



NEWMAN NEWS

in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland



Newman Programming during the Pandemic

All-Campus Speaker Series



March 1, 2021: Sean Cardinal O'Malley kicked off the all campuses speaker series on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition entitled "A Mind to Know You." Speaking on Catholic education and evangelization, the Cardinal inspired our students and stayed on-line to answer questions. Week two featured Dr. Beth Rath, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Borromeo Seminary. Dr. Rath engaged students around the topic of Faith and Reason. The third week in the series featured a panel of scientists including Brother Guy J. Consolmagno, S.J., Director of the Vatican Observatory; Dr. Claudia Cabrera, Medical Resident at Case Western Reserve University; Dr. Mark Deguire, Materials Engineering Professor at CWRU; and Dr. Gabriel Somarriba, Psy.D. Their topic was Faith and Science. Week four featured J.D. Flynn, J.C.L. who explained Church authority and ecumenism. Closing out our series, Dr. Scott Hahn joined the students to talk about "Jesus, The Fullness of Revelation." Each week the series drew between 70 and 100 students and young adults.

SEEK 2021 Comes to Campuses



February 4-7, 2021: Students across the country, in their living rooms, campus centers and parishes gathered for a four-day live broadcast event encountering the heart of the Gospel. Ashland student, McKenna Woodruff shares her reflections on the weekend.

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to attend the SEEK 2021 conference virtually at our Newman Center on campus. Although I had been a practicing Catholic all my life, I had really just started getting truly involved and diving deeper into my faith at the start of the fall semester. I had never been to a Catholic conference or large event before, so I was unsure of what to expect. Though things looked a little different this year because of COVID 19 protocols, the impact the conference left on me was powerful.

To bring the conference to us, our Newman leadership worked hard to decorate our lower chapel, plan fun events throughout the weekend, kept us laughing through game playing during downtime, and made sure we had plenty of good food to eat. Though all these things were a great added bonus, listening to speakers at the conference, participating in small group discussions, and attending adoration and mass with other students who attended the conference truly helped me to deepen and grow in my faith.

One small group impact session that truly opened my eyes was a talk given by Sarah Swafford. In her talk, Sarah talked about finding the calm in the storm, which is something that I have been struggling with at times in my own life. Listening to her explain how the Lord will fight our hard battles for us and we need only to be still

was very striking to me. She explained how if we are able to be still, we will find our interior silence allowing us to realize that we are not in control of our own lives and we do not need to be. In the chaos of the world, we have the peace of God. This impact session brought me to a deeper understanding of the chaos and uneasiness in my life, reminding that within the storm, I need to make time to find the silence and reconnect with the peace of God.

Another part of the conference that was touching to me was adoration on Saturday night. There is always something amazing and sensational about sitting and being the presence of our Lord, but also knowing that thousands of other catholic students around the U.S. were participating in the same adoration made the experience even more astounding.

Overall, the SEEK conference was an amazing, life changing experience. Along with growing in my faith, I was also able to connect with other students on campus who share similar backgrounds and interests making the weekend even more exciting. I am grateful for my ability to attend the conference and for the opportunity to dive deeper into faith."

McKenna Woodruff, Ashland U, Class of 2024



Anthony Camino, President. After six years in our diocesan seminary, Anthony joined the staff at the West Side Catholic Center and served as music director at the Community of St. Malachi. Since those early years in the city, through teaching theology and serving as a pastoral minister, he has spent his career working for the Church in Cleveland and appreciates those who have dedicated their lives to the work of justice and equality. Anthony was drawn to the

Newman Board because of its lay leadership and because of the critical need to form young adult leaders in the church who are responsive to the needs of those on the margins. College should be a transformational experience for young adults, and he wants our Board to not only advocate for these types of experiences, but to fund them at an increased level.

