

The Codringtonian

Codrington College

Caribbean Day

Saturday, 17th February dawned bright and sunny. Many tensely held breaths were released slowly. This was **THE DAY!** After all the work put into preparing for this grand event - *Codringtonian Style* - nothing would suffice other than the "perfect day".

Coordinator of the event, Mrs. Pauline Ramsey-Burns (ordinand of NECA), began to see the fruition of her efforts as the members of the surrounding community of St. John, friends and supporters turned out in full force to enjoy the event that has set its mark as an annual event in the community.

The aim of the event was to bring together the various cultures at the college and the wider community. The highlight was an exhibition depicting various Caribbean countries organized by Ms. Letha Strachan (Bahamas).



Exhibition by Barbados

Mr. Monsel Alves (Guyana) was responsible for organizing the food stalls. National dishes of countries such as Antigua, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Guyana and St. Kitts were on sale, along with a variety of pastries, ice-cream, hot dogs, and hamburgers.



Monsel Alves with Mrs. Gittens who was on hand from the Bahamas for the event.



Lester Moore (an external student) mans the pastry stall

It was a family event, as seen by the presence of parents and children.



The children were delighted to romp on the slide and visit



Mrs. Eleanor Glasgow [in hat] (Grenada) keep a watchful eye on the children.

with the clown for a balloon.



Another aim of the event was to foster a closer relationship between the college and the surrounding community.



Have a close look. See anyone you may know?



Kids! An unusual, welcome sight on the college steps.



A festive atmosphere. The crowds are beginning to gather on the rear grounds.

Caribbean Day has made an indelible mark on the community of St. John as well as Barbados in general. Funds from the event was earmarked for the erection of a bus shelter in the nearby area.

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The Principal
Rev. Dr. Ian Rock

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Caribbean Day Cont'd.

The day was not only enjoyed by friends from the community, but also by the staff and students of the college. There was a real spirit of camaraderie.



Principal, Dr. Ian Rock (left), Mr. Peter Boxill (center) and Mr. Julian Campbell (right). Taken during a playful moment.

Music flowed continuously throughout the day, and well into the late evening. There was no room for boredom. The whole campus was alive and bubbling! What a welcome change!



Mr. Julian Campbell - Student Body Representative (center), Mrs. Pauline Ramsey-Burns - Coordinator of Caribbean Day (left) and Mrs. Paulette Cartwright - Editor, The Codringtonian Newsletter (right).

Campus Looking Good!

Someone visiting the college for the first time after a ten year absence would be surprised at some of the changes that have taken place. Those of us who are here now and can experience the changes may also be in for a pleasant surprise when we return to visit in another ten years time.

Gradual physical changes are taking place that gives the campus a more "homey" and community-minded look. Park-like benches and garbage bins have been placed around the campus grounds.



College Erects Bus Shelter

The Student Body of Codrington College has always enjoyed friendly relations with the surrounding community. It was no surprise that the students thought it only fitting that they make some tangible contribution to the community and in doing so leave their own mark on the community.

Under the leadership of Mr. Julian Campbell, the Student Body sought expert advice and hence the erection of a bus shelter being erected in "The Village" area.

This is one of the college's efforts to foster a

genuine and lasting relationship with the community. Indeed the Student Body is to be commended for its vision.



Photo of bus shelter in "The Village" erected by Student Body of Codrington College.

The chapel has undergone extensive renovations and now exhibits a polished interior. With one lecture room already air-conditioned, the vision now is to have new windows and air-condition in the chapel.



There are those whose hearts God has already touched who have contributed financially to these renovations. There may be others to whom God has given the desire to participate in this vision. The photo below displays the beautiful cabinet that was given to the chapel and so gracefully adorns it.



Just outside the chapel doors, in the belfry, are four new seats given by the Student Body of the college.



Maundy Thursday Retreat



Rev. John Rogers, Priest-in-Charge of St. Luke's parish Church was the conductor of the College's Maundy Thursday Retreat for all ordinands. The day began with prayers at 7am followed by the first address. Rev.

Rogers chose to speak about two aspects of The Creed. The first being: "Jesus Christ the only Son of God". He sketched an interesting biography of individuals who through history was seen as being a messianic figure, having some supernatural powers or great leadership abilities.

The second address looked at: "He was conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary." Jesus had both divine and human attributes, which was bound up in the incarnation. Because of his humanity Jesus is an example to us as to how we can be overcomers in our humanness. Rev. Rogers exhorted the ordinands to remember to keep the cross always at the forefront of their mind, especially when partaking in the Eucharist.

The day ended with the Maundy Thursday liturgy at 7pm, celebrated by Rev. Dr. Ian Rock.

College-A Witness In The Community

There was a sweet community spirit of love and sharing in the area of the belfry on Thursday afternoon of April 29th. The ordinands were making palm crosses for distribution on Friday morning when the Palm Sunday liturgy would be celebrated with an outdoor community procession.

But who could have predicted that Friday morning would dawn - dark, dreary and rainy. The question that arose was: "Are we still going to have the procession?" Well we did. And what a witness! What enthusiastic people - principal and priests-to-be! A lesson was learnt that morning - we are called to ministry, not only in good times but in bad, not only in good weather but also in bad weather.



It was amazing! The people of the community, as they prepared to leave for work, or just to begin the chores of the day around the home, were greeted



with the melodious singing of the hymn: *All Glory Laud and Honour*.

