



NEWSLETTER

Queen's College Faculty of Theology

March 2021

This Newsletter is distributed electronically, it has links to more information on our website
www.queenscollegenl.ca

Note from the Provost

Hi: Many of you already know that the Rev Dr Joanne Mercer has been appointed as Provost and Vice Chancellor of Queen's College. I am delighted to have a competent and enthusiastic successor, and I offer her my support as she transitions into the position to start on May 1st. I will finish as Provost on April 30th. There is more information on the appointment and a short biography of the Rev Dr Mercer below.

As the Winter Semester continues, we plan and prepare for the Spring and Fall 2021 Semesters. Dr Mercer and I are working together on plans for the Fall Semester. We hope to have course offerings available by late April or early May.

Considering the ups and downs with COVID-19, we have decided to have Convocation 2021 in the Fall. Please note and save the date. **Queen's College Convocation 2021 will be 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2021.** We are well underway with preliminary planning and hope for an in-person event. It will be a wonderful event, and will include the following:

- Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Primate of Anglican Church of Canada, will address Convocation;
- The Rev Dr Joanne Mercer will be installed as Provost and Vice Chancellor;
- Approximately 25 graduates will receive degrees, diplomas, and awards;
- The Rev Jim Reid will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity degree; and
- Queen's College will be 180 year old (1841 – 2021).

The few bright days and longer evenings prompts us to think of spring, which on the calendar is only a few days away. Blessings as we pilgrimage through the latter part of Lent, and look forward to the new life in spring and Easter.

Blessings,
Rick

Intercession Course Offerings for Spring 2021 are now posted. Students are encouraged to select courses early. Degree students are responsible for ordering textbooks on line before classes begin (if you encounter issues ordering online, be sure to check with Dana for assistance). Associate students can order their books via Queen's General Office as their textbooks and manuals are regular stock items.
http://queenscollegenl.ca/?page_id=406

Access to Queen's College

Our building, like many others on MUN campus and beyond, is under lockdown. Admission is by appointment and permission for matters essential for academic and administrative continuity. To make an appointment, contact the College at 709-753-0116 or email queens@mun.ca.

Congratulations to the Rev Fred Parrott who celebrated his 25th anniversary of priesthood on February 18th, the Rev Dawn Barrett and the Rev Nathan Culter who celebrated their 25th anniversary of priesthood on February 18th, and to the Rev Berdina Ford who will celebrate her 20th anniversary of priesthood on March 27th.

Are you celebrating an ordination anniversary in 2021 and would like to share with the Queen's Community. We will publish in the Newsletter those celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th etc. anniversary to the diaconate, priesthood and episcopacy. Contact the editor at jjcourage@mun.ca.

April Newsletter deadline for submissions is April 16th for email distribution April 18th.

New Provost The Corporation of Queen's College launched a recruitment process early in 2018 with the development of a recruitment plan. The plan guided consultations to identify the credentials, competencies and experience needed to lead Queen's College Faculty of Theology. After a thorough screening process, the Trustees of the Corporation are pleased that the Rev Dr Mercer has agreed to take on the role of Provost and Vice Chancellor effective May 1, 2021.

The Rev Dr Joanne Mercer (BA, MUN; MDiv, Queen's; MTh, Edinburgh; PhD, Wales) is originally from Grand Falls-Windsor in the Diocese of Central Newfoundland where she has served as parish priest in the parishes of Newtown-



Badger's Quay - Greenspond; King's Cove; Gander and most recently in the parish of Twillingate. She has served on the Primate's Theological Commission and the Task Force on Presbyteral Ministry of the Anglican Church of Canada. She has also represented the Anglican Church of Canada at the United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing and New York, and worked for L'Arche Canada. Joanne is a graduate of Queen's College and taught here from 2003-2013. No matter what Joanne has put her hand to, whether in the parish, in the community, or in academia, she has done it in pursuit of justice and the common good. Joanne loves learning new things, be it the latest theological trends, the newest tech gadgets, or some complex knitting pattern. Joanne brings with her a flair for creativity and a passion for partnerships within the church and the wider community. Joanne's academic background is as diverse as her interests and has focused on pop culture, literature, animated film, and truth and reconciliation. Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic Joanne has been participating in conversations on the impacts of the pandemic on the church but also leading by example by embracing the use of new technologies in liturgy, pastoral care and discipleship. Joanne's vision of theological education is one grounded in the present and emerging reality of the church. Her focus is on

networking, or stitching together, the stories of the Anglican and wider Christian tradition, the stories of local faith communities, and the wider societal story of who we are as human beings and where God is calling us as the human family. This weaving will be grounded in prayer and community, and will draw on the rich legacy of the Anglican tradition, but also with an eye toward creativity and experimentation.

