the churches gathered at the Refugee Camp to distribute gifts to the 70 plus children there. The Orthodox Church make much more of Epiphany than Christmas and there are special activities to celebrate that.

In the Arabian Gulf there is little or no public recognition that this is a special season, but that does not prevent our churches there from traditional celebrations. Thousands of people will attend services over the Christmas weekend, from all over the world. We shall be thinking of you and praying for you in Newfoundland, and looking forward to our relationship developing and deepening in the coming year.

Thanks and best wishes,
The Ven. Professor John Holdsworth
Dr. Helen Perry, Administration Officer
Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf

Winter Semester Course and Program Offerings

It is still not too late to register for courses for the Winter Semester. Also, pass along this link to other who might be interested.

<http://queenscollegenl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Theological-Bulletin.pdf>

Convocation 2018 is on Thursday May 03, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary the Virgin Church on Cornwall Avenue, St. John's. Save the Date!!!



Congratulations to Dr. Sean McGrath on a successful defense of his PhD Thesis in Systematic Theology. Sean already has a PhD in Philosophy. We appreciate his contribution to Queen's College as our professor of Systematic Theology. Sean also leads Contemplative Morning Prayer in our College Chapel on Thursdays.

Supervised Parish Internship program (SPIP)

Highlights from Our Interns

This semester we had seven students on internships. Each intern was asked to prepare a very short highlight statement to be shared in this newsletter. They are inspiring!

Renee Easton, B.Th.by Distance, (3rd year)

Fortune Lamaline

My internship this past semester in Fortune / Lamaline was wonderful, educational, spiritual and totally reassuring that this is what God is calling me to do among the people. Every evening, when I settled to reflect and write about my day, I felt so privileged and thankful for the experiences that I had that day! My SPIP truly changed me as a person and will make me a more fulfilling servant of God and the people. A life changing experience! I had great support from Rev'd Neal Buffett, the Internship Support Team and the entire parish.

Note: Renee will be ordained a deacon at St. Hilda's Church in Bay L'Argent on Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Lisa Payne, M. Div., (3rd year)

Holy Innocents' Parish, Paradise.

The training I received during my internship at Holy Innocents' in Paradise was comprehensive in scope with an excellent balance of supervision and autonomy. The community was welcoming and supportive. The practical knowledge, skill development, and spiritual growth I gained was critical for my discernment process and will serve me well on my journey. I am grateful to my Field Supervisor, the Rev'd Byron Barter and the Internship Support Team for their dedication and commitment. With them, each learning moment was a joy.

Eleanor Ash, B. Th. By Distance, (3rd year)

Faith Development Office RC Archdiocese

Being a Roman Catholic woman ... I am not preparing for ordination, but I am trying to be better prepared for effective lay ministry. My internship with Dr. Anne Walsh of the Archdiocese focused on children's catechesis and faith development. It deepened my knowledge of approaches to faith development and the potential to improve our programs to ensure they speak to today's world and to the inquiring minds seeking spiritual direction. Working with Anne was proof of the potential of ministry of the laity.

John Sparkes, B. Th by Distance, (3rd year)

All Saints and Ascension Parishes

I learned a great deal in my internship experience about the practical things one needs to know for ordained ministry. I did my internship in two parishes which enabled me to see different styles of ministry carried out in different settings. This was a very positive, as it broadened my scope of ministry. I would have to admit that my biggest learning was

about myself. The internship confirmed my call to ordained ministry, I gained confidence in God's call to me. I see that the skills that I have are God's gifts to me to use in my ministry for him. I appreciate that one is not alone in ministry because there is a team and community there to help.

**Robynn Toal, B. Th by Distance, (3rd year)
Holy Trinity Parish, Grand Falls Windsor**

In my internship with Rev'd Randy Lockyer in Grand Falls, Holy Trinity Church I learned that you most certainly receive back from what you put forward in ministry "to love and serve the Lord". Building relationships of trust and love must come first in pastoral leadership and before we are able to shepherd others. People learn more from the examples we lead, as Jesus showed us, than all the words we can speak. I must say that I was humbled by the support, encouragement and affirmation that came from the people of Holy Trinity Church community.

