



SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

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Editorial

RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The COVID-19 virus has had a very pronounced effect on practically everyone on this planet, not only on each person's health and life but also on the way people live. To combat the virus, governments everywhere have instituted severe restrictions on what was considered to be "normal" behaviour, a norm which may never be recaptured again after this crisis has been played out. The new (and temporary?) rules of behaviour have exposed the complete lack of understanding by the average citizen (of whatever country) about his/her "rights" in a democratic society.

Some of the imposed restrictions include the cessation of running a business deemed to be non-essential, the prohibition of large gatherings or even of small gatherings of people not living in the same house, keeping at a set physical distance from another ("outside") person when "contact" was unavoidable, and limiting the general movement of the populace. Inevitably, the cries arose about dictatorial powers being imposed and the trampling of the rights and freedoms of the individual. We shall try to address this egregious misunderstanding of an individual's rights and freedoms in a democratic society.

The approach to understanding is a two-part one. First, we shall start from first principles in seeing how rights and freedoms came into existence and how limitations were imposed on them. The second part deals with the practical part – the implementation phase through legal means, specifically using Canada as an example. Throughout this exercise, we shall be using the masculine gender e.g. "man" or "men" or "he", not to show any sexual bias or to denigrate the feminine population but simply to make the narrative easier to be both written and read.

First, let us assume that a man is living by himself on an island with no other inhabitants, and he needs no contacts or communications with the external world. It is not important in this discussion, but we shall assume also that he is completely self-sufficient in his needs to survive, so trade with the outside world is unnecessary. In this case, the rights and freedoms of this man are absolute; he can do whatever he wants, whenever he wants, and wherever he wants, since there is no one else on the island to bother him or for him to bother! He has no responsibilities to anyone else but to himself.

Let us now introduce a second man onto the island, with the total permission of and acceptance by the first man. Immediately, the situation on the island has changed as the environment now becomes a society (even if only of two!). The first man (or the second) no longer can do whatever he wants, whenever he wants, and wherever he wants, as he may be impinging on the rights and freedoms of the other man; in fact, he has lost his absolute rights. In other words, in a society, there are no absolute rights. The two men would need to work out a compromise on how they would need to cooperate to be able to live together in harmony. The absolute rights of each man are surrendered and are turned into privileges and responsibilities. Each man is given the privilege (not the right!) to do something at some time somewhere, but with the responsibility of not interfering with the privileges of the other man. Responsibilities would probably be expanded in the sharing of tasks to make life both simpler and easier for both men.

The above society of two is relatively simple and is handled easily by the two members. What happens if more people are added to the original society? The approach of one-on-one agreements between every pair of persons would become completely unmanageable as the number of members in the society increases. The agreement between any pair must not result in a negative effect on (i.e. impair the rights of) any other pair. Finding agreement between every pair of the many pairs becomes very contentious, cumbersome, time-consuming, and exhausting. The solution is to appoint a small group (a committee) to consider all the requirements of the individuals in the society and develop an agreement which would be acceptable to all. This does not mean that everyone gets his own preference, but does mean that some individual "rights" may have to be curtailed or even surrendered for the common good of all. Thus, government is born! The earliest example of this in written records can be found in the Old Testament, Exodus Ch. 18 v. 25, "*And choosing able men out of all Israel, he (Moses) appointed them rulers of the people, rulers over thousands, and over hundreds, and over fifties, and over tens.*", the first mention in history of the formation of a hierarchical society.

In summary, to live in a society, a man has to curtail or surrender his claim to his absolute rights and to accept the rules, developed by a selected body, which are implemented for the general benefit of all.

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(The following article has been taken (and edited) with permission from the archives of the British Province of the Society of Jesus, London, England.)

