

the belltower



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THE BELLTOWER

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This year's theme, "Pilgrimage," reflects the unique stories of individuals who have journeyed with the St. Paul's College community.

The theme of pilgrimage as it applies to a Catholic college is rooted in Ignatian spirituality and encompasses the educational journey, discernment of vocation, commitment to service, and the nurturing of a supportive community.

Whether you have arrived at, travelled through, or journeyed beyond St. Paul's College, your learned experiences and acquired wisdom are the invaluable growth of your own pilgrimage.

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

This year's theme for our Belltower is "Pilgrimage," which brings to mind a 2021 biography of Pope Francis titled *Pilgrimage: My Search for the Real Francis*, written by Mark Shriver, the son of Sargent Shriver. The father and son both have had their own pilgrimages in faith and practice. The older Shriver was the brother-in-law of John F. Kennedy, founder of the U.S. Peace Corps, and was chosen as George McGovern's running mate in 1972. The younger Shriver's career included politics and community work, having served in the Maryland state legislature from 1994 to 2002, running (unsuccessfully) for Congress, and working on issues relating to at-risk children. Mark Shriver's career has led him to become the president of the Save the Children Action Network and Senior Vice President of U.S. Programs for Save the Children.

The Shriver family are examples of how meaningful careers are not built out of vacuums but with family support and learning in our schools and universities.

The students, staff, and faculty of St. Paul's College are also on their own pilgrimage. Students, most of whom are young adults, are conducting their advanced studies while the faculty find new ways to apply their educational skills in the classroom and beyond. While on an educational pilgrimage, members of our community seek to apply the principles of St. Ignatius and Jesuit Education. In 2019, Fr. General Arturo Sosa, SJ, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus (i.e. Jesuits), proclaimed the Universal Apostolic Preferences (<https://www.jesuits.global/uap/>), which call for us to:

1. Proclaim the Word of God through discernment and the Spiritual Exercises;
2. Walk with the Excluded in a mission of Reconciliation and Justice;
3. Journey with Young People in a hope-filled journey;
4. Care for our Common Home, for the protection and renewal of God's Creation.

Within our diversified St. Paul's College, an educational community of Catholics and non-Catholics, we seek to continue our pilgrimage in accordance with the Apostolic Preferences and the leadership of Pope Francis, who, when speaking in Rome in April of 2022, stated:

"As educators, you are called to nurture the desire for truth, goodness and beauty that lies in the heart of each individual so that all may learn how to love life and be open to the fullness of life."

Hopefully, you, the reader of this new issue of The Belltower, will get a good sense of how St. Paul's College members are on their own meaningful pilgrimage.



Dr. Christopher J. Adams, B.A. Hons (SPC/UM '83), M.A. (SPC/UM '86),
Ph.D. (Carleton '95)

DEAN OF STUDIES' MESSAGE

Dear Alumni, Students and Friends of St. Paul's College,

It is my pleasure to write this message for the Belltower Alumni Magazine 2023-2024. Each year, a different topic and focus is selected; this year, it is on pilgrimage.


A pilgrimage is a journey from one starting point. Many young students graduate high school and start their educational and adult pilgrimage through and with St. Paul's College (SPC). This lifelong journey (pilgrimage) enriches you with values and serving others throughout this journey in life. The foundation for this is set through the student's interaction with Campus Ministry, the SPC Student Council, the Ignatian Society, and many others. This community is strong in spirituality, education, and service and is a smaller 'village' within the large city (University of Manitoba).

As Dean of Studies, it has always been a pleasure to work with students from the present and past and see how they give back to the college community through generous donations for awards and bursaries to make the lives of present-day students better!

This year's issue will also feature the unique stories of individuals who have journeyed with St. Paul's College. My story begins with an academic in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences (FAFS), who first introduced me to St. Paul's College around 2004. Dr. Bernie Dronzek, Associate Dean Academic in FAFS, spoke highly about SPC and invited me to be an associate member of SPC. That journey, now for 20 years, has been the most fruitful part of my academic pilgrimage.

In 2017, I became the Dean of Studies at SPC, and I enjoy being with and working alongside colleagues and assembly members while being a professor in the Department of Plant Science. I am the first Dean of Studies from an agricultural background. My commitment and love for social justice and the well-being of students are made possible through SPC while working as a researcher in the plant sciences, working towards environmental sustainability. This unique combination of being a professor dedicated to discovery and innovation in science and being spiritually connected to my faith has been made possible by following the Ignatian values.

I look forward to reading many unique stories in this year's issue.



Dilantha Fernando, PhD. PAg. Fellow of APS
Dean of Studies and Professor
St. Paul's College



CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MESSAGE

Upon hearing the word ‘pilgrimage’ I tend to envision travels to a religious shrine such as Lourdes, Vatican City, or even walking the Camino de Santiago. With a refined view, I recognize that a form of pilgrimage occurs when we journey through stages of personal growth and realization. On such a pilgrimage, we may travel alone or with others, endure steep challenges, engage in reflection, discover talents or skills we had not called upon before. Eventually, perhaps after some detours or moving at a different pace than others, we arrive at new levels of enlightenment, strength, and ability, prepared to serve our communities.

Presented in this light, I see countless journeys occurring at St. Paul’s College, where students, faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Governors have opportunities to share in pilgrimages and avail themselves of supports and enriching experiences that the College offers along the way.

For many students, it can be a daunting challenge to set out on a multi-year journey to gain the education and skills required to earn the credentials needed for their field of choice.

