MESSAGE FROM ROBERT DENNIS,
PRESIDENT CANADIAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Calgary is calling!

It has been an exciting year for the Canadian Catholic Historical Association, and we cap it off with our Annual Meeting, held this year at the University of Calgary, on June 1 and 2. We are pleased announce that Historian J.R. Miller, Professor Emeritus at the University of Saskatchewan, will deliver the CCHA's keynote address entitled, “Canada Confronts its History: Residential Schools and Reconciliation.” The talk has been developed out of Dr. Miller’s important work for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We are partnering with the Canadian Historical Association and the Canadian Society of Church History in hosting this event, as our academic communities will gather to debate key questions on the legacy of residential schooling and the healing process. In the sessions to follow, we are pleased to put forth a diverse and exciting programme, featuring papers given by many long-standing members of our association as well many fresh, new faces. You will find the most updated programme information on our website, www.cchahistory.ca. Please join us in Calgary for the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association!

Robert Dennis
CCHA President &
2016 Programme Committee Chair

The Annual Conference of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association will take place at University of Calgary Wed. June 1 and Thurs. June 2, 2016 as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

The venue for our meetings will be the Rozsa Centre in the Evans Room.

On June 1, 2015 at 5 p.m. Holy Mass for Deceased Members of the CCHA will be celebrated in the Prayer Room of the MacEwan Student Centre. Bishop Frederick Henry of the Diocese of Calgary has delegated Rev. Brian Hubka, a CCHA member, to be Principal Celebrant of the Mass. All are welcome to attend our Catholic service.

The CCHA banquet which always follows our Mass is not to be missed! A reception will welcome you and by now you will have submitted your entree wishes for your banquet meal. This year our special guest speaker is Helen Kominek, of St. Mary’s University, Calgary who will enlighten us on “The Life and Legacy of Fr. Albert Lacombe, OMI” The following photograph was taken at the cemetery at St. Mary’s University, honouring Fr. Lacombe alongside numerous religious and dedicated followers.

Program committee members, Robert Dennis, Edward MacDonald and Peter Baltutis worked with local coordinators Peter Baltutis and Valerie Burke. The program for the conference is included in the mailing of this issue of the Bulletin.

Please watch www.cchahistory.ca website for continuous updates on the CCHA annual meeting. Check congress2016.ca for other Congress events. We hope you will make every effort to join us. If you wish to call, text or email during the conference, please feel free to call Valerie Burke, Administrator for the CCHA at 705-795-9754 (cell).

Professor Emeritus J.R. Miller, University of Saskatchewan, will deliver the CCHA’s keynote address entitled, “Canada Confronts its History: Residential Schools and Reconciliation.”

Rozsa Centre, Wednesday June 1, 2016 , 8:30 am

This free event is open to the public

Photo by Katherine Federoff.
BOOK REVIEWS

After discussion at the 2015 executive meetings, the CCHA Executive and the Editors of Historical Studies and the CCHA Bulletin decided to move the publication of academic book reviews to Historical Studies in 2016. The CCHA Bulletin will now include Book Notes on histories of parishes and congregations, as well as local histories. Book notes will be brief reports including information on where to obtain copies of the publications.

BOOK NOTES:
Thanks to MC Havey, CCHA Secretary for providing these notes.


During the economic and population boom years in Winnipeg for the three decades from the 1890s, Archbishop Louis-Phillippe Adelard Langevin, OMI, of neighbouring Saint Boniface was anxious to provide pastoral care for the areas outside the city. In 1913, the archbishop turned to the Redemptorists (the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer) to establish a parish serving the city’s northeast communities of Elmwood and East Kildonan, thus alleviating the travelling by the faithful across the Red River to attend church. The Redemptorists, who already had taken charge of a parish in the Saint Boniface archdiocese, agreed to the request. On June 17, 1914, Fr. Augustine Duke arrived to assume responsibility of the new parish, which was named in honour of St. Alphonsus Liguori, the Redemptorists’ founder. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, who arrived in Winnipeg in 1919, accepted the archdiocese’s offer to teach in the newly-built St. Alphonsus School, which was blessed and opened in January 1921.