Our third of our Day of Awareness series for the semester was held March 5th, and facilitated by Father Charlie Pottie SJ. Following Morning Devotions, Father Charlie provided a short review of the first two sessions and then spoke on the topic: 'Discerning the Spirit in our Everyday Life'. His teaching and instruction on St Ignatius pattern of the '**Awareness/Examen Prayer**' which provided all with an opportunity to learn more about the importance of discerning God's Spirit in day to day living. St Ignatius encouraged this form of prayer to be used by lay persons once a day.

Examen Prayer is a reflective prayer form that develops a relationship with God through Jesus in the communion of the Holy Spirit, in the word of creation, in the word of scripture, in the word that each of us is – all in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. This prayer gives the dynamics of the guidelines in the discovery of the Spirit and gets lived out day by day as we develop a discerning heart as the Holy Spirit leads us into a deeper relationship with God, creation and others.

Father Charlie shared the Outline of the Examen Prayer in five steps once we transition ourselves in what we are about to do: 1. **Gratitude** - a time to note the gifts God's love has given this day and to give thanks for them. Gratitude is the highest form of loving. 2. **Petition** - an asking for insight and strength that makes the time in prayer a work of grace. 3. **Review** – looking for the stirrings in our hearts and the things God has given this day, and to seek what has not been of God as we review our choices in response to both. This part of the Examen Prayer may take more time than the other four parts. 4. **Forgiveness** is asking for a healing touch, it is a time to let go of refusals and resistances by entrusting them to God. The mercies of God are forever. This part of the prayer can be harder to do, and it is not meant to be a time to wallow in guilt but rather a time to let go of our guilt and entrust it to God's gracious mercy. 5. **Renewal** – the time to

look forward to the next day and with God's plan on how to live it more in accord with God's desire for our lives. This part of the prayer is sometime called the 'Amendment' – a desire to be more faithful.

The setting for the Examen Prayer can be in any place, walking or at rest, in solitude, in nature, (sometimes even in community) and can be at any time of the day, however evening is a traditional moment to do this. Father Charlie suggested that the length should begin small and then be built upon reminding us that the flow of the prayer and regularity are important.

Our day concluded with Midday devotions led by members of the on-line community. Father Charlie offered the book suggestion: The Examen Prayer: Ignatian Wisdom for our lives today by Timothy Gallagher) for those interested in continuing this pattern of prayer. A summary of Sessions 1 & 2 are available in our last two Newsletters by going to the News section at www.queenscollegenl.ca.

The final Day of Awareness on Discernment takes place March 26th (9:00-12:15) by going to link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/161659821>

Our Sympathy is expressed to the Rev Wayne Short and family on the death of his mother Margaret Melita Short of Bonavista on February 26th and to Janet and the Rev Jim Eveleigh on the death of her sister Carolyn Palmer who died March 9th in Fredericton, NB. May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

Job Opportunity: Eastern Health is advertising 2 different postings for 2 "part-time permanent" or ".5" Pastoral Care Clinician positions with Eastern Health's Pastoral Care, Ethics and Bereavement Services Department. Note that the deadline to apply is March 23, 2021.

https://employment.easternhealth.ca/erecruit/Search_Results.aspx?ShowTitle=1&VacCategory=HP|&

From the Student Association As we near the end of the Winter semester and welcome the subtle signs of a Newfoundland and Labrador Spring, the Student Association would like to extend to all students prayers for strength and perseverance as we complete our papers and projects, and to faculty the same as they engage in the process of feedback and evaluation. To the entire Queen's family, we offer wishes for a Holy

Week and Easter that affirm our identity as beloved children of the Triune God and our mission that flows from that.

Usually at this time of year, we would be engaging in an outreach project focused on feeding others and this year's project will be offered in the same spirit: we will be donating \$500 to The Gathering Place's "Take Care of Lunch" program. This amount will allow The Gathering Place to provide both a hot breakfast and a hot lunch for up to 250 people.

Blessings to you all.

Deborah

Chapel Notes: The College continues to uphold individuals in prayer during our Liturgies. If you wish to add anyone to the list please contact the Chaplain at jjcourage@mun.ca.



Please note we use a first

name only in order to respect privacy.

On-Line Worship Schedule:

Monday

- Morning Prayer @ 9:00

Tuesday

- Mid-day Prayer and fellowship @ 12:15

Wednesday

- Morning Prayer @ 8:30
- Mid-day Prayer @ 11:30
- Evening Prayer @ 3:15

Thursday

- Morning Prayer @ 9:00

Join us 10 minutes before time at link

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/161659821>

Queen's College Appeal: In consultation with the Executive Archdeacons of each of the Anglican Diocese in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Finance Committee of Corporation has decided to postpone the Queen's College Appeal until the Fall of 2021. We all recognize and appreciate the current financial pressures. We look forward to your support in the fall, and we certainly appreciate donations at any time. You can contribute to Queen's College by donating on line at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/16498>, by mailing a cheque to 210 Prince Philip Drive, St. John's, NL A1B 3R6, or call the General Office to use your credit card. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.