Winter 2012

Fr. Michael Troy Bursary

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In June 2011 the first Father Michael Troy Bursary was awarded to Neil McNeil graduate, Damiano Dekaj. This young man met the following criteria:

1. Has lived up to the school motto — Fidelitas in Arduis
2. Has overcome a significant challenge in successfully completing his studies
3. Has made a positive contribution to the school, his community, his parish and his family.

For 2011 the inaugural year of the Bursary was $1000. It is hoped that in future the scholarship will be $1500 - $2,000. This will depend on Alumni contributions and investment returns. The Alumni aim to reach a minimum of $50,000 within the next couple of years via investments and donations.

After a lapse of several years the Annual Neil McNeil Alumni Drop-In was revived on November 4, 2011. It was a great success. Almost two hundred former teachers and students showed up representing almost every decade since the school opened in 1958. Contacts were made, friendships renewed — and the food was good too. Former VP Anne Gotfried won the 50/50 draw. Another big hit were the many pictures collected over 50 years and posted in the gym. “Boy, some of these guys have really aged!” was a comment overheard more than once.

In attendance were Spiritan Fathers Geary, Doyle, Fitzpatrick, Graham (since died), Kelly and McAuley. Former teachers Dan Dooley, Russ Stachiw and Ted Schmidt were there too and enjoyed kibitzing with their former students. Other notable past students present were former MP Derek Lee (Liberal) and newly elected MP Andrew Cash (NDP).

The Neil McNeil Alumni worked hard to put together this evening. They thank Mike Wallace, Principal, for his cooperation, the Neil students and staff for their help during the evening and their cleaning up afterwards, and Mrs Malcolm, the caterer, and her staff.

Mark your calendar for the following events:

- May 4, 2012: Beer and Barbecue
- November 2, 2012: Annual Drop-In

Online donation to the Spiritans for the Fr. Troy Scholarship Fund:

1. Go to the online donation website Canada Helps www.canadahelps.org
2. Type in Spiritans in Search Bar on Canada Helps
3. Click on Donate
4. Scroll down to Fr Troy Scholarship Fund

Alternatively, tax deductible donations can be made to the Spiritan Fathers. In the memo field on your cheque write: The Father Michael J. Troy Bursary.

Neil McNeil Alumni award this annual Bursary to a graduating student who will pursue post-secondary education after leaving Neil. The fund is entrusted to the care of the TransCanada Province of the Spiritan Congregation. They present an annual financial report showing donations, expenditures, disbursements, investments and investment dividends to the Alumni by September 30 each year. The fund is administered by the Toronto Spiritan Office and two past students appointed by the Neil McNeil Alumni. Spiritans and Alumni are equal partners in the administration of the fund. Should the Spiritans cease to operate in the Toronto Archdiocese then all monies remaining in the fund will be turned over to the Neil McNeil Alumni as its sole administrator.

All applications will be reviewed by an adjudicating committee of two alumni, a representative appointed by the Spiritans, and a Neil McNeil staff member appointed by the teachers.