

-Continued from page 1

# beadonor.ca



evening session on organ and tissue donation. Our speakers were Sabrina Coccagna, Conference Sales Manager at St. Mike's, who movingly described her father's story of waiting for a heart transplant, and what it was like for the family as they huddled in the waiting room during his surgery. Sabrina's story let us know what it is like to still have a loved father in their life, who otherwise would have died too young. Our second speaker, Deacon Michael Hayes, spoke to us of his experiences as a donor, not just once, but twice! He is the only such donor in Canada, and his story is an amazing demonstration of generosity—of giving truly of oneself. Michael has donated a kidney and part of his liver.

He is so modest about what he has done, but the extent of his giving of himself was very apparent to the rest of us. Both Sabrina and Michael urged those in attendance to become more aware of the long list of people in need of transplants, and they encouraged us through their witness to register as organ and/or tissue donors.

Ronnie Gavsie, Executive Director and CEO of Trillium Gift of Life Network, spoke of the great need for donors in Ontario, and encouraged those attending both to sign up and to remember to register properly. Signing one's driver's license is a good start, but one must also register at a Service Ontario Health Card services—OHIP office, or online (so convenient!) at: [www.giftoflife.on.ca](http://www.giftoflife.on.ca), [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca), [www.HealthyOntario.com](http://www.HealthyOntario.com), or [www.beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca).

Those attending had a chance to discuss some of the medical, religious and ethical implications of organ and tissue donations, and all agreed that it is a necessary service, John Gennaro suggested to CCBI that we take the topic to the parishes. Good idea! We are already making plans to address this issue at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Oshawa and in St. Joseph's in Belleville, and we will support Trillium Gift of Life Network in its appeal for more organ and tissue donors in any way we can.

The World Day of the Sick takes place on February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Fr. Leo Walsh's words of wisdom concerning our sick brothers and sisters appear inside the newsletter, and we hope his words will encourage us to join our prayers that day and every day with the universal church in praying for health and compassion for them, and solidarity with them.

Moira McQueen



CANADIAN CATHOLIC BIOETHICS INSTITUTE  
INSTITUT CANADIEN CATHOLIQUE DE BIOÉTHIQUE  
UNIVERSITY OF ST MICHAEL'S COLLEGE  
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DONATION CARD

Yes! I'd like to support CCBI in witnessing to the dignity and value of all human life at all of its stages.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Province \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all cheques out to Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute

Official donation receipts are issued for income tax purposes.

February  
2012



CANADIAN CATHOLIC BIOETHICS INSTITUTE  
INSTITUT CANADIEN CATHOLIQUE DE BIOÉTHIQUE  
UNIVERSITY OF ST MICHAEL'S COLLEGE  
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



## À PROPOS

this issue

Executive Director's Message P.1

World Day of the Sick P.2

For People in the Pews P.3

## Executive Director's Message

CCBI is delighted, as was every other person and organization in the Archdiocese of Toronto that Archbishop Collins has been declared Cardinal-Designate of Toronto, and will be raised to the Cardinalate in February. We send him our warmest congratulations and best wishes for ongoing success in all the different spheres in which he operates. We are so fortunate to have him as Chair of our CCBI Board and to have his support. We promise to do all that we can to be of service to him.

We were also delighted to learn that Archbishop Richard Smith of Edmonton became the President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Archbishop Smith is also a dedicated member of our board, and we know that we are extremely privileged to have two of Canada's leading prelates supporting us. We benefit from their wisdom and their awareness of so many issues that affect the Church in Canada, including bioethical matters.

CCBI celebrated our tenth anniversary on November 16 with a lecture at USMC. Archbishop Collins and President Anne Anderson thanked CCBI and its supporters, reminding us of the cutting-edge work that is necessary in this rapidly developing area. Dr. Bill Sullivan spoke to the audience about the development of CCBI and his foundational role in shaping

it, and Iain Benson's presentation on "Diversity, Accommodation or Convergence in Law and Religion" was a wonderfully logical look at what is happening in the world of "rights," and where we must be diligent in guarding and promoting freedom of religion. The podcast is on our website, for anyone who missed the lecture.

On January 19, 2012, along with Marilyn Elphick, Director of Campus Ministry at USMC, and with the support of the Trillium Gift of Life Network, CCBI presented an  
*-Continued on page 4*

CCCB Executive Committee



**Top:** Co-Treasurers Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton; Most Rev. Lionel Gendron, PSS, Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil  
**Bottom:** Most Rev. Richard Smith, Archbishop of Edmonton, President; Most Rev. Paul-André Durocher, Archbishop of Gatineau, Vice-President



### Cardinal Ambrozic Lecture in Bioethics

April 26, 2012, 7 pm

Guest Speaker:  
Susan Morgan, Chaplain  
Saint Elizabeth Health Care

Fr. Madden Auditorium,  
Carr Hall,  
100 St. Joseph Street

Contact CCBI  
81 St. Mary Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1J4  
(416) 926- 2335

bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca  
www.ccbi-utoronto.ca



Our website has been recently updated with links to our Facebook, Twitter and Youtube accounts so you can follow all CCBI updates.

