

Becoming more fully human

It may seem paradoxical to say that those who are sometimes considered less than fully human – the weak, the broken, the disabled – can help all of us become more fully human, but that was Jean Vanier's message to some 1,300 people in St. Mary's Church in Kitchener on December 3. An unassuming figure in plaid shirt and casual jacket, he spoke in a soft voice that nevertheless was heard in every corner of the hushed church. "What I have discovered is that the strong need



Students from St. Jerome's and area Catholic high schools listened to – and had a chance to talk with – Jean Vanier at this year's Devlin Lecture, part of the 2001 – 2002 St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience lecture series.

Photo: 2001 The Record – Kitchener, Ontario

the weak in order to become more human, more compassionate, kinder, more loving."

Vanier, known world-wide as the founder of L'Arche communities for developmentally challenged people, was delivering the Devlin Lecture, "Becoming Human: Living for Others," part of the 2001-2002 St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience (SJCCE). The event was moved to St. Mary's when it became clear that Siegfried Hall would not hold all the people who wanted to attend, including many from L'Arche communities in Stratford, Toronto, Hamilton, and London. The following day, a second session brought 450 high school and university students to St. Jerome's. A collection taken at both events raised almost \$13,000 for L'Arche Haiti. Vanier put it over the top by donating his honorarium.

The point of his message, which can also be found in his book *Becoming Human* (the 1998 CBC Massey Lectures; Anansi, 1998), is that the strength and intelligence our society honours so highly are not enough to make us fully human. Vanier himself never lacked such gifts. Born the son of Georges Vanier, Governor-General of Canada, he served in the Canadian navy and later earned his academic credentials as a philosopher. (His latest book, *Made for Happiness*, is about Aristotle.) While teaching at St. Michael's College

in Toronto, almost by accident he "discovered a whole world of people who had been pushed aside," people with disabilities. Following a call to take his life in another direction, in 1964 Vanier invited two developmentally challenged men to live with him in an old house in Trosly-Breuil, France. That was the beginning of L'Arche ("the Ark"), now an organization of more than 100 communities in nearly 30 countries, including 26 in Canada. Disabled men and women come to L'Arche deeply alienated and in pain because they believe themselves to be worthless and unlovable. Living in community, accepted just as they are, they learn to value themselves.

To his surprise, Vanier found he was gaining as much as he was giving. His housemates helped him discover and accept his own less visible disabilities. "I discovered Jesus is not just in the more powerful part of me but also in the broken part." Often, he says, when people come to L'Arche to work with those in need, they discover that they too are in need of love and community.

That, Vanier says, is the gift of the weak to the strong – a chance to love, and, by loving, to become more human. In his 37 years of living with disabled friends, "together we've been able to discover the great mystery, that God has chosen each of us in our foolishness and in our weakness. We don't have to be big and strong. All we have to do is to grow and to become a bit more loving day by day." ☪

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Michael W. Higgins is President of St. Jerome's University.

Photo: Ron Hewson

An exercise in joy

by Michael W. Higgins

It all seems bleak and gloomy. No matter where you look these days you encounter another sad litany of financial woes in the post-secondary sector in the Province of Ontario. Once again, Ontario has the distinction of being at the very bottom of the list of provincial jurisdictions in terms of post-secondary funding. As a consequence, it is also at the bottom of the sixty jurisdictions in English-speaking North America. Some accomplishment.

We are reminded again and again that Ontario is the economic engine of the country. British Columbians and Albertans might have a problem with this designation, but the sheer size of the province and the sterling record of university-level accomplishments assure Ontario a continuing role at the top of the heap. Still, much needs to be done.

I am neither by temperament nor by intellectual inclination a doomsayer. I believe our political leadership, our corporate leadership, our

Learning is about much more than tenacity, competition, and success. At St. Jerome's University, the learning experience is grounded in personal discovery, intellectual experimentation, and growth in insight and wisdom.

enlightened citizenry, and our educational community will find some way out of the current bottleneck by recognizing, in the end, that a radically underfunded post-secondary sector diminishes us all at every level: economic recovery, social infrastructure, quality of life, research possibilities, etc. You get the point.

But university education and a flourishing social/cultural/economic environment are just a part of the picture. It is important to recognize that the learning process is an exercise in joy. Now this is hard to appreciate at a time of tuition deregulation, access difficulties in the double cohort era, and government funding priorities for research in technology and related areas at the expense of the humanities.

But learning is about much more than tenacity, competition, and success. At St. Jerome's University we have had a history of recognizing

that the learning experience is an experience grounded in personal discovery, intellectual experimentation, and growth in insight and wisdom. At a recent conversation held at our Board of Governors about what it is like being an undergraduate at the beginning of the new millennium, many of the members observed, with not a little sadness, that there doesn't appear to be a great deal of pleasure in the learning experience for our students and that we should make every effort to try to recover this fundamental component of the learning enterprise. I agree wholeheartedly.

There should be joy in learning and not just stress; there should be pleasure in enlightened understanding and not just toil; education is not simply a burden but also a privilege.

St. Jerome's University is committed to sustaining a learning environment that engages the full person, encourages healthy intellectual debate, provides a sanctuary for self-exploration, and creates a wisdom culture.

St. Jerome's University cannot avoid the stresses and strains that accompany life in contemporary North American society. We are a part of that society, in important ways a leaven, and we have obligations to the larger community not only in terms of our career goals but also in terms of our volunteer activity. We

are an integral part of a larger social fabric.

We are undertaking many new and exciting ventures at St. Jerome's University that will bring a measure of joy into the education process, a level of commitment to our larger social and cultural responsibilities, and some new directions in new times. As a consequence of the generous gift of Drs. Peter Warrian and Margret Hovanec, we will be opening our Art Gallery in late May of this year. We are also proceeding towards the early implementation of our graduate program in Roman Catholic Life and Thought, and we continue to expand and deepen our commitment to the Catholic community through funded lectures in the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience program.

