

SJU UPDATE

St. Jerome's University Alumni and Friends



St. Jerome's Feast

Fr. Bernie Hayes was awarded the 2009 Chancellor John Sweeney Award for Leadership in Catholic University Education on October 2, 2009 at the 9th Annual Feast event at St. Jerome's University.

The sold out event was attended by faculty, staff, alumni and community members who all gathered to celebrate the contributions Fr. Hayes has made to Catholic education throughout his career.

Fr. Hayes has served as a teacher and administrator at St. Jerome's High School, at Scollard Hall in North Bay, at St. Mary's High School in Kitchener, at St. Thomas Scholasticate in London, and at St. Mary's College Seminary in Kentucky.

In his introduction, President and Vice-Chancellor, David Perrin remarked that "Fr. Bernie has touched countless lives and hearts in this community. His ability to connect with people — through teaching, through retreats, through his books — has made him an exemplary Catholic educator who brings to life the message of the Gospel."

Fr. Hayes shared his award with the Congregation of the Resurrection as a personal tribute and because "without their vision and work, St. Jerome's University as we know it today would not exist."

He reminded the audience that, "Resurrectionist Father Louis Funcken founded this University... His primary concern and focus was and always remained the students. His goal was to instill in them an "enthusiasm for truth." Those words have continued to form the University's guiding principle."

Fr. Hayes closed his address with a quote from author Henry James, "A teacher affects eternity, he or she can never tell where his or her influence stops."

The event raised \$17,000 for first year entrance scholarships at St. Jerome's. Since approximately 165 first year students benefit from receiving these scholarships annually, the influence of Fr. Hayes and all of the attendees and donors to this event will be felt for years to come.



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