

The G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture @ Seton Hall University

December 2014

Did you know that...

- 2014 marked the 40th anniversary of the Chesterton Institute and *The Chesterton Review*?
- *The Chesterton Review* is now published in five languages?
English
Spanish
Portuguese
French
Italian

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A Message from the President: Fr. Ian Boyd, C. S. B.

This newsletter brings you a brief report about the work of the Chesterton Institute during 2014, remarks about our fortieth anniversary as well as information about our upcoming programs and projects which are reality with the support of Seton Hall University and our supporters.

This year *The Chesterton Review* celebrates its fortieth anniversary. 1974 was an appropriate year for the founding, for it was the centenary of Chesterton's birth. A conference at Spode House, a Dominican retreat centre in the English midlands, was part of the centenary celebrations. Because I was on sabbatical leave in Oxford, I was able to attend, and, during a conversation with a group of conference participants, I suggested that a Chesterton journal was needed. It was important, I explained, that the journal should focus on Chesterton's wisdom rather than his personality. It is of course true that his personality was a delightful one, but an undue emphasis on it might suggest a Chesterton cult. What the journal should emphasise instead was his role as a thinker and imaginative writer, an author who expressed his deepest insights not only in books, such as *Orthodoxy* and *The Everlasting Man*, but even more importantly in stories and verse and enigmatic sayings. Something another writer once said about him provided an explanation of why a Chesterton journal was needed. In the early 1930s, during one of Chesterton's visits to America, Etienne Gilson, the French academician and mediaeval historian, met him in Toronto at St. Michael's College. In the Basilian Fathers dining room there, Chesterton was of course the honoured guest, and Gilson never forgot the brilliance of his conversation. Years later, he wrote that everything he heard Chesterton say then was an intellectual revelation. He spoke, Gilson explained, not as someone who laboriously worked his way towards the truth, but as someone who had already intuited it. For that reason, the French philosopher concluded, every bit and parcel of his writings must be treasured and studied. He was, Gilson said, "one of the deepest thinkers who ever lived." It might therefore be said that *The Chesterton Review* was founded in order to do what Gilson said should be done.

Something else was appropriate about the founding of the *Review*. Chesterton believed in small communities, and the community responsible for publishing the first issue of *The Chesterton Review* in the fall of 1974 was small indeed. Sister Mary Loyola, a professor of eighteenth-century English literature at St. Thomas More College in the University of Saskatchewan, was the key member of the group; so were Alma Steinke and Jane Morris. Without their help, the project would never have succeeded. There were other helpers. The Basilian Community at St. Thomas More College and the central Basilian government in Toronto were friends of the work from the very beginning. To cite only one example, Father Jack Gallagher, a Basilian Superior General, contributed his family inheritance to an endowment which continues to support our work to this day.

Looking back over these forty years, I am therefore impressed, not only by the smallness of the group that has kept our project afloat but, most of all, by the generosity of their commitment. In Edmund Burke's book of reflections on the French Revolution, there is a passage about the glory of small communities that might well be applied to us: "to be attached to the subdivision, to love the little platoon we belong to in society is the first principle (the germ as it were) of public affection. It is the first link in the series by which we proceed towards a love to our country and to mankind." The loyalty of those belonging to our particular "little platoon" during the forty years of our existence is perhaps the thing most worth celebrating on our anniversary.



Message from the President, cont.

A journal is only as good as the quality of the writing found in it. It was Sister Mary Loyola who made sure that everything published in our early issues met an exacting standard. Nothing was included in the *Review* that had not first crossed her desk and received her sharp and critical attention. She died many years ago, but she is remembered by those who worked with her with gratitude and affection. We also recall the contributions of our printers at the Marian Press in Battleford in those early days. The Oblate Fathers operated the Press, but a layman, Ewald Gossner, set the lead type by hand on an old-fashioned machine. The early issues of the *Review* were therefore hand-printed. Without the help of these people, our project would never have prospered.

The contribution of Father Daniel Callam, also a Basilian, deserves special mention. He provided, and continues to provide, invaluable help both as our film critic and as our Copy Editor. Father Callam was the founder of *The Canadian Catholic Review*. He is a theologian who holds degrees from the University of Toronto and from Oxford University. He taught at St. Thomas More and now lives at St. Michael's College in Toronto.

