

MORE REJOICING | 75 Years

STM ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



TOP: Newman Club members and the white house (Newman Hall), Palm Sunday 1930 LEFT: Fr. Basil Markle RIGHT: The white house becomes St. Thomas More College, 1936

St. Thomas More College Celebrates 75 Years: 1936-2011



Prehistory

THE YEAR 2011 MARKS 75 YEARS SINCE ST. THOMAS MORE College (STM) was established as a Catholic college federated with the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. The efforts involved in the founding of this institution called for faith, commitment and, most of all, a vision of Catholic higher education shared by both the Catholic community and the University. Such a common vision was not realized until 1936; thus St. Thomas More College had its beginnings at a most unlikely time, during the Great Depression of the 1930s in Saskatchewan.

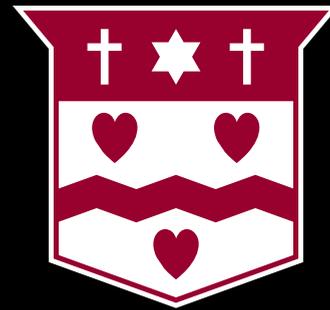
Although their hope to have a Catholic college at the new provincial University of Saskatchewan had been publicly announced by Saskatoon Catholics as early as 1913, with an encouraging response from University President Walter Murray at that time, no real progress had been made for the next decade or so. In 1926, the Saskatoon Catholic lay men regrouped and decided to take up the college question again. They formed the Newman Society and were able to bring Toronto priest/scholar Dr. Basil Markle to Saskatoon to teach Scholastic Philosophy at the university and serve as chaplain to Catholic university students. Markle began his teaching and chaplaincy work in September 1926; the next year, the Newman Society purchased land on the edge of the campus and built a white house (Newman Hall), with living space for

Markle, a chapel, and Newman clubrooms for the students. With these encouraging developments, it had seemed that a Catholic college would soon follow, but it was to be another ten years before there would be the "meeting of the minds" needed for the project to go forward. Early in January 1936, the Saskatchewan bishops met with the Newman Society and gave their approval in principle; they stated strongly, however, that it would be "absolutely impossible, owing to present financial conditions," to go forward with the college plan at that time.

"Absolutely impossible" as it seemed, the long-awaited approval had been given and, within a matter of months, in spite of all practical considerations, the founding of the Catholic college was underway. By September, the first two Basilians had arrived in Saskatoon, the name "St. Thomas More College" had been placed over the door of the white house, and 39 students had registered through St. Thomas More College for the academic year 1936-37. In spring 1937, the first five STM graduates were awarded their BA degrees at the University of Saskatchewan convocation.

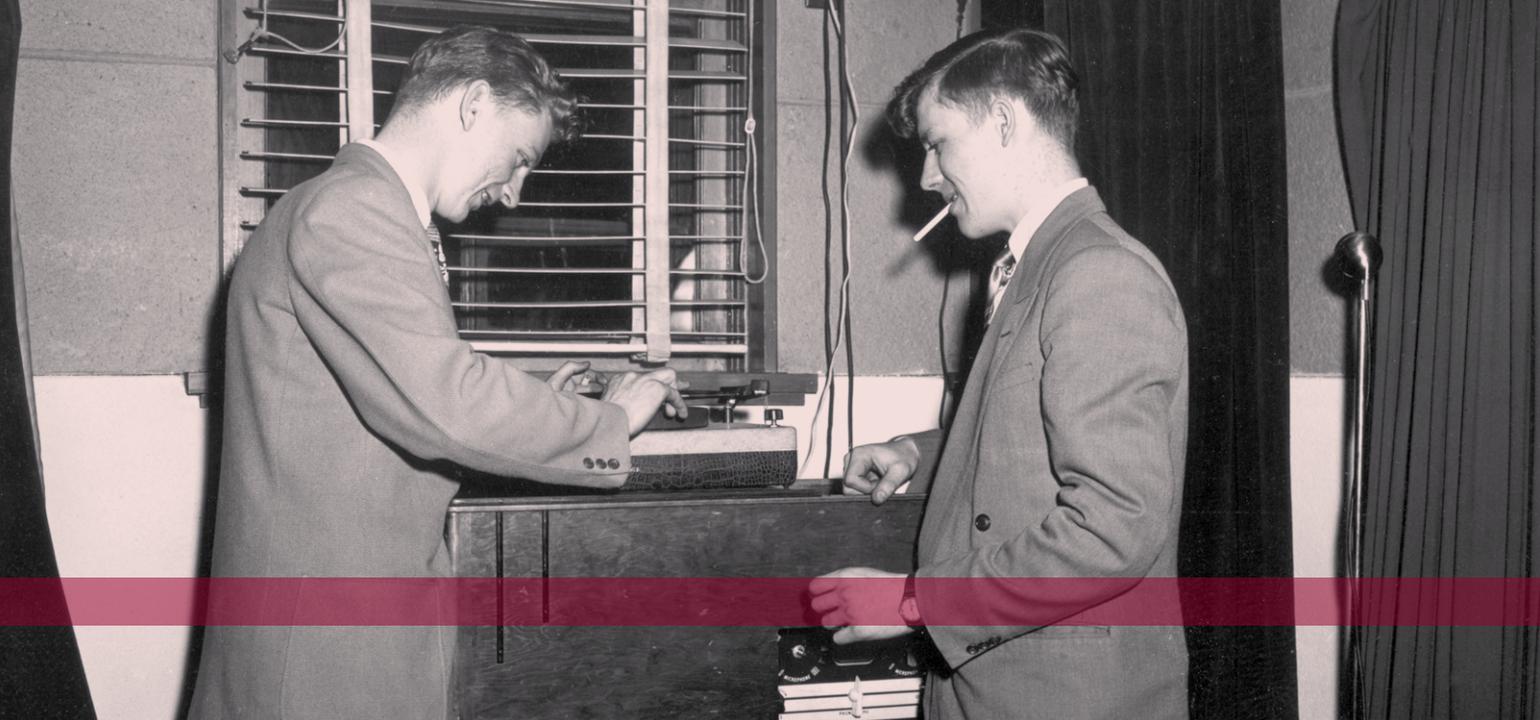
And the rest, as they say, is history . . .