Persons, braving the weather, came out of their homes or opened their windows and doors, and even stopped in their cars



to receive a cross and a tract as the ordinands traversed the main and the side streets with the message that *"God loves you"*.



The love of Christ was exhibited that day. This is only one step along the journey that God has called these men and women to travel. This is but one experience in many. Living by example is one of the best testimony of the love of God.

Thoughts of Exchange Student - Christine Watt



I'm a second year Wycliffe College student, a postulant in the Toronto Diocese and live in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. When I was given the opportunity to come to Codrington College as an exchange student for one semester, I accepted it with some trepidation and excitement. I knew that through it, the Lord would teach me much more than I could learn by staying the winter in Toronto and since I hear that the winter in Toronto was particularly cold

this year, it was not a hardship to be in this warm, sunny and beautiful place.

Upon arrival, I found everything different — the Anglo-catholic theology, the liturgy, the monastic lifestyle and indeed living in residence were new experiences for me. I had much to learn and I felt like a sponge soaking up new information and new ways every moment. The culture of the Bajan people is one of hospitality, warmth and interest. I was treated with great respect and concern. I also was grateful for my field placement experi-

ence at St. George's Parish where I learned much about the method of worship, the lives of the people and the culture generally. The other students were a joy to be with and it has been such a reward for me to get to know some of them well. My prayer is that God teach me to draw near to Him through prayer and the Word and to strengthen and protect them as they continue on in their ministries. I am very grateful for my time and experience at Codrington which has been a time of tremendous personal and spiritual growth.

Book Presentation - A Wing and a Prayer



Ms. Letha Strachan, an avid reader shared her passion with her fellow ordinands in her multimedia presentation on the book: *A Wing and a Prayer - A Message of Faith and Hope*

by Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori.

Excerpts highlighted from the book included:

1. The body depends on the gifts of all its members for all are ministers not just the ordained.

2. She cautions, compels and commissions us; we who have received God's love without payment, that we can give 'sans payment' and not only at church, for this opportunity to give is ever present and can be offered in every encounter. "This she exclaims is the richest and most fruitful kind of gospeling there is."

3. In his Incarnation Jesus made God's love evident to all nations and all peoples. She emphatically stresses that none of us is worthy of the gift and none of us had to qualify and pass a test,



nonetheless it was given freely.

4. She advises that the ordained and lay person can accomplish this task by setting the example in the way they live daily and to speak the truth of God's love quietly or boldly so that others may be encouraged, challenged and or compelled to live the life that God has called them to.

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Codrington College was built in 1743, and began functioning as an institution of higher education in 1830. From 1955, following the establishment of the University of the West Indies, the programme at Codrington concentrated on theology. Codrington College, which is at present the Theological College of the Anglican Church in the Province of the West Indies, is affiliated with the University of the West Indies. While the college fulfils its primary purpose of preparing students for ordination, it also caters for an increasing number of students for the theology degree whose intention is not ordination. In recent years the College has organized a diploma programme for lay leaders from various denominations. The Codrington Trust has the responsibility of the college and the estates.

Wish List—What Would You Like To See Happening?

Attention! Alma Maters, administration, staff, students (full-time, part-time, Diploma), and friends, Codrington Theological College has been a monument in the Caribbean in theological training for over 200 years. However, with the ever-changing trends in the world there has to come educational changes, environmental changes, social changes, etc. What would you like to see happening? What changes would you like to see taking place? How do you think the college can expand and grow? Your views would be much appreciated. Let us know.



Debate - "Who Is The Beloved Disciple - Mary Magdalene?"



The Proposition Team

"Who is the beloved disciple?" Brain churned, speculation ran rampant,



Christine Watt and Julian Campbell presented its argument. questions were raised and expectations were elevated as the proposed debate neared. Just who is it? The Proposition Team led by Christine Watt and Julian Campbell presented its argument.

- Women were prominent throughout the Gospel and active as disciples.
- Mary Magdalene was the founder and leader of the Johannine community - the group called the 'Secessionists'.
- Theories put forward by biblical scholars argued that the identity from female to male was changed.
- The Nag Hammadi library contains manuscripts to corroborate the identity.



Joseph King

The Opponents

Oh! No! It could not be!

There is no way anyone could prove "beyond reasonable doubt" that Mary Magdalene was the beloved disciple.

These were the opening words of the opposing team led by Joseph King and Stephanie Wedderburn. There has always been speculation and controversy regarding the identity but no proof. Scripture does not specifically state the identity, therefore the external evidence are inadmissible. To say that Mary Magdalene was the beloved disciple would be to 'embrace guile and deceit'.

Possibilities exist in Scripture for other persons to be identified as being the beloved disciple, e.g. Lazarus, who was referred to as 'the one Jesus loved'.

What are the facts? Are there any evidence?



Stephanie Wedderburn

If Mary Magdalene is identified as being the beloved disciple would that change the apostolic origin or integrity of Mary's tradition as 'apostle to the apostles'?

Does this mean that the need for 'male superiority' was the overriding factor in determining that the Scripture reflect the beloved disciple as male rather than female?

Do we ignore the original Greek text in favour of theological hypotheses?

This debate originated from within the THEO 2008 - *Gospel and Epistles of John* class, taught by Rev. Dr. Ian Rock, Principal. A challenging class, where students were not 'told' but were asked to 'think', and in thinking were able to question and arrive at their own conclusions.

An interesting debate. One that was anxiously awaited. Who was the beloved disciple? Are we any nearer to the answer? What do you think?

