



THE TORCH

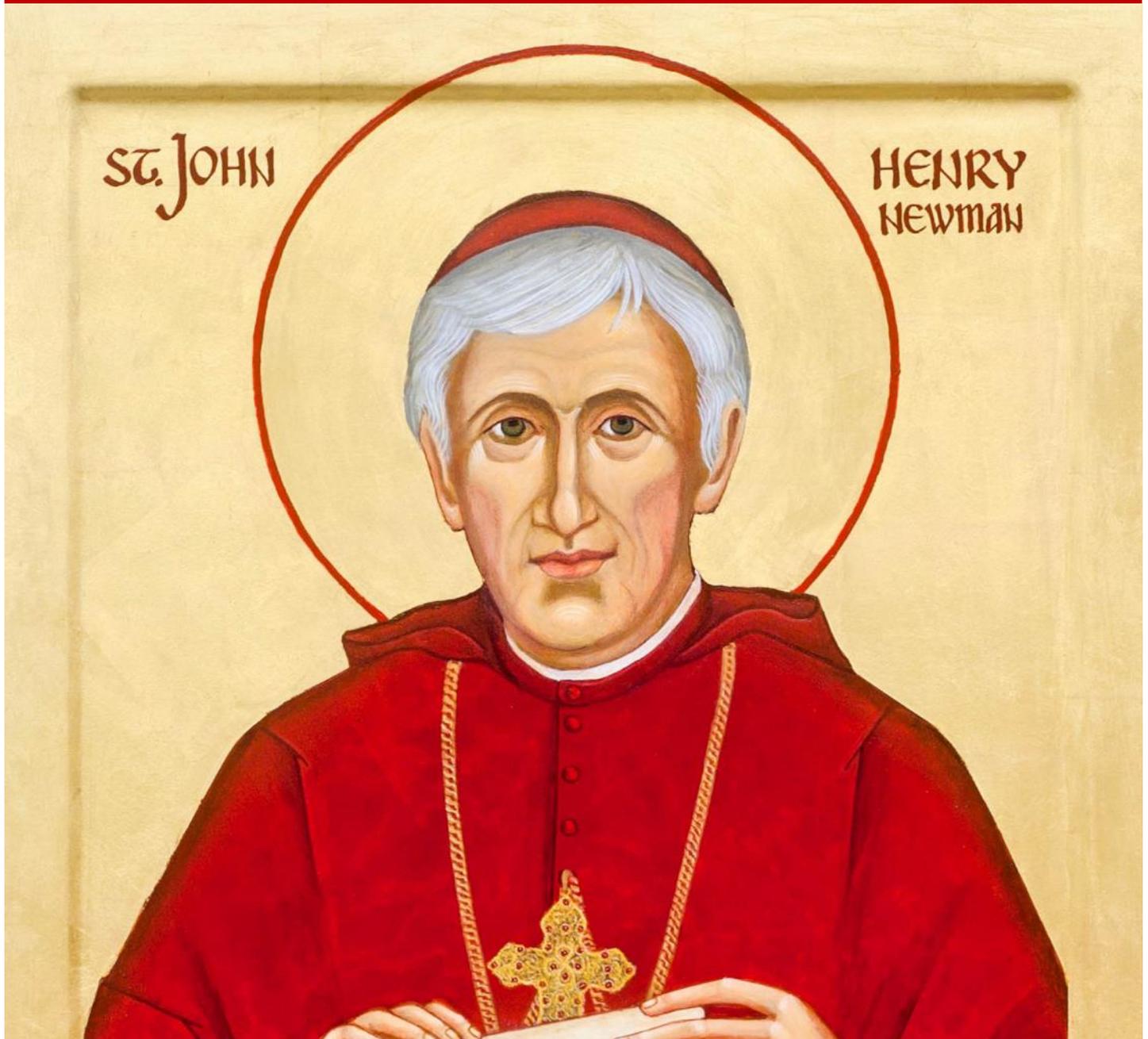


Newman Centre Catholic Mission Newsletter

Volume 4

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Issue 1



newmantoronto.com

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



In a recently published book entitled *Lost in Transition: The Dark Side of Emerging Adulthood*, the main author, Christian Smith, reports on their findings regarding the religious beliefs and practices of 18 to 23-year-old Americans. Their research demonstrates that very few

young adults interviewed about religion make reference to historical and theological ideas when discussing it. Their main understanding of the purpose of religion is to help us be good and happy.

Moreover, they identified five major issues facing young people today that are of particular relevance to our mission at the Newman Centre: 1) confused moral reasoning, 2) routine intoxication in order to acquire a fake feeling of happiness, 3) materialistic life goals, 4) casual sexual experiences, and, 5) disengagement from civic and political life. The authors never intend to blame everything on the emerging adults. They recognize that they are being shaped by a culture that many adults have themselves created.

Blessed Cardinal Newman's canonization on October 13th of this year is of particular relevance to the aforementioned crisis. Views regarding religion in 19th century England were far from perfect. In particular, the holy clergyman was very precise in his criticism of liberalism in religion in his famous "Biglietto Speech", given on the occasion of his appointment as a Cardinal of the Catholic Church on May 12, 1879.

"There is no positive truth in religion, but that one creed is as good as another...It is inconsistent with any recognition of any religion as true. It teaches that all are to be tolerated, for all are matters of opinion. Revealed religion is not a truth, but a sentiment and a taste; not an objective fact, not miraculous; and it is the right of each individual to make it say whatever strikes his fancy. Devotion is not necessarily founded on faith. Men may go to Protestant Churches and to Catholic, may get good from both and belong to neither. They may fraternise together in spiritual thoughts and feelings, without any views at all of doctrines in

common, or seeing the need of them. Since, then, religion is so personal a peculiarity and so private a possession, we must of necessity ignore it..." (Wilfred Ward, *The Life of John Henry Cardinal Newman*, p.460).

