



King's College Chapel

2014/15 Annual Report



Artist-in-Residence Laura Thorne captured the 2014 Thanksgiving retreat at St. Anne's Camp, West Dalhousie (see page 22).

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The Chaplain's Report

Prepared by Fr. Dr. Gary Thorne, University Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge

The activities of this year are fully described in this Report and I sincerely thank every person who has contributed to our life together. Because of your faithfulness, this Report comprehensively and carefully presents the details of that life together. In the fall of 2015 the University will undertake a review of the Chapel and the Chapel Music programme, as part of a university wide review of all departments and programmes over several years. This Annual Report will mostly be our submission to that review committee, and thus in the appendix of this Report you will find the job descriptions that guide my work as Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge. Please read these. You may be surprised at what moves me! Here I shall say only a very few words about the place of the Chapel in our secular university.

The Chapel is a place of friendship. We are drawn to the Chapel as a place of possibility where we may discover friendship with the Divine and with others. We quickly experience the beginnings of various friendships. Despite our false starts, disappointing approaches, emotional turmoil, troubling confusions, utter disbelief, and general awkwardness, a Reality embraces us and we remain. We are surrounded by others who dare to speak and sing such intimate language as falling in love, life, death, resurrection, community, betrayal, hurt, weakness, inclusion, vulnerability, mutuality, bearing one another's burdens, and obedience to one another in Love. Wooden prose and dead dogma are out of place here. All is Poetry. The way to the Real is through ritual enactment of philosophical thinking: Sacrament. Through the most precise theological language embodied in the poetry of Liturgy, we are transported to the place where those words point: and we find ourselves in Prayer. Beyond explanation, our bodies and souls are caught up in adoration. Captured by Love, we learn a friendship that unties the knot of every betrayal. It becomes clear that our spiritual pilgrimage to becoming truly human includes the irritable, anxious and troubled student or faculty member sitting and praying next to us. Finally, our understanding of vocation – what it is we are called to do with our lives – shifts from thinking about where we will find employment, to where we will find a community where we can live this life of Love that has touched us.

Why should such a chapel continue to be part of a secular university in the twenty-first century?

But why should such a chapel continue to be part of a secular university in the twenty-first century? Is there a legitimate place on a university campus for an intentional community of Love that seeks to embody principles of mutual obedience and sacrifice? In 1997 Dr Robert Crouse of blessed memory described the place of the King's Chapel within the broader university as follows:

It is significant that this particular church building is part of a university campus: a reminder that our university, like most others, was established by the church; but also a reminder of something vastly more important than historical circumstance: a reminder that the integrity of our intellectual life ultimately depends upon our dedication to absolute truth which we seek to know and love. Without that dedication, without that unity of focus, there can be no genuine university, but only a multiversity of information and techniques with no coherence of final significance.

Thus the chapel is by no means an adjunct to the facilities of the university, not just a convenience for those who want to go to church, but the very heart of the whole enterprise; and what goes on here, whether it be some great ceremony, or just a handful of people faithfully maintaining the daily offices, is of primary importance to the true meaning of the university. The truth is sacred, and to be sought with prayer.

The degree to which the King's Chapel community rises to this challenge is the judgment to which we submit. On the one hand, surely there is no place on a university campus for a narrow, intolerant, unthinking, prosaic, dogmatic religion. On the other hand, that thinking and loving are ultimately inseparable is a truth that desperately needs to be recovered in a world that has lost its way. Again, Dr Crouse of blessed memory taught us:

*The University exists for the cultivation of what our philosophical tradition since Aristotle has called the "intellectual virtues" -- the various forms of science and wisdom; it is an institution dedicated to the pursuit of truth. But the truth and the Good are finally inseparable: the truth is simply the good of intellect, and all the virtues are summed up in that steadfast willing of the good which we call charity. Thus charity is said to be the "form" of all the virtues: the form of which all of them have actual life. And it involves a dialectical interplay, a reciprocity, an interdependence of intellect and will. To love the truth, you must know it, but to know the truth you must love it. That is the doctrine which you will find adumbrated in the *Ethics* of Aristotle, and more fully worked out in the trinitarian doctrine of St. Augustine, in the scholastic theology of the 13th century, and in the poetry of Dante.*

Loving depends upon knowing, and knowing depends upon loving. That dialectical formula stands at the very heart of the great tradition of Christian humanism in which our universities were founded. The unity and creative interplay of divers elements and aspects and dimensions -- intellectual, moral, religious -- belonged to the very essence of that tradition, and it is, of course, precisely that unity that has tended to be lost in the modern secularizing of so many universities. And that loss seems to me a very sad impoverishment and narrowing of vision. St. Paul was surely right when he said that without charity knowledge was worthless: "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal."

(Sermon for Trinity XIII, Preached in King's College Chapel, 1998)

Keep these words of Dr Crouse in mind as you read this Report. Our Chapel must be a constant reminder to both students and faculty of the reciprocity of intellect and will, that "To love the truth, you must know it, but to know the truth you must love it?"

The Chapel has a place in our secular university only if it points to that integrity of knowing and loving that is so needed in our world, or at least if it embodies a longing after such integrity. So much is at stake. The Chapel has never been more important to the continued integrity of our beloved College.

Under the Mercy.
The Chaplain
14 March 2015.

The Music Director's Report

Prepared by Paul Halley, Director of the King's College Chapel Choir

This fiscal year began with our performances of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in Lunenburg and at the Cathedral in Halifax. Both concerts were sold out and featured a fine ensemble of soloists including our Evangelist, Rufus Müller who also gave a memorable workshop for the Music Department at Dalhousie while he was here. The choristers felt these were concerts that they would never forget. Our ability to offer students the opportunity to delve deeply into the greatest masterworks of our tradition has given many young people a real hunger for the beautiful and true.

The week after these performances found us singing music for *Passiontide* followed by *Holy Week* in which the choir sang for eight services. These services were a reminder of how the music in the Chapel has grown both in quantity and quality. Compline with women's voices on Monday nights

continued apace, led by Karis Tees, as did Compline with men's voices on Tuesday nights under the direction of Nick Halley. The music for Sunday morning Eucharists in the Chapel (with choir) has this year been directed by our sub-organist, Nick Veltmeyer, assisted by our Junior Organ Scholar, Marielle Nicol.

Because the 2014 Encaenia was part of the College's 250th anniversary celebrations the choir was asked to sing at that ceremony on May 15, and as always, they sang at the Baccalaureate Service that morning. The choir also sang services of Compline and Evensong as well as the Sunday morning Eucharist for the special Alumni weekend in June.

Michaelmas term began with the choir singing at Formal Meal on September 10 and this was followed with our first round of auditions for



"A King's Christmas" with the Chapel Choir. Photo: Jesse Blackwood

new students. An increasing number of incoming students are auditioning for the Chapel Choir in the late winter/early spring. Between those successful applicants and those who auditioned when they arrived on campus we offered places to nine new choristers of whom eight accepted and seven are returning next year. We had our new chorister orientation session on Saturday September 20 with Fr Thorne providing all of us with much food for thought. At the end of the month we hosted a wonderful workshop on Gregorian chant in notation that predates the old square notation. This session was led by Inga Behrendt from the University of Tübingen, courtesy of Jennifer Bain and Dalhousie University.

Aside from the weekly sung services the choir spent a great deal of time preparing for our sixth annual “For All The Saints” concert on November

2. For this concert the centerpiece was the *Requiem* by Pierre de la Rue. We were fortunate to have various period instruments join with us and the overall effect was all that I had hoped – ethereal and otherworldly. We also had a packed house, the largest audience ever for this particular event. The next day for the Solemn Eucharist on All Souls the choir sang the Fauré *Requiem* and eight days later the *Funeral Ikos* by John Tavener for our Remembrance Day service.

The annual Lessons & Carols service took place on November 30 and we concluded the sung services of term on Tuesday December 9 with both the Chapel Choir and *Capella Regalis*. We began our series of *A King’s Christmas* concerts at St. Ninian’s in Antigonish where we were warmly welcomed and enjoyed the acoustics in that beautiful basilica. The remaining concerts took place in Lunenburg,



The Chapel Choir sings Choral Evensong. Photo: Jesse Blackwood

Truro and Halifax. Our narrator was Shelley Thompson, who brought real acting skills to the occasion as well as some of her own writing and humour. Our season ended with a fine party hosted by chorister Katharine Harrison and her parents.

January started with a Solemn Eucharist for the Epiphany followed by a fine gathering at Fr Thorne's home. Winterlewd (our annual choir get together) took place on the South Shore over the weekend of January 23 to 25. In addition to skating, eating, drinking, charades and rehearsals for the Bach masterwork, this year we were treated to little tastes of what we could expect from the choir members for our upcoming fundraiser called "The Chapel Choir. Unrobed." I think it's fair to say that all present were stupefied.

Candlemas found us processing around the quad during a very pretty snow storm. The procession left the Chapel singing "Of The Father's Heart Begotten" in E Major, and returned some time later, much whiter but still in the key of E. One gets used to such miracles at King's Chapel.

For the Epiphany/Lent term on Formal Meal days we decided to hold the Evensong at 4:30 p.m. to allow guests and others to attend the service and sherry and dinner. It seemed that by the time of the second Formal Meal this was having a positive effect on attendance at the service. For the season of Lent we have been holding our Tuesday (*Capella Regalis*) and Wednesday (Chapel Choir) Evensongs at the Cathedral, and the response has been very positive.

On March 1 in Lunenburg and on March 8 in Halifax we presented "The Chapel Choir. Unrobed," our first fundraiser in at least eight years. The talent on display in those shows was alternately inspiring and disturbing. Apparently this is likely to become yet another 'annual'.

Now we are in the middle of preparations for Bach's *B Minor Mass* which we will be offering on April 11 and 12. By that time we will have gone through Holy Week and Easter. It is a testament to the Chapel community that we are nourished so deeply during this season of penitence and longing.

Three things stand out for me this year. First, our batch of new choristers who have been so steady and stalwart right from the start, fill me with hope for the future. (We have already received audition recordings from seven choral applicants and one organ scholar for next year) Second, we are seeing a growing number of students interested in pursuing studies in sacred music, both organists and others. And third, the Chapel community this year seems to have grown in strength, humility and compassion, which was very much in evidence at the presentation to the Diocesan Council at the end of February.

As always I must thank Fr Thorne for the quality of his leadership, which is so precious and so rare. I would also like to thank Barbara Butler of *Musique Royale* for her tremendous support of all that the Chapel Choir undertakes. I plan to take her correspondence course in humour and how to get things done with ease and grace.

The Wardens' Report

Prepared by Karis Tees and Verity Thomson, Chapel Wardens

Introduction

It is well known that the position of Warden has a certain degree of fluidity, which is to say that the role of Warden can change according to the gifts and talents of the person who takes it on. In our experience, it is becoming clear that the role of the Chapel Warden is to serve the King's community by caring for its members according to their individual needs, to be attentive to the movement of the spirit in the Chapel community and King's campus as a whole, and ultimately to offer others a way in to the Beauty and Truth that so many discover to be at the core of all Chapel activities.

With the Chaplain's above reflections in mind, it is important to say a word about how we invite others into the realm of "Beauty" and "Truth" that can seem so impenetrable when we are caught up in our everyday tasks and obligations. On a practical level, one of the main ways we seek to invite people in is by organizing out-trips that bring students out of the Quad and into the beauty of rural Nova Scotia, where everyday obligations are absent and accumulated stress is lessened. When we go on retreat, or a day-trip hike, or a canoe trip, we take a step back from the regular world we inhabit to be silent, to pray, to reflect, and to consider our relationships to one another and to the world. Students, faculty, staff, and friends of Dalhousie and Kings are all welcome to come along on these trips, regardless of faith tradition or background.

