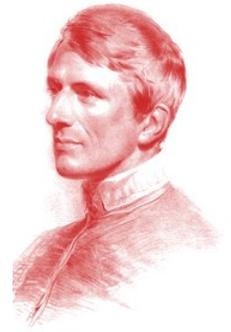




# THE TORCH



Newman Centre Catholic Mission Newsletter

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[newmantoronto.com](http://newmantoronto.com)

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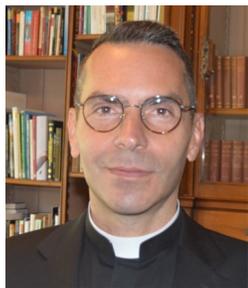
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

In St. Alphonsus Liguori's little masterpiece "*Uniformity to God's Will*", the great saint writes that suffering is a litmus test of the depth of our faith in Jesus Christ.

Those who spend most of their time living and moving within the *digital continent* (a term coined by Benedict XVI), have had little time or formation to look inwards. The rapid and endless flow of information that passes through our smartphones has contributed to a culture, especially among younger generations, increasingly disconnected from God, community and ourselves. Those of us who are not chained to personal devices remember when we used to invest a great deal of time and energy in our families, friends and broader social groups. This led to greater resiliency among emerging young adults.

The COVID pandemic has revealed that many people struggle with the ability to cope and recover from difficulties. Culturally, we had been led to believe that our technological and medical advancements had rendered us immune to previous historical crises. Plagues were supposed to be events we only ever read about in books. However, a tiny virus has once more brought the world to its knees. COVID has reminded us all that we are much more *vulnerable* and have significantly *less control over our lives* than previously thought.

Moreover, the understandable outrage sparked by the killing of George Floyd in the midst of the lockdown exacerbated the deep pain and suffering experienced by the black community as a consequence of social injustice. Unfortunately, some people have instrumentalized this tragedy as an excuse for rioting and seeking to advance anarchist ideologies. As Fabrice Hadjadj, the former French atheist and anarchist turned Catholic philosopher came to understand, human beings are incapable of forming a perfect society without God because we are all

touched by Original Sin (cf. *Comment parler de Dieu aujourd'hui*, 2016). Atheistic ideologies have shown themselves to be rotten to the core. Only faith in the Triune God and a return to living according to His Divine Will can save and heal humanity. Racism, and all evils, will never come to end until we understand that every single human being is made in the image and likeness of God, period (cf. Gen 1:27).

Many people have dealt with these challenges in a variety of ways. There are some who have turned to alcohol, drugs and pornography to assuage their pain. It has been reported that sales of these items soared during the lockdown. This has only damaged both body and soul. Others deny that we are in a pandemic and prefer to live with the illusion that everything is the same and thus refuse to rethink their lives. Then, there are those who cling to God through prayer and fasting. They seek to live an authentic relationship with the Lord and allow His Gospel to transform them.

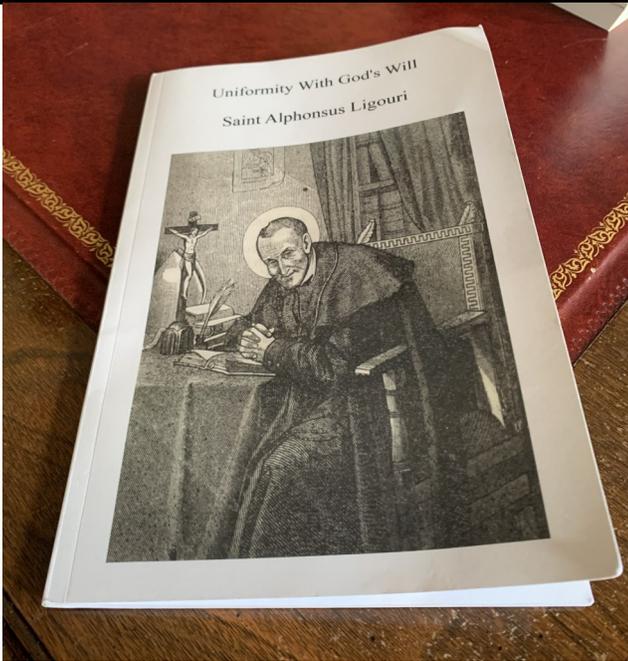
The testimonials found within these pages reveal the effects of keeping our eyes fixed firmly on Jesus Christ in the midst of this current storm. Our Lord's words "*Take heart, It is I; have no fear*" have been inculcated within their hearts and minds to the point where they express it through their actions (Mt 14:27).

Returning to *Uniformity with God's Will*, the great Doctor of the Church teaches us the following, "*In times of great heat, cold or rain: in times of famine, epidemics*



Focus on Christ during all storms.  
Painting by Julius Sergius von Klevar, 1880. Credit: Creative Commons.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



*and similar occasions we should refrain from expressions like these: "What unbearable heat!" "What piercing cold!" "What a tragedy!" In these instances, we should avoid expressions indicating opposition to God's will. We should want things to be just the way they are, because it is God who thus disposes them".*

Perhaps some of you are confused or upset by these words. St. Alphonsus did not preach from an ivory tower; his was a life marked by both exterior and interior suffering. He endured intense physical pain due to a rheumatic condition which left his neck so badly curved that his chin left a permanent unhealed wound on his chest. Moreover, he was tricked into signing a document that ended up excluding him from the very congregation he founded. Then, towards the end of his life, he entered the dark night of the spirit. He is saying that we need to learn to accept what God allows, whether it be from His *permissive* or *active* Divine Will. This does not mean that we are supposed to throw up our hands in the air and not work to end poverty, racism and the many other evils that plague our society.

On the contrary, God's Word reminds us that faith without works is dead (Jm 2:14). St Alphonsus instituted a deep reform of his diocese after reluctantly accepting his call to become a bishop. Like him, and

all the saints, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to grant us right understanding and to discern between good and evil when trying to determine how to respond to challenges we face in a thoroughly Catholic manner. For example, we cannot align ourselves with social justice organizations, no matter how well meaning, that also embrace and promote a culture of death.

As we begin this new academic year, my prayer is that we keep our eyes on Jesus Christ and never lose sight of the purpose of the Newman Centre Catholic Mission. Even though we expect fewer students on campus as most classes will be taught online, we pray that those who do visit us in person or virtually will meet and interact with credible witnesses to the merciful love of the Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

God bless, Fr Peter.

## Cover Photo

An icon of Our Lord Jesus Christ surrounded by members of the Newman community. Clockwise from top left: Bella Ingabire, Sr. Gill Goulding, Gabby Ignacio, Jean-Paul Barrocco, Lenita Lopes, Ryan Khurana, Fadi Al-Shabi and Fr Peter Turrone.



# I HAVE FOUND MY VOCATION

There are few words allowing me to express how indebted I consider myself towards the Newman Centre in Toronto, since this beautiful community taught me to truly understand the idea of vocation. By such an idea, I mean the profound calling of God which informs one of the means through which he is to achieve his life's purpose, his *telos* — here I mean the real Christian idea of vocation, which surpasses mere occupation and provides true meaning.