In exploring St. Paul’s College, students can discover a comfortable environment, a quiet library for studying, a beautiful chapel for reflection and contemplation, the popular Belltower Café for delicious meals, and various social activities coordinated by an active student council. All of these provide support and a sense of relief to students who are navigating the pressures of academic studies and finding their path in life.

Within this supportive environment, St Paul’s College promotes life-long learning, spiritual growth, and academic excellence. There are courses in Catholic Studies; access to lectures and symposiums that inspire and broaden perspectives in peace and social justice; and opportunities to engage in Campus Ministry, Student Council, and outreach programs that provide service to others.

In engaging in the journey through St. Paul’s College, students can discover a nurturing community that encourages a holistic development in one’s faith, intellectual inquiry, and personal growth.

Upon completion of their course of studies, having achieved those sought-out credentials, students who have been involved at St. Paul’s College are likely to find themselves bolstered with a community of supportive friends from various faculties and backgrounds, a better sense of themselves, of their spirituality, and their abilities to continue with life-long learning and service to others - valuable gifts to take along on future journeys.

Observing students progressing through this very important time in their lives and celebrating their achievements is one of the many enriching experiences I enjoy through my involvement at St. Paul’s College. I am honoured to serve alongside members of the Board of Governors, in supporting the College in its mission. I am thankful for their engagement in our journey together and for generously providing their time and talents in navigating the path forward. I look forward to further growth and enlightenment, guided by the principles of Ignatian spirituality, as we embark on developing strategic plans and governance for St. Paul’s College.

Dorothy Scott (SPC/UM ‘16)
Chair, St. Paul’s College Board of Governors



CHAIR OF THE ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION INC. MESSAGE

Dear friends of St. Paul's College,

The word "pilgrimage" suggests a heavy backpack, well-worn shoes and blistered feet. This issue of the Belltower reminds us that a pilgrimage may be less about travelling great distances and more about finding a way within oneself.

The stories shared here confirm that St. Paul's College has been a starting point, a milestone and a destination on many pilgrimages. The St. Paul's College community is privileged to offer pilgrims inspiration, knowledge, guidance and other supports grounded in the Ignatian principles. Our faculty, staff, students, alumni, volunteers, donors and friends share the path.

Whether your personal trip involves trekking abroad, challenging old ideas or exploring insights of faith, St. Paul's College is honoured to play a role in your journey.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the St. Paul's College Foundation,

Mary M. McGunigal
Chair, St. Paul's College Foundation Inc.



IGNATIAN STICK MESSAGE

It is often said that everyone possesses a unique and compelling story. Through my own experiences, I've come to the profound realization that the members of our St. Paul's College community are no exception—they all harbour stories waiting to be shared. Throughout my years of involvement with the College, I've had the privilege of encountering numerous individuals who generously share their St. Paul's College stories with me.

Recently, while enjoying dinner with friends, I proudly donned my St. Paul's College sweatshirt. The waitress, upon spotting the distinctive College crest, instantly lit up with recognition. "Hey, that's my college!" she exclaimed, eagerly immersing me in her own story as a current student, detailing her favourite spots within the College's iconic brick walls.

Engaging with her instantly brought me back to my own journey with St. Paul's—an odyssey that began as a student evolved into alumni status, led to a role on the staff, and culminated in my current position as the Stick of the Ignatian Society.

During my tenure as the Marketing and Communications Officer, I had the good fortune of connecting with numerous alumni and friends through initiatives like the *Paulinian Retrospective* and the retirement ceremony of the Senior Stick's "Stick-Of-Office." The Retrospective invited former editors and staff to reflect on their experiences with the College newspaper, intertwining their narratives with personal stories from their student days. Similarly, at the "Retirement of the Stick" ceremony, former Senior Sticks reunited to pay homage and bless the creation of a new "Stick-Of-Office." The richness of their stories became evident during these projects as memories flooded back to them.

Returning to the College always feels like reconnecting with an old friend. Even after a brief absence, the nostalgic comfort washes over me upon my return. This sentiment makes my current role as Stick of the Ignatian Society particularly special.

The Ignatian Society has been actively orchestrating various events to unite our community and facilitate reconnection. Our recent Annual Celebration of Giving and Sharing, held in November 2023, honoured exemplary members with the prestigious Magis Awards. Fr. John Perry, SJ, Dr. Sally Longstaffe, Ms. Janine Tougas, and their Honours Philip and Anita Lee were recognized for their outstanding contributions to our College and the broader community.

Attendees at the Celebration received elegantly crafted cards by local artist Meghan Lemoine (UM/SPC'15), accompanied by pre-stamped envelopes. The intention was for guests to inscribe a special message and send it to someone they had lost touch with, fostering opportunities for reconnection.

The Ignatian Society firmly believes that one of the most valuable gifts to our Alumni and Friends is the chance to reconnect with one another. We extend our gratitude to all who joined us for our Baccalaureate Breakfast in late April 2024 and warmly invite everyone to our Celebration of Giving in November 2024. We are eager to hear and celebrate your unique St. Paul's College story.

Matthew Semchyshyn (SPC/UM '13),
Ignatian Stick, St. Paul's College Ignatian Society



A Legacy of Leadership: A Generational Pilgrimage Through St. Paul's College

This year's theme, "Pilgrimage," resonates deeply with the experiences of its members, past, and present. As we explore the many journeys of individuals within St. Paul's College, one family's generational connection emerges as a testament to the enduring legacy and values the College upholds.