This history traces the growth from its first wooden church, built by volunteer labour on farmland and blessed by Archbishop Langevin on July 28, 1914 to one of the largest parishes in the area. As part of the parish’s centennial celebrations in 2014, a history committee under the leadership of parishioner James Kominowski, researched and gathered historical information and 500 photographs from parishioners as well as the archives of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto and the Redemptorists. Parish Office Co-ordinator Maria Cox designed an attractive, uncluttered and simple layout, illustrated by dated and identified photographs as well as with correspondence and ceremonial programmes. Kominowski, an archivist and librarian at the Elizabeth Dafoe Library of the University of Manitoba, raised the level of parish histories with his readable writing style, assisted by editors Michelle Larose-Kuzenko and Don Leitch. Through a balanced mix of primary and secondary sources, all five sections are filled with details and historical context, derived from meticulous research and interviews with past and present parishioners. The decade-by-decade accounts of the parish’s development encompass religious celebrations, school activities and the parish organizations. The contribution of the religious communities of the Redemptorists (1914-1993), the Sisters of St. Joseph (1921-1990) and the Capuchins (1993-present) are documented through individual photographs and dates of their appointments. For ready reference, a timeline of 100 years of milestones has been created under five categories stretching from the parish to the world. For social historians, the publication provides a comprehensive view of a Western Canadian parish.

Copies at a cost of $50 can be ordered from St. Alphonsus Church, 341 Munroe Avenue, Winnipeg, R2K 1H2; by telephone 204-667-9580 and email: contact stals@gmail.com Press, 2015.
After discussion at the 2015 executive meetings, Monsignor Donald R. Macdonald’s timing was perfect. His long-held dream of a congregation of English-speaking Canadian women dedicated to the foreign missions coincided with the Vatican’s keen desire to expand foreign missions as an aftermath of the Second World War. In 1949, permission was received from Rome and the congregation of Our Lady’s Missionaries was founded in the Eastern Ontario town of Alexandria by Monsignor Macdonald, known as Fr. Dan, a beloved parish priest and a builder of schools and churches in the diocese of Alexandria. In the fall of 1949, eight postulants entered Immaculata House, the new community’s Novitiate in Alexandria, under the guidance of two Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto as the novice mistresses for the first decade.

The history outlines Fr. Dan’s efforts to found the congregation and the subsequent growth from frugal beginnings to its overseas missions, which began in 1956 and ended in 2013. For almost six decades, the Sisters, trained as nurses and teachers, served in long-term missions in Japan, Nigeria, Brazil, the Philippines, Mexico and Guyana. Individual Sisters ministered in Biafra, Cambodia, East Timor, Hebron, Hopeville- Nigeria, Mozambique, Thailand, and Vietnam as well as in the ground-breaking Zen ministry and the Out of the Cold program. In Canada, the sisters were engaged in diverse ministries in the North and in Toronto, where the congregation moved its headquarters in 1959.

Under the direction of Debra Majer, archivist of the Ontario Diocese of London, the book is designed in simple elegance. Illustrated by correspondence and identified photographs, the accounts of the missions are highlighted with quotes and text in 28-point font for emphasis. The relaxed narrative of the congregation’s history weaves anecdotes, observations, the factual text and historical context in a seamless manner. A biography of each of the 30 sisters is written in their own style and some poetry is offered in a special section. Throughout the book, honesty, forthrightness and humour shine. Hunger, disease, war, hardship and suffering are not masked, nor are harmful governments and their policies. Throughout, celebrations and joy are savoured and the sisters write of the faith and resilience of many people in the missions and the spirit of the disadvantaged. These became lessons in courage and patience.

This history is a first-hand record of the contribution to the Canadian Church by the Congregation of Our Lady’s Missionaries.

Copies of Our Story are available through the OLM headquarters, 2 Leander Court, Toronto, M4B 2W1; email: olm.office@bellnet.ca; telephone: 416-752-0263. Donations are accepted.


