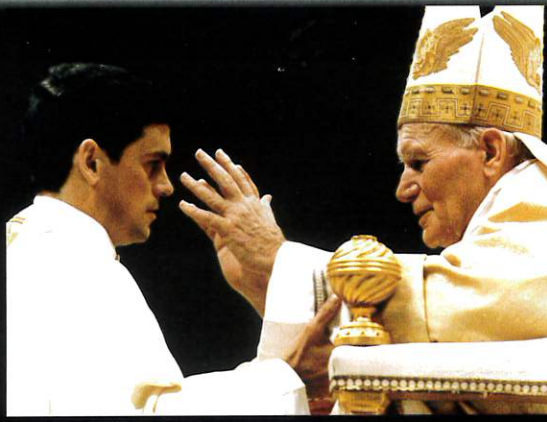




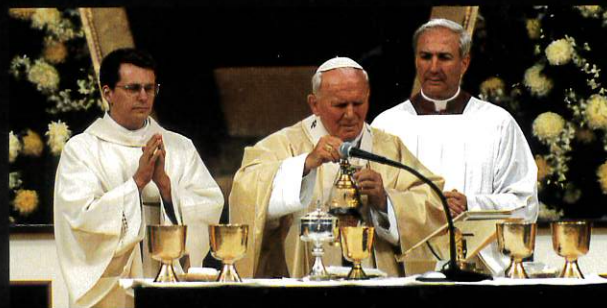
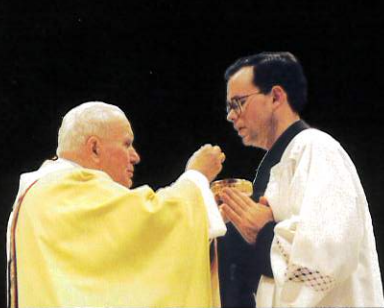
THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2005



L to R: President and Mrs. Thomas E. Dillon receive the Holy Father's blessing on the plans for Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity Chapel during Easter week 2003; Rev. Edward Hopkins, L.C. ('80) at his ordination with Pope John Paul II. President and Mrs. Dillon were presented to Pope John Paul II by a member of the College's Board of Governors, former Ambassador to the Holy See, William A. Wilson, in 1997.

THE COMMUNITY OF THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE PRAYS FOR THE HAPPY REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF OUR BELOVED HOLY FATHER, POPE JOHN PAUL II, 1920-2005.



L to R: Susie ('78) and Michael Waldstein ('77) with Pope John Paul II in 2003. Dr. Waldstein is president of the International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family in Gaming, Austria. The Waldsteins are one of 10 couples worldwide who are members of the Pontifical Council for the Family. At his ordination to the diaconate, Rev. Paul Moreau, L.C. ('89) received Holy Communion from Pope John Paul II. Rev. John Higgins ('90) of the Archdiocese of New York (left) assisting as a deacon at Mass with Pope John Paul II in Central Park in August 1993. Pia de Solenni ('93), Director of Life and Women's Issues at the Family Research Council, receiving the 2001 Award of the Pontifical Academies from Pope John Paul II for her dissertation on St. Thomas Aquinas and feminism.

Avery Cardinal Dulles to Preside at Commencement

College to Honor America's Only Theologian-Cardinal with Saint Thomas Aquinas Medallion

His Eminence Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J., will preside over Commencement ceremonies, serve as principal celebrant of the Baccalaureate Mass, and deliver the Commencement Address at Thomas Aquinas College on May 14, 2005. The Homilist at the Baccalaureate Mass will be the Reverend Monsignor George J. Parnassus, pastor emeritus of St. Vincent Church in West Hollywood, California, and long-time friend of the College.

By resolution of the College's Board of Governors, Cardinal Dulles will also be awarded the Saint Thomas Aquinas Medallion, an honor established by the Board in 1975. The resolution states: "Cardinal Dulles has shown an exemplary loyalty and devotion to the Holy Father and the *Magisterium* of the Church. As an author and in his numerous appointments, he has worked tirelessly to proclaim, support, and defend the teachings of the Church, and to advance the mission of Christ on earth."

Although this will be Cardinal Dulles's first trip to the campus, he has been a friend of the College for several years. He served as a member of the *Fides et Ratio* grant committee when it awarded the College a grant of \$300,000 in 2002. That organization was founded by Dr. and Mrs. Donald D'Amour to promote the teachings found in the papal encyclical of the same name regarding Catholic institutions of higher education.

The son of John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State in the Eisenhower Administration, and Janet Pomeroy Avery Dulles, the 86-year-old cardinal was born in Auburn, New York, and graduated from Harvard College in 1940. He converted to Catholicism while spending a year and a half at

Harvard Law School. In 1946, he entered the Jesuit Order and in 1956 was ordained to the priesthood. The only American theologian ever to be named to the College of Cardinals, he was "given the red hat" by Pope John Paul II on February 21, 2001.

Cardinal Dulles has held the Laurence J. McGinley Chair of Religion and Society at Fordham University since 1988. He is an advisor to the Committee on Doctrine of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and a member of the International Theological Commission. He has also received an impressive array of awards, including Phi Beta Kappa, the Croix de Guerre, the Cardinal Spellman Award for distinguished achievement in theology, the Cardinal Gibbons Award from The Catholic University of America, the John Carroll Society Medal, and 28 honorary doctorates.

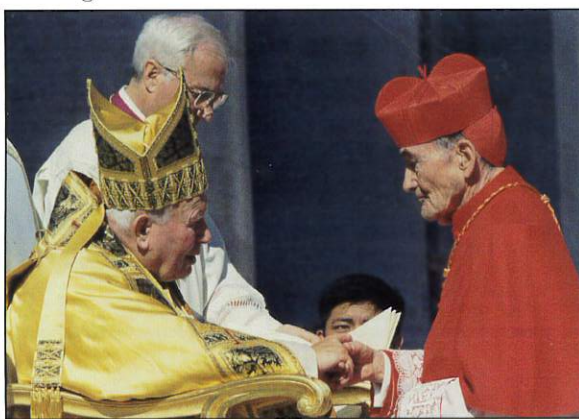
An internationally known author and lecturer, Cardinal Dulles has published over 22 books and 700 articles on theological topics. In the last few years, he has written about the Church's stand on such issues as hell, capital punishment, reception of the Eucharist by public figures who reject the Church's moral teachings, and the history of religion in the United States. His most recent book, about Venerable John Henry Cardinal Newman and simply titled *Newman*, was published by Continuum Press in 2002.

Since his ordination in 1956, Cardinal Dulles has held many distinguished academic positions and visiting appointments. From 1974 to 1988, he was a professor of theology at The Catholic University of America. In addition, he has been a visiting lecturer and professor of theology at numerous universities,

including: the Gregorian University in Rome, Princeton Theological Seminary, Boston College, Campion Hall, Oxford University, the University of Notre Dame, the American College at Louvain, Yale University, and St. Joseph's Seminary in New York.

Cardinal Dulles will be the eighth cardinal to preside over Commencement at the College. Previous commencement speakers include Francis Cardinal Arinze (2004), J. Francis Cardinal Stafford (2003), Christoph Cardinal Schönborn (2002), Francis Cardinal George (2001), the late Jan Cardinal Schotte (1999), Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua (1998), and the late John Cardinal O'Connor (1989).

Ceremonies on May 14th will begin with the Baccalaureate Mass at 9:00 a.m., followed by a continental breakfast. Commencement will be at 11:00 a.m.



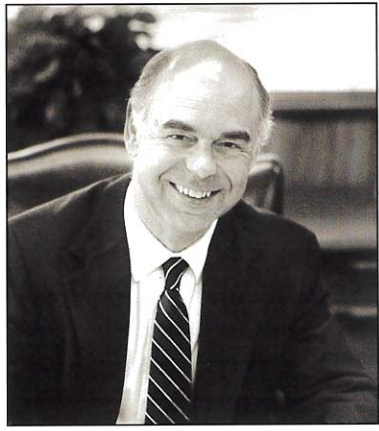
Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J., was elevated to the rank of cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 2001.

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From the Desk of the President

Reflections on Fatherhood



In recent months, the community of Thomas Aquinas College has been saddened by a number of deaths: Emeritus Board member J. Edward Martin; friends John Cohn, Msgr. John Huhmann, His Eminence Jan Cardinal Schotte (our 1999 Commencement Speaker); a May 2005 graduate, Paul Levine; a 1987 alumna, Jackie Lemmon, who was a 39-year-old wife and mother of nine; former student and brother of two of our graduates, Andrew Keeler, who was killed in Iraq on Good Friday; and, as I write this, only yesterday, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, with whom my wife and I were privileged to have two audiences, sharing with him just two Easters ago our plans for Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity Chapel.