Every initiative and event was taken on this year was done with the intention to preserve the integrity of knowing and loving spoken of by Fr. Crouse and by our Chaplain. With this in mind, below you will find the more detailed stories of the Chapel activities of 2014-15, told as much as possible in the words and images of those present.

Spring, 2014

Tobeatic Wilderness Trip / April 22-28, 2014

At the end of April 2014, ten students, led by Fr. Thorne and our guide Dan Peacock, embarked on a pilgrimage in the form of a canoe trip to Boundary Rock in the Tobeatic Wilderness Area. Below is Jordan Draper's reflection on the trip.

*Tobeatic Camping Reflection
by Jordan Draper*

MYSELF AND NINE OTHER STUDENTS from Dalhousie and King's, plus our Chaplain Fr. Gary Thorne and our guide Dan Peacock, set out on a pilgrimage this past April to a place called Boundary Rock, which marks the meeting place of Shelburne, Yarmouth, Digby and Queens Counties. I was initially attracted by this venture because of the diversity of people in our group. I knew everyone who was coming as all of us had previously participated in something or other

that had been sponsored by the Chaplaincy, but a handful of our number had never been camping before and for some it was their first time canoeing.

It would take six days of canoeing, portaging and hiking for all of us to make it to our destination and back. We booked meetings in March and April in order to map our route, account for personal and shared kit, to plan and prepare meals, and to coordinate duties.



We didn't always do things the most efficient way, but I was prepared for this, and I was keen to see how traveling as part of a pilgrimage would be distinct from another sort of trip. Whenever we were doing some task in preparation for the trip, we always preferred to enlist one or more of the others in order that no one would be burdened with more chores than he or she could handle – not without people knowing about it, at least. We would pray the morning and evening offices together every day of the trip and we would celebrate Holy Communion daily as well. But, aside from these features, I still spent much of the trip trying to identify what was particular to the way that this assembly of people would carry out our journey.

The team did not make it to Boundary Rock, in the end, but we did come up against our collective and individual limits. After one particularly long, very rainy day of paddling across several lakes and carrying our equipment over four portages (up to a kilometer in length) we arrived at our next campsite shortly before sunset. We hurried to set up tents, build a fire, change into our last dry clothes and eat something hot before the night and the cold and the wet would render us useless and miserable.

The rain switched to snow late that evening and some of us spent the night in considerable cold and some dampness. In the morning, our Dan used a radio phone and learned that more rain and cold were expected over the next three days, and we decided with some disappointment that we should turn back to our original staging point, cutting the pilgrimage short of our destination.

I still hadn't learned what the defining character of this expedition was, not until we had dinner and a debriefing session at the night after we returned to Halifax. There, several of us weighed-in on the discussion of where we went wrong on our pilgrimage.

Someone thought we were too organized when it came to the distribution of responsibility. Some felt, on the contrary, that their concerns had gone unnoticed, especially on the difficult night before we decided to turn around. Someone thought we could have been better prepared, although she also said that she was not surprised by any of the trials of the trip.

Then the Chaplain spoke to the intended model of our fellowship as borrowed from the Rule of St Benedict, which finally answered my question about the character of this kind of journey. In a few words, he said that the failure of our trip was our failure to ask for help when we needed it and our failure to be trustworthy enough to be asked for help in the first place. He explained this as the way a Christian notion of “virtue” is a complete reversal of “virtue” as it was understood by the ancient Greeks, in which context Christianity emerged, and in secular culture generally.

There’s no virtue in knowing how to tie a certain knot, or in any other survival skill or special expertise for that matter, he said, not according to the Christian meaning of the word. Rather, in the Christian context, the greatest virtue is to humble one’s self and to lean on your brother for help. That’s the flower that makes a society of people beautiful, and it requires the sensitivity of all the other members in order to bloom. A person might bring himself to reach out for help once, or even seventeen times, but the moment he is rebuffed... well, then there won’t be an eighteenth time.

This vision of pilgrimage really articulated what so compelled me to be part of this endeavor in the first place as well as the principle that it seemed we were trying to espouse throughout the trek. I’m sorry we were not able to arrive at Boundary Rock, and I regret our inability to depend on one another and to honour the needs of each other sufficiently. Still, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to run up against my limitations in such company. The experience has caused me to see that the failures I share are better than any private success, and my successes are only real insofar as they are shared. In the words of St Anthony, “Our life and our death is in our neighbour.”

Fall 2014: Michaelmas Term

Frosh Concert, August 31, 2014

On the second day of Frosh Week the Chapel hosted the annual Frosh Concert, with the notion to introduce students to the Chapel as a safe space and to offer guidance as to where to find mental health support on campus and in Halifax. At the start of the show, Gwen Danson spoke on behalf of Laing House, to which the proceeds for the concert were donated. As has been recent tradition, Thom Swift came to play this show. It was well-attended by new frosh, frosh leaders, and upper-year students alike. This year Thomas McCallum opened for Thom Swift, and was a big hit!

Cape Split Hike, September 27, 2014

The annual Cape Split hike this year was a huge success. Fifty students hiked out to the Cape to eat lunch and then take communion on the cliff’s edge, under the beating sun amidst fields of Michaelmas daisies. Many thanks to the Parish of Cornwallis for hosting us for a “Maritime Meal” after the hike!

*Cape Split Hike
Reflection*

AS A PART OF THE KING'S COMMUNITY, I'm blessed to live a life where nearly every day is exciting and fulfilling. It's not often that I feel something is missing. But our journey to Cape Split was a reminder of the easy joys that can be overlooked in the day-to-day business of being a student. It was a chance to spend much needed time in nature, walk in quiet reflection, laugh with old friends, and meet new ones. I'm so grateful to have seen the view of the ocean from the split, to have heard the waves crashing against the cliff, and to have spent one of the last days of summer warmth outside. The jaunt ended with a perfectly freezing swim, the taste of homemade beans, and a view of the valley on our sleepy drive home. A line from one of my favourite books reads, "the brain appears to possess a special area which we might call poetic memory and which records everything that charms or touches us, that makes our lives beautiful..." I can't help but feel that's where my memories from that day will be tucked away.



The group arrives at Cape Split and celebrates Communion



Thanksgiving Retreat, October 11-13, 2014

This year we took just under forty students to St. Anne's Camp in West Dalhousie for Thanksgiving Weekend. There were many, many riches to be enjoyed – Compline in canoes on the lake, early morning Eucharist in the abandoned church across the lake, songs by the campfire, shape note singing, and a huge Thanksgiving feast prepared by Henk and Nico! The biggest adventure of the weekend was the minor Search and Rescue mission to find four first-years—Gavin, Jamie, Emma, and Leah—who had gone for a walk and gotten lost in the woods in the cold rain. All was well in the end; no one was injured, and we found them within ten minutes of discovering their disappearance. Thanks be to God!

*Thanksgiving Retreat
Reflection 1/3*

FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS I've gone on the Chapel retreat for Thanksgiving in the Valley. The first time, I was astonished by how warmly the community welcomed me -- an atheist who happened to be on crutches at the time. The King's Chapel has shown me how religion is not only something that can be at the root of violence and discrimination, but that it is also a humbling force for humanity, promotes love among friends and neighbours, nurtures a culture of appreciation, and helps create beautiful intentional communities.



Photos: Kathleen Harper

*Thanksgiving Retreat
Reflection 2/3*

I WILL SAY, for the benefit of anyone who doubts the validity of the chapel's retreats, that they should consider participating -- or simply taking it upon themselves to do something similar: depart into the woods with friends, acquaintances, and complete strangers, and share the rhythm of an unadorned daily life for a short time, immersed in the natural beauty of Nova Scotia and simple ritual, hopefully free from some of the burdens of urban obligation.

*Thanksgiving Retreat
Reflection 3/3*

WHEN I WAS LOST IN THE WOODS with my friends, there was a point where there was complete silence. The forest was so dense and there was so much moss everywhere, that although it was raining and windy not a sound came through. The silence was one of the greatest I have ever experienced, and for a moment I understood what it was like to be at complete peace and to be able to hear God in the silence.



Reading, sitting by the fire, and canoeing to church at St. Anne's Camp. Photos: Kathlee Harper



Quiet Day With James Bryson, October 18, 2014

In mid-October, this year's Chapel Theologian Dr. James Bryson visited King's to give a Quiet Day on the topic, "What Does Love Know?" In lieu of a Fall Retreat this year, the Quiet Day was Dr. Bryson's opportunity to address the community and introduce the themes that he would take up again on the Winter Retreat. He presented four short talks that were followed by about an hour of contemplation. Books, food and quiet conversation were available during this time, and the chapel was kept in silence.

Trip to the Hermitage of the Annunciation, October 25, 2014

This year, Fr. Cassian, Fr. Cyprian, and Fr. Roman graciously hosted us once again at the Hermitage of the Annunciation. At 4:30AM on Saturday October 25, seventeen students departed from the Quad to travel to New Germany. We arrived in time to join the monks for matins and the divine liturgy, after which we got the chance to converse informally with all three monks. After a picnic lunch, a number of us went for a hike on the property to explore the grounds. Many thanks to Allison Graham for her leadership on this trip!

Christmas Tree Hunt & Compline at St. Mary's, Crousetown, Nov. 28, '14

This year marked another successful year for the Christmas Tree Hunt! We found the chapel tree at the Harlow Family Tree Farm on the South Shore. You can always count on hot chocolate and homemade cookies at the Harlow farm! Following the tree hunt, Jesse Blackwood hosted the group (about 20 people) at the Sperry House for dinner, after which the Women's Compline Choir (Anne White, Maggie Pearson, and Rozzi Curran, Elizabeth Orenstein, and Kathleen Harper) led Compline at St. Mary's church in Crousetown.



Photos: Kathleen Harper

Wardens' Decorating Party, November 29, 2014

The massive, 15-ft tree that we got at the Harlow farm needed a lot of decorations! Fortunately we were up to the task. The decorating party this year had all the usual goods – festive drinks, baked treats, pomanders, popcorn chains, card-decorating for YouthNet, and lots of helping hands! As always, thanks go out to George Cochrane for providing and arranging the FIR garland.



Photos: Kathleen Harper



Winter 2015: Easter Term

Winter Retreat, February 6-8, 2015

This year's Winter Retreat was the only big retreat at Mersey River this year. Eighty students, faculty, and friends travelled to Kejimikujik for the weekend. The Winter Retreat seems to grow each year! James Bryson led our thoughts this weekend with his talks on the nature of love, continued from the fall Quiet Day. Love, Dr. Bryson pointed out in his first address, is a subject on which each of us has some level of expertise. As Jesse Blackwood pointed out, it is for this very reason that when we speak about love together, we are at our most vulnerable. Each person guards his or her experiences and knowledge of love—his “expertise”—carefully. This weekend we plunged—intellectually, spiritually, and practically—into this vulnerability, and into the depths of our relationships with each other. It is a great encouragement to see this kind of honest engagement with others. There seems to be no better place to do this than in the quiet of the woods in the middle of winter, held in the embrace of the natural world. It is an honour to play a role in planning these retreats each year. A huge thank-you is owed to Thomas McCallum and Veronica Curran, chefs and meal-planners extraordinaire, who made some incredibly delicious food this weekend! Another big thank-you goes to Phil Taber, who once again coordinated the afternoon outdoor group activities with great competence and care. Thanks also to Melissa LeGeyt for doing the bulk of the logistical organizing, to James Bryson for engaging our hearts and minds, to Matthew Furlong and Sue Dodd for their powerful contributions to the conversation, to Jordan Baraneiki for being our stand-in artist-in-residence for the weekend, to Nick Halley for leading us in the singing of the offices, to the Sacristans for upholding our life of prayer while on retreat, and to our Chaplain for his steadfast and faithful presence.

