



NEWMAN NEWS

in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland



Bishop Lennon Visits Diocesan Newman Centers

The Newman Catholic Student Organizations from four of our colleges/universities were honored to welcome Bishop Richard Lennon to their campuses for pastoral visits during the academic year. Bishop Lennon visited Oberlin College in October (*photo at right*), the University of Akron in November (*photo below*), as well as Case Western Reserve University and Ashland University in April.

During his two years as the Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland, Bishop Lennon has made it clear that he enjoys visiting with the people of the diocese. He is especially fond of visiting with adolescents and young adults, whom he sees as an important part of both the present and the future of the Church. When he visits our campuses, he always takes time to listen to the concerns of the students and to answer their questions. Often he will also celebrate a Liturgy with them, and share a meal.



At the University of Akron, he attended a special celebration in honor of the newly remodeled Newman facility, which is located on the property of St. Bernard Parish. Students, university dignitaries, and several members of

the Newman Foundation Board were present for the evening, which included Liturgy, a lovely catered dinner and a special presentation by the Bishop.

Visiting our campuses is an important part of the Bishop's pastoral ministry. On several occasions he has said: "If you invite me, I will come". We look forward to welcoming him to a number of Newman campuses again next year. Moreover, the Bishop has recently agreed to attend a meeting of the Newman Foundation Board on the evening of September 10, 2008. His love for campus ministry is a blessing for our students and for all of us who serve in any capacity in the field of campus ministry.

Bill Miller

Secretary for Catechetical Services





EVENTS AT OBERLIN COLLEGE

We welcomed Bishop Lennon to our campus early in the year. We had a packed house for Liturgy and for the meal afterward. The Bishop was gracious with his time with the students and they, in turn, engaged him in great conversation. Shortly after the Bishop's visit we celebrated our first "Mass on the Grass". Fr Tosco celebrated as we gathered on the lawn at the Tappan Square gazebo (photo at left). Passers-by paused and joined the regulars as we attracted a lot of curiosity. Mass on the Grass kicked off our Busy Student Week on a perfect fall day. Later in the semester, Bishop Quinn helped the community celebrate All Saints Day.

Much of my effort this year has been toward developing nourishing and lively Liturgy. In doing so, our music ministry has grown to include a variety of instruments - including a tuba on occasion! - and a variety of voices. Our Midnight Mass at Christmas was especially joyous because of the music.

Newman at Oberlin also offered a weekend retreat, on-going spiritual direction, and a four-part series on Catholic Social Teaching called "Sowers of Justice" that has helped enhance a Catholic presence at Oberlin College.

Debbie Dacone

THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

The sanctity of life has been a focal point at **Ashland University** as of late. Not just for Newman Campus Ministry but for the campus as a whole. This Spring Semester Newman, along with several other organizations, sponsored a series of events that surrounded the play "Dead Man Walking" by Sister Helen Prejean. The drama department at AU put on a stunning rendition of the play that was the crowning achievement of the event series. In addition, the University brought in a variety of speakers over the course of the semester, including Sister Helen herself, who watched the play and joined several students, Newman members, and University staff for an invitation only dinner. In addition to the play and the speakers the University hosted a death penalty related art show in the Coburn Gallery titled "Prognosis of Death". All ethics classes at the University will be using the script from the play in their classes. Newman spent two weeks discussing the issue and watching the movie "Dead Man Walking" at their weekly Newman Nights held on Mondays at 6:30.

Nate Addington

BUSY STUDENT RETREAT

This spring during Lent, 19 **Baldwin-Wallace College** students participated in the annual Busy Student Retreat. The retreat begins with an orientation session on Sunday and includes individual meetings with spiritual directors Monday through Thursday. This format is tailored for busy college students as it does not require them to leave campus or devote hours at a time to the retreat. The meetings themselves last 30-60 minutes, with another 30-60 minutes of individual prayer time, and optional evening prayer services at the Newman house. Students talked about some tough topics and shared their faith journeys.

Monthly meetings with spiritual directors on campus are an outgrowth of the Busy Student Retreat and arose from conversations with both students and directors. They agreed that for some people, there is a desire and a need to meet for more than just one week during the year. So, there are some students who meet every month, and others who meet only once or occasionally as they feel it is needed, but between seven and fifteen students meet each month with a spiritual director.