Biography of Jesuits at St. Stanislaus College - 20

FR. JOSEPH FOXWELL

Fr. Joseph Foxwell, who died suddenly but tranquilly in the House of Novices at Manresa, on Tuesday, 1st May, 1906, was the elder of two brothers who were born at Shepton Mallet, a Somerset Mission founded by our Frs. in the South Wales District. The two boys, Joseph and Anthony, attracted the notice of Dr. Coombes, a secular priest, then serving that Mission of the Society, though not himself one of its members, but who wrote to the Provincial, Fr. Lythgoe, a letter strongly recommending the lads for admission into its ranks. In consequence of this, the two brothers were sent to Stonyhurst for their education, the family being already well known to our Fr.s, and subsequently connected with the good city of Bristol. Joseph Foxwell was born on 23rd January, 1830, and, for ten years, survived his brother Anthony who died at Beaumont on 1st August, 1896. He was sent in due time to College, and spent eight years at Stonyhurst. After completing the ordinary course there, he joined the Noviceship at Hodder in 1848. At the end of two years, he went on straight to his Philosophy, and was appointed, in 1851, one of the prefects at Mount St. Mary's. From 1852 to 1857, he remained there as Master and, from that, went to St. Beuno's for the short course of theology, where he was eventually ordained. Being very keen and anxious to enter upon a missionary career, he readily sacrificed the longer term of theological studies in order to place himself all the sooner at the disposal of Father Provincial for this sphere of work. In fact, the mention of his ordination is immediately coupled with the record of some ministerial work done by him at Rhyl in 1859, and no time was lost in securing an early date for his Tertianship, which was made at Roehampton along with Frs. Vincent Bond and George Harper, in the year 1861, while the Novitiate House still retained its original title of Roehampton Park.

Fr. Foxwell had during the previous year entered upon the definite work of his life in becoming assistant missionary at Exeter under Fr. James Eccles. When he went to Beaumont Lodge in 1862 and stayed there for the next year, he was again associated in community life with Fr. Eccles as Superior, and combined ministerial with teaching work. Those who knew Fr. Eccles will readily believe how likely it is that he had no small share in helping to form Fr. Foxwell's character and guide his steps in making his first acquaintance with the duties of the apostolic life, and in learning how to appreciate and how to fulfil them. In 1864, he was placed at Galashiels and Selkirk, first as *Offertarius* and then as head priest, posts which he held for close on ten years, and in which his ministry more fully acquired the stamp that was to characterize it throughout the changes of his life. His excellence and efficiency as a missionary were not of the kind which either seek or obtain public notoriety, but they doubtless, all the more from their

calm, self-possessed, and modest aims, won their way into the hearts and affections of old and young, high and simple alike. God's providence led his steps onward from one field of labour to another that seemed even more congenial to and sympathetic with his later habits, and general turn of mind. Thus, he was exactly suited to the work that lay before him successively in Scotland, Demerara, Worcester, and Richmond in Yorkshire, while those who naturally came under his charge in one or other of these places were soon drawn to be influenced by him and to love him for his gentle ways and affectionate nature.

When his position and duties required him afterwards to move about more in general society, he was always at his ease, always the perfect gentleman such as the perfect Religious should ever resemble. Fr. Tracy Clarke, his old novice-master, described such a person as following the same rules of courtesy, propriety, consideration for others, and retiring modesty which persons of good breeding and culture in the world profess to observe; he also notes that what the man of merely refined exterior and strict observance of etiquette does, with the selfish and worldly view of gaining the good-will and esteem of men, is markedly different from what the "saint" (Fr. Clarke took no lower type than this as one side of the comparison) does, undesignedly and supernaturally, at the prompting of those deep principles of the spiritual life which infuse all his words and actions.

Later in the year 1873, Fr. Foxwell undertook his share in foreign missions when he went out to Demerara and was placed in Georgetown at St. Stanislaus College, under the rule of the late Bishop Etheridge, having Frs. Martin Everard and Aloysius Casati as companions, and Fr. Ignatius Scales for his Vicar-General. In 1875, he was moved to Berbice and, in 1877, returned to England, resuming parish duties again under Fr. Waterworth, the veteran Rector of St. George's, Worcester. In the following year, he was placed in charge of the parish, and completed a decade in the same office before he made another move. He was here associated with some well-known Fathers of the Province—Fr. Frank Jarrett for several years and next, in 1885, with another priest of popular and household fame, Fr. Thomas Knight, each of whom was in his turn so widely known and so identified with the public life and history of the town as to constitute one of its accepted institutions. Each of these Fathers walked in the same lines, took a practical interest in all the public enterprises and affairs of the city, and became especially influential in the working of the schools and in educational questions generally. Fr. Foxwell, indeed, was elected to a distinct place on the School Board, a position which his successors held as long as that body itself existed. It may be said also that it is greatly owing to the weight and authority possessed for many years by the Jesuit

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FR. JOSEPH FOXWELL*(continued from page 2)*

head of the mission that Worcester was enabled to take the lead in the movement which has within the last year or two provided Catholic mayors for not a few Protestant towns. Witness the singular popularity of the present Catholic mayor in so thoroughly Protestant a cathedral city as Worcester.