Winter Retreat
Reflection 1/3

IT IS BOTH REFRESHING and thought-provoking to see (and be part of) a community that successfully integrates traditional liturgy, contemporary thought, and vibrant faith in a way that is welcoming and engaging to all who choose to participate. The retreat in particular was a fantastic opportunity to build community, make friends, and recharge in a structured, but open-minded and caring environment. I really enjoyed the speaker, and even more so the discussions that he facilitated, and I thought the topics were both relevant and timely. Lastly, I'd like to say that I very much appreciated the monastic style of the retreat - it was a new experience for me and I am grateful to have been able to participate in the ancient tradition it represents.

Winter Retreat
Reflection 2/3

I HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED such a warm, welcoming group of diverse people that I grew to love so quickly. I was nervous to arrive in a new setting filled with people I'd never met, all of whom seemed to know each other so well. The retreat consisted of smart, kind, approachable and humble people, working, feeling, thinking and learning together. I immediately felt welcomed and at home, and humbled by everyone's simple joy of life.



Winter Retreat Photos: Jesse Blackwood



*Winter Retreat
Reflection 3/3*

I USED THE RETREAT as a chance to escape from school for a bit. I didn't bring anything with me that would help me in my classes in any way. The structured nature of the retreat, coupled with the lack of schoolwork helped me reboot my brain. As a consequence I've been able to be far more productive and less worn down than I was before the retreat. I have greatly appreciated the experience both this year and the last, and the wonderful community that goes on the retreats.

Reading Week Visit to St. Gregory's Abbey, February 14-21, 2015

This year a group of nine students (Verity Thomson, Karis Tees, Will Barton, Jordan Draper, Sam Sumner, Kristin McKenzie, Nathan McAllister, Ben von Bredow, and Meghan Kitt, led by Fr. Thorne) spent Reading Week visiting St. Gregory's Abbey near Three Rivers, Michigan. After two full days of driving, we arrived at the monastery just in time for Vespers on Monday the 16th. We spend the week living together in a guesthouse and observing the life the monks at St. Gregory's, an Episcopalian monastery under the Rule of St. Benedict. We attended each of the seven offices every day, beginning with Matins at 4AM and ending with Compline at 7:45PM. The remaining hours of the day were dedicated to study in the monks' library, communal meals, exploration of the property, meeting privately with the monks, and personal prayer. We began Lent at the Abbey, keeping the feast on Shrove Tuesday and fasting all day on Ash Wednesday. It can truly be called a "reading week," in the sense that it provided ample time for reading and study. It is our hope that we will continue to bring groups of students to monasteries to spend Reading Week this way in the future! Thanks are owed to the parents of Sam Sumner and Will Barton, and to Chelsea Thorne, who hosted our group overnight en route to and from the monastery.

Presentation to Diocesan Council, February 28, 2015

In December 2016, the five-year agreement stating that the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI funds half of the King's Chaplaincy position (the other half being made up by the College) comes to an end. With this fact in the background, this year we were invited by the Bishop to give a presentation at Diocesan Council about the current state of the University Chaplaincy. Over the course of a week, we put together a large presentation featuring a number of different voices: Katie Merwin, Ben von Bredow, Will Pearson, Colin Nicolle, Kristin McKenzie, Will Barton, Henk Fisher, Veronica Curran, Jordan Draper, Nick Halley, Paul Halley, and Helen Ryding all wrote pieces speaking about their experience of a particular aspect of the Chapel community. The presentation was a big success! It was a great joy to witness so many members of this community speaking directly to their experience of the Chapel and its role in their lives. Thanks to Leah Gerber for videotaping the presentation, to Fr. Thorne for being the driving force, to Shannon Nicolle and Mike McKenzie for reading pieces on behalf of their spouses, to Will Pearson for putting together an Out-Trip Scrapbook handout, and to all the people who turned up just to show support. And, of course, a big thank-you to Andrew Thorne for being such an enthusiastic timekeeper! Please see the attached appendix for the full text of the presentation and the Out-Trip Scrapbook.

'Tis Winter Now: Poetry and Song for an Icy Night, March 5, 2015

For a while now I have wanted to host an evening of student-written poetry and music in the chapel, and this year was it! I invited John Terpstra, a writer who publishes with Gaspereau Press and was visiting Halifax this week, to read some of his poems alongside student-written pieces. The idea was to provide a space for students to share their work alongside a professional writer, and to invite a dialogue between the two, as well as among student writers on campus. The readings and songs in the chapel were followed by an informal reception in the SCR. Thank you to Bethany Hindmarsh, Warren Heiti, Michelle Elrick, Henk Fisher, Ellen Fowler, Hunter McLellan, Thomas McCallum, Will Pearson, and Marielle Nicol for sharing their work, and an extra thank-you to Will P. for sharing my vision of this event and for designing the poster.

Women's Compline Choir Trip to Sackville and Dorchester March 7-8, '15

At the beginning of this year Fr. Ranall Ingalls asked the Women's Compline Choir to make a trip to visit the parishes of Sackville and Dorchester. Leah Gerber, Verity Thomson, Kathleen Harper, Will Barton, and Karis Tees made it out for the weekend! We were all struck by the immense generosity and kindness of the people in these parishes, who fed and housed us and welcomed us in. We went cross-country skiing in the afternoon, attended Evensong at Trinity Church in Dorchester, sang Compline in the evening at St. Paul's in Sackville, and attended St. Anne's in Sackville for the Sunday morning Eucharist before heading back to Halifax. We hope that the chapel can establish a connection with these two parishes in the future, and especially with students at Mount Allison University who may be interested in the life of the parish.

Ongoing

Feasts and Fellowship

Thank you to Fr. Thorne for hosting piles of people at his house for two major feast days this year: the start of year Michaelmas Feast and the "Three Kings" Epiphany Party in January!

Student Meditations

Thank you to everyone who gave a student meditation at a Friday Evensong this year. Ben von Bredow has been collecting the texts of the meditations all year, so stay tuned for a compilation booklet!

Artist-in-Residence and Photographers

Thank you to Laura Thorne, the artist-in-residence for 2014-15. Laura's report is attached to this report package, and her art will soon be appearing in the chapel. An additional thank-you to everyone who took photos at chapel events this year, and especially to Evan McIntyre for his photos of the Winter Retreat.

Special Services

In addition to the regular service schedule, there were a number of special services held in the chapel, most notably the Remembrance Day service, the All Souls service featuring the Faure Requiem, the Commonwealth day service, and Advent Lessons and Carols. Thanks to everyone who helped out in the coordination of these services.

More Thank-Yous

Thank you to Daniel Whitten and Allie Rivero for their care of the chapel space, and for keeping fresh and beautiful flowers on the altar and by the icons.

Thank you to Rev. Helen Ryding for faithfully celebrating the daily mass on Fridays at noon, and to Rev. Mark Marshall for celebrating mass on Tuesdays during first term.

Thank you everyone who read a lesson or greeted at chapel services this year.

Thank you to the regular Sunday morning congregation for their support and nourishment of this community.

Thank you to our Intercessor, Zach Hansen, who has upheld this community in prayer all year.

A special thanks to Natasha Conde and Melissa Le Geyt who served as our chapel administrators. Despite the confusion of switching half way through the year, both rose to the occasion to ensure a smooth transition and a good relationship with the university.

Concluding Reflection

On Tuesday in Lent IV, as part of our common Lenten discipline to read and reflect on a poem each morning, the Chaplain sent out the following poem by Denise Levertov:

PRIMARY WONDER

Days pass when I forget the mystery.
Problems insoluble and problems offering
their own ignored solutions
jostle for my attention, they crowd its antechamber
along with a host of diversions, my courtiers, wearing
their colored clothes; cap and bells.

And then

once more the quiet mystery
is present to me, the throng's clamor
recedes: the mystery
that there is anything, anything at all,
let alone cosmos, joy, memory, everything,
rather than void: and that, O Lord,
Creator, Hallowed One, You still,
hour by hour sustain it.

Undeniably, there are days that pass when we forget the mystery. Even as we seek to open spaces for stillness and solitude, it is easy to get caught up in the mundane, and to forget the great mystery that lies beneath. It is a joy to be a part of a community of people who

seek to help each other weather the changes and chances of this fleeting world. We can accomplish this only by clinging to the common thread that binds us all: whether alone at our computer screens reading the Lenten poem each morning, praying the daily offices together in the woods, kneeling on a frozen lake at 7AM, keeping vigil throughout the night on Retreat, feasting with friends at the home of the Chaplain, or silently sitting alone in the chapel on a sunny afternoon. The mystery, often forgotten, comes alive to us once more and we are refreshed.

It has been a great honour to serve as Chapel Wardens this year.

Sacristan's Report

Prepared by Will Barton, Sacristan

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have been Sacristan this year. There is no doubt in my mind that this has been the most challenging thing I have ever done. This is due not only to the overwhelming length and breadth and height and width of the task at hand, but also to the inherent need for a humble spirit as you try to model and build up a healthy prayer life through worship, and watch yourself stumble and fail time after time, day after day. And so I have a grateful heart for the forgiveness this community sees as part of its core.

This year was characterized for the Sacristans, in many ways, as the year after the flood. Some progress was made, but much is still to be done in making the new Sacristy space work as well as it could as a home base for worship at the University. A special thank you goes to the Facilities team, especially Rodney, our carpenter, for building our new home, and to Sandra Thorne and Nick Hatt for their crucial role in designing it.

Worship this year has continued on apace, with a full slate of morning, mid-day, evening, and night offices, as well as daily Holy Communion. This daily rhythm, monastic in character, supported, encouraged, taught, and often admonished us to listen and be attentive to each other, our work, and ourselves through the school year, in all its labours, sorrows, and joys. It was enriched on a weekly basis by the Capella Regalis Choral Evensong, the Chapel Choir Evensong, and the

Choral Solemn Eucharist, which all showed us just how beautiful listening to each other can be when done intentionally. Special thanks to Scott Beard for his attention and encouragement at all times, but particularly with the Lenten Evensongs at All Saints' Cathedral. And to Karis Tees and Jordan Draper for leading us in the plainchant offices on Friday we adopted for the first time this year.

Though we had no organized Altar Guild, the need for such a group was in no way diminished this year. Margo Pullen-Sly and Anne Salsman from the Sunday congregation very graciously washed the linens when the situation was dire, including the large Altar linens. Thank you is not enough.

Formal public worship is an optional but integral part of almost every Chapel out-trip or event. From the Eucharist on the cliff at Cape Split; to Retreat Complines and Holy Communion on a frozen Harry Lake; to Morning and Evening Prayer being said in cars on the way to a monastery over Reading Week, the worshipping life of this community is as much in the hands and hearts of students and any other thing we do. In their hands inasmuch as we care for it, in their hearts inasmuch as we let it care for us. I have every faith that where I have failed to support it this year, others will see the need.

