



NEWSLETTER

Queen's College Faculty of Theology

April 2020

This Newsletter is distributed electronically, it has links to more information on our website

www.queenscollegenl.ca

Greetings from the Provost

Hi: We continue to adjust to the restrictions and efforts to reduce risk, spread and threat of COVID-19. I am pleased to note the cooperation and flexibility from our faculty members and students. Of course, at Queen's College, it is essential that we comply with directives and efforts of Memorial University to reduce traffic and allow essential activities only on campus.

We have just finished the Winter 2020 Semester. Here are some highlights

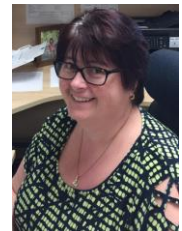
- Total enrolment of 336 students;
- About 160 completed the Pastoral and Palliative Volunteer Training Certificate program sponsored in collaboration with eastern Health and the Order of St. Lazarus;
- The space refurbishment project was completed;
- Convocation, planned for May 14, has been postponed until after COVID-19;
- Fifty-two students will graduate from their respective programs;
- Our 2020 graduates reflect the Queen's College mission and ministry in the 21st century. Our graduates include lay people, deacons, priests, a bishop, and a SA Officer. We have a married couple graduating. We have representatives of eight denominations: Anglican, Moravian, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and Salvation Army.

So, in spite of the asbestos abatement that prevented access to the College for the start of semester, Stormageddon-shutdown, sequential snowstorms, and the global pandemic we have been able to complete our term and we are launching on-line courses in our Masters, Bachelors, and Associate Programs for the spring and intersession. We are making the necessary adjustments to complete the Diploma program sessions on line.

We are now in planning mode the Fall 2020 Semester. At this point, we will plan as if things will be back to the regular schedule (I won't say *normal*), and we will plan for other options, if operations cannot resume for the start of the term.

This time of global pandemic prompts some interesting considerations from the perspective of theological education. The impact of COVID-19 will be felt in every realm. The awareness of our global connectedness and mutual responsibilities provide insights. The drain on the economy will likely prompt many to reconsider fulfillment that is not so reliant on consumerism. Faith communities, including Christian denominations, will have new insights on their relevance. From my perspective, at Queen's College, we will need to continue with theological education and training for ministry leadership with skills and competencies to enhance spiritual resilience, missional engagement, and community renewal.

Finally, April 19 - 25 is Office Professionals Week. It is time recognize and appreciate the essential role of those who organize and maintain the essential administrative side of every organization. On behalf of the entire Queen's College Community, I extend sincere thanks and blessings to Dana for her great work and service. I can assure you, we blessed to have her. Thanks Dana!



This Newsletter has lots of good information. Please have a look.

We ask God's blessings on all in this challenging time.

Rick

General Office: Until further notice, Dana is in the office on Mondays only and then working from home. The Provost is in the Office for some time most days. With the main doors now locked, if you have business or other dealings with the College, please call ahead (753-0116) and be sure to practice physical distancing.

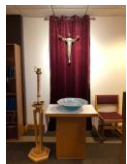
Course Offerings for Spring 2020 can be found on our website under current students: <http://queenscollegenl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Theological-Bulletin-2020S.pdf>

Diploma Program Update:

We are planning to offer our Spring semester for Diploma students in St. John's, Central and Western dioceses through the use of technology. These sessions will be completed by the end of June at the latest. The program in Labrador, and the Roman Catholic diploma group continued to meet online throughout the Winter and both have completed their semester.

The Future: While we do not know how things will resolve, Fall Semester planning is underway to offer a full program with adjustments as needed. It will likely be needed to allow some flexibility in our program regulations. As we move through the spring and summer, hopefully, things will become clearer and we will become more specific on course and program planning.

The Chaplain's Easter Greetings:



As I reflect on the final events Jesus and his disciples faced, there was a great turmoil. Some had deserted Jesus, other preferred to stand off to the sides, and then there were those who stayed to keep watch with Jesus to the end. All who had great hope in Jesus must have felt the world was upside down as he was laid in the tomb. Then came that Easter Morning! All that Jesus promised that God would do was

completed. A new hope was born! We are each a part of that new hope and God's grace never does leave us. You have been blessed and you are each a blessing to others. Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!

A Happy Easter Season to you and yours.

Father John - Chaplain

Chapel Worship may have ended with the closing of MUN and Queen's on March 17th. Throughout April we continue community worship each Tuesday with Mid-Day Prayer being live streamed. Following Mid-Day prayer opportunity is given for those who wish to take part in a 'sharing time' on how things are going in these challenging times. Join us online at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/387222525>

LIVING THE FIFTH:



At the invitation of the Provost, Father Mark Nichols led a three-part continuing education series for clergy and pastoral workers on *Living the Fifth* of the Five Marks of Mission during the season of Lent. Father Mark believes our collective failure to “*strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth*” is a fitting subject for seasonal reflection, “*but the ecological crisis before us demands intentional year-round action*”.

The first session, “Living the Fifth – A Missional Call”, looked at creation care from the perspective of the Church as a whole. In his landmark 1967 article, “The Historical Roots of our Ecological Crisis”, Lynn White Jr. was the first to argue that the ecological crisis as a problem of worldview – a particularly Christian worldview. Since then, the Church seems to have been slowly but surely discerning a call to care for creation with intentionality and a sense of urgency. Not only is this call rooted in scripture, it has come to be expressed theologically, liturgically and liturgically. Yet, at the grassroots level, Christians have been slow to live out this calling.