Join us as we recall some of the key events and images of St. Thomas More College's first 75 years.

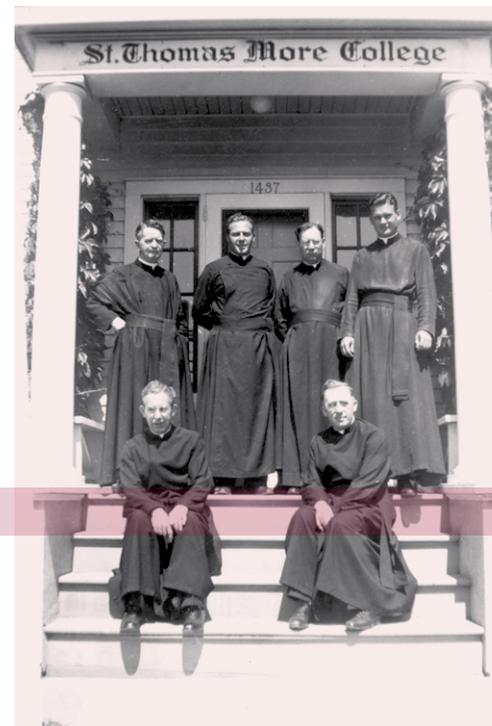


newman
COR AD COR LOQUITUR
HEART SPEAKS TO HEART





Student camaraderie in the white house after class



1940s

1942

STM is accepted as a permanent foundation of the Congregation of St. Basil of Toronto (the Basilians).

1943

STM is incorporated by the Legislature of Saskatchewan.

1943

Growth requires construction of an addition to the white house.

1945

Basilian Fr. Joseph O'Donnell arrives at STM and forms Newman Drama/Newman Players.

1948-49

Ulcers Incorporated, a student-run cooperative lunch program, begins.

Second STM Principal

Edmund McCorkell, csb 1941-1942

Third STM Principal

Henry Carr, csb 1942-1949

1930s

January, 1936

The Bishops of Saskatchewan give approval in principle for the establishment of a Catholic college.

January to June, 1936

Negotiations are carried out by Basilian Superior General Henry Carr, csb and University President Walter Murray. Approvals are given by the University Senate and the Basilian Congregation for the founding of a Basilian Catholic federated college at the university – It's a go!

June, 1936

St. Thomas More is chosen as the college's name and patron saint. The name is quickly shortened to "STM."

August 21, 1936

The first two Basilians arrive in Saskatoon by train from Toronto and move into the white house.

September, 1936

The first classes are taught by St. Thomas More College faculty, using university classrooms.

STM faculty, 1936-37

Fr. Basil Markle, Fr. Leonard Rush, csb, Fr. Gerald Anglin, csb, Dr. J. Francis Leddy, Mm^e. Bernadine Bujila (Women's Advisor).