Final thank you's must go to Shannon Parker-Nicolle, Nick Hatt, and Sandra Thorne for running our first linen workshop; Colin Nicolle

for his advice and tireless support, both in serving and in leading our first sub-deacon training session in a number of years; Daniel Whitten, Assistant Sacristan, for being my right hand man in all things; Allie Rivero for her deep care and attention to the altar flowers; Tom Curran for his faithfulness and preaching to the Sunday congregation; the Men's and Ladies' Complaine choirs; all our deacons, Fr Mark Marshall, Fr Peter Harris, Fr Ray Carter, Fr David Puxley, Mtr Helen Ryding; to Fr Marshal and Mtr Ryding for celebrating our Tuesday and Friday daily masses,

respectively; to all who have preached; to all who have served or officiated, Colin, James, Kristin, Cliff, Verity, Thomas, Henk, Jake Norris, Andrew Griffin, Andrew Thorne, Eleanor, Rozzi, Veronica, Jordan, Aidan, Sam, Cameron, Gwen, Asher, Will Pearson; and to Fr Thorne for his patience, vision, and guidance. And those who we have forgotten do thou, O Lord, remember.

We offer it all up, with the rest of Exec, to the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Rozzi Curran, Chapel Treasurer

The treasurer is primarily responsible for money that enters the Chapel as offering donations. This year my duties as treasurer went fairly smoothly. The greeters for each service were responsible for taking the offering collection during the service and the servers, sacristans or treasurer made sure that the money was put in the safe at the end of the service.

In the fall, packets of envelopes were made for congregation members so that they had an envelope for every week and continuing to assign congregation members to a number proved to be a successful strategy to simplify things for the donor, treasurer and the advancement office.

At the end of every week I counted the money

from all the services of that week and brought the money to Paula Johnson in the advancement office in order for it to be deposited. This ensured that money was very rarely left in the safe over the weekend.

Thank you to Katie Merwin, Natasha Conde and Melissa Le Geyt for guiding and helping me during my year as treasurer. Thank you to Will Barton and the other servers who put the money in the safe after services I was unable to attend, and thank you to all of the greeters this year for taking up the offering during services. Finally, a huge thank you to Paula Johnson for her support and patience.



Report from the Artist-in-Residence

Prepared by Laura Thorne, Artist-in-Residence

I have had the privilege and the honour of serving as the Artist-in-Residence of the University of King's College Chapel for this academic year 2014-2015. This has been my first major involvement in Chapel Life at King's, which in turn has been my first major involvement in any activity of a religious collective. However, I have been very active in other segments of the King's community, and have held a number of leadership positions in residence and student life. I thus hold a unique perspective from which to evaluate the importance of the Chapel to our campus as a whole, and to students from a wide variety of backgrounds.

It is not difficult to find and create community at King's. After all, we are a small and fiercely loyal school. However, the Chapel community has three characteristics which I strongly believe to be unparalleled on this campus. First among these is its ability to foster deep commitment from its members. I have witnessed first-hand the devotion of Chapel community members—whether 1st year or 5th year student, whether chaplain or organist—to consciously nurture the strong ties forged in their old stone home. Secondly, the Chapel community succeeds more than any other in extending its welcome beyond a small circle of devotees. Through retreats, events, concerts, and more, the King's Chapel has thrown open its doors to all without making a single demand on those who choose to enter. I appreciate this welcome wholeheartedly, and see it as an opportunity for learning, for conversation, and for

fellowship with some of the most engaged individuals on my campus. Thirdly, the Chapel community champions dialogue between other pockets of community at King's. I have participated in poetry events broadcast on local radio from the Chapel; I have heard some of my favourite musicians play live in the space; I have heard theologians lecture in my academic classes.

This dialogue is what has brought me, in particular, into the fold of the Chapel community this year. I am still amazed at the Chapel's generosity in creating and maintaining this position for young artists, and the enthusiasm of all those Chapel community members who have approached me in gratitude and in curiosity about my work. This position has allowed me to create a time and space for my creative work that would otherwise not have been justified in the midst of student life's commitments and obligations. It has encouraged me to think deeply about my artistic practice and set goals for its development over the course of the year. It has allowed me to visit the beautiful Nova Scotia country and fill my mind with new imagery. Perhaps most importantly, it has renewed my energy and drive, as it has reassured me that there is value and relevance in creative expression. The Chapel's support has been steadfast and uplifting this year. I am honoured to have joined this marvellous community, and to call myself one of its own.

Painting by Laura Thorne.



Chapel Theologian's Report

Prepared by Dr. Peter Bryson, Chapel Theologian

I have been asked to write something about the value of the chapel theologian to the chapel, the college generally, and myself, based on my experience as the incumbent chapel theologian. The theme of the sermon and talks I delivered this year was love. I tried to persuade the chapel community that love appears in our lives as something freely offered to us, through no choice of our own, but that it also presents us with a choice, a choice about whether or not to let love into our lives. As it turned out, the chapel community did not need to be persuaded of such arguments, although I believe it was to our mutual benefit to think about what I was trying to say, and to question and refine my meaning.

In this community of friends, I discovered a fellowship that presupposes, is moved by, and is directed towards love. The King's College Chapel is a unique example of what the bonds of friendship can achieve, an example of what happens when we accept the mysterious resources that love offers to us. The close relation of the chapel to the college generally is, at its core, proof of what I was arguing this year about love. The chapel community has its members chosen for it by the college, mirroring the way the friendships within the chapel and college generally are given, not manufactured. Conversely, the chapel returns those who participate in its life of prayer, conversation and friendship with a reinvigorated understanding of the importance of their lives as young scholars; they come to see the importance of stepping back from the fray of the day-to-day to reflect on its meaning. My sense is that the insight students in the Chapel come to – as a former chapel theologian, Alan Hall, said this year at an event a number of chapel members attended on the 'Gift of Vulnerability', dedicated to the life of people with developmental disabilities – is that, in taking up the duties of the everyday, our lives are 'shot through with love', but, he implied, it takes the ability to step back from the everyday to know

this – to know what love knows.

This brings me to what I took from my experience this year as chapel theologian. Over the course of the year, it became clear to me that, as powerful as love can be, it also requires tremendous courage and sacrifice. Love makes us profoundly vulnerable. As Aristotle reminds us, love drives us to form communities and institutions, without which life would not be worth living. Our vulnerability, as loving creatures, needs strong and coherent communities to be protected and ultimately to flourish. I have been convinced this year by the King's College chapel community, beyond a shadow of a doubt, of the truth of what Aristotle says about our human nature. I have also been convinced that the best possible institutional ar-

The Chapel is a unique example of what the bonds of friendship can achieve.

angement for human beings is one where the intellectual life complements the spiritual. After so many engaging and thoughtful conversations with current and former FYPers, during both the Fall Quiet Day and especially at the

Winter Retreat, it became increasingly obvious to me that the Foundation Year Programme and the work of the chapel community are complementary – they cooperate in providing the context for and encouraging the disciplined work of study, reflection, prayer and in promoting the irreplaceable joys of carefully cultivated friendship. I am profoundly grateful to Fr. Thorne for inviting me to participate in this important work, and to the chapel community for being such gracious hosts, and I can only pray this work will continue. In my 15 years at universities in Canada, England, and Germany, I do not know of a community more worth preserving. Indeed, I am confident this community will persevere, so long as its members work together to keep in their memory what love knows, willing the good of one another and of those on whose good will they depend.

The Saint Andrews Missionary Society

Prepared by Veronica Curran, President

The SAMS objectives as cited in the constitution are:

- to promote goodwill, generosity and fellowship towards the disadvantaged
- to facilitate opportunities for outreach in the community
- to increase awareness of social justice issues on campus
- to support ecumenical activities initiated by its Memers, the Chapel, or other community organizations

This year has been the first in the past several that SAMS has been ratified as a society under the King's Student Union. This demonstrates a shift in the way that the society is funded (this year SAMS has received funding from the Chapel, the KSU and the Residence budgets) and also has helped further the open atmosphere that SAMS wishes to convey. We have made a significant effort to ensure that students of all faiths and none have had an opportunity to participate in SAMS activities because our objectives are not associated with any religious background, but rather a desire to serve our community outside of the campus setting.

This year SAMS hosted two "St. George's Soup Kitchens." This included planning the menu, buying the food, encouraging students to aid in the food preparation which took place in the Manning Room on campus, and leading a group of students off-campus to serve the food at St. George's. The first soup kitchen took place on Nov 1st and was supported by the Chapel. SAMS members gathered the gourds that decorated the Chapel for Harvest Sunday to make a delicious pumpkin shepherd's pie! The second one takes place on March 21 and is being held in conjunction with the residence "Battle of the Bays" event and is being hosted by students of the 2nd floor of Alexandra Hall and Cochrane Bay. These events have been central to our group this year as they

have highlighted our goals of awareness on campus and outreach off-campus.

A new initiative this year was "Knitting for Adsum" which was a simple attempt at fellowship and awareness. The KSU funded the purchase of



SAMS knits for Adsum House

yarn which was used to make several hats, headbands and mittens. Knitters met several times and created a whole variety of items. This was particularly successful because it opened SAMS membership to a whole new demographic of students. There was also unprecedented and overwhelming support from the community who donated several boxes worth of premade items and balls of yarn.

We are happy to say that we were able to fulfill the YouthNet St. Nick's gifts fundraiser for the seventh year in a row. With the help of residence,



St. Nick's Presents for YouthNet collected by SAMS

the Chapel and various community members and friends we were able to raise enough money and gift donations to give all of the YouthNet after-school program members a gift for their St. Nicholas Day party on December 6. This supported a program

that we believe in and brought awareness to a volunteer opportunity off campus for students.

Finally, SAMS hosted its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake brunch on February 13 with the support of the KSU. This took place on a Friday because we deemed it important that the event take place before the Reading Week, rather than during it. We served over a hundred students and were able to collect a sizable donation to the Out of the Cold Shelter. This gave us an opportunity for outreach while providing students who may be away

from home with the ability to take part in what is for many a yearly tradition.

Special thanks to vice-president Verity Thomson, secretary Meghan Kitt, and treasurer Thomas McCallum. An extra special thanks to non-executive members Lorina Harvey, Sam Hodgkins-Sumner and Zachary Hansen for extraordinary dedication and helpfulness, without whom none of these events would have been as successful.



SAMS cooking for the St. George's Soup Kitchen



The King's Chorus rehearses Handel's 'Dettingen Te Deum.' Photo: Will Pearson



Dress rehearsal for the King's Chorus's fifth anniversary concert. Photo: Kathleen Harper

The King's Chorus

Prepared by Nick Halley, Director

The 2014-2015 season marks the King's Chorus's fifth anniversary. It is thanks to the Chapel and particularly the Chaplain that the Chorus was first created back in 2010.

Last fall we gave a concert of music for St Cecilia on her feast day (November 22). Being our official "Fifth Anniversary Concert," this programme featured music from the bombastic to the sublime, with Handel's magnificent *Dettingen Te Deum* in the first half and Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna* in the second. Other pieces filled out the programme and the concert closed with Herbert Howells's stunning setting of Ursula Vaughan Williams's text, the Hymn for St Cecilia. We were accompanied by Ensemble Regale, a group of the city's finest professional players, who generated an extremely uplifting experience for Chorus and audience members alike. The concert was well-attended and a financial success, thanks to the efforts of our executive committee and our patrons, particularly Brian Flemming.

