

# FULL ACCREDITATION! (see p.4)



## Thomas Aquinas College NEWSLETTER Spring 1980



10000 N. Ojai Rd., Santa Paula, California 93060



*Dr. Colin G. Clark, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, spoke to the graduates on population and the Christian economy.*

### NOTED CATHOLIC ECONOMIST RECEIVES AQUINAS MEDALLION

*Mr. Thomas P. Sullivan, Chairman of the Board of Governors, made the following presentation.*

In 1975, the Governors of Thomas Aquinas College established the St. Thomas Aquinas Medallion as a means by which the College may recognize and honor those who have demonstrated by their life and work an extraordinary dedication to God and to His Church.

It is the considered judgment of the Board of Governors that Dr. Colin G. Clark exemplifies just such dedication.

He has achieved great distinction as a teacher, writer, and lecturer in the field of economics, providing an illumination of economic matters calculated to lead to the genuine alleviation of poverty and suffering. As a Catholic layman, he has provided counsel to the Church at the highest level and has defended her teachings throughout the world.

As a member of the Board of Visitors of Thomas Aquinas College from the time of its founding, he has provided counsel and encouragement to the College in its formative years.

Therefore, the Governors of Thomas Aquinas College, on behalf of the whole College community, and as a small token of our respect and appreciation, have unanimously resolved to present to Dr. Colin G. Clark the St. Thomas Aquinas Medallion for the year 1980.

## SIXTH GRADUATING CLASS

On Saturday, June 7th, Thomas Aquinas College held its sixth Baccalaureate Mass and Annual Commencement. Among those assembled to honor the 24 men and women finishing their four years of study were their families and friends, many of their fellow students, the faculty and the Board of Governors of the College, and a large number of alumni and former students.

"You are growing up into a decaying civilization," Dr. Colin Clark warned the graduates. "Because of this," he said in his Commencement Address, "you will be in particular need of the virtues of courage and hope." Exhorting them not to lose heart, Dr. Clark offered as a hope the fact that ours is the only civilization built on the Christian faith and that it may prove capable of resurrection. "But this is the task which is going to fall upon your own generation," he told the graduates, emphasizing that "the decline of population is central to the decline of civilization. My first hope is that you will bear and bring up children."

In the course of the Commencement exercise, the part that their years at Thomas Aquinas College should play during the rest of their lives was repeatedly emphasized. Speaking for the seniors, Gregory J. Becher pledged, "that the intellectual habits and disciplines which we

have cultivated here shall not be forgotten; rather, we shall utilize these habits in our careers, and more importantly, we shall pursue them throughout our lives."

Dr. Ronald McArthur, President of the College, reminded the graduating class that much will be expected of them. They have been blessed with an education based on the writings of the greatest scientists, philosophers, and theologians. "You must not flinch; rather, you must shoulder the burden of our world even beyond your share of it...and you must do so with the sign of the cross on your heart and your lips..."

The Baccalaureate Mass, Commencement Address, and conferring of degrees took place on the lawns of the lush green park which is part of the College property and which sits below the meadow on which the campus is being built. One tutor described the exercises as "a magnificent ceremony which links the graduates and faculty of the College to an academic tradition extending back through the years to the great days of the universities of Oxford and Paris and even to the cathedral schools of the middle ages." After the exercises, many of the more than 500 who witnessed them gathered in the dining room of St. Joseph Commons Building for a meal hosted by the College.



### Class of 1980

*The seniors gathered for an informal picture in the Hacienda park on campus. Standing left to right are Kristin Kazzyak, Tilla de Wit, Katie Wynne, Terese Syren, Cathy Walsh, Lisa Stupar, Denise Martel, Patty Coleman, Ann Mills, Casey Milligan, Peggy Zepeda, Marie Moore, Jean Fischer; seated are Rich Collins, Greg Becher, David Bjornstrom, Bill Short, Jerry Stets, Ed Hopkins, Randy Russell, Mike deTar, Steve Ginski, Tim Harrod, Kelly Geier.*

Paul Raab photo

# PRESIDENT'S GREETING TO GUESTS AND CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

## GREETING

It is a privilege as well as a joy for all of us at this College to welcome you to our lovely campus. You have, as parents, relatives, and friends of these students been the source of the success whose evidence you witness today. It is because you have cared for these graduates-to-be before we ever saw them that we have been able to contribute to your duty as educators; and had you not prepared them so well we would surely have failed in our attempt to cultivate their minds and enliven their hearts.

