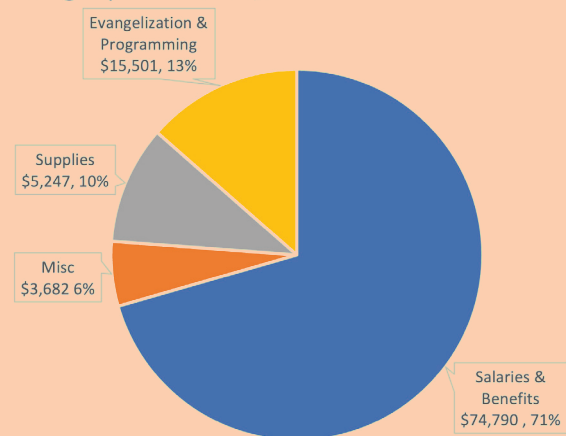


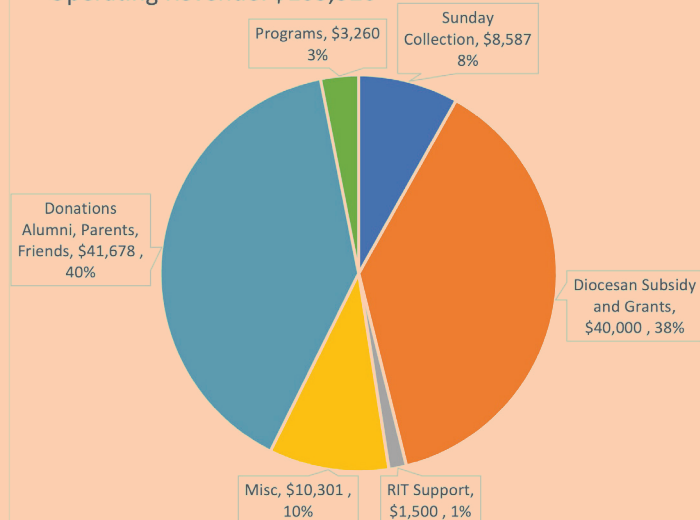
Financial Report

Year-End Fiscal Results
July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025

Operating Expenses: \$106,016



Operating Revenue: \$105,326



Our Team

ADVISORY BOARD

- Rev. Brian Cool, EdD
- Richard DeMartino, '82 PhD
- Quynh-Thy Do '18
- Ron Dufort '94
- Dimple Joseph '18
- Katie Linendoll '05 (Honorary)
- Dan Rosica
- Mark Saunders '18
- Kevin Sheldon '02
- Michael Vernarelli

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Rev. Brian Cool, EdD
- James Gaudet '77
- Laurie Martin
- Dan Rosica

STAFF

- Rev. Brian Cool, EdD, Director
- Rev. Bob Kennedy, Minister
- Kristen Smith, Campus Minister
- Mike Vernarelli, Campus Minister
- James Miller '98, Bookkeeper

Connect with us!



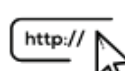
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Newman Catholic



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Schmitt Interfaith Center
40 Lomb Memorial Drive | Rochester, NY 14623



2024–2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Cool Thoughts

Faith Resurgent: Catholic Life at RIT

Dear Catholic Tigers,

In recent months, global headlines have highlighted a remarkable resurgence of Catholic faith, particularly among young adults. In France, the Catholic Church is witnessing a significant revival, with over 10,000 adult catechumens welcomed at Easter 2025—a 45% increase from the previous year, and the highest number in decades as described in recent stories in the New York Post and the National Catholic Reporter. Similarly, in the United States, a growing number of young adults are converting to Catholicism, driven by disillusionment with other denominations, a search for deeper meaning, and exposure to religious content online.