In many ways, coming here signified giving form to an idea in which I already strongly believed in on an intellectual level, that is the true salvific *Logos*, our Lord Jesus Christ. Or as I have heard said within the Oak Room walls before, coming here forced me to realize that faith is meant to be lived, otherwise it is none. This was taught to me through example, by showing me how easy it is to actually live the faith together; for those outsiders as I was, Newman *de facto* provides a home of hope to counterbalance the rampant relativism of modern liberal culture. In the minds of too many like me, love has been reduced to a utilitarian bargain between self-interested people, a conception that marriage could not escape, ravaged by the fires and wars of divorce. In all this we find what my generation has inherited for a life project ideal.

Yet for those with open eyes and hearts, the Christian love of *agape* never left. In fact, it is eternally present in God the Father, for us His children, and as *Imago Dei*, parents experience *agape* toward their children too. Living the faith means living in the image of God the Father, as creators just like He is. The most beautiful thing we can create is the same as Him, that is another human being, but we cannot do it alone. It needs two in perfect harmony, a man and a woman, to create what is most true, good and beautiful, and only with such new unity can human beings fulfill their nature of *Imago Dei*. Only as two united in a single whole can human beings be the closest to God. For this, life is essential to marriage.

On the cross too, the Lord in utterly forgetting Himself, giving Himself and committing His spirit back into the hands of God, becomes the image and symbol of generation.



Doctor and theologian Adrienne von Speyr correctly stated:

**Every Christian marriage must open itself to the mystery of the Cross in order that the I and its personal substance should be liberated through the family in a sacrifice of itself with Christ, in the Church, and through the Church in the Father.**

The Cross and marriage are aligned in sacrifice. Marriage therefore is thoroughly vocational, and I now know that it is the vocation for me. And for all this, I want to express my sincere and infinite thanks to the whole of the Newman Centre community on St. George campus, in Christ.

**Xavier Focroulle Ménard** holds a B.C.L. and an LL.B. from the McGill University Faculty of Law, as well as an LL.M. in legal theory from the University of Toronto. He is a law student at Norton Rose Fulbright LLP in Montréal.



# STUDENT CAMPUS MINISTERS 2020 - 2021

Hi, my name is **Danielle Alvares**. I'm currently doing my PhD in Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology and am based at SickKids Research Institute. My research focuses on the regulation of fat metabolism in insulin resistant and diabetic states.

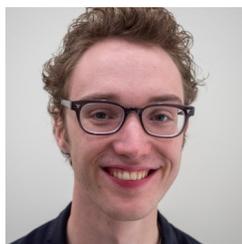


This is my fourth year as an SCM and I am grateful for the opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love in service to this amazing community as I continue my studies.

My name is **Emily Boyd** and I am a second-year student at the University of Toronto. I grew up in the country near a small town called Langton, on the north shore of Lake Erie. I am the third child in a family of six children. I am really excited about serving the Newman Centre community this coming school year!



Hi, my name is **James Butler** and I was born in St. John's, Newfoundland. I am entering law at the University of Toronto.



I graduated from Knowledge Integration and Philosophy at the University of Waterloo. I love justice, design, board games, and theology. I'll be found conversing over coffee.

Hi, my name is **James DeGurse**. I'm starting the first year of my PhD in Theological Studies at Regis College, University of Toronto. This is my second year as an SCM. I'm looking forward to finding creative ways to engage in Christian community in these unusual times.



Hi, my name is **Jeremy Hernandez-Lum Tong** and I am an alumnus of the University of Toronto. I studied politics, law, philosophy, religion and ethics.



I lived at St. Michael's College throughout my undergrad and was highly involved in the student life there through parish life, the campus theatre, USMC Campus Ministry and student government.

I begin law school this Fall and am thrilled to be part of the Newman Community.

Hello, my name is **Carolyn Manion** and I am entering the M.A. program at the UofT Centre for Medieval Studies.



I grew up in the U.S. on a small farm in Virginia and studied Classics and German during undergrad. I enjoy playing Tennis, spending time in nature, and researching the early medieval Church.

Hi, my name is **Virginia-Ann Mervar**! I'm excited for my third year as a Student Campus Minister at the Newman Centre and my third and final year of my Master of Divinity at Regis College!



In the midst of studies, I enjoy short walks to coffee shops and being with friends and family. I anticipate the adventures of this year to be full of God's surprises with the hope to grow in greater gratitude and generosity through service, studies, and community life.

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

# STUDENT CAMPUS MINISTERS 2020 - 2021

Hey friends, I'm **Matthew Remedios!**  
I am in second year studying Peace, Conflict, &  
Justice, Political Science, and Christianity.

My favourite pastimes include cooking for people and  
falling in love with Jesus.

If you ever want to find good food,  
nerd out about politics, or just want  
to chat, I'd love to get to know you  
better.

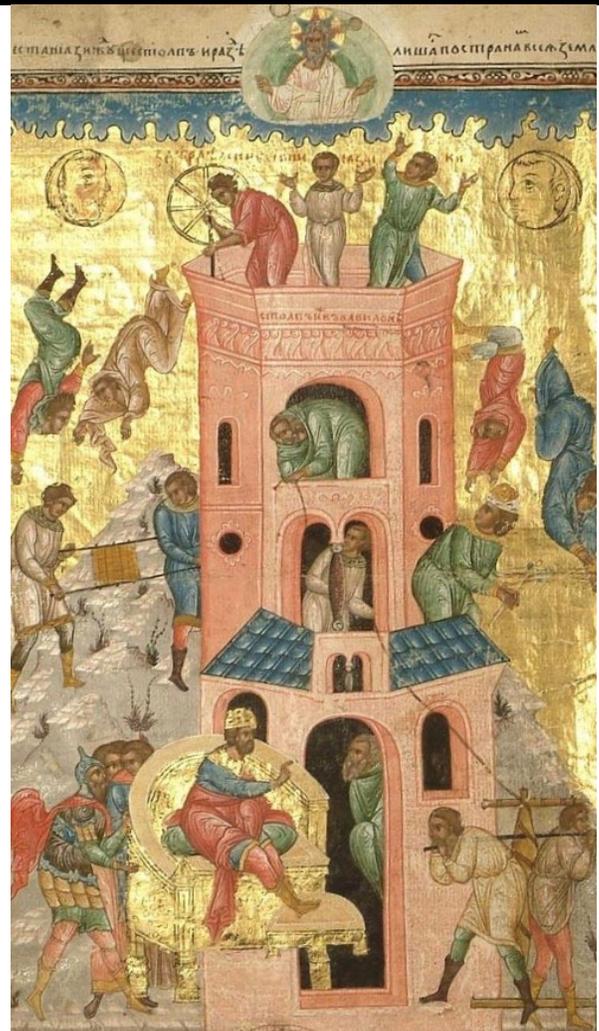


## AFTER CARTER, EXPLAINED

In May 2014, the Canadian Medical Association Journal published an article [1] by James Downar, a prominent Toronto physician, which anticipated the imminent legalization of euthanasia in Canada, entitled “Physician-assisted death: time to move beyond Yes or No”. As though the article’s title wasn’t powerful enough, the body of the article contained a claim of extraordinary hubris: “physician-assisted death may become legal in Canada, and our well-rehearsed debates about whether sanctity of life is more valuable than personal autonomy (...) may become obsolete.” In the “new normal” of legalized euthanasia, all public debate would be subsumed and silenced by the secular dictates of the judiciary.

