

# From the President's Desk

## New beginnings for Regis College

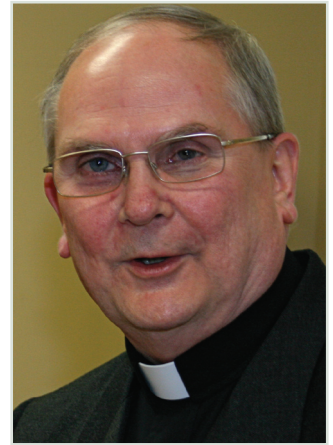
As I write this letter, the Regis College community is enjoying spring. It is especially welcome this year after a cold and icy winter. Spring's new life is a sign to us all of the divine new Life that we are celebrating this Easter season.

Despite the wintry storms, the past few months have promised new life. At its 35<sup>th</sup> General Congregation, the Society of Jesus elected Father Adolfo Nicolàs as its new General Superior. Regis welcomes Father Nicolàs as the new Chancellor of our ecclesiastical faculty. He in turn has appointed Father Jim Webb as the new Provincial Superior of the Jesuits in English Canada. Regis welcomes Father Webb as its new civil Chancellor. Together with the work of Congregation 35 itself, these two men, Father General coming from his mission in the Far East, and Father Provincial from his term in Jamaica, promise new areas of exploration for Regis College and the entire Society of Jesus.

Regis College is in the process of preparing for new life in a new home. At the beginning of February we announced our relocation to St. Joseph College, Wellesley St. in the summer of 2009. After two-and-a-half years of negotiations, the Jesuit Province of English Canada reached an agreement with the University of Toronto for a 99-year lease of Christie House and the Fontbonne Hall chapel. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto played a key role as "midwives" for this new birth. Regis is profoundly grateful for their help and generosity.

The move will put Regis "at the heart of it all" – next door to St. Michael's College, a neighbour to the Toronto School of Theology and Emmanuel College, and across Queen's Park from our other three sister colleges,

Wycliffe, Trinity and Knox. We shall be across the street from the Ontario Legislature, and several blocks from four of Toronto's major hospitals and the many businesses on University Avenue and Bay Street. In his address to the fathers of the Congregation, Pope Benedict XVI emphasized the importance of the Society's service in the mission of teaching theology. What better place than Regis to help fulfil this service?



Of course, activity at Regis College continues even amidst the hectic planning of renovations to St. Joseph's and while looking forward to new programs of outreach. Our events included a very well attended Lenten Lecture Series, and an inspiring Mass of Thanksgiving in our new, St. Joseph Chapel. Ordinations to the diaconate and the commissioning of our graduating students were also wonderful days of celebration. You will read about these events in the following pages. The day-to-day teaching, mentoring and research continued as the heart of it all. We may be "Theology on the move", but we are also "Just minds – in action!"

With very best summer wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Schner sj". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Joseph Schner, S.J.  
President, Regis College

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Thanks to all our contributors.