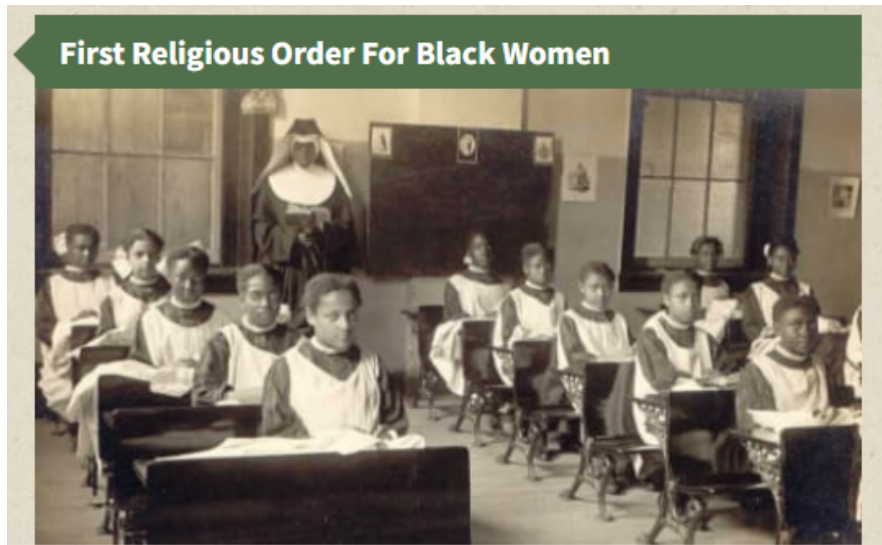


1829: OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE
A HANDFUL OF WOMEN FROM BALTIMORE'S
HAITIAN REFUGEE COLONY BEGIN TO EDUCATE
LOCAL CHILDREN IN THEIR HOMES. WITH THE
SUPPORT OF THE ARCHBISHOP, IN 1829 THEY
CREATE THE OBLATE SISTERS OF
PROVIDENCE. THE FIRST SUPERIOR IS
ELIZABETH LANGE, BORN IN CUBA OF
HAITIAN PARENTS. A LATER ARCHBISHOP
DISMISSES THE NEED FOR AN ORDER OF BLACK
RELIGIOUS, BUT THE SISTERS FIND NEW
ADVOCATES AMONG THE REDEMPTORISTS
AND IN SAINT JOHN NEUMANN, THEN
ARCHBISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA. THEIR
MINISTRY SPREADS TO PHILADELPHIA AND
NEW ORLEANS.



First Religious Order For Black Women

Cool Thoughts

The Catholic Church's teaching on immigration is deeply rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbor and uphold the dignity of every human person. Scripture reminds us: "You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:34). This concern for immigrants is not new but an essential expression of the Church's mission of mercy and justice worldwide, including in the United States.

Pope Francis has repeatedly emphasized the Church's responsibility to defend migrants' dignity. On his very first papal trip in 2013, he visited Lampedusa, a small Italian island that has become a major entry point for migrants fleeing poverty, violence, and oppression. Standing before the wreckage of a migrant boat, he asked, "Who is responsible for the blood of these brothers and sisters? We have lost a sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters. We have fallen into the hypocrisy of the priest and the Levite whom Jesus described in the parable of the Good Samaritan." Pope Francis decried what he called the "globalization of indifference," urging the world to open its hearts and see migrants as individuals, not burdens. His visit highlighted the Church's call to welcome the stranger with open arms and compassion. Pope John Paul II also emphasized the Church's moral responsibility regarding migration. In his 1996 message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, he wrote, "The right to migrate is numbered among the fundamental human rights, because every person has the right to find in their own country the means to live a dignified life. However, when this is not possible, people have the right to emigrate to other countries and to be received there." He underscored the shared human responsibility to create conditions that protect the dignity of all people, whether at home or abroad.

