

Newman welcomes students to campus with food, games and movies.



You can find us in the Center for Religious Life, located in the Student Alumni Union, just off the "quarter mile". Stop by!



Newman Catholic Community Mass Times:

Sunday 10 a.m. (interpreted) and 5 p.m.
Holy Days - noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

After 10 a.m. Mass or by appointment before or after Mass

Semester Events:

- Bible Study – Thursday Evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Jones Chapel
- Retreats each semester
- Community Service • RICA • Agape Latte

PLEASE HELP US GROW!

When you make a gift to RIT, designate the gift recipient as Catholic Campus Ministry (Newman Community). This is a win-win. You support RIT and the Newman Catholic Community also gets your support. You can also give through our website: www.ritnewman.com. If you have any questions, please call the Newman office 585.475.5172



Newman

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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The Newman Community is a year-round campus ministry within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, New York, serving the students, faculty, staff and local residents to Rochester Institute of Technology.

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2016 • Volume IV • Issue II

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Newman

Catholic Community

A PUBLICATION OF THE CATHOLIC NEWMAN COMMUNITY AT ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Offering what we have...



Are you looking for an opportunity where you will work hard, never see the end results of your labors, never meet the people who will benefit from

your work and go to bed knowing that you made the lives of others better through your efforts?

This is how I advertised a request received from Jack Balinsky, the Executive Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Rochester. LaCasa, a home in Sodus, New York, used for transitional

housing for migrants in Wayne County, needed attention and repairs. Donations for a new roof and other necessities had been acquired, all that was needed was a group to clean the house of things that had accumulated in the basement and garage over the years. In addition, some old couches would need to be removed to make way for new furniture. It was going to involve several trips up and down stairs and putting things into dumpsters. Jack had heard about the good things happening in the Newman Catholic Community at RIT and wondered if we could help.

And help we did! The request was for 5 students to spend 3 hours on a Saturday. 10 students accepted the challenge and the experience was both fun and meaningful.

The students won't ever meet the recipients



of our generosity, but we did learn a bit about the migrant workers who come to the area. I do think that each time anyone one of us picks up an apple grown in western New York, knowing it was harvested by migrant workers, we will fondly remember the day we offered what we had for

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Tiger Strips Ministry Program

Thanks to the Sisters of St. Joseph Ministry Foundation, this semester Newman Catholic Community was excited to introduce Tiger Stripes Ministry Program for RIT students. Tiger Stripes Ministry Program is a servant leadership development program that calls each of us to look inward so that we can go outward to serve and love those who live on the margins of society. Understanding that each Tiger is unique, we encourage people to develop their individual stripes and challenge themselves by getting involved in the community beyond RIT.

Tiger Stripes Ministry Program is working to create a sustainable model of servant leadership that is not dependent upon the Director of Newman. Tiger Stripes is student run, and engages

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Sr. Donna DeSanto, Kim Eklund, Madeline Hagarty, Ellie McCullagh and Victoria Lake enjoy a weekend together at the Sister of St. Joseph Service Weekend.

Offering what we have

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others. And offering what we have is the gospel message that the Newman Catholic Community at RIT is living day by day. The generosity I witness daily leaves me both humbled and at times in awe. I have had the privilege to watch the young people at RIT Newman engage others in wonderful conversations about faith and life, participate in opportunities of service and outreach that push them into experiences that are both new and foreign to them.

I have also been filled with joy as I watch our students laugh and play until tears of delight roll down their faces! The Newman Catholic Community is continuing to grow into an engaging community that invites students to explore their faith in context of the world in which we live.

In both January and March, Newman students will experience a service learning retreat at the St. Francis Inn, a Franciscan run soup kitchen that serves 350-400 meals every day of the year.

The January service learning retreat will include four NTID students as well as two interpreters. I have discovered young people are eager to offer their gifts, talents and time to others. It is through honest and sometimes hard conversations we begin to understand our role in what sometimes can seem like a complicated world. Our reflective conversations after service opportunities often raise more questions than answers. Students leave the table considering their role in being an agent of change and hope in our world.

I can often be heard saying, "The world desperately needs each of us. It is no mistake that each one of us is here. It is ours to discover where and how we are going to offer hope and goodness to the communities in which we work and live." Br. Kevin Kriso, ofm a friend and colleague often says, "What is mine to do?" May each of us enter this season of Advent and Christmas offering what we have to those we meet each day.

Peace and good,

Alice Miller Nation

Newman Catholic Community @ RIT

We remember...

The Newman Catholic Community mourns the death of Mary Lou Knapp on November 3, 2016. Mary Lou was the Catholic Chaplain at RIT in the Center for Religious Life from 2011-2014.

A compassionate friend of students, Mary Lou is remembered for her love of students both at the Aquinas Institute in Rochester and at Rochester Institute of Technology.

