



400 YEARS: 1609-2009

# 400th Anniversary Happenings Canadian Province

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Special Edition June 2009

## ***Inaugural Event, January 3, 2009***

“Institute Story in the Universe” : — the purpose and goals for the day were successfully achieved. Words to express the atmosphere of the day were ‘energizing,’ ‘motivating’ more than I could have imagined

***Mass of Thanksgiving, St. Paul’s Basilica, May 3, 2009.*** It was a glorious celebration with 1150 guests joining us. The collection totalled \$4400.00 It was donated equally to ‘St. Paul’s Breakfast Club for Children’ and ‘Becoming Neighbours.’

Our prayers were answered for good weather as all gathered at the reception on the grounds.

***400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, Terrace Banquet Centre, June 5, 2009.*** It was indeed a Gala event, with 585 guests in attendance. The Silent Auction created an interest among our guests and raised \$11,000.00. Donations amounted close to \$20,000.00 and the donations from IBVM’s totalled \$3000.00. Proceeds from the sale of the dinner tickets have not yet been fully tallied.

Our MC was Adrienne Corti who kept the evening afloat with her bilingual and entertaining comments. We were entertained by Irish and Indian Dancers.

The dinner was delicious and attractively served.

Two of the students who travelled to India as part of the Loretto Learning, Leadership, Adventure spoke of their experience there before introducing Guest Speaker,

Sr. Cyril Mooney, IBVM. Sr. Cyril created a pensive, attentive audience as she described her unique school program in Kolkata.

***400<sup>th</sup> Alumnae Mass:*** Loretto Abbey Chapel, Sunday, June 7, 2009. About 500 former students came from far and near to be among their school friends on the occasion of our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

We were honoured to have Sr. Ursula’s choir and musicians from St. Aloysius Gonzaga School.

Fr. Patrick Fitzpatrick, CSsP, a close friend to Loretto, was Celebrant and Homilist.

Sr. Juliana Dusel arranged a display of Loretto photos and memorabilia which was very popular with the Alumnae.

A reception was held in both the School and parlours followed the Mass with our students serving the sandwiches and desserts.

It was truly a time to renew acquaintances and to remember and tell stories.

***Recognition of our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*** from Ontario School Boards

- Niagara Catholic District School Board
- Wellington Catholic School Board
- Toronto Catholic District School Board

All three School Boards have made presentations to us in recognition of the Loretto Sisters' contribution to Catholic Education. These awards are on display at Loretto Abbey. Several of our sisters attended the different locations.

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*Mass of Thanksgiving at Bishop Macdonell School, Guelph* on May 11 followed by a luncheon. Sr. Helen Cameron organized the event for staff and friends of Loretto. I believe that 12 of us attended.

#### ***400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Peace Pole***

To commemorate of our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we asked Sr. Veronica Hager to carve a Peace Pole, which is located in a circular flower bed in the front of Loretto Abbey. On June 9, 2009, Mary Mallany led us in a prayer service for peace around the world. Approximately 60 attended including the artist, Veronica. Flags depicting other countries were carried around the circular garden.

#### ***400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Records***

We have captured all our 400<sup>th</sup> events in photographs on discs. The televised Mass and the Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Basilica are on Video. At a later time, these may be borrowed from our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Library. Congratulatory letters, e-mails and cards will be on file and available through Johanna D'Agostino's office.

#### ***Upcoming Events to Celebrate the 400th Anniversary***

Friday, July 24-26—Mary Ward Retreat at Mt. Carmel in Niagara., Caroline Dawson, IBVM, facilitator. For reservations or more information call 905.356.4113; or [joyce@carmelniagara.com](mailto:joyce@carmelniagara.com)

August 1—15. American Sisters visit to Canada. First week is a recreational week; second week Retreat for Sisters at Maryholme.

September 24 — Teresa Dease Lecture at Alumni Hall, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto.

September 26 — “Corporate Social Responsible — The Vision of Mary Ward in Today's Global Economy.” Workshop at Loretto College, Toronto co-sponsored with University of St Michael's College Continuing Education Division.

October 1 - 12. Pilgrimage to Rome.

October 28 — Lecture by Gill Goulding CJ “Mary Ward — An Ignatian Exemplar” Held at Regis College, Queen's Park. Lecture will be followed by Mass and Dinner. .

400th Anniversary Candles and Note cards are available at the Provincial leadership office.

6” Pillar Candles \$10.00 each

Note Cards \$1.00;

Package of five cards, \$5.00