

Interpreting events of our lives

By JIM RYAN

19th Sunday in Ordinary Times
John 6:41-51
Aug. 11, 1991

If you're like me, child and job have kept you from seeing the recent films. I've even given up reading the movie reviews in the Toronto papers.

But my wife has talked about Jesus of Montreal so often (she saw it with a friend a few years ago) that I jumped at the chance to see it when it came out in video form.

We had seen The Last Temptation of Christ when it first came out in theatres (no baby then), but it was unsatisfying, and not as good as the book by Nikos Kazantzakis.

Jesus of Montreal proved to be much more satisfying.

If you're keeping up with your current reading list, and that list includes The Beauty Myth by Naomi Wolf, then seeing Jesus of Montreal for the first or second time will be an epiphany for you.

The good thing about the film, Jesus of Montreal, is that it's a good example of what I think of as a good homily.

The film takes scripture and molds it, faithfully, I think, to the present reality of people in North America. This is what we all should be doing.

The steps are:



Religion and Reality
by Jim Ryan

1. "What is my context?" or, "What are the issues or problems that my community faces?"

2. Reread scripture in the light of my context and our situation.

3. Rethink scripture and my context. "What does Jesus mean by this statement in the light of my experience and the experience of my community?"

4. Speak. Act. Write on what you've learned. Maybe even make a movie.

Okay, what does Denys Arcand do? (He's the director of the film.)

See if this makes sense:

1. When Jesus cleanses the Temple, the Temple in Arcand's film is a film studio, specifically a film studio that makes commercials where women are portrayed as sex objects. (If you're

reading Naomi Wolf, jump up and down. Her chapter on the media, including the print media is fascinating.)

2. When Jesus is tempted, he is tempted in a highrise in the midst of the business district in Montreal, by a Satan who is a publicist-career-planner. (Now doesn't that make sense!) Satan wants Jesus to publish a book about his life. He wants to market him.

3. The resurrection is a materialist resurrection. Jesus' disciples sign the waiver concerning his body parts, and his heart lives on in a heart transplant recipient. (This seems a bit jokey to me.)

4. But the movie is a comedy, not a tragedy. (The disciple who also plays Pilate, and wants to play Hamlet, is worried about the play being a tragedy.) The death scene is a classic cops and robbers farce. Jesus is killed by accident when a thickheaded and brawny bystander knocks down a member of the security police, who knocks down the cross, which kills Christ. But as we know, Christ is resurrected. He lives on in the lives of those who partake of his body.

Well, that's what Denys Arcand did with his film.

What about us? How are we interpreting the events of our lives?

United Church leaders honored

Three Canadian church leaders of The United Church of Canada have been named the recipients of the 1991-1992 McGeachy Memorial Senior Scholarships. The awards go to Gerry Margaret Haverluck and the Reverend Robert Haverluck of Winnipeg, and the Reverend Dr. Robin Smith of Toronto.

As a joint project, Gerry and Bob Haverluck will produce an illustrated handbook to be used by congregations wanting to encourage and animate small groups of people working on issues of peace and justice.

"A unique aspect of the Haverlucks' work will be to examine how the popular arts, such as storytelling, drama, quilting, and cartooning, can provide a rich and promising means of animating a congregation or community," says the Reverend Dr. Nathan Mair, the chair of the committee that awarded the scholarships.

He adds, "The handbook when completed will illustrate how the

practices of aboriginal spiritual tradition, the women's movement and base communities in the Third World, have integrated the use of the popular arts as a way of creating social change."

Bob Haverluck, a United Church minister, is an educator and author on social issues, as well as being an accomplished illustrator.

Gerry Haverluck is employed by the North End Community Ministry in Winnipeg as an animator of congregational and community groups.

The Haverlucks' project will take two years to complete and will include testing of the resources before final publication of the handbook.

Robin Smith's project will be to research and examine the effect of recent social changes on the self-image and role and participation of men in the life and work of The United Church of Canada.

"Beyond the experience of individuals, it seems that men have not begun to seek a new con-

sciousness of what it means to be male in this changing world," writes Dr. Smith in his proposal for the project. "Ways of helping men reflect on themselves and their future in such a world are urgently needed."

Dr. Smith is a United Church minister who served as associate secretary of the church's Board of Christian Education and the Division of Mission in Canada. He is also the author of numerous articles and books on public education and family life.

The McGeachy Memorial Senior Scholarships were established by The United Church of Canada in 1981 as the consequence of a substantial trust bequeathed to the church by Mr. and Mrs. W.A. McGeachy. The hope of the McGeachys was that the fund would make possible a significant contribution to church and society in Canada.

The 1991-1992 McGeachy Scholarship Trust Fund totalled \$72,000.00. This amount will be shared by the three recipients of the award.

