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Thomas Aquinas College 25th Anniversary

FALL 1996

Crown Jewel of Campus

Chapel Site Dedicated

unday, May 19, was a special day of celebration for the Thomas Aquinas College community. Students, faculty, staff and their families came together for the dedication of the site where, God willing, our permanent chapel, the crown jewel of the Thomas Aquinas College campus, will soon be placed. Many alumni of the College and their families were also present as the day of dedication followed the yearly Alumni Day gathering at the College.

The day began with sung Mass in Saint Bernardine of Siena Library, offered by the Most Reverend Thomas Curry, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles for our Santa Barbara region. Following Mass, those in attendance processed to the chapel site. Led by College chaplain, Rev. Wilfred Borden, O.M.I., they recited one final time the novena to Our Lady, Queen of Apostles. For 74 days, the college community had been saying this prayer, imploring the Queen of Apostles to "pray for us of the Thomas Aquinas College community, especially that we may erect a fitting permanent chapel to the glory of your Son."

Dr. Dillon asked for the help of those in attendance: "Pray that God will confirm what He has begun in us. That our planning will be wise, our sacrifices generous and joyfully made, our deliberations peaceful and infused with divine love, the seal of true success."

"Pray that each student who comes to this college, now and in the years to come, will find in the reverent beauty of our chapel, an inspiration to devotion and service. May they, the temples of the Holy Ghost, redeemed by Christ and destined for eternal happiness with Him, be themselves built up by what we are to do."

President Dillon then introduced the Honorable William P. Clark, member of the Chapel Committee, whose generous gifts and ideas have already enriched the planning for the new chapel. Standing in front of the gothic arch and statue he and his wife Joan have donated to the chapel project, Mr. Clark reminded those gathered that duty called for the building of this edifice on our "island in a vast sea of secularism." Also in attendance were Francis J. Montgomery, a governor of the College, Rosemary E. Donohue, a governor of the College and trustee of the Dan Murphy Foundation, Patricia Klink, a governor of the College, and her husband John Klink, of the Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations.

With the setting of the limestone arch behind, the scripture reading took on special significance. St. Peter's words remind us that we are a chosen people, and, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house.

Bishop Curry spoke of the tension that exists between worshipping the Lord in spirit and truth while expressing ourselves through human senses of touch and sound and sight. God cannot be confined to any one place, any one people, any one culture, he said, yet we are a physical church who build buildings which touch people. He prayed that, led by the beauty of this place, just a pale reflection of the God whom we worship in spirit and truth, those who gather to wor-



ship in the new chapel, for generations to come, will be motivated to go out and carry that message of truth to the world.

Following these words, Bishop Curry processed around the perimeter of the chapel site, sprinkling holy water with each step and asking God "to purify this ground from every evil stain, to guard it from the snares of wicked spirits, and mercifully to bless it. May Thy Holy Spirit come down upon this place in which we, though unworthy, purpose to erect a Temple which shall be a house of prayer unto Thee..."

Chapel Committee members including Sir Daniel Donohue, Mr. Clark, Mr. Francis Montgomery and Monsignor Francis Webber will be meeting at the College soon to discuss selecting an architect to design the Chapel.

early Beloved in the Lord: Forasmuch as devout and holy men, moved either by the express command of God, or by the secret inspiration of the Holy Spirit, have erected houses for the public worship of God, and separated them from all unhallowed, worldly, and common uses, in order to fill men's minds with greater reverence for His glorious Majesty, and affect their hearts with more devotion and humility in His service; which pious works have been approved of and graciously accepted by our heavenly Father, Let us not doubt but that He will also favorably approve our godly purpose of setting apart this place and let us faithfully and devoutly beg His blessing on this our undertaking.

Studies, Liturgical Life Yield Rich Spiritual Harvest

by Fr. Thomas V. Conn, S. J., Chaplain

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.

This prayer, which begins every class at the College, is an appropriate beginning of the new school year as well. And, happily, there are many signs that the Holy Spirit grants this prayer and fills many students with love of God, His Church, and the people of the world

As Chaplains, Fr. Wilfred Borden, O.M.I., Fr. Bartholomew De La Torre, O.P., and I, have the great joy of seeing the Holy Spirit work among our students. We see conversions to the Faith from atheism, agnosticism, or other religions; we see conversions of life among Catholics who have lost touch with the Church in the middle of our secular culture. We see an eagerness to offer one's entire life to God's service as priests, monks, sisters; and among married students and alumni, a commitment to distinctively Catholic family life, including generous acceptance of large families and zeal for Catholic education and family prayer.

Fr. Borden, who has been here the longest of us three chaplains, has been remarkably successful in reaching non-Catholic students. Last year, seven new members were received into the Mystical Body of Christ; eleven received Confirmation. The previous school year, seven were received, and three others returned to the practice of their Faith. It is hard to express how much joy and grace these wonderful actions of the Holy Spirit bring to the whole College.

One may ask, what accounts for all this spiritual activity? The College's educational program is not one of catechesis properly speaking. Rather, it trains the mind to consider what is true in every sphere of hu-

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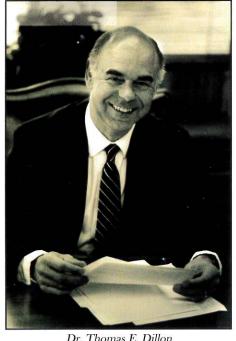
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From The President's Desk

welve months ago we inaugurated Thomas Aquinas College's 25th Anniversary year. It has, indeed, been a momentous year: the gala dinner in November with Cardinal O'Connor was a wonderful event, and won us new friends. The special founders' dinner with the student body on St. Thomas Day gave all of us at the College an inspiring glimpse of the vision, trials and triumphs which marked these first twenty-five years and the Commencement ceremony with Archbishop Rigali of St. Louis and President Emeritus Ronald McArthur reminded us all again of the foundations of faith and reason on which Catholic liberal education

This 25th Anniversary year of Thomas Aquinas College has also helped set the stage for the remaining two years of our five-year, \$25 million campaign for scholarship aid, endowment and buildings. Three years into the campaign, nearly \$16 million has been generously given or pledged, St. Bernardine Library is now a magnificent reality, and beautiful Blessed Junipero Serra Hall has been constructed and is occupied by 50 resident men.

It will still take great sacrifices to provide scholarship assistance for our students in the next two years and to fund our much-needed science building, women's residence, and chapel, but the goal is within reach. I am asking, with earnest hope, that you please help us successfully complete this crucial campaign by making a special effort in generosity perhaps even with a lifetime gift. It is now that the needs of Thomas Aquinas College are great. It is now that your gifts can effect a lasting good for the students of the College and, as a consequence, for the Church and for society



Dr. Thomas E. Dillon

as those well-educated and well-disposed students go on to assume leadership roles in their communities and in the Church.