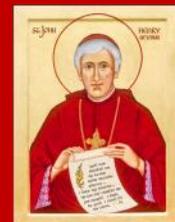
The rejection of religious truth, perhaps more prominent today than in Newman's time, is antithetical to the Gospel that Jesus Christ preached while journeying towards the cross. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus said to his disciples, *"I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father, but by me"* (Jn 14:6). Jesus Christ did not come to teach us how to be nice. He came to die for our sins and to teach us how to be holy so that we can get into heaven.

Our mission at the University of Toronto is becoming increasingly more urgent. Through God's Providence, more and more people are participating in the academic and spiritual life of our welcoming community. So much so that it is becoming more difficult to find a place to sit and study during the academic year. This, of course, is a *good* issue. As you continue to read the remaining pages of this issue that you are either holding in your hands or reading on a screen, it should become evident that every aspect of our comprehensive campus ministry seeks to address each of the 5 major issues addressed in Smith's aforementioned book.

Our SCM program, Theology of the Body talks, Who Do You Say I Am Apologetics Series, Faith and Reason Lectures, Spiritual Discernment and Spiritual Direction sessions, Bible studies, Discipleship and Mentorship Programs, Catholic Conscience, Genesis Faith and Science Forum and Poverty Cure Series, to name just a few, are meant to form our emerging...

Continued on page 5.....

The cover photo is an image of a special icon commissioned in honour of Cardinal Newman's canonization. Our grateful thanks to all those who supported this icon written by artist Marysia Kowalchuk of Madonna House.



WELCOME OUR 2019-2020 STUDENT CAMPUS MINISTERS

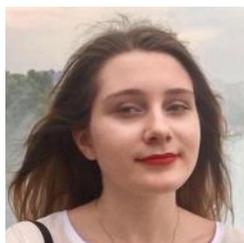
Hi, my name is **Danielle Alvares**. I'm entering the fourth year of my PhD in Medical Sciences and am based at SickKids Research Institute.



I'm returning for a third year as an SCM and am excited to have the opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love in service to this amazing community, and grow in holiness as I continue my studies.

I look forward to getting to know new people and to continue to develop old friendships this year, so feel free to approach me if you want to chat about science, school or life!

Hello everyone! My name is **Maria Ardelean** and I am an inbound exchange student at University of Toronto studying Pharmacology and Organic Chemistry. Prior to this year I have studied at University College London and I have lived in Newman House London.



I am very happy to be here and I am looking forward to meeting as many people as possible and I hope to have the opportunity this year to grow in faith and create as many friendships as possible.

My name is **James DeGurse** and I'm originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba.



I completed my BA at Canadian Mennonite University, a small Christian liberal arts school, and that experience instilled in me a passion for faith-based community that I hope to bring to the Newman Centre.

I will be entering the MA program in Theological Studies at Regis College, where I will focus on the theology of Hans Urs von Balthasar. As a Student Campus Minister, I look forward to engaging in community, growing in my faith, and leading others to an encounter with Jesus Christ.

In my free time, I enjoy coffee, cribbage, choral singing, and cinema both old and new.

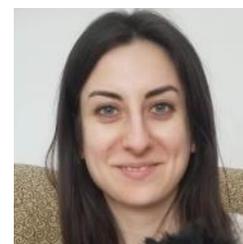
Hi my name is **Sasha Hellwig** and I was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. I will be entering my fourth year of my studies at the University of Toronto in Christianity and Culture, History, and Education.



I am excited to be back at the Newman Centre to serve as a SCM for a third year. My time at Newman has allowed me to grow in my relationship with Christ and to share the joy of the Gospel on the university campus. I look forward to giving my "yes" to God through this upcoming year of ministry.

When I am not up to my nose in homework, I enjoy reading, listening to folk music, drinking coffee, or spending time in the chapel with Jesus.

My name is **Elysia Martini**. I am entering my third year of law school at the University of Toronto where I have a special interest in litigation.



I am excited to be living at the Newman Centre this year. For the past two years, it has been a place that has always felt like home to me.

I look forward to serving the community together with my fellow Student Campus Ministers.

WELCOME OUR 2019-2020 STUDENT CAMPUS MINISTERS

My name is **Xavier Ménard**. I am a twenty-three year old student from Québec. I hold a B.C.L./LL.B. from the McGill Faculty of Law and I am coming to the University of Toronto Faculty of Law to pursue a master's degree in legal theory.



My interests are varied but mostly focus on humanities, business, meditation and cats. I am looking forward to the upcoming school year to further my legal understanding and deepen my Catholic faith.

My name is **Virginia-Ann Mervar** and after spending a summer as a chaplain at a Cadet Training Centre on an Air Force base in Cold Lake Alberta, I am excited to return to studies and second year as a Student Campus Minister at the Newman Centre.



I am looking forward to the second year of my Master of Divinity at Regis College and for all the adventures to come. I have a lot more to learn about living and serving in a community, thus with lots of grace, coffee, dark chocolate and ginger ale, I know this year as an SCM will be a wonderful adventure of growth, goodness and dependence on the Lord.

Hello! My name is **James Park**. I am entering my final year at the University of Toronto for a Math degree. I am sincerely passionate about the sciences and especially learning more about the universe.



My hobbies include playing soccer, stargazing, long walks and having interesting discussions (especially with people from different worldviews). I wish to continue my studies in graduate school, here at the University of Toronto, in order to further pursue intellect and wisdom. I look forward to meeting you all this upcoming year!

Hello, my name is **Angela Yoo**. I am a second year student studying Biochemistry and Health & Disease at the University of Toronto. My goal is to research artificial blood to help those with rare blood types.



My hobbies are practicing violin, cycling and playing table tennis. I am looking forward to making a positive contribution to the Newman Centre as a member of the Student Campus Minister team.

