



An Occasional News Letter from Manresa Spirituality Centre

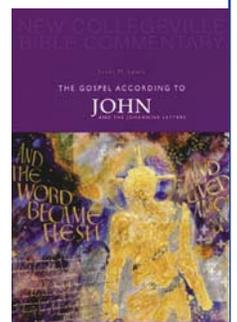
For the Greater Glory of God

Spring-Summer 2014

Changing of the Guard

Fr. Scott Lewis becomes the New
Dean at Regis College, Toronto

After doing a yeoman's job of being Director of the Retreat House, Teaching Theology at our Jesuit College in Downtown Toronto and writing a weekly homily for the Archdiocesan Newspaper, Fr. Scott Lewis S.J. has moved on to the hubbub of Metropolitan Toronto. His last major work at the Retreat House was to see all the renovations demanded by the Fire Department, were up to the mark. This job would have turned the youthful black hair of anyone white. (see Bill Clinton and Barack Obama) But Fr. Scott managed to keep his youthful coiffure without the aid of Clairol. We wish him all the best in his new portfolio as Academic Dean of Regis College.



New Kid on the Block Fr. Michael Coutts, S.J.

Fr. Michael Coutts is a Jesuit of English Speaking Province of Canada. He had just finished a stint of 12 years in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Toronto.

Michael was born in Bombay, India. He completed his Licentiate in Philosophy and Bachelors in Education. While Americans Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, were journeying to the moon on July 20, 1969, Michael was on his way to Guyana in South America.

In October 1985, he came up to Canada due to health issues. He has been working in parishes ever since.

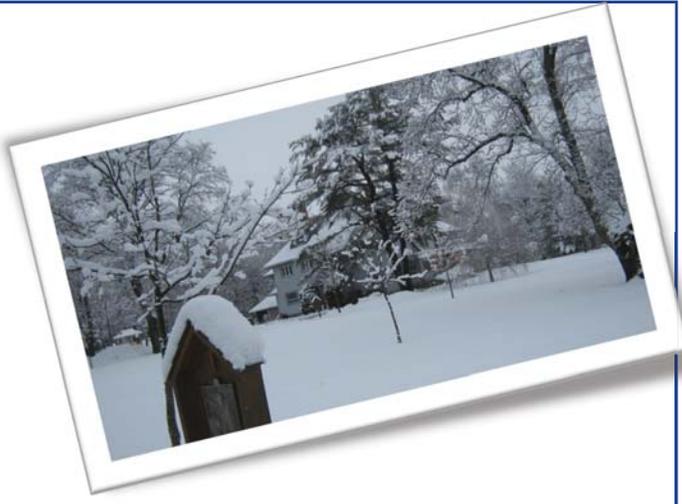
Pickering, Ontario is not new to him, since he was stationed here from 1992-2000 while working up at the Martyrs' Shrine during the Shrine Season.



Before and Now



Our Jesuits Staff: Br. Bob Finlay S.J, Fr. Mike Hawkins S.J. Fr. Jim Sheppard S.J.
Office Administrator: Ms. Fiona Bertok.
Finances: Ms. Louise Dragozet
House Keeper: Eva Marie Boessler and Marion Graham
Kitchen: Kim States and her efficient crew: Doris, Mary Rose, Olive, Rozelle, Alannah and Chauntel.



Our Staple Retreats

Fiona Bertok our office coordinator and Louise Dragozet our “finance minister” keep us on track. They phone and fill up empty spaces and make sure we balance our books, so that the Director does not stay up at night wondering how to pay the bills. Fiona tells us that we had

34 Weekend Retreats with an attendance of approximately 1800 Retreatants.

There were 21 Ignatian Retreat Weekends and 13 Spirituality of the 12 Step weekends.

Besides our Jesuit Staff, we have five “elderly” Jesuits as Confessors and Counsellors, in addition to Sr. Karen and Sr. Jeanine.

They are

- Fr. Mike O’Donnell
- Fr. Jack Doyle
- Fr. Fred Powers
- Fr. Keith Langstaff
- Fr. Bill German (in near future)

After the severe winter, which we would like to forget, we had a lot of \$\$\$\$ spent on broken tree limbs clearance. It was feared that we had lost the beautiful copper-beech tree near St. Ignatius Chapel, but like a resilient retreatant it bounced back and we can enjoy God’s beauty in its brilliant colours.

The Spring found the maintenance staff of Eva-Maria, Marion and Br. Bob getting a 70 old Fleming House once more in shape. After each weekend retreat, there were doors that creaked, taps that dripped, paint peeling off from walls or ceiling. Like our spiritual health, the physical upkeep of the building will continue. Our bucket list is about 6 million dollars to build a new retreat house. Then again, there is something in the ruggedness and Spartan atmosphere of the present Fleming Hall.



Five & Seven Day Retreats

There were other long retreats, which seem like cream on the top. Manresa Spirituality Centre hosted a Five Day retreat for the Permanent Deacons from the Archdiocese of Toronto and the Diocese of Hamilton. There were 12 deacons in all. The ones from Toronto were ordained on the 24th May and those from Hamilton on the 7th June of this year.

We were also happy to have Novices from the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, ordinarily known as the Redemptorist Fathers. Their Superior General is our Canadian Father Michael Brehl, C.S.S.R. They were eight in all and four came all the way from Denver, CO. Overlapping the Novices, were Scarboro Foreign Mission Congregation with their lay associates.

We are happy to announce, that our competent Spiritual Exercises Directors on the Weekends have agreed to help us again this year, and we are pleased to welcome back one of the veteran retreat Directors, Fr. Doug McCarthy S.J who is currently associate pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes. This makes Our Lady of Lourdes Parish a very strong helper in sending two of their priests to direct our Weekend retreats.



And finally, and most consoling though very tiring, we have finally got a clean bill of health from the Fire Department. All the doors, exit signs and other fire regulations have come up to “spec” – even though it cost us nearly \$350 per door for 70 doors. You can do the math. Thanks once again for your generous monetary help which keeps this wonderful spiritual working forging ahead.