As I say, St. Jerome's University is about joy in stressful times and it is about hope, the spiritual engine that drives us all. ☪

St. Jerome's gains a new ambassador

It was, as St. Jerome's President Michael Higgins described it, "a time of celebration, of fruitful memory, of rich dreaming." It was St. Patrick's Day, 2002, and Richard Gwyn was being installed as Chancellor of St. Jerome's University, succeeding the late John Sweeney. (As a nod to the day, the processional hymn was sung to the tune of the Irish ballad, "The Star of the County Down.")

The liturgy of installation was held in the Church of St. Agatha, "within throwing distance, if you are so inclined," Higgins said, of the site where St. Jerome's was founded in 1865. Outside, it was bitterly cold. Inside, all was warmth and light, dignified tradition and high ceremony. The Millennium Choir, led by director Alfred Kunz, filled the church with music, including a specially commissioned piece, "Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra" (Sing Joyfully to the Lord, All the Earth).

Among the dignitaries gathered to honour the new Chancellor were Bishop Anthony Tonnos of the Hamilton diocese, who celebrated Mass and delivered the Homily; David Johnston, President of the University of Waterloo; and members of the other university colleges and the faculties. Representatives of universities across Canada were also in attendance; others sent greetings that were read by Steve Furino, the Associate Dean.

"In one significant respect, I am one of the least suited among the members of this congregation to be the chancellor of a university," Gwyn told them. "I never went to university." He was educated at Stoneyhurst, a respected Jesuit school in Lancashire, and at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. A journalist for more than 40 years, he is one of Canada's most highly regarded political commentators. He has been a nationally syndicated columnist for the Toronto Star since 1973, appears regularly on TVO's Studio Two

and the CBC, is the author of *The Northern Magus*, *Nationalism Without Walls*, and other books, and has received several national media awards.

"It is not that Catholics are afraid of human knowledge, but that they are proud of divine knowledge," Gwyn said, quoting John Henry Cardinal Newman. Surely, he added, that must be the *raison d'être* of a Catholic university - "To be unafraid of human knowledge wherever it might lead, while simultaneously affirming divine knowledge." At a time when so many people lead fractured lives and when secular belief systems seem inadequate to deal with fundamental questions about what it means to be human, institutions such as St. Jerome's have something important to say "about the essential integrity, and wholeness, of combining human knowledge and divine knowledge."

Gwyn noted with approval that his main function, aside from chairing the presidential search committee or re-appointing the existing president, is to be an ambassador for St. Jerome's. That, he said, will be easy. "St. Jerome's has been described, entirely accurately, as 'Canada's best-kept educational secret.'" As a first-class institution within another first-class institution, St. Jerome's is "undeservedly" less well known than the University of Waterloo. "There, I may be able to help," Gwyn said. "All that needs to be done is to let the secret out." ☪



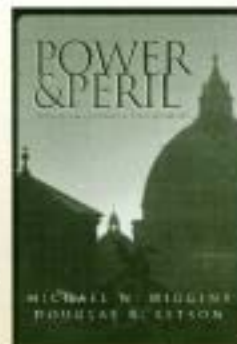
Deborah Pecoskie, chair of the St. Jerome's Board of Governors, and President Michael Higgins (right) lead the applause after the installation of Chancellor Richard Gwyn.

Photo: Ron Hewson

SJU News

Trustees of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board have voted unanimously to name the Board's next new elementary school in honour of St. Jerome's late Chancellor. **John Sweeney Catholic Elementary School** is scheduled to open in September 2003, in the Laurentian West area of Kitchener. ♦ Last summer **Kieran Bonner**, Sociology, became chair of the executive committee of the multi-university Culture of Cities research project. Recently he was also re-appointed to the position of Academic Dean and Vice-President of St. Jerome's, for a term running until 2005. Although he won't say so, "running" is a

good description of the dean's working day. ♦ The long-awaited history of St. Jerome's, *Enthusiasm for the Truth*, by History professors **Ken McLaughlin**, **Gerry Stortz**, and **Fr. Jim Wahl**, will be launched at the second Annual St. Jerome's Feast for Catholic University Education on September 27. ♦ **Giuseppe Gregorio DiCesare** (BMath '01, Pure Mathematics) was one of only two students at UW's fall 2001 Convocation to be graduated "With Distinction - Dean's Honours List." ♦ *Power and Peril: The Catholic Church at the Crossroads* (HarperCollins, 2002), the latest book by **Michael W. Higgins** and **Douglas R. Letson**, St. Jerome's President and Past-President, challenges readers to join an informed debate about some of the toughest issues facing the contemporary



A vacation with ideas



DeMarco retires

After 32 years as a faculty member in St. Jerome's Philosophy department, Donald DeMarco will be retiring on June 30, 2002. He is the author of numerous books and articles on moral and ethical issues, including the recent book, *The Integral Person in a Fractured World*.

Starting this year, St. Jerome's is inviting you to take a vacation with a difference. For four idyllic days you'll live on campus and immerse yourself in a great work, either Plato's *Symposium* or *The Lord of the Rings*. You'll read, converse, listen, and reflect. You'll meet new friends, linger over meals, explore the delights of the Waterloo region, and enjoy a trip to the Stratford Festival. It will re-energize your spirit and revitalize your mind.

The classics are for everyone. Adults of all ages, regardless of educational background, are invited to participate. Choose from two sessions, each guided by a specialist in cultural history. There are no tests or lectures. Enrolment in each session is limited to 12 people.