President's Note: The Newman Foundation Board continues to grow, and our changing membership signifies a dynamic group ever ready to expand and take on new responsibilities and challenges. I thought it would be helpful to highlight our Board in this issue and allow you the opportunity to meet our members. You will be impressed by those who have served for twenty-five years or more as well as by those in their first year of service. We are grateful for the new life they have brought to the Board. The Newman Foundation owes a debt of gratitude to Board members who have moved on to other adventures, particularly to Dan Matuszewski and Nancy Klingshirn for their dedicated service.

The articles in this issue are examples of the creativity and resilience of our campus ministry directors, ministers, and students who refuse to allow the pandemic to have the last word. God's spirit is alive on our campuses, and, as always, I thank you for supporting the mission of the Newman Foundation Corporation of Northern Ohio.

Anthony Camino



Linda S. Kacenjar, Secretary. Linda has served as secretary of the Board for more than three years. She is a member of St. Raphael Parish and a graduate of Notre Dame College. Her introduction to the Newman Board came from Frank Hackett, a dedicated long-time member, now deceased. She believes the influence of the Newman Campus Ministry is an important support in the lives of college age students. The voice of the Church needs to break through the attraction or

distraction of many secular voices. The campus ministers work hard to offer programs that appeal to young adults, such as the recent Catholic Intellectual Tradition series. Programs that educate the students about the doctrine of the Catholic faith are especially needed. Pre-covid, Linda enjoyed engaging with students and seeing the enthusiasm they have for the faith and the fellowship they share within their Newman groups.

Meet the Newman



Karen Hurley, Treasurer. Karen is retired nurse (BSN, RN, CEPS, CCDS) who worked with heart patients throughout her career. She served as Secretary/ Treasurer for Aid to Gospa's Children, a now dissolved 501c3 Corp. dedicated to serving orphans and widows. When she and her late husband came to Ohio, the Corp. transitioned into helping the

marginalized in our community. A soup kitchen was set up to serve soup and other creations to those waiting in line at the Hunger Center. This evolved into drawing in students from the Culinary School who helped make and serve soup. There, Karen met young missionaries who dedicated 2 years of their lives to bring their faith to the community by serving them. She was impressed by this and had a vision to develop a youth program. Catholic youth would be empowered to share their faith and serve those in need within parishes to build community and grow their own faith. On the Newman Foundation Board, she hopes to help students with a similar vision.



Robert P. Lawry, Emeritus Professor of Law, Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). At CWRU, Bob taught law and ethics for thirty-five years; and was the co-founder and the long-time Director of The Center for Professional Ethics. He has degrees from Fordham University, the University of Pennsylvania and Oxford University; and has been a Fellow

in Law and the Humanities at Harvard University. For almost all his time at CWRU, he was the Faculty Advisor to the Newman Campus Ministry. Bob has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Newman Foundation of Northern Ohio for well over thirty years. Bob served as Board president on several occasions, and has been the long-time Chair of the Distribution Committee, which has the responsibility for approving grants for programming for the various campus ministries in the area. Bob has always been a firm believer in campus ministry work, as it strives to help prepare future Catholic leaders in business, politics, education, the arts, and the professions.

Foundation Board

Jean Ann Montagna, With a strong interest in faith-based education and development, Jean Ann was thrilled to join the Newman Board in November 2020. She is grateful for the formation she received through her own campus ministry activities while in college, especially community-based learning programs. Jean Ann has served in a number of different faith-based roles within education and stewardship, including serving as a fundraising consultant, high school teacher, and writer. Currently, she is an independent contractor supporting parish products and diocesan annual appeals. Because of her education and professional experience, she is looking forward to supporting the board in marketing and fundraising initiatives. She is excited to work alongside other board members to expand the Newman Foundation's impact. She earned her BA in theology and MDiv from Notre Dame. Originally from Northeast Ohio, Jean Ann recently moved back to the area from Michigan. She lives in Strongsville with her husband Jim and dog Boomer.



