

## **Contested Positions:**

### **Events Coordinator:**

*Hannah Clary*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. I would like to serve as the events coordinator for the Newman House because I loved creating new ideas for events this past year, as well as the concept of finding new ways to improve on events that have been held in previous years. Being involved with the Newman House has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my past 3 years at Binghamton, and I would like to spend my final year creating more events for the community to enjoy.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. Something that was important to me during my freshman year was continuously seeing people who enjoyed coming around to the Newman House. Knowing that I could be having fun with others who were also Catholic helped me feel more comfortable coming back. Being the one who plans these social events has meant a lot to me and allowed me to appreciate the community that has been established here. Therefore, one of my goals as events coordinator is to continue to foster this sense of community which is important to the Newman House. Additionally, in the past, I feel that Newman House has been lacking in social events during the spring semester. I was looking forward to improving on that this year. Unfortunately, with cancellation of all university events for the remainder of the spring semester I was unable to achieve the goal I set for myself in the beginning of the year. If elected again, I will assure the Newman House has a variety of new social events planned for the Spring 2021 semester.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I served as events coordinator for the 2019-2020 academic year and I enjoyed planning each event. I have also served in multiple leadership roles such as being a course tutor, teaching assistant, and being involved in a research lab on campus. Despite my other obligations on campus, I am determined to make the Newman House a priority of mine as I have a strong connection to this club.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. I will achieve my goals by reaching out to freshmen and anyone who is new to the Newman House to extend personal invitations to them to attend social events. As far as new events for the spring semester, I have ideas such as bowling, roller skating, and getting a Newman House team together to participate in Relay for Life. I am also hoping to improve on the routine events that occur year after year, such as our trip to a corn maze and our Christmas Party. Thank you all and I hope to see many of you next year!

*Janey Moody*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position

- a. I would like the position of Events Coordinator because I believe in the spirit and connectedness of this community and I believe it's so important for us who share our faith to get to know each other better.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. My goal is to allow newcomers to this community feel as welcome as I did at my first EPL, as well as give opportunities for those of us who have been here a while to be together and bond over fun activities, prayer groups, or anything of the sort.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I have experience working with strangers from working retail for quite a while, so I can be friendly and social with new people. I am also good at planning events and keeping things organized in regards to those types of things, and I'm a good communicator when it comes to relaying important logistical details.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. I plan on organizing the social events on a month by month basis and I want to hear and be open to ideas from other members of the E-Board in regards to what they think would help make the Newman Association a better and friendlier environment for veterans and newcomers.

## Liturgical Coordinator:

### *Michael Galeazza*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. When I first came to Binghamton, I did not feel as if I had a strong sense of community. The Newman House, however, helped to completely change this; I have gotten out of my shell, and it has been amazing to go to Mass and events with all of you. Now, I hope that I will be able to give something back to this wonderful community by running for E-board.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. As the Liturgical Coordinator, I would strive to meet the set requirements of the position to a T; I would organize the weekly ministries and the Liturgy to the best of my ability. Additionally, I would hope to work with the rest of the community to find ways to make the Newman House even better.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I am heavily involved with the Newman House, I do a good job with planning and organization, and, thanks to the experiences I have been blessed with this year, I have become more of a people person.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. Specifically, regarding the role of Liturgical Coordinator, I would try to make myself accessible to those who wish to participate in ministries; for instance, I would endeavor to be available after Mass for those interested in participating. Furthermore, I would find an ideal manner for working with the individuals --in the group created by the director-- who desire to help with the planning of the Liturgy; I could set up meetings for this planning. Finally, in regard to my goal of working with the community to further improve the Newman House, I would attempt to work with the rest of the E-board to

create biweekly Town Hall meetings where the community could put forth ideas for possible events. See you all in the fall, and God bless all of you!

### *Sebastian Alexander Ohmer*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. It is needed and I have an interest in the area.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. My goal is to maintain a steady flow of new Ems and lectors as well as providing any additional training to improve those we have already.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I have no special qualifications besides very generalized experience.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. I see myself attempting to do the best that God wills me to do if you are willing to give me the chance.

