

MAGIS

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST. BONAVENTURE'S COLLEGE

10 ALUMNI *under 35* TO WATCH



DANIEL ALBRECHTSONS '07 / LESLEY BAUTISTA '05 / MAURA BRENNAN '13 / SHAREE BURRY '15 / MARIA CARROLL '14
SISTER JULIA LANNON '11 / KIERAN O'CONNELL '10 / MICHAEL O'KEEFE '13 / JEFF SIMMS '10 / PATRICK THOMPSON '10

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WINTER 2017

St. Bonaventure's College

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St. Bon's Mission

St. Bonaventure's College is an independent K-12 Catholic school in the Jesuit tradition with a respectful and diverse community offering a progressive curriculum aimed at creating a safe and challenging educational experience. The school is focused on forming confident men and women of competence, conscience, compassion and commitment.

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ST. BONAVENTURE'S
COLLEGE



Mr. McGrath with Michael O'Keefe '13 at the 2016 Alumni Christmas Social

PROFILES *in* SERVICE

BY TOM MCGRATH, PRESIDENT

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF ALL St. Bonaventure's College graduates, "Men and Women for and with Others." People who have by their personal example been role models in every facet of society. Men and women who demonstrate each day by their actions, competence, conscience, compassion and commitment to others.

This issue of Magis focusses on profiling for you ten of our graduates under the age of thirty-five to watch in the future. The ten graduates we've selected are examples of the many graduates who are and will continue to make a difference in their communities. These are but ten of many! And secondly, we highlight these graduates to show what they've done to date and examine the potential each of them possesses for future contributions to society.

As you read through these profiles you will see the many common characteristics of these outstanding graduates. Each successful profile is weaved around the core Ignatian value of "Men and Women for and with Others." They are living this ideal in their daily lives and the world is a better place because of it. They have taken the the values of the Gospel and profoundly live a life in service.

I especially would like to thank all of the writers for their contribution to this edition of MAGIS. They have taken this on in addition to their busy teaching and administrative duties.

I hope you are as inspired by these young graduates, as I am.

LIVING LIFE *for* OTHERS

Daniel Albrechtsons '07

BY MELISSA FOLLETT, GRADE 4 TEACHER & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ASSISTANT

IT WAS AT THE START OF GRADE 7 that Dr. Daniel Albrechtsons '07 joined the St. Bonaventure's College community. Since that time he has grown into a successful young man with many aspirations and much success.

While at St. Bon's, Daniel was involved in numerous activities. He played the tuba in the band program and was involved in numerous musicals and dramas. He has many fond memories of his experiences at concerts, plays, and oratoricals. *The Adagio for Strings* by Samuel Barber will always evoke memories of the time he dressed as a soldier for the Remembrance Day pageant in Grade 9. He developed a lifelong love of music that he carries with him.

Daniel has expressed gratitude for the teachers at St. Bon's who challenged him to think deeper, read closer, and recognize the value of hard work. He even developed an appreciation for math that he credits to his great teachers. He learned during his time here the importance of living life for others that he kept close to him when choosing his future career.

Upon graduation in 2007, Daniel left Newfoundland and moved to the bustling city of Montreal to attend McGill University, where he studied Neuroscience and English Literature. He found this experience challenging yet amazing. While there he decided to pursue a career in medicine. He moved back to Newfoundland to attend medical school at Memorial University. He enjoyed learning about all fields of medicine but had particular interest in Pediatrics. He has since graduated from medical school and has followed his dreams, now completing a residency in general pediatrics at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

The environment at St. Bon's had influence on Daniel when choosing to pursue a helping profession. While attending our school Daniel always knew he wanted to do something with his life that would benefit others. He has gone on to continue with a career in service, and on that journey, he has also continued with charitable endeavors. Work such as volunteering with the Gateway program, an initiative at the Association for New Canadians, allowed him to work with newcomers, many who have lived through traumatic experiences, as a medical student,



Daniel Albrechtson '07 (personal photo)

providing care for these vulnerable individuals.