Beginning in the early sixties, Jeff Scott's father was a member of the College, where he socialized over games of Bridge and, ultimately, laid the groundwork for his family's future involvement. In 1990, his son, Jeff Scott (SPC/UM '91), was elected Senior Stick of the St. Paul's College Students' Association. This accomplishment would then be repeated by Jeff Scott's son, Brendan Scott (SPC/UM '20), in 2019, making St. Paul's College history with the first time a father and son have both served as Senior Stick. History was made again, as Bridget Scott (SPC/UM '24), daughter of Jeff Scott, was elected Senior Stick of the St. Paul's College Students' Association for 2023-2024. Additionally, Bridget Scott's mother, Dorothy Scott (SPC/UM '91), also serves as Chair of the St. Paul's College Board of Governors. Collectively, the Scott family's leadership involvement with the College epitomizes a legacy of dedication, service, and community engagement.

Continued Tradition

"For the Scott family, St. Paul's College had played a large part in our journey," explains Jeff Scott. "For me, the College was an oasis during hectic class schedules and assignments. It is also where I met my wife Dorothy and made countless friends who are still an important part of our lives over 40 years later. As a major part of my journey during my university life, it was important to give back as a part of the student council and eventually as Senior Stick. It has been extremely rewarding to see this tradition continue through our children's involvement on Council and the College."

Jeff Scott is inspired for the future by the knowledge that the College continues to provide all stakeholders the opportunity to come together to pursue their own journeys. Shared experiences and connections for individuals from diverse backgrounds encourage everyone to learn and grow together in a meaningful community that serves all in their personal pilgrimage. The College promotes a culture of community and values the importance of family, friends, and lifelong relationships. These values have provided a significant dimension to his personal pilgrimage.

Encouraging Perseverance

Dorothy Scott echoes her husband's sentiments, emphasizing St. Paul's role in nurturing a supportive community for their family. Through the years, St. Paul's has been a constant source of inspiration and guidance, instilling in each family member a sense of purpose and responsibility to give back to the community that has given them so much.

"Jeff and I encouraged our children to join St. Paul's College and engage in supporting the community because we recalled enriching experiences during our time at the College," explains Dorothy Scott, Chair of St. Paul's College Board of Governors. "Donating time and talent while balancing busy schedules is sometimes difficult and can challenge one's commitment or desire to continue volunteering. Similar to being on a pilgrimage together, family members encourage perseverance and celebrate achievements along the way. Being involved with the College community often leads to personal growth and a sense of purpose, not unlike the results from a pilgrimage."

Connected to the Community

For Bridget, the decision to join St. Paul's College was influenced by her family's rich history with the College. Her parents' active involvement in student life and their enduring affection for the College painted a vivid picture of a tight-knit community where friendships flourished and bonds were forged. Bridget fondly recalls the stories her parents and siblings passed down, each echoing the sentiment that St. Paul's College was more than just an educational institution—it was a home away from home.

"Growing up, I would always hear about how great the College was for University students," explains Bridget. "My parents were heavily involved in student council during their time at the College and would talk about how connected it is to the community. They would say when you walk into the cafeteria, you're guaranteed to see at least three people you know. As the youngest of four, my siblings carried on those stories, coming home from University and talking about how St. Paul's College was their home base. As I went through my undergrad, I started to see for myself that the College had a lot to offer, and my social circle started to grow."

Homecoming

Bridget witnessed firsthand the resilience and sense of unity that defines the College, particularly amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. She spearheaded an initiative to reignite connection with a memorable drive-in movie night, providing a sense of community amidst unsteady times.

"During my second year on council as Events Director, the COVID-19 restrictions in the 2021-2022 school year started to lift," said Bridget. "We planned a distanced drive-in movie night to kick off the school year, which was the first event we hosted since the pandemic. It was so special to me because so many of our members came and got to see each other in person for the first time in over a year. The event really encapsulated what it meant to be a part of the College and its spirit as students were finally getting more of a university experience and even meeting old and new friends. This event felt

like a homecoming, and I believe that is what the College is for."

A Sense of Belonging and Personal Growth

Bridget's experiences within the College community contributed immeasurably to her sense of belonging and personal development. Despite initial apprehensions about fitting in, she found herself welcomed with open arms by her peers, transcending boundaries of school affiliations and backgrounds. The College's inclusive nature, coupled with its commitment to Ignatian values, provided Bridget with a nurturing environment where she could thrive academically, socially, and spiritually.

Pilgrimage

Members of the St. Paul's College community embark on pilgrimages of discovery, guided by the principles of faith, service, and personal growth. They honour the traditions of the past while embracing the challenges of the future, united in a shared journey.

"To me, the word "Pilgrimage" highlights the journey of travelling through a formidable stage in one's life where the future of the journey is unknown," explains Bridget. "This year's theme of the Belltower highlights the journeys of members through the College as they navigate the next step in their lives. My family has travelled through the College, passing down the traditions and knowledge for my future. Now that we are all in different stages of our lives, I believe that the College has prepared us for our journey through the world after University. Through the channel of education, we each took our own journey at different times with the common goal of pursuing higher education and gaining a holistic view of the world. We have all taken the same 'pilgrimage' but in different ways. Although my father, brother and I have connected through the role as 'Stick', our experiences and time at the College have shaped us in different ways."