While at RIT, Mary Lou could be found accompanying students on annual trips to Letchworth State Park as well as offering weekend retreats for the Newman Catholic Community. Mary Lou offered the students of Newman great care during her tenure as the Catholic Chaplain and several alumni traveled back to Rochester at the time of her funeral Mass.

Mary Lou will be deeply missed by her many friends and colleagues as well as RIT Newman alumni.



Tiger Strips *continued from front*

students in off campus service opportunities that work with the busy schedules of RIT students. After engaging in service, all volunteers are invited to an appreciation breakfast to participate in an evaluation process as well as a conversation that includes reflection and integration. It is our hope that Tiger Stripes Ministry Program encourages students to volunteer in the community beyond their collegiate career at RIT.

We as, Volunteer Coordinators, visited several potential volunteer sites throughout Rochester. As we considered volunteer sites, we balanced the needs of the organization with student availability and interest as well as the potential for a positive experience.

One of our most successful volunteer sites has been at Nativity Preparatory Academy, a small Catholic middle school dedicated to transforming



Tiger Stripes volunteers learn Tae KwonDo with students at Nativity Preparatory Academy.

the lives of under served students through strong academics coupled with a sense of spirituality, morality and personal responsibility. Newman's Tiger Stripes student volunteers have had a chance to interact with the Nativity students in a way that has built positive relationships and offered fun and hope for a bright future that includes the opportunity for a collegiate career.

Tiger Stripes has also continued a relationship with Bethany House, transitional housing for women and children in Rochester. Victoria Lake, a regular volunteer at Bethany shares, "I love the experience of sitting down with the people of Bethany House and talking about their lives and experiences. The women there are no different than us and I think they just want to talk with others in an atmosphere of equality and respectfulness. I will continue to return to Bethany House to share a meal in such a lovely environment that the residents and house volunteers have created."

Looking to the future, Tiger Stripes Ministry Program will incorporate a program called St. Sebastian Society that will engage the skills and talents of athletes into volunteer opportunities in the greater Rochester area when they are out of season. The athlete's perspective and understanding of teamwork and resilience is a skill set that is often not taught in a traditional setting, and can really make for a better human connection in the real world. Stay tuned!

-Amanda Olsen and Sarah Balaschak

Giving God the chance to whisper into our ear...



Newman students were all smiles at the Mendon Ponds Park Hiking Retreat.

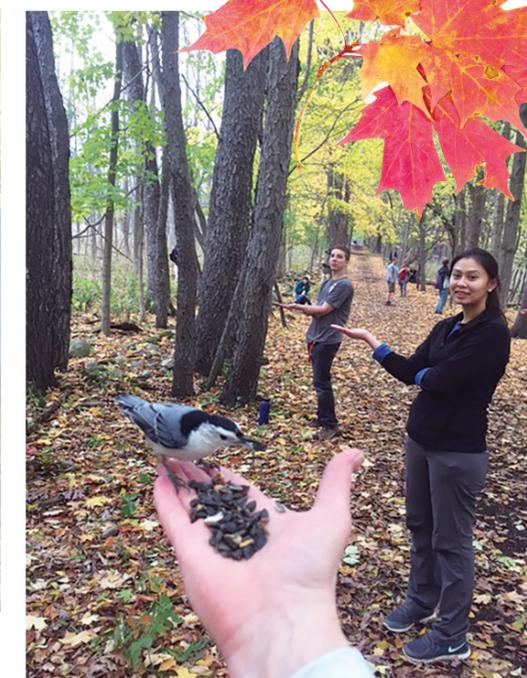
Each semester, Newman Catholic Community offers several opportunities for students to participate in a retreat experience. This semester we mixed things up a bit by offering a Hiking Retreat at Mendon Ponds Park. One of the most impressive parts of the day was forty-five minutes of quiet reflection as Newman students called in and fed chickadees and nuthatches from their hands. Squeals of excitement soon turned to silence as the birds trusted us and we in turn learned to trust the birds!

Additional retreat opportunities offered this semester were:

- Intercollegiate Retreat at Mt. Irenaeus in West Clarksville with students from St. Bonaventure, RIT, Hilbert and SUNY Fredonia.
- The Sisters of St. Joseph Service Retreat with students volunteering at Daystar – a home for medically fragile children Brighton.
- An Evening Away @ RIT is another popular experience with students from St. Bonaventure University. A delicious meal and an evening of reflection are the highlights of this evening on campus.



Mountain Community Leaders from St. Bonaventure and friars join RIT Newman for an Evening Away @ RIT



Feeding the birds up close at Mendon Ponds.



We are truly connected. Fall Intercollegiate Retreat



Eric Kanis (top right), joins other men in a conversation at the Intercollegiate Retreat at Mt. Irenaeus