



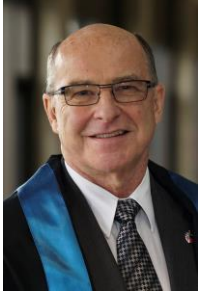
NEWSLETTER

Queen's College Faculty of Theology

April 2021

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

Note from the Provost



Hi: This is the forty-fifth issue of the Queen's College Newsletter in my time as Provost. It is my final installment ... and a bit longer than usual. The Newsletter has helped us stay connected with the broader Queen's Community. We have received good feedback on it over the years. Fr John Courage and Ms Dana Bishop brought great improvement by use of their skills and attention to detail.

As I reflect on the past five years, I think of the day-to-day routine and that requires constant attention and response ... as no two days are the same! I think also of the impact and challenge COVID-19 brought us and the flexibility, cooperation and resilience that has emerged to allow us to continue as a strong and vibrant college and community. I am satisfied that we revised the curriculum, developed on-line courses and program delivery, enhanced our outreach to rural and remote communities, made gains with accreditation within the Association of Theological Schools, negotiated and finalized our affiliation with Memorial University until 2039, refurbished the space for the Faculty of Theology, increased enrolment, and maintained a balanced budget. But, I am most pleased with the quality of women and men who have availed of Queen's College as their place to study theology, gain pastoral skills, grow spiritually and experience community. I am pleased that they are not only competent to take on ministry and leadership as lay and ordained members of the Church, but they are equipped to think critically and be creative in responding to the issues they will encounter in ministry. At Queen's College, like all colleges, we cannot expose students to everything they will ever have to face ... but we do endeavor to provide them with the foundations and frameworks to think for themselves, to provide effective leadership on the frontline of ministry in a changing world, to connect with colleagues for mutual support, and to have a relationship with Jesus Christ that nurtures their vocations and spiritual resilience.

I will finish as Provost on April 30th. At this point I wish to say how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to be have been the leader of Queen's for five years.

I appreciate that the Corporation invited me to be Provost, and that faculty members, students, benefactors, alumni, and the broader community were all supportive of Queen's and our efforts to respond to the emerging challenges in those years. I appreciate the Leadership Team (Dr David Bell, Dr Carmel Doyle, and Fr John Courage) who contributed so much to anything and everything we accomplished. I was fortunate to have wonderful administrative support from Ms Susan Foley in my first year and then from Ms Dana Bishop ... who never gets rattled and has solutions to all our provost-created problems. Thank you all!



I say a special thank you to the people who inspire, guide and support on matters great and small. To my wife Donna, my daughter Chloe, and my son Chris, thank you for your love, support and patience.

I have provided Anglican Life with a longer interview ... in case this is not boring enough for you!

Finally, I offer sincere best wishes and God's blessings to the Rev Dr Joanne Mercer, as she takes on the role of Provost. Godspeed Joanne!

Blessings,
Rick

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 Jean Brenton-Hickman who celebrated her 20th anniversary to the priesthood on January 25th, to the Rev Derrick Bishop and the Rev Christine Lynch who will celebrate their 5th anniversary to the Diaconate on April 21st, to the Rev Marilyn Moore who will celebrate her 40th anniversary to the diaconate on May 3rd, to the Rev Robin Trevors who celebrates his 30th anniversary of commissioning with the Church Army on May 3rd and his 20th anniversary of priesthood on May 13th, to the Rev Roberta Woodman on her 25th anniversary to the diaconate on May 5th, to the Ven Gerald Westcott on his 25th anniversary to the diaconate on May 6th, and to the Rev Canon Paulette Bugden on her 10th anniversary to the diaconate on May 8th.

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.

The last Faculty Council meeting for Winter 2021 took place April 14th with the confirmation and release of marks, the Provost's reflection of his time at Queen's and faculty best wishes for another 'Happy Retirement!'