Journeying the Path Ahead

As Bridget prepares to embark on the next chapter of her journey, her hopes and aspirations for St. Paul's College remain steadfast. She envisions a future where the College continues to grow and evolve, adapting to the changing needs of its diverse community while remaining true to its core values. Bridget's vision is shared by her family, who believe wholeheartedly in the transformative power of education and community engagement.





From Student to Chaplain - Walking the Path of Faith

In the halls of St. Paul's College, stories of spiritual journeys intertwine with academic pursuits, shaping individuals and fostering a supportive community rooted in Ignatian spirituality. Father Mark Filips' (SPC/UM '03) pilgrimage with St. Paul's College has been guided by faith, service, and redemption as a former St. Paul's College student and now the St. Paul's College Chaplain.

Fr. Filips' journey began with a desire to pursue his faith amidst the challenges of university life. Like many others, he found solace and connection at St. Paul's College, which served as a spiritual beacon. Reflecting on his initial draw to the college, Fr. Filip shares, "The College helped fill that void for me," highlighting the pivotal role it played in nurturing his Catholic identity.

Despite facing adversity during his student years, Fr. Filip's journey came full circle when the Archbishop of Winnipeg invited him to join the Campus Ministry team. This invitation, he believes, was a divine gift—a chance to mend past hurts and contribute to the spiritual growth of others. "I see my coming back, in this role as the Chaplain now, as a gift from God to help amend what went wrong 20 years ago," he reflects.

Fr. Filips' involvement in the Prison Ministry during his student days left a profound impact, laying the foundation for his current additional role as Chaplain at Stony Mountain Institution.

"When I was a student, I enrolled myself in the Prison Ministry through Campus Ministry," explained Fr. Filips. "I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and I believe it set the course for my present half-time position as Chaplain at Stony Mountain Institution. The college, the Catholic Studies courses that I took (still in their formative years back then) in combination with Campus Ministry programs (helping lead Way of the Cross at the University on Holy Friday) enriched my life in many ways, grounding me in my faith."

As Chaplain, Fr. Filips sees himself as a companion on the journey of faith, offering support and guidance to students, faculty, and friends of the college. He emphasizes the importance of community in nurturing spiritual growth, echoing the tenets of Ignatian spirituality. "We are always here for you... no matter what!" he affirms, encapsulating the essence of faith and fellowship at St. Paul's College.

"I hope, as a College community, that we can grow together by celebrating our faith amid an ever-changing world," said Fr. Filips. "I hope that we can be a light to those who may find themselves struggling. During my time here, I have seen our college's student membership grow to over 900. This is encouraging for me, and I am sure others, as everyone who passes through the College doors has the opportunity to experience this vibrant community."

Looking to the future, Fr. Filips envisions a vibrant community where faith is celebrated amidst change. With a growing student population, there is optimism for the spiritual growth and development of the college community. "Everyone who passes through the College doors has the opportunity to experience this vibrant community," he remarks, emphasizing the inclusivity and warmth that define St. Paul's College.

As he continues his work with the College, Fr. Filips hopes and aspirations for spiritual growth serve as guiding lights, illuminating the path for future generations of pilgrims.

A Journey of Growth, Mentorship, and a Belief in People

From the outset, Dr. Laura Reimer (UM/SPC '13) was impressed by the warmth, kindness, and general camaraderie exuded by the St. Paul's College community. This initial impression continued throughout her journey from undergraduate through her doctoral studies to her service today as a member of the St. Paul's College Assembly.

"Although I was not a member of St Paul's College until my doctoral studies, of all the communities on campus, I considered it home," explains Reimer. "I took on an urban politics course in the second year of my B.A. in a St. Paul's College classroom, and that was my first exposure to the College. There was both excellence and kindness – from the professor to the library to the cafeteria and I liked to be in the College."

After a very long break from academia to attend to raising her four children, Reimer returned to University of Manitoba to work on a second Master's degree, this time in education administration. On the advice of her thesis advisor, Reimer met with Dr. Sean Byrne, the co-founder of Canada's first Peace and Conflict Studies doctoral program. His enthusiasm in her multi-disciplinary research and the opportunity to study at St. Paul's College were compelling.

"I told Dr. Byrne I was interested in merging education studies, public policy and Indigenous issues. I had been an elected School Trustee at the time and knew that 70% of our Indigenous students were leaving school and not graduating. I thought, how can how can this be? We had a world-class school system here in Manitoba at the time, which we knew because we used to measure it by learning outcomes. Dr. Byrne advised me on just how timely and relevant the study would be, and that it could take PACS in a direction it had not gone. I withdrew from the M. Ed. Program applied to PACS, and finished my doctorate in 2013 at St. Paul's College. The study discovered six conclusive answers to my research question, which are all matters of public policy and could be addressed."

Reimer's involvement continued as a St. Paul's College Assembly member and part of the Centennial Celebration Committee, helping to nurture an environment not only of academic growth, but also the holistic development of individuals, fostering a culture of mentorship and support.

"Over the years, I have experienced St. Paul's College as a place where people believe in each other," explains Reimer. "They believe in the value of a good education, and that doesn't just mean critical reading, academic writing, and learning to think and debate; it means nurturing ideas and people and taking the time to work alongside a colleague or a student on the road to being our very best. Now that I'm part of the Assembly and I've been there for many years, I still find the passion and respect for life and people. Although I am not Catholic, to me, St. Paul's College is a spiritual community in practice."

