

From the Archives

JOAN HOPPERTON AND KATHLEEN MANN



In the early days of St. Michael's Choir School, Monsignor Ronan was assisted by a small but dedicated staff. Among them were **Joan Hopperton** and **Kathleen Mann** (pictured left in the Cathedral garden sometime in the late 1940s). Along with Harold Armstrong, these staff members were a part of the very fabric of the Choir School, having worked with Monsignor Ronan since his appointment as Director of the Sanctuary Choir at the Cathedral in 1926. Kathleen and Joan were the first classroom teachers at St. Michael's Choir School, and Kathleen's duties also included preparation of the Junior Choir.

These two women were so central to the development of St. Michael's Choir School that we have now named two of our houses after them, with the other two rightly being named for Monsignor Ronan and Harold Armstrong. The Choir School community has always recognized these four as pillars; in this picture, we see Kathleen and Joan as friends as well.

This picture was donated to the SMCS Archives by our own Mrs. Chevrier, who is the niece of Joan Hopperton. Thanks, Mrs. Chevrier!

Music Monday



On Monday, May 4th, the Tenor Bass Choir joined forces with the choir of Havergal College to participate in Music Monday, singing the 2015 anthem *We Are One*. The song was composed by a high school student from Bolton ON, Connor Ross, who attended a rehearsal here at SMCS on Wednesday, April 29th. The rehearsal, which was held in the auditorium, also featured SMCS alumnus Andrew Craig (Class of 1988), who conducted the two choirs in their collaboration at Havergal and created a unique arrangement of the anthem for the combined choirs.

When asked about Craig's special arrangement of his piece, Ross told the Toronto Star "It's a totally different vibe, I love it." Read more about Music Monday at <http://goo.gl/tASWMA>.