John Cardinal O'Connor declared in his keynote address at our 25th Anniversary Dinner, "Thomas Aquinas College is one of the most critically needed colleges in the United States." The more I see of the decline in our society's culture, morals, and intellectual vigor, the more convinced I am of the importance of Thomas Aquinas College. The more I see of the great things being accomplished by our alumni, whether in their careers, in their voluntary services, or in their family and community life, the more convinced I am that your support of this College works a twofold goodboth in helping to form the minds and souls of the young people whom God sends us, and in benefitting in countless ways those whose lives they touch. Thank you for your generous help.

College Named to Templeton Honor Roll

For the third straight year, The John Templeton Foundation has named Thomas Aquinas College to its Honor Role for Character Building Colleges. The Foundation was established by international investment counselor John M. Templeton to forge greater links between the sciences and all religions. The Honor Roll is based on the principle that character comes from three primary sources: the family, the religious community and educational institutions. The purpose of the *Honor Roll* is threefold: first, to recognize colleges and universities that promote character and value development; second, to inspire other schools to re-evaluate their emphasis on character development curriculum and programs; and third, to provide a reference list for college selection for prospective students, families and donors.

Thomas Aquinas College was judged on its effectiveness in fulfilling the following criteria:

Encouraging students to explore an individual and moral reasoning process;

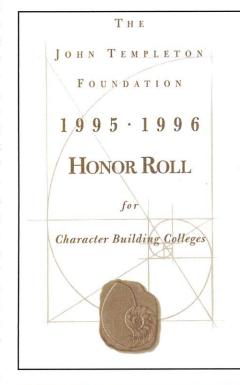
Fostering a positive attitude and overall well-being;

Encouraging spiritual growth and moral values;

Promoting community-building values; and

Advocating a drug-free lifestyle.

Selected from among all accredited public and private four-year colleges and universities in the United States, this year's Honor Roll features just 124 schools.

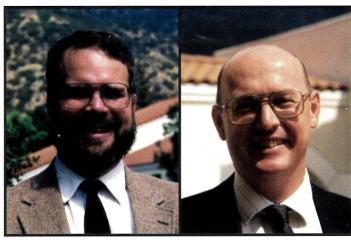


John Paul II to the faculty and students of the Angelicum, Rome, Nov. 17, 1979:

"The words of the Council are clear: the Fathers saw that it is fundamental for the adequate formation of the clergy and of Christian youth that it preserve a close link with the heritage of the past, and in particular with the thought of Saint Thomas Aquinas, and that this, in the long run, is a necessary condition for the longed-for renewal of the Church . . . Hence the Supreme Pontiff Pius XI of holy memory . . . did not hesitate to declare: 'in honoring Saint Thomas something greater is involved than the reputation of Saint Thomas, and that is the authority of the teaching Church."

Dean Kolbeck Steps Down, Coughlin is New Acting Dean

Kevin Dr. Kolbeck, Dean of the College, has decided to step down after five and onehalf years of dedicated service. Eagerness to teach full-time and the need for surgery to address a long-term back problem inspired Dr. Kolbeck's decision.



Dr. Kevin Kolbeck

Dr. R. Glen Coughlin

Happily, Dr. Kolbeck is recovering very well from the surgery. He will continue to serve as a Governor on the Board of the College.

Dr. Kolbeck's acting replacement is Dr. R. Glen Coughlin, a graduate of the College. Dr. Coughlin received a Master's Degree in 1982 and a Doctorate of Philosophy in 1987, both in philosophy and both from the Université Laval in Quebec. Dr. Couglin was a Tutor at St. John's College in Santa Fe prior to returning to his alma mater as a tutor in 1987. Dr. Coughlin is married to fellow classmate Maureen Coughlin (neéIvers); the Coughlins are expecting their eighth child.

In accordance with the College's

Polity, President Dillon nominated Dr. Coughlin to replace Dr. Kolbeck, after consultation with the faculty of the College. The Board of Governors will consider this nomination at its upcoming meeting. It is the College's policy to select the Dean and Assistant Dean, who interact most with the students, from the faculty of the College, those who teach and know the student body. The faculty member must also have received permanent appointment.

The entire College community extends it's profound thanks to Dr. Kolbeck for his many years of exemplary service to Thomas Aquinas College, and we welcome and congratulate Dr. Coughlin on his nomination.

New Legislation Restores Cal Grants to TAC

On August 17, California Governor Pete Wilson signed Assembly Bill 2306, introduced by Thirty-fifth District Assemblyman Brooks Firestone, chairman of the Assembly Higher Education Committee and endorsed by Eighteenth District Senator Jack O'Connell. The new law makes a technical change in Cal Grant eligibility which allows needy students attending Thomas Aquinas College to receive Cal Grants.

The College had previously been excluded from the Cal Grant Program because state legislation banned schools from Cal Grant eligibility unless they participated in two campus-based federal program. Thomas Aquinas College does not participate in federal programs except guaranteed student loans because of the danger of excessive intrusion into the College's educational program.

The intent of the original eligibility requirement for the Cal Grant Program was to assure that eligibility would be limited to institutions that demonstrated a continuing commitment to the careful administration of financial aid, but, as Assemblyman Firestone noted in a letter to Governor Wilson, an unintended consequence was "that institutions that are committed to the careful administration of institutional aid but simply choose not to participate in federal financial aid programs" are excluded.

AB 2306 was supported by the California Postsecondary Commission and sponsored by the Association for Independent Colleges and Universities.

U. S. Congress Appoints Dillon to Advisory Committee

mittee on Student Financial Assistance, which serves as an independent source of advice and counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Education on student financial aid policy. The Committee was established by Congress in 1986 and began operation in 1988.

The purpose of the Advisory Committee as originally defined by congress in statute is:

- · to provide knowledge and understanding of federal, state, and institutional programs of postsecondary student assistance;
- to provide technical expertise with regard to systems of need analysis and application forms;
- · to make recommendations that result in maintenance of access to postsecondary education for lowand middle-income students.

The Advisory Committee is composed of eleven members who serve in

College President Thomas E. Dillon three-year, staggered terms. Three has been appointed by the House of members are appointed by leaders of the Representatives to the Advisory Com- House of Representatives, three by leaders of the Senate, and five by the Secretary of Education. The congressional mandate requires the Committee to conduct objective, nonpartisan and independent analyses on important aspects of student assistance programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act.

President Dillon sees his appointment to the Advisory Committee as a challenge. "One needs to keep in view not only what is good for American education but also the common good of the country as a whole," he said, "and it is important that financial aid programs strengthen, not weaken, the institutional integrity of colleges and universities. I hope, that as a result of having taught 25 years in the Great Books program at Thomas Aquinas College, I can, by posing fundamental questions, be useful to the committee and serve the common good."