This spiritual renewal is also evident at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), where Catholic campus ministry is experiencing its own revival. This past Easter Vigil, six students—**Garrett Meehan '28, Ollie Salu '28, Reilly Batzold '28, Aaliyah Quinones '25, Benjamin Masters '27, and Edison Aucapina '27**—were received into full communion with the Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist. Their commitment is a testament to the enduring power of Christ’s call and the beauty of the sacraments. Witnessing someone rise from the baptismal waters, be sealed with the Spirit, and receive Christ in the Eucharist for the first time is to witness the very heartbeat of the Church.

But the sacraments of initiation are not the only signs of life. Catholic campus ministry at RIT reaches hundreds of students each year who are searching for meaning, belonging, and Christ. Weekly Sunday Mass, daily Mass, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, small-group Bible study, and service opportunities—whether at Bethany House, the RIT FoodShare, or through campus-wide efforts—are helping students encounter Christ in real and personal ways and help form community.

One of our most cherished initiatives, the Big Newman–Little Newman mentorship program, connects freshmen with upper-

class students to foster friendship, faith formation, and personal growth. Through friendship, shared meals, retreats, academic encouragement, and spiritual guidance, this program helps new students navigate not only their first year at RIT but their first steps into adult faith. Big Newman-Little Newman has helped increase mass attendance by 32%!

“...in the United States, a growing number of young adults are converting to Catholicism...”

We are proud of everything we have accomplished this year—but we know we are not finished! Catholic faith is alive and well at RIT, and we are preparing for even more in the 2025–2026 academic year because we have more than 18,000 students we have yet to engage. Plans are already underway to welcome the Class of 2029 to “Brick City,” and we look forward to offering them a spiritual home and a vibrant community of faith. With the continued support of so many, we will achieve even more next year!

None of this would be possible without you—our donors and supporters. With 95% of our ministry funding coming from private contributions, your generosity sustains and strengthens our mission. Thank you, and may God grant you a blessed and restful summer.

Fr. Brian Cool

Director

Annual Donors

With heartfelt appreciation, we thank the alumni, parents, students, and friends whose generosity sustain Catholic life at RIT. Your support is vital to our mission. We aim to acknowledge and regret any inadvertent omissions. Please contact us with any changes.

Doctors of the Church (\$5,000 and above)

Mark Saunders

Saint Alive (\$2,500–\$4,999)

Rev. Brian Cool
Michael Vernarelli

Blessed Among Us (\$1,000–\$2,499)

Bill Staniszewski
Nanette and Lousi Burrows
Katie Linendoll
Jewls Teneva
Gene and Theresa Yang
Kathleen Darroch
Lawrence Tyndall
Robert Kennedy
Robert and Ann Steffler

Venerable Disciple (\$500–\$999)

Paul and Lori Antonecchia
Quynh-Thy Do
Heather and Anthony Rosati
Gregory Fritz
John and Meggan Wingerter

Faithful Prospect (\$250–\$499)

Stewart Michael Schuler
Michael and Susan Dybas
Donna and John Repetski
Robin and Mike Saunders
Stephen Repetski
Edward and Joann Arrandale
Scott and Denise Hendershot
Kevin Surace

Servant of the Church (\$100–\$249)

Osita Ukwuaba
James and Deborah Gaudet
Conrad Schneggenburger
Andrea Carpenter
DeMartino, Richard
Rebecca and Robert Finnerty
Brooke and Matthew Haas
Oscar Herrera