Fr. Foxwell's health broke down almost permanently at Worcester when he suffered from a very sharp heart attack, strangely similar to that which a few years ago arrested the active work of Fr. Knight, and led to the necessity of his removal also from the Worcester mission. Fr. Foxwell had to retire from Worcester in the year 1888, but he left several notable memorials behind him, which claim ever-abiding acknowledgment, and a return of sincerest gratitude from the spiritual flock whom he loved so affectionately, and whose highest interests he had so much at heart. Amongst the great improvements which he introduced into the church at Sansome Place was the enlargement of the building itself, whereby handsomer proportions were obtained for the sanctuary. A new sacristy and confessionals were next added, and side-chapels erected, the whole work being finished in 1880. But, seven years after this, not the church only but this part of the town was enriched by the erection of a most classical and beautifully proportioned facade of Corinthian architecture solidly built of a very pure, fine-grained Bath stone which, though finished in the year 1887, still retains its warm and delicate colour, the original sharpness and smoothness of its outlines, and the perfect freshness of all its sculptured details. He also supplied the interior of St. George's with an exceedingly efficient warming apparatus and, at another time, spent a considerable sum in raising a large infant schoolroom with a view to its being further employed for public meetings and entertainments.

After his severe illness in 1888, Fr. Foxwell was transferred to Richmond, in Yorkshire and, for five years took charge of the mission. During most of this time, however, he was in an enfeebled state of health and could not undertake any great exertion. But, as far as possible, he was very regular and punctual in all his ministrations. When past the management or control of any reliable work, he finally retired to Bournemouth in 1893, and thence in 1898 to Boscombe, in both of which places his memory will be preserved ever bright and fresh. The same may be said of every mission that knew him, for all agree in the verdict that he was an excellent Religious, earnest, painstaking, though quiet and unobtrusive, cheerful too, and kind-hearted, ever conspicuous for that old-world courtesy and graciousness towards equals and inferiors alike which is now becoming so rare in these rushing, bustling days. More even than this, he was a man of good sense and discretion, of sound judgment, of admirable tact and self-restraint, of charity and self-denial. These qualities notably showed themselves at two different periods of his life when, for a considerable space of time, he had no easy task in bearing with disturbing elements and peculiarities of temper on the part of one or two Fathers with whom he was allied on the mission. This difficult task

he accomplished with a success that over-rode all obstacles and preserved peace and friendship to the end. The character we have described is certain to have carried along with it an unusual patience and forbearance, an unchanging fidelity in his friendships which an otherwise treacherous memory never tricked him into forgetting, a power of drawing towards himself the love and confidence of young children, of the aged and infirm, of all homely and simple-minded persons, even of domestic animals, which he greatly petted, attaching them to his person and making them his daily companions. From having been in his younger days as spruce and polished, as neat and tidy as befitted the natural bent of his mind, he gradually became more and more regardless of his external appearance and, as he was a long-confirmed snuff-taker and was latterly so crippled as to require to be wheeled about in a bath-chair, the old coat, which he daily used and had inherited from Fr. Ralph Cooper many years ago, assumed the rich colour of the fragrant weed with which it was so deeply stained and impregnated. The many virtues in Fr. Foxwell which we have touched upon shone out the more brightly in the ever-accumulating weight of years of helpless and wearisome monotony, accompanied by many pains and aches. Yet, during all that time, he never complained, never lost his calm resignation but, on the contrary, made light of and passed over his sufferings in a cheerful silence. Of this truly generous and heroic compliance with the Divine will he gave a shining example during several years for, after the attack of sudden giddiness which seized him while saying Mass in the convent at Boscombe and convinced him beyond the possibility of doubt that he could no longer, without the danger of irreverence to the Blessed Sacrament, venture to offer up the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar, he passed the remaining days of his life in silent and uncomplaining obedience, an obedience so far, in truth, removed from indifference that, on every occasion of his gaining a little fresh strength, he would remark in a cheerful tone of voice, "Perhaps I may be able to say Mass again."