Spring, 1937

The first five STM students graduate with University of Saskatchewan Bachelor of Arts (BA) degrees.

First STM Principal

Leonard Rush, csb 1936-1941



TOP: Basilian Fathers at STM, 1946/47
LEFT: STM Intramural Rugby Team, 1940s
RIGHT: Lunch and conversation at STM





1950s

November 27, 1953

St. Thomas More College's *de facto* status as a federated college is officially recognized by the University of Saskatchewan.

April 18, 1954

STM celebrates the sod-breaking and blessing of the ground for the construction of a fieldstone building with chapel, auditorium/cafeteria, library, Basilian residence and offices.

1956

Liturgical art works by Lionel Thomas (mural, altar, stations of the cross, copper doors) and Robert Rambusch (stained glass windows) are installed in the chapel.

December 8, 1956

The first Mass is celebrated in the new STM chapel, dedicated to Mary, Queen of the Universe.

February 6-7, 1957

STM celebrates the blessing and grand opening of the new college building.

September, 1958

The first non-Basilian full-time faculty member is appointed, joining the seven Basilians on faculty that year.

Fourth STM Principal

Basil Sullivan, csb 1949-1955

Fifth STM Principal

Joseph O'Donnell, csb 1955-1961



TOP: The Newman Glee Club in Concert, 1960s BOTTOM LEFT: Shannon Library

1960s

1963-64

College construction phase 2 is carried out, adding facilities for the Shannon Library, cafeteria, boardroom, art gallery and student lounge (the Murray Room).

1963

Art works by Lionel Thomas are installed – a metal wall sculpture of Thomas More entitled "The Moment of Truth" and enamelled copper Arts and Sciences doors at the North entrance.

1967

The first non-Basilian tenured faculty members are invited to membership on the Corporation.

1968-69

College construction phase 3 is carried out, including faculty offices, classrooms and third floor faculty lounge (the Chelsea Room).

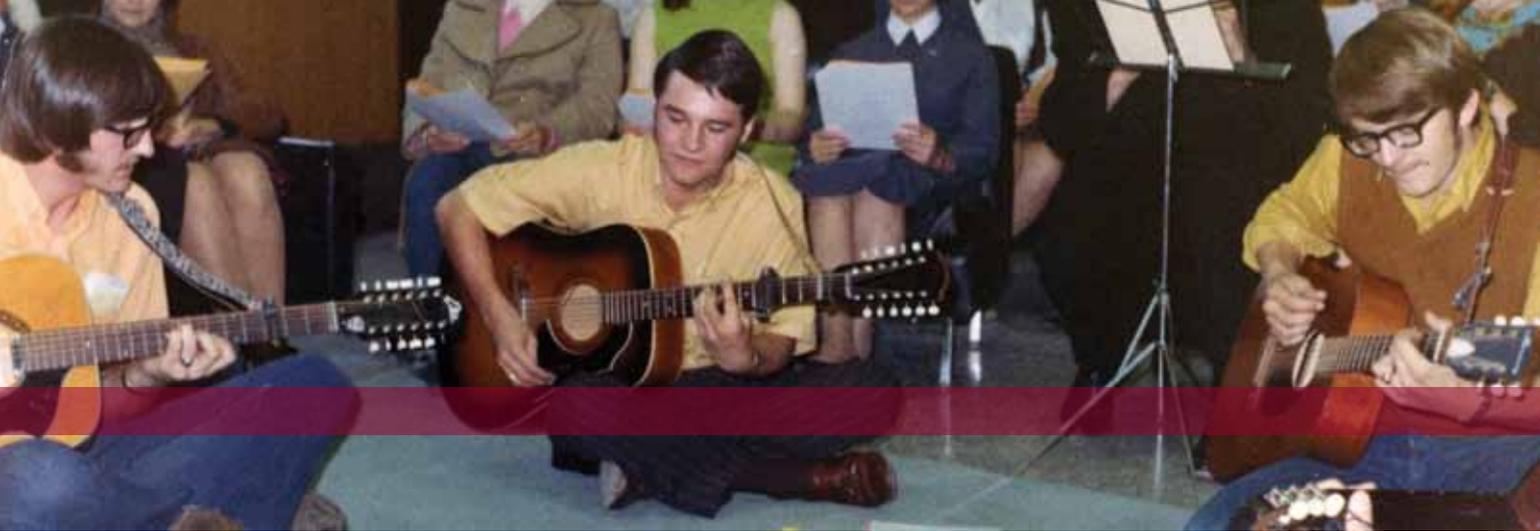
Sixth STM Principal

Peter Swan, csb 1961-1977



TOP: Students in conversation with Fr. Finn. PHOTO BY GERRY SAVAGE
LEFT: Ulcers Inc. lunch cooperative in action
RIGHT: Groundbreaking for the new college building, 1954
BOTTOM: A Newman Players drama production





Murray Room Mass, 1973



1970s

1971-72

Changes are made to STM governance structures, enabling Corporation expansion to include lay faculty, non-Catholics and non-Saskatchewan residents, plus formation of a Board of Governors.