The Idea of Love

Session 1: July 13-18

Before Socrates and his friends can praise love, they must first say what it is. Not an easy task for them, still harder for us, because the idea of love and that which lovers prize has changed over time. This lively summer seminar will consider the idea of love through the ages in an effort to gain a perspective on what love is and means to us now.

Using *The Symposium*, Plato's famous dialogue on love, as our point of departure, we will explore the expression and meaning of love in its various guises, from classical 'ideal' love to 'courtly love' to 'love at first sight.' Our dialogue will range from earthly love to spiritual love, from Dante's Beatrice to Quixote's Dulcinea, from Renaissance songs and sonnets to modern poetry. Excursions include a trip to Stratford for dinner and a performance of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Facilitator: Dr. John Greenwood

Registration fee: \$540.00 (CDN) plus taxes.

Accommodation: \$260 (CDN) single occupancy or \$230 (CDN) per person double occupancy, plus taxes.

Fighting the Face of Evil

Session 2: July 28-Aug 2

The idea of heroism has morphed over time. Classical heroes could challenge fate and summon the gods to their cause. The modern hero is Frodo Baggins: small, innocent, and armed only with his resolution. This wide-ranging summer seminar considers the roots of the modern heroic – and anti-heroic – impulse.

Using Tolkien's Frodo and the continuing fascination with *The Lord of the Rings* as its point of departure, we will follow the thread of classical, medieval, Renaissance, and modern ideas about heroism, from Oedipus and the Sphinx, to 'the horror' of Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Excursions will include a trip to Stratford for dinner and a performance of Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

To register or for more information contact Harry Froklage, Office of Development and Graduate Affairs,

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Church. Letson and Higgins cover the range of views among the Church's most prominent and controversial spokesmen and critics, including many interviewed specifically for this book. ♦ After 15 years away, *The New Quarterly* is back at St. Jerome's, where it was first published out of a print shop in the basement, starting in 1980. TNQ now has an office in room 113B. The magazine won the silver medal for fiction in last year's National Magazine Awards, and two stories were accepted for the *Journey Prize Anthology*, a collection of the best new Canadian fiction. ♦ **Mike Mosca**, Mathematics, has been awarded a Canada Research Chair in quantum computing, a math-science blend based on quantum physics (how nature works at the atomic level) that may someday expand computing

power trillions of times. He is expected to figure largely in UW's newly created Institute for Quantum Computing. ♦ **Stan Fogel**, English, is co-editing *Changing Identities*, a reader of materials from Canada's alternative press. Co-editor **Lynette Thoman**, a St. Jerome's grad (BA '98, English), is a PhD student in York University's Social and Political Thought program. The book is scheduled to come out this fall from Canadian Scholars Press. ♦ **Carol Acton**, English, is introducing a new ARTS 199 (first-year seminar) course called Reading, Writing, and Screening War, an approach to understanding war through a variety of media. She spoke on "Diverting the Gaze: The unseen text in women's war writing" at a conference of the northeastern branch of the

English student flexes her writing muscles

On the threshold of her fourth year at St. Jerome's, Paulina Ratajczak, a student in co-op English, has already built up credits as a reporter and writer. Since fall 2000, she's been a volunteer member of the *Catholic Register's* Youth Speak News team, each month contributing a column, review, or news story. Youth editor Paula Antonello highlights Paulina's "great enthusiasm" and readiness to take the initiative – for example, in a story on the Hunger Site, a website where people can donate food by the click of a mouse. "It was interesting to get to know the people behind the screen," Paulina says.

A *Catholic Register* assignment



on World Youth Day led to her current co-op position as communications co-ordinator at the national office of World Youth Day 2002, an event that's expected to attract 500,000 people to Toronto in July and to require more than 25,000 volunteers. Paulina is creating a newsletter to keep the volunteers informed. "My job is to keep them in the loop, make sure they know what they have to do, and make them feel they are part of the bigger team."

With convocation just over the horizon, Paulina is weighing careers in teaching, journalism, or publishing. ☺

We win prizes

SJU Registrar Dana Waito harnessed the creative skills of Linda Kenyon, wordsmith, Jens Langen, photographer, and Tom Bishop, designer, to develop a new poster for the St. Jerome's recruitment campaign. Their collective efforts won a bronze medal in the annual competition conducted by the Canadian Council for Advancement of Education.

Sister Leon White remembered

Students who attended St. Jerome's and Notre Dame College during the 1970s will be saddened to learn of the death of Sister Leon White, SSND, on November 2, 2001. Sister Leon taught at every academic level, including elementary and secondary school, before she came to teach English at St. Jerome's. Following her retirement in 1980, she assumed a leadership role at the Motherhouse in Waterdown before moving to England to involve herself in pastoral ministry. Failing health caused her retirement to the SSND Villa in Waterdown in 1986. In October 1996, the University of Waterloo recognized Sister Leon's contribution, naming her an Honorary Member of the University – the first person primarily associated with St. Jerome's to be so honoured. ☺

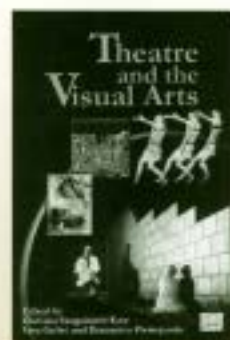


As Director of Notre Dame College, Sister Leon White was an important figure in St. Jerome's early years. In this 1965 photo she makes an emphatic point as Wyn Rees, Principal of Renison College, and Fr. J.R. Finn, St. Jerome's President, look on.