Coming up on March 28, the Chorus will perform its spring concert titled "Salve Regina". The programme features primarily Marian works, for the Annunciation (the *Salve Regina* text sung in plainsong as well as settings by Arvo Part and Joseph Haydn, as well as the famed Vivaldi *Magnificat*), with a look forward to Holy Week in Dieterich Buxtehude's hypnotic setting of "Jesu meines Lebens Leben". This concert is a bit of a change from the Chorus usual in that it is quite contemplative in mood (we will be accompanied by a small band of superb string players led by David Greenberg). This music has helped us to discover our place in the Lenten season.

We wish to thank the Chapel community and Fr Thorne for welcoming us into the space for rehearsals every Wednesday and for providing the Chorus with the spiritual sustenance that is our lifeblood. Chorus members are continuously grateful for the opportunity the Chapel provides to participate in a rich liturgical life and connect (or re-connect) with the life of the Church.

This season, the Chorus has been extremely well-run by a small group of students who constitute its executive committee: Zach Hanson, Emmett Waters, Anne White, Elizabeth Orenstein, Will Pearson, and Hannah Fisher. But it is the spirit of the group as a whole; faculty, students, and community-members, which generates an infectious love of music-making, and audience-pleasing concerts at the end of each term. We hope to find even more people with that spirit and further engage students in the Chorus's well-being. There has been talk of a King's Chorus 5-Year Anniversary Bash on Wednesday, April 15, where we will celebrate the life of the Chorus thus far (and its hundreds of alumni).

Another first for the Chorus is that our next season is already planned. Due to this year's success, our fall concert will once again be music for St Cecilia on November 22 and in the spring the Chorus will collaborate for the second time with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra.

We hope that the relationship between the Chapel and the Chorus will continue to deepen.

The spirit of the group generates an infectious love of music making.



Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir

Prepared by Vanessa Halley, Manager, and Nick Halley, Artistic Director

Capella Regalis in the Chapel Community

Capella Regalis Men & Boys Choir, founded by Nick Halley in the winter of 2010, is not a programme of King's College (we are a separate non-profit organization and are not administered or funded by the College), but the choir is honoured to be considered very much a part of the King's Chapel community. The 2014-15 season marks the fifth year that Capella Regalis Men & Boys Choir has been 'in residence' in the King's Chapel, singing weekly Evensongs here every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. and using the Chapel for rehearsal space. Our name, Capella Regalis, denotes our umbilical connection to the Chapel.

The Chapel provides a structure that helps to define the mission of Capella Regalis and sets us apart from the vast majority of boys choirs now found in North America. While Canada was once rich with men and boys choirs in the Anglican tradition, Capella Regalis is one of only a handful in Canada today. A liturgical men and boys choir is counter-cultural in our current time and place. But we are finding that, increasingly, the parents and, more important, the boys themselves are gaining an appreciation and understanding of the rare educational experience the boys are getting not only in music (some of the most incredible music humankind has had to offer over the last eight centuries), but in independent thought, leadership, and commitment. The choristers get to witness and be a contributing part of a religious community with excellent liturgy, and a university community of academic and artistic excellence. This exposure at an early age to such possibilities will inspire the boys in many ways as they continue through their lives.

We extend our deepest thanks to Father Thorne and the King's Chapel community for welcoming the choir into your worship, your space, and community life. Our continuing hope is that we, in turn, contribute significantly to the Chapel and College communities. And who knows, we may start to see in the next few years young men enter-

ing King's as choral scholars thanks to their training in this wonderful community as boys.

Administration

Capella Regalis is, and always has been, a completely free programme for any boy who passes an audition. - In addition, a volunteer-based transportation programme is provided to get choristers from under-served areas, who otherwise would not be able to participate, from school to rehearsals, choral services, and concerts and back home again, twice weekly. The choir draws boys ages 6 - 13 from all backgrounds and areas of Halifax and environs, from Tantallon to Halifax's North End.

Capella Regalis currently comprises a Senior Choir, which rehearses twice weekly (Tuesdays and Fridays), sings a Choral Evensong once weekly in the University of King's College Chapel, and performs concerts around Nova Scotia in a busy September - June season; the Friday Programme, which trains young or new choristers in music fundamentals in a low-pressure environment to prepare them for transition to the Senior Choir; and the Men, who sing alto, tenor, and bass, and whose ranks include professional singers, volunteers, and former boy choristers whose voices have changed. We also offer a Thursday rehearsal for Young Men - those choristers whose voices have recently changed - to help them transition to the men's section and singing alto, tenor, and bass.

Capella Regalis is a registered society under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia, and since the summer of 2012, we have been an educational outreach programme of Musique Royale, a charitable organization with a mission to support and present music programming and education across Nova Scotia.

Capella Regalis is run by Nick Halley as Director, Vanessa Halley as Manager, and Nick Veltmeyer as Assistant Director. In addition, Capella Regalis is blessed with a team of wonderful, key volunteers, without whom we would not be able to do what we do. Paul Halley spends many hours

serving on the Board of Directors, accompanying the choir, assisting with rehearsals, and providing experienced support and encouragement in a multitude of unpaid ways. Barbara Butler chairs the Board and provides performance opportunities and structure through her organization, Musique Royale. Scott Beard is our Librarian, overseeing our music library, assisting to put together music lists, and maintaining music folders for all men and boys on a weekly basis. He also serves on the Board. Andrew Griffin, a 3rd-year King's student, is the most recent addition to our Board and has been active in grant-writing for the choir this year. Liz Kobes designs concert posters and acts as a general 'choir mother' (still fielding phone calls from parents and boys from time to time). Sarah Stevenson takes care of our Internet and information services, including design and maintenance of our website and social media, putting in countless hours on a purely volunteer basis. Marielle Nicol, a 2nd-year King's student and the Junior Organ Scholar, has been assisting with our Friday Programme rehearsals. Other volunteers include our volunteer drivers (special mention to Beth Boudreau), the men who do so much more than sing (Shay Burkhart, Henk Fisher, Paul Rogers, Peter Wilkinson are particular stand-outs), parents, those many Chapel members who help greet and officiate at Capella Regalis Evensongs, and of course Father Thorne, who continues to be a shepherd and friend to all of us, and most especially the boys.

Programme Update

Shortly after our AGM report last March, the boys sang in Bach's St Matthew Passion with the King's Chapel Choir, singing the chorale as the 'ripieno choir' in two key movements of the piece. Soon after that, the men and boys began preparing to record their first CD. Two recording sessions took place at All Saints Cathedral in early June, and the CD was released on October 7, 2014, rejoicing in the title "My Eyes for Beauty Pine". This has been

a great thing for the choir, not least because of the encouragement we've derived from the enthusiastic responses to the CD coming from great musicians in the field across Canada.

We started the 2014-15 season with our fourth



Choral Evensong with Capella Regalis. Photo: Jesse Blackwood

annual Capella Regalis summer choir camp for the boys at St Anne's Camp in West Dalhousie in late August. Choir camp is extremely fun for choristers and counselors alike, and highlights this year (in addition to the many rehearsals, of course) included two epic games of crocker, a raucous skit night, a grand "scare night" Quest, the third annual Non-Athelon, much jamming on guitar, penny-whistle, and trombone, and many a wonderful meal prepared by Shay and company.

Our season began much like any other, with rehearsals and services getting off to a roaring start – until about half the choir went through voice-change at precisely the same moment. This left our director scrambling a little bit, which was no doubt good for him. The younger boys in the choir had to step it up in time for our annual Christmas concert series "To Bethlehem with Kings," which

they did rather marvelously. The Halifax concert was particularly fine and evidently well-publicized, given the vast crowd that took in the music in St Mary's Basilica.

The many changing voices also prompted the establishment of a weekly Thursday rehearsal for our new category of men – “Young Men” – to help with the vocal transition from soprano down to alto, tenor, or bass. We currently have five keen Young Men in the choir. They are a wonderful, and key, development in our programme.

Directed by Nick Veltmeyer, the Friday Programme meets once weekly (Friday afternoons) for one hour during the Senior Choir rehearsal time. We currently have three boys ages in the Friday Programme, having just promoted three others to the Senior Choir in January. In our recruitment efforts, we look to expand the Friday Programme each year, since it is a nice chance for prospective boys and parents to get a sense of what we do (and get hooked on great music).

The men and boys continued their weekly Evensongs throughout the academic term. During Lent, the choir has been singing Evensong at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, which has been an additional blessing. We are looking forward to the privilege of once again taking our place in the line-up for Holy Tuesday. This is a Eucharistic opportunity to which the boys look forward very much and we have just begun rehearsing the wonderful plainchant “Missa Orbis Factor” as well as Anerio's haunting setting of “Christus Factus Est” for that service.

Concert highlights of the season include the Christmas programme, *To Bethlehem With King's*, which we performed December 19 – 21, 2014, at Christ Church, Windsor, St John's in Lunenburg, and then at St Mary's Basilica in Halifax with the Maritime Brass; our upcoming spat of school shows (in which the men and boys perform annually for

more than 1,000 school children around HRM); a “Cookie Concert” for Barbara Butler and Musique Royale in Lunenburg on May 2nd; and a tour of Nova Scotia (May 14-23), when we will perform in Lunenburg, Broad Cove, Yarmouth, Annapolis Royal, and Halifax.

We will also have an Open House in the Chapel in May (date TDB), where we'll give a mini-concert, and the whole host of choristers young and old, parents, and other community members will be present, with food and drink. This event is designed to let interested people know what we're all about – particularly any boys or parents that might like to join Capella Regalis. All are welcome.

On June 20/21 Capella Regalis will officially celebrate its well-developed childhood with a “5-Year Anniversary Thank You Bash.” This will be an event in Halifax, with food, wine, good company, and entertainment, at which we hope to say thank you to as many of the extraordinary people who have made Capella Regalis possible as can make it out for that date.

At the top of that list of people to whom we are thankful for our very existence are the Chapel, and the Chaplain, Fr Thorne.

Stay tuned at www.capellaregalis.com.



Capella Regalis sing at their annual “To Bethlehem With Kings” concert. Photo: Jesse Blackwood

The Theological Student Assigned to the Chapel

Prepared by Kristin MacKenzie, third-year student at the Atlantic School of Theology

It is important to note the gratitude with which I approach this report, this year has been a gift to me in so many ways.

In consultation with the bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the Right Rev'd Ron Cutler, third year Anglican students are assigned to a parish for their remaining time of study. In this time the expectation is for the student to fill in any glaring "gaps" that need addressing before ordination, to take on leadership in the parish and to be challenged in any way that will more fully form them for Holy Orders. This is of course, under the time limit of six to eight hours per week in order to allow time for schoolwork and fulfilling graduation requirements.

My official assignment to the chapel has given me the availability to take part in many activities that I have not been a part of in past years. In the fall I attended the Cape Split Hike (my first hiking trip ever!), the Fall Quiet Day, the day trip to Hermitage of the Annunciation, as well as many other on campus events and celebrations and of course the pilgrimage to St. Gregory's Abbey in Three Rivers, Michigan.

Throughout my time of study, exploration of vocation, moments of joy and time of grief, the chapel has provided me with the support and love that is expected of a community rooted in Christ. Through participation in the liturgy and daily offices I have come to know more fully my Anglican identity as well as how this tradition can serve the needs of the wider community.

This has manifested in my service both to the

students at the College as well as my time in the Parish of Cornwallis. Since the fall I have been privileged to represent the chapel in our ministry to this rural parish. I have had the opportunity to preach God's Word in the three churches as well as see the love for the Gospel shared by my fellow students, to whom I am entirely grateful. Their passion for this ministry and trust in me has made all the difference in our presence in this work.

