



Kim Winden

Associate Director

A Journey of Healing; Hope for the Future

Hope. This is a word we throw around when we are being optimistic. "I hope it doesn't rain today...I hope the Bills win today's game...I hope covid doesn't cause another shutdown... I hope God can heal all those who are suffering." These are all fine things to hope for, but hope comes in many forms, and the kind of hope I am urging students to embrace right now is biblical/Christian hope rather than worldly hope. Worldly hope is the hope that can be replaced with the word wish (those listed above). We need this too – it sustains us when we are in tough situations. But Christian hope digs deeper and is revealed in Hebrews 11:1. It says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith and hope go hand in hand since faith is the substance of things hoped for.

This caused me to think about my hopes for RIT Newman. I have both worldly hopes for Newman as well as a much deeper Christian hope.

In this time of healing – healing of our Newman community during covid, healing of our church, healing for our country, healing of all kinds, I think about Isaiah 41:10; "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." We have a God who walks this journey with us, and the promise that even when we are in deep waters, he will not only be with us, but He will give us the strength and the help to get through. Even in times of tribulation, He will never leave our side. This is the faith and the hope I have for RIT Newman – that our faith in God and His promises will become so



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strong and so deep, that we can embrace the hope of healing and restoration for tomorrow. We are in trying times as a community – we can't gather as we once did, we can't feel confident in our financial state, and we can't have clarity of when we will regain normalcy. But we can allow God to continually bless this ministry by having a deep faith and strong hope that God remains to stay by our sides every step of the way, and that our community will offer their amazing time, talent, and treasure which will allow us to sustain all that we do to serve RIT students.

Furthermore, RIT Newman is a home away from home for many students, offering hope and healing for them in their own lives. No matter where we find ourselves in the pandemic, we continue to provide this hope for our community by being present, providing opportunity for faith-building and pastoral care, and be a safe space (in person and/or virtually) where we minister ALL who come our way. In Romans 12:12 we are reminded to "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." So please join us in rejoicing in the hope for better days for our community, be patient during these trying times, and allow the power of prayer and community to keep strong the ties that bind us together in His name.




Fr. Brian Cool

Director of UR and RIT Newman

Peace be With You

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Each Sunday at Mass, the priest prays these words. They are said after the Our Father, and for the past nine months they have made a deep impact on my heart as they ask us specifically for "... peace in our days ..."! Wow, powerful and beautiful! These words are deeply impactful, especially as we think and consider everything that has and continues to happen in our world today—from the pandemic to racial injustice to political division to violence in our cities, along with everything else in our lives. PEACE in our days is for what we all truly LONG. It is our DEEPEST desire. As St. Augustine tells us, "Our hearts are restless as the rest in thee."

It is in the Eucharist that all of us should seek this inner peace for ourselves and our world most intentionally, all through the person of Jesus Christ.

The more we build our deep desire with him in relationship, the more we create a community of peace within the Church. And while social distancing and mask wearing are uncomfortable and seemingly even against our most natural and human tendencies, they do not keep us from finding Christ personally in the Blessed Sacrament and through prayer and community.

The heart of Newman ministry is the heart of Christ, and when we seek him we find him and we find his peace within our hearts and upon our world. Look for him. Wait for him. Trust in him and let his peace enter your heart and our world. We need him and he is ever-faithful.



RCIA 2020-2021

Please keep our RCIA candidates in your prayers! They have been on an exciting journey of preparation to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. They will be confirmed at the RIT Newman Easter Vigil.



Jessica Gomez

First Year
Mechanical Engineering
Silver Spring, MD

Yahades Peralta

First Year
International Business
New York, NY

Rahcel Ramsdell

First Year
Marketing
Williamson, NY



Kristen Leschhorn

Campus Minister
Joy for the Journey

The reality is that joy comes natural, but it does not always come to us naturally, especially since we are in the middle of a global pandemic. Sometimes we need to work at joy and cultivate it. We need to tend to those things, activities, relationships, and beliefs that are life-giving. Practically speaking, this involves becoming more aware of when we feel profound joy and pursuing those things more intentionally. In other words, make joy a habit. We will face tough days, but we get through this together and still seek to find the joy in the present.

Kristen Leschhorn

“...there is joy to be found, both during these tough times and in the future...”