New Board Committees Will Spearhead Public Phase of Campaign



Miss Rosemary E. Donohue

Mr. William A. Wilson

Mr. James L. Barrett

Mr. Frederick J. Ruopp

Mr. Thomas P. Sullivan

Dr. William W. Smith

Dr. Henry J. Zeiter

As reported previously, the Board of Governors has approved the following committee responsibilities to help spearhead the 25th Anniversary Campaign.

The Committee on Trusteeship, Rosemary Donohue, Chairman, will actively investigate new prospects for Board membership; serve as nominating committee for officers other than President and for new and reelected members; propose standards for trusteeship to the Board. The Finance Committee, William Wilson, Chairman, will be concerned with the business and financial management of the College, the annual and long range budgets, selection of Auditors, and banks.

The Scholarship and Admissions Committee, James Barrett, Chairman, is tasked with funding and supervision of student scholarships and admissions.

Frederick Ruopp chairs the Endowment Committee, which is concerned with securing donations to the endowment fund and with the management of investments The Campus Planning Committee, with Thomas Sullivan as chairman, will have as its focus the Campus Master Plan, construction and maintenance of buildings and infrastructure, selection of architects and contractors, and securing funding for construction not otherwise provided for by special committees.

The Campus Planning Committee works in cooperation with special building committees, such as the St. Albert the Great Science Building committee which is under the leadership of William Smith.

The Faculty and Curriculum Committee, with John Zeiter as chairman, has as its responsibility faculty, accreditation and curriculum, and finding of accreditation-related activities and faculty acquisition.

All these committee chairmen comprise The Campaign / Development Coordinating Committee which is chaired by Dr. William W. Smith, our Board Chairman. They meet to synchronize committee efforts.

A Visit with Dr. Harry G. Browne

Board member Dr. Harry G. Browne and his wife Jean Browne gave a most generous gift to the College in 1993 to kick off our five year, \$25-million campaign. Their donation of shares in Therapeutic Antibodies, Inc., was then valued at \$1.7 million. Now traded on the London Stock Exchange, the stock has increased in value to more than \$3 million.

Therapeutic Antibodies, Inc., develops anti-venom medications to cure poisonous snake-bites. Since the freezedried anti-venom requires no refrigeration, it is very useful in Third World countries where those facilities are rare.

As a Governor of the College since 1985, Dr. Browne has been following in his mother's footsteps. Margaret Browne was a member of the Board of Governors from 1974 to 1983. Until her death in 1990, she remained actively involved with the College as a governor emeritus. Like Dr. and Mrs. Browne, she was a generous contributor of money and time in support of the College. Dr. Browne spoke recently with Ginger Mortensen about his interest and involvement with Thomas Aquinas College.

G.M.: How did you become involved with Thomas Aquinas College?

Dr. Browne: My mother suggested to Dr. McArthur that I could help with the College and I became a member of the Board of Governors in the 80's.

G.M.: How did your parents become involved with Thomas Aquinas College?

Dr. Browne: My mother was interested in education. She was well-read and devoted to religion. She thought that religion was very important. She met Dr. McArthur and then became a member of the Board of Governors. She helped to support the College through crucial moments.

G.M.: What about the College interests you?

Dr. Browne: I was sent to a tough boys' school at age thirteen where the teaching was conducted as it is at Thomas Aquinas College. We read the Clas-



Dr. Harry G. Browne

sics, there was student participation through questions and answers, and we received the tools to apply to the subject matter. I never forgot that experience. I thought it was the best experience in my life. Most people at school get trained but not educated. At Thomas Aquinas College you are educated. You also have a type of discipline at the College that is not burdensome but adds to the study environment and makes it a better atmosphere. It is a nice atmosphere - you can learn there. There is also a good organization of the Board of Governors so that the College maintains its original purpose. The more I see of Thomas Aquinas College, the more I like. When I get discouraged about society, I think of the seed of the College that is going to change the world. In my mind, it is the best place to put money if you want ideals kept.

G.M.: What prompted your generous gift to the College?

Dr. Browne: I think that the most valuable investment society can make is in education, for it is the most productive. Thomas Aquinas College is rare. It teaches in a way that people can learn to think thoroughly. I think that Thomas Aquinas College is the best place money can go. I was hoping that what I gave could grow and take some financial struggles away and make the College comfortable - at least increase the endowment. I was looking for opportunities to give something to the College. I saw a

lot of growth potential in the stock. I feel that if you are going to give to something that you care about, you should show that you care by making it count. You should fulfill your family duty of course, but give till you feel it, as in the story of the widow's mite. I think that if you have money, you should give to a useful purpose and look for the reward in heaven.

Spiritual Harvest - Continued from p. 1

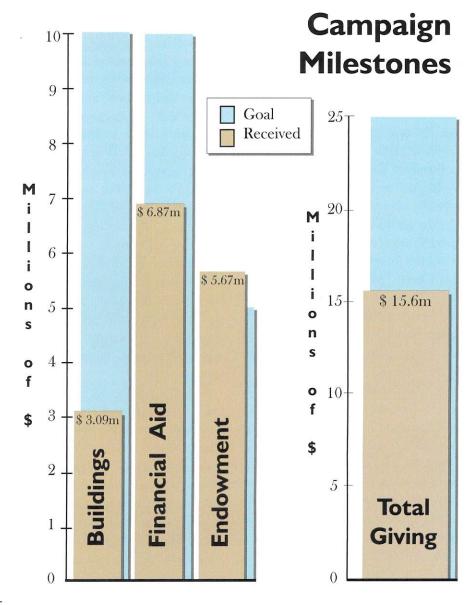
man knowledge: mathematics, science, language, philosophy, literature, as well as theology. It is hardly surprising that an honest evaluation of the "evidence" should lead one to God, the Author of all truth.

Another important element is the prayer and liturgical life on campus. While attendance at mass, rosary, stations of the Cross, adoration, and other

devotions are all voluntary, students encourage one another to attend and participate. Evening rosaries in the dormitories are well-attended and form a special bond of unity. Many students make use of weekly confessions - even with three chaplains, we are extremely busy during the school year!

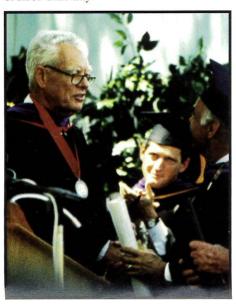
Just as important is the charity which students show for one another. They really pray and care for each other, and support one another in doing the right thing. As a result, the seem to really enjoy their lives here, and have wonderful friendships which are based on mutual love of God and pursuit of virtue.

As I've told many of my friends, the zeal of our students reminds me of my seminary days. Their zeal and devotion inspire me to strive to do my best for them. I see in them a real hope for the Church in the coming millennium.