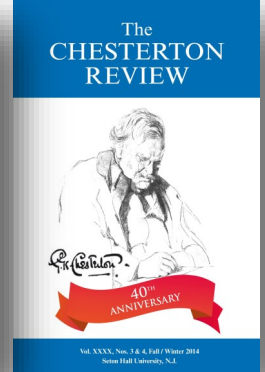
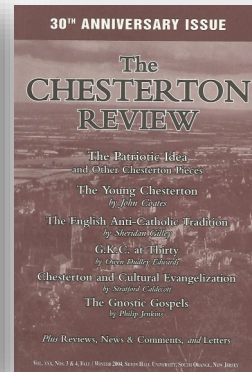
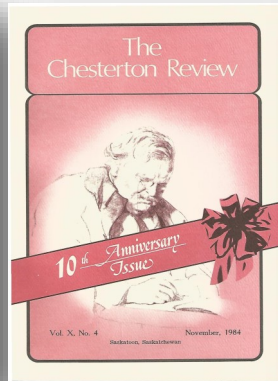
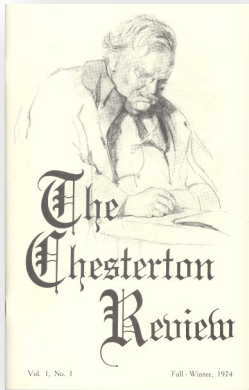
The move of the *Review* from Canada to America occurred fifteen years ago. Monsignor Robert Sheeran, then President of Seton Hall, invited us to come to the University. Professor Dermot Quinn teaches here, and it was thanks to him that Monsignor Sheeran was eager to make the University a Chesterton centre. Doctor Quinn, a native of Derry in Northern Ireland, was educated at Trinity College Dublin and at Oxford University. An author of a number of books and numerous scholarly articles, he is the Associate Editor and a frequent contributor to the *Review*. Many of his writings deal with Chesterton's distributist social philosophy. Gloria Garafulich-Grabois is the other central member of our group. A native of Santiago, Chile, she comes from a distinguished family who have their roots in Croatia. She joined our Chesterton project ten years ago. Among her many achievements, she is responsible for the recent launching of the French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish editions of the *Review* and for our conferences around the world.



The celebration of our anniversary recalls a small incident that occurred during the early days of our Institute. In order to benefit from a less expensive postal rate, I used to travel in a van from Saskatoon to the village of Portal in North Dakota, bringing copies of the *Review* to the post office there. It was a journey of some three hundred miles. Late one dark November afternoon, I arrived at the village only to discover that the post office had already closed. There seemed to be no solution to my difficulty until the customs official said that he would "phone Marian." It turned out that Marian was the postmistress. The border official was sure that she would be happy to re-open the office in order to help a stranger. But first the official wanted to know who the man was who gave his name to our journal. I told him that Chesterton was a writer who admired communities small enough that people knew each other by name and difficulties could be resolved by simply "phoning Marian."

It was a small happening, but I have never forgotten it. The deepest truths, Chesterton once said, are told only in parables. It seems to me that the fortieth anniversary issue of *The Chesterton Review* is a good time in which to recall this small parable. To borrow another phrase from Chesterton, it was "an earthly story with a heavenly meaning." It might also be said that the forty-year history of our journal consists of a long series of such stories. In a sense they are the reason why our work matters and why it deserves to continue. *Ad multos annos The Chesterton Review.*