You have, then, been our partners in Christian education, and as such our welcome extends not only to the present but to every other time as well—for this campus, dedicated to Almighty God and His Church, stands ready to receive you whenever you can come to visit.

We hope this day will remain memorable

in your lives as it will, because of you, remain memorable in our own.

## CHARGE TO GRADUATES

Our Lord Himself has told us to use our abilities, to light our candle and put it atop the mountain, and to proclaim the joyful news. So much did He insist that we not bury our treasure that He has promised to take away our gifts if we fail to use them well.

And such is the law of life that those who are blessed with more have more responsibilities, and that more is expected of them.

You have begun your education as Christians; you have seen the glory of the faithful mind in the writings of the fathers and doctors of the Church; you have seen as well the highest natural wisdom in the writings and treatises of the greatest philosophers, scientists, poets, playwrights,

historians and novelists; you have learned to appreciate your Church, your civilization, and your country; and you can see as a consequence the dangers of our time in almost every avenue of life.

But you must not flinch; rather you must shoulder the burden of our world even beyond your just share of it -- it is always the minority who maintain the good, the true, and the beautiful -- and you must do so with the sign of the cross on your heart and your lips and ever more perfectly; so that, as you prepare for your meeting with Christ at the final judgment you can say more and more with St. Paul that "It is now not I but Christ in me" who has done the things you will have done to preserve and enhance all that is noble and good in our lives.

May God be with you.

—Ronald P. McArthur

## Senior Speaker Addresses Future Graduates

*The senior address was delivered by Gregory J. Becher of Lancaster, Wisconsin. He will pursue graduate studies in mathematics at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.*

During our past four years at Thomas Aquinas College we, the graduating class, have received numerous blessings and benefits from our tutors, our families, and one another; however, before we leave, we would like to ask for one more thing. We would like to ask of those of you who are not graduating today, of those still pursuing this education, and of those who will do so in years to come, that you aim to take advantage of all that Thomas Aquinas College has to offer.

The distinctive mark of this College is the curriculum, unique among all colleges and universities in that it incorporates the works of the greatest minds of western civilization into a framework of Christian philosophy. We ask that you read each work as it was meant to be read, not as exemplifying an historical period, or the author's personality, but as an endeavor to elucidate certain fundamental truths. In class, as you examine these works, and the matters they treat, be more concerned with acquiring truth than expounding opinion. And always keep in mind that your efforts will come to nothing if you neglect to retain these truths and draw them together with a sense of the whole.

Another feature which sets this college apart is the faculty, tutors, who by their wisdom and dedication have been a model for us all. We ask that you do not hesitate to make full use of them in your studies here; rather, that you press them to the very limits of their knowledge and abilities in your efforts to acquire a liberal education. Nor should you neglect to enrich yourselves with the wealth of experience and insight to be obtained from your fellow

students. Enjoy with them the fruit of your common endeavor. For here in this small, congenial community, friendships can be formed of that true and lasting nature, found only where there is likeness of principles and unity of purpose. This spirit of the students, with the guidance of the tutors, forms an integral part of the atmosphere of learning which prevails here on our campus. This atmosphere, fostered and maintained by the school's codes and customs, must be preserved in order to provide the setting most conducive to a life of study.

But the life of study itself, is ordered to, and perfected by, the higher end of union with Christ, our Saviour. Therefore, avail yourself of the Mass, the sacraments, and other devotions provided at the College. Realize that all your studies in this curriculum are primarily aimed at increasing your knowledge and love of God and His creation.

In short, we ask that you keep your sights on the highest goals of the College, so that you may never let pass any of these opportunities with which you have been blessed by the providence of Almighty God. In this way, too, you will best show your appreciation for all that you have received.