Young and old, his visitors and his attendants, all equally regarded it a pleasure and a privilege to attend on one who never gave back an unkind or reproachful word, never discussed the forgetfulness or shortcomings of others, or even little foibles in their character, and who never received the smallest act of attention or the least service rendered him without the warmest expressions of gratitude and content; his every word spoke a blessing, and one of his last utterances just before his death was one of thanks for a very small favour rendered him; it may be truly said of him that "he who soweth in blessings, shall also reap blessings". Fr. Foxwell now reposes amongst his brethren in the beautifully situated private burying-ground of the Novitiate, at Southampton.

Requiescat in pace.

MEMBERSHIP

The following is the list of alumni who are currently paid-up members in 2020. The names in *italics* are alumni who have paid since the last issue of the newsletter was published. Membership is based on the calendar year.

CANADA (76)	Gregory DeCastro ⁴	Desmond Jardine ³	Vibert Vieira ³	
Paul Abdool ⁴	Rupert DeCastro ²	Clayton Jeffery ⁴	Paul Vincent ⁴	U.K. (3)
Lance Alexander ²	Noel Denny	Anthony Jekir	Howard Welshman ³	Tony Gomes ²
Paul Archer	Clive Devers ²	Amanda King	Godfrey Whyte	Neville Jordan ¹
Glenmore Armogan ¹	Roger Devers ²	Vibert Lampkin ⁴	David Wong ³	Charles Kennard ⁴
Bernard Austin ⁴	Terence Devers ²	Geoffrey Luck ²	Wayne Yeates	
Malcolm Barrington ³	Neville Devonish ²	Gerard Martins	John Yip ¹	U.S.A. (15)
Gerard Bayley ³	Jerome D'Oliveira	Michael Mendes de		Mark Anthony
John Rene Bayley ⁴	Paul Duarte	Franca ³	AUSTRALIA (1)	Satynanand Bhagrat- tee ³
Teddy Boyce	Joe Faria ²	Anthony O'Dowd ⁴	Lennox Yhap	Ronald Chanderbhan ⁴
Randy Bradford	Paul Farnum	Renuka Persaud ³		Joseph Brian De- Freitas
Paul Camacho ³	Raymond Fernandes	L. A. Phillips ²	BRAZIL (1)	Dalip Etwaroo ⁴
Alfred Carr ⁴	Andre Fredricks ²	Marcelline Ram- charan ²	Stephen DeCastro ³	Bernard Friemann ⁴
Wilfred Carr ³	Darwin Fung ³	Linden Ramdeholl ⁴		Edward Gouveia ⁴
Joseph Castanheiro ²	James Fung	Romeo Resaul ³	GUYANA (1)	Philip Greathead ⁴
Bob Chee-a-tow	Trevor Gomes	Peter St. Aubyn ²	Fitzgerald Yaw Jr. ²	Edwin Jack
Sydney Chin	J. Neil Gonsalves ³	Savitri Seenauth ⁴		Kenneth Jordan ²
Ivan Choo ⁴	Ken Hahnfeld ⁴	Michael Singh ³	NEVIS (1)	Jolyon King ⁶
Tony Clarke ⁴	Hugh Hazlewood ³	Akisha Somrah ³	Robin Shaw ⁴	Joey Lopes
Paul Crum-ewing ⁴	Paul Hazlewood ⁴	Walter Spooner		Hugh Rodrigues ²
Edward DaSilva ²	Jocelyn Heydorn	Albert Sweetnam ⁴	TRINIDAD (3)	Peter Rodrigues
Francis DeAbreu ⁴	Desmond Hill ³	Beverly Vandeyar	Richard Harford ³	Leyland Thomas
Terry DeAbreu ⁴	Andrew Insanally ⁴	Arthur Veerasammy	Ronald Harford ³	
Tyrone DeAbreu ⁴	Richard James ⁵		John Jardim ¹	

There are 101 paid-up members.

Notes :

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. These (5) alumni have paid in advance through 2021. | 4. These (28) alumni have paid in advance through 2024. |
| 2. These (17) alumni have paid in advance through 2022. | 5. This (1) alumnus have paid in advance through 2026. |
| 3. These (21) alumni have paid in advance through 2023. | 6. This (1) alumnus have paid in advance through 2028. |

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

In exchange, he is given the privilege of freely doing certain defined actions without needing further permission or being harassed by those designated to ensure that order prevails. With the privileges conferred on him, the man also is assigned with the responsibilities of not interfering with the privileges accorded to the other members of the society.