Thomas Killian
Paul Walter Melnychuck
Mary and Richard Ryan
Mike and Cindy Drexler
Rev. William Moorby
Ken Murphy
Eric Riznyk
Marcela Lopez
Matthew and Elizabeth Atras
Breanna Dionne
Mr. Robert William Frank
Eric and Christine Narowski
Tracey Cook
Ryan Ackerley
Daniel and Nadyne Deary
Joe and Lori Healey
Charles von Goins
Ron and Kathy Katich
Christopher and Susan Anderson
Anthony Aroh
Daniel and Jane McGrath-Briggs
Trevor Brudz
David Buffo
Matthew Caserta
Rev. Peter Clifford
James and Noel Day
Ann Marie Defelice
Mrs. Jennifer D. Evans
Chinenye Eze
Maria and John Fay
Bertin Gahungu
Peter Hajmasy
Michelle Horan
Mary Hutnick
Robert Jr and Brandi Curry Jones
Elizabeth Kuzma
Clare and Rick Lagiewski
Joseph McLaughlin
Thomas Meehan
Frank Paris
Diana Patel
Michael and Virginia Ruffini
Thomas and Marie Rush
Henry Russo
Kevin and Angie Sheldon
Benjamin Sitler
Jay Spoto
Shan Stoffolano
Dean Turcotte
Megan and Thomas Wasik, III
Thomas Wossner

Companion of Faith (\$99 and under)

Christine Sigrest
Scott Osborn
Laurie Rakocy
Frederick Piwko
Paul Duran
Georgeanne Hogan
Susan Szczyblewski

Tobi Fadipe
Taryn and Frank Ashe
Diane and Tullio Morbidini
Patricia Bartlow
Paulette Irwin
David Anthony
Brian Bell
Deborah and Chuck Bellantoni
Matthew Bellantoni
Kevin and Ann Cusack
Danielle Dankey
Maria Galiano
Abbi and Richard Keppler
Sarah Kridenoff
Alyssa Lund
Bridget Marchione
David Walsh
Robert Wingerter
Colin Spidal
Kroh Briercheck
Cornelius and Susan Post Burkell
Eric Burbank
Milagros Lombardo
Deborah Schwepfinger
Michael and Evangeline Bautista
Myra Bellavia
Robert Booker
Brian and Sharon Bush
Christopher Conlon
Vince and Camille Conzola
Patrick Creegan
Noah Decker
Diane and Kent Evans
Michael Graney
Cassidy Kress
Janet Micari
Thomas Pawlak
Bernie Sampson
Martie Staser
Roslyn Webber
Ralph Zajac
Daye Thom-Manuel
Zachary Narowski
Justin Pelletier
Gary Proud
Ricardo Volckers
Marie DiGiovanni
Andrew Huyhua
Bonita Ocon
Sean Bowler
Swetna Annette Tribhuvan
Aimee Casini
Chimamanda Eze
Ryan Griske
Joseph Sokolowski
Anishya Thinesh
Renee and John Niemczyk
Nicole Nwosu
Cristian Rolz
Kristin Yap
Alisson Davila
Cecilia Tribhuvan



"Newman is constantly giving me ways to love God and His people, so that I feel blessed even as I face the unending struggles of college life."

~Chimamanda Eze '28
Lagos, Nigeria



"Newman's Big/Little Program has given me a chance to connect with new students and give back to the community that has helped me feel at home during my time at RIT!"

~Kristin Yap '26
La Mirada, California



"I was really nervous leaving my home parish but I immediately connected with members of the Newman community and felt like I was at home at Newman."

~Mickey Sosa '29
Chula Vista, California



"The opportunity to help lead the OCIA program with Newman has allowed me to guide other people on their faith journeys, as well as furthering my own."

~Brendan Roberts '25
McKinney, Texas

I AM A CATHOLIC TIGER

**Coming this Fall...
ROAR DAY**

Showing our stripes!

my stripe →

October 31st

SHOWING OUR STRIPES

T

NEWMAN by the NUMBERS

250 SUNDAY
MASS
ATTENDANCE

6 STUDENTS RECEIVED INTO
THE CHURCH

2 BAPTIZED

4 RETREATS

90 TIGER STRIPES
MINISTRY
VOLUNTEERS

5 STUDENT
E-BOARD
MEMBERS

25 LITURGICAL
MINISTRY
VOLUNTEERS

58 SOCIAL EVENTS

148 STUDENTS
ATTENDED

Newman Students Recognized for Leadership and Service

Two students from the Catholic Newman Community at RIT were recently honored by the Division of Student Affairs for their outstanding contributions to campus and the greater Rochester community. Tobi Fadipe and Christopher Herrera exemplify the values of faith in action, compassionate leadership, and cultural engagement. Through their service, advocacy, and academic excellence, they show the transformative power of living one's faith with purpose.