Photo: David L. Hunsberger

Modern Languages Association (NEMLA) in Toronto in April. ♦ *Theatre and the Visual Arts* (Legas, 2001) is a new book edited by Vera Golini, Italian and French Studies, with Giuliana Sanguinetti Katz and Domenico Pietropaolo of the University of Toronto. This illustrated collection of articles by scholars from Italy, Canada, and the United States offers a fresh look at influences on theatre from ancient Greece to the end of the twentieth century, including the impact of new technologies. After a productive sabbatical year, Golini is resuming her role as director of the Women's Studies program at Waterloo and associate professor of Italian at St. Jerome's. ♦ For the next two years Danine Farquharson, English, will serve as associate editor, literature for the *Canadian Journal of Irish*

Studies. She is also the program committee organizer for the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies to be held in Toronto this May. ♦ In July, the Philosophy department gains a new faculty member – Stephanie Grégoire, from Université Laval. ♦ Trout Lily Press has swum upstream to Manitoba with managing editor Charlene Diehl-Jones, formerly of St. Jerome's English department. But the small, innovative literary publishing house that sprang up at St. Jerome's is still here in spirit, with Gary Draper, English, continuing as editor. Visit their website: www.sju.ca/troutlily. ♦ Gabriel Niccoli, Italian, became a full professor in March. ♦ Several graduating students were honoured at St. Jerome's annual Awards Night on March 23. Christine Watters,



Visiting scholar's life as a nun

Sister Kathleen Keating's patron, St. Catherine of Siena, is often portrayed as carrying a boat – the barque of St. Peter – on her shoulders. "Needless to say, she became very tired," says Sr. Keating, who came to St. Jerome's as a visiting scholar during the 2001 fall term. Following her retirement as President of the College of Our Lady of the Elms in Massachusetts, she was glad to exchange 12-hour workdays for an opportunity to recharge, read, and reflect on her own share of carrying that barque over the last 50 years.

"The '70s were a heady time. As we went through the liberation process, I realized for the first time in my life my value as a woman and a person. That changed me as nothing else has." – Sister Kathleen Keating

Sr. Keating, SSJ, PhD, lived in the visitor's suite in Sweeney Hall, was a guest speaker in several classes, and began planning a book about her experiences. "I never for one minute felt not at home," she says, despite a period of anxiety following the events of September 11.

On November 9 she delivered the inaugural Teresa Dease Lecture, part of the 2001-2002 St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience and established by the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loretto Sisters) to honour their founder in Canada. Her talk, "Women and the Church," capsulized her life as a nun actively engaged in the world in an era of renewal sparked by Vatican II and the women's liberation movement. "The '70s were a heady time. As we went through the liberation process, I realized for the first time in

my life my value as a woman and a person. That changed me as nothing else has."

Each career stage brought its particular struggle. As head of the National Assembly of Women Religious (NAWR) in the late '70s, she protested the death penalty, picketed bishops' meetings, and spoke up for inclusiveness in the church. Although Sr. Keating never felt a personal call to the priesthood, she supported women who did. The 1977 letter from Rome against the ordination of women came as a painful blow, especially the statement that women do not image Christ. "It was always my understanding that what made Christ the intermediary between God and man was that he was human and divine – not that he was male and divine."

Life after NAWR was less turbulent for Sr. Keating, but it was never without challenges. As President of her own congregation, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Springfield, she struggled to pay the bills and debated church issues with the bishop. As a pastoral worker in a Nicaraguan barrio in the early '90s, she worked with people so poor "they could not dream." And finally as President of the Elms, a women's college, she guided a controversial change to co-education.

Despite brushes with sexism in the church, Sr. Keating says she could not be anything but a Catholic. Through every challenge she remained firmly grounded in her religious community. "I don't feel rage. I think what balances me is the kind of life I've been fortunate enough to have, where people support you and laugh with you, share similar visions or different visions. In the end, it's how we treat one another that counts." ☪

SJU News

Psychology/Religious Studies, won the Zach Ralston Award as the student who best exemplifies the spirit of St. Jerome's and the D.R. Letson Community Service Award. **Kim Fiscalini**, Sociology, **Sarah Mounstevan**, Religious Studies, and **Nancy Vandersar**, Psychology, won Community Contribution Awards; **Maria Capulong**, Psychology, **Kathleen Quinlan**, Religious Studies, **Jeff Woodrow**, Fine Arts, and **Andrea Wright**, History, were presented with University Life Awards. ♦ **Ted McGee**, English, recently published four articles. One, intriguingly entitled "Shakespeare Canadlens at the Stratford Festival," appears in 'A World Elsewhere': *Shakespeare in Canada*. He'll be serving as chair of College Council next year. ♦ Many will remember **Pearl Bailey**,

who retired last year after 15 years working in food services at St. Jerome's. Known for her cheerful smile – and for always being willing to slip a little something extra on a hungry student's plate – Pearl will now spend winters with her sister in Florida, where she was raised, returning to Ontario in the summer. ♦ **B. J. Rye**, Psychology, a faculty member in the Sexuality, Marriage and the Family degree program administered through St. Jerome's, has succeeded **Cristina Vanin** as director. She will serve for three years. ♦ **Chris Burris**, Psychology, **Conrad Hewitt**, Mathematics, and **Cristina Vanin**, Religious Studies, have been awarded continuing contracts (equivalent to tenure) and the rank of associate professor, both effective July 2003.