22nd Commencement

e, the President, the Dean and the tutors of this college, under the inspiration, the guidance & the name of Saint Thomas Aquinas, bear witness to the truth that these candidates have fulfilled all offices and duties required of them and by command of the Board of Governors of Thomas Aguinas College and by virtue of the power and authority granted by the State of California, I admit you each to the community of Those Who Know, to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, in Liberal Arts, on this Eighth Day of June, in the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Six." So spoke President Thomas Dillon as the 47 members of the 22nd graduating class of Thomas Aquinas College were presented at commencement exercises that day.

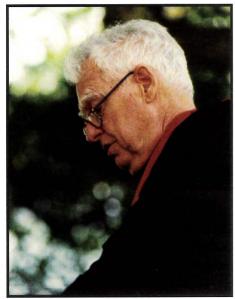


In a ceremony presided over by the Most Reverend Justin F. Rigali, Archbishop of St. Louis, the Saint Thomas Aguinas Medallion was also awarded by the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Dr. William W. Smith, to President Emeritus Ronald McArthur who then delivered the commencement address. The College's most prestigious award was established in 1975 by the Governors of the College and is awarded to those who demonstrate extraordinary dedication to God and His Church. Dr. McArthur, founding president of the College, "has shown exemplary love of Christ, zeal for the precious patrimony of the Church, faithful discipleship to Saint Thomas Aquinas and selfless concern for students."

President Dillon went on to say that Dr. McArthur has profoundly influenced the lives of hundreds, young and old, through the excellence of his teaching in and out of classrooms and through the worthy example of his devotion to Jesus Christ. Mrs. Marilyn McArthur rose at the request of President Dillon to be recognized as well for her share in the sacrificial giving that the McArthurs have done for the work of the College and the Church.

Acknowledging that of all awards, the Thomas Aquinas Medallion is the most cherished to him, Dr. McArthur began his address to the graduates "as an equal...who, though older, remains essentially a learner." He then went on to remind the graduates of some of the subjects that had occupied them at the College.

"Liberal Education, in its broadest outline, comes to be the reading of some



Dr. Ronald P. McArthur

of the greatest books with the help of more advanced learners, who stand midway between the beginner and the great minds. When we read the great books in this way, however, we find that they are replete with fundamental disagreements about almost everything...in fact they seem to be a sign that skepticism is the only avenue by which we are saved from the simple acceptance of someone else's opinions. If the greatest minds cannot agree...what hope do we have of coming to a better state by reading their books?" asked Dr. McArthur.

Dr. McArthur then quoted Leo Strauss, "The cause of this situation is that we have lost all simply authoritative traditions in which we could trust, the nomos which gave us authoritative guidance." Not so for Catholics, countered Dr. McArthur, for there is "within the Church, an intellectual tradition which provides not only the authoritative guidance, but an infallible teaching which makes it possible to study profitably the great books, and to begin at least, a way of life which corresponds to that dignity by which 'we are little lower than the angels.' Thomas Aquinas College is . . . a modest sign of the rightness of our tradition."

The modern world has succeeded in substituting man for God and banishing the Faith, warned Dr. McArthur. "Modern man knows nothing of beings higher than himself, and is festooned with an ever increasing compliment of rights with which he unabashedly confronts the world." Painting a grim picture of the realities brought about by such a view, Dr. McArthur reminded his audience that this "civilization of death" has, in fact, been destroying our souls.

"Can our Catholic tradition, the tradition which prompts and directs the education which has been your concern for these last four years, guide us here as well as in the more properly intellectual disciplines?" In answer, Dr. McArthur suggested some of the paths which we should follow.

Recounting the story in Luke's Gospel of Our Lord's time with Martha and her sister Mary, and His response to Martha when she complained about being left to do all the work while her sister sat listening to Jesus, Dr. McArthur reminded his listeners of the differences between the active life and the contemplative life. With examples from Gregory the Great, Aristotle and Saint Thomas, he made the case for the superior-



ity of the contemplative life, with all of its revelatory richness. This life, he said, cannot be taken away; even if for a time we must live the active life, we will finally, if we remain faithful, contemplate God face to face.

"All our human activities are based upon our natural inclinations and the desires they elicit. Among those desires is the desire to know. That natural desire to know, to see God, is both the reason for and the justification of traditional liberal education. All the liberal disciplines are ordered to the knowledge of God by natural reason, and those same stud-



ies . . . become aids in . . . the study of God's Word as we accept it from the Church."

"Our society, of course, knows nothing of this teaching," Dr. McArthur continued, "and if our tradition is right and true, it would seem strange indeed if we spurned our desire to know, and acted as if the contemplative life were negligible, and easily dismissed."

Man's lot after the fall and the predominate life for most, is the active life, the President Emeritus reminded the assemblage, and we are provided with the guidance needed as we consider it. "There is no emphasis upon practical activity for its own sake, or about immersing ourselves in the world, or about becoming successful according to its principles." Rather, by seeking "that which is above" and specifically, to obey the commandments, we are enabled to act according to the dignity to which we have been called. These virtues, at the same time, dispose us to the contemplative life. "Whoever lives virtuously will tend towards a fuller participation in the Divine life than action alone can provide, and tend away, as much as possible, from an immersion in the world."

"If there were no contemplative life," warned Dr. McArthur, "our own lives would be worse than our night-mares." He reminded his audience of the tension between the active life and the contemplative life as addressed by St. Augustine and Aristotle. To live for Christ who calls us to union with Him is the life worth living, Dr. McArthur said, and, as the latest Council teaches, worth dving for.

"But no death in union with Christ

is ever final," Dr. McArthur assures. "Death is always followed by a new life in Christ - a life brought to completion with the resurrection of the body, or a life here on earth into which we are reborn."

"Our secular society knows nothing about dying to self, or of rebirth in Christ." Instead, it "encourages us to have faith in ourselves, to live as we please, to respect every type of behavior, and to have faith that it will all lead to a better life. The only death here is for those who are defenseless, and who interfere with our pleasure."



"But those who do the most real good in this world are those who do not love it first; they are those who live fully the Christian life, who seek to please God and die to themselves, and who confess their faith daily by word and deed, and are prepared to confess it even up to death, if such be God's will."

In summation, Dr. McArthur charged the graduates: "Should you, the class of '96, follow this path, you will live out the broad purpose of your studies and, with all those who join you, will live as you go along in the joys you are promised, and finally reach that place where 'eyes have not seen nor have ears heard what God has prepared for those who love Him.'