1973

A Newman chaplaincy team is formed, including lay men and women in addition to designated Basilians.

1975

Michael Keenan is appointed STM's first Dean.

1976

STM celebrates its 40th Anniversary and Newman's 50th.

January, 1976

Prairie artist William Kurelek paints a mural on the North wall of the chapel and surrounding the 1956 Lionel Thomas mural. The Kurelek work is an anniversary gift to the college from the Saskatoon Basilians and the artist.

Seventh STM Principal/President

Leonard Kennedy, *csb* 1977-1982



1980s

February 29, 1984

The official St. Thomas More College Coat of Arms and Crest are granted by the College of Arms of England. The crest includes the shield of Thomas More, the inset USask crest, and the STM motto, "Christ is our head."

1986-87

The college community celebrates Newman Centre's 60th and STM's 50th Anniversaries, with an Alumni Reunion Weekend in October and special events throughout the year.

October, 1986

Heartwood: A History of St. Thomas More College and the Newman Centre at the University of Saskatchewan is published.

1987

A conference on The Role of the Small College in Canadian Higher Education is hosted by STM.

October, 1987

The first annual Keenan Lecture is held in memory of Michael Keenan, STM's first Dean.

May, 1989

A Man for Our Season: An International Symposium on St. Thomas More is hosted by STM.

Eighth STM President

James Hanrahan, *csb* 1982-1989

"It is a privilege to have done my first major mural in a university chapel, for I consider it vital that the Christian message be at least available to young people at the turning point in their intellectual life which university represents." William Kurelek, artist

On STM's 50th anniversary: "For us, then, this must above all be a time to praise God for his blessings to this College over fifty years and to submit to God our present situations and our future hopes."

James Hanrahan, *csb*, STM president

1990s

1991

The For all Seasons major fundraising campaign is launched.

1991

The Basilian Way of Life lecture series is hosted by STM.

1992

The first annual Distinguished Alumna and Alumnus Awards are presented.

1993

The first annual STM President's Dinner is held and St. Thomas More Award presented.

1995

STM's student residence, Ogle Hall, is opened (operated until 2011).

1996

In Medias Res, a liberal arts journal, is launched by STM.

1999

The Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) is established.

1999

The President's Dinner honours the Basilian Fathers who served at St. Thomas More College over the years.

Ninth STM President

John Thompson 1990-2000



OPPOSITE, TOP: Shannon Library reading room **LEFT:** An Intercordia student makes a new friend **RIGHT:** The Rooster, mascot of STMSU **BOTTOM:** Newman Players, "A Man for All Seasons"

2000s

2001

Newman Centre celebrates its 75th Anniversary with a reunion of former Newman Glee Club and Choir members.

2002

The first annual STM President's Gala is held.

2003-2005

Renovations include updates to the Father Joseph O'Donnell Auditorium, art gallery, cafeteria, Murray Room, Shannon Library, classrooms, offices and meeting spaces.

2003

A Father Henry Carr Symposium and a conference on the Future of Catholic Higher Education in Canada are hosted by STM.

2003

The on-line catalogue of Shannon Library is integrated with the University Library catalogue.

December, 2005

The Engaged Learning Program and Intercordia are launched, thanks to a generous donation from Les and Irene Dubé.

2010

STM's proposed Minor in Catholic Studies is approved by the University Council, with the first course, Introduction to Catholicism, offered in January.

St. Thomas More College will nurture its identity as a Catholic liberal arts college and fulfill its calling as an exemplary embodiment of the Catholic intellectual tradition in Canada.

STM Vision Statement (2010)

2010

The Basilian presence on the faculty and administration of St. Thomas More College comes to an end. Ron Griffin, csb, remains at the college to continue providing pastoral ministry to the STM Worshipping Community.

March 11-12, 2011

A Catholic Studies Conference entitled "In Search of the Good: Scholarly perspectives in conversation" is hosted by STM.

2011

The STM college community welcomes its new president, Dr. Terrence Downey.