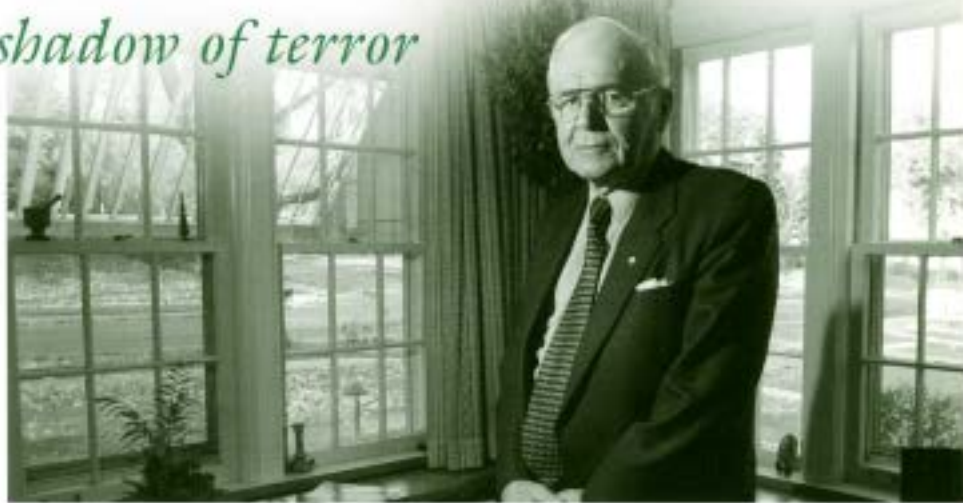
War and peace in the shadow of terror

What happened to turn a St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience (SJCCE) lecture into a two-day teach-in involving people and groups from all over the community? "September 11 happened," says David Seljak, director of the Centre.

Senator Douglas Roche had been booked months before to deliver the Wintermeyer Lecture in Christianity and Public Policy in Siegfried Hall on October 26. Roche was Canada's ambassador for disarmament to the United Nations (1984-89) and special advisor on disarmament and security to the Vatican Delegation to the UN (1989-98), and is the author of 15 books, including *Bread Not Bombs: A Political Agenda for Social Justice* (1999). "His topic, Bread Not Bombs, became a bigger issue overnight," Seljak says. "Suddenly, more people were aware of the necessity for some intelligent discussion of peace issues."

The event was organized by the SJCCE, the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group, Project Ploughshares, and the Muslim Students' Association. Roche led a forum on Friday as well as delivering the lecture. Next day St. Jerome's hosted a forum led by Afghan-born doctor and peace activist Seddiq Weera, followed by panel discussions on terror, war, justice, and racism in which professors and students from Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier, and York universities took part.

Roche's lecture could not have been better timed, Seljak says. "I don't think people would have been as ready to respond to what he had to say if we had held the talk earlier." By late October, Roche's audience were ready for a reasoned reflection on the events of September 11 and the subsequent American action in Afghanistan. "We don't usually get standing ovations at Centre lectures, but he received one – I think because he said in a reasonable way what many people were thinking but hadn't been able



to put into words."

In essence, Roche said that without understating the evil of the September 11 attacks, the Western response should not cause more suffering among civilians. He called for "an all-out attack on the causes of terrorism. It is not just the criminals who perpetrated these heinous acts who must be caught and brought to justice. It is the de-humanizing economic and social deprivation that terrorists exploit that must be stamped out.... Terrorism, the epitome of hate, feeds on the hatreds and resentments that have been built up in the rest of the world against Western society. We do not like to hear this, CNN does not broadcast it, the political processes do not want to deal with it. Nonetheless, more conflict is coming because people who are downtrodden are rising up against a West they perceive as rich, arrogant and powerful."

The solution, he says, lies in our own hands. "It is not only human rights we need to address, it is also human responsibility. The great strategies, plans, proposals and dreams will amount to little if I myself – and the millions like me – do not take some responsibility for the continued peaceful development of God's planet." ☺

Speaking at St. Jerome's on October 26, Senator Douglas Roche offered his hearers a challenge: "Do enough people care about the conditions of the world to demand change? Do I care enough? Do I love my neighbour enough? This is a spiritual question because the world crisis we face today is essentially spiritual."

Photo: 2001 The Record – Kitchener, Ontario

Grad Notes

79 "I've been meaning to do this for a long time," writes **Mary Borys (née Van Trigt, BA '79, Religious Studies)**. She means updating friends on what she's been doing, and there's plenty to tell. She and her husband Tom Borys, a family physician in Kitchener, have four children: Maria (20), Jacob (17), Martha (15), and Timothy (12). Mary and Tom volunteer for Marriage Preparation classes locally as well as in their own parish. Mary, who teaches Grade 1 at St. Paul School in the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, was one of 10 people to receive a 2001 Teacher of the Year Award from the province of Ontario, presented by

Lieutenant-Governor Hilary Weston at Queen's Park last June 6. Mary also met the education minister, Janet Ecker, and received a congratulatory letter from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. Finally, the award winners were presented on the field at a Blue Jays game. "I even jumped the fence and got Carlos Delgado's signature on a baseball for my son!" Mary writes. The family also produces and sells wildflower honey in the village of Mannheim, near Kitchener. Mary's heritage garden was recently featured in the gardening magazine *Ontario Gardener*. Friends can get in touch at borys@online.net.

83 **Colleen Klein (BA '83, Psychology)** recently moved to a new home in Mississauga, where she is a special education teacher for the Dufferin-

A ministry of presence

In high schools across the province, graduates are

by Genevieve Anderson (BA '94)

Once, the daily presence of priests and religious assured a sense of Catholic mission. Now, however, the task of creating a distinctly Catholic character within secondary schools falls increasingly to lay people and, in particular, to lay chaplains.

Today, only ten percent of school chaplains are ordained. Only eight percent belong to religious communities. Most of the chaplains whose ministry of presence helps students and staff develop their faith – through liturgical celebration, prayer, retreats, pastoral counseling, and social justice outreach – are members of the laity.

Quite a number of them are St. Jerome's graduates, as I discovered at this year's provincial chaplains' conference. When I announced my

desire to connect with other SJU grads, several participants immediately introduced themselves and spoke eagerly about their current ministry and how St. Jerome's influenced their faith journey and vocation to chaplaincy.