Such losses are hard to bear, and they are especially difficult for those closest to the deceased, who mourn the deprivation of their presence. As difficult as it is to endure the loss of those whom we love and whose company we cherish, their passing is a powerful and sobering reminder to us who are left behind of the most fundamental reality of the human condition—our personal mortality.

In our contemporary culture, we are conditioned to ignore our steady and inevitable movement toward death—and thus also to ignore searching out the Source of our existence and the final destination of this our life's journey. The incontrovertible fact is, however, that we find ourselves born into a world with a history that precedes us, and we cannot account for our own being—we are not the fashioners of our own intelligence, our bodily nature, our capacity to love or to aspire to exalted deeds. Should we not, therefore, wholeheartedly and whole-mindedly pursue what must be the most basic human question of all: "From whence do I come, and whither do I go?"

The first reading in the College's freshman seminar, Homer's *Iliad*, engenders questions about the nature of our existence and about that for which we should live. What is perhaps most striking about the *Iliad* is that it shows so well certain puzzling contradictions of our human life. There is the beauty and grandeur of nature, the pleasure of friendship, the nobility of courage, the sweetness of compassion. At the same time, however, there is what is dark in the soul: there is pain, there is suffering, and most of all, there is death. All of us, deep down, know full well this disturbing truth that the Greeks in the *Iliad* knew—that we must die, that we are not the masters of our existence. Nevertheless, given all that is good in human life, and despite the misfortunes we encounter, we yet desire to live, and to do so forever: we yearn in the depths of our souls to be immortal.

The same desire for immortality was so strong in the Greeks of the *Iliad* that it determined how they would conduct their very lives. They would live for glory. For if they would do glorious deeds, though it might mean a short life and death in battle, at least their *names* might live on through the ages, and in this way some shadowy form of immortality might be theirs.

Now we, as fellow members of the human race, both see the cold reality of what Homer calls "dark death" and at the same time share with the Greeks the desire for immortality. As Christians, however, we have the proclamation of Christ that should make us abound with joy: *I am the resurrection and the life*, says

Our Lord, *he who believes in me, even if he die, shall live; and whoever lives and believes in me, shall never die.* Who cannot be moved by the words of the dying Christ on the Cross as He speaks to the thief who believes and defends Our Lord against rebukes, *Amen I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with Me in paradise.* That for which we yearn—life beyond death—is promised to us by Our Saviour Himself in the Gospels if we but live in Him. Moreover, the Gospels show us in detail how we are to live in Christ and what is necessary for salvation. Thus we see in the revealed word of God the rightness of the desire for everlasting life expressed in the *Iliad*. Moreover, we who have a divine guidance that the Greeks of the *Iliad* did not have are led in the Gospels to see the emptiness of mere human glory and the fullness of the life of natural and supernatural virtue. What an immeasurable blessing is our Faith!

All of this hits home very much for me at this particular time. Just two months ago, I experienced the greatest personal loss of my life, the death of my father, who, at 77, succumbed to lung cancer. He suffered much in his last weeks, but I am consoled that he practiced his Catholic faith, that he received the sacraments even up to his death, and that his life was one of exemplary virtue and Christ-like love.

Keenly aware of how much my parents shaped me—by their teaching, by their caring discipline, but especially by their extraordinary good example, I am deeply thankful to God for giving me this wonderful father. I have always immensely enjoyed his company—as did others in my family as well as his many good friends—for his wit, his good cheer, his humility, and his joy of life. He taught me a great deal about virtue and honesty by the way he conducted his life. In particular, he taught me the meaning of love by quietly and habitually sacrificing himself for the good of his family in ways too numerous to count. In fact, as I reflect

on his life, I see that he taught me much about God Himself by the very way he lived.

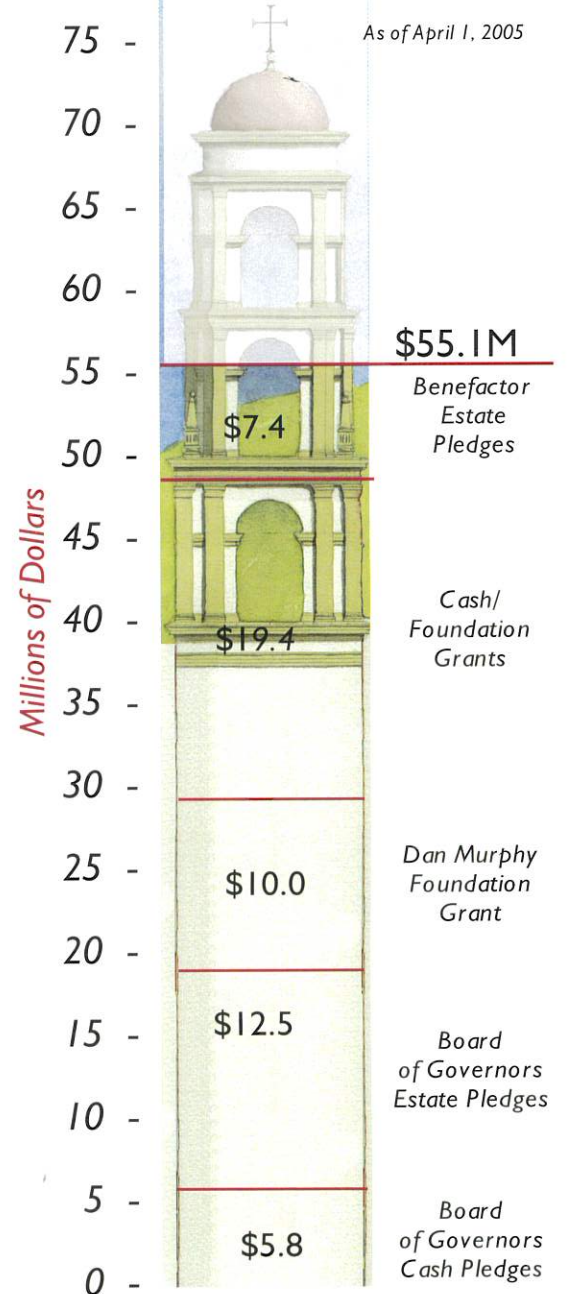
In the greatest prayer we know, recited at every Mass, Christ invites us to call God "Our Father." The first understanding we have of fatherhood, however, comes from our own fathers, and we are better able to fathom the Fatherhood of God the more perfectly our own fathers manifest what is best in human fatherhood.

I learned in some measure about God's providence from my father's watchful care for his family, about God's mercy from my father's tender patience and forgiving nature, about God's goodness from my father's exemplary virtue and integrity. Especially did I learn about God's love from my father's deep and unconditional love of his wife and children.

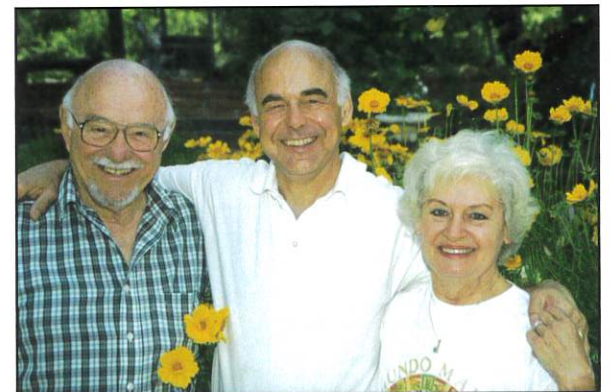


An accomplished athlete, President Dillon's father, Thomas J. Dillon, is shown here at Balboa High School, San Francisco, 1944.

Campaign Update



I am grateful to my friends for your prayers for the repose of my father's soul; I am grateful to God for the gift of this magnificent man; and I am grateful to my father for the way in which he molded and enriched my life. Thank you, Dad. May God sublimely elevate and enrich your life now and forever by bringing you home to Him, the loving Father of us all.



President Thomas E. Dillon with his parents, Tom and Shirley.