The second session, “Living the Fifth – A Communal Call”, considered ways in which the Church’s call to care for creation can and should be lived out by faith communities. There are many ways we can live out this aspect of our faith on a communal level. What do our parking lots say about us? To encourage human-powered transportation are there bicycle racks available? Are our parish facilities free from single-use plastics such as bottled water, disposable plates and cutlery? Do we go above and beyond in our efforts to reduce the waste we send to landfills? Do we lead by our example?

The final session, “Living the Fifth – A Personal Call”, reflected upon how individual Anglicans should manifest reverence for and “safeguard the integrity of creation”. Christians walk by faith in a God who created this world and all that is upon it and entrusted it to our care. Canadian Anglicans are explicitly bound by our baptismal covenant to care for creation. And we must move beyond personal greening if we intend to “sustain and renew the life of the earth”. *Living the Fifth* effectively demands that we engage in “creation advocacy” and activism.

As Creation Care Animator for the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, Father Mark’s primary goal is to raise awareness and action among Anglicans in confronting the ecological crisis before us. That there is a need for this series demonstrates we are not living out our call to care for creation as we should. Father Mark challenges us: *“It’s long past time for Anglicans to start Living the Fifth and take our place alongside the eco-activist community in the fight to save our planet from the worst excesses of human behaviour.”*

Recordings of these sessions are available on Queen’s College YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2xZJDX8aVYCwllquav4wGw/videos>, or on the Living the Fifth Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/livingthefifth/>

Pastoral & Palliative Care Volunteer Training Program

was an eight-week program offered from February 10th to March 30th. This collaborative effort between Eastern Health, the Grand Priory of St. Lazarus in Canada and Queen’s College was delivered through webinars, assigned readings from the text, “A Caregiver’s Guide, A Handbook About End of Life Care”, and sections of the “Home Caregiver Support Program”. These latter two readings are projects initiated by Saint Lazarus Canada, the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association, and St. John Ambulance. The generous financial support of the Priory of St. Lazarus enabled Queen’s College to offer the program free of charge to over 160 participants.

Presenters for the webinars were chosen from amongst those who were deemed to have expertise in their chosen fields of study and work. Topics included: *Week 1* - Introduction to the Program, Communication and Confidentiality; *Week 2* - Discernment for Effective Pastoral Care; *Week 3* - Visitation to Residents in Long Term Care; *Week 4* - Addictions, Mental Illness, Mental Health Resources (NL), and Mental Health Legislation (NL); *Week 5* - Pastoral Care for those with Active Mental Illness and Addictions; *Week 6* - Grief; *Week 7* - End of Life Matters and Palliative Care; and *Week 8* - Care for the Care Giver and Panel reflection on questions posed by participants.

The webinars were recorded for subsequent viewing for those who were unable to participate in the Monday evening sessions, and for those who wished to review specific topics. All who completed the entire assigned work are awarded a certificate of participation.

Reflection: Here is a link to an interesting reflection from the Sisters of Mercy International. The article was co-authored by Sr. Elizabeth Davis, RSM, a friend and supporter of Queen's College.

<https://www.mercyworld.org/f/45074/x/798a2a23a3/guiding-group-mgp-gift-in-this-troubling-time-of-covid-19-usletter.pdf>

Call for Nominations 2020

Nominations for student awards are open on [April 20, 2020 at nine o'clock a.m.](#), and close on [April 30, 2020 at five o'clock p.m.](#) Letters of nomination must outline a student's eligibility for an award based on the given criteria. You may nominate a student for more than one award and you may nominate more than one student for the same award. Nominations can be submitted by mail or e-mail. All nominations must be sent by or signed by the nominator and be received by the Scholarships and Awards Committee by the deadline. All letters should be addressed to the Scholarships and Awards Committee and should be submitted to the General Office or emailed directly to the Provost, Dr. Rick Singleton provostqueenscollege@mun.ca. The nomination process is intended to guide the Committee in its decisions.

Students and faculty members may nominate any full-time student in the current academic year for the following three awards to be presented at Convocation 2020:

Full-Time Degree Students during the Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 Semesters are: Dale Careen, Tracy Sullivan, Lucas Perry, Iona Bulgin, Marilyn Gardiner, Nicole Critch, Debbie Pantin, Mary-Anne Stevens, Susan Squires, Eli Cross, Linda Saunders-McLean and Corey Parish.

- ❖ *The Queen's College Alumni/ae Association Award* for continued demonstration of the Queen's College Core Values of Christ Centeredness, Commitment, Development and Collegiality.

- ❖ *Award for Progressive Leadership* is awarded to the student who best demonstrates creativity in promoting ideals and activities appropriate to the role of Queen's College and the Church in the modern world.
- ❖ *The Award for Liturgical Praxis* is given to the student who best demonstrates a good working knowledge of the directives and practical application of liturgical principles through effective preparation and leadership in worship.

Our Facebook and Twitter links provide up-to-date 'goings on' at the College. Go to



www.queenscollegenl.ca and click the links on the homepage top right corner.



Lockdown by Fr. Richard Hendricks, OFM

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan

after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number

through the neighbourhood
So that the elders may have someone
to call on.
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques
and Temples
are preparing to welcome
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down
and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at
their neighbours in a new way
All over the world people are waking up
to a new reality
To how small we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.

So we pray and we remember that
Yes there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.
But there does not have to be
disease of the soul
Yes there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make
as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing.

A bequest to Queen's College keeps on giving for years to come.

Please consider us in your estate planning.

Information on this can be obtained by contacting our planned giving consultant

Mr. Kevin Smith at kevinsmith709@gmail.com or by calling 709-739-5667

Also, some individuals and families contribute to the Appeal and to Queen's through In Memoriam, In lieu of flowers, and bequests on the death of a loved one.