Chaplaincy can be described as a ministry of presence, or, as some of my colleagues put it, "loitering with intent." To convey the presence of Jesus through actions and words, and to point out where God is already active in the lives of students and staff, requires a strong faith and personal sense of inner peace and integrity.

For me, it means bringing my own gifts and life experience to a challenging, often stressful, but ultimately rewarding ministry with 1,800 students and 179 staff at Resurrection Catholic Secondary School in Kitchener.

My vocation to high school chaplaincy came towards the end of my time at St. Jerome's. I took my first Religious Studies course in my second year, after hearing so many good things about the professors, particularly Mary Malone, from my friends at Notre Dame College. Late into the night, over Little Caesar's Crazybread, these friends would discuss the church, spirituality and gender issues in a way that I had never heard before. They opened my eyes and heart to working for justice and equality in the church and in the world.

In my third year, I helped the then-chaplain Fr. Jeremiah Cullinane form a volunteer peer ministry team. In 1992-93, a dedicated group of students, including Kathleen O'Mara (now chaplain in the Niagara CDSB), formed the Student Catholic Community and I served as a "co-coordinator" under the direction of our new chaplain, Fr. Jim Link.

For Genevieve Anderson (left), who is chaplain at Resurrection Catholic Secondary School in Kitchener, the benefits of being a chaplain are as personal as they are professional.

Photo: Ron Hewson



Grad Notes

Peel Catholic District School Board. She is also a supervisor at an International Language Site in Mississauga where Polish and Arabic are taught. Colleen would be happy to hear what her classmates have been doing. You can reach her by e-mail at colleen.klein@dpccdsb.org.

'87 Kim Yonekura (née Barrie, BA '87, Religious Studies) describes her life as "pretty simple. After St. Jerome's I received my Bachelor of Education from Ottawa. I taught school in Cambridge for three years. In 1991 I married Mark Yonekura, a Waterloo chemical engineering grad (BASC '85). He works for Kimberly-Clark, and we had hoped for a move from Huntsville to Toronto, so we both could commute to work." It was not to be. In the summer of 1991 the family moved to Wisconsin, where they lived for ten

years. Their three children were all born there – Ryan (7), Naomi (4), and Eric (1). Last April they transferred to Georgia. "We decided that if we needed to be away from our families we might as well be somewhere warm," Kim says. "We love living in the south, and we hope to be here for a while."

'91 Greg Schryer (BSc '91) reports in from Toronto, where he lives with wife Sorja and 18-month-old daughter Renée Martine. After holding the position of Vice-President, Sales for Kumaran Systems in Toronto, he now works in sales for EDS Canada. Greg writes that he would love to hear from old friends. He has a special message for Frank O'Connor (director of residence in the late '80s): "Sorry we kept you up all those nights, Frank." Friends can e-mail Greg at greg.schryer@eds.com.

the province, St. Jerome's "loitering with intent."

During that year, my intention to become a school chaplain solidified. I worked in parish ministry in Alberta for the next year, and completed a Master of Religious Education at the University of St. Michael's College before accepting my first chaplaincy position as a Grade 8 residential retreat chaplain for the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. In September 1999, I was transferred to Resurrection C.S.S. and fulfilled my dream of becoming a school chaplain.

My colleagues in ministry claim that, "You can't give what you don't already possess." My personal relationship with God is deepening through my work with a spiritual director, the practice of yoga and meditation, and in leading prayer and faith-sharing groups. I'm currently learning from the book *The Power of Now* by Eckert Tolle, which challenges me to find God in the present moment, instead of dwelling in the past or future. I want to emulate those people – Jean Vanier is a great example – who are fully attentive and present to each person and situation and who radiate God's presence and peace.

I now attempt to be fully present to every student and staff member, whether it is a needy, lonely student who wants to talk or a hundred students at our annual Lenten 30-hour "Fast 4 Change" weekend. If a handful of students and staff can recognize God's presence through my attentiveness to them, then I will be a truly successful chaplain.

And God is working through the students who spend time with me. In the end, I'm the one who benefits – from their laughter, their willingness to lead each other, and their trust in me. It's such a privilege to be included in the sacred space of a Catholic high school. ☪

'93 Steven Bosnick (BMath '93) spent the summer of 1999 working as an intern with the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, where he assisted the work of the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labour. In 2000 he graduated from law school at the University of Toronto with an LLB (he already had an MA in philosophy from the University of Guelph) and spent the next year and a half as a student articling with the law firm of Jesin, Watson & McCreary, which represents unions in their legal disputes with employers. "While at law school I focused on the areas of the law affecting employment, including both unionized and non-unionized workplaces," Steven writes. "My internship at the ILO gave me a chance to observe the international aspects of the legal regimes governing employment."

Life as a chaplain

- **Richard Whitney (BA '89)**, chaplain at St. Patrick's H.S. in Sarnia, believes "the most important task of a school chaplain is to foster caring and supportive relationships with and among the students and staff modeled on the person of Jesus."
- **Marianna Worth (BA '95)**, chaplain at Monsignor Doyle C.S.S. in Cambridge, says the challenge is to see "God in all things, even in that kid who is in trouble at the office all the time."
- **Maureen Bauer-McGahey (BA '78)**, chaplain at St. John S.S. in Perth, stresses the importance of encouraging "young people to discover Catholic social teaching by experience in order to understand root causes of poverty, hunger, or terrorism."
- **Laurence McKenna, C.R. (BA '83)**, a priest and chaplain at St. John's College School in Brantford, encourages students to build a fuller, richer experience of faith, prayer, and church by relating to their own life experiences.
- **Maria Borsato (BA '91)**, chaplain at John Cabot Catholic Secondary School in Mississauga says of St. Jerome's, "I was able to explore freely some of my most pressing questions. I learned a lot about the church and I would have to say that education brought me further along in my journey of reconciliation with the church."
- **Bridget Bates (BA '94)**, chaplain at St. Anne's Catholic S.S. in Clinton, on how to break down stereotypes: at the Christmas assembly, she asked everyone to close their eyes to pray. She crept over to the drum kit and played a drum solo. "It was great fun for me and they cheered!"
- **Lisa-Ann Bilinsky (BA '97)**, chaplain at Fr. Leo J. Austin C.S.S. in Whitby, on the benefits of diversity: "Being from a Byzantine Catholic background has been enriching to me in my ministries. To be able to worship in two traditions allows me a greater perspective on Catholic theology."