Looking ahead, Reimer envisions a future where St. Paul's College continues to serve as a beacon of compassion, excellence, and community. St. Paul's College is not just an educational institution but a transformative pilgrimage that shapes lives, fosters connections, and inspires meaningful change.

"St. Paul's College has a unique role at the University of Manitoba and as a Catholic Institute of Higher Education. They have the Jesuit tradition of learning behind them as an academic standard, and the teachings of Jesus for daily kindness and love. I hope that it'll stay focused on its purpose because the values of St. Paul's College are rooted in something eternal. People have need of that kind of acceptance and nurture toward a standard that they can rise to."



A Pilgrimage of Learning, Teaching, and Community

Dr. Michael Caligiuri's connection with St. Paul's College began as a student, drawn to the convergence of science and arts courses offered at the College. Over time, his engagement deepened, leading him to roles as a Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, and eventually an instructor. Reflecting on his journey, Caligiuri shares, "St. Paul's College was where my various science and arts courses could be offered... that confluence simply grew little by little." His experience illustrates the educational pilgrimage fostered by St. Paul's College, where students are encouraged to explore interdisciplinary paths and engage with diverse perspectives.

As an instructor, Caligiuri embodies the principles of engaging and inclusive teaching that he absorbed during his time as a student at the College. While he humbly deflects praise for his teaching style, his commitment to clear communication and relevance resonates with his students. "Present without bias, present by capturing attention, and present by linking the concepts to something that is going on today," he affirms, reflecting the ethos of Ignatian pedagogy.

Beyond the confines of the classroom, Caligiuri's commitment to service extends to his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Future Hope. Although initially driven by administrative skills rather than previous involvement in specific areas of social justice, Caligiuri's involvement with Future Hope evolved into a deeper engagement with issues of homelessness and prisoners' rights. His dedication to serving marginalized communities echoes the spirit of compassion and solidarity central to St. Paul's College.

"I believe that a lot of social justice projects may fall into the same category; people sometimes do these things because there is no one else doing them, and it would be irresponsible to shirk one's duties to aid others when possible," explains Caligiuri. "It also keeps the legacy of the original Jesuits and Sisters of the Holy Names (SHNs) alive, and I rather like that part."

As he envisions the future of St. Paul's College, Caligiuri hopes for its continued adherence to its mission, fostering a community where the principles of Jesuit education inspire students to pursue knowledge, service, and the common good.

He notes, "I hope that the College continues in its format and mission as part of the U of M campus. I hope that the staff and student body remember that the roots of success stem from principles that the Church established long ago yet are constantly updated (despite our limited perception of time). I hope that some of the basic messages of a Jesuit education reach students: that the world is a spectrum of beliefs and attitudes - to hold to those that are moderate in nature and beneficial to the common good."

In the pilgrimage of Dr. Michael Caligiuri, St. Paul's College finds a testament to its enduring legacy—a legacy of learning, teaching, and community.

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From Friendship to Family - A Journey of a Community Spirit

Nurturing a sense of belonging and community lies at the heart of St. Paul's College, a haven for many students embarking on their academic journey. Shona Connelly, a proud alumna of St. Mary's Academy, shares her pilgrimage from student to board member, reflecting on the College's influence on her life. Connelly fondly recalls her initial attraction to St. Paul's College, attributing it to a sense of homecoming.

"I first came to St. Paul's College in the fall of 1977," said Connelly. "I remember feeling somewhat nervous, but I also felt a sense of comfort because so many of my classmates were also attending St. Paul's College. Being Catholic, we were drawn to that comfort—a sense of community. You tended to know not only your classmates but also many others who were members of the College."

Accustomed to St. Paul's College's ethos of giving back, Connelly's philanthropic journey emphasized altruism's impact by demonstrating that every act of kindness, whether big or small, holds transformative power. The opportunity to invest time and effort in meaningful causes resonated deeply, reaffirming the intrinsic value of service in shaping a compassionate society.

Amidst the vastness of the University of Manitoba, St. Paul's College provides a familiar refuge where friendships thrive, echoing the comforting embrace of Catholic values and camaraderie. This nurturing environment cultivated a deep sense of community, bridging diverse backgrounds and fostering lifelong connections. Fond memories and enduring friendships underscore the College's legacy as a cherished home away from home. These bonds, created in academic pursuit and spiritual nourishment, weave a tapestry of enduring relationships and shared experiences.

"St. Paul's College helped solidify relationships with people," said Connelly. "It's that community spirit. We would have lunch together, if there was a break you would spend time together. There was that community of togetherness. You start as friends and you end up being family."

As the College embarks on its next chapter, Connelly emphasizes preserving its core values while embracing innovation and growth. The timeless spirit of St. Paul's College, embodied in its tradition of excellence and service, continues to inspire generations of students and alumni.

"I think people crave a tradition," explains Connelly. "There are certain things that they never want to change. St. Paul's College will continue to shine. It'll shine because people embrace the spiritual and community aspects of the College. And we move into our next 100 years, the spirituality and community of the College will forever remain in people's hearts."





A Pilgrimage with the Heart of a Community

Leanne Boyd's (BSW, MSW, Adv. Cert. Comm. Child Psych.) remarkable journey with St. Paul's College spans over five decades and intertwines with the ethos of St. Paul's, reflecting the essence of Ignatian spirituality and the transformative power of community.

Her journey with St. Paul's College began in 1969 when she enrolled in the BSW Program at the University of Manitoba, seeking a faith-based education. Despite initial setbacks, including a redirection away from formal affiliation with the College, her spirit remained intertwined with the values it embodied. Over the years, her involvement transitioned from casual attendance to deep engagement, spurred by familial ties and a shared sense of belonging.

