#### **NEWMAN CENTER**

UNK Apostolate

308-234-1539 newmancenterunk@gmail.com lopercatholic.org

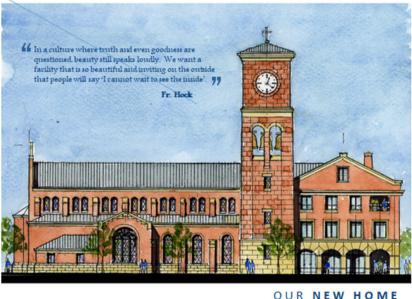
# lopercatholic quarterly



On Thursday, February 11, 2021, the Newman Center joyfully welcomed Meg Elizabeth Arnold into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. Welcome Home, Meg!



IF YOU MISSED THE GIANNA BANQUET... Fr. Hock announced the progress being made towards a new Chapel and Newman Center! More details to come...





OUR NEW HOME

### A Message from Fr. Hock

"You, yes you, O LORD, my God, have done many Wondrous deeds! And in your plans for us there is none to equal you. Should I wish to declare or tell them, too many are they to recount." Psalm 40:6

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we move toward the close of another academic year, it is truly hard to believe this past one. It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. It is surely one we will never forget! This past quarter was one filled with much growth and joy. We celebrated the annual gathering of college students from around the country at SEEK21. This is a retreat conference that is hosted by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Usually, we gather in one place – all 18,000 of us! This year, we were unable to gather in such large numbers. So, our missionary team went about the work of making a gathering possible here in Kearney. They did a fabulous job! We had 60 students gathered in small groups all throughout our facilities here and a few others in town. Prince of Peace graciously hosted us for a holy hour at the conclusion of the conference. There was so much fruit!

Two stories from that time. First, a young woman named Bri was invited by one of our missionaries. Bri is a grad student from California. She played softball in undergrad in Iowa but found her way to UNK. Bri was able to connect to some of our small groups and has really plugged into the Newman Center this semester. She is an absolute delight and has grown tremendously in her faith. The second is Tia. Tia is from St. Patrick's in Sydney. She had not been around Newman all year, until she met one of our missionaries. They invited her into small group and Tia has been a mainstay! In fact, Tia experienced her first Sacred Triduum and was blown away!

We also celebrated for the first time in 3 semesters our Koinonia retreat. 18 participants were able to make this TEC-like retreat. There was a wonderful energy and it truly deepened our community right in the middle of our Lenten season.

As we move into this last month, we plan for our second busy person retreat and our annual St. Gianna Beretta Molla banquet which celebrates Newman the same way a family reunion celebrates. Our keynotes will be Tristan Haake, a senior from Thedford Nebraska, Fr. Kevin Vogel, a priest of the archdiocese of Omaha and a grad of UNK, and our emcee for the evening will be Laura Hawk of Ewing, Nebraska.

Friends, Jesus continues to thirst for us! He thirsts for our souls. There are so many souls on campus who we reach, but there are so many more who are just out of our grasp. When you stand on the edge of campus and look out, the thirst is palpable. Both God's thirst for their souls and their souls' thirst for God. They thirst for the kingdom of God!!

Know that we pray for each of you. We offer 3 Masses each week for our alumni, benefactors and friends and we've all received the great commission – baptize all nations in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. But not all of us can do so in a setting such as this, one that is ripe for the harvest. You can help those of us who have been called to be here. You can become a partner with us in giving drink to the thirsty. Through your prayer and your financial support, we can reach one more soul. We can offer one more cup of water from the wellspring of salvation.

May God bless you and keep you, Fr. Hock

## Office of Vocations

Evelyn Ida Rose Bokoskie



Parents: Treyvon & Sierra (Butcher) Bokoskie Godparents: Christian & Claire (Swantek) Urugutia



Kelan Schumacher & Miranda Ketteler





Ben Swanson & Melissa Schumacher

Claire Faustina Gose



Parents: Caleb & Amanda (Slater) Gose

You are a child of god. You are wonderfully made, dearly loved and precious in his sight. Psalm 139

Congratulations MR & MRS MCPHILLIPS



Michael McPhillips & Lauryn Muller United in the Sacrament of Marriage January 2, 2021

Do you have a reason to celebrate? If so, please send details (including pictures) to ncfinance.unk@gmail.com



#### HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A

Seminarian?

Intellectual Formation is comprised of three specific programs: Bachelor of Arts Undergraduate Program Pre-Theology Program Language, Culture and Church Program

The Liberal Arts introduce the seminarians to the great human questions contained in the arts and sciences, developing the human person by exercising the intellect. The Liberal Arts:

- Encourage intellectual curiosity
- Promote critical thought
- Foster disciplined habits of study
- Teach clear and effective communication
- Introduce new ideas and the effects of culture



The Pre-Theology Program introduces the seminarian to priestly formation. Because they enter with valuable life experience, Pre-Theologians are immediately invited to leadership and service within the community.

Language, Culture and Church Program provides intensive English-language instruction to seminarians whose first language is not English.



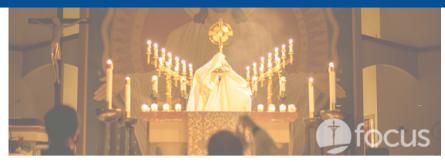


Four

Pillars of Formation

Intellectual Human Pastoral Spiritual

### In Their Own Words



#### SEEK21

If you haven't heard of Focus' SEEK conference, let me tell you: it is AMAZING. I look forward to it every time it comes around: which just so happens to be the deepest and grayest part of winter. College students and lay people from many walks of life gather to encounter Our Lord through the Sacraments, talks from world-renowned speakers, entertainment, and fellowship. I've had the pleasure of witnessing just how transformative it is, and this year, SEEK was centered around the Gospel message!! So, in the span of  $\alpha$  weekend, over 60 participants in Kearney, and over 27 thousand students internationally heard the same message. They all heard that they are unique and unrepeatable; made for an everlasting relationship with the God who loved them into being. They grew in friendship and vulnerability in small groups, ate meals together, and received opportunities for restoration in the Sacraments and Adoration. (One participant returned to the Sacrament of Confession after 2 years!! Praise God!!) So many seeds were sown and I know that we are just seeing the beginning of the fruits that this conference offered to all who participated in it.

**TESTIMONIES** 

"He overwhelmed me with how much He loved me." -Julia

"God is always always with me, and though He didn't promise this life would be easy, He did promise to walk with us through every single step of the way." Madeline



Koinonia is the Greek word for "community," which was an integral part of the faith life of the early Church.

The Koinonia retreat weekend is an introductory experience in Christian community based on the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ - His Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. The themes for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday are Die, Rise, and Go. Die Day is a re-enactment of the Lenten Season, Rise Day is a celebration of Easter, and Go Day is a re-visitation of Pentecost.

Photo and article submitted by Theresa Werner

The retreat consists of talks, discussions, reflections, prayer, and celebrations of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, which require active participation.

Newman Center Apostolate 817 West 27th Street Kearney, NE 68845

**Radiating Christ** 

Written by Saint John Henry Newman and prayed by the Sisters of Charity each day

Dear Jesus, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go. Flood our souls with Your Spirit and Life. Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly that our lives may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine through us and be so in us that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our souls. Let them look up, and see no longer us, but only Jesus! Stay with us and then we shall begin to shine as You shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be ours. It will be You, shining on others through us. Let us thus praise You in the way You love best, by shining on those around us. Let us preach You without preaching, not by words but by example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear for You.

Amen.

Have you moved?

Did you get married?

No longer want the newsletter?



E-mail changes to ncfinance.unk@gmail.com