.....Continued from page 3

A Message from the Pastor

..Catholic adults into becoming holy and be capable of having a charitable and intelligent discussion with others regarding their reasons for believing and hoping in Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Pet: 3:15).

These programs have a real and personal impact on those we serve. All are nurtured by a strong sacramental life where they are cleansed of their sins and filled with grace through their encounter with Jesus Christ in both the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, not to mention the time spent adoring Him hidden in the Tabernacle.

The testimonies of these wonderful young men and women you will encounter in these pages, and in person, help demonstrate that the Newman Centre *needs* to be here. Moreover, we hope that it inspires each of you to invest your time, talent and treasure in helping us continue proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ both on campus and beyond.

God bless,

Fr Peter Turrone

A SECOND HOME WITH GOD AND HIS PEOPLE

I first learned about the Newman Centre after attending a Mass there. Fr. Peter invited me to come and study at the house. I hesitated at first because it looks like a private property but the invitation made me try. I remembered entering the house with such awe and amazement. I was star-struck that my favorite show “Suits” was filmed in this very house! I was floored by the architecture, having semblances of Charles Xavier’s School for Gifted Youngsters in the film X-men. The façade, the less expensive coffee, the warmth of the people, and soothing music of the piano were all attractive factors for me to come and study here every day.

From there, the Newman Centre took care of my spiritual and social life by welcoming me in a community of like-minded people, from multifarious backgrounds but the same faith in the Triune God. I always appreciated the opportunity to meet Catholic students from other academic disciplines across UofT (humanities, sciences, math, etc.) and from different parts of the world (from Asia, Latin America, Europe, Middle East, Africa, North America, etc.). We all believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, who is made accessible in the Tabernacle through the Newman Centre. Being surrounded by people who share the same values as I do protected and solidified my interior life in Christ from the secularity of a multicultural life in Toronto. I grew close to students who are serious with their studies, mostly PhD students who are finishing their dissertation. We study together, attend daily Masses together and eat lunch together. All of a sudden, even if I did not have my family with me, God blessed me with a second family in the Newman Centre.

Because I study every day in the Newman Centre from Mondays to Fridays since September 2017, I have seen and participated in several activities that further enriched my spiritual life as a Catholic, one of which is PovertyCure. As a business student, I have always been troubled by the misconception that money is evil. However, I have always believed that as the Scripture asserts in 1 Timothy 6:10, it is the “love of money” not money per se that is the root of all evil. I hypothesize that money if used for positive ends can



actually do good. Hence, I consistently attended the PovertyCure series to learn from practitioners how business can be used to serve the less fortunate.

Overall, in reflecting about my new life in Toronto, I frequently asked myself how did I manage to succeed in my studies (let alone survive) being 13,000 km away from my family, living independently by myself for two years for the first time in my 27 years of existence in a country that costs 41x my home country’s currency and graduate without debt? I always come back to the conclusion that it was God’s blessing manifested in the Newman Centre that made it possible. As in 1 Corinthians 1:4-5, I always thank God for the Newman Centre.

Originally from Philippines, **Gabby Ignacio** is an MBA graduate from University of Toronto, Rotman School of Management. He is an entrepreneurial-generalist with multifarious experiences across 14 roles and 10 businesses across a fintech startup, a top global bank, and a multinational consumer packaged goods company in the last 7+ years. He is passionate about employing finance, entrepreneurship and technology in making the world a better place for next generations to come.

MAKING CANADA

Too often it seems that our civic leaders want to divide us rather than to gather us, their goal being to garner support from some of us by making us fear or disrespect others. It's time our leaders returned to their proper role of bringing us, together, to things that are truly good for all. As Catholics living in a democracy, we are ideally placed to bring that about, simply by living out the Church's call to participate in society through joyful witness to our faith and through our actions in the world.

At least, that's the theory of Catholic Conscience and the various experts it has brought to the Newman Centre, from all points on the political spectrum. With a mandate of encouraging Catholics to improve society by going out and participating in it, Catholic Conscience has hosted a series of discussions in the Oak Room, covering the duty of Catholics to participate in the world and the unique ways in which each of us might be called to do that.

In April 2018, Matthew Marquardt explained the duty of Catholics to accept the Social Teachings of the Church, and to witness Christ by living them in their daily lives; by participating in democracy so as to ensure that we are *all* enabled to enjoy freedom and the benefits of a thriving, productive society. In November, a panel that included Newman Centre's Executive Director, Fr Peter Turrone, discussed ways in which the Church expects various social institutions, such as governments, business, the media, universities, and the Church, to interact.

And on May 1, a panel of journalists from the Catholic Register, the Archdiocese of Toronto, and the University of St Michael's College talked about the many ways in which news is created, disseminated, and all too often fabricated or abused, and the effect of



'fake news' on society. The panel also considered the importance of each Catholic's obligation to identify, consult, and support responsible and comprehensive news sources.

Finally, on May 30, a panel of active members from each of Ontario's four most prominent parties – Liberal, NDP, Green, and Conservative – explained ways in which Catholics can join parties and effectively contribute to the adoption of improved platforms and nomination of candidates who seek to bring us to common ground, rather than divide the world into haves and have-nots.

Missed one of the sessions? Not to worry: videos are available at fb.CatholicConscience.org, and in the "Library" at www.catholicconscience.org. The prognosis is good: wherever Catholic Conscience goes, it sees that everyone – politicians, candidates, support staff, and voters – is thirsty for the type of respectful, cooperative conversation the Church promotes.

The key is the Social Teachings of the Church. Life and human dignity, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity, and the values of truth, freedom, justice, and love are keys to a better society. Not to mention the Christian virtues of wisdom, patience, and humility.

Want to know more? Catholic Conscience would love to hear from you: info@CatholicConscience.org. This article was provided by the team at Catholic Conscience. Read **Matthew Marquardt's** biography on page 18.