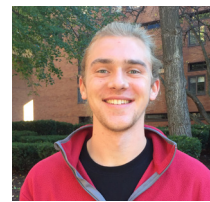


We have hope that we will be back to our regular programming in the future, and we still have all of the great memories from years past!

As the world is faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, campus ministry has looked very different for the RIT Newman family. So many aspects of our daily lives have been disrupted—work, school, relationships, and daily routines. We have all faced many new challenges, and it can be easy to feel as though normalcy will never return. Despite this, we know that there is joy to be found, both during these tough times and in the future that will come before we know it.

During this disruptive season of COVID-19, our gatherings have looked a little different compared to what we are used to. The Newman community has overcome gathering restrictions by meeting together virtually in small groups, leadership meetings, guest speakers on zoom and community service. Due to COVID restrictions, we have had to have less people in person at our liturgies, but we have been able to livestream for those not able to join in person. Meeting virtually with one another has not only been a blessing to be able to minister to the students at Newman, but it has allowed us to find life-giving joy in building relationships while finding ways to practice our faith in safe ways, which is timely and essential.

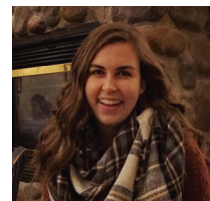
Newman: A Home Away from Home



Jesse Martin

Class of '23

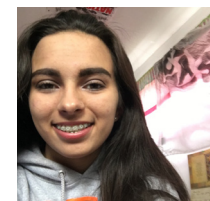
“It's important to have a faith community on campus because it gives students a sense of belonging. They might not feel like they fit in with people they know, but with the church they will always have that support and belonging.”



Megan Barker

Class of '23

“Newman has been my home away from home here at college! It is a place where you can always go for support and friendship since everyone shared a common goal of loving the Lord and others!”



Cassidy Kress

Class of '24

“When coming to RIT, Newman gave me my first sense of community. When seeing a group of young adults voluntarily coming together to share their love of God, it gave me hope for the next generation.”

RIT Newman is Powering Through this Pandemic!



Mark Nicolella

RIT KoC Knight

A Different Kind of Love

Love is an interesting idea, because it takes many different forms. While we often associate it with relationships such as marriages, love can take the form of brotherhood, charity, and reverence to God, for example. These are what I have found during my time at RIT, through the Newman Catholic community. It truly lives up to the title “community,” as the people in it care very much about one another, and look after each other and beyond, through the charitable acts our organizations, like the Knights of Columbus and Tiger Stripes, undertake. Having access to Catholic mass on campus has been vital to my academic success here at school, allowing me to grow personally, especially with my faith. Newman has helped me build the bond of brotherhood, the means to be more charitable, and most importantly, to love God.

“Having access to Catholic mass on campus has been vital to my academic success here at school...”



Outdoor mass on a beautiful November Day!



Zoom Mass with Father Brian Cool



Socially Distanced Mass



A Virtual Retreat over Zoom

Meet Our Staff



Fr. Brian Cool
Director of UR
and RIT Newman



Kim Winden
Associate Director



Deacon Dave Hudzinski
Deacon



Kristin Leschhorn
Campus Minister



Jimmy Miller
Business Manager



Bridget Nowak
Finance Director



Mike Vernarelli
Campus Minister

ALUMNI, SHARE YOUR STORIES!

Are you an RIT Catholic Alumni? Do you recognize any of these faces from RIT Newman's past and present? We would LOVE to hear your stories! A favorite memory of Newman, mass, an event/retreat, or memories of your chaplain! Go to ritnewman.com and check out how to connect and join the conversation on the NEW RIT Newman Alumni page!

CHANGE LIVES BY JOINING OUR MISSION!

Did you know that 75% of our annual income comes from donors (alumni, parents, and local residents)??? You have the opportunity to be a part of this great mission, to serve the RIT students by providing them a safe place to practice their faith right on campus. We have two appeals happening right now, our Fall Appeal, and our Crowdfunding Campaign for Retreats. Visit ritnewman.com/giving to check it all out! You can give online, or use the included remittance envelope to change lives! THANK YOU, for your generosity, your prayers, and your presence.



Mass Times

Sunday 10 am

(ASL Interpreted)

Sunday 5pm

(when there are classes on Monday)

Confessions Available Every Sunday

Milkshake Mass Every Other Month

Adoration as Scheduled



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