IN MEMORIAM

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Charlene Ketelhut , mother of Jeff Ketelhut, member of Board of Regents | December 9, 2004 |
| Thomas O'Connor , brother of Frances O'C. Hardart, member of Board of Governors | December 2004 |
| Elizabeth O'Connor McInnes , niece of Frances O'C. Hardart, member of Board of Governors | December 2004 |
| John Aspell , father of Julie Cariani, former employee | February 2005 |
| Clotilde Rioux | March 12, 2005 |
| Benoit Rioux | April 4, 2005 |
| Parents of David ('75), Theresa (Rioux) Susanka ('76), Jean ('82), and College employee Pierre; grandparents of Chris ('95), Matthew ('96), Veronica ('05), and Michelle ('07) Rioux; Joseph ('99), Mary ('99), Elizabeth ('03), Benjamin ('05), and Agnes ('07) Susanka; and Rebecca (Burnham) Johnson ('92), Erick Burnham ('93), and Jon Burnham ('98) | |
| Andrew Keeler , brother of Adele (Keeler) Kolf ('94), Audrey (Keeler) Rogers ('98), and Alan ('05) | March 25, 2005 |

A Changing of the Guard

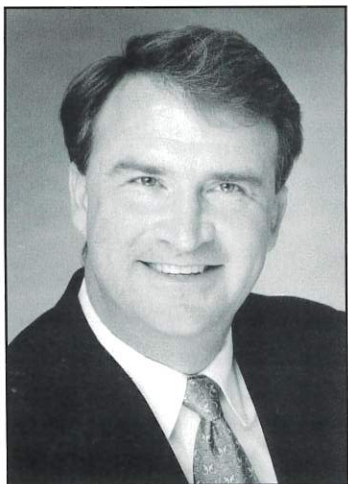
New Members Elected to Board of Governors

In the past few years, a number of Governors of the College have retired from active membership on its Board. The College salutes them for their selfless dedication to promoting genuine Catholic liberal education at Thomas Aquinas College. The faculty, staff, and especially the students and graduates of the College are deeply grateful for their dedicated support over many years.

Recently, four vacancies on the Board have been filled. All of the new members have studied the College's founding document, A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education, and like their predecessors, have agreed to make substantive decisions in light of the principles articulated therein. In this way, the College aims to ensure continuity in its governing body and unity of purpose among its Governors.

What follows are introductions to each of the new Governors of the College.

Michael K. Grace is a partner in the Los Angeles law firm, Grace & Grace LLP, which specializes in intellectual property and business litigation. He previously headed the intellectual property practice groups in Los Angeles at Latham & Watkins and at Greenberg, Glusker, Fields, Claman & Machtiger, LLP. He was elected to the College's Board of Governors in October 2004.



Having himself received a B.A. with high honors from a great books program at James Madison College of Michigan State University, Grace says, "It is plain to me that an education based on the Great Books is an education for life, and that a technical education should be built on a liberal arts foundation."

Grace also holds an M.A. in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, a J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School, and a *Certificat de Relations Internationales* with honors in comparative law from the Université de Dijon in France.

Mr. Grace is a member of the Board of Directors of the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem (the Knights of Malta) Western Association U.S.A. and chairs its Membership Committee. He also chairs the Board of Directors of Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center in Sierra Madre, California. He previously served as a member of the Board of Governors of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers in Los Angeles and chaired its Federal Courts Committee. Grace also served for four years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Mayfield Junior School of the Holy Child Jesus in Pasadena, California.

Grace sees his new role as a member of the Board of Governors of Thomas Aquinas College as a unique opportunity to help others. "Call it leverage," he says. "There are many opportunities to help worthy charities with one's time and money.... Thomas Aquinas College's graduates receive a rigorous education in the things most worth knowing, including the importance of charity. By making a commitment to Thomas Aquinas College now, in a small way I'm helping out all of those charities in which the College's graduates will serve for years to come."

Michael's wife, Cecelia, is also a partner at Grace & Grace; they reside with their three sons and one daughter in Pasadena, California.

Margaret Brooks-Llamas is the founder and CEO of Veris International in New York, an international consulting firm that focuses on four areas of corporate human resources: strengthening the leadership team, developing a leadership pipeline, aligning organizational values and individual/

team performance and development, and developing business-responsive human resources strategies and practices. Her clients run the gamut from small private equity firms to Fortune 50 companies in industries ranging from engineering to hospitality.



Prior to starting her consulting practice in 1999, Mrs. Brooks-Llamas held several senior human resources positions at the executive offices of Citicorp in New York where she developed human resources strategies and created and implemented corporate-wide organizational changes. In a career spanning two decades and three continents, she worked with the Board of Directors and senior executives. As head of executive resources, she was responsible for designing and implementing Citicorp's leadership staffing and development processes, the staffing of the top 300 positions in the corporation, and the assessment and development of these position incumbents.

Already a friend of tutor Mark Clark, Mrs. Brooks-Llamas was formally introduced to the College at a weekend seminar, similar to classes at the College, given by Dr. Dillon at a Board member's home in New York. She says, "When I experienced firsthand the style and rigor of the discussions that take place at Thomas Aquinas College, I felt a pang of envy and wished I had had that kind and quality of education myself."

A subsequent visit to the campus heightened her interest, so much so that she encouraged her son to visit the College; not long after, he and a friend did indeed come to the campus and were hosted by students of the College. "Afterwards," Mrs. Brooks-Llamas explains, "my son told me that though he had studied at two Catholic institutions, he had never experienced a true Catholic community until he visited Thomas Aquinas College." Noting the profound effect this visit has had on her son's life, Mrs. Brooks-Llamas believes that "any institution that has the power to influence a human being in this way is worth an investment of my time and effort." She was elected to the Board of Governors in November 2004.

Barbara B. Henkels first learned of Thomas Aquinas College many years ago from a mutual friend and long-time supporter of the College, the late Colonel William S. Lawton, Jr. In the years since, she has followed the growth and development of the College, and been increasingly impressed by its graduates. "One often hears about the accomplishments and effectiveness of graduates of Thomas Aquinas College," she says, "and one rejoices to think—what a gift to the Church!"



A graduate of the University of Texas, Mrs. Henkels pursued post-graduate studies at the University of Denver, La Salle University, and Villanova University. She has been married to Paul Henkels for 47 years, and the couple has been blessed with 10 children and 20 grandchildren.

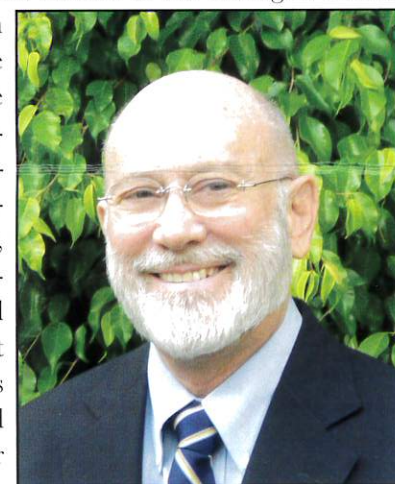
Mrs. Henkels is the recipient of the *Papal Medal Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* and the American Catholic Historical Barry Award for 1990. She is a Dame of Malta and a Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Holy

Sepulchre of Jerusalem. Additionally, she serves on the boards of the Regina Coeli Academy, the American College of Louvain University, Breachmenders, the International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family, and *CRISIS* magazine. She is also a former member of the Board of the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Although she says "my life is winding down," Mrs. Henkels remains active in the founding of Regina Coeli Academy, a classical liberal arts grammar school, as well as other philanthropic committees, including the Catholic Leadership Conference, the Philadelphia Center for International Visitors, the American Catholic Historical Society, the Pro-Life Educational Foundation, and the Executive Committee of the Cardinal's Stewardship Commission.

After her election to the College's Board of Governors in February of this year, Mrs. Henkels remarked, "I am fascinated with the Thomas Aquinas College curriculum, made up exclusively of the Great Books; it is equally inspiring that this type of education flourishes in a Catholic institution totally dedicated to the magisterial teachings of the Church. I relish the honor and privilege of being used by Thomas Aquinas College in whatever way to further its saintly mission of drawing young people to a profound relationship with God, and I look forward to meeting those in the community that, under God's benevolence, cause such a marvelous institution to exist."

Mark E. Montgomery, a member of the President's Council of Thomas Aquinas College since 2001, was elected to the College's Board of Governors in January 2004. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery Management Company, a real estate management and development business in Los Angeles, founded by his grandfather in the 1930s. They manage numerous Los Angeles area properties, including Sunset Plaza, a high-end shopping center on Sunset Boulevard in West Hollywood.



With his election to the Board, Montgomery follows in the footsteps of his father, Francis J. Montgomery, a member of the College's Order of St. Albert who served as a Governor of the College from 1971 until 2003, when he retired and received emeritus status. "I am proud to have the opportunity to carry on my father's legacy of dedication to Thomas Aquinas College," says Mr. Montgomery.