It is clear that Daniel Albrechtsons has demonstrated his drive for helping others. He is a great example of "Men and Women For and With Others". He values the education he received while at St. Bon's and has taken what he learned and used it for betterment of our world. It is admirable how Daniel has used his gifts and talents to help others, just as St. Bon's wishes to instill in all their students.

To future students, Daniel advocates the importance of getting involved in something at school besides academics. New talents may be discovered, time management skills will be developed, and de-stressing will allow you to be good to yourself as you go about your busy days. The dedication and passion Daniel witnessed from his teachers are examples he hopes to carry with him as he completes his training as a physician. He is truly a remarkable young man, with a bright future ahead of him and will help many families and children along the way.

WHAT'S TRULY IMPORTANT

Lesley Bautista '05

BY JESSICA WHALEN '04, ALUMNI AFFAIRS OFFICER

DR. LESLEY BAUTISTA '05 was in grade 7 when St. Bon's reopened its doors as the Jesuit institution it is today and she feels lucky to have had the opportunity to watch St. Bon's grow over the years. Though Lesley loved seeing the Chapel restored while she was a student, she says "St. Bon's did not only grow structurally, but most importantly it became a community". Lesley fondly remembers that there was a special connection between teachers and students and everyone knew the parent volunteers who were constantly helping with whatever the school needed.

While at St. Bon's, Lesley felt she had the opportunity to be involved in anything she wanted – band, soccer, track, student council, school Masses, and volunteer work. Her favourite memories include winning her last high school soccer game - the St. Bon's senior girls over came the strong Gonzaga senior girls. "It couldn't have ended more perfectly", she says. Lesley went on to break the Holy Cross record in pole vault in 2009 and won the New England Championships the same year.

Lesley was awarded the Whealan-O'Reilly Scholarship, which took her to College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. Lesley chose the College of the Holy Cross because she wanted to continue her formation as a woman for others and knew a Jesuit university would help her do just that.

Lesley went on to help with many charitable organizations and initiatives while at Holy Cross, medical school and now during her residency at Memorial University in anaesthesiology. This work, including travelling to Haiti as part of Team Broken Earth, contributed to Lesley being named the 2017 recipient of the St. Bonaventure's College Magis Award for Young Alumni.

To current St. Bon's students, Lesley says: "With social media promoting a self-centred world of selfies, number of likes and promoting our own accomplishments, I think it's easy to get wrapped up in our own lives and forget what's truly important.

You don't have to go to Kenya or Haiti to make a difference in someone's life or learn about a world outside of yours. I think some of my most rewarding moments in medicine have been



Lesley Bautista '05 (photo by Krista Cardwell)

when I've taken extra time to listen or explain something to a patient and have been able to make their experience better because of it. You'll rarely see pictures of these less glamorous moments, but in these moments you are still being a man or woman for and with others."

GETTING INVOLVED; GIVING BACK *Maura Brennan '13*

BY KRISTA CARDWELL, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

THE PHRASE “MEN AND WOMEN FOR AND WITH OTHERS”

is at the core of Jesuit education. So it is not surprising that when Maura Brennan '13 was asked “What did you take away from your time at St. Bon’s?” her immediate response was “being a person for others.” For Maura this has become a phrase that is at the core of who she is, and is evident in the choices she has made since she graduated from St. Bon’s.

After graduating from St. Bon’s in 2013, Maura attended St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Human Nutrition) this past May. Attending St. Francis Xavier meant that Maura participated in Service Learning as part of her undergraduate program. Service learning combines academic study while connecting students with places that need support in their community. During her four years, Maura participated in several projects that gave back to her community; she volunteered at the Student Food Bank in between classes, she was a member of the Enactus team (acting as President during her third and fourth year) during which time the team helped grow the campus consignment store and the greenhouse program, where all vegetables go to the student food bank. She also travelled to Alabama to work with Habitat for Humanity, an organization that helps build and rehabilitate safe, decent and affordable homes for low income families.

