

15 May 2015

Dear Friend of the CFEB,

We bring you warm greetings and news of a busy year for the Canadian Friends of the École Biblique. This is our 20th year as a volunteer ecumenical organization dedicated to furthering the work of the École Biblique of Jerusalem as it continues its leadership role in biblical and archaeological teaching and research.

The breadth and depth of the work of the École is apparent in the latest copy of *Nouvelles de Jérusalem*, the annual newsletter of the École Biblique, which is enclosed.

Over the past two decades, the CFEB has provided scholarships to Canadian students and researchers as well as support money for the École's world-famous library and several exciting projects.

This year's contributions include:

1. **Scholarships** to Canadian academics and graduate students during the spring/summer of 2015 and the academic year 2015-16:

Dr. Daniel Machiela, associate professor of Religious Studies at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, is spending May 2015 at the École working on texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls written in Aramaic. These texts have received much less scholarly attention globally than the biblical and 'sectarian' writings among the Scrolls. He plans to publish two volumes on the Aramaic texts, providing an advanced introduction for scholars working in Old Testament and Hebrew Bible, Semitic Languages, ancient Judaism, and New Testament and Early Christianity.

Dr. Ronald Charles, who for the past year taught Religious Studies at Saint Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, is also spending May 2015 at the École doing research for a monograph on slavery in antiquity, incorporating pseudepigraphic literature in conversation with texts from early Christian materials.

Sr. Marie de Lovinfosse, CDN, continues her studies at the École Biblique, working towards a Licenciate in Sacred Scripture (the SSL degree) from the Pontifical Biblical Commission and taking courses towards a doctoral degree from Le Collège Universitaire Dominicain in Ottawa.

2. **Funds for Library acquisitions and IT work** that will better enable students and academics worldwide to access the world-famous library resources and catalogue of the École Biblique.
3. **Support for the BEST project**, La Bible en Ses Traditions. Two Canadian academics are very much involved in this project: **Fr. Marc Girard**, an emeritus professor at the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, is working on the Psalms for the BEST project,

and from February to April, taught a seminar on Psalms. **Fr. Michel Gourgues**, professor of theology at Collège Universitaire Dominicain in Ottawa, also taught winter term at the École while working on 1 Timothy for the BEST project.

4. **Funds for the Qumran Data Base Project**, which is working to establish a single online database for all the available artifacts retrieved in the excavations of Qumran and Ain Feshkha from the time of Fr. Roland de Vaux in the 1950s to the present.

New board members:

The CFEB is pleased to announce the addition of three new members to our board:

- **Dr. Glenn Byer**, Associate Publisher of Novalis Publishing in Toronto
- **Dr. Darren Dias**, OP, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto
- **Dr. William Morrow**, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Religious Studies at Queen's University in Kingston ON.

Student presentation: After the Spring board meeting, **Daniel Fisher**, a Canadian doctoral candidate in Hebrew Bible and Jewish Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, gave a presentation on "Memories of the Ark of the Covenant in Exodus, Deuteronomy and Jeremiah." Daniel shared research that he had done at the École as a CFEB scholarship recipient in the spring term 2014. A number of other recent scholarship recipients from the Toronto area were able to join the board for this lecture and a supper hosted by the Toronto Dominican community.

A broad range of support:

The work of the Canadian Friends is funded with contributions from individuals, foundations, churches, religious orders and businesses from across Canada. In this, our 20th year, we ask for your continuing support.

The enclosed sheet provides information on how you can contribute to the important work of the Canadian Friends of the École Biblique in support of biblical and archaeological teaching and research worldwide.

With deep appreciation and best wishes,

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