We graduates realize that we can best express our gratitude for this education in the conduct of our lives. Therefore, we pledge that the intellectual habits and disciplines which we have cultivated here shall not be forgotten; rather, we shall utilize these habits in our careers, and more importantly, we shall pursue them throughout our lives.

We pledge that we shall use the light of reason, guided by the principles of our faith, to combat the errors of humanism and scepticism which have corrupted our society. We shall use Christian philosophy to bear witness to our faith, and to lead our families, our friends, and our country in the ways of genuine freedom; so that one day we may all meet again in the Kingdom of God.

We pray that these pledges may be fulfilled, and that their fulfillment may stand as an acknowledgment of our gratitude to you who have made this education possible.



*Commencement exercises began with the Mass of the Holy Spirit. As the graduates entered in procession, they were greeted by "Lobet den Herren" sung by the College Choir.*

# DR. CLARK URGES YOUNG PARENTS TO HAVE LARGER FAMILIES

Australian economist, Colin G. Clark, author of "The Myth of Overpopulation", claims that young people should ignore dire predictions about overpopulation. Instead, they should marry, and have large families.

"Even at present levels of agricultural science," he says, "a properly cultivated world could support ten times its present numbers on an American-style diet. On a Japanese diet, three times as many as that could live."

Speaking to the sixth graduating class of Thomas Aquinas College, Dr. Clark warned that Western Europe, North America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand are already dangerously below "Zero Population Growth."

He said that concern about shrinking "resources" is based on faulty statistics and a fundamental misunderstanding of the term. "Our greatest resource," he said, "is people working. If you are concerned about depleting mineral resources, the low cost of mining shares suggests no such likelihood. Metals prices have been more stable than other commodities for seventy years, and some like aluminum have declined in price because of abundant supplies."

As Director of the Oxford University Institute on Agricultural Economics for twenty years, Dr. Clark was especially concerned that farmers were already being discouraged from further production because of declining prices. Reduced demand for food belies the overpopulation hypothesis.

"All rising civilizations had growing populations," Dr. Clark pointed out, "a

declining population is one sign of a declining civilization."

Dr. Clark argued that a "free market" economy is the best hope of providing economic justice. He cited the Papal teachings against both socialism and capitalism because these extremes distort the state in favor of the holders of capital, whether private or public.

He urged local governments to encourage small business according to the principle of "decentralization," found in Papal encyclicals. He observed that national minimum wage laws violate this principle, discourage small business from hiring young people, and contribute to unemployment.

The reduced number of young people employed added to their reduced numbers absolutely results in fewer productive young people to provide tax revenues for the support of social programs like social security.

"There is a revolt of the young," said Dr. Clark, "against supporting an ever growing older population just when their declining numbers are least capable of supporting such a burden."

Dr. Clark was awarded the Thomas Aquinas Medallion in recognition of his life and work of service to the Church and his fellow man. In addition to his academic work, Dr. Clark has been an adviser to the British and Australian governments, a member of the French Academy of Agriculture, and a member of the Pope's Commission on Population.

He has been a member of the Thomas Aquinas College Board of Visitors since its founding in 1971.

## GRADUATE STUDIES

Almost half of the class of 1980 plans graduate or professional studies: Catherine Wynne of Atherton, California will attend law school at Boalt Hall of U.C. Berkeley. She was also accepted at Harvard and Stanford law schools. David Bjornstrom of Santa Rosa, California will attend Hastings School of Law, having been accepted also at Loyola, U.S.F., U.O.P. and U.C. Davis. Bill Short of Ridgefield, Connecticut was accepted at St. John's University Law School in New York, but will probably attend Notre Dame. Also heading for law school is Steve Ginski of Memphis, Tennessee who has been accepted at Pepperdine Law School, but is also considering Marquette and the University of Tennessee. Marie Moore of Carrollton, Georgia will be in the Emory University graduate program in art history. Kelly Geier of Fresno and Richard Collins of San Jose will be studying electrical engineering at the state universities in their home towns. Greg Becher of Lancaster, Wisconsin plans graduate studies in mathematics at the University of Wisconsin.

Cathy Walsh of Phoenix will attend the St. John's program in Catechetics, Advanced Studies in Catholic Doctrine, while continuing her studies in mathematics. Randy Russell of Yakima, Washington will be taking pre-med courses at the University of Washington.

