A Message from Our New Campus Minister!
My name is Tom Kasza. I grew up in Pittsburgh, PA before moving to Ormond Beach, FL. I received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Central Florida. My ministry experience includes two years as a missionary with Saint Paul's Outreach in Saint Paul, MN, one year as a missionary with Generation Life in Philadelphia, PA, and two years as a campus minister at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. I love the students here in Rolla and I am very happy that God called me to serve at the Newman Center.

We had an amazing start to the 2018-2019 school year.
Many new freshmen showed up for our events during Orientation Week, and they became even more involved as the semester progressed.

Our events throughout the rest of the semester continued to be successful. Wednesday Night Mass at the Newman Center was still our main event during the week. Every Thursday night, we had an event called Equip, which is dedicated to learning how to explain the faith to other students on campus. Once a month, we had a Men's and Women's Night as well as a night of Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship. On top of that, we had holiday parties, hiking trips, and a camping trip.

Beyond all of our events, our students have developed deeper relationships with God. They have built a community based on following Jesus Christ. We look forward to what God will do in our ministry next semester.
We are attending the FOCUS SEEK 2019 Conference!

FOCUS (The Fellowship of Catholic University Students) is a national ministry organization that exists to spread the Gospel on college campuses. Twenty-two of our students will join more than 16,000 other college students at their national conference this January, which will be in Indianapolis, Indiana. Last year’s FOCUS SLS conference had an enormous impact on everyone that attended. Here is what two of our students wrote:

We returned to campus ready to engage with others, excited to use our new-found knowledge to strengthen the community of the Newman Center and its efforts to evangelize on campus. One thing that FOCUS highlighted throughout the week was the importance of studying Scripture, because it is within Scripture that we encounter the person of Christ. Because of this emphasis, FOCUS has 20 free Bible Studies available on their website. Since these resources were so readily available, we decided to start five small-group Bible Studies. These quickly filled up and we even had a waiting list of people interested in participating in the next round of studies. Students, Catholic and non-Catholic, were excited to participate, and we plan on expanding the number of groups next semester.

Attending SLS not only helped us positively impact our campus, but strengthened our personal relationships with Christ and intensified our passion for learning and sharing our Catholic faith.

– Maria Galbraith and Claire Croley

The 20th Awakening retreat was a success!

Awakening is a retreat designed to build Christian community. Our retreat weekend brought both upper classmen and freshmen together in Christ-centered relationships. More importantly, our students gained an even deeper desire to know Jesus more personally. It kept all of our spiritual events going strong through the rest of the semester. Here is what one of our students wrote about it:

Awakening was an uplifting experience. It helped me build lasting friendships and showed me what it means to have a family in Christ. We played plenty of fun games, had great food, and enjoyed amazing experiences that bonded us together. This was all while growing in faith and learning more about myself. It helped bring the Newman community closer together, as well as helping people feel more at home within.

– Trish Larson