

Thomas Merton Society of Canada

WHAT WE DO

The Thomas Merton Society of Canada (TMSC) seeks to make Thomas Merton's life and thought better known and to provide opportunities for reflection on some perennial issues of his time and ours. Steeped in Western and Eastern literature, Merton enhanced our knowledge of the self and showed the implications of this knowledge for our social thinking as well as our spiritual awareness.

In his lifetime, Thomas Merton was hailed as a prophet and censured for his outspoken social criticism. For twenty-seven years he was a monk of the austere Trappist order in Kentucky where he became an eloquent spiritual writer and contemplative as well as a poet, Zen calligrapher, photographer, and peace activist. Born in Prades, France, on January 31, 1915, Merton was educated at Cambridge University (England) and Columbia University (New York City). He died in Bangkok on December 10, 1968.

Our 2008/09 program includes public talks, retreats and conferences. Keynote speaker at the Fredericton conference at St. Thomas University (Oct. 3 & 4) is well-known Merton scholar and broadcaster Michael Higgins while Jim Forest and Peter Dale Scott headline our annual conference on peace at Canadian Memorial Church & Centre for Peace in Vancouver (March 6 & 7).

On July 4, 2006, the Thomas Merton Reading Room was formally opened at the Vancouver School of Theology in the H. R. MacMillan Library, which holds the monograph, serial, and media collections for the TMSC. The cooperative arrangement between the Vancouver School of Theology and the TMSC provides a specialized Merton collection, the most comprehensive in Canada.

HOW WE DO IT

The TMSC is a registered charitable organization that is run by a Board of Directors who meet monthly to manage the Society's diverse programs and projects. There are no paid employees.

We depend on your annual membership fees and financial gifts to pay for day-to-day operating costs such as printing, postage and website maintenance; for program costs, including facility rental, hospitality, and travel expenses of guest speakers and retreat leaders; and the acquisition of tapes and audiotapes for our lending library, as well as books for the Thomas Merton Reading Room in the H. R. MacMillan Library at the Vancouver School of Theology.



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Borrowing privileges from our extensive audio/videotape library
- Reduced retreat and program fees
- Subscription to TMSC's bi-annual newsletter
- Monograph of Ross Labrie's essay, "Christian Humanism and The Roots of Peace in Thomas Merton"
- Advance notice of TMSC and international Merton events
- Voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting
- Volunteer opportunities that support the work of the TMSC

“*Either you look at the universe as a very poor creation out of which no one can make anything, or you look at your own life and your own part in the universe as infinitely rich, full of inexhaustible interest, opening out into the infinite further possibilities for study and contemplation and interest and praise.*”
Beyond all and in all is God.”

— **Thomas Merton**, *A Search for Solitude, The Journals of Thomas Merton*

M E M B E R S H I P

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY PROVINCE/STATE POSTAL/ZIP CODE

PHONE (HOME) (WORK)

EMAIL

New Membership Membership Renewal

I enclose my membership fee for 2008/09.
(Sept. 1, 2008 - Aug. 31, 2009)

\$30.00

I enclose my tax-deductible gift to support the work of the
Thomas Merton Society of Canada.

\$500 \$250
 \$100 \$50

PAYMENT

Membership: \$30.00

Donation: \$ _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Cheque (payable to the Thomas Merton Society of Canada)
 VISA

VISA # _____ Expiry Date _____

Cardholder Name _____

Signature _____

**You can also arrange your membership by
calling the TMSC office at 604-669-2546.**

**PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH
YOUR PAYMENT TO:**

The Thomas Merton Society of Canada



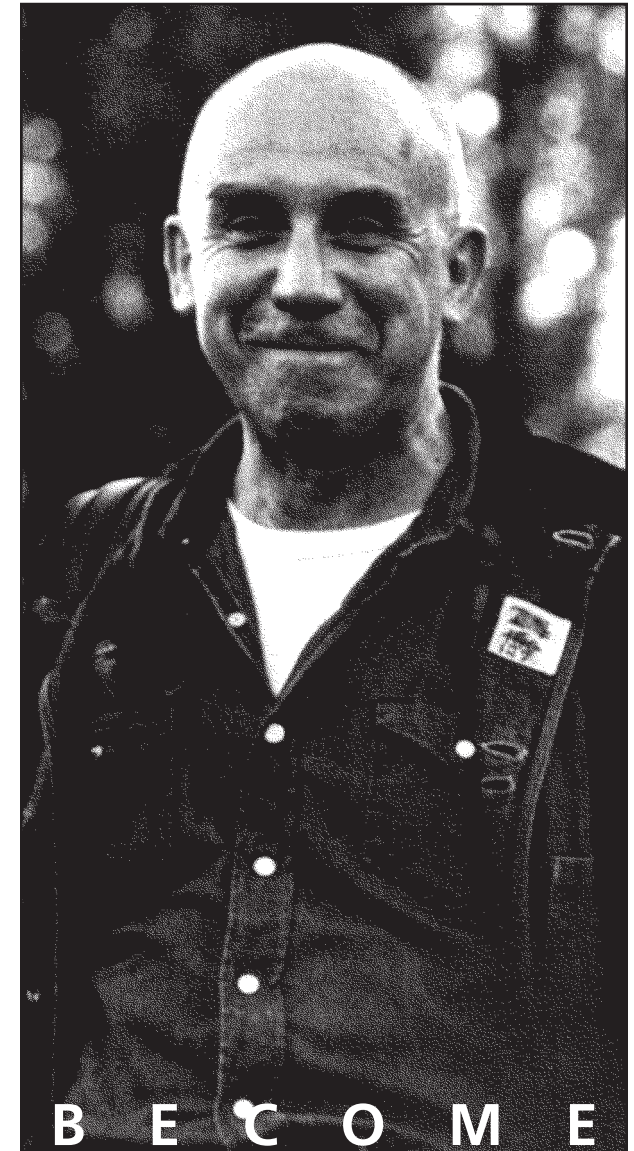
**THOMAS MERTON
SOCIETY OF CANADA**

705 – 700 Chilco Street
Vancouver, BC
V6G 2R1

Phone: 604-669-2546
Fax: 604-669-2594
Email: tmsc@telus.net
Web: www.merton.ca

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M E M B E R S H I P



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