The topic of euthanasia has long been muddled by words that favour misunderstanding. In Canada, the medical act purported to end suffering by killing is termed MAiD. The acronym intentionally provides distance from the very notion of dying. Furthermore, it highjacks an expression, Medical Assistance in Dying, that is much more fit to describe traditional palliative care (whereby patients dying of natural causes are helped through medical means). The most perverse misuse of terms, however, is found in the name of the largest euthanasia advocacy group in our country: Dying with Dignity. At its core, this expression implies that human dignity is something that can be lost. Used this way, “dignity” is in fact equated with external propriety; as one loses their good looks, their riches, and their health – as one ceases to be at the top of their game – they cease to have dignity.

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Tower of Babel. Pandemonium Mid-16th century Russian State Library, Moscow, Russia Cosmography of Kozma Indikoplov [f. 173 / I, No. 102], fol. 29 vol.

Image on page 9 - Icon of the Good Samaritan.

# AFTER CARTER, EXPLAINED

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This is a problematic view, in particular for those involved in healthcare, and above all for Christians, who believe that the Lord “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14) and that “he humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:8). One who looks at the frail and the weak and sees a loss of dignity loses the loving framework of care, and cannot but look at the Cross as “foolishness” (1 Cor:23).

The word for “patient” comes from the Latin *patiens*, “one who suffers”. For centuries, medicine was a relatively powerless art, unable to provide meaningful relief to physical pain, and limited to accompanying the suffering. It is paradoxical that the rising wave of enthusiasm for euthanasia in recent decades coincides with the development of palliative care medicine that very effectively suppresses the physical suffering from disease. There are virtually no physical symptoms that cannot currently be addressed by good palliative interventions. Conversely, there is very little that pharmacotherapy can do to address existential suffering – subjective loss of self-worth, sorrow, fear, shame, desire for ultimate control. These symptoms are exacerbated by the loss of a transcendent worldview and the apparent absence of God. This excruciating malaise – and not physical suffering – is behind the rising demand for euthanasia, despite the public rhetoric which focuses on physical pain. Once euthanasia is seen as an answer to existential crises, it becomes a panacea which can be applied to every situation, even outside the bounds of “disease” as normally understood. Indeed, since existential suffering is ubiquitous in the human experience, there is no reason why a “right to die according to one’s desire” should be restricted to the terminally ill or those intolerably suffering. This reality gives the lie to any supposed limits initially planned to protect the most vulnerable.

One month after the judgement of the Carter case was delivered, emboldened by progressivist momentum, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) edited its policy on Professional Obligations and Human Rights [2]. As of 2015,

according to the CPSO, “where physicians are unwilling to provide certain elements of care for reasons of conscience or religion, an effective referral to another health-care provider must be provided to the patient.” Some readers will not see the drastic violation that this represents unless they fully appreciate that, in the instance of euthanasia, this means recommending willful killing of one’s patient through a colleague. In a cogwheel system, the one who turns the first cog cannot claim he is not responsible for the churning at the bottom. By treating in this way the physician as a means to an end, the physician’s own essential dignity as an independent moral agent is violated. In fact, the Ontario court that later upheld this CPSO policy [3] recognized that the effective referral policy violates physicians’ fundamental freedoms.

Underlying this attack on the conscience rights of healthcare workers is a gradual distortion of our collective understanding of conscience. Indeed, while conscience had previously been acknowledged as something real and central in every culture and in every era, conscience is increasingly dismissed as a matter of feelings or scruples. This superficial rejection contrasts with lived experience: following one’s conscience may require significant moral effort and in fact go against the grain of feelings. Conscience is, rather, the rational ability to perceive moral truths and apply them to concrete acts [4]. While the Church’s teaching is exceptionally clear on the topic, conscience is by no means confined to the realm of religion. It is, in fact, the cornerstone of free societies [5, 6] and is meant to supersede any government authority [7].

Despite this, attacks on conscience abound. One notable example is that of Udo Schüklenk, Ontario Research Chair in Bioethics, who claims that conscientious objection is no more than self-serving non-moral aversion and that conscientious objectors in medicine can be equated to racists or homophobes [8]. Conscientious objection, in fact, is never directed at people but at acts, some of which indeed ought to be understood as intrinsically evil. Schüklenk also conflates freedom of conscience and freedom of

# AFTER CARTER, EXPLAINED

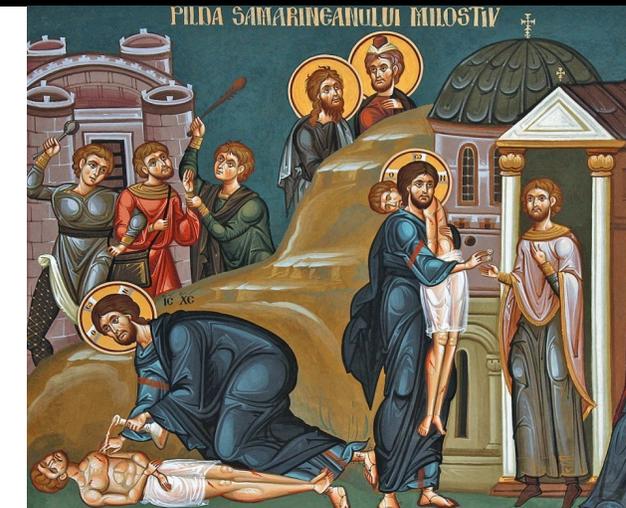
religion, dismissing the former based on his broadly accepted contempt for religious belief and the premise that fides need not answer to ratio. Along with Julian Savulescu, a prominent Australian bioethicist at Oxford University, he openly promotes “excluding people of certain religious beliefs from becoming doctors” [9]. They may be unaware of Canada’s universities shameful precedent for similar religious exclusion, where – for much of the 20th century – Jewish student quotas existed [10].

No court can take away the moral value of life, nor can it suppress a virtuous repugnance for euthanasia. The Carter decision does not, in fact, mark an end to the debate; we must resist the rising pressure to conform to the prevalent ideological monoculture, which is a culture of death.

Within the Church, it is crucial that we continue to educate ourselves, and that we continue to be a witness to the world, through our words and actions. All men and women are called to this loving witness, inspired by the words of our Lord: “for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me” (Mat 25:35). Euthanasia is a false shortcut: truly compassionate care is manifested through committed and durable relationships with each suffering person, no matter how difficult their circumstances. This is the real and living answer to what can otherwise be caricatured as “well-rehearsed debates”. It is the bedrock of the culture of life.

[1] <https://www.cmaj.ca/content/186/8/567>

**Dr Pascal Bastien** is the Head of the Division of General Internal Medicine at a large community hospital in GTA between 2012 and 2020. He is involved in COVID-19 patient care and pandemic planning and is the President of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute Foundation.



[2] <https://www.cpsso.on.ca/Physicians/Policies-Guidance/Policies/Professional-Obligations-and-Human-Rights>

[3] The Christian Medical and Dental Society of Canada v. College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, 2018 ONSC 579 (CanLII), <<http://canlii.ca/t/hq4hn>>

[4] Catechism of the Catholic Church. 1777-1802

[5] UN Declaration of Human Rights (Article 1, 18)

[6] Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

[7] United Nations. Principles of International Law Recognized in the Charter of the Nurnburg Tribunal. 1950. Available at:

[https://legal.un.org/ilc/texts/instruments/english/draft\\_articles/7\\_1\\_1950.pdf](https://legal.un.org/ilc/texts/instruments/english/draft_articles/7_1_1950.pdf)

[8]

<https://academic.oup.com/bmb/article/126/1/47/4955771>

[9] <https://nationalpost.com/health/ban-conscientious-objection-by-canadian-doctors-urge-ethicists-in-volatile-commentary>

[10] Gerald Tulchinsky, *Canada's Jews: A People's Journey*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press), 2008, p. 132-133, 319-321.

