



DONOR IMPACT REPORT
2025-2026

Mission Statement

With the help of Grace, to form a Catholic community of faith who cultivates beauty, truth, goodness, communion, and justice.

Vision Statement

A people in right relationship with God and their community.



Dear Newman Family

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1:3-6)

St. Paul says that all of you have a partnership in the Gospel. I believe that not just because St. Paul wrote it, but because I see it in the effects here of your prayer for our students. I see it in the effects of your generosity financially. But this is not--and on my watch will never be--about money and programs. This is always about grace and the life transforming grace of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "May we never boast of anything save the cross of the Lord!" (Gal. 6:14) But I am pretty darn proud of the grace at work in our students and honored by your partnership with us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And I give thanks to our good God for all of you for that partnership! It's a blessing to be able to see some of the fruits of our labor with the students. Some of them are getting married this summer. Five of them are starting seminary this fall and one joining the convent. Four are becoming FOCUS missionaries. The Lord is at work in the hearts and minds of them all!

I hope you enjoy this report which aims to share some of the fruits which your generosity has accomplished. I hope it inspires you to give thanks to God for your partnership in His Gospel. I hope it renews your energy to continue working for the Gospel! Enjoy this report. And I'm glad you're part of our team!

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Dan Merz
Fr. Dan Merz, SLD | Pastor

Encounter, Grow, and Serve

Newman as a parish home when far away from home.

Tom Burges, MU Doctoral candidate in Biological Sciences, Germany

"I appreciate having a catholic church so close by, where I can go to Mass, receive the eucharist and where there are times offered for confessions. I consider (it) quite luxurious here. The priests and staff actually believe in and follow catholic teaching. I am also thankful for all the different offerings Newman has, where I can get deeper in my faith as well as socialize and make friends. As one of the organizers behind events for young adults, I am very thankful for the support we receive for our events from Newman.

I am really grateful to be part of the church here. It is also nice to see how many people join the faith here. Yes, I like it here and I have also heard from someone else in Germany, that she is also quite impressed with what we have here, when she hears about it."



Tom's home parish, St. Marien's in Neustadt an der Orla (*photo wikicommons*)



Tom is pictured above at MU's South Farm location. His lab work focuses on domestication and the B chromosome.

Encounter, Grow, and Serve

“Little did I know that saying yes to that Bible study would change my life.”

Megan Weibel, May 2026 graduate, FOCUS missionary, Richfield, MN



Arriving at Mizzou as a freshman I knew that a relationship with God was important and something that I desired. However, it felt like I couldn't have both a relationship with Him and the "typical college experience" that everyone talked so highly about, so I decided to put God on the back burner in exchange for that experience.

A few months later, a girl in my sorority invited me to a Greek girls' Bible study at the Newman Center. Little did I know that saying yes to that Bible study would change my life. I was very quickly drawn in by the welcoming community and staff at Newman and made amazing friendships. I was walked with by FOCUS missionaries at Newman who also continually pushed me out of my comfort zone to say yes to the Lord in ways that He was calling me.

Through the Newman Center, I watched as each small yes to the Lord was abundantly blessed by Him and it slowly started to grow my heart towards a life of Mission. When a missionary asked me to apply for FOCUS, I knew that this was just another push to say yes to God! I soon thought about the freshman girl on another college campus, just like me, waiting for someone to walk with her and push her to bravely say yes to the Lord. Little does she know He will change her life because of it! My yes to become a FOCUS missionary felt so easy because of the many people from the Newman Center who poured into me. I am so excited to be serving as Michigan States first ever FOCUS team!

Go Spartans!

Encounter, Grow, and Serve

“Through an encounter with God’s peace I turned to the Newman Center for guidance.”

Jacob Siciliano, May 2026 graduate, FOCUS missionary, Arlington Heights, IL

If you would have told a 17 year-old Jacob Siciliano that if he came to the University of Missouri he would leave a Catholic Missionary — I wouldn’t have applied.