McLaughlin, Mike. “Catholicism, Masculinity, and Middle-Class Respectability in the Irish Catholic Temperance Movement in Nineteenth-Century Canada,” in *Religion and Greater Ireland*, 163-86.


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**COAST TO COAST SPRING 2016:**

**Peter Ludlow** of the Holy Cross Trust in Nova Scotia, and **CCHA Member at Large**, coordinates a Twitter account for the CCHA. You can find a direct Twitter feed on our website cchahistory.ca. If you wish to tweet the CCHA please do so by using @cchahistory.

Peter Ludlow’s tweets on Canadian and international perspectives on Canadian Catholic history this year have included researching Catholic History online, catalogues of Catholic archives being added to the Catholic Heritage site, and Canadiana.org digitization of nineteenth century religious periodicals.

**Luca Codignola-Bo** has joined the University of Notre Dame’s Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism as its first senior fellow. He will oversee the project “North Atlantic Catholic Communities in Rome, 1622–1939.” Professor Codignola-Bo has been associated with the University of Toronto, Université Laval and Saint Mary’s University (Halifax). His book *Little Do We Know: History and Historians of the North Atlantic*, 1492-2010 was reviewed in the Fall 2015 CCHA Bulletin by Paul Laverdure.

When the Tenth Triennial Conference on the History of Women Religious, meets at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara California, California, June 26-29, 2016, CCHA members presenting will include Rosa Bruno-Jofré, Jacqueline Gresko, Christine Gervais, Heidi MacDonald, Elizabeth McGahan, Carey Pallister, and Elizabeth Smyth. Congratulations to Elizabeth Smyth as Chair of the Program Committee and Heidi MacDonald as member of the committee for their work in organizing the conference.

**Lucia Ferretti** of UQTR, Trois-Rivières and president of SCHEC wants to share with anglophone colleagues in the CCHA news of her SSHRC funded research project, Rehabilitation for Young People With Intellectual Disabilities: The Role of Psychiatric Hospitals in Quebec between 1920 and 1975. An article on her work, “The origin of rehabilitation for intellectual disabilities,” appeared in March 2016 in the British journal International Innovation. Ferretti discusses her research in the archives of several congregations of religious women in Quebec as well as the records of a psychiatric hospital. She found that “between 1920 and 1975, most of the educational and psychiatric innovations that took place in Quebec were first explored in facilities run by nuns.” Ferretti’s research will be of interest to historians researching educational and medical history and the history of women religious. See the article at: http://www.internationalinnovation.com/origins-rehabilitation-intellectual-disabilities/
Robert Dennis, University of Prince Edward Island, helped launch experiential-learning and global studies for Catholic Studies students with a course titled "Catholic New York." In February 2016, Robert and a colleague took 10 students to New York City to study all things Catholic, including the Holy See’s Permanent Observer Mission to the U.N., the Catholic Worker, devotional culture in Harlem and a beautifully restored St. Patrick’s Cathedral. The Catholic Studies programme at UPEI looks forward to continuing to develop international learning opportunities with a Rome programme beginning in the spring of 2017.

CCHA Executive members Robert Dennis, Edward MacDonald and Peter Ludlow attended the Irish Ambassador’s Farewell Dinner on April 30, 2016 in Halifax, Nova Scotia where the CCHA Occasional Paper entitled Irish Catholic Halifax: From the Napoleonic Wars to the Great War was unveiled. The CCHA was acknowledged and congratulated by Holy Cross Historical Trust Chairman, Patrick Curran, the Irish Ambassador Dr. Ray Bassett, and by the volume’s co-editor and CCHA member Dr. Mark McGowan. In his short address, McGowan spoke about the significance of the new volume and the importance of the partnership that existed between the CCHA, Saint Mary’s University (Halifax), and the Holy Cross Historical Trust. Robert and Edward received a warm ovation of thanks and many copies were sold at the event. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of the volume can do so by contacting valerieburke@cchahistory.ca or Peter Ludlow at ludlowp@gmail.com.

The Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates its 175th Anniversary this year!