William B. Miller (Bill) is a former Director of Newman Catholic Campus Ministry for the Diocese of Cleveland. He has been active in ministry to/with young adults for many years, and continues to be active as a retreat leader and trained spiritual director. He was an ex officio member of the Newman Foundation Board for five years (2007 – 2012), and re-established his connection with the Board by becoming a voting member in 2018. Bill is currently Board Vice-President and is working to help the Board “get the word out” to a wider audience concerning the wonderful ministry to students, faculty and staff that is happening on campuses all over the Diocese of Cleveland. Bill and his wife, Marilyn, live in Akron. Bill loves to read... and write. He has authored a book and a number of articles on spirituality. He also loves music, live theater, hiking and traveling with Marilyn. They have a daughter (Laura) and a son-in-law (Lynn), both of whom are professional actors with Great Lakes Theater Festival in Cleveland.



David Perry Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, University of Akron. He is a member of St. Bernard parish where the Newman Center is housed. David and his wife Anne have four sons and now two grandchildren. For many years until his retirement in 2018, he was the campus advisor for UA Newman, which has now been renamed RooCatholic. David is a teacher and author in the areas of spectroscopy, thermodynamics and quantum chemistry but is a true lay person, without any special training, in matters of the faith. Thus, he was inspired by the faith and energy that student bring to Newman Campus Ministry. His most memorable experience with UA Newman was the trip in 2016 to see Pope Francis in Philadelphia. After joining the Newman Foundation Board in 2007, David became editor of the Board's newsletter, *Newman News*. It is a joy to see the light of Christ's love shining on our secular campuses.



Molly Rehak is a licensed independent social worker (LISW-S) with Catholic Charities in the Migration and Refugee Services Department. She was raised in Northeast Ohio and currently lives in Lakewood. She spends her free time running, reading, baking and being outdoors as much as possible. Molly is a new Board member and looks forward to serving more. Her time with campus ministry in College had a big impact on her and she joined the Board to help bring that formative experience to other college students. She hopes to connect Alumni of Newman Centers with ways to continue to supporting Campus Ministry post graduation.



Shawn Witmer has been a part of the Newman Foundation Board since 1995, the same year he moved on after nine years of full-time service with Newman Campus Ministry (NCM). He was then invited to join the same Board from which he had received support for student programs, leadership training, immersion experiences, retreats and alternative Spring breaks while part of NCM. He welcomed the opportunity to continue to support NCM in its mission to serve Catholic students. He has served two terms as President and several years as Chair of the Newman Foundation Dinner. In addition to his service on the Board, Shawn serves as a Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Euclid, Ohio. He and wife, Donna, make their home in the West Park neighborhood of Cleveland, and are blessed with two adult daughters and two grandchildren, all of whom live nearby.





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Campus Ministers Collaborate on Faithful Citizenship Series

October 2020: In the weeks leading up to the election, several campuses collaborated on a Faithful Citizenship Series for students on all of our campuses on Thursday evenings. On October 1, Dr. Rafael Luciani, S.T.D., from the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, offered insights into Pope Francis' quote, "A good Catholic meddles in Politics. Ursuline Sister, Erin Zubal, joined us for week two and shared her thoughts on "Activism: An Authentic Expression of the Gospel." On October 15, Dr. Mary Jo Iozzio, Ph.D., Professor of Moral Theology at Boston College, joined us to talk about "Voting with a View of Virtue." On Thursday October 22, Mayor Kirsten Holzheimer Gail of Euclid, Mayor Cyril Kleem of Berea, Council Member Adam Mathews of Lebanon and Judge Melody Stewart from the Supreme Court of Ohio, joined the students to talk about being Catholic public servants and how their faith informs their service. Our final speaker for the series was Cary Dabney, Diocesan Director of the Office of Ministry to African American Catholics, joined the students to share "A Catholic Understanding of Black Lives Matter."



Clockwise from top left: Councilman Mathews, Mayor Holzbeirmer Gail, Mayor Kleem, Justice Stewart

Meet the Campus Ministers

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