



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of
SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

Office of the Bishop

Dear Friends,

“Let’s build the new Newman Center, with the meeting space necessary for students to gather for Bible Studies, social events, and retreats- a place to explore the social teachings of the Catholic Church... Let’s build the new St. John Henry Newman Chapel, so our students can gather in a place of beauty and be touched by the Eucharist... Let’s build the Aquinas Institute for Catholic Studies, a center for Catholic learning, supporting all students who come to the Newman Center and want to dive deeper into theology and teachings of the Church.”

The above paragraph is from last year’s appeal letter. The good news is that WE DID IT – MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! The new Newman Center and Chapel is a testimony of the faith and generosity of so many of you who believe like I do, that the Church should have a strong presence on the campus of SEMO. Deacon Tom, Fr. Laurent, Mary Ann Hennecke, along with the FOCUS Missionaries and the Newman Council are doing a great job. The sacraments, especially Holy Mass and Confessions, along with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, small groups and Bible Study help our students to form a solid, sacramental life.

In the homily for the consecration of the Newman Chapel, I announced that the easy part is completed. Yes, building the complex was the easy part!! Now the hard work begins as the Newman staff discovers new ways to evangelize on campus. We cannot rely on the “If you build it, they will come” strategy. That is not the spirit of the New Evangelization. We who have encountered the person of Jesus must in turn invite others to encounter Him as well.

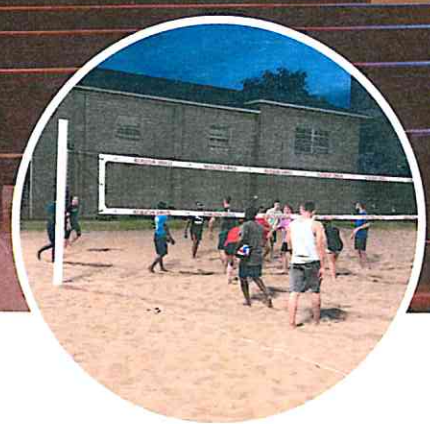
Of course, a new building will have increased costs. The daily operating budget costs must be met and so we turn to you, asking for your financial support to meet the annual expenses. I am pleased to say the annual Bishop's Appeal, the Diocesan Development Fund (DDF), supports the good work of campus ministry throughout our diocese. Parents back home can rest assured that the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau is committed to this important ministry, so that along with the intellectual growth of their son or daughter, we are here to strengthen them in their Catholic faith.

Newman Center Sunday is Sunday, October 3, 2021, just several days before the *Feast Day of St. John Henry Newman* on October 9. I invite you to offer a financial contribution to support the valuable programs that serve hundreds of SEMO students. Your generous gift will help many to fall in love with the faith and fall in love with Christ. Thank you for your generous support of the Newman Center. With my gratitude and prayers, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edward M. Rice
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

NEWMAN CENTER SUNDAY



YOUR SUPPORT GOT US HERE

Now let's keep going

God worked through man to establish His Church. He could do it all on His own, but He chooses to use us. Why? Love and relationship. We are free to choose Him or not, to build His kingdom or our own.

As we, at the Newman Center, dive head-first into our inaugural semester with the new building, we are simultaneously overwhelmed with gratitude and the task of scaling our ministry to make full use of the new capacity we have. Consider joining our mission in a way you never have before!



One-Time Support

When you donate once, we can put that money towards one event or one student's retreat.



Yearly Support

When you donate yearly, we can plan our budget around the help we know we'll have.



Monthly Support

Our community thrives off of monthly donors. We are able to build new programs, advertise to college students who aren't yet involved and hire new staff that can be a resource for our students. Please consider joining us at this level!



**ST. JOHN HENRY
NEWMAN CENTER**
at Southeast Missouri State University

573-335-3899

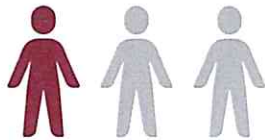
semocatholic@gmail.com

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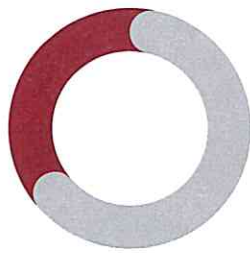
NUMBERS & STATISTICS



79% of Catholics who leave the Church do so by age 23



1 out of every 3 college students at SEMO are Catholic

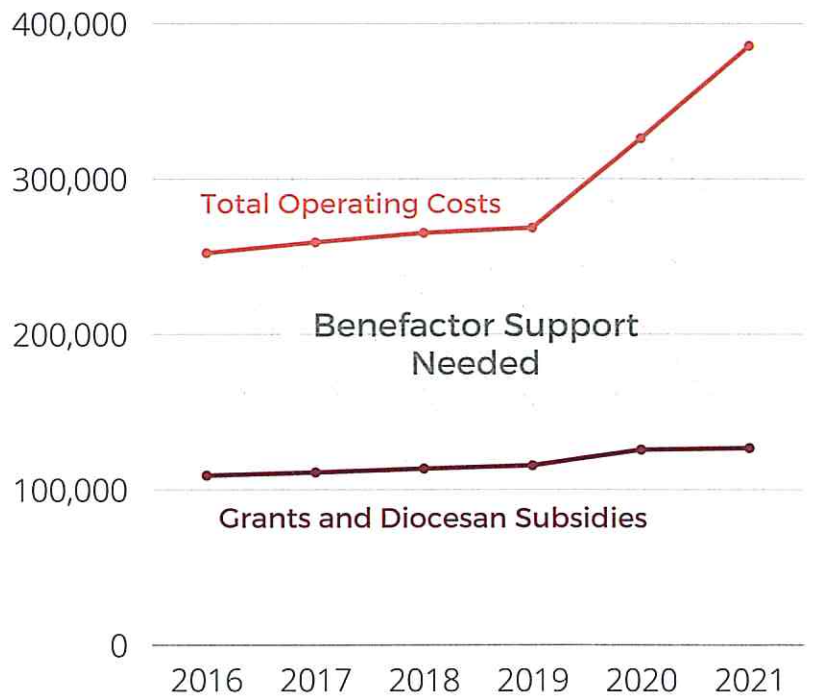


We need Benefactor support to cover 67% of our 2021-22 budget


The graphics here illustrate an enormous need and an incredible opportunity. Our mission is to make the Catholic faith not just available to SEMO students, but relevant, authentic and tangible.


Some of our major increases in cost have accomplished these goals, such as the Aquinas Institute, the new building, and a permanent, full-time chaplain. We are going places we've never gone before.

Come with us! Venite!



CHOOSE HOW TO DONATE

 **ONLINE** semocatholic.org/donate

 **PHONE** (573) 355-3899

 **MAIL**
512 N Pacific Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Payable to: Catholic Campus Ministry

 **VENMO** scan or use @semocatholic

Thank you!