Check The Archivist’s Pencil blog entries on the CCHA website for the latest news of the cathedral renovations and other events. Thanks to the Archives of the Archdiocese of Toronto for the blog entries.

Debra Majer, archivist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of London, assisted Sarnia Historical Society with the republication of A Historical Sketch of the Parish of Corunna, a 27-page book written by Rev. James Mugan in 1901. According to The Sarnia Observer February 23, 2016, the book gives background on the Aamjiwnaang First Nation, missionaries, fur traders, settlers and the 1862 foundation of St. Joseph’s parish in Corunna. Ron RealeSmith, president of the Sarnia Historical Society, typed out the handwritten book and posted it at sarniahistoricalsociety.com. Debra Majer, archivist for the London diocese, worked with the society on arrangements for the publication. Majer, according to the Observer, was also going to speak to the Sarnia Historical Society on March 15 about Bishop Michael Francis Fallon’s diary of his service as a chaplain to Canadian troops during World War I.

The January 23, 2016 issue of the Catholic Register in Toronto published reports on the Bicentennial of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Celebrations of the congregation’s anniversary were held by Oblates across Canada, at the University of Ottawa. Preparing to hold the CCHA annual meeting at the University of Calgary in May 2016 brings to mind the Oblate contributions to the history and historiography of western Canada, for example the careers of Oblates Albert Lacombe and Adrien-Gabriel Morice. The Oblate congregation also sponsored the Western Oblate History Project of the 1980s and 1990s. CCHA member Raymond Huel of the University of Lethbridge directed the project conferences and publications.

Margaret Sanche, archivist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, sent along news from Steve Catlin, archivist for the Martyr’s Shrine, of the publication of The Early Jesuit Missions to Canada by the late Bill Lonc SJ. It includes nineteenth century mission diaries.
Your CCHA executive met in Toronto on Friday, February 26, 2016 at St. Michael's College, Toronto.

After the February executive meeting Jacqueline Gresko, and her husband Rob were hosted by Valerie Burke, and The Flag Store (theflagstore.ca) in Thornton, Ontario where they embraced the upcoming conferences by way of their cities hockey teams!

Peter Baltutis will present his original research entitled “The Laity as Collegial Partners in Social Justice Issues: Lessons from the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace” at the Rome Seminar 2016 entitled “Full, Conscious, and Active: Lay Participation in the Church’s Dialogue with the World” that is being hosted by The College Theological Society and The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas in Rome, Italy during July 2016.

Historical Studies in Education/Revue d’histoire de l’éducation has moved west to the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia. The new editors, Professor Penney Clark and Professor Mona Gleason, have announced that Katie Gemmell, PhD student in the Department of Curriculum has been made managing editor of the journal.

The Vancouver Sun, March 25, 2016 cover story carried the title: “A History of Helping Others: Generous B.C. nuns ensure their work will carry on. The Sisters of St. Ann are aging away, but they are leaving legacies to continue their 150 years of service to the province.”

Vancouver Sun columnist Douglas Todd interviewed Sister Marie Zarowny, Province Leader for the Sisters of St. Ann on their history and current activities. Their legacies include work in missions, education, health care and social justice and recent donations to St. Mark’s College at the University of B.C., the University of Victoria, Providence Farm near Duncan, and the reconstruction of schools in Haiti. Todd remarks “It's hard to think of another modest-sized group that has done as much to change the face of British Columbia.”

CCHA members will remember the tour Carey Pallister, archivist for the Sisters of St. Ann Archives, Victoria, B.C. who gave us during the 2013 annual meeting. She sends news that the Sisters of St. Ann Archives has a Facebook page. It includes a range of historic photographs. Please “like” and share their page easily found in Facebook under Sisters of St. Ann Archives.

FUTURE CONGRESS AND CCHA ANNUAL MEETING DATES:

May 27 to June 2, 2017 at Ryerson University in Toronto
And
May 26 to June 1, 2018 at the University of Regina.

CONFERENCES

Catholic Archivist Group, May 16-19, 2016, St. Mary’s University, Halifax.