We now can turn to the second part – the implementation phase through legal means, specifically using Canada as an example.

Unfortunately, living next to the U.S.A., Canadians are deluged with movies, TV shows, and news originating from south of the border, and are heavily influenced by what they see and hear. The citizens of that country are very vocal and adamant on the protection of what they see as their rights as outlined in their country's constitution. The infamous Second Amendment – the right to bear arms, is a good example. The average Canadian becomes so brain-washed with the American way of life that he believes that what he sees and hears from south of the border is completely applicable to Canada. We need to look at what exactly is in the Constitution of Canada with respect

to rights.

A. GUARANTEE OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

1. Rights and freedoms in Canada

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the rights and freedoms set out in it subject only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

B. FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

2. Fundamental freedoms

Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:

- a. freedom of conscience and religion;
- b. freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;
- c. freedom of peaceful assembly; and
- d. freedom of association.

D. MOBILITY RIGHTS

6.

1. Mobility of citizens

Every citizen of Canada has the right to enter, remain in and leave Canada.

2. Rights to move and gain livelihood

Every citizen of Canada and every person who has the status of a permanent resident of Canada has the right

- a. to move to and take up residence in any province; and
- b. to pursue the gaining of a livelihood in any province.

3. Limitation

The rights specified in subsection (2) are

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Glinton Hanover



Congratulations go out to alumnus (2012) **Glinton Hanover** who, in 2018, won the CoMGRAD Scholarship and the Devolved Scholarship, offered by the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, to complete his Master’s degree in Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology under the supervision of two renowned scientists - Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar and Dr. Andrew Freywald.

Glinton attended St. Stanislaus College from 2007 to 2012 when he won a United World College (UWC) scholarship to complete the International Baccalaureate

(IB) program at UWC Lester B. Pearson College which is located on the southernmost tip of Vancouver Island, about 29 km southwest of Victoria, B.C. This school is Canada’s only UWC — a movement encompassing 18 global schools dedicated to uniting cultures and countries around the world through education. Pearson is a two-year, pre-university school for students from over 150 countries who live, study, and learn together, while pursuing the IB designation with an outdoor-oriented experiential education. More than 4,200 students have graduated from the College — its alumni are determined to make a difference in the lives of others and the world.

Glinton excelled at Pearson College, and was nominated by the College for a Jack Matthews International Scholarship offered by Trent University (in Ontario) to a select few nominated UWC students. This provided him with the opportunity to complete his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry.

Once again, he excelled at Trent, winning such awards as:

- the Graham Hartley Prize for academic excellence in the field of general Chemistry,
- the Chris Michael Prize for academic excellence in introductory economics,
- the Dr. Charles Omole Medical Scholarship for excel-

lence in biology courses and for a desire to pursue a medically-related field,

- the R & R Laboratories Prize in Analytical Chemistry for outstanding performance in Analytical Chemistry, and
- the Biology Department Book Prize for outstanding academic achievement in the third year of a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Honors Program.

He graduated in 2018 among the top 5% of his year and was named on the President’s Honor Roll.

He completed his degree also with a strong extracurricular record which in-

cluded:

- Outdoor Instructor - Head Staff at Camp Wahanowin, Orillia, Ontario,
- Medical Science Intern at Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Peterborough, Ontario,
- Lab Assistant in the Molecular Biology Bio-safety Level 2 laboratory run by Dr. Janet Yee,
- Summer Student Researcher on the characterization of proteins p105 and NAT-2 in the microorganism *Giardia intestinalis*,
- Teaching Assistant for third year Molecular Biology (Biol 3080H), third year Microbiology (Biol 3250H), second year Physical Chemistry (Chem 2500H) and first year introduction to Chemistry (Chem 1010H), and
- Editor, Journal of Undergraduate Studies (JUST), involving reading and editing undergraduate science research papers for publication in JUST.

Further congratulations are in order as Glinton has just become engaged to a Trent University nursing graduate who is Canadian-born of Jamaican descent.