The Dean of Theology writes On May 1st Dr Rick will retire as Provost of Queen's College. He took over the position in August 2015, and, working with seeds sown by his predecessors, quite simply transformed the College. Queen's College is now not merely a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled community, but a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled family. I'm reminded of the pagan's comment,

quoted by Tertullian in the 2nd/3rd century: "See how these Christians love one another." When Dr Rick agreed to take on the position of Provost, he asked me if I would stay on as Dean of Theology (I'd intended to retire at that time, and had, indeed, notified the Queen's College Corporation of my intention), and to this I agreed. The years I have spent working with Rick have been years of pure pleasure, but when he retires on May 1st I, too, shall retire. I've tried half-a-dozen times before, but with no success: this time I really shall. Apart from being an outstanding organizer and much-loved administrator, Rick also has a mastery of IT technology, something which has enabled him to increase dramatically the numbers of students registered with the College and to expand its horizons to include all three dioceses of our Province and beyond. All of us – I speak for all the students and the faculty, as well as myself – will be sorry to see him go. His shoes will be difficult to fill. But for my part, I wish him well on land and on St Mary's Bay, and offer my sincere thanks to someone I am privileged to call my friend.

David

From Corporation On behalf of the Queen's College Corporation, I want to express our sincere thanks to Dr Rick Singleton for his dedication during his term a Provost of Queen's College. During his term, Rick has worked faithfully to develop new programs and relationships with other denominational groups in our province and internationally. He has shown a strong commitment to working with the students and staff and his contribution to Queen's will be remembered by all who have worked with him. We wish him well in future endeavors. "Long may your big jib draw"

Gerald Giles

The final presentation of our fourth Day of Awareness took place March 26th on-line beginning with Morning Devotions (Iona). Father Charlie Pottie SJ brought us to his final talk on 'Discernment' and Decision-Making' following the teaching of St Ignatius Loyola by giving a short summary of the previous three sessions (please see our January, February and March Newsletters). This final session explored 'Discernment and Decision-Making'. Father Charlie noted that each day we are faced with questions for decisions, such as 'What do

I do next?', or 'What direction should I take?' Most everyday decisions are done without great effort, however we also make significant and major decisions/choices which affect our life and those of others. St Ignatius was a man of great conviction in God's presence. As we cooperate with God present in our lives we make better decisions and choices.

The use of the Examen Prayer (see March 2021 Newsletter) can assist our daily and regular choices and decisions. Father Charlie provided a 'Preparation for discernment of God's will for us' which includes: i) the foundation on which all discernment rests, an awareness of God's unconditional love that gives s life and purpose; ii) The disposition of heart that permits good discernment, a heart that desires to respond to God's unconditional love; iii) The spiritual means that Ignatius recommends for spiritual growth in this disposition – forms of prayer to seek and find what God wants, scripture, Eucharist/Communion, spiritual accompaniment (i.e. director), and a daily review of our prayer experience.

Following a time of reflection and a plenary sharing, Father Charlie journeyed with us through St Ignatius Exercises (#169-189, see link below) on the diverse ways to make good decisions/choices in the context of contemplating Christ's life and how we are led to make good choices and decisions through prayer.

The Day of Awareness ended with a Mid-day devotion (Iona). A sincere thank you to Father Charlie for journeying with us and offering opportunities of spiritual awareness and growth in our daily prayer and living. **Book Reference:** T. Gallagher, *Discerning the Will of God. An Ignatian Guide to Christian Decision Making*, p. 64 (Crossword Publishing Co., New York, 2009/2013 <https://sacred-texts.com/chr/seil/index.htm> and look in index Prelude for making an election (#169) and following to #189.

Supervised Practice of Ministry After a year's delay due to COVID-19, SPM (Supervised Practice of Ministry) is taking place from April 12th – July 9th. This program focuses on helping students grow in the development of pastoral self-awareness, pastoral presence and skills, and spiritual/personal growth.



Students meet for academic sessions for an intensive week of instruction and then spend 10 weeks in an on-site pastoral ministry/chaplaincy placement.

Additionally students gather for group instruction, group theological reflection, and individual spiritual mentoring on a weekly basis.

This year we will have six students from Western Diocese, and five students from the Eastern Region engaging in pastoral placements in both Eastern and Western Health facilities.