**Graham Greeley, B. Th. (3rd year)
Turnings Community Chaplaincy**

The Queen's College Internship experience was an opportunity to theologize and put what I had learned over the past few years into practice. Two things that stood out for me were: 1. it was not easy, and 2. I realized I had to give of myself (energy) to foster relationships.

**Holly Lockyer Lee, M. Div., (3rd year)
Parish of Epiphany, Hearts Delight**

The Parish of the Epiphany is a welcoming rural parish in Trinity Bay. Its small congregation includes a knowledgeable deacon (Rev. Verna Chislett), two retired clergy (The Revd's Parrott and Moore), several empowered ministry teams, and an exceptional rector (The Rev'd Evans). This supportive environment provided learning opportunities, affirmations, and blessings that exceeded all my expectations. My experience with the Parish of the Epiphany offered inspiration and formation that will serve me well throughout ministry.

Queen's College Appeal

The success of our efforts at Queen's College reflects the support we receive from the dioceses, parishes, clergy and parishioners. **Thank you!** The Bishops of the three dioceses have agreed to have Queen's College Appeal in all parishes **Sunday February 18, 2018**. Your support will be appreciated.

Book Review is a recently added feature to our monthly News-letter. We will have faculty members and others present a short review of a recent publication recommended for clergy and pastoral workers. This review is by Rick Singleton.



"Spiritual; Resilience. 30 days to fresh your soul."

Robert Wicks. Franciscan Media, 2015.
ISBN: 9781616368869

This is not a book for easy reading during Christmas. It is an excellent book to launch your New Year. Robert Wicks is an accomplished spiritual guide, psychologist, and a professional pastoral counsellor. He is person of faith. In this practical little book he offers a guide to refresh your soul. He developed the book from years of working with people who are trying their best to be faithful, to lead others and cope with the constant change. The approach of this book, or the 30 day journey put forth in the book, is not about survival ... it is about growth through spiritual resilience. Wicks says, "*Spiritual resilience is not simply about recovering from adversity. It is about bouncing back in a way that deeper knowledge of both God and self may result. With the right guidance, during difficult times and periods of confusion, pain, and stress, we have a unique opportunity to nurture our relationship with God and enable it to grow in surprising ways.*"

The book is laid out in three major sections: Spiritual Strength: A Psychological Resource During Difficult Times; Uncovering and Addressing the Enemies of a Healthy Spiritual and Psychological Perspective; and Reaching Out...Without Being Pulled Down. There 30 readings that include information, inspiring quotes, questions for reflection and spiritual exercises.

It is a great book, available in Canada in paperback for under 20.00 and as an e-book for about \$12.00. Well worth it!

Flu Vaccines

We encourage students, faculty and staff to have a flu shot. It increases the likelihood of being sick with seasonal influenza and spreading it to others. We also ask that those with colds or the flu to take precautions to avoid spreading it to others. It is recommended to get the flu vaccine in the fall or early winter to give your body time to build up immunity before 'the flu' begins to circulate.



Fundraiser for Tanzanian Mission

On December 1, 2017, the Queen's College Student Association held a fundraiser for Tanzanian mission which is led by Anna Rowsell, one of our Master in Theological Studies students. Anna is the field director for a child sponsorship program, ChildCARE Plus (CCP), which sponsors 500 children in several areas around the Lake Victoria area. CCP also supports 9 nursery and tutorial education centers throughout the country. All activities are led and administered by local churches. The total raised at

this year's fundraiser was \$2,179 and will be used toward finishing the Bukumbi nursery center which is still in need of ceilings, floors, doors, windows, plaster, paint, and some other things. The building was constructed by the Ride for Hope – Central and has been in use since January 2017 to accommodate about 50 students although significant work is still needed. The monies raised will be an excellent contribution toward its completion. Many thanks are extended from Anna and all Tanzania team leaders and children to all who took part in the fundraiser. This will be a great blessing to the church, community, and children in Bukumbi, Tanzania.