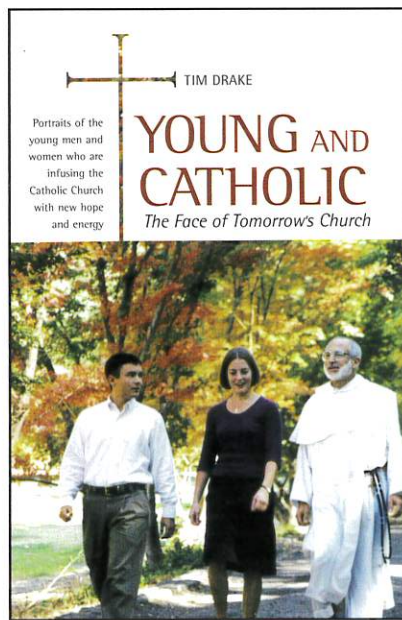
Mr. Montgomery regularly gives generously of his time and resources to many organizations, including both the California and the National Right to Life Political Committees. He is Vice President of the Americanism Educational League and a member of the Newman Club, and was recently named "Person of the Year" by the Mystical Humanity of Christ, Inc. in Belmont, California. His wife, Irene, a native of Holland, has been an active member of numerous reception and event committees for the College.

Explaining his dedication to Thomas Aquinas College, Montgomery says, "If the goal of our lives is to achieve heaven in God's glorious presence, there is no better place to develop the mental training and the habits that will help one reach that goal. To be invited to join the Board of Governors of this institution, to be able to help financially and—in any way possible—to support it, is the opportunity of a lifetime."



Media Take Notice

“College Gaining the Recognition it Deserves”



Thomas Aquinas College chaplain and students are featured on the cover of Tim Drake's book *Young and Catholic*. Drake writes: “The school is Catholic to the core. All the Catholic professors—or ‘tutors,’ as they're known—have taken the Oath of Fidelity to the Magisterium. . . . [The Catholic character of the college] is also evident in the seriousness with which the students embrace their studies and prayer life, and in the humility of its tutors.”

Thirty-six years ago, the founding document of Thomas Aquinas College, *A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education*, analyzed “a grave deficiency in Catholic education,” stating that in most modern Catholic universities skepticism had taken the place of faith, and opinion the place of knowledge. It concluded that “under the pressure of ever widening vocationalism and humanism, Catholic education, immersed in this tide, is capsizing.”

Founded in 1969 with the purpose of reestablishing genuine Catholic liberal education, Thomas Aquinas College has grown steadily over the years and is now firmly established. In its early years, however, it received little media coverage. That is not so today. Now that the College consistently ranks among the top colleges and universities in the nation, media of all kinds are taking notice, and Thomas Aquinas College is being acknowledged as the forerunner among the many new Catholic colleges and universities that have sprung up since it opened its doors in 1971.

A Cultural Shift

In her book, *God on the Quad*, Naomi Schaefer Riley, a contributor to *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, takes an in-depth look at what appears to be a cultural shift occurring in the country. As the rapidly rising enrollments at religious institutions of higher education like Thomas Aquinas College would attest, Mrs. Riley finds that young people are awakening to the need for a religious foundation to their intellectual pursuits; they are rejecting the long-held notion so popular among many academics that faith and reason are mutually exclusive.

Over the course of two years, the author visited institutions as varied as Wheaton College, Yeshiva University, and the University of Notre Dame, examining the ways in which students at these and other religious institutions study and live. In 2001, she spent a week on the campus of Thomas Aquinas College. After sitting in on classes and talking with students and faculty members, she concluded that “Thomas Aquinas College is finally gaining the recognition it deserves.”

Indeed, that recognition now comes regularly in newspaper stories, books, magazine articles and radio shows that highlight Thomas Aquinas College's academic strength and its proven track record for nurturing strong character and deep faith in its students.

Media Coverage

Mrs. Riley's book has spawned numerous stories in the media about Thomas Aquinas College and other religious institutions. In journals such as *National Review* and *Commentary*, and on websites like Zenit and TownHall, articles have appeared about their effectiveness in educating students and helping to form their minds and souls. For example, in the February 14, 2005 issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, there appears an article highlighting Thomas Aquinas College and featuring a photograph of its students at prayer. Notably, the article states that institutions like the College “offer what is often a superb, rigorous education and can boast a wide range of impressive alumni.”

Taking to the Airwaves

Also taking notice of Thomas Aquinas College is



The new school spi

BY JAY TOLSON

If the past two decades have been an era of religious revival in America—what some observers have called the fourth Great Awakening in the nation's history—the predominantly secular world of U.S. higher education seems at first glance to have been remarkably untouched by the spirit of the times. Large majorities of undergraduates, for instance, say they seek meaning and purpose in their lives, yet just 8 percent report hearing professors discuss spiritual or religious issues in or out of the classroom, according to a major study of campus religious life by University of California-Los Angeles researchers. “There is a poor fit today between students' interest in spiritual matters and the universities' general lack of interest in those concerns,” says Alexander Astin, founder of UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute.

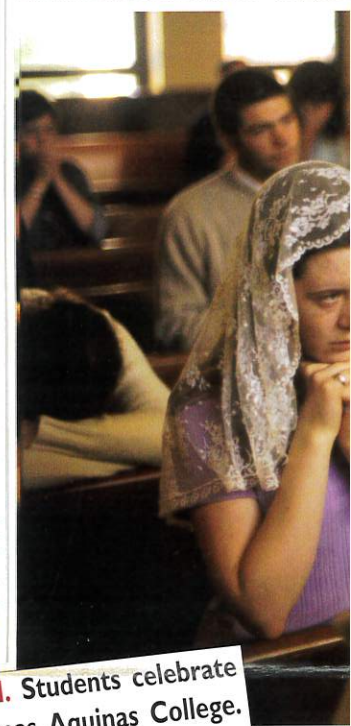
But sometimes a picture of the forest may miss a vigorous new species of tree. That, in any case, was the hunch that put journalist Naomi Schaefer Riley on the trail to writing her new book, *God on the Quad: How Religious Colleges and the Missionary Generation Are Changing America*. After spending three years visiting colleges with strong religious identities, from five-year-old Patrick Henry College in rural Charlottesville, Va., to Indiana's venerable University of Notre Dame, Riley found that these schools are providing intellectual heft to a generation of spiritual seekers that is already influencing American society, business, and government.

Booming. One of Riley's central discoveries is the sheer popularity of colleges with an explicitly religious mission. True, total enrollment in colleges with some kind of sectarian affiliation hasn't grown as a percentage of total college enrollment during the past 20 years. But at schools with an intensively religious focus, she notes, student numbers have surged. The 100-plus members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (all of which are committed to teaching Christian doctrine and creating a Christian atmosphere beyond the class-

room) have seen total enrollment rise some 60 percent between 1990 and 2002. Similarly, Notre Dame received a record number of applications last year, even as high attendance at Brigham Young University, the flagship school of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has led the administration to open a new Idaho campus in addition to the older ones in Utah and Hawaii.

Nor is this solely a Christian academic boom, Riley reports. The orthodox Jewish Yeshiva University is bursting at the seams, while there's a similar explosion of interest in

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FAITH AND REASON. Students celebrate mid-day Mass at Thomas Aquinas College.

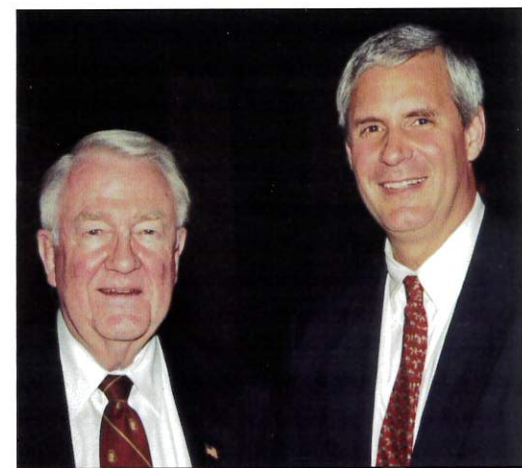
Presidents, Courts, and the Constitution

President's Day Lecture by Former U.S. Attorney General, Edwin A. Meese

On February 18, Thomas Aquinas College celebrated Presidents' Day with a holiday, including a formal dinner and a lecture given by the Honorable Edwin A. Meese III, entitled “Presidents, Courts, and the Constitution.” Past speakers for this annual event include William E. Simon, Jr., the Honorable William P. Clark, the Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, and the Honorable Jeremiah A. Denton.

Mr. Meese was chosen as this year's Presidents' Day speaker to share with students the knowledge and wisdom about the American political system he has gained during his extensive and influential career as a lawyer, educator, and public official. With a B.A. from Yale and a J.D. from U.C. Berkeley, he was a member of President Reagan's Cabinet, serving in his Administration first as a member of the United States National Security Council from 1981–85 and then as the 75th Attorney General of the United States from 1985–88. He is also a retired colonel of the United States Army Reserve.

Mr. Meese now holds the Ronald Reagan Chair in Public Policy at the Heritage Foundation, where he also chairs its Center for Legal and Judicial Studies. In addition, he is a Distinguished Fellow at both the Hoover Institution at Stanford



Director of Development David A. Shaneyfelt (r) with former U.S. Attorney General Edwin A. Meese, for whom he served in the Justice Department during the Reagan Administration.

