

## Newman Foundation

400 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850

October 2023

Dear Alumni, Friends, and Parents,

I am very pleased to start my 9<sup>th</sup> year at the Newman House at Binghamton University. It is amazing what we have accomplished in 9 years. I am truly blessed to be able to continue to minister here and to lead the Catholic student community towards its mission: "The Binghamton University Newman House serves the Catholic campus community in building a Christ-centered life among the students through worship service, social activities and enthusiasm for the Gospel'.

Since my last newsletter in Fall 2022, the students have been involved in an amazing number of faith, social, and outreach activities. Their energy and involvement is so inspirational! Late Fall 2022 events included a mission trip to Nazareth Farm in Virginia, and Thanksgiving Dinner on November 20 after the 5 pm Mass at the Newman House attended by over 80 students. In spring 2023, students visited Utica College for an overnight intercollegiate Lenten Retreat, volunteered at the Samaritan House, the Nearly New Shop, and soup kitchens and went on an Interfaith trip to a Catholic Church, a Mosque, and a Synagogue. Also of note is that the Ash Wednesday mass held in February in the Old Union Hall on the BU campus was attended by 400 students. This provided a great outreach opportunity for the Newman House participants.





With students back for the fall 2023 semester, we continue to celebrate Sunday Mass at 5pm in the chapel. Attendance has been so robust that we are contemplating methods to accommodate a second mass on Sunday evenings. Newman House students are working hard to meet our new first-year students, as well as reaching out to returning students. In early September, we again held our "Welcome Back Barbecue", where our students came together to share a meal after Mass, which was a huge success.

Our fall activities calendar is very full! In addition to weekly Mass, the students continue to organize and participate in spiritual events including Women's Group, Men's Group, Adoration of the Eucharist, and Bible study. Social events scheduled for the Fall include apple picking, donut and cider sampling, "Eat, Pray, Love" on Friday evenings, an Interfaith hike at Nuthatch Hollow (adjacent to the Nature Preserve), and continuation of Intramural sports teams, building off of the success of last year's volleyball squad!



As you may know, the Newman House is partially supported by the Diocese of Syracuse's annual Hope Appeal. This past year, the Diocese had challenged us to raise \$30,000. This is a significant portion of our operating budget. But I am happy to report that we exceeded that goal. We are very grateful to everyone that supported us in that effort. In August of 2023 we once again held our annual golf tournament that benefits the Newman Foundation. Moving the date from June (previous years) to August, as well as increased advertising efforts, proved to be beneficial.

The Newman Foundation is responsible for the upkeep of the house, as well as the chapel house. This year the activities area in the basement was expanded to accommodate more students and visitors, and the HVAC systems were improved throughout the house. We could not have made those improvements without your help.

Many students see the Newman House as their home away from home, and we are very pleased with the number of 1<sup>st</sup> year students that are attending masses and events in Fall 2023. We continue to rely on your support as we strive to attract more students and inspire them to continue to practice their faith away from home. The future and the present of the Catholic church is in their hands! With your support, we can continue our mission here at the Newman House of creating a Christ-Centered community. Together we can reach our goal. We encourage you to visit our social media platforms including our Website, Instagram, Facebook pages, and our new IOS App for more details on events past and present.



In closing, I ask you again for your help in the following two ways:

- First, I ask that you keep our community in your prayers. Together, we are stronger in our mission to continue to serve the Catholic students at Binghamton University.
- Second, I ask you to prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the Newman House this year. Please send your check to the Newman Foundation at 400 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850, or use our website <a href="https://newman.binghamtonsa.org">https://newman.binghamtonsa.org</a> to make a secure online donation.

On behalf of the Newman House community, I thank you in advance for your support. Your contribution will continue to keep the Newman House vibrant.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Rose Casaleno, CSJ, MSW, MAPS Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Binghamton University

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YouTube: Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFjk26AmTYiA2K Ql-

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IOS App: Newman House at Binghamton University