



THE LEHIGH CATHOLIC

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"I thank God for you every time I think of you; and every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the Gospel..." Phillipians 1:3-5

Fulfilling My Faith

Joseph McGrath '04

When I was asked to write this article for the Lehigh Catholic, I almost did not know where to begin. I am currently in my 5th year working to obtain my Masters in Accounting. I have also served as the President for the Newman Association since December 2002. As the weeks pass, I slowly realize that each moment will be my last at Lehigh as a student. With this article, I have been able to collect my thoughts on what the Newman Center has meant to me and how it has had such a positive impact on my entire college experience. Along with my Fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, I have spent the majority of my time at the Newman Center. What naturally comes along with being the President, it has also afforded me numerous opportunities to grow as a leader and setting a positive example for the Catholic community.

I started coming to the Newman Center my sophomore year when one of my Fraternity brothers, Caesar Lastimoso ('04), (who has since entered the Cistercian Monastery in Texas) wanted to know if I would serve mass with him at Packer Memorial Church. This was something that I had never participated in at my Church back home. I was a bit nervous at first, but in the end decided to give it a chance and I went with him. We ended up going to the Newman Center that night after Mass with the others that served and a few people who attended the service. It was one of the first places on campus that I was able to feel comfortable in as I still struggled to find my own since coming to Lehigh. I was extremely active with club activities my freshman year, but outside of my Fraternity, there was no other place where I wanted to spend my time. I started work study at the Newman Center soon after that and became a regular serving Mass. Going to Church and spending time at the Newman Center has always provided me with a form of relaxation and a way to get away from the strenuous workload at Lehigh.

During my junior year, the Newman Association President at the time, Matt Buttacavoli, was graduating in early January, and he had identified me as a person that he felt would be able to help the Newman Center and would be comfortable leaving his position to. I was honored by the conversation that we had that night, and was eager to give back to the Newman Center which has provided me such a better understanding of my Faith. It has been a great experience organizing events for the Catholic Community and I have always tried to continuously improve the amount and quality

*Dear Graduates and Friends of the Newman Center,
Quoting Saint Paul helps me to express to you what your prayerful and financial support has meant to many of us at the Newman Center. You have allowed us to maintain a family like and welcoming community at Lehigh.*

This year I will not list our needs because I know that you are aware what an undertaking to maintain the Newman Center is all about. As you know what it takes to maintain your own homes, there is always something to do or improve. In this season of remembrance, thanks, and home-coming I simply wish to express my gratitude for all you do for us.

Please be assured that you and your loved ones are included in all our spiritual works, prayers, and Masses. May the Lord and His ever blest Mother protect you now and always.

Sincerely,

(Rev.) Wayne Killian

P.S. The door is always open!



Newman Center doing Community Service at Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, Bethlehem, PA pictured with Byzantine Bishop Andrew Pataki.

of events that we participate in. This semester, even though I have been bogged down with grad school, has turned into our most productive semester yet. We have held bi-weekly meetings and always end those meetings with pizza and drinks so that everyone stays around to talk about the events that are happening in everyone's lives. We are running a food drive in which the entire campus is participating in as well as the annual 'The Giving Tree' drive to help needy children and mothers during the Christmas season. We are also going to be holding a University Sponsored Bingo Night in December, our first such event to date. Everything that we have planned for the Catholic Community would not be possible without Father Killian and Ron Koach. Their dedication to the Newman Center has always provided me with the inspiration to work that much harder and to try to make everything that I do at the Newman Center a success. They have also been there to listen when things have gone wrong and when my father's health severely decline and

when he was diagnosed with sclerosis of the liver. They were able to keep everything in perspective for me and allowed me an avenue to vent my fears and concerns.