**Dr Lucas Vivas** is a General Internal Medicine specialist at William Osler Health System. He has a Master’s degree in Bioethics from Dalla Lana School of Public Health at University of Toronto and is a Member of the hospital Ethics Committee and the Research Ethics Board. He is an Executive Member of the Toronto Catholic Doctors’ Guild.



# FAITH & REASON LECTURES

The Newman Centre presents an outstanding line-up of speakers for our 2020-2021 Faith and Reason Lecture season. All our lectures are open to the public and free to attend. Retreats are \$30 per person.

## Reason, Faith, and the Struggle for Western Civilization

- Dr Samuel Gregg

Thursday, September 10, 2020 | 7 PM | Live Webinar

Register here - <https://faithandreasonlecturedrsamuelgregg.eventbrite.ca>



## Cardinal Newman Lecture: The Idea of a University

- Rev. Dr. Peter Gittens

Thursday, October 8, 2020 | 7 PM | Online

Register here - <https://newmanlecture2020.eventbrite.ca>



## Angelic Doctor Lecture: Anthropic Principles

- Rev. Dr Robert Spitzer

Thursday, January 28, 2021 | 7 PM | Live Webinar

Register here - <https://angelicdoctorlecture2021.eventbrite.ca>



## Tolkien: Faith and Imagination

- Dr. Holly Ordway

Thursday, March 18, 2021 | 7 PM | Live Webinar

Register here - <https://faithandreasonlecturebydrhollyordway.eventbrite.ca>



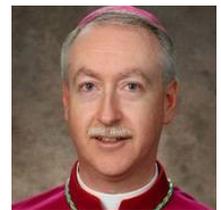
## RETREATS AT NEWMAN

### Advent Retreat

- Archbishop Richard Smith

Saturday, December 5, 2020 | Details to follow

Register here - <https://adventretreat2020.eventbrite.ca>



### Lenten Retreat

- Fr. David Belusci, O.P.

Saturday, February 20, 2021 | Details to follow

Register here - <https://lentenretreat2021.eventbrite.ca>



# SHINE YOUR LIGHT FOR LIFE

With a mission in protecting the pre-born and sharing the message of human rights for all human beings, University of Toronto Students for Life (UTSFL) is a campus club changing hearts and minds every day.

When I attended my first UTSFL meeting, something particularly special caught my eye. The club's president asked if anyone wanted to help out at the local pregnancy care centre, Aid to Women (ATW). One of my first memories of the pro-life movement was volunteering at a local pregnancy care centre that my mom used to take my sister and I to, so I was excited to do similar work in Toronto. With volunteers' crucial work, ATW's staff can focus most of their time on the women and babies that come into the centre seeking their assistance. Our main task as volunteers the first day I went to ATW was sorting baby clothes, as the centre receives many donations. What could be more sweet than folding little outfits, knowing they're going to babies in need?

It was a gift volunteering for the first couple of years of university with UTSFL. Going into my fourth year, I was given the opportunity to lead the club under the encouraging guidance of UTSFL alumni Blaise Alleyne and Michelle Caluag. I did not think I had the knowledge or bravery to take on this position, but by the grace of God, our executive team worked together to carry out our mission. We had weekly seminars covering different topics on abortion; workshops on how to defend the pro-life cause (often at the Newman Centre); and peaceful activism on campus where we had conversations with students about abortion. We were also blessed by guest speakers at some of our weekly meetings which included Angelina



Steenstra from the Silent No More Awareness Campaign (SNMAC). SNMAC is a post-abortive ministry for those who have undergone abortion and are seeking healing and support.

The UTSFL workshops often held at the Newman Centre are designed to empower attendees with the ability to clearly and compassionately share the pro-life message with those within and outside of the participants' personal circle. The workshops also feature how to gently and supportively speak to those who have been personally affected by abortion. Throughout my experience helping lead some of the workshops, I felt lifted up by the many prayers and words of support from loved ones, in addition to all I learned from the witnesses of the incredible work of Toronto pro-lifers.

Everyday in Canada, an estimated three hundred precious babies die to abortion. The Lord tells us that there is hope when he says, "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it," (John 1:5). Let us pray for the strength to stand for life and use the heavenly gifts we were given to do God's will. By His divine grace, we can help save lives and shine our lights so that others have a chance to shine theirs, too.



**Alexis Motschall** completed her Honours Bachelor of Arts degree from U of T in June 2020. She was a 2017-18 Student Campus Minister at the Newman Centre



# A CHURCH THAT IS NOT SILENT

“I can’t breathe.” My Friends in Christ, if this SOS outcry from George Floyd did not affect our sensibilities – then something would definitely be worrisome. Isn’t “Thou shalt not kill” the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment? In the Word of God, we are asked to love our neighbour like ourselves, and in the Third Luminous Mysteries: The proclamation of the Kingdom of Christ, we meditate, in part, on social justice. All this to say that the defence of human rights is a fundamental part of our Faith. I truly hope, thus far, that I have not gone too far for you to disagree. The Word of God is indeed calling the holy people of God to love and support one another. But we all know that this has not always been the case.

When I was approached by Fr. Peter to write on the current events, I was perplexed and wondered what exactly would be my message to the larger community – I have to admit that I stumbled. Mainly because the discrimination that black Americans have undergone since the era of slavery has received so little Catholic coverage and literary content. Moreover, because I did not find myself particularly equipped to speak on behalf of other Black Catholics in our local Church. So then, what am I exactly trying to argue here? The Church should not be silent but rather inform Catholics on such issues as it has done on important issues, because as Saint Thomas More once said, **SILENCE IS COMPLIANCE**. Unfortunately, one does not have to look far to realize that some people even in the Catholic Church still believe that racism is not real or is a serious matter (compared to abortion, gender issues, etc.). If the Church remains silent on this issue, it will be considered indifferent to it.

So, starting from the Canadian government’s funding of abortion rather than education in Africa, to the young African people fleeing the continent just to be drowned in the Mediterranean Sea because of the drastic policies of the West (Canada included), to modern refugees’ slavery, to black people being killed on the streets – **RACISM IS REAL**. Where is God in all of this if the Church remains silent? I wish and I hope that one day (soon enough), we will stop hearing of young black people fleeing their countries, of refugees’ humanity exploited, and of black people



being killed simply because of the colour of their skin. We cannot remain silent because remember – **SILENCE IS COMPLIANCE!** Racism is a grave sin and we should not be afraid to denounce it when we see it. On the other hand, we also need to carefully discern who to work with when promoting justice. Unfortunately, Black Lives Matter espouses ideologies that conflict with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, “A man and a woman united in marriage, together with their children, form a family” (2202). That *domestic family* is the *original cell of social life*. When Mother Teresa received the Nobel Prize, she was asked, “What can we do to promote world peace?” She answered, “Go home and love your family.” There are so many lessons to so few words.

