

Heart *Speaks to* Heart

A Publication of the Catholic Newman Community at the University of Rochester

Cool Thoughts—Do Even More



Last year, when Newman was the first campus group to return to in-person ministry and programming, I came to know, like you, what our Catholic faith truly signifies and means personally. I can also tell you just how much it means to our students.

The pandemic has touched something deep inside all of us, and perhaps you feel it yourself? I can tell you the young adults I serve every day feel it as well. While much research will certainly follow the effects of these last two years, I can tell you anecdotally from my twenty plus years at Rochester, the existential questions asked by young adults are being asked with a new openness to faith. In addition, this provides the Church and Newman the ability to evangelize and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Sacraments of the Church in new and exciting ways. This is an opportunity for Newman to DO EVEN MORE!

Just a few short years ago, I would sometimes ask a student whom I would encounter on the academic quad, “Why don’t you come to Mass?” In the past, this question would have been met with a slight hesitation leading to a polite refusal or a joke to move away from the subject. Today, it is different. Presently when I ask them if they want to come to Mass, I am met with, “Okay” or “What time,” or if they are with someone, they turn to them and ask, “Want to go”? This change has been universal!

Because of this, my colleagues and I have embarked upon a renewal, focused on the theme of DO EVEN MORE, as today we have opportunities that we have not had in sometime to meet and walk with students as they seek answers to fundamental human questions intensified by the last two years. DO EVEN MORE, while uniquely Rochester as it speaks to our Meliora values and motto, is more than just a cute slogan. It is a call to reengage students, bringing them to Christ where they can find healing, peace, hope, and the pathway to a fulfilling life.

DO EVEN MORE speaks to our growth as a community grounded in the tenets of the faith and always preparing to provide expanded pastoral care for all students, many in crisis. DO EVEN MORE propels us to look inside ourselves more deeply, grasping the Gospel values that allow us to provide Mass; create small Christian community groups; and increase our service opportunities to those in need. DO EVEN MORE means us pushing the “comfortable” to do so much more for our students and the surrounding community!

Therefore, let this be a challenge to all of us. Together, let us DO EVEN MORE! Let us meet Christ anew and open our hearts to God. Our students seek and desire Jesus. Don’t we all?

Rev. Brian C. Cool '06W (MS), '21 (EdD)

J. Nelson Hoffman '55 and Joan Dutcher Hoffman '55
Director of Catholic Newman Community Pastoral Care

EVENTS CALENDAR

MASS SCHEDULE

Join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. (7 p.m. Mass ends on December 19 with start of Winter Recess) to worship with us at www.urnewman.org/streaming.

NEWMAN NETWORKING ALUMNI STEM PANEL

November 3, 2021

ICYMI (in case you missed it), our latest Newman Networking Alumni Panel took place on November 3 and featured Paul Murphy '95, '01 (PhD), Mark O'Hara '04, and Peter Swanson '09. The video can be viewed at www.urnewman.org/networking.

AGAPE LATTE: FIND SOMETHING YOU LOVE

November 16, 2021

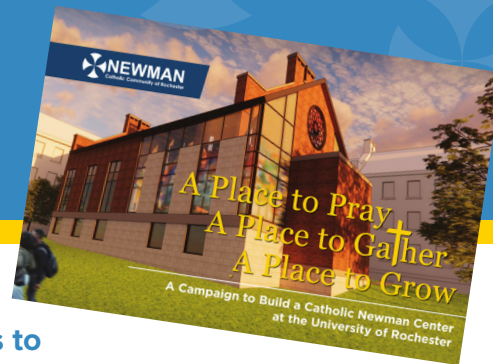
Curt Smith, senior lecturer of English and former speechwriter for President George H. W. Bush, delivered the semi-annual Agape Latte lecture on the topic, “Find Something You Love.” To view the recorded lecture, please visit www.urnewman.org/events/agape.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

December 24, 2021

Newman invites you to celebrate Our Savior's birth on December 24 at 6:30 p.m. for our Christmas Eve Mass celebration! You can worship with us either in-person at the Interfaith Chapel or via livestreaming at www.urnewman.org/streaming.

Join Us for the Catholic Newman Center Public Phase



A small committee of staff, board members, and University professionals discussed, planned, and implemented the next steps to round out the final stages of fundraising for the project—the Public Phase!

A few short months ago, the Catholic Newman Center Building Project embarked upon an incredible step in its fundraising process. With over \$4.5 million of the necessary \$6 million raised, a small committee of staff, board members, and University professionals discussed, planned, and implemented the next steps to round out the final stages of fundraising for the project—the Public Phase! That is why just a month or so ago, you should have received a custom-designed letter and brochure in the mail, updating you on the latest news and commentary surrounding this historic news.

The brochure garnered feedback from alumni, parents, and current students alike, and which hopefully will help us raise the ambitious goal of \$500,000 toward the completion of a Newman Center and Chapel—something that will certainly transform the Catholic (and non-Catholic) experience of students at Rochester for years to come!

In addition to this massive mailing undertaking, which was sent out to all 18,000 members of our database, we have revamped our website and created a new and exciting promotional video that demonstrates the positive impact that this project will have on alumni and current students equally. Therefore, I encourage you to visit our website at www.urnewman.org/building and engage the content and testimonials that detail more information about the building, its origins, and its case for support.

Additionally, and if you missed our latest Zoom information sessions on November 2 and 17, please click on the link under the “Learn more!” section of our webpage. You can view past recordings and access special content related to this project there.

Thank you, and if you have any questions related to this historic venture, contact us at catholicnewmancommunity@rochester.edu.