The Chesterton Review

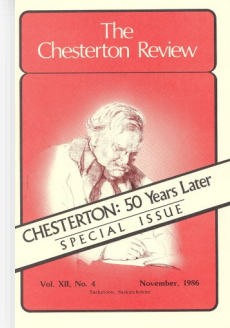
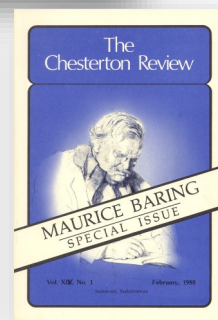
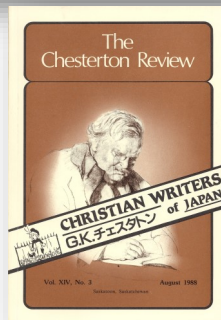
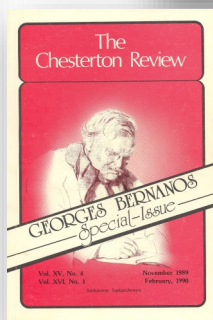
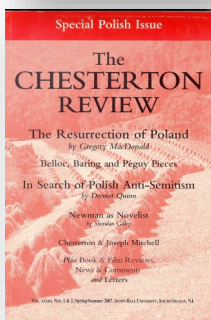
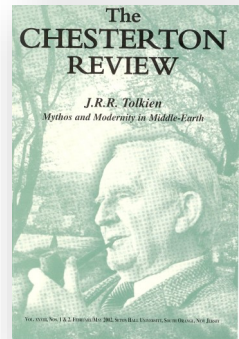
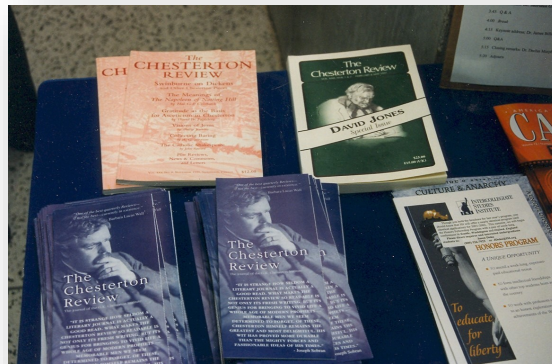
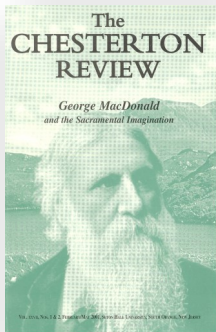


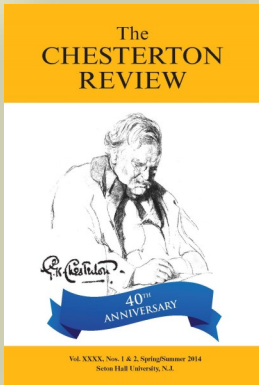
The G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture is based at Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J. Its purpose is to promote the thought of G. K. Chesterton and his circle and more broadly, to explore the application of Chestertonian ideas in the contemporary world. The Institute's work consists of conferences, lecture series, research and writing.

The Chesterton Review, founded in 1974, has been widely praised both for its scholarship and for the quality of its writing. Edited by Father Ian Boyd, it includes a wide range of articles not only on Chesterton himself, but on the issues close to his heart in the work of other writers and in the modern world. It has devoted special issues to C. S. Lewis, George Bernanos, Hilaire Belloc, Maurice Baring, Christopher Dawson, Cardinal Manning, the Modernist Crisis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Fantasy Literature, and a Special Polish Issue. As the interest in Chesterton continues to grow around the world, so does our publication which now publishes annual editions in Spanish, Portuguese, French and Italian.

To subscribe, renew or to obtain a gift subscription please contact: Philosophical Documentation Center at 1.800.444.2419 or online at: www.pdcnet.org/chesterton

The complete collection of back issues is available online and you can also download the General Index of *The Chesterton Review*.





“There is really nothing like The Chesterton Review, and if there ever was, it existed in a bygone Golden Age of journals and magazines. They, however, are all dead. The Review abides.”

*—Philip Jenkins,
Chronicles
Magazine,
June 2014*

G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture CELEBRATING FORTY YEARS 2014 Programmes