Despite this clear teaching, some recent public comments have misrepresented the Church's position. One individual criticized Pope Francis, stating, "He ought to stick to the Catholic Church and fix that. That's a mess," while accusing him of hypocrisy for opposing border walls while the Vatican is surrounded by walls. Recent comments from public figures attacking the Church's advocacy for immigrants are not only disappointing but also dangerously misleading. One individual criticized Pope Francis and accused him of hypocrisy for opposing border walls while the Vatican is surrounded by a wall. Such comparisons are false equivalencies. The Vatican is not a nation in the political sense but a spiritual center for over 1.3 billion Catholics worldwide. Its walls are not designed to exclude but to preserve the sanctity of its mission as a place of pilgrimage and refuge for all. Equating the Vatican with the complex realities of national borders oversimplifies and distorts the issues. As a side, while the Vatican does have walls on its sides and back, the architecture of St. Peter's Basilica tells a different story. The colonnade in the front, designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, symbolizes a mother's open arms welcoming peoples of the world into her fold. The Vatican's mission is spiritual, not political, and its symbolic openness reflects the Church's universal call to all people.

Another public figure suggested that the Bishops' advocacy for immigrants is motivated by financial interests, questioning whether their efforts are "humanitarian" or about their "bottom line." Such statements disregard the Bishops' role as shepherds, entrusted with guiding the faithful in living a moral life. The Church does not operate through sound bites or talking points but through dialogue and truth, always seeking justice for the vulnerable.

As Catholics, we must reject false equivalencies, misinformation, and divisive rhetoric. Immigration policy is not merely a political issue but a deeply moral one that calls us to defend the dignity of every person, created in the image of God. As Pope John Paul II said, "It is necessary to go beyond the narrow confines of purely economic interests and consider the impact on the human person, whose dignity must always be safeguarded."

By educating ourselves and allowing the richness of Catholic teaching to guide our decisions as the primary source, we can uphold the Gospel's call to welcome the stranger with love, truth, and integrity while protecting human life in our nation and world in ways that are life affirming for all. Above all, let us respond with faith, becoming witnesses to Christ's call to open our hearts and embrace those in need.

Peace, Fr. Cool

PS- Please sign up now for Kairos and ASB. See the bulletin for QR codes.

Black History Month - Celebrating the Story of Black Catholics

FOUR SQUARE @NEWMAN

St Sebastian Meeting Next Sunday @ 2pm

Sign up for Kairos Retreat and ASB

Need for Spring '25 tutors - see Jack for details

New Time! Rosary and Adoration before Wed. InstMass

NEWMAN
Catholic Community at Rochester

TUTORING SESSIONS
at The Boys & Girls Club of Rochester

NEWMAN

Pray for Our 7 UR Candidates

Baptism Confirmation Eucharist

Let's get started

St. Sebastian Society Varsity and Club Athletes NROTC Members 2025 Organizational Meeting

All varsity and club athletes, and members of the NROTC unit to our opening luncheon event:

Event Details

- Date: February 9th
- Time: 2:00 PM
- Location: Interfaith Chapel

Join us for an engaging time to meet fellow athletes and members of the NROTC unit. This event will feature:

FAITH ON ICE
with Rochester American Hockey Player **Riley Fiddler-Schultz**

Lunch Provided: Enjoy a complimentary lunch while networking with peers.

- Special Talk by Riley Fiddler-Schultz: Gain insights into balancing faith and sports, and hear firsthand experiences from a professional athlete. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, network and be inspired.

We look forward to seeing you there!

We are looking to expand!

Sign Up

- Weekly tutoring programs
- Commitments run 1-2 hours per week
- Ages Primary-12th

INTERESTED? CONTACT JACK
jrupper2@ur.rochester.edu

GET INVOLVED

NEWMAN

Mary and Joseph after searching for Jesus for three days then finding him in the temple



Newman Laughs

Newman relies on the generous support of Alumni, Parents, Local Residents, and Students for 90% of our budget. Your support of our Sunday collection is deeply appreciated!