### Evangelization Coordinator:

#### *Hannah Bronson*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. There is nothing that I love more than talking to people about their relationship with God. Faith sharing, retreat planning and all of the other event types that encourage faith building, are so special to me because I'm very aware of how personal these thoughts are and how much it can take for people to feel comfortable discussing them. However, as difficult as overcoming this barrier is, I am so grateful for this space that we collectively work to create, which allows for moments of vulnerability that bring us closer together as a community. Additionally, this position is special to me as it allows me to work closely with other leaders who also feel passionately about developing these opportunities for our community. This collaboration is a gift for me, as I am aware that if anyone were to try to encompass the fullness of the image of God on their own, they would never be able to capture it and therefore I think that any time we can work together, each bringing about our understanding of God to the conversation, the resulting decisions, events and faith building opportunities that we can create turn out much better than if we were to try to tackle them on our own.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. My main goal in this position is to create a space of welcome for anyone who may be interested in exploring the faith-- in whatever capacity that desire may lead them. I want to decrease barriers that may be preventing people from feeling as though they do not belong in this community and I seek to increase my understanding of others, especially those who may have different walks than I do. I think one advantage that faith building opportunities can create for our community is to carve out specific time amidst busy schedules for us to stop and listen to one another. Through intentionally creating time to listen to one another, we become better more like the Church that we want to be: one that welcomes and loves to the deepest meaning of those words.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?

- a. Starting in high school, I have been a leader in many different faith sharing and faith developing opportunities. These opportunities include: leading RCIA, which consisted of collaborating with a team of leaders to develop faith sharing and discussion based conversations to teach adults who were interested in becoming Catholic about the faith. Additionally, I learned leadership skills, such as how to work on an executive board by serving on a leadership board, which was in charge of organizing and planning youth ministry for my home parish. In college, I served as a leader in many other faith developing opportunities. For example, I worked to organize and run a retreat for high schoolers at my home parish. At such retreats, my responsibilities included giving talks, as well as leading activities and discussions for the participants. Additionally, I helped as being a leader at several confirmation retreats run here at the Newman House for local confirmation students. Additionally, I have served in formal leadership roles at the Newman House specifically for two years. As a sophomore, I served as a committee member on the service committee at the Newman House. This experience taught me about the specific structure of leadership within the Newman House. Finally, this past year I served as the Evangelization Coordinator for the Newman House. This past year of service allowed me to get acquainted with this new role. I was lucky enough to learn and grow with a group of leaders who were flexible. Throughout the year we worked collaboratively and found a way to integrate this new role into the existing structure of the Newman House Eboard. I am grateful for the growth that this year has brought and the leader that I have become because of this experience. Should I be elected for this position, I would be able to build on these experiences that I had in this past year.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
- a. In order to accomplish my goals for this semester, first I want to communicate with the larger Newman House community about what kind of faith building opportunities they want to take part in. Faith building exists in many different forms, all of which can bring about the same goal of growing closer to God. The most important aspect of faith building is how well the structure of the opportunity fits with what the participants feel the most comfortable with. For this reason, it is important to know what the community is most interested in before diving into a specific structure. Secondly, I will collaborate with the committee members to find out what their particular passions are in faith building leadership. I believe that when leaders are passionate about what they are doing, the events and opportunities that are held are the best versions that they can be. For this reason, I want to always assist the committee members in being able to run the programs or events that they feel most passionately about. Finally, I find that in this aspect of faith, it is important to be vulnerable and to encourage vulnerability. When we seek to grow closer to God, we learn that He is only ever asking for our hearts; there is no need to try to impress Him because all He ever wanted to do was to hold us close. For this reason, I will always lead with openness and vulnerability to my fellow leaders as well as to all of the others that I meet in this space. Through this, I hope that others will begin to feel more comfortable with being vulnerable as well and together we can create a community where God is readily visible through the openness of our hearts.

*Brendan K Casey*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position

- a. After returning to the Catholic Church a year ago I have been consumed with learning the faith, tradition, and history of the Church. I believe Catholic college students can benefit greatly from learning the truth the Church teaches and forming their lives to a life of Christ. There is nothing more that excites and interests me more than learning Catholic teachings. My personal return to the Church is a true testament that God's grace and everlasting mercy is life changing and I strive to spread the Word of God.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. Despite having little to few interactions with the Newman House, I believe I can contribute a great amount. I'd seek to share and teach the traditions that the Church stands by. I believe that most Catholics are under informed about what it truly means to be a Catholic and live a Catholic life. With various other on campus Christian groups speaking out against the Catholic faith, my goal would be to expose students to what it means to be Catholic, why Catholicism is the truth, and share the fire and love of Christ that is within me.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I have a vast knowledge of Catholic teachings spending hundreds of thousands of hours reading the Holy Scriptures, studying the Saints and Catechism, reading theology, as well as studying counter arguments against the Church and the Catholic beliefs. Outside of that, I have several years of leadership experience. I was a line officer of an ambulance corps and was put into positions where I was managing simple day to day operations all the way up to major mass casualty incidents.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. Providing resources that speak the truth of the Catholic faith. There are thousands of resources that are accessible from student knowledge to books and podcasts. I believe that once a student has a clear understanding of what the Church teaches and why, their lifestyles reflect what the Church stands by. Working together with other college students I believe that a strong network can be developed.