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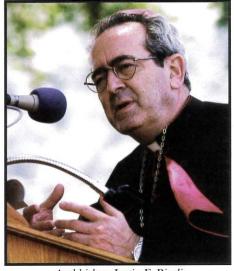
Baccalaureate Mass by Archbishop Rigali

he Most Reverend Justin F. Rigali, Archbishop of St. Louis, served as presiding prelate at the College's commencement day activities. In his homily at the Baccalaureate Mass, he began by sharing a personal experience of some years ago when serving with Pope Paul VI in the Vatican. After a discussion concerning their work, he was preparing to go out the door when the Pope stopped him and asked concerning his brother. Knowing that Bishop Rigali's brother, also named Paul, was suffering from cancer and that he had a wife and twelve children, Pope Paul asked a series of questions regarding their well-being and finally asked, "What can I do? What can I do?"

It was this great question which Archbishop Rigali proposed to each of the Thomas Aquinas College graduates that morning. The Archbishop reminded his listeners of Peter, who, filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, stood up with the eleven and proclaimed the crucified and risen Jesus, saying "We are his witnesses." The Archbishop told the students the answer is to make a similar bold proclamation with their lives. "You have had the opportunity during these years at Thomas Aquinas College to pray and reflect on your Christian vocation. The moment is now ripe. The question will not go away. It has to be answered."

Continuing by quoting St. Paul's exhortation to "be steady, and self-possessed, put up with hardship, perform your work as an evangelist, fulfill your ministry," Archbishop Rigali had advice about the nature of this witness. "Your witness must be authentic and personal ... bold in the faith and conviction that inspired it; never ashamed of the Gospel of God."

Acknowledging the many demands that will be made upon them, the graduates were urged nevertheless to "be generous" . . . and yet, "very discreet, in your work, in your family, through relationships, kind words, your smile, thought-



Archbishop Justin F. Rigali

"What Can I Do?
This question will not go away.
It must be answered."

fulness, the depth of the way you serve one another in the name of Jesus." Reminding his listeners that "seldom will their witness be from the front seats and the places of honor at banquets," but like the widow in the Gospel, you are being asked to "give everything that you have and everything that you are. You are being asked to serve your neighbor, to serve the poor, those in need of justice, of love, of peace."

Archbishop Rigali told the class of 1996 that they graduate at a time when the Church is preparing for what the Pope calls, "the greatest anniversary in the history of the world," the Millennium. "To celebrate the millennium effectively, the Church must recall her origin and reflect deeply on her mission," he said. The essence of that mission is to communicate Christ to the world, a world that needs to be understood and to be in dialogue with the Church. Fulfilling that mission then, is the answer to the question, the question that is posed by Christ through you: "What can I do?"



Senior Address

Gary Thomas Brittain

, elebrating this day," said graduating senior Gary Thomas Brittain of Phoenix, Arizona, "is fitting, but not so much for what this class has done, as for the priceless treasure we have been given." Eager to heed Saint Ambrose's assertion that "no duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks," Mr. Brittain began by saluting the benefactors of the College. He then expressed deep gratitude on behalf of his class, to the priests, faculty and staff, making special note of the patience and dedication shown by his teachers. Finally, Mr. Brittain said, "It is our parents to whom we owe the greatest debt, for they gave not only life, but a faith. It is your prayers which now fall from our lips; it is your creed which we proudly profess; and it is your God whom we long to please."

With emotion, Mr. Brittain recounted his personal story of spiritual



The Tommy Brittain Family

growth. While attending Thomas Aquinas College, Mr. Brittain returned to practicing his Catholic faith. His wife and children were received into the Church at the same time. Tommy, as he is known to friends and classmates, exhorted his fellow graduates to "be diligent and steadfast in fulfilling those small, seemingly insignificant duties of the Christian life. For the greatest threat to the grace we have been given is neither tragedy nor grave sin, but the cancer of gradual indifference which makes one's love grow cold."

Senior Theses, Class of 1996

Vytautas Adomaitis, Vilnius, Lithuania Don Quixote: On the Threshold of Modernity

Fred Arthur, Accra, Ghana
Political Regimes/The American Democracy:
Whether Its Principles Undergird the Belief
That Liberty and Equality Are Inalienable Rights
That All Men Are Entitled To

Suzanne Nicole Augros,

Merrimack, New Hampshire Experimental Science: Natural Philosophy's Dialectical Counterpart

Maureen Ruth Baldwin, North Hills, California Galileo's Magic Mirror: Mathematical Mediation of Perception in the Natural Sciences

Zygintas Binkis, Birzai, Lithuania Is Newton's Argument for Universal Gravitation Scientific or Not?

Penelope Anne Boldrick,

Santa Maria, California
If Only God Can Save Us, Then How Is It That
Our Salvation Is Attributed to a Man?

David Paul Bolin, *Rockwell, Iowa* Whether Faith Is Necessarily Reasonable

Naomi Jo Bougie, Minneapolis, Minnesota Is Leibniz's Idea of Substance Compatible with Aristotle's?

Gary Thomas Brittain, *Phoenix, Arizona*Sola Scriptura, Non Ecclesiam: The Case against the Formal Principle of Protestantism

Andrea Louise Brooks, Salinas, California Given the Immutability of God, Why We Have Petitionary Prayer

Amy Rebecca Cabaniss,

Raleigh, North Carolina Purgatory: A Blessing Too Great for Comfort

Nicholas Eugene Callaghan,

New York, New York
William Harvey and the Mechanics of Biology

Samuel Kristopher Caughron,

Kansas City, Missouri
"It's Only in Your Head": An Inquiry into the
Existence of the Objects of Logic

Heather Marie Chirdon, Lakewood, Ohio Food from Thought: General Principles of the Art of Agriculture Which Proceed from Philosophical Principles of Nature

Shannon Marie Dalley, Denver, Colorado
Whether Intention Is Relevant in Moral Action:
A Defense of the Third Condition of the
Principle of Double Effect

Ramón Edward Decaen, Ventura, California Why Saint Thomas Aquinas' Address of the Sanctification of the Blessed Virgin Mary Is Inadequate for Understanding the Doctrine of the Immaculate Conception

Gino Vincenti Medici De Solenni,

Crescent City, California
Concerning Man's Stewardship of the Natural
World

Jonathan Kristopher Doylend,

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada This Mortal Coil: An Investigation into the Ethical Consequences of the Relation between Body and Soul

Geoffrey Wayne Edwards, Novato, California Whether Political Society Has a Natural Basis for Locke and Hobbes

Thomas Daniel Paul Engelthaler

Phoenix, Arizona International Governments

Adam Augustine Gardiner

Seattle, Washington
Sometimes a Cigar Is Just a Cigar: A Critique of
Freud's Theory of the Unconscious Mind

Peter Kooken Grimm, Pasadena, California Whether Parents or the State Better Guarantee Right Behavior in the Community

Michael Theodore Grumbine

Whittier, California
"Of Mice and Men": Whether the Existence of
the Soul Is Demonstrable