In 2009, her niece, Nicole Barrett (SPC/UM, BSc, MSc, Med, Class of 2025), transferred from SFU to St. Paul's College and became involved with the chaplaincy program at St. Paul's College. Reconnecting with the College, Leanne found herself immersed in a vibrant community led by the welcoming presence of Father Mike Koryluk. Together with Sister Elaine Baete and Eliude Cavalcante, Directors of Campus Ministry, they fostered an environment of inclusivity and support, bridging the gap between students and parishioners. Through music, liturgy, and acts of service, they forged bonds that transcended generations and backgrounds, embodying the essence of St. Paul's College ethos.

Central to St. Paul's identity is its commitment to nurturing a supportive community, a testament echoed in Leanne's experiences. Witnessing the exponential growth in attendance at Christ the King Chapel, she observed a convergence of students and parishioners united in fellowship and mutual care. Beyond the confines of academia, St. Paul's College became a sanctuary—a home away from home—where students found solace amidst the challenges of university life.

Leanne's pilgrimage with St. Paul's College is a testament to the enduring spirit of community, compassion, and growth. Reflecting on the role of educational institutions in mental health awareness, Leanne emphasizes the critical need for support structures within university settings. Drawing from her extensive career in mental health promotion and mental illness prevention and treatment, she advocates for proactive interventions and destigmatization of mental illness. Her vision for the College encompasses a holistic approach to well-being, integrating formal mental health resources with a culture of openness and acceptance.

Looking ahead, Leanne envisions St. Paul's as a beacon of holistic education—a sanctuary for mind, body, and spirit. She calls for a concerted effort to prioritize mental health initiatives, ensuring that every student feels valued and supported on their journey. Grounded in its Jesuit tradition, St. Paul's College has the potential to shape not only academic excellence but also the character and resilience of future generations.



Building Relationships in a Journey with Community

Cameron Norrie's pilgrimage with St. Paul's College is a testament to its enduring impact—a legacy of community, service, and compassion. For Cameron Norrie, D.M.D (SPC/UM '16), the allure of St. Paul's College was immediate—a beacon of familiarity amidst the vast expanse of the University of Manitoba. His connection to the College is characterized by camaraderie, shared values, and a commitment to giving back.

"I think a sense of community is what initially drew me to St. Paul's College," explained Cameron. "I had a lot of friends who were joining St. Paul's College after high school. The University of Manitoba is large, especially for an undergrad student, so I really liked the College because you go to a smaller place and see some familiar faces."

Norrie's journey from student to board member reflects deep gratitude and a desire to perpetuate the College's legacy. "I was honoured to join the St. Paul's College Foundation Board," Norrie shares. "I had a good experience at the College. I think it's important to help and work towards perpetuating that St. Paul's College experience for other people."

Norrie's journey at St. Paul's College instilled values of public service and community engagement that continue to guide his professional path. As a dentist in Brandon, Manitoba, he embodies the ethos of care and compassion cultivated at the College. "Helping people and looking at public service are values instilled at St. Paul's College," Norrie confirms. "They guide my interactions with patients and my commitment to serving the community."

In his practice, Norrie creates a nurturing environment where patients feel supported and cared for—a reflection of the values ingrained by the College. "It's all about building relationships and trust," he explains. "Patients know they can rely on me to look after them, and that's incredibly rewarding."

As a board member, Norrie remains invested in the future of St. Paul's College, aspiring to uphold its legacy of excellence and community. "My hope is that St. Paul's College continues to provide opportunities for students to thrive," he shares. "I want future generations to experience the same sense of community and support that I did."



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Julia DaCosta, SPC/UM '17

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FR. DRISCOLL'S ALUMNI AND FRIENDS CORNER

Fr. Joseph V. Driscoll, SJ, (1916-2003) came to the College in 1959 after it moved to the Fort Garry campus and served as College Chaplain, moderator of the Sodality, and Chaplain of the Newman Club. He returned to the College in 1981 as Rector, where he remained for eight years shepherding the College's transition under its first lay Rector. The Fr. Driscoll Alumni and Friends Corner debuted in the November 1995 issue of 'From the Belltower.'

St. Paul's College's Rector, Dr. Christopher J. Adams (SPC/UM '83, '86), elected as the ACCU Canadian Representative

At its 2024 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) elected New Board Members, including St. Paul's College's Rector, Dr. Christopher J. Adams, as the Canadian Representative.

Democratizing "Engaged Buddhism" by Donna Brown

In February 2023, Donna Brown, PhD Candidate, Department of Religion, published an article, *Democratizing "Engaged Buddhism"*, on socially engaged Buddhism in the Journal of Buddhist Ethics. *Tricycle*, listed the article as: "Our Scholarly Year-in-Review 2023: What we've recommended over the past year and a few extras worth reading."

Jason Brown's (SPC/UM '11) *St. Antoninus of Florence on Trade, Merchants, and Workers* out June 2024

Jason Brown, until recently a sessional instructor in history and research fellow at St. Paul's College wrote a book titled *St. Antoninus of Florence on Trade, Merchants, and Workers*, which is scheduled for release in June 2024 from University of Toronto Press.

Jeffrey S. Burwell, SJ (SPC/UM '04, '05, '12), Named Next Provincial of the Jesuits of Canada

The Society of Jesus announced the appointment of Fr. Jeffrey S. Burwell, SJ, as the next provincial of the Jesuits of Canada. Fr. Burwell, was a lecturer and Director of Catholic studies at St. Paul's College.

Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in research for Dean of Studies Dr. Dilantha Fernando

Dr. Dilantha Fernando, Dean of Studies at St. Paul's College and Professor of plant pathology, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, received a Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in research towards sustainability of the environment and agriculture, conferred by the Society for Environmental Sustainability. Dr. Fernando also delivered the keynote lecture at the annual conference of the society, held in Dubai, UAE from November 26-29, 2023.

St. Paul's College Comptroller Leslie Finch retires

St. Paul's College Comptroller, Leslie Finch, announced she would be retiring on January 12, 2024. Leslie brought numerous years of experience in the not-for-profit sector and Manitoba provincial government. St. Paul's College greatly appreciated Leslie's hard work and dedication to her duties over the past eight years.

Dr. Haskel Greenfield awarded membership in the Academia Europea

In April 2024, Dr. Haskel Greenfield, distinguished University of Manitoba Professor and Director of the Near Eastern Biblical Archaeology Laboratory at St. Paul's College was awarded membership in the Academia Europea. This is a pan-European Academy of Humanities, Letters, Law, and Sciences which was founded in 1988 as a functioning Europe-wide Academy that encompasses all fields of scholarly inquiry.

Chris De Guzman (SPC/UM '06) receives "20 under 40" Leadership Recognition Award

Chris De Guzman, Director of Optometry at Health Partners of Western Ohio, received a 2023 "20 Under 40" Leadership Recognition Award. Dr. De Guzman moved to Toledo for his role with Health Partners of Western Ohio and is responsible for providing vision outreach services to over 400 schools in Western Ohio. Due to a shortage of optometrists in Ohio, he built the world's first Tele-Optometry van to provide eye care to underserved communities.

Nick Jones (SPC '14) welcomes newborn Rupert Joseph Jones

On September 5th, 2023, Nick Jones and his wife Erin welcomed their son and future St. Paul's College member Rupert Joseph Jones to the world. Nick said, "We truly have been blessed by our bundle of joy!"

The 2023 Magis Award for Influence and Leadership has been awarded to the Honourable Philip and Anita Lee

In recognition of their lifelong commitment to serving and uniting Winnipeg's Chinese-Canadian community, the Honourable Philip and Anita Lee were honored with

the 2023 Magis Award for Influence and Leadership. Through their dedication, resilience, and efforts to bridge cultures, they are a shining examples of positive community impact. Their leadership, humility, and dedication to multiculturalism serve as inspiration for future generations.

Dr. Sally Longstaffe receives the 2023 Magis Award for Service for Others

The 2023 Magis Award for Service for Others was awarded to Dr. Sally Longstaffe in recognition of her distinguished career as a pediatrician and educator. Over four decades, she has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the well-being and development of children. Her legacy of compassion, dedication, and excellence serves as an inspiring example to all, making her a truly deserving recipient of this prestigious award.

Kristjan Thompson (SPC/UM '07 '11) named Chief Medical Officer of St. Boniface Hospital

Kristjan Thompson, MD, FRCPC, DHSA, ICD.D, Executive Director of Clinical Programs, is now the Chief Medical Officer of St. Boniface Hospital after being the interim CMO for the past few months.

Ms. Janine Tougas recognized with the 2023 Magis Award for Peace and Reconciliation

For her outstanding contributions to art and culture. Ms. Janine Tougas received the prestigious 2023 Magis Award for Peace and Reconciliation. Through her work, she exemplifies the transformative power of storytelling and the arts in fostering positive change, celebrating heritage, and uniting communities. Ms. Tougas's impactful endeavors have left a lasting impression, illuminating a path towards a more harmonious and inclusive society.

Father John Perry, SJ has been honored with the 2023 Magis Award for Ingenuity and Innovation

Due to his remarkable career across continents, Father John Perry, SJ was awarded the 2023 Magis Award for Ingenuity and Innovation. His work in education, theology, bioethics, and humanitarian efforts has left a profound impact. Through his tireless dedication, he has positively influenced countless lives worldwide.

C. Thomas Shay published *Under Prairie Skies: The Plants and Native People of the Northern Plains*

C. Thomas Shay, former faculty member of St. Paul's College, has written *Under Prairie Skies: The Plants and Native People of the Northern Plains*. Combining Native voices, ethnobotanical studies, personal stories, and research techniques, his book shows how, since the end of the Ice Age, plants have been central to the lives of Native peoples. Thomas will be speaking about prairie history at St. Paul's College on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

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If you know where any of the alumni on these lists are, please contact the development office: spcfoundation@umanitoba.ca | 204.474.9148

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IN MEMORIAM

The College community passes on its deepest sympathies to all alumni and members of our community who have lost a loved one.

Joseph Baete

Father of Sr. Elaine Baete.

George Beckta

Friend of St. Paul's College.

**Paul Bromley
(SPC/UM '55 '59)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.
Class Valedictorian at St. Paul's College and went on to graduate from the Faculty of Law at University of Manitoba.

**Robert Brown
(SPC/UM '62 '67)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Nestor Budyk
(SPC/UM '74 '81)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

Stephan Carter

Friend of St. Paul's College.

**Val Chongva
(SPC/UM '86 '89)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

Patrick Cooney

Friend of St. Paul's College.

Albert (Bert) De Leeuw

Friend of St. Paul's College.