We are called to be the Light of the world, the salt of the earth, to the same world that rejected the Word of God. I believe the Church needs to be more vocal. As the Word of God states, it is rightly so to notice the splinter in our brothers and sisters’ eyes, but only when we have removed the wooden beam in our own eyes. Our history shows that even within the Church, social injustice has existed (still exists in some countries/states) - but we are people of hope. Claiming that the lives of black people matter – at this particular time in history – is a Social Justice call we ought to uphold. As Pope Francis said, “*We cannot close our eyes to any form of racism or exclusion, while acting as if we are defending the value of every human life.*”

.....**CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

# A CHURCH THAT IS NOT SILENT

.....CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

We ought not to be silent because where more and more anti-Christian values are being vocalized – the Church has, more than ever, to speak up. Maybe through forums, open dialogues, support of Catholic missions fighting against neo-colonialism (modern slavery, etc). The venues are so many - we need to live by Faith and Action.

St. Bakhita, pray for us

St. Thomas More, pray for us

Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, intercede for us

My name is **Bella Ingabire**. I am originally from Bujumbura, Burundi.

I migrated to Toronto back in 2010. I lived in a youth shelter for several months.

I have graduated from the University of Toronto. I love languages and social justice. I would love to join the Missionaries of Charity's Third Order. Mother Teresa holds a special place in my heart.



## LEAD KINDLY LIGHT AWARD

Their life has been marked by providential signs from the time they met. Debbie and Vito Carnovale are the recipients of Newman's 2020 Lead Kindly Light Award. A few years ago when their son Giuseppe, (Joseph in Italian) named in honour of St. Joseph and the Holy Family and his paternal grandfather, was of Confirmation age, Lenita Lopes – Newman's Stewardship and Program Coordinator - introduced them to the Newman community.

Debbie had worked in the banking industry and grew up in the restaurant business. Vito is always seen with Debbie serving delicious homemade fare at many of Newman's retreats and events. He has gone back to school to study herbology and the art of detoxification.

They had drifted away from the Church for a little while, but when they were preparing for marriage, they chose October 4<sup>th</sup> – the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, not knowing it was his feast day. Moreover, St. Francis of Assisi Church was where Vito grew up and was baptized as a baby.

Rediscovering the presence of God in their lives gave them new impetus to find more ways to serve the Lord. They don't just feed Newmanites, they also feed people on the streets. Their four children enjoy

attending Mass and events at Newman with their parents, thanks to our youth-centric mission.

Debbie says that they have grown in the faith and are thrilled to be part of the Newman community. They don't just volunteer their time and cater at our events, they also are on the Pastoral Advisory Council, they are monthly donors and they will be part of the children's catechism team. They truly Lead in Kindly Light after St. John Henry Newman's example.



# GRATITUDE IS THE ANSWER

Fr Gordon Rixon gave a homily at Newman in which he said, if you want to be happy, then be grateful. Practicing gratitude for what you have is associated with being happy. Seeking happiness can be elusive. How do you know if and when you have found it?

Since mid-March, I began to spend my days 'seeing' clients on the phone and video calls from home, I was grateful that I had a home office with a door I could shut for privacy and a window. I was grateful, that as I connected with my clients, I was connecting with nature.

One woman said she started the day going out and breathing the fresh air on her porch, grateful that she could breathe, unlike others who were having difficulty breathing because of COVID. She always wanted to be able to spend a few months in an ashram. This would be her "ashram time". Other clients were grateful that their loved one had died last year and were spared living through the pandemic with the symptoms of advanced cancer, and able to share final moments together.

*"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

A grieving mother was grateful that her young daughter called her to be active in her mother role, observing birthdays and Mother's Day. On her daily walk she noted that the bird who came to perch on her window sill when her 5 year old daughter died last year, would join her in the park. While firm in her belief that her child is with God, the symbol of the bird is very comforting.

People spoke of being grateful to be able to receive their chemotherapy or radiation. Others who wanted chemo to stop and swore they would not have any more, were grateful that their chemo was working sufficiently well to be eligible for possibly curative surgery.

*"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 136:1*

A couple, who were married at Newman, and are parents of young kids, are dealing with another recurrence of the wife's cancer. They were grateful for surgery they had been told would not be possible. When he dropped his wife off at the hospital for her surgery, the husband was grateful that he had come to know and trust the nurses who would be caring for her post-surgery. They cared compassionately and said, "If you want to get out in less than 5 days you have to get up, walk and decrease your meds. Here, let me help you. Let's go walking".

People living alone and grieving are grateful for the companionship of pets, who also get them out of the house.

Others are grateful that this time is allowing them to enter more deeply into their grief. My meditation teacher, Maria Gonzalez taught me that all of our life experiences are like knots. Things 'hook onto our knots'. We need to be able to 'untie these knots' to progress in our life's journey. This enforced self-isolation is enabling people to go deeper into their grief, 'untying knots'.

This pandemic is teaching us how connected we are with others across the globe. The concept of the Mystical Body of Christ can be helpful. I am grateful for the role the Newman Community has had in my life for 50 years.

**Mary L.S. Vachon, RN, RP, PhD** has attended Newman for 50 years. She is a Registered Psychotherapist, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto and Clinical Consultant at Wellspring.



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FORMS U OF T COLLEGE CHAPTER

I personally decided to join the Knights after the passing of my friend, Shane Beal in May of last year. He had been preparing to join the Knights of Columbus himself, following in his own grandfather's footsteps, before his abrupt death. In fact, through later discussion with his family, I learned that he had been posthumously inducted into the order. Burdened with grief but increasingly inspired by how I knew him to be so devoted to and passionate about the Catholic faith, I found myself wondering if I should resolve to follow in his footsteps as well. Over the course of several months, I continued to reflect and pray about the matter, eventually concluding that I would join at some indefinite later date.

While I had initially planned to become involved with the Knights simply as a way to personally grow in faith and honour a friend's memory, it grew into much more. Newman's Director of Campus Ministry, Erin Kinsella, first mentioned the idea of founding a college council of the order last December. Several email threads and phone calls later, there were tangible plans to found a new Knights of Columbus college council at UofT.

Things moved quickly from there, and in February, a delegation of leaders from the local and state levels visited Newman during one evening of *Pray and Play* to convince the Newman community to support the idea of a college council and consider joining the order. I spoke as well, recounting primarily my personal journey and inspiration, and the opportunity and spiritual growth I believed it would bring. I found myself deeply moved and astounded to witness so many people express interest and excitement about it, and I couldn't help but feel the Holy Spirit's presence that evening. Several weeks later, on March 10th, new members—including myself—were inducted into the order at a ceremony in the Newman chapel. The idea that had been planted only a few weeks ago came that much closer to fruition.

I have long been influenced by a passage from the Epistle of James, in which he writes, "Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (James 2:17). Our Catholic faith is one that demands not only that we trust and



believe in God, but act on this faith in a way that transforms both ourselves and those around us. My hope is that this college council will develop into a presence through which Catholic men on campus become known for such acts of fraternity and charity, supporting one another and the greater community. The new council is almost ready to begin in earnest, with only a few procedural steps to complete: finalizing leadership roles within the council, creating plans for the year to come, and selecting a name for the council, to name a few. The ongoing pandemic will also prove to be a challenge as we strive to plant our roots and establish a niche within Newman and the larger university community. But I am confident that this will grow into something that will last. United through faith and our love for the risen Lord, we will persevere and continue to build a brighter, fairer future, together.

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Anyone interested in joining the Knights of Columbus or the college council is encouraged to do so by contacting me at [aloysius.wong@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:aloysius.wong@mail.utoronto.ca) or the Director of New College Council Development, Micah Remedios, at [micah.remedios@me.com](mailto:micah.remedios@me.com).