FAITH AND REASON LECTURE SERIES

The Newman Centre presents an outstanding line-up of speakers for our 2019-2020 Faith and Reason Lecture season. All our lectures are open to the public and free to attend. Registration is required.

God is the Bigger Elvis: Mother Dolores Hart's Spiritual Journey from Hollywood Actress to Cloistered Nun **(SOLD OUT!)**

Thursday, September 19, 2019 | 7:00 PM | Newman Centre



What is Conscience?

- Fr. Paul Pearson,
Dean, Saint Philip's
Seminary and Author of
Spiritual Direction from
Dante - Avoiding the Inferno



Thursday, October 10, 2019
7:00 PM
Newman Centre

Registration:

<https://newmanlecture2019.eventbrite.ca>

The Participation of Women in the Catholic Church

- Sr. Mary Christa Nutt,
Superior/Director of
Education, Religious Sisters of Mercy



Thursday, November 14, 2019
7:00 PM
Newman Centre

Registration:

<https://faithandreasonlecturenov14.eventbrite.ca>

Genome Editing with CRISPR: Ethical Considerations from a Catholic Perspective

- Fr. Nicanor Austriaco,
Professor of Biology and of
Theology, Providence College



Thursday, January 30, 2020
7:00 PM
Newman Centre

Registration:

<https://angelicdrlecture2020.eventbrite.ca>

Before Church and State

- Dr. Andrew W. Jones,
Visiting Assistant Professor
of Theology, Franciscan
University of Steubenville



Thursday, March 12, 2020
7:00 PM
Newman Centre

Registration:

<https://faithandreason2020.eventbrite.ca>

RETREATS AT NEWMAN

The Newman Centre organizes spiritual retreats twice every academic year inviting inspirational speakers. Retreats are \$30 per person. All are welcome. Registration is required.

Advent Retreat

**Mother Olga
of the Sacred Heart,**
Founder of the Daughters
of Mary of Nazareth



**Saturday, December 14, 2019
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Newman Centre**

Cost: \$30 | Registration:
<https://adventretreat2019.eventbrite.ca>

Lenten Retreat

Fr. Timothy Gallagher,
St. Ignatius Chair for
Spiritual Formation at
St. John Vianney
Theological Seminary in Denver



**Saturday, March 14, 2020
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Newman Centre**

Cost: \$30 | Registration:
<https://lentenretreat2020.eventbrite.ca>

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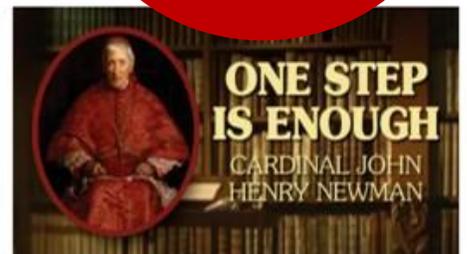
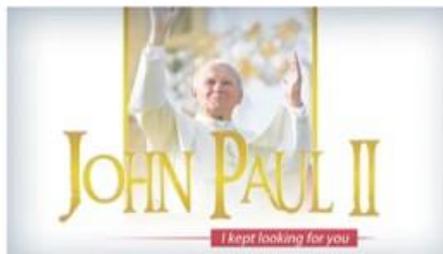
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MODERN-DAY SAINTS



MY STORY AT THE NEWMAN CENTRE

While flying over the snow-filled roofs of Toronto at the end of February, I had no idea what to expect of my journey. I had three months ahead of me and one mission; doing research and writing my Master's thesis. During my time in Toronto, I often got the question: why do you need to travel all the way to Canada to research Dutch Catholicism in the 16th century? Good question!

Well, the official story was that the University of Toronto was a world-class university and that they have many academics devoted to my topic. All true, and extremely rewarding. However, the unofficial story was just as important to me. To discover a new culture, a new city, a new way of life. One last big adventure to end my time as a student before starting, as students sometimes fearfully call it, *'the rest of your life'*.

For me as a Catholic, the first thing I asked after I dropped my suitcase at my Airbnb was: is there a

church here? Already at home, I found the Newman Centre online, so Sunday morning I left for campus. Very early, who knows how these metro systems work? Coming from a country that is way too small for metros and where the inhabitants go everywhere on bike, being in a metro gave me a real metropolis feeling.

The moment I entered the St. Thomas Aquinas church that Sunday, I had no idea how important that community would become during my stay. After Mass, I entered the house and did not get time to look around for I had to shake hands, many hands. I already felt much less of a stranger in this oversized city. I had found a home away from home.

One thing that struck me was the enthusiasm of so many young people to live a Catholic life. Back home, I am often the only student in the church (which does not mean that there are only Protestants in The Netherlands, a stereotype I had to deny a little too often!)

At Newman, I also discovered the great value of going to Mass daily, for they make it so easy to leave the library, go to Mass, have lunch, and back to the books. Because I arrived just before Lent, I had the opportunity to prepare myself for the great feast of Easter in a way I had never done before. It made Easter a great feast which rekindled my faith, which had gone quite in slumber mode as a student with mostly atheist friends and without a true community to share a Christ-centered life.

I am grateful for everything the Newman Centre has offered, for it has made my time in Toronto rich in joy, faith and friendships. I am sure many things will stay with me. Next September, I will start work in Amsterdam. A new life ahead of me, in a new city (with even a metro this time. And 3 million bikes!). Let's pray for some joyful Catholics there!

David Oldenhof is currently finishing his Masters in History at Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands, where he specialized in Medieval and Early Modern Church history.



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

I began my studies at the University of Toronto just a year after my reversion to Catholicism. I was on fire for God and wanted to deepen my relationship with Him, and being introduced to the Newman Centre by friends I met during orientation week helped to do that.

I started attending daily Mass with my friends, and as a result, fell in love with the Eucharist. I encountered His steadfast love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It was during Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel that led me to make decisions, which ultimately culminated in me pursuing my Master of Divinity. I formed and deepened friendships through Soup and Bagel, and countless hours spent in the Oak Room.