Tobi Fadipe '25 was honored with the 2025 *Outstanding Service Award for International Students* at Rochester Institute of Technology, recognizing his exceptional leadership, academic excellence, and service to both campus and the wider Rochester community. Originally from Lagos, Nigeria, Tobi has made a lasting impact through his mentorship of fellow international students, his leadership in student organizations, and his collaboration with the Office of International Student Services to foster intercultural dialogue. Beyond RIT, he has volunteered with local nonprofits focused on youth and immigrant support, embodying a commitment to dignity, education, and inclusion. Tobi is celebrated not only for his achievements, but for his generous spirit and dedication to building community wherever he goes.

Christopher Herrera '25, an electrical engineering technology major from San Jose, California, received the *Isaac L. Jordan Sr. Endowed Scholarship*, which recognizes students who contribute meaningfully to diversity and inclusion. A former California Scholarship Federation member, Christopher came to RIT with a strong service background—organizing cultural events, volunteering at parks, and encouraging teamwork among peers. At RIT, Christopher upholds a 3.6 GPA while volunteering with FoodShare, supporting Newman events, tutoring NTID students, and joining leadership and robotics clubs with a spirit of growth and service.



Congratulations Newman Class of 2025!



Aaliyah Quinones
Alex Kelleher
Alex Velez
Alexia Pietkiel
Amelia Kuzma

Andrew Couture
Andrew Lerma
Andrew Nicolazzo
Anna Rooney
Avan Peltier
Beatrice Min Fa
Bella Ciaccio
Brendan Roberts
Carson Thomas
Casey Riddel
Cass Kress
Daniel Rigoglioso
Declan Matheson
Derek Pruski
Elesa Jacob
Ellie Warren

Evan Ciolkowski
Fernando Corano Garcia
Fia Defelice
Gabrielle Bautista
Jessie Gomez
Katie Taylor
Maria Bouchard
Mark Westner
Matthew Fallon
Matthew Magee
Melson Miranda
Michael Steffler
Moni Chavez
Nick Ward
Noah Decker
Oluwamumiyo Makindipe

Pranay Kumar Deegojo
Rhiannon Wagner
Robert Vazquez
Ryan Haver
Sam Millman
Steven Giallanza
Theresa Haas
Tobi Fadipe
Tom Pawlak
Tomasz Mazur
Virginia Guerrero
Will Doyle
Zach Tominich

Graduation 2025 Scrapbook



Living the Gospel by serving others

2 Student Leaders

100 Families Served

60 Students Participating

173+ Donated Food Items

160 Hours of Service

Programs

- Bethany House Chapel and Dinner
- RIT Foodshare Collection Drive and Education
- Mercy House Clean-up
- Gardening at the SSJ Motherhouse



Garrett Meehan, '28
Abarrington, RI

What motivated you to become an active member of Tiger Stripes?

I love helping people, so I try to volunteer as much as I can with my busy class schedule.

What did you learn?

The excitement that the programs I volunteer for have when we do a good job or do something quicker than they expected is priceless, and I love being able to help out these organizations in a significant way.



Josephine Snell, '26
Portland, OR

What motivated you to become an active member of Tiger Stripes?

I had a desire to volunteer and contribute to my community, and the Bethany House volunteer event was for a cause that I believe to be extremely important. I volunteer frequently back home and this seemed like a wonderful opportunity that I could take part in in Rochester.

What did you learn?

The most impactful aspect of the experience was witnessing the small but incredibly loving community at Bethany House. I loved talking to the women there and sitting down to eat with them after having made the dinner. I personally feel like volunteering brings me closer to God and understanding Catholic values better, and this experience was exactly that!