Video and Audio recordings now available in our media section:

- CCBI 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- The Gift of Life — Organ Donation: A Catholic Perspective

For these recordings and more visit [ccbi-utoronto.com/media](http://ccbi-utoronto.com/media)



#### Radio Teopoli AM530

Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute: Conversations in Bioethics are available on the Radio Teopoli website in the On-Demand library.

For more information please visit: [teopoli.com](http://teopoli.com)

## World Day of the Sick, 2012

Sickness is part of the mystery of evil that defies human understanding. Why sickness at all, God of love? Why me? Why my innocent child? So much suffering. So much death among the young. So much pain for the elderly. These questions will never be answered to our satisfaction on earth. Never.

Recently, Fr. Tom Rosica, CSB, wrote very movingly in Zenit (Roman news agency) a tribute to Cardinal Foley, who died recently. Among the late Cardinal's virtues was his ability to see good in everyone and in every situation. Sickness in itself is an evil, what we call an ontological evil, a lack of due perfection in a creature apart from any consideration of human agency. I don't know whether the Cardinal ever wrote on sickness, but where might he have seen good here?

Really, good in and through sickness is not difficult to find. How many of us have not found ourselves humbled in the presence of the bravery of sick people! Recently, I attended the interment of a schizophrenic man, buried through government agency with the minimum of expense. It should have been the saddest of occasions, but six of the man's friends, fellow schizophrenics, were at the graveside – lovely, gentle, caring, brave people – and the occasion was one of the triumph of communion.

And as we considered the Feast of All Saints, didn't we think of the saints among us, including and especially those who care for the sick? I know many people in healthcare who are dedicated to tending the sick, but I am thinking here more particularly of relatives and friends who day in and day out care with love and patience for a sick or handicapped person – year in, year out.

There is so much love associated with sickness, along with a host of other virtues. Our race will always use our sciences to alleviate suffering and bring cures. But we will never have done with suffering, and so never be done with our need of the Holy Spirit's gift of love and of all His sevenfold gifts as we bear sickness and in our caring for the sick.

Leo Walsh, CSB



## For People in the Pews

For People in the Pews (FPIP) is an "everyday bioethics" lecture series designed for parishes and other interested groups. Understanding bioethical principles has become increasingly important as science and medicine develop new techniques. Sometimes these raise moral questions that seem to challenge Catholic teaching on the dignity of human life. When unexpectedly confronted with moral and ethical dilemmas related to biotechnologies, many people may find themselves at a loss and seek guidance.

### Parish Settings:

A parish may host or co-host FPIP with neighbouring parishes. FPIP fits well into an Advent or Lenten schedule. The normal schedule is two hours an evening over four weeks. (Other arrangements to suit the parish are possible.)

### Other Settings:

For People in the Pews is suitable for many organizations. The format conforms to the needs of the audience. FPIP has been held in hospice and long-term care settings and as seminars for clergy and educators. It may be scheduled as a one-day event, a weekend, or over consecutive days or evenings.

### Outline

#### Part 1:

##### A Catholic Perspective on Ethics

Foundations of Catholic Ethics:

Scripture and Tradition

Natural Law

Foundations of Catholic Bioethics

Conscience

#### Part 2:

##### Reproductive Issues

Personhood

Reproductive technologies

Stem cell research and cloning

#### Part 3:

##### End-of-Life Issues

Withdrawal of treatment

Prolonging life

Pain and Suffering

Terminal sedation

Health-care directives

#### Part 4:

##### Euthanasia and Assisted Dying

Euthanasia

Physician-assisted suicide

Palliative care

Sacrament of the Sick

Spiritual needs

Openings are also available for Advent 2012 and Lent 2013. The four sessions cover:

A Catholic Perspective on Ethics; Reproductive Issues; End-of-Life Issues; and Euthanasia and Assisted Dying.

### Presenters

Theologians and specialists present Church teaching and engage people in discussion on moral and ethical life issues:

Moira McQueen, LL B, MDiv, PhD

Dr. McQueen is the Executive Director of the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute.

She teaches moral theology in the Faculty of Theology, University of St. Michael's College.

Bridget Campion, PhD

Barry Brown, PhD

Rory Fisher, MB, FRCP(ED)(C)

Mary Rowell, csj, PhD

### Honorarium Parishes:

The recommended amount for the honorarium to CCBI is \$10 per person per evening; parishes often choose to assume the cost of the honorarium.

### Other Groups:

Please contact CCBI to discuss the honorarium.

### Distance Engagements:

FPIP has been held in Calgary, Edmonton, and in many Ontario locations outside Toronto. We welcome the opportunity to travel to bring this program to you. Participation through video conferencing is an option.

Contact CCBI

Bambi Rutledge

81 St Mary Street, Toronto on M5S 1J4

[www.ccbi-utoronto.ca](http://www.ccbi-utoronto.ca) | 416 926 2335

[bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca](mailto:bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca)