

"Hopkins: The Rome Conference was by far the most enjoyable academic conference I've ever attended. The papers were, surely, an important part (two I remember as particularly wonderful). But, ah, there intellectually magnificent and moving and was so much more: the sense of occasion, the warm Regis hospitality, the beauty and balmy weather of Rome, the laughter, and the people -- old friends, new friends, from Israel, Russia, Poland, all sorts of intermediateplaces, all the way to Korea and Japan.

"I still reflect with great joy on the Regis Roman Conference; it was a marvelous occasion.
Noel Barber, S.

"I will remember Hopkins: The Rome Conference all my life. It was magical, and I learned an enormous amount.'

"The evening at the Embassy... The Regis Gala dinner...The illuminating, stimulating papers... academic event! Unforgettable! Dr. Maria Popova

"Hopkins: The Rome Conference offered discourses that were real and spiritual in the atmosphere of the Gregorian University Jesuits. Hopkinsianspirit returns in the 21st Century!" Dr. Youngmin Kim

"The splendidly organized international gathering of Hopkinseans in Rome was a memorable academic celebration, in a perfect setting, of our poet's achievement. Although Hopkins himself never did visit the Holy City, I often found myself musing 'Yet, ah! this air I gather and release/ He lived on."



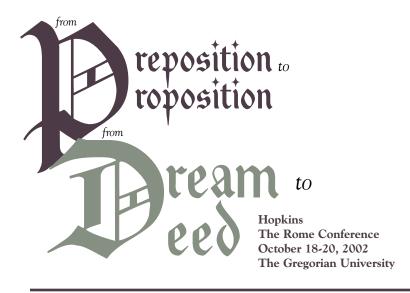
16-23 October 2002 THE GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY





"Return







Beginning in March 1999, Regis University has hosted an annual conference devoted to the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins. Dedicated to increasing readership of the poems, this conference gathers scholars and students, parishioners and priests, academics and amateurs to celebrate the grandeur of God in the Rocky Mountains.

Since the Regis organizing committee is composed of an Irishman, an Italian, a poet, a priest, and a politician, it is perhaps to be expected that certain impractical, lofty, illogical, and lovely ideas burst from planning sessions. HOPKINS: THE ROME CONFERENCE began in one such session, when Loredana Parini Kelly lamented the sad fact that, though he did, in converting to Catholicism, go over to Rome, Hopkins never went to Rome.

This critical lapse in preposition moved us quickly to proposition: "Let's take him there." Since Regis University was beginning a year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary, plans escalated to combine birthday celebrations with Hopkins festivities in Rome.

With assistance from Fr. Michael Hilbert, Academic Vice Rector of the Gregorian University, and Dotoressa Beatrice Mirelli, Director of Public Relations at the Gregorian University, and with the generosity of Regis benefactors Paul and Lory Kelly, this dream was delivered into fact when Regis hosted what Hopkins scholar Joseph J. Feeney, S.J., called "...the best group of Hopkins scholars in the history of the world." (One ought to note that any group containing Fr. Feeney is elevated into greatness by virtue of his presence.)

HOPKINS: THE ROME CONFERENCE offered a packed weekend of poetry and prayer. The Regis University contingent, led by President Michael J. Sheeran, S.J., included faculty, alumni, and students. Conference presenters traveled to Rome from Israel, Japan, Ireland, Korea, Canada, Poland, England, Russia, France, Italy, and America, representing universities such as Cambridge, Loyola/Chicago, The Hebrew University, Nagoya City University, Universite de Caen, Universita G. d'Annunzio, University of Limerick, and The Sorbonne. Jesuits journeyed from Denver and Dublin, Santa Clara and San

Francisco, as well as Philadelphia. Regis University alumni and students came from Ireland, Texas, Georgia, New York, Iowa, and Colorado to attend this event. The rich diversity of people and papers yielded an array of arresting themes, including: Hopkins and Newman, Hopkins as Educator and as Homilist, Hopkins in Wales, Perspective in Hopkins, and numerous critical examinations of particular poems.

The Hopkins Memorial Mass was celebrated in the Gregorian Chapel by His Eminence, J. Francis Cardinal Stafford, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. Cardinal Stafford's eloquent homily reflected his intense personal interest in Hopkins, whom he first studied as an undergraduate at Loyola College, Maryland.

The Honorable James Nicholson, American Ambassador to the Holy See, hosted a reception for Hopkins participants at his residence, Villa Richardson. During this reception, Ambassador Nicholson invited Cardinal Stafford, Fr. Sheeran, Denver City Councilman Dennis Gallagher, and Hopkins President Paul Kelly to address the crowd of about 125 guests. In addition, this balmy, beauteous evening was graced with a preview performance by conference keynote speaker Richard

In recognition of Regis University's patron saint, John Francis Regis, the Conference Banquet was held at the St. Regis Grand Hotel. This elegant evening honored the contributions of Regis University in its first 125 years of service as well as the great gifts of Fr. Hopkins's poetry. Cardinal Stafford gave the invocation, and Jesuit Father Edward T. Oakes gave the Benediction. The Gregorian University was represented at the Banquet by Fr. Philip Rosato, S.J., and Dr. Marco Cardinali. British actor Richard Austin presented a powerful performance of the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins.

From the glorious backdrop of the Eternal City, and the august halls of The Gregorian University, and the heavenlier weather of Rome in October -- the rich density of HOPKINS: THE ROME CONFERENCE lingers in mind and heart.

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HOPKINS 2003 MARCH 28-30 • HOPKINS 2004 MARCH 26-28

Speakers

Richard Austin Essex, England Noel Barber, S.I. Dublin, Ireland

Dr. Ewa Borkowska Sosnowiec, Poland

Dr. Mariaconcetta Constantini Pescara, Italy

Dr. James Finn Cotter Newburgh, New York

Dr. Michael Culhane Limerick, Ireland

Dr. Renzo D'Agnillo Pescara, Italy

Sam Eccher Denver, Colorado

Dr. Kazuyoshi Enozawa Nagano-ken, Japan

Fr. Joseph J. Feeney, S.J. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dr. Frank Fennell Chicago, IL

Councilman Dennis Gallagher Denver, Colorado

Professor René Gallet Montgeron, France

Professor Pilar Abad Garcia Valladolid, Spain

Dr. Adrian Grafe Paris, France

Dr. John Hawley Santa Clara, California

Sr. Tomiko Hirata, SPC Tokyo, Japan

Dr. Youngmin Kim Seoul, Korea

Dr. Hikaru Kitabayashi Tokyo, Japan Dr. Daniel Lenoski Manitoba, Canada **Dr. Randolph Lumpp** Denver, Colorado

Fr. Francis X. McAloon, S.J. Santa Clara, California

James McAuley Wicklow, Ireland

Dr. Victoria McCabe Denver, Colorado

Dr. Sean Michaelson, S.J. San Francisco, California Dr. Michael Moore Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Maureen Moran London, England

Dr. Jude Nixon Rochester, Michigan

Fr. Edward T. Oakes, S.J. Denver, Colorado

Dr. Leonora Obed Edinburgh, Scotland

Professor Catherine Phillips Cambridge, England

Professor Cary Plotkin New York, New York

Dr. Maria Popova Voronezh, Russia Dr. Rachel Salmon Ramat Gan, Israel

Professor Kunio Shimane Nagoya, Japan

Dr. Dennis Sobolev Jerusalem, Israel

Dr. Marco Sonzogni Dublin, Ireland

Dr. R.K.R. Thornton Newcastle upon Tyne, England

Dr. Saverio Tomaiuolo Pescara, Italy

Dr. Eynel Wardi Jerusalem, Israel