NELL'S DRIVING SCHOOL

NEXT COURSE
4 DAY "CRASH" COURSE
AUGUST 26 'til 29 - 9:30-3:30

For Information About Courses or Private Lessons
PHONE 877-2671

the HERALD CHURCH DIRECTORY

To advertise your church's special services call our Advertising Department at 877-2201 and ask for Don Taylor.

ANGLICAN	St. Alban's Anglican Church, 19 St. Alban's Dr., Acton	853-2711
	St. Alban's the Martyr Anglican Church, 537 Main St., Glen Williams	877-8323
	St. Paul's, Norval	877-3404
	St. George's Anglican Church, 60 Guelph St., Georgetown	877-8044
	St. John's Anglican Church, RR2 Stewarttown	873-0235
BAPTIST	Acton Baptist Church, 80 Mill St. E., Acton	853-0690
	Maple Avenue Baptist Church, 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown	877-6665
	Mountainview Baptist Church, 100 Mountainview Rd. S., Georgetown	873-2184
	Foodbank	873-6979
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE	Georgetown Alliance Church, Main St. S., Georgetown	873-0249
CHRISTIAN REFORMED	Georgetown Christian Reformed, Hwy. 7 and Trafalgar Rd., Georgetown	873-1320
	Beth-El Christian Reformed Church, Churchill Blvd., Acton	519-853-2121
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES	Georgetown - Hwy. 7 (Watch Tower), Georgetown	877-3146
	Jehovah's Witnesses, Hwy. 25 N., Acton	853-1500
LUTHERAN	Immanuel Lutheran Windsor and Carole	877-1172
NON-DENOMINATIONAL	Churchill Community Church, R.R.2, Acton	853-4380
PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA	Evangel Tabernacle Pentecostal Assembly, 33 Churchill N., Acton	853-2715
	Halton Gospel Temple, West of Trafalgar Rd., Hwy. 7	877-2759
PRESBYTERIAN	Knox Presbyterian, 116 Main St. S., Georgetown	877-7585
	Knox Presbyterian Church, 44 Main St. N., Acton	853-2360
	Norval Presbyterian Church, 499 Guelph St.	877-8867
ROMAN CATHOLIC	Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, 224 Maple Ave., Georgetown	873-1887
	Sacre-Coeur Church, 39 Guelph St., Georgetown	877-4373
	St. Joseph's Church, 47 John Street, Acton	853-0784
SALVATION ARMY	Captain and Mrs. W. Budgett, 114 Mill St. E.	853-1140
UNITED	St. Andrew's United Church, 89 Mountainview Rd. S., Georgetown	877-4482
	St. John's United Church, 11 Guelph St.	877-2531
	Trinity United Church, 70 Mill St. E., Acton	853-2090

Established 1973

HALTON HILLS COLLISION

R.R. 1, ACTON, ONT.

CREWSON'S CORNERS 853-2860

CANNING SUPPLIES AND ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE MASON JARS

1L \$5.99

GEORGETOWN LOCATION ONLY
238 GUELPH ST. GEORGETOWN

SPORTS 877-8146 HARDWARE 877-8146 PARTS 877-8147

G.T. Paradise

2% MILK 4L \$2.99 Bag

WITH MINIMUM \$5.00 PURCHASE
REG. \$3.39

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

Product of Ontario	
Fresh Tasty Broccoli	89¢
Fresh Ontario Field Tomatoes	LB. 75¢
Peaches/Nectarines	LB. 99¢
Cucumbers	2 for 89¢
Bananas	LB. 39¢

All Sale Items While Quantities Last! OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

G.T. Paradise
Our Produce Is Always Fresh And Our Prices Are Always Low!!!

30 MAIN ST. S. GEORGETOWN
873-8242

NON-DENOMINATIONAL (PENTECOSTAL)

ALL PEOPLES CHURCH DELIVERANCE CENTRE

41 Finchgate Blvd. Bramalea (S.W. Corner Finchgate Hwy. 7)

• Bible Study
• Worship • Deliverance

Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00 p.m.

We Provide:
• Children's Church
• Nursery Service
• English-to-Italian Translation

Pastor George A. LeRoy
792-2176

CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR

(Anglican Church of Canada)

RECTOR: Reverend Carol A. Skidmore, I. Th

Sunday Services: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Church School/Nursery 10:30 a.m.

537 Main St., Glen Williams (Mountains & Main Sts.)
416-877-8323

COME JOIN US - A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU

NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH

"WHERE LIVING APOSTLES ARE ACTIVE TODAY"

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

SERVICES:
10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Wednesdays - 8:00 p.m.

HALTON HILLS CONGREGATION
150 Main St. South, Acton

Rector: Rev. Stephen Wagner
877-4127

"A HEARTY WELCOME TO ALL"