Tenth STM President

George Smith, csb 2000-2010

Eleventh STM President

Terrence Downey 2011-

Looking to the past with gratitude, to the future with hope

The 75th anniversary of St. Thomas More College in 2011 provides an opportunity once again for the college community to celebrate with wonder and gratitude the many blessings, challenges, and achievements of years past – and to look, with renewed hope and confidence, to the future of this unique federated Catholic college in the heart of the prairies.

Needless to say, there have been many changes in the college since its beginnings in the white house in 1936. In the ensuing years, St. Thomas More College has come to hold a respected place within the University of Saskatchewan and the larger academic world for its teaching, scholarly work, community outreach and ministry to the church community.

During this anniversary year, STM gives thanks to, and for, the many students, faculty and staff; supporters, colleagues and friends – and all who have been part of the college's academic work and faith community over the years .

St. Thomas More College particularly acknowledges with gratitude the Congregation of St. Basil, whose members were key players in the founding and formative years of the college and now, happily, continue their pastoral ministry to the STM community. May the spirit of the Basilians who were part of this college and its work continue to be present in the heartwood of STM in the years to come.

Please join us as we celebrate STM's first 75 years and prepare to meet the challenges of the years ahead. In the spirit of the groups and individuals who worked to establish this college, may we continue this good work with faith, commitment and a common vision.

Let us rejoice!

Photos: St. Thomas More College Archives photo collection. For additional information about STM, see: Margaret Sanche. *Heartwood: A History of St. Thomas More College and Newman Centre at the University of Saskatchewan*. Muenster, SK: St. Peter's Press, 1986.

www.stmcollege.ca





Basilian Fathers at St. Thomas More College: 1936-2011

Anglin, Gerald F.
 Beaune, George
 Black, J. Bernard
 Boyd, J. Ian
 Burns, Francis L.
 Callaghan, John F.
 Callam, Daniel D.
 Campbell, Leo
 Carr, Henry
 Corrigan, John V.
 Cullinane, Eugene,^{mh}
 De Valk, Alphonse A.
 D'Souza, Mario
 Finn, Robert W.

Gallagher, John (Jack)
 Glavin, B.F.
 Griffin, Ronald J.
 Hanrahan, T. James
 Heidt, Ed
 Hetzler, Leo A.
 Hogan, Brian F.*
 Kelly, James J.
 Kelly, Neil
 Kennedy, Leonard A.
 Kirley, Kevin J.
 Lebel, Eugene C
 Macdonald, D. Gordon
 Mallon, J. Paul

Mallon, T. Greg
 Marceau, William
 McCarthy, Don
 McCorkell, Edmund J.
 McGahey, Joseph E.
 McLeod, Don
 McReavy, John (Jack) J.
 Miller, Robert G.
 Montague, Robert
 Munnely, Leo J.
 Neill, Robert (Robin) F.*
 O'Brien, William H.
 O'Donnell, Joseph L.
 O'Halloran, Robert T.

Paré, Ulysse E. (Bud)
 Penny, Joseph G.
 Pilecki, Gerard A.*
 Quinlan, Leonard C.
 Quinn, Joseph A.
 Regan, W. Oscar
 Rennick, Paul
 Rush, E. Leonard
 Smith, Allan
 Smithy, George
 Stokes, Thomas J.
 Sullivan, Basil
 Swan, Peter J.M.
 Vander Zanden, George*
 Zorzi, Dan

*= left the priesthood

Principals/Presidents: 1936-2011

E. Leonard Rush, ^{csb} 1936-1941
 Edmund J. McCorkell, ^{csb} 1941-1942
 Henry Carr, ^{csb} 1942-1949
 Basil Sullivan, ^{csb} 1949-1955
 Joseph O'Donnell, ^{csb} 1955-1961
 Peter Swan, ^{csb} 1961-1977
 Leonard Kennedy, ^{csb} 1977-1982
 James Hanrahan, ^{csb} 1982-1989
 John Thompson 1990-2000
 George Smith, ^{csb} 2000-2010
 Terrence Downey 2011-

Deans: 1975-2011

Michael G. Keenan 1975-1985
 Thomas B. Deutscher 1985-1991
 Kevin K. Corrigan 1991-1998
 Wilfred B. Denis 1998-2006
 Carl N. Still 2006-

Board Chairs: 1972-2011

John Stack 1972-1987
 Brent Gough 1987-2003
 Ken Smith 2003-2007
 Ed Scissons 2007-2010
 Michele Wright 2010-



STM | 75 Years

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www.stmcollege.ca

"Remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and look forward to the future with confidence."

Novo Millennio Ineunte, John Paul II