On behalf of the Toronto alumni/ae, we offer the couple our best regards for a happy life together and for success in their chosen careers.

EDITORIAL

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subject to

a. any laws or practices of general application in force in a province other than those that discriminate persons primarily on the basis of province of present or previous residence; and

b. any laws providing for reasonable residency requirements as a qualification for the receipt of publicly provided social services.

J. GENERAL

26. Other rights and freedoms not affected by Charter

The guarantee in this Charter of certain rights and freedoms shall not be construed as denying the existence of any other rights or freedoms that exist in Canada.

Three points are clearly obvious from the Constitution.

First, in the introduction paragraph, it states clearly and unequivocally that the rights and freedoms are subject to any reasonable limits which are defined by the laws of the country. Thus, the individual citizen’s rights and freedoms are not absolute as often claimed by the many uninformed

agitators. For example, traffic must travel forward on the right-hand side of the road. Also, freedom of expression is allowed, but not if it libels or slanders another person.

Secondly, the uninformed claim the right of mobility which they define as the right to move around freely without restriction. No such right exists in the Constitution where mobility refers to the choice of location for living and working. Even if the claimed right existed, it still would be subject to the reasonable laws of the country.

Thirdly, the Constitution admits that there may be other rights and freedoms not stated explicitly, but any such new-found ones still would be subject to the reasonable laws of the country.

The main source of contention about rights and freedoms is what would be considered to be reasonable limits, which is a political issue beyond the scope of this discussion.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Teddy Boyce

The Lions Club International was founded in the U.S.A. in 1916 as an international service organization whose members are instructed to reach beyond business issues and to address the betterment of their communities and the world. Membership is by "invitation only", and all member applicants need a sponsor who is an active member and of good standing in the local club which they intend to join. The Club has been active in Canada for a hundred years and, to celebrate its centennial in 2020, the Toronto District

held a Gala event on the night of Sat. 7 March, at the Sts. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall where over thirty Past District Governors (PDG) of Toronto were honoured. Congratulations go out to alumnus (52 – 56) Teddy Boyce who was one of the thirty PDGs who were awarded plaques to honour their service to the organization. As well, Teddy was one of four PDGs who also received an additional honour of a "Lion of The Century" award.



Teddy Boyce is to the immediate left of the lady



PDGs who received "Lion of The Century" awards



PDG service award



"Lion of The Century" award

2020 GOLF TOURNAMENT CANCELLED

The Lebovic Golf Club is a private club which caters almost exclusively to charities which run golf tournaments to raise funds for their aims. Lebovic is the premier Ontario golf club specializing in this area and takes great pride in offering a first class experience to players both on and off the course.

When the Government allowed golf clubs to re-open during the COVID-19 pandemic, it did so with strict rules to be followed, rules which made it impossible for Lebovic to provide the exclusive first class service it provides to its

clients. Since it had already lost the first third of the season and there was a strong possibility that the pandemic restrictions would likely continue for at least the second third of the season, Lebovic made the difficult decision to close its club for the remainder of 2020. Therefore, **the SSCAAT Golf tournament has been cancelled for this year.**

We shall be holding the tournament again next year, and hope that all who had planned to participate this year will return to gain a unique experience they will never forget.

HOW A NURSING HOME IN FRANCE STOPPED CORONAVIRUS FROM KILLING ELDERLY IN ITS CARE

(Associated Press, 4 May, 2020)

(No governments or organizations around the world had any plans on how to handle a pandemic, and were forced to make up a plan of action as they went along. Even without a plan, this nursing home decided to take an extreme (and successful) path. - Ed.)

As the coronavirus scythed through nursing homes, cutting a deadly path, Valerie Martin vowed to herself that the story would be different in the home she runs in France. The action she took to stop the novel coronavirus, which causes COVID-19 from infecting and killing the vulnerable older adults in her care, was both drastic and effective: Martin and her staff locked themselves in with the 106 residents.

For 47 days and nights, staff and residents of the Vilanova nursing home on the outskirts of the east central city of Lyon waited out the coronavirus storm together, while COVID-19 killed tens of thousands of people in other homes across Europe, including more than 9,000 in France. "I said, 'No, not mine. My residents still have so much to live for'", Martin said in an interview. "I don't want this virus to kill them when they have been through so much."