The Rev Dr Amy Richter and Dr Carmel Doyle will jointly guide the students through the 12 week program. Students in Western Diocese will be mentored by the Rev Canon Paulette Bugden, the Rev Catherine Short, and the Rev Tanya White and in the Eastern Region by Dr Carmel Doyle.

Graduates Boards As part of the refurbishment of our space, we made some changes to the well-known and often-studied Graduate Boards. The original boards were at the old Queen's College on Forest Road. They have continued to be an important artifact of Queen's College as they record the year of admission, ordination to diaconate, and ordination to priesthood of Queen's graduates since 1841. Over the years, new programs have been added and not all students are pursuing ordination. We have erected new boards to track the graduates of all degrees and programs. We are pleased to now have installed the boards to track the Diploma graduates. Since the program started in 1994, we have had 147 graduates in the Diploma Program. Many graduates of the Diploma Program have continued in other programs. Several have completed or have enrolled in the Associate Program, the Bachelor in Theology Degree, and the Master in Theology Degree. As of Spring 2021, we have had a total of **788 graduates** of degrees and programs at Queen's College.



Our Sympathy is extended to the Rev Neal and the Rev Beverly Buffett on the death of his father John Edward Buffett on April 12th. May he rest in peace and rise in Glory!

Happy Easter from the Queen's College Student Association!

The Student Association would like to extend our deep appreciation and affection to our Dean of Theology and College Deacon, David Bell, and Provost, Rick Singleton, as they prepare to move on to further adventures in writing and sailing. Deacon David and Dr Rick, we have all benefited greatly from your collective wisdom, guidance, humour and friendship during your time at Queen's and wish God's richest blessings on you and your families in the years to come.

We were excited to have the Rev Dr Joanne Mercer with us for our final Tuesday Mid-day Prayer and community check-in of the semester on March 30th and extend a heartiest congratulations and a warm "Welcome Back" to Dr. Joanne as she returns to Queen's in this new capacity of Provost. We look forward to working with you in the future.

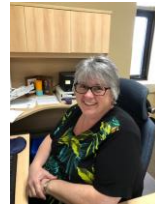
We also congratulate all students who have completed their program of studies and are preparing to graduate. "Well done!" and best wishes to you as you continue or take up new ministries. We are certain that you will always carry a bit of Queen's in your heart; it's just that kind of place. Maybe some of you will come back for further studies in the future. And please don't forget the Queen's College Appeal! It's the gift that keeps on giving.

Thanks to all faculty, staff and students for making this most unusual year a safe and successful one for all. Our learning, worship and sense of community thrived no matter what the pandemic threw at it, thanks to the efforts of all involved, but especially Dr. Rick. We know he's the one who punched in the long hours of meetings, memos and revisions to plans.

Take a breather, everyone. You've earned it!
Debbie Pantin – President

May Newsletter deadline for submissions is May 12th for email distribution May 13th. Following a brief summer recess, The Newsletter will resume distribution August 19th.

Administrative Professionals' Day April



21st seeks to celebrate and show appreciation for administrative professionals, assistants, secretaries, receptionists, and other support professionals. This day recognizes the efforts put forth in managing day-to-day responsibilities. Everyone and anyone who has contact with Queen's College recognizes the vital place of our Administrative Assistant, Ms Dana Bishop. Dana is the first contact for those calling, e-mailing, visiting, or dealing with Queen's College. She makes the first impression ... and it is always professional, pleasant and encouraging. On behalf of the entire Queen's College community, we say "thank you Dana for all you do for us individually and as an organization". Your efforts and professionalism are appreciated at Queen's College.

The Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador

is looking for a Director of Evangelization and Catechesis to coordinate and support the Faith Formation and Evangelization Efforts in the Diocese. For a detailed Job Description, inquiries or to make an application contact: Diocesan Hiring Committee, 469 Curling St., Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8 or telephone Catherine Jordan at (709) 639-7073 **Note: Application deadline is April 30, 2021**

Queen's College Appeal: In consultation with the Executive Archdeacons of each of the Anglican Dioceses in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Finance Committee of Corporation has decided to postpone the Queen's College Appeal until Fall 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 are issued for all donations.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy Retirement Rick, smooth sailing!🚢