## Service Coordinator:

*Katie Archbold*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. During this past year on the Service Committee, I have developed a true passion for service that I feel I would be able to carry out in a way that helps the club and greater community in a greatly positive manner as the Service Coordinator. Having knowledge of our events, our contacts, and Newman House E-Board in general gives me a leg up on this going forward.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. My goal is to be an effective leader, communicator and liaison to my committee, and to bring the Service Committee to a higher standing within the club and the Binghamton University campus community. I would love to work with other campus organizations on service projects, and increase awareness and involvement among the NH and BU public when it comes to doing good, both on-campus and off.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?

- a. This past year, I have taken a leadership role on the Service Committee. I lead our meetings, maintain correspondence with any outside contacts, and delegated tasks among members of the committee. I created Service Night and the prayer intentions service, I led the hygiene products drive and organized the trip to the Our Ladies of Charity Thrift Shop, among other projects. I have developed an intimate knowledge of how the committee runs, as well as how to lead in an effective manner, as my past leadership experience also lends to this capability. I also feel that my ability to connect and communicate with others will allow me to be an effective liaison to the E-Board on behalf of the committee.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
- a. I plan to be very clear, organized and encouraging of participation among committee members, as well as be open for suggestions and help from the greater Newman House community. I wish for the committee and all projects we put on/participate in to be as open and collaborative as possible, as I believe that is at the heart of what service is. :)

### *Kristina Stenstrom*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
- a. I want the service coordinator position because I want to ensure that the Catholic community on campus is given plenty of opportunities to volunteer throughout the academic year. Having witnessed the impact small acts of volunteering has on people, I am determined to organize many service events on behalf of the Newman House. I want to put myself in a position where I can be relied upon to plan and execute service events, seeing how much helping the community means to me.
2. What is your goal in this position?
- a. My goal is to bring the community together in our faith as we help the needs of others around us. I would make sure to be an active member of the board, striving to connect the community of volunteers from the Newman House with the community in need in the county. In the end, I want to be able to say that the Newman House truly made an effort to help the community we live in.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
- a. My qualifications begin with being a current, active member of the Service Committee for the Newman House. I have already helped in planning service events as a community in Binghamton and have experience and knowledge regarding places we can make a difference to in the county. Aside from this, I have been volunteering my whole life in places ranging from a local soup kitchen in Times Square to Lenox Hill Hospital on Manhattan. I know what it takes to be committed to volunteering, and I know that the work always pays off.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
- a. I see myself starting the semester having completed research and even contacted places in Binghamton in need of volunteers. I want to allow the Newman House community to vote on what they would be most interested in doing to volunteer in order to increase participation at and create bigger events. Keeping an open mind, I would consider all possible volunteer events for the community whose values match with our own. From there, I see myself planning a great amount of volunteer events both on and off campus for everyone to be able to partake in.

5. Anything else pertinent you would like us to know/share?
  - a. Although I will only be a Sophomore next year, I believe my current knowledge and will make me the best candidate for the position of Service Coordinator. Thank you for taking the time to read my responses. Have a great day :)

## **Uncontested Positions:**

### **President:**

#### *Rafael Cabahug*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. The Newman House welcomed me as a Freshman 2 years ago and I am incredibly grateful for the friends and opportunities this community has provided me. I served as President this year with the goal of helping grow the Newman House into the welcoming community that it was/is for me and for many of us. I am running for President to continue to serve the Newman House in this way and to encourage greater involvement in shaping our community. I truly believe that without the incredible dedication of many students, the Newman House would not be the vibrant community that it is today. I have been so inspired to see so many walking together and inspiring each other on this journey of faith, and as President, I hope to work with all of you to help promote the growth of such a community.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. As President of the Newman House, I would like to be able to work with student leaders to create a community that welcomes all who enter. I hope to encourage students to voice their vision for the Newman House and to work towards creating a space where those ideas can be heard. Lastly, it is my aim to help the EBoard remain on track with all the goals they may have.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. Firstly, over the previous summers, I worked with a local tennis program, in Albany, that provides free tennis lessons as well as other learning opportunities to children of all ages. The aim of this program is to encourage education and leadership. I worked as the Site Director at one of our sites in Albany. My job was not only to plan tennis lessons but delegate the other staff members to specific roles and ensure the safety of the children and staff. Conflicts are bound to arise, whether between children or staff members, and as the Site Director I was tasked with determining the best way to resolve the issues. I hope to utilize the skills of delegation and conflict resolution that I have acquired through this job in the position that I am running for. Secondly, I have served as the President of the Newman House this semester as well as during the Fall semester. Not only had this previous year given me insight into the ins and outs of working with the SA but it had given me the privilege to work with a dedicated group of leaders who worked tirelessly to ensure the best future for the Newman House. They taught me how, as a community, we can work through any adversity. They taught me what it meant to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Being President this year has given me invaluable learning opportunities that I can draw from if I am elected.