Maura also volunteered at the L’Arche community in Antigonish during her undergraduate program. L’Arche is an organization where people who have intellectual disabilities and those who come to assist, share life and daytime activities together in family-like settings that are integrated into local neighbourhoods. While in university she helped run events or cooking classes as a volunteer, and with the Enactus team ran Christmas fundraisers for L’Arche, including setting up an art show where they would sell calendars and Christmas cards. Now living in Halifax as she completes a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Fine Art-Printmaking at NSCAD University, Maura works as a casual assistant at the Halifax L’Arche community. As a casual assistant, she works with core members, either as a group or one-on-one, to help support them. She also participates in the different events that are held during the week. One of the weekly events she participates in is the community



Maura Brennan '13 (personal photo)

prayer on Tuesdays where they reflect on the week. For Maura L’Arche has become more than a place where she volunteers or works, for her “L’Arche is like my second family. When you go there it feels like you are visiting family.”

Maura credits her time at St. Bon’s for encouraging her to help where she can in her community, “When you leave St. Bon’s you feel like you are missing something if you aren’t helping the community in some way.” Maura encourages current students to get involved because “getting involved is what has stuck with me the most since I left.” For Maura, getting involved is how she gives back to the community, and lives the words “Men and Women For and With Others.”

CALLED *to* SERVE

Sharee Burry '15

BY TOM MCGRATH, PRESIDENT

SHAREE BURRY '15 IS A LIFER. By her own admission, she's a St. Bon's girl through and through. Having attended the school on the hill all but one of her thirteen years of school, she's a true woman for and with others. For her, St. Bon's has always meant community. As she says, "I went to public school for one year and I didn't get that feeling there. Being at St. Bon's was somewhere you could fit in and find friends really easily."

While in tenth grade, Burry was recognized with a \$38,500 CIBC Scholarship. In addition to the scholarship, CIBC paid her to work for six summers at a non-profit. She chose to work with YMCA and later The Gathering Place. She has one more year of summer employment.

During eleventh grade, while most students enjoyed lunch, studied or played on campus, Sharee snuck away to serve meals to clients at The Gathering Place. This service went on for some time before a teacher realized Sharee was returning to school a little late each day. Reluctant to disclose her lunch hour service, and under threat of disciplinary action, she finally broke down and confessed she was secretly serving the homeless. "I did not acknowledge my work because I felt a call to serve, not to seek reward or praise. I just wanted to make a difference."

She fondly recalls her time at St. Bon's as a place where, "Family groups were very important. I remember when I was in kindergarten, I would always look up to the grade twelve students as role models. I knew at some point I was going to be in that leadership, mentoring role."

"I believe I took from St. Bon's the whole idea of being men and women for and with others. I make sure I give my time back to the community, whether it's going to a senior home and talking to a resident who is all by themselves or going to The Gathering Place and helping prepare and serve meals to the homeless." Sharee has been doing both for five years, beginning in tenth grade and continuing to the present day. She visits a senior at St. Patrick's Mercy Home, once a week. The resident has no family and no visitors. Sharee spends time praying the Rosary and helping



Sharee Burry '15 (photo by Krista Cardwell)

the resident attend Mass. "I do what I can to make her more comfortable and for her to know that someone cares," said Burry.

A career goal for Sharee has been to pursue nursing as a vocation. She's just begun the program at the Center for Nursing Studies. She sees it as a continuation of her formative years of service to others and care for the vulnerable. Beginning with her involvement as a little sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters, she's always been drawn to building long-lasting personal relationships through service to others. She's just received notification she is the recipient of the Dora T. Rowe Memorial Award in Nursing given to a student who demonstrates a strong history of community service.

"St. Bon's has taught me there are so many ways you can help the community, you don't have to go away and build a house. Little things make a big difference," Burry concludes.

ROLE MODEL ON *and* OFF THE COURT *Maria Carroll '14*

BY TOMMY CONNORS, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

“MARIA CARROLL IS THE KIND OF PLAYER that championship teams are built around”. Those were the wise words from Mark Forward, Coach of the Mount Saint Vincent Women’s Basketball team shortly after Maria came to MSVU to play on the varsity women’s team in 2014. Not only the type of basketball player that comes around every so often, but the kind of person who is the definition of being a Woman for Others. The kind of young woman who has grown up and was educated in a school where encouraging students to live the Magis was as normal as Math classes or Public Speaking. Where learning to put the needs of another ahead of your own was something everybody did on a daily basis.