University and the University of London's Institute of United States Studies. He is also the author of a number of books, including *With Reagan: The Inside Story*. Mr. Meese recently completed six years as Chairman of the governing board of George Mason University in Northern Virginia.

Presidents' Day festivities began with a before-dinner reception in honor of Mr. Meese in the Boardroom of the College's St. Bernardine of Siena Library, which was attended by faculty and members of the Board of Governors. During dinner, students entertained

the College community and honored guests with their performance of patriotic songs.

Dr. Thomas Dillon, President of the College, introduced Mr. Meese to the community, saying, “Tonight, as we celebrate Presidents' Day, we are honored to have with us a man who was privileged to spend much of his life at the side of one of our country's greatest presidents, Ronald Reagan.”

In his insightful and inspiring after-dinner address, Mr. Meese called upon the writings of the American founders and the history of the American judiciary to give a principled critique of the judicial activism so prevalent today. He demonstrated how the conflicts between the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of our government reach back at least to the time of Thomas Jefferson, who warned against any branch usurping the role of any other, thereby creating, in this case, an oligarchy. Mr. Meese pointed out that Jefferson echoed the earlier warnings of several of the Founding Fathers, especially one of the most intellectual, James Madison.

The former Attorney General noted that one of the significant consequences of the usurpation of power by the Supreme Court is the separation of the people from their elected representatives, making them less free to govern themselves. This, Meese went on to say, is precisely the oligarchy that the Founding Fathers warned against. The antidote, according to Mr. Meese, is judges who are faithful to their oath to uphold the Constitution, who would adjudicate, not create, laws.

Mr. Meese then criticized the recent use of the filibuster to block presidential nominees who have been passed through the Senate Judiciary Committee from being appointed to federal courts.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Meese called for renewed vigor in the executive and legislative branches to counter an overreaching judiciary, and he urged members of the United States Senate to refrain from their unprecedented use of the filibuster to block qualified judicial nominations.

Commenting on the lecture afterwards, Dr. Michael McLean, Dean of the College, said, “Mr. Meese's address, and the spirited question and answer period which followed, complemented well the College's study of political philosophy and the American founding, and helped its effort to cultivate in students the virtue of patriotism and a sense of the importance of service to one's country.”

Relevant Radio, a network of 12 stations with 14 affiliates and a listening audience of 40 million throughout the Midwest. Faithful to the Church's teachings, it broadcasts programs such as Jeff Cavins' show on scripture study, "The Al Kresta Show," and "Catholic Answers," which cover topics such as faith in the workplace, politics, education, and social justice.

The network's early show, "Morning Air," has included interviews with Dr. Thomas Dillon, President of the College, and Dr. Michael McLean, Dean of the College, who have spoken about the nature of Catholic liberal education and the Socratic method of discussion. It has also aired special segments on two of the College's graduates: Dr. Pia de Solenni ('93), recipient of the 2001 Award of the Pontifical Academies by the Holy Father

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himself, and Director of Life and Women's Issues at the Family Research Council in Washington D.C.; and Fr. Bernard McCoy, O.Cist. ('88), Sub-Prior at the Abbey of Our Lady of Spring Bank in Wisconsin and CEO of LaserMonks.com, an internet printing supply business that funds the Abbey and its many charitable works.

In recent weeks, College chaplain Rev. Cornelius Buckley, S.J. was one of a number of priests from the around the country who took part in "Morning Air's" series on Lent and its practices. He is now on call for future appearances. In addition, producers at *Relevant Radio's* early show are now planning a series of monthly interviews with President Dillon regarding issues pertaining to Catholic education.

A California Jewel

Staff writer for the *National Catholic Register*, Tim Drake, has also cast a spotlight on Thomas Aquinas College. In his recently published book, *Young and Catholic: The Face of Tomorrow's Church*, he refers to the College as "one of Catholic higher education's jewels [and] Catholic to its core." Like Mrs. Riley, he conducted numerous interviews with students attending Catholic colleges across the country and found strong evidence of what he had believed: while at many Catholic institutions students' faith is on the decline, at the newer generation of Catholic colleges, faith is being nurtured. Drake concludes on a hopeful note, saying that "The Church's New Springtime is at hand. Its seeds have been planted and have taken root. The new growth is just emerging."

To be sure, Drake's conclusion would account for the recent surge of interest in Thomas Aquinas College by media of all kinds. Mrs. Riley seems to be onto the same thing. Calling the current crop of students at religious colleges and universities "the missionary generation," she talks about their power to "transform the broader secular culture from within." When speaking of Thomas Aquinas College in particular, she locates its source, saying, "Though it is obviously not preparing its students for specific professions, the faculty expect that whatever profession they choose, they will be forced to confront various moral choices and that their Thomas Aquinas College education will help them to make the right ones."

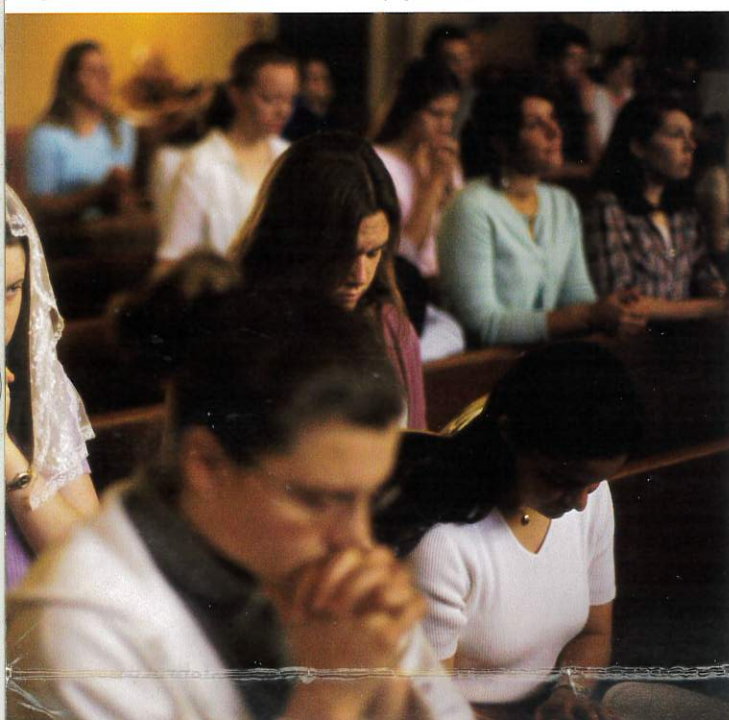
Indeed, Thomas Aquinas College graduates are already in positions of leadership in a wide variety of fields: education, law, journalism, public policy, medicine, business and the religious life, where they are exercising in their daily work and vocations what they have learned at the College. God willing, and with the generous support of its benefactors, the College will continue for many years to prepare young people to faithfully serve the Church and act as a leaven for the culture.

Students at California's Thomas Aquinas College, for instance, really do take their theological informed discussions of the Great Books out of the classroom-- and bring them back. "Teachers who don't arrive for class 15 minutes early may find the students have begun without them," Riley writes.

offer readers a reporter what makes the schools. Students at California's Thomas Aquinas College, for instance, really do take their theological informed discussions of the Great Books out of the classroom-- and bring them back. "Teachers who don't arrive for class 15 minutes early may find the students have begun without them," Riley writes. A of seriousness can be found Young, where many undergo ready been on two-year courses often abroad, bringing more room than the average freshman. Above all, Riley finds that faith impetus and orientation to academic pursuits. Julia Trinch, a Vietnamese-American student at Baylor University, a Baptist institution in Waco, Texas, tells Riley that she believes her medical humanities courses make her better prepared than

As successful as these schools have been in strengthening the "missionary generation," is there any chance their popularity will bring about a sea change in the wider academic world? Riley thinks not, and UCLA's Astin concurs, pointing out that the largely baby boom-generation professoriate tends either to be ideologically committed to secularism or, in some cases, to feel constrained by campus mores from exploring faith in an academic setting. "We seem to have a hidden or implicit rule that we don't discuss these sorts of things in the classroom," says Astin. Boston College political scientist Alan Wolfe points to another group that resists strengthening the religious identity of schools like his own Jesuit-founded institution: parents. In his view, the majority of parents at "mainstream" institutions see a too overtly religious orientation as inconsistent with what the larger society deems to be a good university. "Sociology rules," Wolfe says. Perhaps. But, says Notre Dame historian George Marsden, the academy's postmodern certainties about relativism and diversity are no longer going to get us any farther in a society increasingly populated with religious college grads. All early-American institutions of higher learning started as religious, he explains, but they never had to justify or argue for their generally Protestant Christian assumptions. Today's religious schools, by contrast, must do just that, making "a deliberate effort to relate religious traditions to what is being studied in secular courses," Marsden says. In doing so, they exemplify a form of profound intellectual diversity that is, paradoxically, often threatening to the self-described champions of that ideal on the majority of the nation's campuses. "There is still pressure," Marsden says, "to uphold the view that diversity trumps everything else, including the view that there may be absolutes." Yet it's precisely that devotion to absolutes that seems to account for the appeal of God on the Quad's quietly thriving colleges. ■

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U.S. News & WORLD REPORT Feb. 14, 2005

"Do Good and Avoid Evil"—More Complicated Than in the Past

Dr. Thomas Cavanaugh ('85) on the Principle of Double-Effect

On February 25, 2005, as part of its Friday Night Concert and Lecture series, Thomas Aquinas College hosted one of its own graduates, Dr. Thomas Cavanaugh ('85), for a well-received lecture entitled "Double-Effect Reasoning." His talk examined the history, development, and application of the principle of the double-effect, a guide from moral philosophy and theology which is used to determine when a person may lawfully engage in an act from which two consequences will follow, one bad and the other good.