Last May, I was awarded the Newman Center Senior Service Award from the Newman Center Foundation along with Michael Zurat ('04). We have both returned to Lehigh this year and together we have been able to continue building up campus awareness of the Newman Center and have hopefully been able to show everyone the impact that the Newman Center and everyone involved has had on our Lehigh years. Without the Newman Center, I would probably have just gone to Church and balanced Church with any other related activities. The Newman Center has afforded multiple opportunities to fulfill my faith through the numerous programs that are run with the Seminararians and with the vast amount of literature available there to read. For that I am ever grateful and would have had a completely different experience at Lehigh if I had never taken the time to explore the Newman Center.

The Catholic campus ministry opened its doors

By Jen Fleming '05

Hi, My name is Jennifer Fleming and I am a senior here at Lehigh. I am excited to have the opportunity to write for the Lehigh Catholic as I have had a unique experience as a Presbyterian student who has found a home in Catholic campus activities and at our Newman Center.

When I first came to Lehigh, I was searching for a traditional church service and I began attending the Catholic Mass at Packer Chapel. Through attending church regularly, I got to know Father Killian and Ron Koach well and always felt very welcome as they invited me and my friends up to the Newman Center to work in the study hall or just relax. As I began to visit the Newman Center more and more, I developed friendships with many Catholic students there and enjoyed fellowship with Father Killian and Koach.

As I began getting more excited about church and Christian fellowship on Lehigh's campus, I started to attend some Newman Council meetings and helped plan some of our social and community service events. I was made V.P. of membership development and worked on publicizing our events and getting more students involved with the Newman Center.

I regularly hang out at the Newman Center and attend Mass on Sundays. I have enjoyed the relationships that have flourished throughout the years and I am grateful that I was always welcomed with open arms at the Newman Center even though I am not Catholic. Through the last 4 years, I have learned that hospitality, love, acceptance and friendship have no religious boundaries and I have seen first hand how compassionate and accepting the Lehigh Catholic ministry is.

As a senior graduating in May, I look back at my time at Lehigh and recall that some of my very fondest memories have been spent with the Catholic community here at Lehigh. These fond memories include decorating the Christmas tree in Father's living room with Christmas carols playing throughout the house. Also, I remember our trip to Philadelphia for a pilgrimage and then enjoying Jim's cheese steaks with Father, Koach, and all the students. I fondly remember our bowling nights and helping organize the giving tree presents. Then there was also our trip together to see "The Passion" and dinner afterwards discussing the movie. I have also enjoyed all the Lent dinners and speakers and also organizing and publicizing "The God Squad" program. There have definitely been many a night which I have passed downstairs in the newly, refurbished study hall working away and enjoying snacks and popcorn with my friends. In addition, there have just been the times watching "Friends" or the world series play-offs in Father's living room and having lunch at the house which Father always has open. The Catholic community, Father and Koach have been a very important part of my life and my positive experiences here at Lehigh. I know that when I graduate, I will look back at Lehigh and never forget these times and how the Catholic campus ministry opened its doors and welcomed me with open arms.

Special Masses & Events 2004-05

Immaculate Conception

Wednesday, December 8 - 12:10pm and 5:10pm
Location TBA

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24 - 9:00pm
Packer Memorial Church

Lent 2005

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 9 - 12:10pm and 5:10pm

Liturgy in Packer Church

Scripture Service 9:10pm in Packer Church for the entire Lehigh community

Stations of the Cross

Tuesdays - 7:00pm - Newman Center

Wednesdays 12 noon - Packer Memorial Church

Holy Week 2005

Palm Sunday - March 20 - Liturgy 12:10pm and 9:10pm - Packer Church

Holy Thursday - March 24

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:10pm - Packer Church

Good Friday - March 25 - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion with Holy Communion - 7:10pm - Packer Church

Holy Saturday - March 26 - Solemn Easter Vigil - 9:30pm - Packer Church

Easter Sunday - March 27 - Packer Church

(Please note this is our only Liturgy that day)

Ascension Thursday 2005

Wednesday, May 4 - 5:10pm - Newman Center

Thursday, May 5 - 12:10pm TBA

Graduates' Mass 2005

May 22 - 12:10pm - Packer Memorial Church