One thing that struck me in the people I encountered was their joy, even through the difficulties of life. I aspired to have that same joy, an aspiration that was incredibly difficult as I worked through a myriad of

struggles in the past year. However, through His grace and through the presence of the community, I am working towards being able to “Rejoice in the Lord always” (Philippians 4:4).

The Newman Centre has been a source of support and guidance as I continue to deepen my relationship with God and I am excited to serve as the Faith Study Coordinator this academic year.

I look forward to rejoicing in the Lord and to journeying with others as they deepen their relationship with God, much like the community has done for me.



Andrea Nicole Carandang is in her second year of the Master of Divinity Program at Regis College. She completed her undergraduate at the University of Toronto in 2018.



PovertyCure Series - Part 4

Challenge your approach to charity and missions

Guest Speaker: Fr. David Reilander

Thursday, November 7 | 7:00 pm | Newman Centre

Registration: <https://povertycurenov7.eventbrite.ca>

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?

The Society of Catholic Scientists' (SCS) motto is *Speculatio cum devotio, investigatio cum admiratione*—knowledge with devotion, research with wonder. SCS facilitates an encounter between faith and science. Its members (PhD scientists, students, scholar associates, etc.) strive to make a synthesis of their professional scientific training with the “perennial wisdom of the Church's tradition.” The current president is the particle physicist Dr. Stephen Barr, who is supported by a dedicated leadership team that serve a current membership of about 1000.

In early June I attended the annual summer weekend meeting. The theme this year was “What Does It Mean to Be Human?” Space constrains me to mention only a few speakers. However, I spoke about many more in the post-conference podcast “That’s *So* Second Millennium.”

SCS gave the 2019 St. Albert Award to Dr. Maureen Condic, a neuroscientist and embryologist at the University of Utah, and member of the Pontifical Academy for Life. Her talk brought to life (pun intended) the rapid and dramatic goal directed functions that blossom into being upon fertilization. I was filled with awe and wonder because I happen to be studying calcium ion channels, which underlie the millisecond changes during the first molecular steps we take as single cells. Supernatural faith did not spare her the effort of constructing a rational demonstration. But the light of faith can guide our choice of hypotheses and ground us in common sense.

Fr. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P. spoke about “CRISPR and Genetic Engineering: the science and its implications.” If you are interested in the bioethics of human enhancement, I recommend his talk. He reminded us of human dignity and encouraged us to put the poor first.

Fr. Joachim Ostermann, O.F.M. prepared a brilliant homily “Pentecost and the Meaning of Nature”. He challenged us to undergo an ecological conversion: “We are called to heal, and what we need to heal are the wounds caused by the scientific-technological culture. They can only be healed by a new



L to R: Newmanites Vanessa Chan, Darren Pereira and Geoff Woollard at the conference.

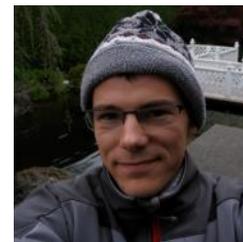
understanding of nature, one that satisfies our search for meaning.”

I came home with a pile of resources to guide my search for meaning: books, articles, and—most dear to my heart—some new acquaintances to correspond with.

If these themes intrigue you, I invite you to attend the Genesis Faith and Science Forum at Newman. We will meet on Friday evenings in the fall. I strive to promote an uplifting atmosphere where dialogue about faith and science inspires awe and wonder and is enjoyable.

I hope to see you at the Gold Mass at Newman this fall. And then again at next year’s conference in Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island. Registration and accommodation was just a few hundred dollars, and this year I carpoled 8 hours to the University of Notre Dame to save money on flights. The drive to Providence is about 9 hours, plenty of time to get to know each other in the car and inspire each other to pursue *speculatio cum devotio, investigatio cum admiratione*—knowledge with devotion, research with wonder.

Geoffrey Woollard, PhD student in UofT Medical Biophysics, uses electron cryomicroscopy to study the 3D shape of calcium ion channels. He helps organize Newman Centre’s Genesis Faith and Science Forum.



CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS / GENESIS

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DO
YOU
SAY
I AM?**

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FOR A MODERN
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GENESIS

Faith & Science Forum

Discover and discuss the relationship between the Catholic faith and science, and questions regarding their intersection.

Open to scientists and students of science
For questions, email Geoff: geoffwoollard@gmail.com

6:00 - 8:00 pm | 2nd Floor Conference Room

Friday, September 13 & 27 | Friday, October 11 | Friday, November 1, 15 & 29

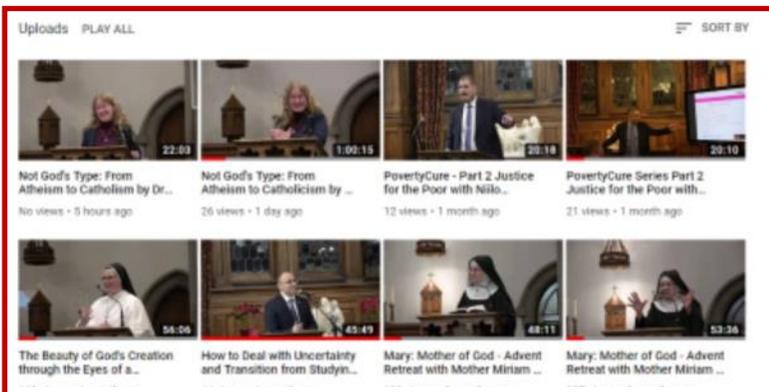
THEOLOGY ON TAP WITH FR PETER

There's a hilarious scene in the comedic Western *Shanghai Noon* (2000) where the lead character played by Jackie Chan is asking a couple of non-English speaking persons where he might find a local town called Carson City. When he discovers that they don't comprehend what he's saying, he simply repeats himself with greater forcefulness, which eventually prompts one of his listeners to remark to the other: "He seems to think that, if he speaks more loudly, we'll understand him!"