Give to our Collection Via Venmo

Collection Report		
01/26/25		
Weekly Actual	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$173.00	\$378.00	-\$205.00
Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Goal	Variance
\$12,116.93	\$12,562.00	-\$445.07
Y-T-D is Financial Year July 1-June 30		



Mass Intention: Fr. John Crowley, Genevieve Griswold

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

Insta Mass

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 9 PM,
FOLLOWED BY PIZZA

CATHOLIC MASS

SUNDAY

10:30 AM & 7:00 PM
INTERFAITH CHAPEL

MONDAY-TUESDAY-THURSDAY
12:30PM

WEDNESDAY INSTAMASS
9PM INSTAMASS

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE TEXT UPDATES

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Send an email to bc00l@admin.rochester.edu to make a personal appointment or come 30 minutes before mass!
Sunday Mass - 10:30am
At the Interfaith Chapel

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

COME JOIN US!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Monday Evenings

MONDAY
7:00PM
INTERFAITH CHAPEL

For questions & interest contact Alicia Lawson at alaws10@u.rochester.edu or (607)542-5708

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

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Catholic Community of Rochester

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Conference Room
Interfaith Chapel 2nd level

Monday Night Group 1
6:00-7:00pm

Tuesday Night Group 2
6:00-7:30pm

Interested? Contact
Tim Cai (Group 1)
tcai9@u.rochester.edu
David Leder (Group 2)
dleder@u.rochester.edu

Open to all college men

NEWMAN

JOIN US AT THE INTERFAITH CHAPEL

EVERY THURSDAY AT 6PM

NEWMAN NITE

ENJOY A HOME COOKED MEAL WITH US!
#COMMUNITY

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

Week of February 3

Daily Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
12:30pm Sanctuary

Monday February 3
Men's Bible Study I - 6pm
Women's Bible Study - 7pm

Tuesday February 4
Men's Bible Study II - 6pm

Wednesday February 5
OCIA 7:30pm
Rosary 7:30pm / Adoration 8:05pm
InstaMass 9pm Sanctuary

Thursday February 6
Newman Nite 6pm

Sunday Feb 9
Mass 10:30am River Level followed by 1st Sunday Brunch
Adoration 11:45am
E-board Meeting 12pm
NOTE: Mass 5pm River Level (SB Sunday)

Join us! - New Wednesday times for Rosary and Adoration

Enter the prayer of silence with our Lord!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

BRENNAN ROOM
Sunday 11:45am-12:30pm
After 10:30am Mass

SANCTUARY
Wednesday 8:10pm-8:45pm
Before Insta-Mass

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

ROSARY GROUP

Wednesdays
7:30PM

Interfaith Chapel
Sanctuary

Contact: alaws10@u.rochester.edu

SECOND SEMESTER SET THE DATES ASIDE FOR KAIROS 44 RETREAT and ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK SERVICE TRIP

FEBRUARY 21 - 23, 2025

Kairos 44

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

THE HUMAN HEART PLANS THE WAY, BUT THE LORD DIRECTS THE STEPS
PROVERBS 16:9

God's Timing. Our Trust

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE ON CANANDAIGUA LAKE

\$40 FOR LODGING/MEALS (SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE)

The Thomistic Institute at the University of Rochester presents:

Would the Discovery of Intelligent Extraterrestrials Spell the End of Christianity?

A lecture by Prof. Marie George of St. John's University

Thursday, February 6 | 6:30 PM
Dewey 2-110E Lecture Hall

This lecture is free and open to the public. Register for the chapter's mailing list at the QR code.

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

Alternative Spring Break

Want to do something more? Service to others - Learn about Catholic Social Teaching at ...

MARCH 9-14, 2025
CAMDEN, NJ

REGISTER HERE

NEWMAN
Catholic Community of Rochester

Check out our upcoming February bulletins as we continue to bring to light the great faith contributions of Black Catholics - Happy Black History month!