While at St. Bon’s, Maria was as iconic an athlete as there could be. From Cross Country and Soccer to Ultimate Frisbee and Hockey to both boys’ and girls’ basketball teams, Maria was the kind of athlete that young girls looked up to. She excelled at every sport she put her mind to, embodied the notion of sportsmanship and could hold her own playing against bigger and stronger opponents on any playing field. Maria helped to break down barriers of girls playing on boys’ teams and was a pioneer in enriching the experience for future female athletes coming up through the school. “Not always having a girls’ team (at St. Bon’s) made me see basketball fade away in my life but being able to play with the boys kept basketball in my life and has allowed me to thrive in university”. Most recently, Maria was a key element on the 2013-2014 St. Bon’s Boys Provincial Basketball championship team and the 2014 Sr high Ultimate Frisbee provincial championship. She also captained the 2013 Newfoundland and Labrador Women’s basketball team at Canada Games in Quebec.

Outside of Athletics, Maria found herself engulfed in the St. Bon’s experience. She was a member of the student council as the Co-President in 2013 and the Athletic Rep in 2014, choir, band and helped with social justice initiatives within the school. Maria took a lead role in her Sr high years within Family Groups and she “Strongly believes Family Groups help form older students into men and women for others...putting their needs before your own is a real-life scenario.” Partaking



Maria Carroll '14 (personal photo)

in everything St. Bon’s has to offer has given Maria many opportunities in life and instilled the confidence in her to be a young, prominent woman ready to take on the world. She understands the significance of seizing every opportunity and the importance of being socially just.

Maria is currently in her fourth year of eligibility at Mount Saint Vincent University pursuing a Bachelor of Public Relations. She is a member of the Student Athlete Mental Health Initiative on campus and has represented her school at the CCAA National Championship in Collegiate level basketball. She has won the MSVU coaches award in her Freshman (2014-2015) and Junior (2016-2017) years. She was named ACAA all conference All-Star, the MSVU Dyrick McDermott endowed leadership award and is currently the captain on the MSVU women’s basketball team. Maria is set to graduate in Fall 2018.

A LIFE *of* LOVING SERVICE

Sister Julia Lannon '11

BY BRAD GLYNN, DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

IT IS NOT COMMON to hear of a young person answering the call to religious life in 2017, but that's exactly what Sister Julia Lannon '11 is doing in her work with the sisters of the Queenship of Mary. At a retreat in 2014 that was offered by their co-founder, Mother Mary Bernadette, Sister Julia heard the call and answered, she says, "I wanted to give my life to Christ and His Church, and to serve all His brothers and sisters in the world."

Sister Julia, who currently lives just outside of Ottawa, serves the Lord joyfully by helping her fellow sisters to feed the poorest of the poor, and by offering witness at local Diocesan events in the greater Ottawa area. The charism of her order is to, "Love with the heart of Mary", and Sister Julia believes that half of her ministry is simply being present to offer a loving example of the Church in the world.

Although her call to the religious life occurred after her time at St. Bon's, Sister Juila says, "my 2 years at St. Bon's were a launching pad into a life of loving service, because there I learned that my gifts were not for myself, they are for one another. The importance of retreat experiences and the witness that teachers give to students were highlights that Sister Julia feels helped her better understand her call to service in the Church.

When asked what she would tell students currently attending St. Bon's, her advice was simple, "Remember, we love because Christ loved first, and that He must remain at the centre of our lives for us to truly accomplish our purpose."



Sister Julia Lannon '11 (personal photo)



Sister Julia serving in the community (personal photo)

IMPROVING *the* COMMUNITY

Kieran O'Connell '10

BY DAVID MARTINO, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL (STUDENTS)

ON A COOL, WET SEPTEMBER DAY, I meet with Kieran at The Rooms for lunch to chat about his experiences at St. Bon's, and how he feels they influenced the trajectory of his work and life. Here is an excerpt of that conversation.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR MEMORIES OF ST. BON'S?