The Collect for the Feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle, the day of my impending ordination, reminds us of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray that we be not destitute of such gifts and that we will have the Grace to use these gifts to God's honor and glory. My life at the chapel is one such gift, the gift of community, challenge and love which comes from Christ.

For my spiritual and vocational formation in this placement I must thank the Wardens, Karis and Verity, for the leadership and the inclusion they have provided to me. Thank you to the Sacristans, Will and Daniel, for the opportunity and training to serve at God's Holy Altar.

None of this would be possible without the encouragement and strength which comes from our Chaplain, Father Thorne, and I thank him for the trust he has placed upon me.

To all those that offered kindness and welcome to a stranger, allowing me to make this place my home and community of faith, thank you.

It has truly been an honor,
Let us Bless the Lord.

My life at the chapel is a gift, the gift of community, challenge and love.

Reading Week Trip to St. Gregory's Monastery, Three Rivers, Michigan

Prepared by Ben von Bredow, Participant

Leaving in the early hours of a Friday morning, nine students and the Chaplain travelled to St. Gregory's Abbey in Three Rivers, Michigan for the duration of the spring study break. It was a long trip, taking two full days of driving in either direction. Why would a group of students choose to make this trip?

There are a number of ways to speak about what the students on this trip learned and benefited from. Indeed, it is very likely that they wouldn't even be able to come to a consensus about precisely why they went, or what they learned when they got there. As such, it is really best that one speak to all of the students on the trip to get a more comprehensive picture of the experience.

In one way of thinking, the trip was about spiritual discipline. In Three Rivers, the students encountered a group of men who had devoted themselves to obedience to a monastic rule, the Rule of St. Benedict, which they believed would help them to grow in humility and love as they allowed it to order their lives. So, for some of the students, the monks showed us, by a sort of an analogy, what it means to submit ourselves to the rule of the Book of Common Prayer, as we, in our Chapel community, conform ourselves to its disciplines as set out in the order of offices and the church year. The beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, during our trip, was very important to our experience at the monastery. We took up our Lenten disciplines together, and supported one another in daylight silence and fasting on Ask Wednesday.

In another related way, the trip was about prayer. We went to the monastery to participate for a short time in a community which made a habit of

prayer. The monks at St. Gregory's Abbey order their lives and schedules by a rhythm of prayer. We went to learn what it means to pray continually, and to order all of one's work by a constant – even interruptive – concern for the good of one's own soul, the Church, and the world as expressed by attention in prayer. The greater part of the monastic office is devoted to the saying or singing of the Psalms, as they recite the Psalter in its entirety each week. The students got a small but powerful glimpse of what it means to conform one's prayers to Scripture.

Our pilgrimage was also about the periods of silence and study between the offices. The monastery removed the students on the trip from their pressing worldly concerns in a number of ways. Physically, leaving Halifax, even leaving the country, made it possible and necessary to ignore the

most routine daily concerns which might otherwise have occupied their time and attention. Temporally, the monastic schedule created large blocks of empty time each day which students could devote to quiet reading, meditation, or prayer. Spiritually, the monastery encouraged leaving behind as much as possible of one's worldly concerns during one's retreat, and cultivated a sense of spiritual calm.

It was very important to the students on this trip that we undertook it in community. We grew to know one another better, and were especially encouraged to become comfortable with one another in silence, especially during our Ash Wednesday fast, and in vulnerability, as we gave space to all those who wished to withdraw into silence and prayer to greater and lesser extents.

But, generally, these are all ways in which the

*The monastery removed the students
from their pressing worldly concerns.*



group of students which travelled to the monastery were going to investigate the nature of spiritual life. The students all shared a common conviction, though it took various forms (as, for example, described above), that the life of the monastery is a life devoted to the Real. The spring break gave them an opportunity not only to put aside their ordinary concerns for a while, as a vacation, but to encounter and practice

The life of the monastery is a life devoted to the Real.



a kind of Christian life that called their ordinary lives in question. They believed that the monastery provided a special opportunity to pursue the conversion of their own souls with a singular attention which is not available elsewhere. And, seeking this conversion more than anything else, it hardly mattered to the students on pilgrimage what were the specific benefits of visiting a monastery.



Photos: Kristin MacKenzie



The Chapel Concert Series

Prepared by Thomas MacCallum, Coordinator

This year's concert series was a great success. Five concerts were held in the Chapel in support of local charities. All were very well attended. Over \$3000.00 was raised in total. The objectives of the concert series were:

1. To expose local up-and-coming artists to a wider audience.
2. To raise money and awareness for local charities and outreach organizations
3. To do the above while using and promoting the Chapel as an open and welcoming space for students and members of the wider Halifax community.

Here follows a list of this year's performers and the charities they played in support of:

- August 31: Thom Swift (Frosh Concert)
Charity: Laing House
- September 21: The Modern Grass
Charity: YouthNet
- December 27: John Prine Tribute Concert with Matthew Hornel, Jennah Barry, Andrew Sneddon and friends
Charity: Chapel Outreach and Poor Fund
- January 11: Dan MacCormack & Nick Everett
Charity: Rehtaeh Parsons Society / Chapel Outreach and Poor Fund
- March 8: Dark for Dark & Banded Stilts
Charity: Rehtaeh Parsons Society / Chapel Outreach and Poor Fund

Other fine concerts were held in the Chapel this year; however, these were not associated with the Chapel Concert Series. My aim is to ensure a series which will provide excellent "pop" music to both students and the general public. I want to build a "brand" that is reliable and has the potential to endure.

Promotion of these concerts was essential for their success. The work for each concert took at

least 20 hours. Corey Isenor, a professional poster designer, was employed to create an attractive poster for each event. All concerts received favourable media attention from The Coast and were also promoted by means of social media, on the CBC, in local newspapers and local church bulletins, in TWAK, the Chapel and King's websites and through FYP announcements.

Printing at the Music Nova Scotia office greatly reduced printing costs as members are able to print 50 free black and white posters a day. The rental of sound equipment for these events was essential to ensuring that larger groups were well-balanced and that solo performers could be heard as well as hear themselves. I have learned a considerable amount about sound equipment this year, and costs could be significantly reduced next year. Of course, the ideal would be for the Chapel to own its own equipment and have the funds to hire a sound technician.

My dream is that this concert series will be a lasting success and a musical institution in Halifax for years to come. Things that could make the series run considerably smoother are the pre-approval of an honorarium for artists and a clear budget for all costs associated with the series. If all the artists could be confirmed by the summer before term begins, promotion of the entire year's roster could increase attendance.

Thanks to Veronica Curran, Zach Hansen, Meghan Kitt, Verity Thompson, Karis Tees, Kathleen Harper and Will Barton for their help in setting up and tearing down the Chapel, ushering, selling CDs, and collecting donations. Thanks to Evan McIntyre for his help with sound equipment as well as taking photos. Thanks to Scott MacCormack for lending his time and sound equipment for the Dan MacCormack concert. Thank you to Father Thorne, Natasha Conde and Melissa Le Geyt for dealing with all financial matters.



Above: Dan MacCormack & Nick Everett. Below: Dark for Dark & Banded Stilts. Photos: Evan MacEntyre.



The Need For The Chapel's Prophetic Voice

Prepared by Katie Merwin, former King's Chapel Warden and Programme Coordinator, CCEPA

In the Biblical prophetic tradition, the Chapel engages in critical social commentary as a challenge to all persons to reflect ethically on how our western way of living and loving affects our local and global communities.

Too often we remain safely in a community of like-minded individuals, fearful to speak out against the established status quo or to acknowledge and address the tensions that arise from attempting to live out our faith in the world.

One event in particular this year did make room for conversation and dialogue with people who may – or rather, certainly did – disagree with many of us.

Out of deep respect for his service in the Canadian Forces and to the university and wider community, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs (CCEPA) invited Father Thorne to speak on 17 November 2014 as part of their 'Ethics in the Evening' sessions. CCEPA is an outreach organization of the Atlantic School of Theology and Saint Mary's University that provides an arena for critical thinking, public discussion and research into current ethical challenges in society.

Once the presentation topic was announced: "Why aren't we asking more questions about Canada's involvement in the Middle East?" the media floodgates were opened. Fr. Thorne spoke candidly and provocatively on CBC Information Morning and CTV Morning Live about how the tragic shooting on Parliament Hill a few weeks prior did not justify Canadian support of bombing strikes against ISIL and ISIS.

The informal presentation hosted at the CCEPA Offices on the AST campus drew large crowds, forcing the organizers to turn people away who wanted to participate in the discussion. Fr. Thorne began with some remarks before opening the conversation to the students, community members, professors and others who had gathered.

In his opening remarks Fr. Thorne asked the audience to reflect on why ISIS/ISIL is so good at

recruiting young people not only in the Middle East but increasingly from North America and disproportionately from Canada. He suggested that the complacency of the North American lifestyle has led to the pandemic of 'loneliness' among Canadian youth, and this 'lack of purpose' and meaning is con-

trasted with the urgency of life and death in the Middle East. Although we may characterize radical Islam

as 'bad religion', it does offer to young people an escape from the boredom of the culture of unlimited material entitlement and consumerism. The "I've found something worth living and dying for" cry offered by religion has often attracted the best and most courageous youth in every age. (This in fact reminds us of the 'age of the martyrs' in the early Christian Church, and in churches like that of the Oriental Coptic Church today). The fact that our western consumer culture no longer even asks 'what is worth dying for,' let alone pretends to provide an answer, feeds that emptiness and lack of ultimate purpose that many young people feel in North America.

Father Thorne related how many soldiers who come home from theatres of war where urgent life and death questions and situations are faced daily, become disoriented, disenchanting and sickened when they return to the

North American culture of indulgent consumerism. Provocatively, Father Thorne surmised that

when young muslims in Canada watch countless images of the destruction by bombing of muslim homes and territory, and the killings of thousands of muslims including children, in places like Gaza and throughout the Middle East, that these young muslims are justified in their impulse to go to the

The complacency of the North American lifestyle has led to a pandemic of loneliness among Canadian youth.

Are we becoming a nation motivated by fear?

Middle East and offer their lives to protect these civilian populations. Young people in the west are surrounded by religious organizations that make very few demands in lifestyle, service to others and ascetic practice. They see the desperate plight of people who suffer greatly throughout the world through hunger, conflict and violence and they cannot bear to live comfortably here in North America in complacency and indulgence.

The group conversation included talk about the role of students in protesting military involvement and factors hindering their critical involvement. Why aren't students crying out in anguish at the killings in the Middle East? Where are the pacifists of the past few generations?

"I'm not a pacifist, I would like to be. I have pacifist tendencies. I'm too much of a coward to be a true pacifist," said Fr. Thorne.

"When soldiers go to war in Afghanistan, Iraq, or any foreign land, the worst thing to befall a soldier is not that he or she die, in a willing sacrifice of his or her life. Rather, the greater horror is when that the soldier kills, or contribute to the killing of another human person created in the image of God.

Are we becoming a nation motivated by fear, hatred, an eye for an eye legalism, social confusion, ethnic and religious divisions, greed, and a limitless sense of entitlement?

Are these the values for which our fathers and mothers fought in WW II. The values for which 158 young people gave their lives, KIA in Afghanistan during the opening decade of this century. Are these the values that are shaping our children as they grow up in Canada in the 21st century?


As the discussion evolved it became clear that we must learn to be together with those with whom we radically disagree, and we must learn to listen to one another without fear.

Feedback from audience members highlighted the lively, open, respectful conversation and the diversity of voices, especially from youth. Fr.