On Monday 4 May, Martin and 12 colleagues, who stayed in the home for the full duration, ended their quarantine with hugs of celebration and singing, and with an uplifting victory: COVID-19 tests conducted on the residents and staff all came back negative. The caregivers, who nicknamed themselves "the happily confined", left in a convoy of cars, joyously honking horns and heading for reunions with families, pets, and homes.

"We succeeded", Martin said. "Every day, every hour, was a win."

While COVID-19 killed people by the dozens at some other homes, Martin said there were just four deaths at Vilanova during their lockdown, and that none appears to have been linked to the virus. The average age of residents at the home is 87, and the deaths were not unexpected.

A fantastic team

Because staff and residents were locked in together, Vilanova didn't have to confine people to their rooms, like other homes, to shield them from the risk of infection brought in from outside. That spared residents the loneliness that has been agonizing for others. Vilanova allowed residents to continue to mingle and to get fresh air outside.

The son of a 95-year-old resident described the staff as "a fantastic team", saying they saved his mother by shielding her from the virus and keeping her spirits up, even holding

celebrations for her birthday on 17 April. Gilles Barret said the home's daily Facebook posts of news, photos, and videos also were "such a comfort". "It saved lives", he said. "Perfect, perfect. I tip my hat to them."

Martin said she didn't want their residents to feel like "prisoners", and that it wouldn't have felt right to her had she continued to come and go from the home while depriving them of their liberty during France's lockdown, in place since 17 March.

Residents were confined to their rooms for two days at the beginning while staffers gave the home a thorough cleaning, and that proved "a catastrophe", Martin said.

"In two days, we already saw people who started no longer wanting to eat, people who didn't want to get up, people who said, 'Why are you washing me? It's pointless'", she said.

Always together

In all, 29 of the 50 staff volunteered to stay, bringing pillows, sleeping bags, and clothes on 18 March for what they initially thought might be a three-week stay but which they subsequently opted to extend. Other staff came from outside to help and were kept apart from residents and made to wear masks and take other protective measures to prevent infections.

The caregivers slept on mattresses on the floor. Martin slept in her office. One of the volunteers left a 10-month-old baby at home. The team tallied the days on a blackboard marked: "Always together with heart".

"It was tough", said caregiver Vanessa Robert. But there were also moments of "total joy, getting together in the evenings, fooling around, tossing water bombs at each other".

Martin said her top priority now is to console her estranged cat, Fanta. And one of the weirdest moments of the lockdown was climbing back into her car and hearing the same tune on the CD player — Limp Bizkit's *Mission Impossible* soundtrack — that she had been listening to when she parked seven weeks earlier. "It was a bit like entering a holiday camp", she said. "Living a lockdown with 130 people is extremely rewarding".

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Photographs:

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St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto, founded in 1993, is devoted to making St. Stanislaus College the best educational institution in Guyana. It provides financial aid and other aid to the college, which was founded by Fr. Langton S. J. in 1866. Formerly run by the Jesuit Order of Catholic Priests, the school was taken over by the Government in 1976, with Government-appointed teachers replacing the clergy in 1980.

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The Association welcomes your feedback. Please direct your comments, enquiries, or articles you would like published to :

The Secretary, St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto, 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario M1S 1V2.

You also may contact the Secretary, Marcelline Ramcharan, by e-mail at marci.ramcharan@yahoo.ca.

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Cost
Sat. 22 Aug., 2020	Golf Tournament	CANCELLED	\$150 (includes breakfast, lunch, 3 drinks, and snacks on-course)
Fri. 31 Jul., 2020	Caribjam	CANCELLED	<i>tba</i>
Mon. 3 Aug., 2020	Last Lap Lime	CANCELLED	
Sat. 17 Oct., 2020	Fall Dance	West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hill Drive, Toronto (Hwy 401/Hwy 2/Port Union Road)	<i>tba</i>
Thur. 31 Dec., 2020	New Year's Eve Gala	<i>tba</i>	<i>tba</i>

Alumni Association Membership Form

Please complete this portion and return it with a cheque for \$25.00 (Cdn) for 1 year, or \$100.00 (Cdn) for 5 years payable to:

St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto, 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M1S 1V2

Name: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Res.) : _____

(Bus) : _____ Amt. enclosed: \$ _____ Year graduated: _____