**Aloysius Wong** is a fourth year undergraduate student studying Peace, Conflict and Justice who has been with the Newman community as part of the music ministry for the 7pm Sunday Mass. He is also currently the Grand Knight for the new UofT college council of the Knights of Columbus, as well as the regional youth representative for Development and Peace.



# GOD - THE ANCHOR IN THE STORM

It resonated with me when Pope Francis on March 27, 2020, reflected on the disciples out on the stormy lake.

*"We were caught off-guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented ... all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other."*

I work in a hospital managing various diseases, including, infections, so I braced for the wave. It was impossible not to worry about patients, family, our communities. I understood the disciples' incredulousness at Jesus asleep in the boat. His answer to my doubt came over the phone with a patient. An elderly woman with many health problems, her voice held no note of complaint or anxiety. Rather, she asked whether I was safe. I reassured her, saying I worried more about her and my other patients. "And what good will your worrying do us?" she chided. It was a gentle reminder to trust in the Lord to bring good out of these times.

One such grace was witnessing people's resilience. There was their courage in being diagnosed with the virus. I found myself trying to balance reassurance with preparation for the possibility of ventilators, even death. I still wonder how they coped, with family not allowed to visit, trying to figure out what might be their last words to them. Yet they remained stoic, adjusting to the strangeness of isolation in hospital rooms, seeing healthcare workers covered in gowns, gloves and face shields.

Even smiles were hidden behind masks. The families separated from all patients were just as strong. In my phone updates, I was acutely aware that these were my patients' mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, husbands and wives. I'm sure they wanted to see and hold their loved ones, especially those dying, yet they responded with strength and patience, even thanking healthcare workers despite the depth of their own suffering.

Though technology became a lifeline through this pandemic, I hope that we come out of it with an appreciation for authentic human interaction. May we never take for granted being face to face, holding a



hand, wrapping an arm around a shoulder, enveloping someone in a hug.

The darkest part for me is knowing that so many people have died alone. It is uncomfortable, if not painful, to maintain vigil at the bedside of one near death. But to do so is to stand at the foot of the cross, to recognize their dignity as a person. I hope that we take from this pandemic the value of being present to the dying.

There will be an ongoing struggle to adjust to a new normal. But we have an anchor in the storm. God is at work, and means for good to come out of it. Therein lies the challenge to all of us, in these turbulent times, to bear a message of hope, and take on the work of love.

**Dr. Nisha Fernandes** is an internal medicine physician at Markham-Stouffville Hospital, and honoured to be a member of the Newman Foundation Board for the past 4 years.



# BLESSINGS IN DARK PLACES

On the morning of April 18<sup>th</sup>, my beloved Grandma, Elva Elizabeth Aird, passed away. For 15 years she lived with my family. As my Dad lost his father before I was born, they had a beautiful bond nurturing one another with every passing challenge and celebrating every special triumph. We renovated our detached garage to be a one floor home for her. For many of those years she would cook delicious meals and stuff us with her best desserts, all while valuing time spent talking with us above all.



With the introduction of COVID-19 into our world, I became increasingly worried at the risk of ending a family member's time here due to a mistake of my own. The great loss of being able to regularly frequent the Newman Centre and Chapel, a cornerstone of my daily life, left me in a difficult place. The continuation of school without structure, communion, and friendship increased the darkness of my days. As the days grew harder, doubts emerged. For days I prayed, pleading from my depths, to be shown that the Jesus I loved and wanted so very badly to be the truth, was indeed with me and was the truth, the way, and the life as told in John 14:6.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, unbeknownst to me, I saw my grandmother for the last time. I went over, with my sister carrying a lemon meringue pie to share in our communal sweet tooth. My dad was already over as he would eat dinner with her daily. After sharing in the meal, I felt compelled to walk around her place and look at all the pictures and items on the shelves. For the first time in all my years of visits I spotted a Saint John Vianney Holy Water on the shelf. I was pleasantly surprised as I had only found my faith within the last year and had never discussed the topic with her. On our way out, my dad handed me two glasses full of cutlery to bring back to our house to be washed. Just before I stepped out the door, I thought to myself, "what would Jesus want me to do?", and promptly placed down the glasses I was carrying and went over to my grandmother to give her a hug and a kiss followed by an "I love you." – what a tremendous gift from God. I did not see my grandmother the following day, instead my dad spent the whole day with her watching old movies, eating, and talking.

The following morning my dad drove down to my apartment downtown to move my items out before the end of the lease. He decided to go alone and early in the morning as to lower the risk of getting coronavirus from any of my roommates in the shared small house. For the first time in months, I would go in his place bringing

homemade pancakes to my grandmother and making sure she had taken her morning pills. After a few knocks, calling her name, and ultimately finding she would not wake. I called my house to share that she was no longer with us. I immediately pulled out my rosary and proceeded to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Holy Rosary for the next hours. My dad, who does not own a phone, arrived shortly after. For the first time in my life I saw the strength and beauty of the bond between Mother and Son.

My dad has a history of heart problems, my sister is still finding the fullness of the Faith, and my grandmother would have preferred for it to have been one of us three to find her. After further reflection in the coming days, I came to understand the importance of it being me that found her. It was no accident that this day that could have brought tremendous pain, instead brought incredible blessings. For the next month we had a beautiful cardinal that would visit our backyard and sing there all day, my dad and grandmother's favourite bird. She had a little ceramic model of one up in her home. The other week it flew down and sat on our patio table right in front of my mom, a message that she too is loved by my grandmother. God has given me all the confirmation I hoped for to know that she is with Him in His Kingdom and that He is always with us. While searching for her will we found her Bible, Psalms and verses she had set aside for her funeral, and a beautiful statue of Mary with the Infant Jesus.

My dad is currently quite ill and the doctors are struggling to figure out what is wrong. If any of you reading this could say a short prayer for his healing and conversion into the fullness of the faith, I'd be forever grateful.

**Aidan Aird** is a Mechanical Engineering student at the University of Toronto. After attending the New Newmanite Supper in 2019, he found what he had long searched for, and came back into the fullness of the faith.

# FINDING INTIMACY WITH GOD ONLINE?

*I will seek him whom my soul loves.*

*(Song of Solomon 3:2)*

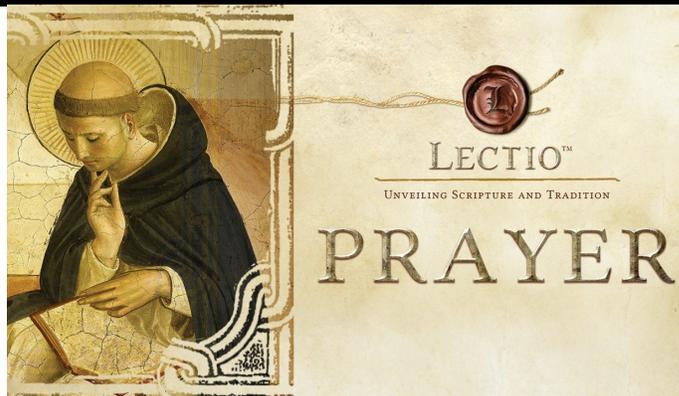
My soul was parched. When our churches were closed during the pandemic, Jesus' words *I thirst* resonated within me. I was thirsty for Jesus, thirsty for his presence in the Holy Eucharist and in the Christian community who were distanced from me. So when I heard that the Newman Centre would be hosting a weekly online meeting entitled "Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God", my thirsty soul was not only ready to drink but to dive into some living waters! The course by Dr. Tim Gray was part of the *Lectio* series on the FORMED website and was led by Fr. Peter. I was not alone in my thirsting!