Heading into College, I was set on accomplishing my childhood dream of becoming a sports journalist. No job market statistic or low salary average could stop me from pursuing what I loved. When I got to Missouri, I began my mission working at KOMU 8 news. I also rejoiced in the new found freedom of college life, joining a fraternity and participating in the college culture. I thought work, relationships, college life would fulfill me, but by my junior year I had reached a breaking point. The very things the world said would fulfill me had left me empty. I recognized I was broken and lost.

Through an encounter with God’s peace I turned to the Newman Center for guidance. It started with just a Monday night Bible study. Then Monday night adoration, Wednesday morning discipleship, Thursday night mass. The Lord was continually inviting me into a deeper relationship with him through the invitations and sacraments at Newman.



Encounter, Grow, and Serve

Jacob Siciliano continued

The Lord answered my prayer for virtuous friends in abundance. Friends that I made at Newman helped form me through FOCUS discipleship and showed me how to live a virtuous and abundant life. As I grew in relationship with God and virtuous friends, I grew in the joy of the gospel — overflowing into Bible studies and discipleships that I began to lead at Newman. In October the Lord revealed to me that He wanted me to do mission full time. Journalism was my plan, becoming a FOCUS missionary was His.

I came to Mizzou for journalism, but through the investment of Newman priests, staff, students, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit I left as a Missionary. I wouldn't want it any other way. My mission starts at the University of Nebraska, where I will walk with Greek students just like myself.



Encounter, Grow, and Serve

“Through your generous gifts, Newman has been able to impact many lives with Jesus’ merciful love.”

Cade Scobey, Health Sciences - Leadership and Policy, Class of 2025, Cape Girardeau, MO

Attending Conception Seminary, Fall 2026

During my time as a student at the University of Missouri, I was blessed with many opportunities to learn, grow, and discover the gifts God has given me. The Newman community has been a special place where I grew closer to Jesus through prayer, friendship, and the Sacraments.

It was at Newman that I met my first truly virtuous friends, zealous priests, and faithful missionaries. Through the campus ministry, priests, and FOCUS missionaries, I was given opportunities to go on mission trips, attend and lead retreats, and learn more about the Father’s intentional plan for my life. Newman is also where I first began to understand what a vocation is. My decision to enter seminary this upcoming fall is due in large part to the deep prayer and community life cultivated at Newman.

Personally, the most impactful parts of Newman have been access to the Sacraments and intentional discipleship with other students and missionaries. The Spirit is truly on the move in this holy place!

Encounter, Grow, and Serve



I want to offer a sincere thank you to all of the donors who have given their time, resources, and most importantly, prayers to provide opportunities for students and parishioners at Newman to encounter Jesus. As St. Ignatius of Loyola once said, "God is never outdone in generosity." Through your generous gifts, Newman has been able to impact many lives with Jesus' merciful love.

May we all become saints!

May we all become saints!



Perpetual Giving Endowment Growth

Martha Trauth Social Justice Education Endowment

Market value at fiscal year end 2023-2024
\$651,289

Market value at fiscal year end 2024-2025
\$1,110,264.66

Market value at fiscal year end 2025-2026
\$1,246,935.35

Last year, generous donors gave a total of
\$19,837.37 to the endowment principal.

Through this endowment we have been able to host dynamic Catholic speakers, educate our students and resident parishioners on Catholic Social Teaching, provide avenues of support to our neighbors in need, and sustain ministries such as Loave & Fishes.