**Terence Edward Dunn
(SPC/UM '72)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Michael Eschun
(SPC/UM '52)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

Tony Eshmade

Friend of St. Paul's College.

Maila Gabriel (UM/SPC '91)

Lifelong friend to many at St. Paul's College. While at the College Maila contributed to the school community as Editor of The Paulinian (1988 – 1989) and as Vice Stick of the Student Association.

**Edward Robert Hurta
(SPC/UM '70 '71 '72)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Peter Jachetta
(SPC/UM '69 '73)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Theodore Joseph Lismer
(SPC/UM '53)**

St. Paul's College Graduate and friend of St. Paul's College. 'Wandy', his beloved wife of 64 years was his steadfast companion from the day they met at St. Paul's College. They shared a life-long bond of faithfulness and devotion as they raised their five children.

**Arthur Mauro
(SPC/UM '49)**

St. Paul's College Graduate and friend of St. Paul's College. Guided by the Jesuits, Arthur's virtues and leadership thrived as he became Student Council president. Advocating for student rights nationally and internationally, he earned degrees from the University of Manitoba. Arthur found deep satisfaction in founding the Institute for Peace and Justice and the Mauro Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice. In a 2009 speech to the Jewish Foundation, Arthur emphasized our duty to pursue peace and justice: "Each of us has an obligation in this pursuit of peace and justice. If we stand mute in the face of injustice, we stand convicted of the social crime of silence."

Glen McCabe

Mauro Board Member

Reverend Monsignor Louis J. McCloskey

Friend of St. Paul's College.

**Carolina Meseric
(SPC/UM '77)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Donna Norell
(SPC/UM '52 '62 '64 '70)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

Bruce Graham Ogilvie

Friend of St. Paul's College.

Fr. John J. Pungente S.J.

Friend of St. Paul's College. John entered the Jesuits in 1957 and was ordained in 1971. He was then missioned to St Paul's High School, Winnipeg, as a teacher and film guide, all the while serving as Chair of the Manitoba Film Board from 1972 to 1976. He was appointed Principal of St. Paul's High School in 1976, a post he held for seven years. Fr. John and his Jesuit Communications Project was the joint recipient of the Marshall McLuhan Initiative-sponsored Medium and the Light Award for 2014.

Hon. John Mercer Reid, P.C.

Friend of the College. John was an avid student of Canadian politics. John completed his BA (1959) and MA (1961) at the University of Manitoba. John also worked on the bill, which would eventually become the Access to Information Act. For two years, John was the Executive Director of the Forum for Young Canadians, an organization dedicated to educating Canadian youth on public affairs and political engagement.

Justin Richards

Alumnus of St. Paul's College

Virginia Stevens

Wife of Dr. Wes Stevens, Professor Emeritus of History and visiting scholar at St. Paul's College.

**Janice Gail Richardson
(SPC/UM '72 '75)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

**Roger Irving Young
(SPC/UM '72)**

St. Paul's College Graduate.

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

This September, Dr. Daniel MacLeod enters his tenth year at the Jesuit Centre for Catholic Studies and his sixth as its Director. His ambitious agenda for encouraging public talks, offering new courses, collaborating, and bringing in new research fellows has grown the Jesuit Centre for Catholic Studies into the largest program of its kind in Canada. Students are drawn in by Dr. MacLeod's sharp lectures and sense of humour, but they take away much more than the content. It is a passion for teaching and *cura personalis* – care for the whole person; a central tenet of Jesuit spirituality – that extends the impact of our program well beyond individual courses. He is a mentor to many, well beyond their studies at St Paul's College or the University of Manitoba.

Dr. MacLeod's work outside of the classroom is often more familiar to alumni and friends of our college from the marketing materials. His motivation to make cutting-edge research accessible through many lunch-hour, evening, or weekend lectures, such as the annual Jesuit lecture and Formations and Re-Formations in Catholic Thought, regularly attracts crowds of 100 people to St Paul's College. His initiatives such as Nothing Without Sound: Jesuits, Indigenous Languages, and New Dialogues Symposium (2017) and the tri-college Prairie Symposium for the Common Good (2022-2024) – being held this April at St Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan – reveal his leadership capacities best. Yet his work supporting the resettlement of two refugee families from Syria made equally important impacts. Recognitions such as a University of Manitoba Merit Award for Service in 2017 and the Fr. Cecil Ryan, SJ Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to the SPC community in 2020 have honoured his dedicated service.

In fact, many might be surprised to know that he demonstrates similar forms of engagement with his research programme, participating in Jesuit Historiography Online, a virtual project sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies out of Boston College, Massachusetts. He will also be the incoming President of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association, representing this field within the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. These are not only opportunities for Dr. MacLeod to share his research on early modern Scottish-Catholic points of resistance and Jesuits such as St John Ogilvie, SJ (Scotland's only post-Reformation saint, martyred in 1615) but to raise the research profile of the Jesuit Centre beyond the University of Manitoba.

During his past ten years with St. Paul's College, Dr. MacLeod has transitioned the Jesuit Centre into a new era of lay leadership and liaised different relationships with the Society of Jesus. He has made a new home for his family in Manitoba, grown his family from two sons to three and a daughter, and supported his wife's return to teaching. Somehow, amongst all this, he still finds time to watch - and coach - an excessive amount of basketball and to craft jokes. If only he had less time for the latter.

By Dr. Meredith Bacola, Associate Professor, Jesuit Centre for Catholic Studies





St. Paul's College



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