Jennifer Elaine Kelly, Wichita, Kansas Mind Over Matter: The Ancients' Progression from Material to Final Cause Richard Joseph Kunz, Apalachin, New York
To Rule or Not to Rule, That Is the Question:
An Investigation of the Notions of Citizen and
Rule within a Polis As Seen by Aristotle and St.
Thomas and As Portrayed by William
Shakespeare in Two of His Roman plays:
Julius Caesar and Coriolanus

Patrick Michael Laurence,

Pasadena, California Whether Cause and Effect Can Be Known from Sensation

Benjamin Francis Loop, Caldwell, Idaho Whether the Contemplative Life Is Contrary to Love and Virtue: A Defense of the Divine Life

Rebecca Alice Loop, Caldwell, Idaho Exemplary Causality in the First Being

John Linus MacIsaac, Porterville, California To Be Ignorant of Motion Is to Be Ignorant of Nature: An Argument That Aristotle's Definition of Motion Is a Good One

Erin Patricia Mackey

North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada The Inductive Syllogism: Wisdom or Folly?

Nora Ellen Maher, Skaneateles, New York A Critique of René Descartes' Position concerning the Primary Objects of Thought

Darin Christopher Marx

Long Beach, California
How the Same Principle Can Lead to
Different Conclusions: To Show That by the
Same Idea by Which Kant Denies Knowledge
of God's Existence, St. Thomas Holds
Knowledge of God's Existence to Be Possible

Jeremy McNeil, *Eureka, California*On the Proper Order of Procedure in a Natural Science

Kevin Patrick McNeill, Portland, Maine "There Is Grandeur in This View of Life...": A Comparison of Darwin's Theory of Evolution to Aristotle's View of Nature Acting for an End

George Ivanov Mihailov

Cherven Briag, Bulgaria
On the Principles of Algebra

Virginia Gerena Mortensen, Boise, Idaho Whether Evil Experience Is Necessary for Prudence

Nancy Ellen Price

Rosetree, Media, Pennsylvania
The Inalienable Rights in the Declaration of
Independence Are Based on Natural
Knowledge

Eric Thomas Reslock, Seattle, Washington The Messianic Expectation Versus the True Kingship of Christ: An Examination of the Author's Purpose in the Gospel of St. John

Gavin Timothy Thomas Riley

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin
On the Manner of Naming First Matter:
Whether Aristotle Has Used Analogical or
Metaphorical Naming in Giving the Name
"Timber" to the Underlying Nature

Andrea Lynn Sassman, Keno, Oregon Absence of Symbolism: A Defense of Euclid's Use of Lineal Diagrams in the Number Propositions

Stacy Ann Schmidt, Lake St. Louis, Missouri Sacred Doctrine: Science or Sophistry?

Monica Mary Seeley, *Ojai*, *California* With Friends Like This, Who Needs Enemies? Covert Modernism and the Hierarchy of Ends

Joseph Boleslaw Eugenius Slotkowski Chicago, Illinois

Whether the Reductio in Proposition I.6 of Euclid's Elements Is a Quia Argument

Thomas Eric Steenson, Omaha, Nebraska Mater Dei, Mater Nostra: An Exposition of Our Lady as Mediatrix of All Grace

Jeremy Carl Temple, *Ridgecrest, California* Certainty and Confused Knowledge

Gintautas Vyŝniauskas, Vilnius, Lithuania Whether Dostoyevsky Is an Anti-Catholic

Kristen Lynn Wassell, Anchorage, Alaska The Attainment of Human Knowledge through an Active Mind: On the Necessity of the Existence of the Agent Intellect

Summer Seminars

"A Feast For the Spirit"

The last two weekends of July saw the continuation of what has become one of the most pleasant of traditions on the Thomas Aquinas College campus. Sponsored by the President's Council to introduce new friends to the College, this year's Great Books Summer Seminar weekends truly were "A Feast For the Spirit." Dr. Dillon's choice of readings for this year included The Tragedy of Macbeth by Shakespeare, Plato's Gorgias and an excerpt "On Christ's Crucifiction and Resurrection" from The Light of Faith (also known as The Compendium of Theology) by St. Thomas Aquinas.

These readings launched participants into discussion concerning the ut-

ter tragedy of man's life without God and how life with God is a great victory.

The reading from Plato illustrated how truly blessed we are to have the great intellectual and spiritual heritage of Western civilization at our fingertips. Like Christ Himself, Socrates knew that his message -that truth and justice, not worldly success and the praise of others, are necessary for happiness—would not be accepted by all, yet he spoke the truth anyway, and he paid the ultimate price for that truth with his life. Macbeth shows the depravity which results from rejecting this truth. "On Christ's Crucifiction and Resurrection" provides the perfect example of justice and truth, and the hope that we too, with God's help, can live this example.

Special thanks go to College governor Dr. Henry Zeiter and his wife, Dr. Carol Zeiter for adding a new element to the pleasures of the weekend and of College life year round. Only a few days before the start of seminar, the Zeiter's Chickering grand piano was delivered to grace the Hacienda. Saturday evening festivities were topped off with a caberet centered around the piano, with sophomore Wendy-Irene Grimm at the keyboard and Dr. Henry Zeiter conducting.

If you would like to join this group of special friends of the College next summer for a weekend on the Thomas Aquinas College campus that will truly expand the mind and restore the spirit, please call Mrs. Jacqueline Slay at (805) 525-4417, ext. 329.

"I think it is wrong to maintain that Saint Thomas's position stands up only in the realm of the rational ... Saint Thomas celebrates all the richness and complexity of each created being, and especially of the human being. It is not good that his thought has been set aside in the post-conciliar period; he continues, in fact to be the master of philosophical and theological universalism."

> John Paul II Crossing the Threshold of Hope 1994





Calendar of Events

October 11, 1996

President's Council Awards Reception, Santa Barbara, California

October 23, 1996

President's Council Awards Reception, New York City

President's Council Awards Reception, Newport Beach, California

November 21, 1996

President's Council Awards Reception, Chicago

November 22, 1996 7:30 p.m.