4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. As President of the Newman House, I would work with other members of our EBoard to create ways for anyone in the community to share any ideas they may have. Furthermore, I would ensure good communication between members of the EBoard so as to keep each other aware of ideas and events that may require the collaboration of many. I hope for this communication to also be maintained between the community at large and Eboard members so that all ideas are well represented. Being President is not simply about being heard but about hearing others and serving them, and I believe that is what I can bring to this role.

## Vice President:

*Elizabeth Mengucci*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. I would love the opportunity to serve as the Vice President. I am passionate about this position, the community, and our mission and I want to help form this group into one that reflects our God of Love. I have been an active member in this community for the past three years and a member of the E-board for the past two years, and I have learned a lot from both of these perspectives. I have gained valuable skills from participating in various organizations and holding multiple leadership positions that will help me to excel should I be elected.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. Among the E-board, I would like to help foster good communication, professionalism, and passion. As leaders of the community we have the opportunity to serve and empower others, and I would like to help everyone do so to the best of their ability while utilizing the gifts and talents they've been given. Among the larger community, I would like to encourage hospitality, kindness, and increased attendance at events. It is important that all feel welcomed and included in this space.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I am hardworking, devoted, and very passionate about this organization. I am a fast learner and am not afraid to reach out or ask questions if I don't understand something. I have served on the E-board of the Newman House for the past two years as a member of the Evangelization Committee. Through this position I have learned how to work in a group to actively and effectively serve the needs of the community. I learned how to plan ahead to ensure all details are laid out and all preparation is completed so that events run smoothly. Being on the E-board has given me experience in how the organization is run and what can be changed to further improve it. My position on the Evangelization Committee has ultimately taught me how to better serve and lead this community. I have also served on the E-board of my sorority for two semesters where I learned skills that can be translated to this position as well. The first semester I was secretary, which taught me how to stay organized and on top of everything so no details got lost. Additionally, it showed me the importance of communication so that everyone is on the same page and aware of all that is happening. This semester I am the President of the sorority. Being the President has taught me how to effectively lead others, how to work with different types of groups (both the E-board and the community), how to



manage my time, and how to always be working in the best interest of the community. This position required constant communication with advisors and members and taught me how to act professionally when doing so. At times I needed to manage conflict within the E-board or the members which I learned to do so respectfully, effectively, and professionally. I was in charge of running all meetings and elections. This skill will be useful for keeping meetings focused and on time, as well as for running the Constitution meeting and elections at the end of the year. Finally, I have had the task of working at the University level and the National level for the sorority to ensure protocol was followed during this difficult time. These leadership opportunities have provided me with the necessary skills to successfully carry out the duties of the Vice President.

4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. To foster good communication, I will reach out and manage any concerns that are brought up to me. It is important that everyone feels they can voice their opinions and are heard, so I will encourage that by staying in contact and resolving conflict in a professional and timely manner. Furthermore, I will communicate any updates to the E-board regularly and additionally as needed. To promote professionalism among the E-board, I will help keep meetings focused and work to ensure respect is given to all members. I will encourage individual's unique passions to increase diversity and grow the community by listening and engaging in conversation. At the beginning of each semester I will send out an availability document to gauge the times when most people are free. This would be used to plan days to table and would be shared with committee heads to aid in their event planning as well. By attending events and personally inviting others to do so too, it is my hope and prayer that together we will inspire members to deepen friendships and faith. Finally, I will ensure that everyone is treated with kindness, respect, and love by being an example for others to follow.
5. Anything else pertinent you would like us to know/share?
  - a. My E-board position in the sorority will be ending at the end of this semester, giving me plenty of time to devote to the Newman House and this position. This community and organization will always be where my heart and passion lie. To be able to share friendship and faith is a blessing that is sometimes taken for granted. I want to serve in this way so as to share this gift with as many people as possible.