Thorne provided the guidance necessary for the depth of the topic and for others to be challenged in their views in safe environment. Although people left without consensus or agreement on the particular issue, there were vulnerable and reflective moments of true listening and attentiveness that showed the to the wider community the importance of the Chapel in its ability to provide social commentary on controversial topics, with consequences for this world and the next.

The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs is pleased to present:

Ethics in the Evening



Why aren't we asking more questions about Canada's involvement in the Middle East?

Does believing Ottawa is under attack help us justify bombing the Middle East? How does the promise of "no boots on the ground" make it okay? Have we lost our moral integrity? Where are the pacifists? Where are the protesting students? Where are the voices of the humanists, atheists, and the religious crying out in anguish over our killing of others? What does our detachment from the daily killing of Middle Eastern radicals and innocents say about the value we place on human life?

Rev. Gary Thorne, University Chaplain, Retired Lieutenant-Colonel, Canadian Armed Forces

7:00-8:30pm
Monday, November 17, 2014
Light refreshments will be served
CCEPA Boardroom, 630 Francklyn Street

Space is limited Registration Required admin@ccepa.ca or 902 428 1416

CCEPA Provides an Arena for Critical Thinking, Public Discussion and Research into Current Ethical Challenges in our Society.

Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs

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One University Drive, York, Ont.

CCEPA.CA

Poster for Fr. Thorne's "Ethics in the Evening" session, in which he asked why we aren't more concerned about Canada's involvement in the Middle East.

Dalhousie Anglican Society

Prepared by Jordan Draper, President

The mission of the Dalhousie Anglican (DANG) Society is to create opportunities for students from diverse academic disciplines to meet one another and engage together in questions, topics and activities of concern to us. Whether our meetings take their point of departure through the arts, discussion, hospitality, or out-trips, it is understood that, as a community, all our activities and conversations are grounded in the liturgical life of prayer which reaches us in the Anglican Tradition. What we lack for interest in proselytizing, we hope to make up in seeking true friendship.

We take great support from our relationship with the University of King's College Chapel, participating fully in all Chapel liturgies and events available to Dalhousie students. In particular, we share our Chaplain Fr Thorne, with King's, whose vision it was to create the Society and who gives it direction by his inspiring example of compassion.

Apart from Chapel-organized events, there have been several initiatives of the DANG Society over the 2014/15 academic year. We continue our weekly celebration of Wine before Breakfast, each Wednesday morning of term: a simple, quiet Eucharist which follows a modern rite, and after Communion we share breakfast. In October, nine students attended a production of the 2005 play *Doubt* at the Frog Pond Theatre, following which we participated in a conversation with the

cast and director on the play's themes of trust and judgement, suspicion and protection. Twelve people attended the DANG screening of *The Island*, at the Multifaith Centre, last November. We were joined by students from the Religious Studies class on the Orthodox and Oriental Churches, whereas this film is set in a Russian Orthodox monastery and depicts very faithfully many aspects of Orthodox spirituality. In January, the Society hosted its first Thought-Luck – an evening of readings on the subject of "Childhood." Readings were contributed by several of the 25 in attendance, and the DANG meal was provided by the Society. Our second Thought-Luck, "Creation," is scheduled for March 15.

The DANG Executive consists of President – Jordan Draper, Vice-President – Ben von Bredow, and Treasurer – Nathan McAllister. Nathan set up a DANG bank account this year, after the Society was awarded a \$500 grant from the Dalhousie Student Union in the fall, and we have another grant application currently in process for the same amount. This revenue allows us to depend less on the capital of our student benefactors for financing all our gatherings. This year's executive has been the most active in our whole DANG history, and it will be of utmost importance to furnish these positions with committed members before the end of term.

The Altar Guild

With thanks to Will Barton & Veronica Curran

For the 2014-15 Academic Year, the Altar Guild has operated somewhat differently than in past years. This year it has been a joint effort among many members of the Chapel community, working together to maintain and adorn our sacred space. Special thanks in particular should go to Veronica Curran, Will Barton, Alexandra Rivero,

George Cochrane, Shannon Parker Nicolle, Lucinda Lee, Nicholas Hatt, Sandra Thorne, Anne Saltzman, Margo Pullen-Sly, and all who have helped this year.

During the Michaelmas Term, members of the Chapel community were invited to learn about the care of liturgical linens from Shannon Park-

er Nicolle, Sandra Thorne, and Nicholas Hatt. A group of interested individuals learned some basic care methods from Shannon and Sandra, as well as an introduction to the types of material, and their specific characteristics, while Nicholas explained the functions and uses of the various vestments and linens present in the Chapel. We wish to thank everyone who attended this engaging workshop, and especially to thank Shannon, Sandra, and Nicholas for sharing their passion and knowledge.

The purchasing and arrangement of altar flowers this year has been taken on by Alexandra Rivero, with assistance from the Assistant Sacristan, Daniel Whitten. Except for the seasons of Advent and Lent, the altar has been adorned weekly with fresh flowers, and fresh roses accompany the two icons of the Blessed Virgin Mary each week as well. The flowers are purchased from Sea Blooms Florists. Sea Blooms is a local business, and is located at the Seaport Farmers Market. The Chapel has been blessed to build a relationship with this local business. Once they are removed from the Chapel space, the flowers are disposed of by environmentally conscious means, usually through composting.

The decorations for Harvest Sunday were also organized by Alexandra Rivero and Daniel Whitten, and were purchased from Sea Blooms and Noggin's Farm at the Seaport Farmer's Market. Pumpkins, gourds, squash, corn stalks, and flowers adorned the Chapel from Harvest Sunday, throughout the season until the approach of Advent. Once taken down, the edible food was donated to SAMS, and the non-edible material was composted. The hosting, set-up and clean-up of the Sunday coffee hour was completed through a joint effort between Clifford and Lucinda Lee and Veronica Curran. A special thanks to all who helped provide the baked goods from week to week.

The maintenance of the altar linens has been a struggle for the past two years as we have not had one person who could make this their sole responsibility. It is a time-consuming and endless task and we give a special thanks to Will Barton who organized people to take this on a month at a time and took it on himself when there was no one available. We also thanks Anne Saltzman and Mar-

go Pullen-Sly for being a constant support in this area and continuing to clean the main altar linen all year. We hope to find creative ways of dealing with this in the future.

The Warden's decorating party was organized by the Chapel Wardens with the support of members of the Altar Guild and George Cochrane.

A priority of the Chapel this year has been to order memorial gifts with the money that many gracious individuals have donated in memory of their loved ones. There has been a lot of money put aside for these types of purchases, but it takes a bit of extra initiative for the arrangements to be made. Thankfully, Nicholas Hatt and Shannon Parker Nicolle have managed to order a purple cope for this year and Veronica Curran took the lead in ordering a new paschal candle stand which will be assembled in time for the lighting of the new fire at the Easter Vigil.

Our hope is that we can continue to honour the donations that we have received and continue to order items that the Chapel needs in a timely manner. Some of the items that we hope to purchase include: black vestments, new curtains for behind the altar, brass candlesticks for the pews, icons for the altar and choir entrance, and a new icon stand.

We look forward now to Holy Week and palm cross making for Palm Sunday, the assembly of the altar of repose for Maundy Thursday and the Holy Saturday Chapel clean-up.

We thank George Cochrane, Chapel Artisan for his unfailing support of all of the endeavours of the altar guild, most notably for procuring greenery for the decorating party, bricks for the drying out of palms, and for his support in the service of Tenebrae and in the construction of the altar of repose during Holy Week. He is a great support in all sorts of odd jobs that are too plentiful to count! We also want to thank Veronica Curran and Meghan Kitt for their commitment to aid in the tasks ahead for Holy Week, we appreciate their efforts, and know that their thoughtful care will help shape our prayer during this time.

St. Thomas Aquinas Society

Prepared by Thomas McCallum, President

The Saint Thomas Aquinas Society is a student organization at King's College focused both on the understanding and enactment of traditional Christian worship. Membership includes, but is not restricted to, an Executive (President, Secretary, Treasurer), the Chapel Sacristan, the Altar Guild, the Servers' Guild and those who officiate at the Daily Office. The Society organizes 'quiet days' and 'teaching retreats' as part of its mandate to encourage intelligent and transformative liturgy. The Society promotes accessible participation in the ritual tradition of the Chapel, and

the exploration of the many layers of meaning of the Christian liturgy in the traditions of both West and East.

On behalf of STAS, Will Barton and Daniel Whitten effectively trained and educated this year's servers and participants in the Liturgy.

In September STAS host a potluck and workshop on how and why we pray the offices the way we do at the Chapel. Many important questions were raised and answered. Approximately twenty people were in attendance.

The Sub-Organist's Report

Prepared by Nico Veltmeyer, Sub-Organist

My time at the King's Chapel has been far from an ordinary education. Although I have become proficient on the organ by studying under and emulating Paul Halley, my development has been far from strictly a musical one: not simply learning how to perform music for the service but how to make music in service of the Divine. Weekly sessions on hymn selection with Fr. Thorne have led me to a deeper understanding of the role of music in worship, a deeply philosophical understanding for which I have admired Paul for many years. I have been learning how and why it is of utmost importance to choose and perform music inspired by interpretation of the parables of the Gospels and the symbology of the church year. This has also led to a

“What has been occurring in my soul is a recognition of my own ignorance, an appreciation of servitude, and in a word - humility.”

deeper appreciation of all aspects of worship in the Chapel. I began my studies with Paul in hopes of having some of his magic rub off on me, but I never thought that a new world of spiritual meaning would open up in the process. My time as organ scholar in the chapel cannot be summed up in the word 'apprenticeship' or 'education', and though I am at a loss for words, the only one that seems to remotely fit is 'conversion'. I went into this role, as anyone seeking leadership does, out of deep seated desire for self affirmation. What has been occurring in my soul is entirely the opposite: a recognition of my own ignorance, an appreciation of servitude, and in a word - humility.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship

Prepared by Allan Lensink, IVCF Worker, University of King's College

Inter-Varsity is a nondenominational campus ministry that is present on university campuses across Canada and around the world. It has also been at the University of King's College since 2011. Our purpose on campus is mainly to invite students to encounter Jesus in the study of the gospels, to offer hospitality and a welcoming community, and to help develop students as gifted and passionate Christian leaders.

As the establishment Inter-Varsity at King's College, the University Chapel has been a con-

stant source of encouragement and partnership. Father Thorne and the student leadership express a lot of encouragement and support to my work, they have offered support for students to do short-term missions with Inter-Varsity, and have provided opportunities for me to speak at Chapel services. Moreover, a number of students have become involved in both communities. The two ministries have a different style and focus, but we work together with a deep sense of mutual support and solidarity.

Sunday Morning Holy Communion

Prepared by the Rev'd Dr. Thomas Curran, Faculty Member in Holy Orders

It has been a great honour to assist in the Sunday morning worship in the King's College Chapel from Sunday September 8th in 2014 until the King's Encaenia 2015. I should like to underline the profound privilege of preaching to such a diverse and receptive congregation.

Three events need particularly to be highlighted:

1. The memorial service for Dora Kemp, beloved daughter of King's Inglis Professor Walter Kemp, on Saturday, November 15, 2014.
2. The Church Parade for HMCS Scotian on Sunday, December 7, 2014, with the special Advent anthem: "Adam lay Ybounden" (music by Peter Warlock).
3. It was a particular honour to welcome the Royal Commonwealth Society to our Sunday morning service on March 8, 2015, in the presence of The Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, who read the Queen's Commonwealth Message to the congregation. The music for this special service was the Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd.