Friday Night Lecture: Dr. Robert Anderson, "Gambling on God" Thomas Aquinas College Campus

December 6, 1996 7:30 p.m. College Choir Advent Concert Thomas Aquinas College Campus

December 24, 1996 11:30 p.m. Midnight Mass in College Chapel

January 10, 1997 7:30 p.m. Friday Night Lecture: Dr. George Vick, UCLA Thomas Aquinas College Campus

January 24, 1997 7:30 p.m. Friday Night Lecture: Justice Antonin Scalia Thomas Aquinas College Campus

February 21, 1997 President's Day Lecture: Dr. Alan Keyes Thomas Aquinas College Campus

March 7, 1997 7:30 p.m. Friday Night Lecture: Dr. Ralph McInerny, University of Notre Dame Thomas Aquinas College Campus

March 21, 1997 7:30 p.m. Friday Night Lecture: Dr. Ronald Richard Thomas Aquinas College Campus

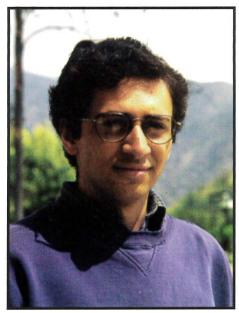
> Campus Telephone Numbers: 800/634-9797 • 805/525-4417 • FAX: 805/525-0620

Spiritual Life at TAC By John Abraham

I am in my junior year and one of many students who has converted to the Roman Catholic Faith while a student here. That is not, I think, by chance; there is a very good reason. Many Thomas Aquinas College alumni have remarked that one of the things they miss the most about the College is the daily religious life. It is difficult in this day and age to find a community which is ordered to growth in the Catholic Faith. Although students at Thomas Aguinas College are not compelled to attend religious activities, the majority do attend. Many students find that a great strength is opened to them to do their daily tasks through the Sacraments and prayer.

Those associated with Thomas Aquinas college do not think that a primary cause of religious devotion at the College lies simply in the fact that most students are catholic. For, the base of the community of the College is the life of the mind. So, the cause of this devotion is more deeply rooted; it is found in the College's program of studies. Since the Great Books curriculum at the College immerses a student who desires to know in the debate by the civilization's greatest minds about many of life's most fundamental questions, he must look in his quest for truth for the aid of not only one greater than himself but greater than

The program of study at Thomas Aquinas College is structured with the view that knowledge of God is the ultimate end of all human knowledge. As a student like me proceeds through the program, this structure and the reasons for it become more evident. In turn, this leads the student to see that duty to God is not an isolated aspect of his life but



John Abraham

should permeate all aspects of his life as the ordering principle and the end of his activities. Many students also make this realization through the example given by the tutors of the college, such as the great devotion of many of the tutors to the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and the goodness they bring to their various community and political activities; the students see in the lives of the Tutors the good attained by an active pursuit of God.

Students at Thomas Aguinas College turn to their Source not only in purely religious activities, but in their daily classroom activities, in their dorm life, and even in dining hall conversations. At Thomas Aguinas College, the student comes to realize that functions which seem to be secular not only do have a place for the Divine, but must find a place for Him if they are to be com-

St. Albert the Great Science Building

Lead Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Smith Kicks Off Campaign

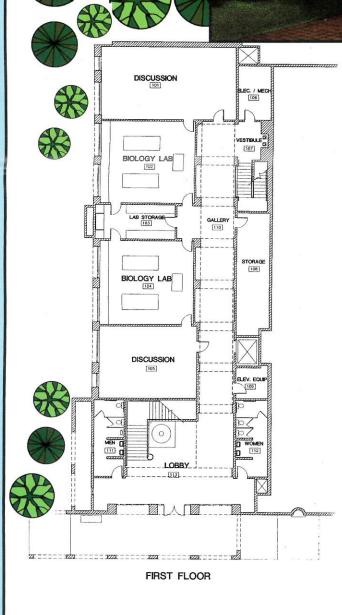


Dr. & Mrs. William W. Smith

A member of the College's Board of Governors and it's Chairman since 1991, Dr. William W. Smith is leading the way towards raising the funds necessary to construct St. Albert Hall, the new science building on campus. As Chairman of the Science Hall committee and with his wife, Gerry, Dr. Smith has made a lead gift of \$100,000. Dr. Smith and Mrs. Smith deeply believe in the importance of the mission of the College.

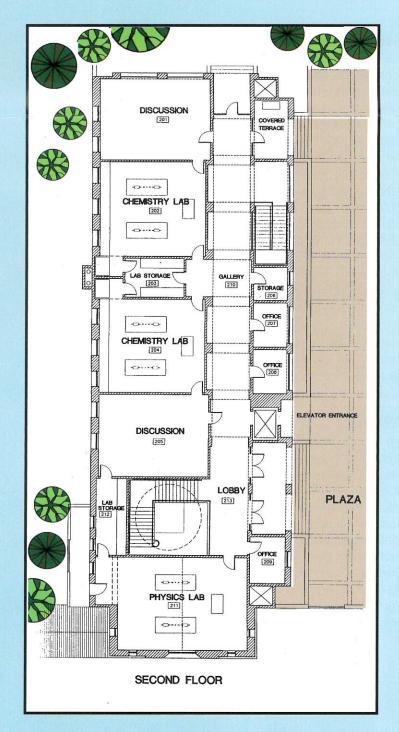
St. Albert Hall will house five wellequipped laboratories and four discussion rooms. The design also includes a twostory naturally lighted atrium featuring a Foucault pendulum. The first and second floor corridors will be lined with display cases for exhibits of the many wonders of the natural world.





The 12,000 sq. ft. building serves as a link between the upper campus, where St. Joseph Commons and the dormitories are located, and the lower campus, which is organized around an academic quadrangle composed of the library, classroom buildings, and the chapel when completed.

From the upper campus, students enter the building on the second floor; from the quadrangle, one enters through a lobby on the lower level. St. Albert Hall is fronted by an arcade which serves as a unifying architectural motif for the quadrangle. The project includes a grand staircase (not visible in the drawing) connecting the upper campus with the quadrangle.



Donors interested in supporting this project should contact Daniel Grimm or Peter Lemmon at the Development Office.

Pontifical Institute in Austria Opens with Michael Waldstein '77 as President

In the heart of Europe, 100 miles from Vienna, stands Kartause Maria Thron. Established in 1330, this Carthusian monastery became a center of culture and learning in the Renaissance, a bulwark against the Turkish invasion in the 1770's. Dissolved in 1782 by the "enlightened prince" Josef II, the extensive monastery church and buildings have recently been restored. It is the new home to the International Theological Institute, a pontifical institute for study of marriage and family, with close connections to Thomas Aquinas College.



The new president of this institute is Dr. Michael M. Waldstein, Class of '77. Recently a professor at a well-known university in South Bend, Indiana, Dr. Waldstein was appointed to found this important institute by Archbishop Christoph Schönborn of Vienna, wellknown as editor of the Universal Catechism of the Catholic Church.

While father is starting a new graduate school, Susan Burnham Waldstein (Class of '78) and the six Waldstein children are adjusting to a new home. They have lived in Dallas, Rome, Harvard, South Bend, Tübingen, South Bend again, and now Gaming, Austria, where Maria Thron is situated.