Everybody had a lot of fun, everyday no matter what. I started in grade 9, stayed until grade 12, and I would just say academically it was phenomenal. You have a better chance to do artistic endeavours, being part of the band. Overall a lot of fun and a lot of laughter.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR TAKEAWAYS FROM ST. BON'S?

I took away more respect for theology and philosophy, and just more for academics generally. I was never great at Math or Science, so I just figured I wasn't good at school, which is what you're brought up to believe in our culture, to equate those disciplines with 'success.' But what I learned at St. Bon's about Plato, about the idea of the Forms, about Descartes, about Literature and the Renaissance (learning about what people believed as part of learning about the Literature of a period), helped me understand that I was an academic, that while I didn't enjoy some disciplines, the financially lucrative studies let's say (laughter), I did enjoy and want to learn.

TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO SINCE LEAVING ST. BON'S.

Since leaving I completed a double major in Communications and English at Memorial University. A position came open at The Gathering Place. I think they needed someone right away, it wasn't a lengthy application process, it felt like, "If you can, come to work tomorrow," kind of thing. They needed someone for five weeks, so it wasn't supposed to be permanent or anything. And by that point I had already found another job, and even though I felt like I couldn't turn down a fulltime job for five weeks of work, I did. And The Gathering Place kept me



Kieran O'Connell '10 (personal photo)

on. And to this day I work as an advocate for underserved and marginalized people. And that's where I am today.

IN WHAT WAY, DO YOU SEE ST. BON'S AS "FORMING MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS?"

Oh yeah. I mean, in sending students over to prepare breakfast on Wednesdays one thing that they are doing for the community is ensuring that people get to eat. I'm not overstating this – on Wednesdays because of that breakfast program, people get to eat twice that day – that's massive in the lives of people who become accustomed to eating once a day. I don't know if it's ever been framed that way to the students, but what they are doing is literally enabling people to eat, to come together and trust that there is an opportunity for them to have a place that will support their lives, their living. This is so important. In many schools nobody ever tells you that, much less create an opportunity for you to experience yourself actually doing something for and with someone else, someone outside of the world you would normally circulate within. You know, at St. Bon's it's always a part of the conversation, social justice is on the tip of the tongue, whether you call it that or not; improving the community is always a part of what it means to 'be there.'

Kieran is preparing for the LSAT and applying for Law School so that he can do more as an advocate for the vulnerable in the community.

ACCEPTING *the* CHALLENGE

Michael O’Keefe ‘13

BY KRISTA CARDWELL, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

WHEN LOOKING BACK AT HIS 13 YEARS spent at St. Bonaventure’s College, Michael O’Keefe ’13 credits the school for helping to shape him – “The person I am today, all aspects of my life, were shaped in some way by my time at St. Bon’s – to always be open when encountering new people, tackling challenges, pursuing new goals.”

Michael headed to Memorial University after graduating from St. Bon’s, as a MUN Alumni Scholar. Michael’s love of music, which he developed during his time at St. Bon’s through his involvement with the Music Program, has led him to pursue a Bachelor of Music degree with a double major in Trumpet Performance and Musicology. Michael has also been busy performing with several ensembles at the School of Music. He is currently a member of the Chamber Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, and is a founding member of the MUN Trumpet Ensemble. He also has been a member of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra since 2016.

Michael has been making the most of his time at Memorial University by taking on several leadership roles. He has served on the Senate of Memorial University and the Memorial University Students’ Union Board of Directors since 2014. In these roles, he has served on the Search Committee for the Dean of the School of Music, the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Reform and the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonials. Because of this work, he had the opportunity to represent the University nationally at the Universities Canada Converge 2017 conference to discuss what Canada can become in the next 50 years. He was also selected as one of 10 Canadian and 10 American university students to attend the Fulbright Canada Youth Institute on Canada in the World and is currently co-authoring a publication on the future of Canadian foreign policy and Canada-US relations.