Kirsten Kolaja

What Newman is for me

I have experienced some of my best college memories from being a part of such a vital and vibrant Catholic college organization. The Newman Center always inspired me to learn more about the Catholic faith and to continue to strive to grow in it as well. The Newman group has also given me a source of relief from the stresses of daily college study and work life, by enabling fellow students to share in each others' struggles and to see how God is working through them to overcome these obstacles. In short, Newman has given me a source of Christ's hope, faith and love in the times of my life when I have needed it the most.

Eric Kinzel, University of Akron.

STUDENTS CELEBRATE ASH WEDNESDAY

To begin Lent this year, Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at the **College of Wooster** helped to sponsor an ecumenical Ash Wednesday service for the campus community at midnight on Ash Wednesday. We began Tuesday night with a Mardi Gras party full of food, fun, and socializing. The mood turned to one of prayerful recollection as midnight approached and those gathered moved into another room prepared for the prayer service. The service had been planned by representatives of various Christian groups at the College, including Elise Meyers, Newman Catholic Campus Ministry's student liturgy

coordinator. While drawing heavily on the Catholic rite for Ash Wednesday, the service included contributions from other Christian worship styles. Rev. Linda Morgan-Clement, Chaplain for the College, gave a reflection focusing on the need for reflection, conversion, and change in our hearts and minds during Lent. Blessed ashes were imposed on the foreheads of those present as a sign of this recollection and call to conversion. The ecumenical Ash Wednesday service was a witness to the unity of the Body of Christ in our shared need for God's grace and mercy in our lives.

Karen Hahn.

MY FAVORITE THINGS

During the 07-08 school year there were many blessings at The **University of Akron** Newman Center. These are just a few of my favorites:

In the fall, two Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia from Nashville, TN, ("Nashville Dominicans") came to visit the Newman girls (*photo below*). They enjoyed dinner with us and spoke to us about their daily schedule and the meaning of each part of their habits. The Sisters' joy was infectious!

Later in the fall, Bishop Lennon came to Akron to celebrate Mass for our Newman Center and spoke to us on our semester theme, "Surrounded by a Cloud of Witnesses."

In the spring we focused on "Theology of the Body," Pope John Paul II's revolutionary teachings on the meaning of the body and sexuality. We listened to

and discussed a four-part DVD series by speaker Christopher West. We also hosted speaker Fr. Thomas Loya, a Byzantine Catholic priest from Chicago who spoke on "Who is Man for Woman and who is Woman for Man?"

Later in the spring, Bishop John Kudrick (*above*) of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma celebrated a Byzantine Divine Liturgy for us so that we could experience the Eastern Church.

In my final year with Newman, I am so grateful to God that he provided us with such wonderful opportunities to grow in our faith and in understanding of the Church's teachings. Newman was by far my favorite college experience.

Julie Hritz, Outgoing UA Newman president (Julie is in blue at left.)



SUPPORTING A CATHOLIC PRESENCE ON CAMPUS

The purpose of the Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio is to support the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry on the non-sectarian college campuses within the Diocese of Cleveland.

The College years are such an important time in the formation of our future leaders in society and in the Church. A strong Catholic presence on campus for the benefit of our Catholic students and faculty is critical. Exposure to the best of our Catholic traditions and opportunities to grow in faith is made available through Newman Catholic Campus Ministry.

The Newman Foundation helps to promote and enhance this presence through financial assistance for: educational opportunities for lay ministers and

students, retreats, music liturgy, spiritual direction, service projects, supplies and more. Although the majority of funding comes from the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, the Newman Foundation's contribution helps to enhance and expand the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry. The reward is seeing our Catholic students so actively involved in their Faith on campus and beyond.

Your donation to the Newman Foundation would increase our permanent source of funding for a strong Catholic presence on our college campuses. Help us to continue this work through your generosity.

Frank P. Hackett, President.

The Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The Newman centers around the diocese are full of life and this newsletter is our attempt to share what is happening. Readers are invited to submit contributions about their Newman experiences and about Newman activities around the diocese. In this electronic age, email submissions are easiest for me to handle. The submitted prose has been edited a bit to make it fit into the available spaces.

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