Yes Pa Program Blessed with Four Grants!

Over this past year, the Yes Pa Program, as a part of Newman's St. Sebastian

Society for Varsity and Christian Athletes, has had monumental success in securing financial security for its future projects and alliance with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester (through a project entitled “Crossways”). You might remember from our Spring 2020 newsletter that the Yes Pa Program, originally instituted by local entrepreneur and WWII veteran Frederick Sarkis, has blossomed at Newman ever since it received an \$80,000 foundational endowment from Sarkis himself in the summer of 2019. Since then, the Newman Community has augmented the Yes Pa character education curriculum to be utilized in the Dominican Republic and in future tutoring/mentoring programs with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester.

Because of the tireless work of one of our Advisory Board members, Ann Kubarek, Newman was gifted over \$25,000 to transform lives of the vulnerable throughout Rochester and beyond in direct support of the Yes Pa Program! A massive thank you goes out to the ESL Community Impact Grant, the John F. Wegman Fund, the Paychex Charitable Foundation, and The Summit Federal Credit Union for their belief in our mission and our ability to change our communities for the better!



Keep Up With Us on Social Media!

Don't forget to stay up to date with our latest events, activities, and Masses!

Facebook: [@newmanatur](https://www.facebook.com/newmanatur)

Twitter: [@_ur_newman/@frbcool](https://twitter.com/_ur_newman)

LinkedIn:

[Catholic Newman Community at the University of Rochester](https://www.linkedin.com/company/catholic-newman-community-at-the-university-of-rochester)

Instagram: [@_ur_newman](https://www.instagram.com/_ur_newman)

YouTube:

[Catholic Newman Community at the University of Rochester](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

A New Endowment to Strengthen Music Ministry at Newman



Nancy '58 and Donald Brown

This past August, Newman was privileged to receive an extraordinary endowment to ensure the future stability of our music ministry and choir, including Newman's inherent relationship with the fantastic legacy of music education and leadership at the Eastman School of Music. This \$40,000 donation was gifted by Nancy '58 and Donald Brown. We are not only overjoyed, but also stunned by the Browns' willingness to keep liturgical music at the very forefront of our ministry for generations to come! Please read a reflection from the Browns below.

Music has always been my "thing," thanks to the support of my parents and many others. Choosing to attend the University of

Rochester was a wise choice. I earned a degree in education, studied piano and organ at the Eastman School of Music, and attended a weekly Mass on campus at Todd Union. This has influenced my whole life.

While living in Bellevue, Washington, I became the organist for Masses, weddings, and funerals, and when my husband, Don, and I moved to the Philadelphia area, I became the organist and choir director in Lenni, Pennsylvania. This is my 54th year at our church and it is still rewarding to me.

Our wishes and prayers are for continued progress in developing the programs at the Newman Community. A small sign has been on my desk for years. It says, "The impossible just takes a little longer." We are happy to help your project "get there."



A Word from the Back Office

As this pandemic winds closer and closer to a more "permanent" solution, and the constancy and rigor of the scientific method remind me of how fortunate we are in today's technologically advanced world, I find myself taking time lately to reflect on the vibrancy and vitality of the power of the Holy Spirit!

Frequently, I am amazed at how the particular role of the Spirit, the *rûah* or *šekīnah* in Hebrew, manifests itself in our daily lives—how it moves in and out of our immediate experiences, breathing life, giving strength, and advocating for us on our behalf. It is the Third Person of the Trinity that truly acts as the God of liberation or *Dios liberador* as José Comblin puts it. It is the divine spirit which enables us to make change and empowers us to advance forward, always seeking, harkening, and creating ever better improvements, moments, and realities. As Comblin states, "God delivers the people [us] by means of the forces and energies that God places within the people, by means of the enlightenment and prophetic charisma of mighty leaders, by means of the union and solidarity of living communities, and by means of the enthusiasm of the multitudes that these communities and prophets succeed in arousing."

Comblin continues by stating that the message we should take from this, of course, is that if we open our hearts and minds to this version of the Spirit—the only version—and the one in whom we articulate in the Creed as lifegiving, we will undoubtedly discern its presence in our lives. It will take hold and drive away the sickness, emotional distraught, worry, stress, and other afflictions that we carry as burdens. By inspiring the grace of God within ourselves and others, the Spirit truly is the paraclete that moves the mountain of despair and sadness and forms a valley of joy and peace.

I, therefore, thank all of you for allowing the Holy Spirit to live within each of you, for arousing within you the sense of urgency to care for and support the Newman mission to serve our students with dignity, respect, and the love and mercy of Christ each and every day.



God bless and end-of-the-year wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew Cirillo".

Andrew Nicholas Cirillo '12

Campus Minister for Advancement

**Catholic Newman Community
at the University of Rochester**

Interfaith Chapel
1045 Joseph C. Wilson Blvd.
Box 270501
Rochester, NY 14627

*To make an end of the year gift, please visit our website at
www.urnewman.org/giving/annualappeal*

*For gifting stock, use and reference the
Dean's Fund for Newman Community:*

DTC #8862

Merrill Lynch FBO A/C # 810-04002

University of Rochester

Attn: Chris Moore - Merrill Lynch - (585) 899-2574

*Contact Jared Longmore at (585) 276-7249 or
jared.longmore@rochester.edu with any questions or if you
would like to contribute to the Building Fund.*

*With your support, we are able to continue
our Christ-centered ministry—God bless!*

Year-End Giving

Change lives today!



Make a gift today at www.urnewman.org/giving