Indeed, one of the most challenging aspects of the New Evangelization is to figure out where are the points of resistance on the part of the people we're trying to evangelize; and to find creative ways to help these people break through the barriers which seem to be preventing them from receiving the fullness of the Gospel – rather than simply yell at them!

That's why we were pleased to invite Fr. Peter Turrone to come out to Theology on Tap Durham in downtown Oshawa to speak on the issue of faith and science; and specifically, on how we might engage with persons outside of the Church on this particular topic in an intelligent and fruitful manner. We had one of the biggest turnouts of the year, as more than seventy people came out to listen to Fr. Peter's compelling presentation. Many outgoing comments focused on the sense of credibility Fr. Peter exuded as a result of both his professional background and level of preparation. We look forward to having Fr. Peter back soon!

Shannon Hawkyard is a Campus Minister at UOIT, Durham College and Trent (Durham) for the Archdiocese of Toronto.



**WATCH PAST LECTURES
AND TALKS ON NEWMAN'S
YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

<http://bit.ly/NewmanYouTube>

A SECOND HOME FOR HOLINESS

I'm Elric Angot, a French student who arrived in Canada for a five-month internship of mathematics at the University of Toronto. As a Catholic with my ups and downs, I knew that I needed a Catholic community to keep in touch with God: otherwise, it would be like five months of apnea and I'm not sure that I could have handled it. Hopefully, God would be with me, I prayed when I took my taxi from the railway station to my flat, because it stopped just in front of a big sign of "Campus Catholic community". I arrived there the next day, and I have to admit it: *I've never regretted that choice.*

All that I wanted was fulfilled. Firstly, as a stranger working in mathematics, the only person my "job" could lead me to meet was my researcher, and other mathematicians were not that welcoming. Ninety percent of my work was lonely (this is research, after all), so I was eager to meet people and to develop friendships. Newman Centre gave me a beautiful place to work (I've been working there everyday, so it led me to meet other students who were there frequently), and people were really welcoming!

It is in this place that I've met some people who became friends (and this is a true grace!). I did not think it was possible to have a deep friendship with people in less than one year, so I went from one shallow relationship to another during the first two months. Thankfully, God crossed my paths with some



Elric Angot (center) with Newmanites at the celebration of the Solemnity of St. Joseph, and seen in the top right photo serving for the Easter morning Mass at Newman.



other exchange students who had the same eagerness and then some very beautiful friendships blossomed.

It was also a place to grow closer to God. It was the first place where I experienced daily Mass (such a grace!), Adoration (I'm really touched by this prayer because I was converted during an Adoration, and I thought before going to Canada that faith was dead and I would be in a place without Adoration available. It is a true blessing to have all this available at a 10-minute walk!), retreat, and beautiful conversations about our faith.

A lot of people impressed me by the depth of their faith, and their lives showed me a ton of ways to get closer to God: we really need an "ekklesia" (Greek name for church which means assembly) to help one another on our holy journeys! (See Prov, 18,19).

In the end, Newman Centre is a wonderful community because it is not closed on itself, but open to others. That's why we can see some conversions. It is always touching to meet a non-believer and to see Christ working in their hearts, and I think it is a perfect place to bring our non-Catholic friends to help them to meet God.

Amen ! Thanks God !

Elric Angot is a French graduate student in mathematics, in the École Normale Supérieure (ENS) in Paris, France.

HEARING CHRIST'S CALL

If you'd like to deepen your relationship with Christ, discern God's will in your life, or simply spend some more time in prayer during the week, Hearing Christ's call could be a great group for you.

Beginning September 25, we'll gather every Wednesday at 5 pm in the Newman Centre to encounter the Lord through the methods and meditations of St. Ignatius of Loyola's Spiritual Exercises. After learning about a particular meditation of St. Ignatius at the beginning of each session, we'll spend 20-30 minutes praying with it, leaving some time at the end to process what happened. Think of it as an hour-long retreat in the middle of your week!

The fall sessions will focus on prayer methods such as *lectio divina*, the examen, and Ignatian contemplation. In the spring, we'll dive into St. Ignatius' brilliant rules

for the discernment of spirits and ways of discerning God's will. We'll experience some of the most famous and powerful meditations of the Exercises throughout the year, and we'll focus on how you can implement these tools of prayer and discernment into your daily life. The main goal every week will be to grow in knowledge, love, and service of the Lord.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at chris.kellerman@mail.utoronto.ca I hope to see you there!

Chris Kellerman is a Jesuit scholastic who will be running the Ignatian Tools for Prayer and Discernment at Newman Centre.



Welcome Mentors Program



This fall we're beginning a Welcoming Mentors Program for incoming students. Research on student involvement shows that most students will determine their co-curricular involvements within the first month of university and will generally not add additional activities in subsequent years. On the other hand, research also shows that iGen students (such as those beginning post-secondary this fall) have increased difficulty in connecting socially in new contexts. For many, this means that getting involved in community life at university is stressful.

With these aspects of student support in mind, Welcome Mentors will facilitate new student involvement in our community by facilitating relationship building and community connection at Newman. As we meet new students in the house or at outreach events, we'll connect them with a mentor who is considered a good match for them based on

similarity of program, personality temperament, interests, etc. Our mentors will meet with their mentee once a week for the first month of classes (or longer if they choose to continue meeting!) to help them get to know the Newman house, other students, and the University of Toronto Academic and Student Life supports.

Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for students to find a home here. We hear stories every year from graduating students about how significantly their lives have been changed by their time in our community and hope that these kinds of stories continue to multiply into the future. Please keep our mentors and mentees in your prayers!