In addition to having a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Thomas Aquinas College, Dr. Cavanaugh holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame and is now a tenured Professor of Philosophy at the University of San Francisco. Specializing in bioethics, he lectures internationally and has delivered papers at conferences of the American Philosophical Association, the American Catholic Philosophical Association, the American Society of Bioethics and the Humanities, and the World Congress of Bioethics. In addition to the many articles he has published in journals such as the *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* and *The Thomist*, he has recently authored a book on double-effect reasoning to be published by Oxford Clarendon Press.

In fall 2000, he was invited to deliver a paper entitled, "A Critique of the Genetic Privacy Act" at the Jubilee of the University sponsored by the Vatican in Rome. President of the College, Dr. Thomas Dillon, having been invited to the symposium to hear the Prefect for the Congregation on Education and experts in various disciplines, recalls "I was delighted when I discovered that my former student was one of those very experts the Vatican had invited to the Symposium."

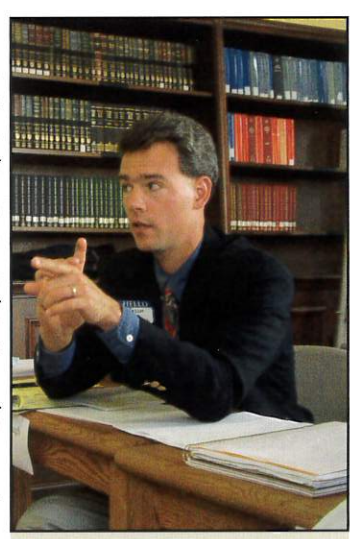
During the lecture at his *alma mater*, Dr. Cavanaugh drew on the lengthy legal and philosophical history of the study of ethics, first describing how Roman thinkers during the rule of Nero had developed a detailed analysis of human action. They were vigilant in maintaining the importance of the agent's intent in judging the morality of human acts. From within this tradition, St. Augustine later articulated the first precept of ethics: "Do good and avoid evil," a precept essential to the analysis of double-effect reasoning and one that is treated as a fundamental precept of morality in the writings of several pontiffs, in particular Pope Gregory IX and Pope Innocent III. Dr. Cavanaugh then discussed St. Thomas Aquinas' teachings in this area, noting that it was the Angelic Doctor who defined the notion of double-effect.

In anticipation of the lecture, students at the College had recently participated in an all-school seminar on St. Thomas Aquinas's teaching about homicide, which relies on the principle of double-effect. Dr. Cavanaugh considered the example of self-defense in some detail, noting that St. Thomas concluded that while self-defense may result in the death of an assailant, nevertheless, as long as one intends simply to defend oneself, then the death of the assailant is incidental. The act, therefore, is not immoral.

In order to further illustrate how these kinds of distinctions can be applied to practical situations, Cavanaugh then considered the much-debated topic of euthanasia, carefully distinguishing it from "terminal sedation," an ethical medical practice used to alleviate pain at the natural end of a patient's life. While in both cases, doctors administer high doses of medication, in the former case, there is an intent to kill, while in the latter, the intent is simply to keep a patient comfortable.

Following the lecture, Dr. Dillon remarked, "During this time of rapid change in the medical and legal professions, it is important for us to be reminded of timeless moral principles. Dr. Cavanaugh has shown himself to be a first-rate analyst of bioethical issues, and we are grateful to have had him return to lecture at the College."

The last talk on bioethics sponsored by the College was given in October 2003 by Dr. John Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, titled "Must Bioethics be Metaphysically Grounded?" Students at the College study Aristotle's *Ethics* in their junior year, and their habit of philosophical inquiry and analysis fosters an interest in ethical matters. There are a number of graduates of the College who have pursued careers in the field of ethics, one example being Mr. Gregory Pesely ('77), who, with an M.A. in philosophy from Laval University, advises O.S.F. Healthcare Systems in Peoria, Illinois, on medical ethics policies for its 15,000 employees.



Dr. Thomas Cavanaugh ('85)

First Walk for Life West Coast

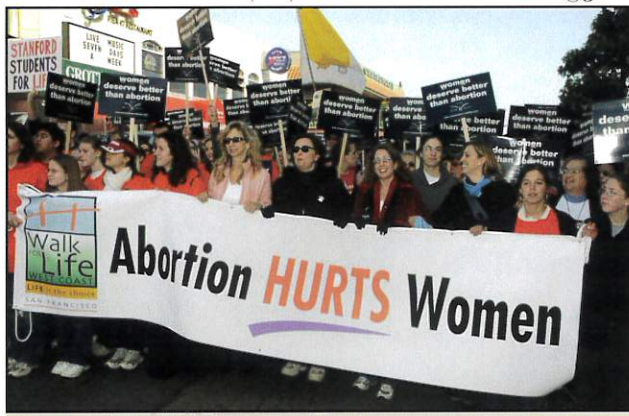
Nellie Boldrick ('96)

The first ever Walk for Life West Coast was held in San Francisco, California on January 22, 2005. Thomas Aquinas College alumna Nellie Boldrick ('96) helped to spearhead the event.

A native of Southern California, Boldrick headed north to San Francisco after graduation to serve as secretary to Rev. Joseph Fessio, S.J., editor at Ignatius Press; she is now the Editor's Assistant and Contract Manager.

For years, she has made time most Saturdays to pray with friends outside a local abortion clinic. In February 2004, when San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, a Catholic, attempted to legalize homosexual "marriage," her activities took on an added dimension. To promote support for traditional marriage, Boldrick helped organize—in only three weeks—an all-night adoration vigil and a morning Mass celebrated by Archbishop William Levada of San Francisco and Bishop Alan Vigneron of Oakland, as well as numerous area priests. Following Mass and a speech by Archbishop Levada, the group of over 1,000 walked through the City, rallying "to promote, preserve, and protect marriage and family."

The success of this event spurred Boldrick and her friends to organize an even larger rally in the upcoming year—the first ever Walk for Life West Coast, to be synchronized with the traditional January 22nd March for Life in Wash-



Thomas Aquinas College alumni and students led the first Walk for Life West Coast on January 22, 2005, in San Francisco.

ington, D.C. While Boldrick directed all fundraising activities and organized the information fair for the Walk, Mayor Newsom joined with pro-abortion activists to denounce the event, designating the City's official policy as "Pro-Choice and Proud" and naming January 22, 2005, "Stand Up For Choice Day."

On the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, Boldrick, along with other Thomas Aquinas College alumni and current students, led the Walk for Life West Coast alongside Archbishop Levada. As the group of nearly 7,000 pro-lifers wended its way through the streets, the roughly 1,000 advocates of a "woman's right to choose" voiced their opposition with increasing hostility. It was like "hearing a battle cry raised from the belly of the beast," recalls Boldrick. "I will never forget the faces of those protesters—so much anger, so much fear, so much pain." She and her colleagues quietly prayed not only for the unborn but for those opposed to their right to life.

Encouraged by the relatively large numbers who turned out on behalf of the unborn for the first ever Walk for Life West Coast, Boldrick is already hard at work planning the next one. "My time at Thomas Aquinas College showed me what it means to live a Catholic life, and I am deeply grateful for the formation I received there. Taking part in the first Walk for Life in California was a way of putting that formation into practice. I see more clearly now how important it is to pray for those who do not yet grasp the dignity of life."

'You Can't Out-Give God'

Rolf Kratz ('97)

Immediately after graduating from Thomas Aquinas College, Rolf Kratz ('97) returned to his home state of Virginia and started to partner with his mother as a realtor. Since then, he has cultivated numerous clients in the booming real estate market of Metro D.C., a uniquely fast-paced market due to the high turn-over of government appointees.