Michael has also made a point to continue the St. Bon’s tradition of being (removed the “a”) Men and Women for Others. “The emphasis at St. Bon’s of being a Man or Woman for Others and being engaged in service is instilled in you at a really young age. It’s a really important part of everyone’s life who graduates from St. Bon’s.” Michael volunteers weekly at St. Patrick’s Mercy Home, and has taken two humanitarian trips, one to Haiti and one to the



Michael O’Keefe ‘13 (photo by Rich Blenkinsopp)

Dominican Republic. His work as a Research Assistant with Dr. Jane Gosine also illustrates his commitment to being a Man for Others. The projects he has worked on focus on creating inclusive musical spaces for vulnerable members of the community to improve their health and quality of life.

“Keep putting yourself in the right places.” This is advice that Michael would give to the current students of St. Bonaventure’s College, and was advice given to him by one of the administrators at Memorial University. For Michael, it means “opportunity breeds opportunities – don’t hesitate to say yes to things even if they feel out of your comfort zone.” In the four years since Michael graduated from St. Bon’s, that is exactly what he has done, and it has paid off. Shortly after Michael was interviewed for this piece, he was named the 2018 Rhodes Scholar-Elect for Newfoundland and Labrador. After graduating from Memorial University this spring, he will head to the University of Oxford to pursue graduate studies in music and public policy.

ACTOR, SINGER, COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Jeff Simms '10

BY ANNETTE MALLAY, PRINCIPAL

ON A SUNNY AFTERNOON IN THE ROOMS CAFÉ, I had the pleasure of interviewing Jeff Simms, Class of 2010. Jeff was an extraordinarily talented student who excelled at sport and music. He was a man for others and shared his time and talents with our school community but also through his outreach at MacMorran Centre.

Jeff describes his experience at St. Bon's as having so much depth and he found it hard to pinpoint one experience because he attended the college from grades 3-12. He found it necessary to sum it up in little bits. He called it a grooming experience and a molding place. He describes the experience as having freedom to be who you are and want to be and then become who you need to be. He says there are ups and downs going to a private school but when it comes down to making the decision to go to another school or stay at St. Bon's, it did not add up or make sense to go somewhere else.

His fondest memories at St. Bon's besides toilet papering trees in Europe, are hanging out with his friends and recounting the many memories that made St. Bon's. He could not pinpoint just one, there were so many. He did take away being someone for others. He always looked for grand gestures to make a difference and never quite found the satisfaction in anything he did because once he graduated he realized it had nothing to do with grand gestures and all to do with the little daily things that you do to be a person for others. "It is little things that add up to help shape what St. Bon's sets out to do in shaping students. St. Bon's is the big grand thing that releases all these people to go out and do the little gestures in our world to make the difference and gives an aura of greatness."

As an actor and performer, St. Bon's impacted Jeff's career path by preparing him through the world renowned music program and working under Kellie Walsh, Vicenza Etchegary and Brenda Gatherall. He could not express his gratitude enough for what they gave him. He was able to graduate from the MUN School of Music and even though the school did not have an acting program, because he was able to be himself and foster his gifts and talents, he is a successful performer today.



Jeff Simms '10 (personal photo)

It opened him up to be an actor and enable him to connect to his characters.

Since graduation, Jeff has continued his service work. When he was in high school he volunteered as a tutor at MacMorran Centre and the Gathering Place. Once he graduated Jeff worked at the MacMorran Centre summer camp and this led to a position as Program Coordinator of the tutoring program. He also ran the after-school programs and coordinated and created the music programs.

His advice for students at St. Bon's, today is, "do not stop trying and seek the opportunities that are presented. People are people and you cannot be selfish, you have to be a person for others. You can seek for fame and fortune, there are things that you can strive for but ultimately, if you are not helping the world or someone else, there is no point seeking it."

Presently, Jeff is portraying Thomas Nangle in the production "Call to Arms". A quite fitting role for Jeff. Thomas was a soldier priest who was a graduate of St. Bon's. Nangle excelled at sport and was a true man for others. Jeff certainly can attest to being a person for others from his commitment to Christian service, Kairos retreat leadership and his athletic successes with basketball.