In news of past graduates, William Howard, class of 1977, has completed Notre Dame Law School and is going to the firm of Henahan, Donovan and Isaacson in Chicago. Daniel Grimm, class of 1976, has completed McGeorge Law School of the University of the Pacific and passed the California State Bar Examination. Jonathan Teichert, class of 1976, has been admitted to the Georgetown Medical School. Noreen Barr, class of 1979, has spent a year working directly with Phyllis Schlafly in combatting the ERA. She plans to enter law school in the fall, probably at Washington University in St. Louis. Sallie Most, class of 1979, is an editorial assistant with *The Wanderer* newspaper.

## Spring Lectures

REVEREND HAROLD O. KOENIG

"A Sample of Biblical Criticism"

Reverend Koenig, canon of the Episcopal Cathedral in Jackson, Mississippi and Chaplain of St. Andrew's Day School, lectured at the College on Biblical criticism. Taking texts, treating St. Paul's authority and his relation to the other apostles, chiefly from Acts and Galatians, he presented a sample of the kind of criticism which contemporary believing Protestant scholars employ. His defense of their procedure led to a search for the grounds of such criticism and a comparison of traditional and modern as well as Catholic and Protestant approaches.

RICHARD S. WESTFALL

"Order of Composition of the *Principia*"

Dr. Westfall, distinguished Professor of the History of Science at Indiana University, lectured on May 16th on stages in the growth of Newton's *Principia*. Professor Westfall, one of the foremost Newtonian scholars of our times, detailed the developments in 17th century mechanics and physics, Newton's own early scientific thought, and finally the various drafts which ultimately became the great work studied in the junior laboratory tutorial at the College. A lively question period concentrated on the distinction between kinematics and dynamics and on the reality and necessity of Newtonian forces.

LAWRENCE SHIELDS

"Nature as a Principle of Motion and Change"

In his lecture, Mr. Shields, a tutor at Thomas Aquinas College, noted an oddity in the use of the terms "motion" and "change" in Aristotle's *Physics*. He suggested that Aristotle's special use of terms like "moves" and "moving", if not taken notice of, proves to make the argument of that work puzzling and difficult.

Having claimed that the *Physics* aims to argue the existence of a primary, unmoved, moving being, who is without magnitude and which is the ultimate cause of the primary, circular motion of the spherical cosmos, Mr. Shields sketched Aristotle's particular manner of arguing to that conclusion. He commented upon its harmony with a view that God regularly acts in nature, not immediately, but rather through the mediation of beings which are better and higher than man is. He then suggested that it was a deep consequence of the "Copernican Revolution" of the 16th and 17th centuries that a persuading argument for the existence of such voluntary, intelligent agents whose ceaseless natural activity was visibly manifest in the changeless movements of the heavenly bodies was undermined and has never been reestablished.

## ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The College has received a near record number of applicants for admission to the class of 1984, Admissions Director Thomas Susanka reported. Because of this, the College is making plans for taking a third section of Freshmen for this fall. Adding this section will mean increasing the size of the Freshman class.

"The policy of the Admissions Committee is still to evaluate each application on its own merits as soon as it is completed," Mr. Susanka said. "The Committee does not accumulate applications, judge them competitively all at once, and accept only the best, as is done elsewhere," he said. This means that prospective students who may not yet even have begun their applications may still be accepted into the class to begin their studies in September. Traditionally, the College has accepted each year a sizeable number of students who had not begun their applications until the summer before they wished to enter. Mr. Susanka believes the lateness of these applications may be due in part to the fact that the College is not well known among high school students who may learn of the school late in their senior year even after they have been accepted into other Colleges. "Furthermore, as in my own case, every year the College accepts students who have had experience at another college but who have not been satisfied with their education there."

With the opening of the third section, prospective students who have not yet submitted their applications may still do so and have them considered for admission as Freshmen this fall. But they are encouraged to begin applying without delay.

Many qualified young men and women whose character, intelligence, interests, and values would make them good candidates for Thomas Aquinas College are unaware of its program of Catholic liberal education proceeding through the Great Books.