Silence

Silence that vibrates is creation

Silence that flows is love

Silence shared is friendship

To see silence is infinity

To hear silence is prayer

To express silence is beauty

To preserve silence is strength

To waste silence is suffering

To allow silence is rest

To record silence is writing

To safeguard silence is tradition

To enter silence is joy

To perceive silence is insight

To be silence is fulfillment

Pure silence is ...

Poem found in Roosenberg Abbey, Netherlands

Continuing Education for Clergy and Pastoral Workers

Our Creeds: a refresher.

“Begotten not made ...” and many other statements of the Christian faith are often recited without much reflection on the theological and spiritual truths that lie behind them.

Rev'd Dr. David Bell, Dean of Theology, will present three sessions on the Creeds. In these sessions he will provide some historical, theological, and spiritual

considerations of the main themes of the so-called *Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed* and the so-called *Apostles' Creed*. “Both titles are inaccurate”, says the Dean.

The sessions are scheduled for Thursdays January 25, February 22, and March 15 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

You can attend and participate at Queen's College or you can attend on-line. The link to join on-line is <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/869321781> It is very simple to join, just hit the link or paste it into your browser.

The sessions will be recorded and available on YouTube. You can connect through our website: www.queenscollegenl.ca Just go to the YouTube icon.

Here is the link to request a Visitor Parking Permit at Queen's College:

<http://www.mun.ca/cep/parking/visitor-parking-request-form.php>

Contemplative Prayer Series We are planning a series of four or five sessions on Contemplative Prayer during Lent. The sessions will be offered in the format we use for our other Continuing Education sessions. The sessions and being prepared and offered in cooperation with Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation, Washington, DC. We will have more information for you early in the New Year.

Please send along topics or suggestions for presenters. Also, please feel free to forward this information and an invitation to anyone who might be interested in these topics. By the way, there is no charge to you for these sessions

We Remember Bishop-elect John Meade

Archdeacon John Meade, bishop-elect of the diocese of Western Newfoundland, died early in the morning of November 29, 2017. He was 45.

John had been in the hospital throughout the summer, but “faced his deteriorating medical situation with a calm faith”. John was a graduate of Queen's College. He had been a member of Corporation and had begun discussions with the provost on some planning for the future. At the College we prayed for John after his election, during his illness and on his death. His funeral coincided with our intensive week and the last week of classes. He was in our prayers. May he rest in peace.



An Intern's Reflection on Renewal in Parish of Epiphany, Heart Delight

By Holly Lockyer-Lee, Intern, Fall 2017

The new complex of the Parish of the Epiphany is tucked away between a cove and a pond in picturesque Trinity Bay. You can't see it from the main road, which is quite fitting: I think it's the best kept secret of the Eastern Diocese of Newfoundland and Labrador. It was here that I had the good fortune to spend my twelve-week internship for ordained ministry, and the most uplifting experience of my faith journey.

Over the past ten years, The Reverend Eli Evans and his parishioners have quietly done what few others have accomplished successfully: the peaceful amalgamation of four parishes under one roof, the closure of four church buildings in as many communities, as well as a parish hall. As is the case with many rural Newfoundland communities, long-standing church buildings were becoming rundown with age and dwindling populations, and the costs of repairs weren't feasible. The affected parishes made the progressive move to pool their resources and relocate in a local school that had just been closed. The amalgamation wasn't easy, but you can feel the energy and purpose it has given the congregation. Every parishioner I met said, "*It was worth it*", "*Look at what we have now that we're together; we can do things we could never have imagined when we were apart.*" My favorite comment was, "*We learned that church isn't a building.*"

In the beautiful new worship space, and the many rooms of the parish complex, I found that this congregation really does understand that "*Church isn't where we go, it's what we do, and who we are*" (quoting Rev. Eli). In this gem of the bay, people have learned to let go of many things in order to gain a sense of fellowship, stewardship and community that is rarely found anymore. It was a blessing and a privilege to be welcomed into such an exceptional community dedicated to service in Christ's name. It was inspiring to see what the Church can be.

Crèche in the College Chapel, Christmas 2018



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year