Steven was called to the Ontario bar on March 22, 2002, and will continue to work with Jesin, Watson & McCreary as a lawyer. He can be reached by e-mail at sbosnick@interlog.com.

'93 Lorrie Temple (née Matthews, BA '93, Sociology/History) and her husband **Mark Temple (BA '93, Sociology)** are



pleased to announce the arrival of Matthew, born July 14, 2001, a little brother for Justin. They are also pleased to announce their move back to Kitchener-Waterloo, where they are members of the University Catholic Community at St. Jerome's. Lorrie teaches with the Halton Catholic District

SJCC at 20

In September 2002 the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience will be 20 years old. The anniversary will be marked by a celebration to coincide with the launch of a new history of St. Jerome's, Enthusiasm for the Truth.

Other highlights of the season:

- *The John Sweeney Lecture on Current Issues in Catholic Healthcare will be inaugurated.*
- *A special Ignatian Lecture will mark the 150th anniversary of the Jesuits in the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge-Guelph area.*
- *Ron Rolheiser, OMI (Oblates of Mary Immaculate), theologian, well-known columnist, and author of Against an Infinite Horizon and other books, will deliver the second annual Somerville Lecture in Christianity and Communications.*
- *Lois Sweet, professor of journalism at Carleton University and author of God in the Classroom: The Controversial Issue of Religion in Canada's Schools, will deliver the School Boards' Lecture.*

Check the Centre's web site, www.sju.ca/services/stju_centre, for further information.

Continuing CONNECTIONS



(From left to right) Megan Graham, Michael Higgins, Greg Humbert, Richard Slowikowski, and Susan Clarke sit down to a nice meal together. Harry Froklage was too large to fit into the picture.

Survey said...

Thanks to all 238 respondents to our SJU Update readership survey. The kudos were appreciated and the suggestions for improvement noted and incorporated into our new look. In particular, our new SJU Notes respond to requests for more information about our faculty, staff, and students. Let us know what you think.

Grad Notes

The results are in: St. Jerome's graduates cause portliness. It is a hypothesis that I began testing last October. President Michael Higgins – on a break from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) Conference – and I met with several grads at Cafe Baci in Ottawa to hear about their post-SJU lives. We learned that **Susan Clarke (BA '99, English)** is a technical writer in the software industry. **Megan Graham (née Gordon) (BA '98, Rhetoric and Professional Writing)** married **John Graham (BASC '99, Electrical Engineering)** and is a Human Resources Generalist and Quality Manager at ExcelHR while John is an ASIC Designer for Spacebridge Semiconductor. **Brad Kelly (BA '97, Political Science)**, an Issues Policy Officer with Industry Canada, works with the management team to improve policy development and decision-making processes. **Greg Humbert (BA '70, English)** is responsible for marketing and publications with the Catholic Health Association of Canada, which allows him to “fulfill the values

School Board. Friends can reach both the Temples at lormark@primus.ca.

'95 **Scott Murphy (BMath '95)**, and **Carrie Murphy (née Miller, BA '98, French Teaching)** moved back to Waterloo from Listowel in November 2000 when Scott took an ownership position in Data Perceptions (a local IT consulting firm) and became Vice-President, Business Development. Carrie transferred to Hespeler Public School in September 2001 to teach core French. “The big news is that we have a very recent new edition to the Murphy family,” Scott writes. The newcomer is Sarah Jane Murphy, born March 15, 2002.

'00 “A new addition came into my family on Sunday, February 17, at 11:51 a.m.,” writes **Elizabeth Pearson (BA '00, English)**. Anthony David

instilled [by] St. Jerome's [and] serve gospel values and the ministry of the church.” And **Richard Slowikowski (BA '78, English and Philosophy)** is a Senior Consultant for the Management Consulting Centre, developing leadership and communications skills and action plans to strengthen values and ethics within Industry Canada.

Over salads and linguini, Richard and Greg discussed issues of spiritual growth with Michael while Brad, Megan, and Susan regaled me with their memories of residence antics, including the mysterious appearance of a flock of chickens in Finn Hall and cow party bingo: It was an experience both filling and fulfilling.

A day later, I lunched with **Mary Pat Byrne (BA '93, Religious Studies)** in Kingston. Mary Pat told me of her connection with St. Jerome's as a mature student, first through summer institutes and then as a distance education student. She is now a lay pastoral assistant and serves as a mentor in the diaconate program of the Diocese of Kingston.

A spot of afternoon tea and cookies later – partaken with **Sr. Sheila Boase** and members of the **Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph** – and I found myself having drinks and dinner at Le Chien Noir Bistro with **Karen Peperkorn (BA '81, Fine Arts)**. Karen is the force behind the Creative Arts Program offered at Queen Elizabeth Collegiate and Vocational Institute. The program, funded largely by the Limestone Learning Foundation, provides a creative environment for students passionate about art to immerse themselves in their craft and build a portfolio.