## Treasurer:

*Julio Lazo*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. After two years of being part of the fundraising committee, I want to take on a leadership position that will allow me to work with all the members of the E-board to grow the Newman House and bring God to all of those on campus. Newman House has become a centerpiece of my time here at Binghamton and I want to give back. With this position I will be able to work with the E-board as well as the fundraising committee to manage and raise money as well as do fundraisers that brings our community together. Teamwork is important and all that has been accomplished is because of this teamwork. I want to bring all my skills to this team and keep growing our faith as a community.
2. What is your goal in this position?

- a. I hope to keep growing our budget as we have done the past years. I also wish to do more fundraisers that will incorporate more of the student body and our active members. Within the fundraising committee, I have learned a lot about how important our fundraisers and what it allows the Newman House to do. I want to keep growing these events and not let money be an obstacle.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. As an engineering major, working in teams is a huge part of my curriculum. Since freshman year, I have been part of at least one team every semester. I wish to bring everything what I have learned through working with these teams to this position and the E-board. These include but are not limited to collaborating, listening, and supporting each other. As I previously stated, being part of the fundraising committee for the Newman House for two years has allowed me to be part of that team and collaborate with all E-board members to do our events. I get along with the fundraising committee and I wish to keep growing our fundraisers.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. Teamwork is and always will be important. I want to work with both the E-board and each committee to do events that bring more students together. Even though I would be the liaison of the fundraising committee, that does not mean that I have to work with them exclusively. I want to make sure everyone's voice is heard and if they need funds to do an event then I would gladly work with them to do events.

## Secretary:

### *Rosemary Cannarella*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. I have been Secretary for 2 years now and I really enjoy my role on our EBoard. I love the Newman House it has become my life here at Bing. By being Secretary, I have been able to contribute to everything going on at Newman House. I have never been one to sit back and let others take the lead, but as Secretary I have an active hand in the advertising of events and within the meetings itself.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. In this position, it is my goal to find more ways to reach out to the community at large to hear their voices and what they would like to see at Newman House. I want to develop a color-coding system for the calendar so that we can see which committee is hosting each event on the calendar.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. I have been Secretary at Newman House for two years now. I have also served as Secretary in my Venturing Crew for five years now. I am very organized and keeping a calendar is my specialty.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. In the past, I have dedicated my Friday afternoons and weekends to doing Newman House work. Typically, after an EBoard meeting, I will go through the minutes and put all events discussed on the calendar and B-Engaged right way.

## Interfaith Representative:

*Erin Urban*

1. Please Give A Short Explanation as To Why You Want the Position
  - a. I believe that learning and knowing about other faiths has an important role in our own beliefs. As such, I have always had an interest about learning about other faiths and through this role I would be able to learn from and work with others whose beliefs are different than mine. I would like to share this passion to create events for the Newman House.
2. What is your goal in this position?
  - a. My goal as Interfaith Representative is to create open lines of communication between the various faith groups on campus and foster a community centered around religious values. I would like to have more events that strengthen the relationships of all those in the religious community. I believe we should have more than one event per semester, such as more dinner gatherings hosted by all the different organizations, in order for us to learn more about each other and each other's faiths.
3. What do you think your qualifications are?
  - a. This semester and last semester, I took up the role as one of the Alpha leaders in the Alpha program. In this role, I helped to create and improve conversation between the participants, in order to help them learn more about the Christian faith and share about their own faith experiences. Additionally, I served on the Evangelical Committee this year to help create faith sharing events for the Newman House, which took much planning and communication with my other committee members. I believe these skills could make me very successful in the role of Interfaith Representative.
4. How do you see yourself carrying out these goals or this position?
  - a. If possible, I would like to meet with the other faith organizations on campus on the Interfaith Council, if it is still going on. If not, I hope to keep in touch with these groups through email, text, or other forms of online communication. I would like to meet with the organizations a few times a semester as well.
5. Anything else pertinent you would like us to know/share?
  - a. These leadership roles I have held at the Newman House are not my first leadership roles. In high school, I held several leadership roles where communication was very important, such as co-captain in basketball, president of National Honors Society, and vice president of Future Business Leaders of America. I am excited to use these skills to serve the Newman House in a larger way, hopefully as your Interfaith Representative!