*If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you "give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living waters. (John 4:10)*

Can thirst be a gift? In one of our course meditations, we were guided to reflect deeply on Jesus' encounter with another thirsty woman, the Samaritan woman at the well. Never before had this woman's meeting with Jesus come so alive for me. She approaches the well—alone, tired, sinful, seeking water to quench her thirst, and there she encounters the living Fountain who offers her life-giving waters. He who quenches the deepest thirst is already there waiting for her! "Come, see the man who said everything I have ever done," she exclaims. Her *come and see* is an invitation for us to loving communion with Jesus. What an apt metaphor for the soul who is seeking intimacy with God in prayer. With all our weakness we approach the Lord, looking for something to satisfy our soul's deepest thirst, only to find our Lord already there thirsting *for us*, ready to fill us up!

*When I found your words, I devoured them, they became my joy and happiness of my heart... (Jeremiah 15:16)*

What better way to grow in intimacy with God than to delve so deeply into his own words that we make them our own? A central focus of this series was *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading), a long practiced method of prayer in the Church that involves reading Sacred



Scriptures, the living Word of God, with prayerful, loving attention.

The Holy Spirit draws us in, enlightening us and helping us to hear the Lord's voice speaking to our hearts. We take the specific words and insights impressed upon us and resolve to apply them to our daily lives. For the woman at the well, her encounter with Jesus brought mercy, healing, and overflowing joy. Her resolve was to share the Good News with others. We may be inspired to do the same. Or, again like her, we may seek healing, mercy, and grace in the Sacrament of Confession, or resolve to quench the thirst of Jesus by spending more time before the Blessed Sacrament—resolutions that will bring us ever closer to Christ.

This series was like being led to a life-giving stream during a time of spiritual desert. I am grateful to Fr. Peter, who accompanied, guided, and blessed our online community through our prayer, reflections, and discussions. May we, revitalized like the woman at the well, carry the blessings of this encounter to others with the same joy and happiness of heart.

**Rebecca Pontisso**, a graduate of the Christianity and Culture Program and the Faculty of Education at the University of Toronto, is the Director of Mary, Mother of God School.



# ONE DAY AT A TIME

Trained as a Certified Specialist in Institutional Ministry at the Canadian Association for Pastoral Education, I was privileged as a young sister to be missioned to St. Michael's hospital, St. Joseph's Health Centre, and to establish the Pastoral Care Department at Lyndhurst Hospital.

Over the span of more than forty years I ministered mainly to cancer patients and their families. I was also graced, as a happy volunteer at Wellspring Cancer Centre for 15 years. And finally, in my 17 years volunteering at Newman Centre, I witnessed the growth and development of many students in the Newman environment, for which I am very grateful.

Now, as an elder in my Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, I live with five other elder Sisters in a convent in Toronto's east end, overlooking Riverdale Park. We've all been quite active during our retirement as much as our energies have allowed.

Suddenly, Covid 19 was upon us in the middle of March, and our lives were suddenly and drastically altered. No daily Mass attendance, no going out in public, no visits from friends and families, no Congregational gatherings, no restaurant meals, no one to see, and not much to do!

Lockdown! What a shock! And the gradual realization that it was not going to end soon! It took me a couple of weeks to actually integrate the sudden and drastic change that affected me deeply, however I was consoled by the company of my long-term relationships with the Sisters in the house.

We enjoy a long history together, and we shared, often laughed, and sometimes complained, as we learned to repeat often, "One day at a time!" Very gradually, we fell into the routine of daily TV Mass, support from our Congregation for grocery shopping – often in odd quantities, such as huge jars of pickles and large baskets of mushrooms!!! More shock, laughter, and adjustment!

Integrating my new reality has been slow, but thankfully, peaceful. Some of us decided to say the



rosary together each day for all those suffering from, or working with Covid 19 people. And taking time to listen to, and share with friends on the phone, seems to have helped them in their efforts to live this time as well as possible.

I've become more grateful for our home, our beautiful chapel, and pleasant meeting spaces. I've begun to remain for longer periods of time in the chapel, and to find myself turning more in my solitude, towards the One Who called me to a life of community, prayer, and service. These times provide me with quite a deep peacefulness, in the growing realization of not being in control of very much at all, but of being grateful for my vocation and for the One I trust will see us through this pandemic to the end. My conclusion to date: Everything is a gift, and my call today is to be grateful and to grow more and more in love for God and for my neighbour.

**Sister Terry Dalla, C.S.J.** (seen in the photo above on Easter Sunday 2019 with Newman Centre's pastor, Fr Peter Turrone) has been a parishioner at Newman for over 25 years and belongs to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

# ANONYMOUS POEM

## Corpus Christi

Can it really be you, Lord here with me in your Holy House? After the long, dark winter days without you--  
I can barely believe this joy, barely bear it— This Communion, As I kneel before your Body beaming bright before me.

What heavenly light I see streaming through stained glass Illuminating, in golden splendour your Precious Body Holy Light that makes brighter still the golden sunshine of this cloudless day, More golden still the rays that emanate such glorious mystery from the monstrance Enwrapping your Real Presence. Your beauty 'round.

I gaze in awe at a Host-- with a host of angels and the company of saints. Together we praise you, bless you, thank you We marvel at your majesty under the appearance of bread. I am consumed.

Heaven-here, tangible at least for a moment You give yourself to me from your altar of sacrifice Amongst the deep green vine-garlands and modest little flowers that bow their heads like me, Beside the straight stand of candles glowing steady flame, burning like my heart within me.

Chant and birdsong mingle as my soul sings for joy at your returning. The cheerful throng of sparrows praise you--such sweet melody in the quiet stillness The time of the singing of the birds has come... Behold the Spring is finally here! My soul at perfect peace with my



Beloved. Rise up my love my fair one and come away.... I will rise up like this sacred smoke which ascends as my prayers skyward Such sweet comfort in the familiar scent of holy days Incense- burning like my heart. Rising like my soul.

Yes, sweet comfort in these wooden pews, arched ceilings, and statues of your saints. Your Church, your priest, me-- together—your Body. One in you. I bask before you Incarnate Such softness, warmth, such glow I am a little girl again-- giddy with Grace at such a great gift given.

Here in the sheer loveliness of your dwelling place, Love like liquid pours out onto my parched soul. I am bathed in your Being, soaked in serenity, Covered in all that is good and true and beautiful. Here, you are with me...for me...in me Here in Corpus Christi:

Amen.

This anonymous poem was presented for publication by a member of the Newman community.

The photos are from the Newman community's 2019 Corpus Christi procession in downtown Toronto and Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel .

# STAFF PROFILE



**Marianne Boyd**  
**Operations Manager**  
**Newman Centre**

## When did you join the Newman Centre?

I joined the Newman Centre on April 6th, 2020. Yes, this was during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. I received my training by teleconference, and began working with the team online. It was interesting (and sometimes surprising), to eventually find out how tall everyone was.

## What do you do at the Newman Centre?

I am the operations manager. As such I have three broad areas of responsibility: financial management and reporting, facilities management, and human resource management. All three are interesting in their own ways. All three provide me with wonderful learning opportunities, and opportunities to practice some skills that I have acquired over time. I also extract wasps from inconvenient locations.