LEARNING *to* LEAD

Patrick Thompson '10

BY JESSICA WHALEN, ALUMNI AFFAIRS OFFICER

PATRICK (PADDY) THOMPSON places high value on the time he spent at St. Bonaventure's College. Paddy attributes many of his leadership skills to his involvement in various school programs and initiatives.

While at St. Bon's, Paddy was a member of the Student Council, an enthusiastic retreat leader, a member of the hockey program and a saxophone player for the St. Bonaventure's College Wind Ensemble. Paddy was a founding member of the successful St. Bon's Gardening Program, which has now grown to include a newly built greenhouse in conjunction with The Gathering Place, a not for profit organization dedicated to providing various services to the marginalized in St. John's.

After being involved in many service initiatives at St. Bon's, such as volunteering at The Gathering Place, Paddy continued his work for and with others. He spent several summers working at the Jesuit Summer Camp Ekon on Lake Joseph, Ontario and spent a year working at the LArche community in Antigonish, NS.

LArche International works to provide persons with intellectual disabilities the dignity of being part of a community through meaningful work, decision-making and various activities. Paddy says, "I believe St. Bon's offers an education that stresses the importance of service to others. The work done by sending students to The Gathering Place as well as school retreats offers the students a unique experience to explore the many ways they can be men and women for others". Though Paddy no longer lives in St. John's, he still contributes his time to The Gathering Place whenever he is able.

Paddy is currently working towards a career as a Ship's Officer by working aboard vessels sailing the Canadian Arctic. Of the various skills that Paddy attributes to his time at St. Bon's, he says "The leadership skills that I developed at St. Bon's have become invaluable in my current career path. As an Officer on a ship, you work in a very dynamic environment. Good communication and leadership skills are essential to ensure that all work is carried out safely and efficiently."



Patrick (Paddy) Thompson '10 (personal photo)

Paddy has some advice for the current students of St. Bon's: get involved. He says, "There are many wonderful opportunities available at the school and it's the students' participation that makes St. Bon's that much more special."

ENRICHING *and* INSPIRING LIVES

Teacher Kathy Coffin

BY TOM MCGRATH, PRESIDENT

TEACHER EXTRAORDINAIRE, KATHY COFFIN was one of the first employees of St. Bon's when it reopened in 1999 and she's been making a difference in the lives of young students everyday since then. Colleagues describe Kathy as the "go to" person for just about everything. She is a huge cheerleader for the school, always willing to pitch in and never afraid to try new things. She's been enriching and inspiring students, teachers and parents for years, with no less enthusiasm since the day she started. I posed these questions to Kathy:

YOU'VE BEEN HERE SINCE 1999. WHAT CHANGES HAVE YOU SEEN IN THE SCHOOL?

There have been so many changes throughout the years at St. Bon's. Back in 1999, when we opened, we were a single stream, K-9 school. We grew until we became a K-12 school and then began the process of adding a second stream in many grades. With these changes came the need for expanded facilities and more teaching staff to join us in fulfilling our mission. We've had many great teachers join our fantastic team along the way. There have been so many improvements in the facilities. The course offerings have changed and expanded as we enhance, enrich, and extend the curriculum for our students. The Christian Service program has flourished and our students have become very active in our community, volunteering at the Gathering Place, MacMorran Community Centre, and Computers for Seniors. Our students are taking advantage of travel opportunities that allow them to interact with students from other Jesuit schools. This year, we will see our first service trip to El Salvador.

FOR YOU, WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE "JESUIT EDUCATED"?

I think the first thing that comes to mind is the "Grad at Grad". We hope that at graduation, our students are open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice. The goal is for them to become men and women for and with others who become agents of change in our world.



Kathy Coffin

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY AT ST. BON'S?

There are so many great memories here. In 2011, seeing my first group of Grade One students graduate is a special one. It's a pretty unique thing to experience as a primary teacher. Most times, when you teach younger students, they move on to other schools, sometimes several times, before they graduate. You lose track of them over the years. Here, we get the privilege of being able to be part of their education all the way through and watch them grow to become wonderful men and women, ready to take on the challenges of the world.

WHO INSPIRES YOU AND WHY?