Campus Ministry Endowment

Market value at fiscal year end 2023-2024
\$2,899,340

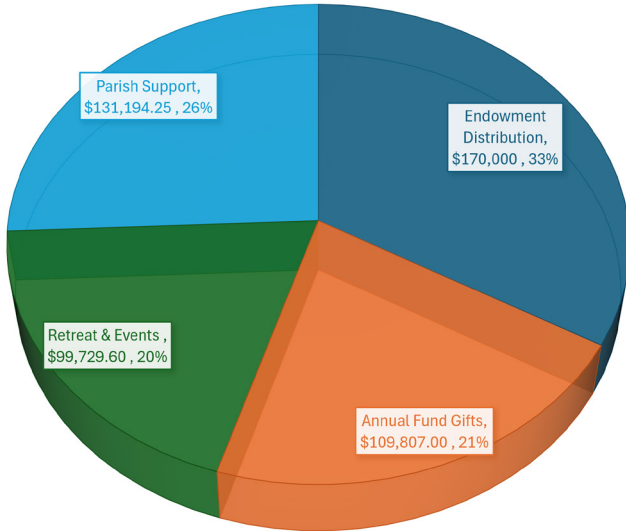
Market value at fiscal year end 2024-2025
\$3,058,874.57

Market value at fiscal year end 2025-2026
\$4,506,954.14

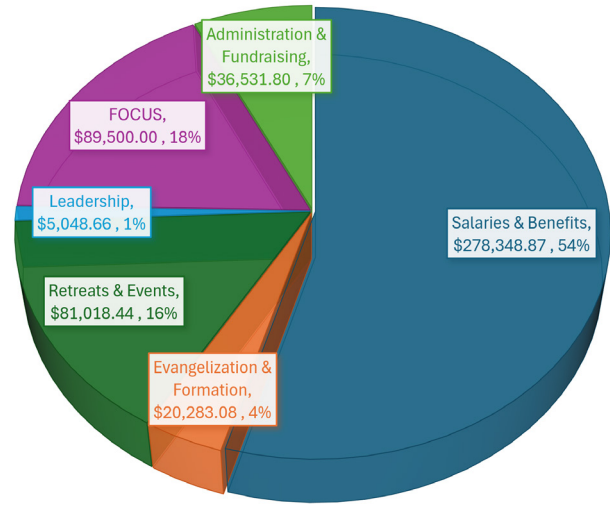
Last year, generous donors gave a total of
\$1,137,100.32 to the endowment principal.
We aspire to build the endowment even more.
The earnings from the endowment will allow us to continue our growth in our Campus Ministry programs and help us to reach more students.

Financial Report | 2025-2026

REVENUE \$510,730.85



EXPENSES \$510,730.85



Partners in Mission 2025-2026

Who are our donors?

367 Alumni
6 Businesses & Foundations
36 Contributor Only
91 Friends of Newman
128 Parents of Alumni
154 Parents of Current Students
215 Resident Parishioners

*It was noted that some of last year's numbers were lower than expected as I used giving units rather than individuals so in some cases the numbers should have been doubled to account for parents. I apologize for the oversight. - Thomas

CWM

Cottone Wealth Management

2025 2026

1,036 1,212

Contributions

278 384

Individual Donors

630 664

Students Attended a Bible
Study at Least Once

God is good!

Thank you to our campus ministry newsletter sponsors this past year, mpix, Cottone Wealth Management, and Knights of Columbus Council 7231.



mpix

Print your
favorite memories.



Mpix makes it easy to celebrate your favorite life moments.
Explore our collection of one-of-a-kind photo gifts,
desk decor, and custom wall art.

MPPIX.COM

Figures listed in this publication are for July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Please pray for us!

Come, Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of the students at the University of Missouri, Stephens College and Columbia College with your faith, hope and love. Make your presence known on our campuses and transform the students into your hands and feet for the world.

Support Campus Ministry!



TWO WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

1. Pray for our students, especially for the unique challenges they will face in this coming year at school.

2. Become a monthly donor!
(comonewman.org/give)

Supporting students is easy!

After providing for your family, would you consider including Newman in your will? When you commit to giving a planned gift, you continue to support the Church, create a legacy, and benefit yourself and your heirs.

Join our Cor Ad Cor Circle!

comonewman.org/planned-giving

Newman Parish

602 Turner Avenue | Columbia, Missouri 65201

(573) 449-5424 | www.comonewman.org/give or scan the QR code

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