- January 28** Lecture: “CHESTERTON’S ECONOMIC THEORY OF DISTRIBUTISM”
@ Seton Hall University
Speaker: Fr. Ian Boyd, C.S.B.
sponsored by the Department of Catholic Studies
- March 19** Lecture: “WHOLENESS AND HOLINESS IN G. K. CHESTERTON”
@ the UK: Chesterton Society conference “G.K. Chesterton: Sanity & Sanctity,” Beaconsfield, UK
Speaker: Dr. Dermot Quinn
Conference organized by the UK Chesterton Society
- May 24** Conference: “A CHRISTIAN IDEA OF SOCIETY: ECONOMY AND POLITICS IN CHESTERTON AND HIS FRIENDS”
@ La Civiltà Cattolica, Rome, Italy
Speakers: Fr. Ian Boyd—“*The Restoration of Freedom*”
Dr. Dermot Quinn: —“*Chesterton and the Moral Economy*”
Co-sponsored by the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture, La Civiltà Cattolica and BombaCarta
- May 27** Conference: “CHESTERTON’S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VISION”
@ the University of Malta, Valletta, Malta
Speakers: Fr. Ian Boyd—“*The Restoration of Freedom*”
Dr. Dermot Quinn: —“*Chesterton and the Moral Economy*”
Co-sponsored by the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture, the University of Malta, the Farsons Foundation and the Strickland Foundation.
- Summer 2014** Exhibit: “CHESTERTON EXHIBIT”
@ Walsh Library, Seton Hall University
In celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Chesterton Institute
- September 18** Conference: “THE G. K. CHESTERTON INSTITUTE: ‘TIS FORTY YEARS SINCE AND G. K. CHESTERTON’S IMPORTANCE IN THE WORLD OF TODAY”
@ the Newman Centre of McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Speaker: Fr. Ian Boyd, C.S.B.
Co-sponsored by the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture, the Newman Centre at McGill University, Conversations Cultural Centre and *Convivium*.
- October 13 & 16** Conference Series in Poland
“CHESTERTON, DISTRIBUTISM & POLAND”
October 13 — Warsaw: @ the University of Warsaw
Co-sponsored by the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture and the Faculty of Law of the University of Warsaw.
October 16 — Krakow: @ the Historical Museum of Krakow
Co-sponsored by the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture and the Piotr Skarga Association.



G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture 2015 Preliminary Programme

The Chesterton Institute will announce its programme
in early 2015

Spring	Lecture at Seton Hall University, So. Orange, NJ Date: to be announced Conference in Toronto Canada Date: TBA Symposium: Rome, Italy Date: TBA Conference: London, UK Date: TBA
May	Conference: Moscow, Russia co-sponsored by St. Tikhon's Orthodox University
Fall	Conference Series in Latin America October 2015 Lecture in Washington DC Date: TBA Conference in London, UK Date: TBA

Please remember *The Chesterton Review*
and the work of the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Cul-
ture in your will.
The Chesterton Institute needs your support, and a bequest
would be an effective way of providing that help.

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Your *tax-deductible* contri-
bution will help support key
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as the continued publication
of *The Chesterton Review*
and the
2015 Conference
programme.

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Conference: A Christian Idea of Society
Rome, Italy—May 2014— Fr. Ian Boyd, CSB



Conference: A Christian Idea of Society
Rome, Italy—May 2014—Fr. Antonio Spadaro, SJ



Conference: A Christian Idea of Society
Rome, Italy—May 2014—Speakers



Conference: Chesterton's Social &
Economic Vision
Valletta, Malta —May 2014—Dr. Dermot Quinn



Conference: Chesterton's Social &
Economic Vision
Valletta, Malta —May 2014—Speakers



Conference: Chesterton's Importance
in the World of Today
Montreal, Canada—September 2014



Conference: Chesterton, Distributism
and Poland
Warsaw, Poland—October 2014—Speakers



Chesterton Lecture at Filowa House
Warsaw, Poland—October 2014



Conference: Chesterton, Distributism and
Poland
Krakow, Poland—October 2014—Speakers

Support for the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture and *The Chesterton Review*

We acknowledge and thank supporters and recent donors, especially Lady Blanka Rosensteil, and we seek your support for the continued work of the Chesterton Institute. Over the last forty years the Institute has worked diligently at applying Chesterton's insights and those of similar thinkers to contemporary problems; has developed a network of contacts around the world that continues to attract new generations, and continues to publish *The Chesterton Review*. It is with your continued support that the Chesterton Institute continues to thrive. Your support is greatly appreciated and we hope that we can count on you. To find out how you can support the Institute and its programs, please contact us: by phone: 973.275.2431 or by email: chestertoninstitute@shu.edu

You can make your tax-deductible donation online at: www.shu.edu/go/chesterton