

## Canadian Friends of the École Biblique Les amis canadiens de l'École Biblique

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Dear friends of the CFEB,

Warm greetings to you from the Canadian Friends of the École Biblique! We wish you all the best as we continue to persevere through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Once again we are pleased to offer you the latest full-colour issue of *Nouvelles de Jérusalem* and the Spring 2021 newsletter of the Canadian Friends. If you would prefer to receive *Nouvelles de Jérusalem* electronically, please contact Tim Hegedus at [cfef.aceb@gmail.com](mailto:cfef.aceb@gmail.com).

### What's happening at the École:

We're delighted to offer you this latest report from Jean-Jacques Pérennès, director of the École:

This past year: During the academic year 2020-2021, the École Biblique was not able to receive its students in Jerusalem because the Israeli authorities decided not to give visas to foreign students. Only two of our doctoral students have been able to come to the École, so we had to organize all the lectures online with a reduced number of students, several having decided to postpone their trip until next year.

It has been a good opportunity for most of the professors to get used to online teaching. The only difficulty was visiting the archaeological sites: the professor gave the course and showed videos of the sites, but this was not the same as a real visit. We even had a doctoral defence online: the candidate and another member of the jury were in the USA and the others were in Jerusalem, Strasbourg and Tel-Aviv. It went very well.

Vaccinations at the École: In Israël, more than 60 percent of the population has now received two shots. At the École Biblique all the friars, students and interns have been vaccinated. We have been able to reopen the library to the public for those who have a vaccination certificate. We are not expecting a return to normal before this summer. We have a significant number of students already registered for the 2021-2022 academic year and we hope they will be able to receive their visas by October. We welcome foreign scholars who have been vaccinated and have Israeli visas.

### For more information, check out our websites:

If you wish more information about the École, be sure to visit the **École website**, which is updated frequently with articles, events, lectures and videos. See:

<http://www.ebaf.edu/en/>

And don't forget to check the **Canadian Friends' website**: in English at <https://www.cfebweb.ca> and in French at <https://www.acebweb.ca>. The website is updated regularly.

### **Our Scholarships:**

Michael Johnson, one of our scholarship winners in 2020, is spending the current academic year as a post-doctoral fellow at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. A graduate of McMaster University, Michael worked at the École during February and March this year. His research looks at the liturgical orientations of two overlapping collections of psalms of thanksgiving and praise from the Dead Sea Scrolls, 1QHodayota and 4QHodayota. His work at the École was recently featured in an article posted on the École website at <https://www.ebaf.edu/2021/03/a-post-doctoral-student-from-the-hebrew-university-of-jerusalem-is-doing-a-research-stay-at-the-school/>.

Another scholarship winner for 2020, Isabelle Lemelin, plans to study and conduct research at the École from August to December 2021. A post-doctoral fellow with the University of Quebec at Montreal, Isabelle is the first recipient of a Guy Couturier scholarship from the CFEB.

Two additional scholarship winners -- Alicia Batten, Professor of Religious Studies and Theological Studies at Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo, ON, and Joseph Atkinson, Associate Professor of Sacred Scripture at the John Paul II Institute, Washington, DC-- hope to conduct research at the École in the near future, as conditions allow.

### **Scholarship applications:**

The Canadian Friends' Board has decided to suspend applications for new scholarships pending resolution of the Covid-19 situation. However, it is important for Canadian students and researchers to know that our scholarship program is continuing, although indefinitely delayed by COVID restrictions in Israel. We will move ahead with the next round of scholarship applications as soon as possible.

If you know of any students and researchers who might be interested in applying for a scholarship for the École in 2022, please ask them to contact Tim Hegedus at [cfeb.aceb@gmail.com](mailto:cfeb.aceb@gmail.com) for updates.

### **Your Support:**

We are thankful to all who contribute to the Canadian Friends of the École Biblique. When our scholarship program resumes, please remember that in addition to our regular scholarships, we now offer two named scholarships – one in honour of **Father Philippe LeBlanc**, OP, a priest and international human rights activist who was a founding member and long-time Vice President of the CFEB, and the other in honour of **Father Guy Couturier**, CSC, founder of *Les Anciens et Amis de l'École Biblique* in Montreal and a founding member of the CFEB, which he served as president from 2000-2009.

If you wish to contribute to either scholarship, the procedure is the same as making a regular contribution – but please add the name of the scholarship to which you wish to contribute.

Funds donated to the CFEB also provide funding for the École library and IT upgrades as well as other projects of the École Biblique.

### **How you may contribute:**

You may fill in the enclosed donation form and send us a cheque by mail.

Or, you may donate on line at: <https://www.cfebweb.ca> (in English) and <https://www.acebweb.ca> (in French). Just click on the heading 'To Make a Donation.'

Our website also has a direct link to **CanadaHelps**, Simply click on the CanadaHelps link on the CFEB Home Page.

With appreciation and best wishes,

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