



Rolla Newman Newsletter – Spring, 2018

Above: Sister Bethany Madonna's keynote talk at the FOCUS SEEK2019 Conference.

Our patron is going to be canonized! On February 12, Pope Francis announced that Blessed John Henry Newman will become a saint. Cardinal Newman (1801-1890) was an English convert to Catholicism. He was a great theologian who studied and served at Oxford University and the Catholic University of Ireland. Now, he is the patron of hundreds of Newman Centers at college campuses around the United States.

Our New Year began with a couple big events. Over the semester break, we attended the FOCUS SEEK2019 Conference and the annual March for Life in Washington, DC. Both were life changing events for the students who participated.

Returning from break was a fantastic reunion. A number of new students have come through our doors since the beginning of the semester, and our community continues to grow.

What else have we been up to? Here is a list of some of the other events going on:

- We celebrate **Wednesday Night Mass** every week.
- Every Thursday, we have an event called **Equip**, where students learn how to live out the Faith.
- There are several **Bible Study** small groups that meet throughout the week.
- Many of our students traveled to Jefferson City to participate in the **Midwest March for Life**.
- **Dave Dinuzzo**, founder of TrueManhood.org, came to the Newman Center and gave a talk on Catholic relationships on Valentine's Day.
- **The Semi-Formal Dinner and Dance** took place on February 15.
- We participate in several **intramural sports**, including softball, basketball, racquetball, bowling, and more.

We have many other spiritual and social events. Check our calendar at rollanewman.org for the whole picture.





Above: Our Group picture at the SEEK2019 Conference.

We attended the **FOCUS SEEK 2019 Conference** in January, joining thousands of other Catholic college students in Indianapolis, IN. If you would like to see some of what our students experienced, go to the “FOCUS Catholic” channel on YouTube.

SEEK 2019 this past January was an incredible experience! With twenty members of the Rolla Newman Center making the trek out to Indianapolis, it was a great opportunity to grow in relation with each other, and most importantly, our Heavenly Father. The week-long conference consisted of days full of Catholic speakers sharing their wisdom, experience, and conversion stories with us, celebrating Mass 17,000 people strong, and time for prayerful contemplation and adoration of our Lord. FOCUS does an incredible job with their conferences, and this one has certainly set our Newman Center ablaze!

– Devin Keen, Sophomore Mechanical Eng.

The March for Life in Washington, DC attracts more and more people every year. We hopped on the busses with the group from the Diocese of Jefferson City and had an amazing time.

This past March for Life was my first time attending the March and I can easily say it was an incredible and worthwhile experience. As a young Catholic adult, it can be hard to stand up for your faith, however, seeing the Catholic community from all around the United States stand together for what we believe has given me the courage to do so in my everyday life. While I have always been Pro-Life, marching to Capitol Hill and seeing many different aspects of the movement gave me a better understanding and a much larger concern for the movement. Another aspect of the March that I enjoyed was seeing so many people committed to the religious life in one place, as opposed to the handful of priests and occasional religious brothers and sisters I had encountered in the past. It gave me great hope for our Church and it really showed me the beauty of the Catholic Faith.

– Jack McCoy, Freshman Environmental Eng.

*Thanks to all for your prayers and support! As you know, we couldn't do this without you.
God bless you!*

Tom Kasza, Campus Minister



Left: The crowd, including some of our students, at the March for Life.