**For Mentors, visit: bit.ly/newmanwelcomementor
For Mentees, visit: bit.ly/welcometoneuman**

SPECIAL NEWMAN EVENTS



Annual Stewardship Dinner and Annual General Meeting (L to R): 1) Fr. Peter Turrone presents the Lead Kindly Light Award to long-time Newman parishioner, Diane Lauziere. 2) Student Campus Minister Sarah Hanna receives a Catholic Leadership Bursary from Knights of Columbus representative, Paul Crawford. 3) Newman Foundation of Toronto Board Member, Dr. Fok-Han Leung presents Rheanna Bulten with a Bursary certificate.



Feast of Corpus Christi: Over 100 people joined the Corpus Christi procession after Mass around Bloor Street and back to Newman followed by a joyful celebration for all the children who received their First Holy Communion. Special thanks to Lenita Lopes who coordinates the Confirmation and First Holy Communion Sacramental programs.



Pentecost: We celebrated all our new Confirmandis at Pentecost Sunday Mass and concluded with a festive celebration for the community and a special treat for all the children thanks to a donated piñata.

WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



My name is **Matthew Marquardt**. I am the father of two adult children, the founder of Catholic Conscience, a lay member of the Redemptorists, and a business lawyer. I serve on several secular and charitable boards. I was introduced to the Newman Centre through Catholic Conscience.

Fr Chris Cauchi, who is Director of the Office of Formation, referred me to Fr Peter with the idea that the message and work of Catholic Conscience might be suitably aligned with the Centre's mission. I am pleased to say that our involvement with the Centre has brought growth to us in many ways.

I was invited to become a Board Member during the summer of 2019 because Fr Peter and I feel that our missions are fairly closely aligned, and that we can learn from and inform one another through consultation. Being a lawyer with considerable Board experience, I hope to be able to contribute to the diversity of voices offered by the existing Board and learn more as I become more involved.

I support the mission of the Newman Centre because it is focused on reaching a critical portion of the Catholic population - educated young adults - with a critical message, and helping to form them for active, joyful Catholic witness as they move into the world after school. Newman's mission of nurturing faith through reason is deeply needed by a world that is growing increasingly secular, and is closely compatible with Catholic Conscience's mission of forming joyful Catholics for civic participation in accordance with the social teachings of the Church.

The Centre itself is the best encouragement for potential supporters. Stepping into the Centre from the hyper-busy, self-focused world that surrounds it is exactly like coming home: I have been continuously astounded by the feeling of family that seems to exist in the Centre, because of welcoming staff and the building itself, the brilliant leadership provided by Fr Peter and the Centre's patronym, and most of all by the open, friendly, engaging, questioning, and highly intelligent student population makes one realize instantly that this

is what the world is meant to be like: deeply Christian, and seeking God through and in one another. Spending an hour or two in the Centre is like a day of retreat - particularly if it involves a brief pilgrimage to the Chapel on the way in! The Newman Centre needs to be supported and encouraged in every way possible.

Catherine Pawluch is a business lawyer and partner in a Canadian law firm. She advises some of the world's most iconic airlines and also counsels clients in competition and foreign investment law. She has an M.A. in economics from McGill University and a Juris Doctorate from Osgoode Hall Law School.



Catherine is on the board of directors of the Thomas More Lawyers' Guild of Toronto, and through it, she began her involvement at Newman. She serves as a liaison, fostering collaborations between the Catholic lawyers' Guild and the Newman community, including mentoring law students through the Newman mentorship program; organizing talks at Newman on legal developments such as euthanasia and end of life issues, from a Catholic lawyer and moral theologian's perspective and on the role of Catholics in the public square.

Catherine was invited to join the Board of the Newman Foundation in 2019. In her words, "It is a privilege to be on the Foundation Board, and in turn, to serve the Newman community. I am reminded of the message of His Eminence Cardinal Collins in his pastoral letter on stewardship: *to accept the call to live as disciples, to make generous use of the time, talent and treasure which God has entrusted to us... to grow as good and faithful stewards.*"

She added: "I've watched with wonder and awe the transformative growth of students and young people in their journeys of faith, thanks to the fervent dedication of the priests and laity serving at Newman. As a new Board Member, it is my hope that the contributions of the Foundation will continue to sustain and allow the mission of the Newman Centre to thrive, so that its energy may be focused outward in making Christ more present on campus and in our world."

NEWMAN EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Tear off this quick reference guide to events at Newman and put it on your fridge.
For more details, visit our website: www.newmantoronto.com or social media links.

EVENT	DATE
Newman Catholic Students' Club Welcome BBQ	Monday, September 9
New Newmanite Supper	September 21 & 26, 5:00 pm
Faith and Reason Lecture: Mother Dolores Hart's Spiritual Journey from Hollywood Actress to Cloistered Nun	Thursday, September 19, 7:00 pm
Who Do You Say I Am? - Bi-Weekly Apologetics Series Begins	Monday, September 30, 7:00 pm
Faith and Reason Lecture: What is Conscience?	Thursday, October 10, 7:00 pm
Newman Young Adult Ministry - Murder Mystery	Friday, October 18, 6:00 pm
Cardinal Newman Canonization Mass with Cardinal Collins	Sunday, October 20, 11:00 am
Mentorship Series 1: Theology of the Body	Thursday, October 24, 6:30 pm
PovertyCure Series Part 4	Thursday, November 7, 7:00 pm
Faith and Reason Lecture: The Participation of Women in the Catholic Church	Thursday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Advent Dinner	Thursday, December 5, 6:30 pm
Advent Retreat with Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart	Saturday, December 14, 9:00 am
Angelic Doctor Lecture with Fr. Nicanor Austriaco, OP	Thursday, January 30, 2020, 7:00 pm
Faith and Reason Lecture: Before Church and State	Thursday, March 12, 2020, 7:00 pm
Lenten Retreat with Fr. Timothy Gallagher	Saturday, March 14, 2020, 9:00 am

NEWMAN CENTRE MASS TIMES AND VISITING HOURS

Mass Times:

Monday - Friday 12:15 pm
Saturday 9:30 am (Rosary 9 am)
Sunday Mass 11 am & 7 pm

Mass on statutory holidays: 9:30 am

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Visiting Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 8:30 pm (Fall)
House Hours: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm (Fall)

Confession: Confessions are heard before every Mass.

