

# The Official Newsletter of the Newman Centre McGill University

# Newman News

Volume 2, Fall/Winter 2001

## A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

It is truly remarkable to see the changes that have taken place at Newman in these last three years. The student presence at weekday and Sunday Mass and at the many activities of the Centre continues to grow. We have gone through one phase of renovations on the main floor of the Centre, the Leon and Mary Podles Hall. The landscaping has been completed. The Newman Institute of Catholic Studies is flourishing under the direction of Daniel Cere and David Williams, our Kennedy Smith Professor of Catholic Studies. Thanks to the work of the Institute, the Catholic Studies Programme at McGill is offering four courses this year in the McGill Faculty of Arts. All of this would have seemed unimaginable three years ago. We wish to thank all of you for your help and prayers, and ask for your continuing support.

In particular after the devastating events of this past September, we pray that all of us might be ever more aware of the meaning of Christmas, that God became flesh and entered the world as a helpless child, the antithesis of power and terror and violence.

**John Zucchi**  
President, Newman Association

## The Progress of the Catholic Studies Program

by David Williams  
Kennedy Smith Professor of Catholic Studies

Since its inception in the Fall of 2001, McGill Catholic Studies and the Newman Institute have initiated two core courses: *Introduction to Catholicism* and *Topics in Catholic Studies*. Next term (2002-03) another two courses will be offered, *Catholicism and Moral Culture* and *Catholic Social Thought*. We are fortu-

ry Ryan, formerly President of the Quebec Liberal Party, ex-Quebec Minister of Education, and a former editor of *Le Devoir*. Mr. Ryan brings a wealth of experience and reflection on the social and political foundations of human communities.

Extra curricular activities of the Catholic Studies Program include staff-student discussion groups ("Tradition" (2001) and "G.K. Chesterton" (2002)), the Annual Newman Lecture, and a number of conferences of general interest. This year, a three part lecture, "L'Église en France" (October 2001) will be followed by another three part lecture, "L'Église au Québec". (March 2002). "Vox": a voice for those without voice," is a new student group promoting respect for human life at all stages of existence.

Future plans for courses in Catholic Studies include "Catholics and the Media," and "Is there a Christian Cinema?"



*'Newmanites' gather together to Share Saturday Night Supper, an after mass tradition at Newman Centre McGill University.*

nate in having as the instructor in *Catholic Social Thought*, Mr. Claude

## remember us

The Newman Centre works with a small but zealous staff and numerous dedicated volunteers. However, we need your financial support in order to continue with both our academic and social endeavours here at the Centre.

Enclosed within this mailing, you will find a donation card with a return envelope requesting your support. Please think of the Newman Centre and its important work when reviewing this newsletter and remember us during this season of giving with your donation.