I would have to say my parents inspire me. They are such a huge part of my life. They both worked hard to provide me and my brothers with a great childhood. They are a wonderful example of love, commitment, and the importance of family. They'll be married 50 years next summer and family is everything to them. They're still chasing us around and their five grandchildren too. Whether it's a forgotten lunch, an instrument, or someone needing to be dropped off or picked up, they're there. Nobody can beat Nan and Pop!

NOMINATE A DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD

St. Bonaventure's College's Alumnus of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding graduate whose contributions have notably improved both their profession and community.

The recipient is a well-rounded person who is intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving and committed to justice in the generous service to the people of God.

They enrich the lives of others through their leadership, shared knowledge, creativity and innovation and they inspire alumni, students, faculty and staff.

PAST ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

2017 – Mr. Kevin Breen '62
2016 – Mr. Kevin Keough '60
2015 – Mr. Gary Mooney '62
2014 – Dr. Dennis Furlong '62
2013 – Mr. Daniel E. Williams '62
2012 – The Most Reverend William Carew '40
2011 – Dr. Paul O'Neill '48
2010 – Dr. John Lewis '41
2009 – Mr. Alec Henley '41

MAGIS AWARD FOR YOUNG ALUMNI

The Magis Award for Young Alumni honours a young alumnus with a record of extraordinary professional, community or academic achievement.

The recipient is a young adult who has continued to include religion in their lives, is intellectually competent, loving and open to growth. Following the teachings of St. Bonaventure's College these alumni remain committed to justice in the generous service of the people of God. Recipients of the award will be 30 years of age or younger as of the close of nominations for the Awards.

PAST MAGIS AWARD FOR YOUNG RECIPIENTS

2017 – Dr. Lesley Bautista '05
2016 – Mr. Paul Browne '09
2015 – Ms. Charlotte-Anne Malischewski '08
2014 – Ms. Charlotte Allison '07
2013 – Ms. Miriam Westin '07

To nominate an alumnus for either of these awards you can download the nomination forms by visiting our website, www.stbons.ca, or contact Ms. Jessica Whalen '04 at alumni@stbons.ca or 709-726-0024 ext. 228.

Deadline for nominations is June 1, 2018.



ST. BONAVENTURE'S
COLLEGE

Help us to produce

MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS

We launched our Annual Giving Appeal in November. Donations made help support several initiatives, which are listed below. Please consider donating to St. Bonaventure's College. However you choose to support our school, know that we are deeply grateful to you for your generosity.

HELP SUPPORT...

GREATEST NEED

Gifts can also be designated as Greatest Need. This gives us the freedom to use your gift to respond to urgent needs in the school. In the past, it has covered the cost of unexpected repairs that needed to be made to our buildings, given our staff professional development opportunities and purchased materials and supplies to enhance our curriculum.

BURSARY ENDOWMENT FUND

The request for support from our Bursary Endowment Fund continues to increase each year. This program is vitally important to the school's mission of educating students of diverse backgrounds. As a Jesuit, Catholic school, we need to be able to respond adequately to those families who do not have the financial means to pay the full amount but whose child wish to attend the school. By contributing to the Bursary Endowment Fund you are investing in the future of a child.

FACILITIES AND CAMPUS FUND

St. Bonaventure's College has called its current campus home since 1858. Occupying this space for nearly 160 years comes with its challenges. As the buildings age, necessary repairs and upgrades are needed. By donating to our facilities and campus fund you are helping to ensure that this campus will continue to be the home of St. Bonaventure's College for years to come.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

The St. Bonaventure's College Alumni Scholarship will give high school students that exhibit athletic talent the opportunity to attend the school. This scholarship will be awarded to new students transferring to St. Bonaventure's College for high school who exhibit (1) financial need, (2) academic ability, (3) commitment to service and (4) athletic talent. It is anticipated, in future years, the scholarship will be offered to students who show talent in other areas in addition to athletics.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE

**online at www.stbons.ca,
by calling 709-726-0024 ext. 200 or
by mailing a cheque to:**

**St. Bonaventure's College
2A Bonaventure Ave
St. John's, NL A1C 6B3**

CONTACT

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