Kratz isn't just any hard-working real estate professional. After describing the benefits he received from the College—both the challenging academics and the moral formation—he goes on to say, "At the College, I was well prepared to work with the public in an ethical manner and to analyze the market and represent my clients in the most efficient way."



Kratz has some unusual business practices. One is that he never has his clients sign the traditional buyer/broker contract that guarantees client loyalty. Instead, he earns their loyalty by making them happy with his service.

He also has an unconventional approach to commissions. "My mom always said that 'you can't out-give God,' so I give my all to my clients, knowing that God will reward me in His way." Instead of charging the six percent commission that is the industry standard, Kratz decides what his commission will be based on his client's ability to get into the house he wants. "I respect all my clients," says Kratz. "I see my job as not only finding the right house, but beyond that, doing whatever is necessary to get my client into that house, even if sometimes that means cutting my own commission."

Cut commissions? Well, so far it hasn't hurt Kratz any. His generosity is paying off for him as well as for his clients: after only seven years in the real estate business, he is in the top one percent of realtors nationwide for sales and commissions. "Just this year I qualified for the Chairman's Club of Realtors," says Kratz, whose clientele is now more than 80 percent referral. "But the way I measure success, finally, is not in dollar signs. It's in the number of satisfied clients I have. **I love my job.**"

Welcome to Sunny California....

After the Flood

In mid-January, southern California was hit with a severe winter storm that brought record rains to the area. During four days of intense rainfall, more than 30 inches of rain fell in the vicinity of the College. Moreover, the year to date rainfall for the area (normally just over 17 inches) now stands at over 60 inches—240% more than an average year.

While students were never in danger, there was nevertheless widespread flash flooding and numerous mudslides, and many nearby roads were washed out. Unfortunately, even the College sustained damage. A mudslide high above the campus blocked a stream that drained the natural watershed for the mountains behind the campus. Storm waters backed up and, without warning, were suddenly diverted down to the campus, overwhelming its drainage system.

Had it not been for the quick thinking of the students, damage to the campus could have been devastating. Instead, during the heaviest downpours, they worked side by side with the few staff members who were able to make their way over damaged roads and around mudslides to the campus. Together, they dug new drainage trenches and laid sandbag barriers at critical points, preventing the flood waters from entering most campus buildings. Meanwhile, in the absence of kitchen staff, another group of students prepared meals.

Despite their efforts, two residence halls were flooded with two to three inches of water, and flooding occurred at the president's home, the Doheny Hacienda, as well. In addition, sections of Highway 150, which passes in front of the College, suffered severe undermining and damage, resulting in its closure for a few days in both directions. Dean Michael McLean, therefore, cancelled classes for the week.

Students kept busy, removing saturated carpets and pads, and cleaning up debris all around the campus. Recovery crews were called in as well, to dry and replace wet walls. Engineers also inspected the drainage system and made recommendations for repair work, both for the short and long term.

Observes Mr. Peter L. DeLuca, Vice President for Finance and Administration, "In addition to the flooding in several residences halls and the loss of



A January storm dumped more than 30 inches of rain on the campus in only four days, felling trees and causing widespread flash flooding. Shown above on the right is the second of three ponds near the Hacienda, President Dillon's home; the center island was for a time submerged under one foot of water.



numerous California live oaks, damage to the College's storm drain system, and water intrusion into the underground electrical system and the sewers, were potentially even more serious.

"The College will have incurred over \$200,000 in flood related damages," he continues, "only a small part of which will be recovered through insurance. Still, we are greatly blessed in that no one was injured."

Within a week after the storms, the campus was functioning well again, and Highway 150 was open, but only from Ojai on the north side. Given the poor condition of roads leading into the Ojai Valley, faculty and staff living on the south side of Highway 150 found themselves driving two to three hours each day simply to get to campus.

Aware of these difficulties, the owners of the ranch just south of the campus offered to give tutors and staff access to the College through their property. Since then, many have decided to stick by their New Year's resolutions to get in shape by trekking one mile in and out each day. The Board of Governors has since passed a resolution recognizing Mr. and Mrs. Marty Morehart for their generosity; a copy of the resolution was presented to the Moreharts at the Presidents' Day dinner amidst sustained applause.

Of the tutors and staff Dean McLean says, "It is a testimony to their dedication to the College that for months now, they have literally 'gone the extra mile' to ensure that our students can complete the semester as planned. I am extremely grateful for their good spirit."

With the storms a memory now, the southern California hills are emerald green, and wildflowers abound. The bright yellow Lyons Pygmy Daisy, on the endangered list for years, can once again be seen in abundance throughout the county. There remain 14 areas on highway 150 between Santa

Paula and Ojai that require repair. Work is now underway, but the road to the College from Santa Paula remains closed through early May. Please check the College website for updates: www.thomasaquinas.edu/contact/directions/htm, or call the College Operator at 800.634.9797.

An emergency fund was established to help defray the storm recovery costs. Generous donors have contributed more than \$70,000 to date. If you would like to contribute to the Emergency Flood Fund, please contact Mr. John Quincy Masteller, Vice President for Development, at 800.634.9797.

In the World, not of It

Founding Member of Legacy Society Leaves Generous Bequest

On January 24, 2005, after 81 years of living in this world yet not being of it, Msgr. John Francis Huhmann passed quietly and peacefully into eternal life; he had battled lung cancer for nearly two years. One of the founding members of the Thomas Aquinas College Legacy Society, he left a generous bequest to the College for its construction fund for Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity Chapel.

Despite his humble farm-boy roots in Missouri, John Francis rose to become a priest of God, a pastor, a monsignor, and something of a financial wiz. But even in his later years, Msgr. Huhmann remained close to his roots, often helping friends on their farms during the harvest season.

At the age of only 15, he began studies for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Ohio, the only pontifical seminary in the Western Hemisphere. He did well and was ordained in 1950. His classmate and long-time friend Fr. Al Krzyzopolski now says wryly, "If we had known at the time that he had been such a mischievous boy that his pastor refused to give him a letter of recommendation, we would not have been so nice to him."

After his ordination, Msgr. Huhmann went on to study Canon Law, obtaining a doctorate from the University of St. Thomas in Rome. He also earned a pilot's license and became certified as a private investment counselor.

As a priest, he served in seven parishes in the Diocese of Kansas City, one of which he built from scratch. "I was appointed pastor of 12 acres of weeds to be built into St. Thomas More Parish," as he put it. As a financial consultant, he not only managed a number of substantial private portfolios, he also served for five years as treasurer at his *alma mater*, the Josephinum, growing their endowment from \$8 million to \$22 million.

Though Msgr. Huhmann developed an excellent reputation as a financial consultant, he nevertheless lived the spirit of poverty through his vocation. While he was known for playing golf at upscale clubs with his clients, much to their chagrin, he insisted on bringing his own second-hand clubs no matter how posh the venue.

This characteristic, however, did not keep those around him from loving him. In fact, as Fr. Al, who presided over Msgr. Huhmann's funeral Mass, said, "The most significant mark of his life was the way he touched the hearts and

minds of people. I never met any one who had more devoted followers."

And so, when Msgr. Huhmann became ill, he was literally deluged with calls, cards, letters, and visitors who brought him loving care and gifts. "He had a vast support system of friends who were faithful to the end," recalled Fr. Al.

The Caughron family of Kansas City became particularly close to Msgr. Huhmann. It was through him that they learned of Thomas Aquinas College. Five of their children have since graduated from the College, a sixth is currently a junior, and a seventh will complete the program this spring.

Alietia Caughron ('92) recently recalled the story Msgr. Huhmann told her from the time he spent working as a hospital chaplain. A four-year-old boy who was dying asked to receive Holy Communion, and Msgr. asked the child why he wanted to receive Our Lord. As Msgr. would tell the story, "The child gave an answer that no theologian could ever equal: he said, 'because Jesus loves me.'" When Msgr. asked him if he had been baptized, the child said yes. So Msgr. gave him Communion, and the child died within the hour.

Msgr. would often cry when telling this story, saying through his tears, "To this day, I still pray to him." Alietia was also deeply touched. "While he faced his own death," she says, "he prayed to this little four-year-old boy to whom he had given Holy Communion."

Toward the end of his life, Msgr.'s devotion to the Holy Eucharist deepened. During his last year, he became so overwhelmed with emotion at the time of the consecration, keenly aware that he was holding our blessed Lord in his hands, that he could no longer offer Mass when he was alone.