You may also book an appointment with Fr. Peter:
frpeterturrone@newmantoronto.com
416-979-2468 ext. 223

Newman Centre Catholic Mission

(Charitable Registration Number: 10791 0259 RR0021)
89 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5S 2E8 | 416-979-2468

[Facebook.com/NewmanUofT](https://www.facebook.com/NewmanUofT)

Twitter [@NewmanUofT](https://twitter.com/NewmanUofT) | YouTube [NewmanUofT](https://www.youtube.com/NewmanUofT)

Interested in receiving Newman Centre's bi-weekly event updates? Email: maria.dasilva@newmantoronto.com

MENTORSHIP AT NEWMAN

Mentorship Series 1

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

with catechist

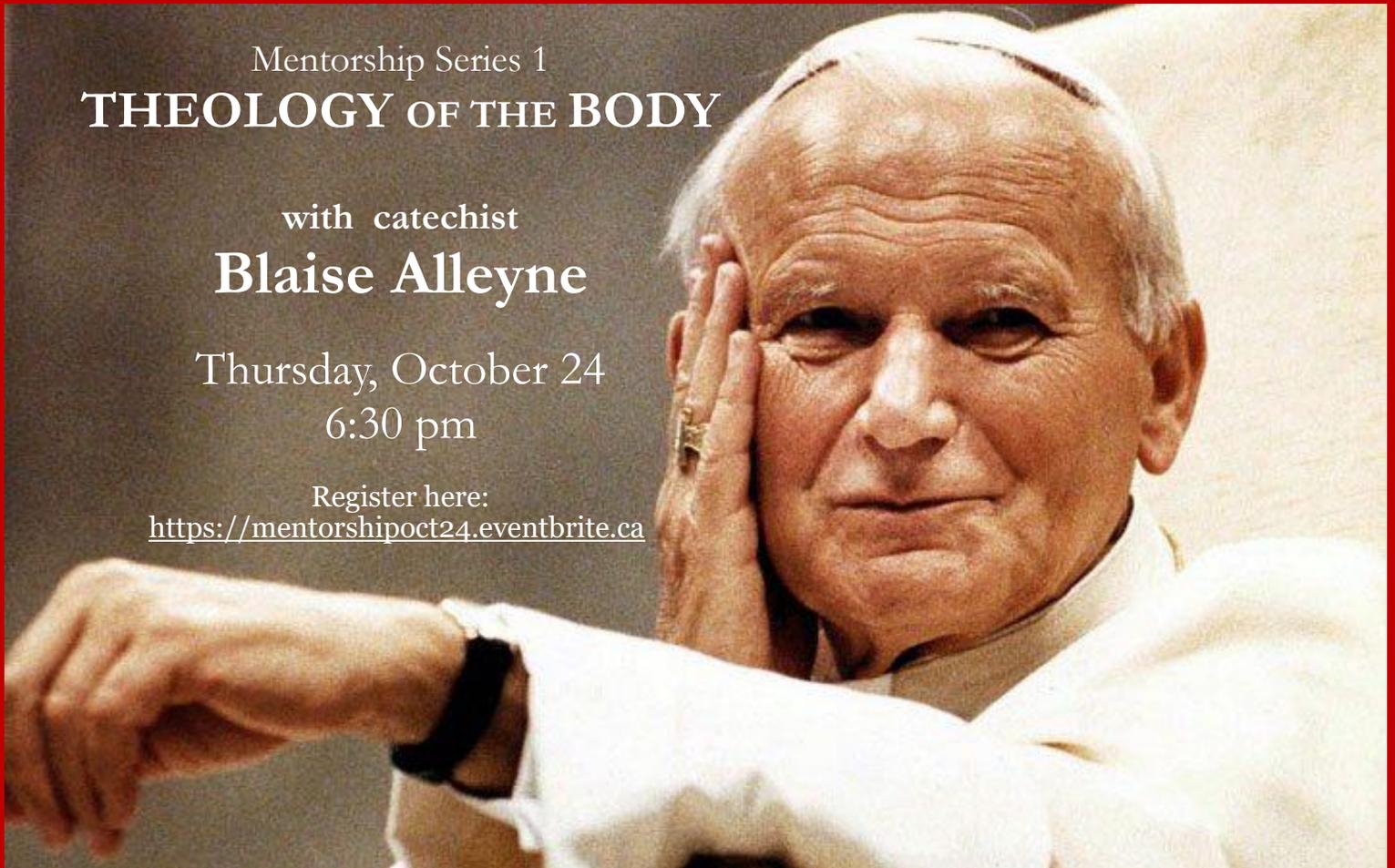
Blaise Alleyne

Thursday, October 24

6:30 pm

Register here:

<https://mentorshipoct24.eventbrite.ca>



*Do you have questions about your faith
and how it relates to your studies or the development of your career?*

The Newman Centre hosts bi-monthly speaker sessions on a variety of important topics as part of the Mentorship program. There will be opportunity for open discussion and questions after sessions with the speakers as well.

If you are interested in participating as a mentor or mentee for the program you may register via the links listed below:

If you are a student seeking the guidance of a professional in your field: <http://bit.ly/mentorshipnewman>

If you are a professional seeking to be a mentor for a student: <http://bit.ly/mentoratnewman>

For questions, please contact: Alexandra Whittle, Stewardship and Program Coordinator
at alexandra.whittle@newmantoronto.com

***Save the date!* Mentorship Series 2 - Thursday, November 21 @ 6:30 pm**