The Tenth Triennial Conference on the History of Women Religious, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara California, California, June 26-29, 2016.

Please refer to our CCHA website for upcoming conferences.

NOTICE TO CCHA MEMBERS ON CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

To avoid costly returned mail please remember to provide Valerie Burke at the CCHA Office with any changes in your address to facilitate delivery of the Bulletin and Historical Studies.

Contact information:
Valerie Burke, Membership, Canadian Catholic Historical Association
C/o University of St. Michael's College
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto ON M5S 1J4

Telephone: 905 893-9754
Email:valerieburke@cchahistory.ca
FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK:

I would like to thank Valerie Burke, Father Edward Jackman and Fred McEvoy for assistance with production of the CCHA Bulletin.

This Spring 2016 issue of the CCHA Bulletin marks the 30th Anniversary of the publication. I would like to recognize the work of editors Mark and Eileen McGowan to 1991, and Father Terence Fay from 1991 to 2014. Those who assisted with book reviews, archives notes, and bibliography projects deserve a salute too: Brian Clarke, Linda Wicks, Brian Hogan, the late John Moir, Margaret Sanche and Fred McEvoy. Thanks also are due to the CCHA members and friends who contribute book reviews, articles and in memoriam notices, and to Peter Ludlow who coordinates the CCHA Twitter account.

Please send me information on your research interests, recent publications, notes and comments, news and events, and photographs of the latter. Send emails to jgresko@cchahistory.ca. Regular mail can be sent to me at the CCHA address:

CCHA Bulletin
Editor
C/o University of St. Michael’s College
81 St. Mary Street
Toronto, ON
M5S 1J4

Jacqueline Gresko, Editor, CCHA Bulletin

Canadian Catholic Historical Association
C/o University of St. Michael’s College
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto ON M5S 1J4
Membership Inquiry: 905 893-9754
Valerie Burke, CCHA Office
valerieburke@cchahistory.ca

2015-2016 EXECUTIVE

President-General, Dr. G. Edward MacDonald, UPEI
gemacdonald@upei.ca

President, Dr. Robert Dennis, UPEI
rdennis@upei.ca

Vice-President, Dr. Peter E. Baltutis, St. Mary’s University, Calgary
Peter.Baltutis@stmu.ca

Secretary-General, Rev. Edward Jackman, OP
revedjackman@rogers.com

Secretary, MC Havey
archives@redemptorists.ca

Treasurer, Dr. Terence Fay SJ, USMC
terence.fay@utoronto.ca

Member-at-Large, Dr. Peter Ludlow
ludlowp@gmail.com

Editors of Historical Studies
Dr. Patricia Roy, University of Victoria
proy@uvic.ca
Dr. G. Edward MacDonald, UPEI
gemacdonald@upei.ca

Editor of the CCHA Bulletin:
Jacqueline Gresko  jgresko@cchahistory.ca

Book Reviews:  Fred J. McEvoy
fmcevoy@travel-net.com

Président SCHEC (French): Dr. Lucia Ferretti
UQTR, Trois-Rivières QC
lucia.ferretti@uqtr.ca

The Bulletin is published in the Spring and the Fall of each year by the Canadian Catholic Historical Association. Notices, letters, calls for papers, and short articles are welcome on topics of interest to historians. Deadlines for submission are 1 October and 1 March. See CCHA website cchahistory.ca

The Canadian Catholic Historical Association would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Jackman Foundation of Toronto, SSHRC, and our personal benefactors of 2016.
Visits into the city of Calgary are easily made using the C-train (upper right of map, at the campus). Although the walk to the C-Train is only approximately 15 minutes from Hotel Alma, it is not for the faint of heart! There are many stairs (although there are ramps and elevators for accessibility). For those wishing to visit the very worthwhile St. Mary’s University Campus to view the St. John’s Bible or the dedication to Father Lacombe, please talk to Peter Baltutis. The C-Train will drop you off right in front of the university at the “Lacombe” stop. You should allow an hour for the trip from Hotel Alma.