Msgr. also became ever more devoted to Our Lady, finding special consolation in her *Memorare*. Molly Caughron ('05) explains the impact his devotion had on her: "He emphasized the spiritual motherhood of Mary, not just as the mother of God, but as the mother of each one of us. He helped me realize how important that is." When preparing to choose a topic for her senior thesis at the College earlier this year, Molly investigated and researched a number of questions. She settled, however, on "The Spiritual Motherhood of Mary" and has dedicated it to the memory of Msgr. Huhmann.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. May he rest in peace.



She Lived and Died the "Little Way"

Jacqueline (Ford) Lemmon ('87), RIP

"God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. We fail to understand why He did not leave Jackie here for the usual life span of 75 or 80 years. But He chose not to. His will be done!"

So said Rev. Nevin Ford, O.F.M., in his homily at the funeral Mass he offered for his niece, Jacqueline (Ford) Lemmon ('87), a wife and home-schooling mother of nine, who, after a 14-month battle with Central Valley Fever, died peacefully at the age of only 39 on March 2, 2005. She was married to Peter Lemmon ('85), who served as the College's Director of Development from 1995 to 1997.

Born in Downey, California, Jackie was the youngest of Dr. and Mrs. James Ford's six children. Before attending Thomas Aquinas College, she had been homecoming queen in high school and runner-up for Miss Downey, California. But her beauty wasn't skin-deep. Rather, as she led the busy life of a wife and mother, she was known to her friends for her gentle strength, her determined faith, her thoughtfulness, her sociability.

In the fall of 2003, during the last trimester of her eighth pregnancy, Jackie contracted a singularly virulent case of Central Valley Fever; a few months later, now critically ill, she miraculously delivered a healthy baby, Maggie. For the next year, Jackie suffered tremendously, being hospitalized periodically as the disease took its toll.

While her health deteriorated and she progressively lost her strength, Jackie nevertheless insisted on caring for her family, declining to give her children's care over to a nanny and reluctant to reduce her role in the community. She continued, as she had for many years, to attend daily Mass with her children. During her last weeks, family and friends—many of them fellow alumni of the College—came together to provide meals for her family and to help care for the children.

In late December 2004, Jackie was again hospitalized. Seeming to know that hers was not a battle to be won, Jackie embraced her forced incapacitation, confiding in her husband about how she would like to spend her last days on earth. Thus in her final weeks, Peter arranged for a continuous schedule of friends and family to stay with his wife in her hospital room. While she slipped in and out of consciousness in her hospital bed, they read aloud the familiar Scripture pas-

When College roommate, Suzie (Zeiter) Andres ('87), learned that Jackie was not likely to live, she sent a message to strengthen and console her dearest friend:

"He loves you infinitely, and He loves Peter infinitely, and He loves Cecelia with infinite tenderness, and He loves Kateri with infinite compassion, and He loves Sebastian with infinite love, and He loves Sarah with eternal passion, and He loves John with all His boundless Sacred Heart, and He loves Rose from all eternity to all eternity, and He loves Therese with unimaginable sweetness, and He loves Abe with tenderness beyond comprehension, and last but so important to Him, Jesus loves little Maggie with infinite generous Love."

sages she had chosen, recited her best loved prayers, and sang her favorite hymns. Everyone who visited Jackie left filled with joy. "She was so beautiful!" recalls the Lemmon's friend, Rex Mohun ('90).

Word went out about this noble young mother. Thousands of people around the country, many of whom had never met Jackie, prayed for her. Just as Thomas Aquinas College students and alumni kept her in their prayers, so, too, did students at Christendom College, where her brother-in-law, Dr. Tim O'Donnell, is president. Even an orphanage in Uganda was on the prayer chain.

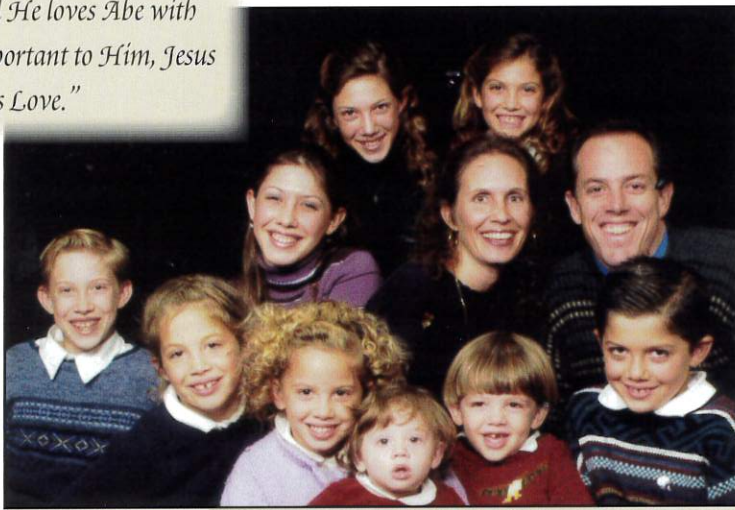
But as Jackie lay on her hospital bed being treated with morphine for pain, she was not thinking of herself. Instead, she asked to be given intentions for which to offer her sufferings, and at times, even refused morphine. In the end, a basket full of prayer intentions rested next to her.

Those who returned from her bedside were renewed by Jackie's unflinching sense of humor and edified by praying with her and for her. Along with hospital staff, they assisted at the daily Mass said in Jackie's room by her parish priest, Rev. Thomas Dome, C.R.I.C.

"Visiting Jackie was like being at the foot of the cross," said her close friend, Karen (Stuart) Kelly ('88). "The wonderful thing about Jackie was that she was just one of us," said another dear friend, Christi (Tittmann) Wall ('89). "She was just our Jackie. And when all she could do was blink her eye, it was as though all of her determination was contained in that one, intentional movement."

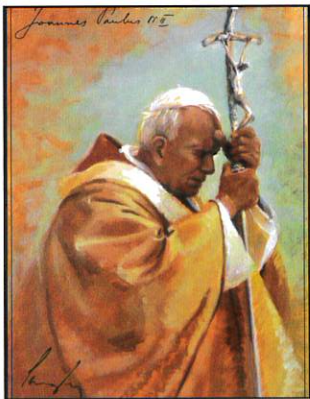
After her death hundreds attended the Rosary Vigil at St. Sebastian Church in Santa Paula, and hundreds more flocked to the funeral Mass for a wife and mother who had simply lived the "Little Way" of St. Therese but whose holy death had affected so many. Accompanied to her final resting place by the mournful strains of the Scottish bagpipes, her body was interred at Bardsdale Cemetery, not far from the Lemmons' home.

Dr. O'Donnell's reflection after the funeral Mass resonates still with all who loved Jackie: "The death of the young is like a deluge poured on a fire. And what a fire there was in Jacqueline Louise Lemmon!"



Christmas 2004, two months before Jackie Lemmon succumbed to Central Valley Fever

Mourning the Holy Father's Death



Oil on canvas by College alumnus, James Langley ('85)

All of us associated with Thomas Aquinas College mourn the passing of our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, who, in the midst of great turmoil in the world and challenges from within the Church, stood fast, teaching and expounding upon the perennial truths of the Catholic faith.

We have been edified by his courageous efforts to help bring about a culture of life throughout the world, and by his example of prayerful perseverance even in the midst of great suffering. Engaged as we are in the work of Catholic higher education, we are particularly grateful to him for emphasizing throughout his pontificate the importance of opening the minds of the young to Christ, who is the Truth.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of this great pontiff, who traveled far and wide to bring the light and love of Christ to the world, appealing always to our higher nature. May he rest in peace.

- Dr. Thomas E. Dillon, President



From the College's Rare Book collection, this bronze-covered commemorative book was given by the Holy Father to former Ambassador to the Holy See, William A. Wilson, member of the Board of Governors.



Due to overwhelming attendance, a Requiem Mass for Pope John Paul II on Friday, April 8th, was moved from the College's temporary chapel to St. Bernardine of Siena Library.

The Charitable Gift Annuity...

THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE
California



For an irrevocable gift of cash or stocks, the College provides a fixed and guaranteed yearly income for you and your spouse, or for one or two other beneficiaries.

- ◆ Rate of return increases with age. Examples:
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- ◆ Beneficiaries must be at least 60 years old to receive payments

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A gift of lifetime security for you and for Thomas Aquinas College

Learn more about the Charitable Gift Annuity

- Contact Tom Susanka, Director of Gift Planning at 800-634-9797 or at tsusanka@thomasaquinas.edu
- Or visit our website at www.thomasaquinas.edu

Calendar of Events

Spring Choir Performance
The Mikado
by Gilbert and Sullivan
April 29

Commencement
May 14

Tutor Summer Study Program
May 23 - June 24

Alumni Day
June 11

High School Summer Seminar
July 25 - August 6

Residence halls
open for freshmen
August 18, 2005

Freshman Orientation
August 19, 2005

Convocation 2005
August 21

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