## REPRINTS AVAILABLE

A reprint of Dr. Colin G. Clark's Commencement address is available by writing the College. You may request a list of other articles and essays reprinted under the auspices of the College.



Mr. and Mrs. Willard Voit of Balboa donated this Madonna and Child with John the Baptist by Andrea del Verrocchio.

# COLLEGE NOW FULLY ACCREDITED BY W.A.S.C.

Thomas Aquinas College is now fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

This marks the culmination of an extensive self-study process involving all segments of the College community for the past year, as well as nine years of sustained effort to establish a serious Catholic institution of higher learning which would command the respect and recognition of the secular education establishment without compromising the College's founding principles.

From the opening of classes in 1971, the College has had the blessing and approbation of the Archbishop of Los Angeles, first His Eminence James Francis Cardinal McIntyre and now His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Manning. A reverence for the magisterium of the Church makes this the most important approval.

Also in 1971 came course approval

from the State of California which authorized granting degrees to the first graduating class in 1975. Candidacy for accreditation was granted by W.A.S.C. in 1976 and renewed in 1978.

Individual recognition of Aquinas degrees by graduate and professional schools began with the first class. The list of schools and subject areas grew each year to include the most prestigious institutions in the United States.

Full accreditation is of the utmost importance to the College's continued success and planned growth. Potential students need no longer be concerned about the validity of the degree; graduates will find smoother access to graduate studies; foundations and companies previously restricted from aiding the College development program will now be able to make grants toward building the remainder of the permanent buildings.

## IN MEMORIAM DOYLE SWAIN 1925-1980

The College family notes the passing of Mr. Doyle Swain, a long time personal friend of President Ronald P. McArthur, Mr. Peter L. DeLuca and other officers of the College; he supported and counseled the founders of Thomas Aquinas College from the time of the initial drafts of the *Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education*. An intellectual in the best sense, Mr. Swain supported the efforts of Thomas Aquinas College, was a member of the Philadelphia Society, contributor to the Academy of Political Science, the American Political Science Association, and the Association for International Development. He was the recipient of the distinguished Service Award from Harding College, the Certificate of Honor and the George Washington Medal of Honor conferred by the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge. A member of the Church of Christ, and widely respected in religious and educational circles, Mr. Swain served Harding College and Pepperdine University; more recently, he was Chief Research Analyst for Health Services of Los Angeles County. Mr. Swain is survived by his wife Mary and sons John and Timothy. Your prayers are requested for the repose of his soul.

## TUITION INCREASE

Peter L. DeLuca, III, College Vice President, has announced the tuition, board and room rates for the academic year 1980-81. As established by the Governors of Thomas Aquinas College, the charge for tuition will be \$3,700 and for room and board \$2,050. The total, \$5,750, is an \$800 increase over the fees for the 1979-80 academic year. There are no separate fees beyond the tuition, room and board.

He pointed out that even after the increase, the school's charges are less than those of other Catholic co-educational colleges in California, and much less than those of non-Catholic private colleges. "The extraordinary rate of inflation in California has necessitated these increases," said Mr. DeLuca. Further, unlike most other colleges, Thomas Aquinas receives no subsidy, and therefore depends on private charitable contributions to make up the difference between income from tuition and the operating and capital expenses.

The College will continue its program of financial aid offered on the basis of demonstrated need.

## ACCREDITATION EFFORT

Dr. Dillon, Accreditation Liaison Officer, would like to extend his thanks to all the graduates and former students who responded to the accreditation questionnaires. The quality of the responses was impressive. Further, they were significant in giving the members of the visiting team a good sense of the effectiveness of the education offered by the College. The accreditation team's report stated the following:

"The follow up of graduates, which is done extremely well, shows that graduates have been successful in pursuing meaningful careers upon graduation, whether in the home, in various occupations, or in graduate school."

"The questionnaires sent to graduates show clearly that they are very much satisfied with the education they received at Thomas Aquinas and that they believe that their total life has been enriched through their college experience."

As these remarks indicate, the questionnaires were useful in the accreditation effort, and thanks is owed to those who sacrificed their time to respond to them.