Karen is a continuing presence in the SJU Catholic Community thanks to her composition

George Pearson was welcomed into the world by several St. Jerome's grads. Liz is now the assistant manager of Hallmark Cards in Conestoga Mall in Waterloo, but she's taking some time off to spend with Anthony. “I can't wait until I get my next issue of the magazine,” she writes. “I love keeping up with things that are happening in the community!” To help Liz keep up to speed, send her an e-mail at lizchewybond@hotmail.com.

'01 Zach Ralston Award winner **John Corr (BA '01, English)** has been admitted to the PhD program in English literature at McMaster University. John was awarded the Harry Lyman Hooker Senior Fellowship, and is one of only five recipients from across the university to receive this honour.

by Harry Froklage

of the moving music for the *Our Father*. In composing the piece, she remembered, she wanted to address the Father personally and directly, creating a powerful connection that those who sing her music still experience.

These conversations were uniformly light, unlike the meals I chose to accompany them. My car's suspension groaned all the way home.

Thanksgiving, Christmas, Groundhog Day: a winter of festive eating kept me from shedding those pounds. Then, in February – on a break from the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) annual conference in Washington D.C. – Kieran Bonner, our Dean, and Michael and I lunched with **Stephen Flott**

(BA' 67, History) at the Hyatt Regency. Stephen came to St. Jerome's from the U.S. as a seminarian, then chose to pursue a BA and MA in history instead. He studied law and headed up the Ontario Trucking Association before moving to Washington, marrying, and establishing a legal practice as a specialist in business and international transportation matters. The conversation was expansive and wide-ranging and the food was abundant.

I haven't been able to see my feet since. It may be an occupational hazard, but the facts are incontrovertible: meeting SJU grads causes weight gain.

The proof is in the padding. €

If a student calls

If a student calls from the University of Waterloo seeking your financial support, they are also calling on behalf of St. Jerome's. This year, students will call seeking support for five SJU projects, two new and three ongoing.

They are:

- A graduate program in Roman Catholic Life and Thought
- A Chair in Quantum Computation
- Scholarships
- Handicapped accessibility projects
- The Centre for Catholic Experience lectures

To support one of these projects, simply tell your caller that you want to designate all or part of your gift to SJU.

And thank you!

Hello across the years

Nearly 50 years after leaving St. Jerome's, Jon McKallor dropped us a line to let us know he's alive and well and living in Arizona. As an 18-year-old interested in the priesthood, he attended St. Jerome's Kingsdale campus from 1953 to 1955. "Though it was a wonderful two years, and many of my pals were Americans like myself," he says, "I gave up the quest and returned to Minnesota." Jon graduated from the University of Minnesota, then taught in Arizona. He's now supervisor of the Office of Professional Experience (student teaching) at Arizona State University's College of Education. "And yes, in a way, I did become a 'Father'...five kids and 12 grandchildren, and growing." To get in touch with Jon, send him e-mail at sep91942@asu.edu or write to him at 6707 East Cypress Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85257.

Kevin Kitney is mourned

On November 2, 2001, the day before he was to celebrate his fiftieth birthday, Kevin Kitney died following several years of chronic illness. "Curly" Kitney was one of the Niagara Falls boys who came to St. Jerome's in the early 1970s. His trademark optimism came into play when he arrived in September 1971 with no place to live and slept on the floor in various residence rooms before finding his own quarters. Kevin described his time at St. Jerome's as among the best years of his life. Later, he worked as a border guard in Niagara Falls, where his ready smile made him a favourite with co-workers and regular travellers. Kevin leaves his wife Roseanne, a loving family, and a wide circle of friends.

Hey SJU grads!

Have you moved? Changed jobs? Married? Any additions to the family? Help us keep your fellow grads informed by filling out and returning this form. We'll publish your news, along with a photo, space permitting, in SJU Update.

Name (Please include birth name) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail/WWW _____

Degree/Year/Programme _____

Are you working?

Job title _____ Employer _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail/WWW _____

Are you married?

Spouse's name _____

Degree/Year/Programme _____

What's new in your life?

(Enclose additional sheet if necessary)

Please do not publish this info in SJU Update.

Please return this form to:

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Charity Run S.O.S

Since 1976, St. Jerome's students have spent an autumn weekend running for a worthy cause, demonstrating their commitment to social justice. But for various reasons – student workload, part-time work, other charitable activities – organisers have been finding it difficult to generate the necessary interest and commitment.

We need your help if this tradition is to continue.

This year's co-chairs, **Maeve Bonner** and **Sarah Jansma**, are asking all SJU grads and friends to support Charity Run, by either joining the run or sponsoring runners.

This year's designated charity is The Working Centre, which was established in downtown Kitchener in 1982 by SJU grads **Joe** and **Stephanie Mancini**. It operates the St. John's Kitchen, Barterworks, and Recycle Cycles, among many other worthy initiatives.



On your mark!

Dates: Friday September 20 at noon to Sunday, September 22 at 11:30 a.m.

I want to run!

Name (Please include birth name) _____
 Address _____

 City Province Postal _____
 Code _____
 Tel (H) Tel (W) _____
 e-mail/WWW _____
 Preferred running time _____
 Number of Laps _____

I want to be a sponsor!

Name (Please include birth name) _____
 Address _____

 City Province Postal _____
 Code _____
 Tel (H) Tel (W) _____
 e-mail/WWW _____
 Number of Laps (\$10.00 per lap) _____
 I have enclosed a cheque for \$ _____
 (payable to St. Jerome's University)
 (A Charitable Donations Receipt will be issued.)

Please send to Harry Froklage, Office of Development and Graduate Affairs, St. Jerome's University, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G3 Canada
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Thank you for your support!



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