"The Institute's program is in many respects inspired by the Thomas Aquinas College program," said Dr. Waldstein. "Among these are extensive use of primary sources, and a particular devotion to St. Thomas. However, be-

As announced in our last Newslet-

ter, Miss Ginger Mortensen has joined

the Thomas Aquinas College team as

National Special Events Coordinator. Mrs. Jacqueline Slay continues to ar-

range College special events on campus

and throughout California. Ginger and

Jackie look forward to meeting and work-

ing with many friends of the College

Special Events -

cause of our special mission from Rome to instruct students from eastern Europe and former Soviet bloc states, we attempt to study both eastern and western ditions - more



theological tra- Dr. Michael M. Waldstein, Class of 1977

Greek fathers, and some Orthodox theologians who draw on the Greek fathers. As the Pope recently expressed it, 'to breathe with both lungs of the Church." Also studied are modern theologians particularly respected by Archbishop Schönborn and Dr. Waldstein: Henri deLubac, Romano Guardini, and Hans Urs von Balthasar.

"The Catholic understanding of marriage," Dr. Waldstein insists, "requires a theological understanding of the fundamental truths of faith: the Trinity, the Incarnation, nature and grace. For this reason, I am happy that the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome has insisted that all of our students go through the entire integrated curriculum we designed for the Master's Degree.' Waldstein relates that when he and Archbishop Schönborn recently presented the Institute's program of studies to Cardinal Ratzinger in Rome, the Cardinal was thrilled.

The Institute is dedicated to St. Zdislava, a Bohemian saint of the middle ages. As a wife and mother of four, she converted her violent husband to peaceful charity. After his death, she became a Dominican and established many Dominican houses in Bohemia. The fittingness of this patron for the institute has a personal side as well: both the Waldstein and Schönborn families come from Bohemia, and Archbishop Schönborn is a Dominican.

Two Thomas Aquinas College graduates are among the 48 students now attending. In addition to eight students from the U.S., there are students from Ukraine, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Serbia, Lithuania, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Moldavia, India, Poland and Slovenia.

Zeiter and his wife Carol, had a pleasant evening introducing the College to Phil & Joan Knox and Tom & Lise Knox at the Del Paso Country Club. The Knoxes, father and son, practice law with Mr. Lemmon in Sacramento. Peter Lemmon and Daniel and Rose Grimm were also on hand to represent the College and laugh at each other's jokes.

The first event to kick off our 1996-1997 Program of Special Events will be



during the coming year.



Mrs. Jacqueline Slay

An intimate dinner to introduce new friends to Thomas Aquinas College was held in Sacramento on April 27, hosted by John and Patricia Lemmon. After gathering at the Lemmon's home for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, President's Council members Henry and Wendy Tiechert and College governor Henry



held in Santa Barbara on October 11. The event will honor four very special friends of the College: Sir Daniel J. Donohue, Mrs. Jerome K. Doolan, and Hon. & Mrs. William P. Clark. Our gracious hosts for this event are Mrs. Jerome K. Doolan and Miss Rosemary E. Donohue.

The First Step Begins With You

As we begin to recruit the young men and women who will be our freshmen in September, 1997, I am reminded that, as with every other venture, a good beginning is more than half the work. In this case, the beginning is with you, the readers of the Thomas Aquinas College Newsletter! Many of the young people who enter the College each year have been guided by family or friends, teachers or religious to seek a college education which supports the good moral and spiritual formation they have received and which greatly aids in developing their intellectual abilities.

The significance of this part in the task of preparing young people to meet the secular challenge and effectively witness to the beautiful harmony between faith and reason can hardly be overstated. My experience over the years as Admissions Director for Thomas Aguinas College testifies to the preeminent importance of the personal interest family and friends have taken in prospective students as they make decisions which will profoundly affect their whole

In the daily classroom work of teaching and learning at Thomas Aquinas College, asking the right questions can be the first and most important step in understanding difficult matters. So it is no surprise that helping young people frame the primary questions they should answer might be the wisest counsel you can give them as they choose their college education.

Some questions they might ask are important but secondary: "What city should my college be in? Can I join the soccer or debate teams, theater or jazz clubs? Can I participate in student government or write for the student newspaper? Will I find immediate employment after graduation?" Others are primary and essential: "How might I best develop my God-given intelligence and best prepare myself to live the life of charity and service God has chosen for me? What should be the principal aim of my undergraduate years? What role should teachers, texts, and tradition have in my basic education?" The answers to these primary questions are tied most closely to understanding the primary reasons for choosing one college or another. And they lead, I believe, to a compelling case for the excellence of Catholic liberal education!

And speak-



Thomas J. Susanka

ing of primary questions, ask these of yourself: What students among my acquaintances would be well suited to pursuing Catholic liberal education at Thomas Aguinas College? Which would be interested in widening their intellectual horizons before narrowing their focus on a specific career? Which are seeking a community where students and teachers alike are learning from the primary sources of our civilization from Aristotle and Isaiah to St. Thomas Aquinas and Thomas Jefferson? Who has a broad range of academic interests, likes to read, enjoys philosophical and religious discussions, loves the truth and especially the Truth of the Catholic faith? Can I make time to speak about Thomas Aquinas College with those I've watched grow into young adults who are determined to make their lives worthwhile and who could bring the light and love of Christ to their community when they return from college?

And so a call goes out from the Admissions Office to all of you who receive this Newsletter to help us introduce Thomas Aquinas College to your friends and family members who might be prospective students. Even you who are vourselves prospective students can do this! Sometimes, simply bringing the College to prospective students' attention may be all that's needed. If you have someone in mind who should hear about the College, we'd welcome your telephone call at 800-634-9797. Or write us – we've conveniently included a place to reply on the card in the Newsletter! Your response to this call can, as in previous years, substantially increase the number and quality of our freshman class ... and can help set a young adult on the lifelong path of learning.

College "Law Firm" Admitted to the U.S. High Court Bar

On June 10, 1996, Daniel J. Grimm and Peter D. Lemmon of the Thomas Aquinas College Office of General

Counsel traveled to Washington, D. C. There, along with other alumni of Mc-George School of Law in Sacramento, they were admitted to the Bar of the Su-



Daniel Grimm, Esq.

preme Court of the United States. In a solemn ceremony, Chief Justice William Rhenquist administered the oath, with the other eight justices also in attendance. Both Mr. Grimm and Mr. Lemmon were nominated to receive this honor and privilege by fellow lawyer and friend of the College, William Bently Ball, Esq. and his partners Richard E. Connell and

Maura K. Quinlan, both from Mr. Ball's firm of Ball, Skelly, Murren & Connell in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. One of the



been nominated for election to the College's Board of Governors.

Though Thomas Aquinas Col-

best-known Con-

stitutional lawyers

in the nation, Mr.

Ball has recently

lege does not anticipate an immediate need for representation in the United States Supreme Court, as members of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, Mr. Grimm and Mr. Lemmon were offered this opportunity and now have the right and honor to argue cases in the highest court in our land.