## How does the Newman Centre inspire you?

The Newman Centre inspires me as a beacon of Truth

in the midst of relative chaos. I have been struck, over these first few months, by the faithfulness, constancy, and humility of the people in this community. Of course it isn't a perfect place - as I'm sure I will come to realize more fully over time - but it gives me a deep sense of joy to be able to say that I am a member of the Newman Team, where we know who we are, we share a mission, and we are committed to trying to realize it.

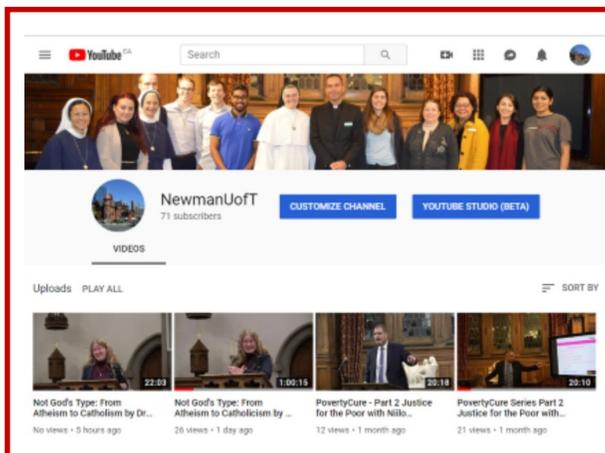
## What is your favourite quote from the teaching of Saint John Henry Newman?

"To be spiritually minded is to see by faith all those good and holy beings who actually surround us, though we see them not with our bodily eyes; to see them by faith as vividly as we see the things of earth - the green country, the blue sky, and the brilliant sunshine."

However, a close second is: "Calculation never made a hero."

## Words you live by:

From St. Thomas Aquinas: "We must love them both - those whose opinions we share, and those whose opinions we reject - for both have labored in the search for truth, and both have helped us in finding it."



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

<http://bit.ly/NewmanYouTube>

# EVANGELIZATION & DISCIPLESHIP SUMMIT

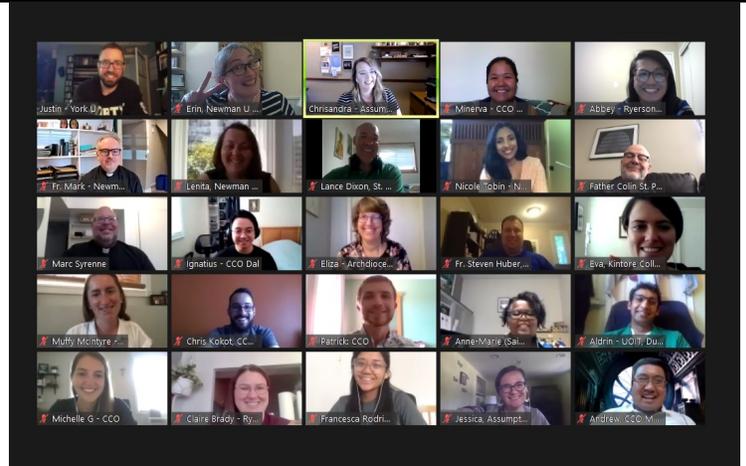
On August 5th and 6th, 65 campus ministers, vocation directors, missionaries and even a few Bishops! gathered virtually for the inaugural CCCM (Canadian Catholic Campus Ministry) Evangelization and Discipleship Round Table Summit. The event was designed to mine the expertise of those working with university and college students across the country. It sounds like a run-of-the-mill professional development event; in reality, it was much more than that.

Despite all the incredible work being done on campuses in Canada, there are few opportunities to gather a broad cross-section of people together to develop relationships and share expertise. Further, events that gather people together are generally focused on hearing the wisdom of the invited speaker or group of speakers.

This event was different. The primary intent was not to bring people together to listen to a speaker, but rather to gather people to communally discern best practices in emerging campus ministry concerns. Four topics were tackled: Evangelization with Gen Z, Online Evangelization and Outreach, Caring for Students' Mental Health, and Virtual Formation of Disciples for Mission. For each of these topics, an expert in the field set the stage with a brief presentation describing the current landscape surrounding their topic. All participants were then broken up into discussion groups with the aim of combining their own wisdom and experience to identify best practices surrounding that topic. Groups were also asked to identify gaps in knowledge or resources for each topic that are barriers for effective ministry.

What resulted from these discussions was incredible. Especially for the coming year of ministry, where much of our connection with students will be online, hearing the ideas of others and accessing the wisdom of what has worked and not worked over the past few months was incredibly helpful. Additionally, the opportunities to build relationships between varying spheres of campus ministers and missionaries is something that will continue.

All of us have the same goal: sharing the Gospel on campus and inviting students to place Christ at the



center of their lives. Though the contexts and methods vary, it was incredibly powerful to gather with others in support of our shared mission, and to discern together how the Lord is moving at this time.

In addition to the formal discussion times, our times of prayer were profound. Cardinal Collins joined us to lead an incredible lectio divina on the Great Commission from Matthew's Gospel that truly brought the passage alive. At the close of the conference, we brought everything together in prayer and petition to the Lord for our students, members of our communities, all the leaders of the Church, our own needs, those who know the Lord and those who have yet to encounter Him.

Though the first of its kind, this gathering will hopefully be one of many that will continue to be a platform for national discussions on campus ministry. We know that the Lord's generosity cannot be outdone, the most profound fruits of our time together are yet to come!

**Erin Kinsella** is the Director of Campus Ministry at Newman. She is passionate about helping students become Saints so that, as Catherine of Sienna said, they can “set the world on fire”.



# 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](http://www.newmantoronto.com) or social media links.

EVENT	DATE
Faith & Reason Lecture Reason, Faith, and the Struggle for Western Civilization - Dr. Samuel Gregg	Thursday, September 10, 7:00 pm Live Webinar
New Newmanite Suppers (Virtual)	September 24 & 26 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Cardinal Newman Lecture: The Idea of a University -Rev. Dr. Peter Gittens	Thursday, October 8, 7:00 pm Online
Ending Poverty Together Workshop	Saturday, November 14, 10:30 am
Advent Retreat - Archbishop Richard Smith	Saturday, December 5 Details to follow
Angelic Doctor Lecture: Anthropic Principles Rev. Dr Robert Spitzer	Thursday, January 28, 2021, 7:00 pm Live Webinar
Lenten Retreat - Fr. David Belusci, O.P.	Saturday, February 20, 2021 Details to follow
Tolkien: Faith and Imagination - Dr. Holly Ordway	Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 pm Live Webinar

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## CONNECTING WITH NEWMAN CENTRE

### Mass Times:

Monday - Friday 12:15 pm  
Saturday 9:30 am (Rosary 9 am)  
Sunday Mass 11 am, 5 pm & 7 pm  
Mass on statutory holidays: 9:30 am

### Church Visiting Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (Fall)  
Centre Hours: Mon - Fri 12:45 pm - 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

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(\*Visiting hours are subject to change following Public Health and Archdiocese of Toronto protocols)

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

# FAITH STUDY

Have questions about God, the scriptures and faith? Join a faith study.

Sign up here: [www.ccofaithstudies.ca](http://www.ccofaithstudies.ca)



ENDING POVERTY TOGETHER

## Workshop

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>  
FROM 10:30<sup>am</sup> — 1:00<sup>pm</sup>



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