The congregation which attends on Sunday mornings has provided me (and others) with an opportunity to live out the fullness of Christian life (in community). This spiritual vocation has been inexpressibly deepened by the musical efforts of Nico Veltmeyer, our organist, and the Sunday morning Choir, of which Nico is the director. Sunday morning worship is hugely enhanced by the army of volunteers who provide coffee in the SCR immediately following the service.

Please allow me to thank all members of the congregation through the naming of Veronica Curran, Jordan Draper, Cindy and Clifford Lee, Melissa LeGeyt, Stan and Ann Salsman, Verity Thompson, Daniel Whitten and, of course, Margo Pullen Sly. By identifying the few, I wish to express my profound gratitude to the many.

We cannot put into words sufficiently our ongoing debt to Fr Gary Thorne for his continued care of us.

Artisan's Report

Prepared by George Cochrane, Chapel Artisan

Writing about what I do is not something done easily; I make things which if successful should speak for themselves. To explain why a chapel might need an artisan to assist with design, while obvious to me, is best explained in the concept of aesthetic harmony. Things in a sacred space should not stand out from it as differing in style, size, proportion, or material. They should serve their function efficiently, but never seem merely expedient, never look cheap or make-do. There is a maxim "Only the best for The Best". This has been my goal for all ecclesiastical work.

In **1977** I was a NSCAD student living in Kings residence, having a limited role as a server and thurifer in the chapel. On the afternoon of Easter eve I had a call to please have a look at something in the Senior Common Room. The Paschal Candle had rolled off the table on which it was sitting after a rehearsal, awaiting its use in the vigil later that evening, and was broken into two pieces. Could I fix it? Having the tools and some skill in making models for lost wax casting, it was worth a try. Two hours later the very expensive candle was spliced back together and sitting between two rows of books covered by a spare credence table cloth and the mend was not obvious from a few feet away.

In **1978**, there was a change of Chaplain. There was a desire to satisfy the request for a Saturday "folk mass," a modern language liturgy to be celebrated facing the congregation. Such situations had been accommodated by pulling the altar out from the east wall to the edge of the footpace, but Fr. Bridge, not a small individual, was not comfortable with either the available space or the perceived irreverence of moving the principal altar. A free standing, movable side altar was wanted. I made a pine table with 5 crosses carved in the top. Linen altar cloth and frontal were made to fit by Sandra Thorne. This also served as a proper altar of repose, Mrs. Thorne making a blue dossal curtain for it in that location. It is still in use, at the Dalhousie Multi Faith Centre, and recently

repaired. The copper pipe which held the frontal went missing. Thumb tacks were a temporary fix but did not let the cloth hang properly. A new wooden dowel rod of the proper diameter and length worked better.

Also that year I made a copper liner for the thurible, which I cleaned, polished, and restrung on its chains so it would function correctly. Somehow I was named "artist in residence", but the residence was to be renovated as a home for Kings students. Off campus, I continued with occasional repairs, the foot of a chalice, some brass, copper candle holders. There was a crucifix found in the renovation of St. Paul's church hall. I stripped many layers of old paint, then made a stable (wide) base for it to sit on a slightly sloping surface, and a pair of wooden candlesticks with pewter bobeches (wax drip pans). The crucifix sits on the organ pipe screen except when it is wanted, but the candlesticks have vanished.

1981 went to study in US. Back **1987**. Was occasionally called in to repair and clean thurible and teach how to efficiently clean and polish metal.

During the chaplaincy of Dr. Paul Friesan, was called to repair the large silver chalice which was somehow broken by visiting clergy during a summer wedding. Also gave occasional advice on conservation and care of many holdings

With new chaplain Dr. Thorne in **2006**, made new Paschal candle numbers, cross, wax nails, and symbols in metal, which continue in use to present.

2007 Designed new arrangement of altar of repose using hardware from my collection to provide a hanging sacrament light and the "20 or more lights on and about the altar where reserved sacrament is kept". Made Jacobian frontal, acquired new dossal, stands for arrangement of flowers and potted plants. More recently acquired lanterns to rationalize placement of large pavement standards during Tridieum.

2008 Garland and other advent greens redesigned. Taught appropriate use of fir, pine, holly, and cedar in making advent wreath. Taught making of garland. Instituted misting to help keep indoor greens moist to some limited success. Assisted with removal at end of term.

2012 Outdoor garland added. Much involvement of students and choir members. Greenery activity continues to present.

2011 Tenebrae hearse designed, fabricated, and modified to have broad heavy base for stability if used on carpeted area.

2012 Acquisition of wooden crucifix for Good Friday liturgy.

Designed and made black cover for stepladder/pedestal and black veil for crucifix.

Acquisition, modification, and installation of "poor box" for miscellaneous contributions, recently broken and repaired.

Acquisition of memorial gift of new holy water stoup to replace very small one, broken and not able to be repaired.

2013 Repair of processional cross staff, no more Mr. Wobbly.

Consulted textile experts re: condition of Chaplain's blue cope. Had to advise its retirement or immediate repair due to "silk shock" a form of microscopic deterioration in threads which requires expert and expensive conservation.

Designed and made black cope for Good Friday liturgy, all Souls', and requiem use.

2014 Measured and advised for correct fit in acquisition of altar linens.

Repaired and modified silver candlesticks to simplify candle fitting.

2015 Advised on acquisition of new Paschal candlestick

Design and fabricate black high mass vestments (in progress)...

If the list seems drab and endless, you get the point. Nonetheless, I hope that you also get the other point: that it is a joy to engage in the simplicity of the craft of 'creating and maintaining', making it possible for the performance of, and participation in, the ineffable mysteries of our Redemption.

The Intercessor's Report

Prepared by Zachary Hansen, Intercessor

Even though the role of prayer in the life of the average individual in our culture seems to be ever decreasing, most of the world still depends on some form of prayer to sustain their life. This commitment to prayer, the desire for solace and something divine, still remains true to people here in Canada, in Nova Scotia, and especially in our university. Prayers of intercession, in my role, encompassed praying for the sick, the troubled, the sorrowful, and anybody in need of prayer and also those departed from this life, on behalf of their family and friends.

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This "position" has provided a centering role in my life at King's. But more importantly, to be entrusted with what all people ultimately hold most dear, their family and friends, was truly, I hope I can say, a humbling experience. St. John Chrysostom wrote: "Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness." I hope I can say that in a way I acted in the place of this refuge, foundation, source, and protection for those in our community.

Chapel Administrators' Report

Prepared by Natasha Conde & Mellisa Le Geyt, Chapel Administrators

This year the Chapel Administrator position was concretely outlined as per the lessons learned from the 2013-2014 academic year: The position is described as the following:

“Under the direction of the Chaplain, the Chapel Administrator oversees the Chapel’s finances and communicates with the various Administrative Offices in the University, particularly the Bursar’s Office. The Chapel Administrator provides minimal administrative support to the Chaplain and holds regular office hours. He or she encourages and supports the student Chapel Officers in their various responsibilities.”

The Chapel Administrator position was filled by two individuals this year, both of whom have filed reports.

Natash Conde (Chapel Administrator, May 2014 - December 2014):

During my short term as Chapel Administrator in 2014 I witnessed a tremendous amount of time and energy being put into the various activities and services that uphold the life of the chapel community. A small but sturdy team of volunteers and executives are responsible for organizing major events that benefit the wider King’s community. From the Chapel Concert Series and Retreats to Quiet Days and Lessons and Carols the chapel sees thousands of students coming through its doors. As someone who only decided to become a part of the Chapel community when I returned to King’s as a don, I have recognized in hindsight how much richer my experience as an undergraduate student would have been had I known what the chapel was truly about. It is a place of belonging. With every activity that gets organized there is hope amongst the coordinators that space will be created for as many as who wish to attend. From year to year, the story is the same: while retreats and major services such as the Eas-

ter Vigil make room for hundreds of participants, daily worshipers are at a minimum. One must ask “why” given the fact that in each circumstance what is offered is the same. Despite how and to what extent one chooses to engage in the Chapel, it is always present on campus as a place of truth, respite and contemplation. I look forward to returning to my role as Chapel administrator in May and spending time coordinating weddings and organizing financial plans for the fall. It is my hope that the Chapel will remain a vibrant part of King’s for years to come. In order for this to be a reality, the broader King’s community must recognize the extent to which the life of the chapel is upheld by volunteers and students. The majority of our budget goes not toward the hard-working individuals who give life to the chapel but towards student-centered events that directly impact the overall value of the “student experience.”

Melissa Le Geyt (Chapel Administrator January 2015 - April 2015):

I took over the Chapel Administrator position from Natasha in January, after having been peripherally involved in the Chapel throughout my undergraduate degree and donship. The Administrator has the unique position of having a foot planted in both the University Administration and the Chapel community. This ensures that the Chapel has an advocate within the Administration, and that that the workings and finances of the Chapel are clear and aligned with University protocol. This bridge has been missing in the past and is the value of the administrator’s role.

As the position is still new, there are still some kinks to work out in regards to what is and is not the responsibility of the Chapel Administrator. Unlike the Chaplain’s Assistant position from years past, the Chapel Administrator has clearly defined roles and tasks. I believe that as the community continues to work with the Ad-

ministrator, the role will be better understood and the Chapel's administrative operations will continue to improve.

Having been a part of the community in a variety of small ways for six years, I have seen the good work that the Chapel does. It contributes to the lives of all students in an enormous way, and welcomes everyone to the community, regardless of faith or background. This is in part due to the vision of Father Thorne, and the many hours that

he gives to the community. The beautiful realities of the Chapel community and the work it does continue to be a mystery for many people at the University, and this results in misunderstandings and misconceptions. It is important that the value of the Chapel be understood and its contributions to student life be acknowledged. This will ensure that the Chapel can continue its mission of creating a community for all students, staff, and the community at large.

Website Report

Prepared by Mellisa Le Geyt, Website Manager

In September 2014, I was asked to continue as website administrator for the year, updating, maintaining, and continuing to build the Chapel website, kingschapel.ca. The site had been redesigned in 2013 to accommodate both a higher level of web content and traffic. It is designed to be the go-to place for all static and new information pertaining to the Chapel, including service schedules, events, general Chapel information, photo galleries, event registrations, reflections, and other resources. It is also meant to accurately represent the spirit of the Chapel online, and showcase what the community is up to.

After a full year of the site in its new form, it seems to be working very well. The site averages around 500 visitors a month, with significant increases when forms, photos and news are posted regularly. Having one central location for all information has ensured that everyone has the same correct and relevant info, that our community can stay well connected, and that there is a platform with which to disseminate information far and wide.

Regular site updates are dependent on new resources and news being passed along in a timely fashion. It worked very well to have a point person (this year, Veronica Curran) to ensure that this was done. The other on-going challenge is to be diligent in making sure kingschapel.ca is the 'go-to' place for info; it easy to revert to using facebook or other mediums to pass along info and content. The site still has a lot of potential in terms of content to be added, especially in the 'Resource' section. Further building of the site would mean some work by the Chapel leadership to gather content, and to ensure that a clear vision is communicated with the current Website Administrator.

Kingschapel.ca has proven to be an effective way of extending the Chapel community, both in terms of informing new friends and keeping old friends in the loop. It is an easy resource both to use and to build, and has a lot of potential for future development.

Thank you to all who contributed to its success this year.



Winter retreat at Mersey River. Photo: Jesse Blackwood

