

Catholic Campus Ministry
O'Reilly Catholic Student Center
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CATHOLIC
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O'REILLY CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER

The Mustard Seed

Fall 2019





St. John Henry Cardinal Newman said, "You look up and you see, as it were, a great mountain to be scaled; you say, how can I possibly find a path over these giant obstacles? Look up in hope, trust in Him who calls you forward... He will lead you forward step by step."

I am almost half way through my third year as Director of CCM and I cannot thank you enough for the many ways you have supported our ministry. In the past 74 years, CCM has gone from bi-monthly discussions, picnics, and dances to Holy Hour three days a week, Awakening Retreat in the Fall, Hosea Retreat in the Spring, formal dances each semester, daily Mass with three Sunday Masses, faith formation nights, small groups, and so much more. St. John Henry Newman had a vision for Catholic education. In his life's work, he brought together the quest for universal knowledge, the sanctity of a universal faith, and the hope for a universal Church where God is present and witnessed to in each Christian life. His vision was impressive and we believe it works.

It's a privilege to be part of this vision, and see the students on our campuses grow in their faith and be empowered as leaders. We need your support – our students are asking for more catechesis, opportunities for service, mentorship, and outreach trainings. Help us make this possible! Know that we are grateful for all you do for us and pray for you always. May this Holy Season of Christmas bring peace and joy to you and your family.

Together, let us share with joy and love in this mission!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Francisco Javier Reyes, CAP

"I have never been surrounded by so many people who are wholeheartedly pursuing holiness as I have during my time at CCM. These friends constantly encourage me to grow in my relationship with Jesus, they love me genuinely, and they push me to strive for sainthood. I will always be grateful for the community I have at CCM. "

-Mary Cleek, Senior



"When I attended the Awakening Retreat my freshman year, it was one of the most impactful experiences that I have had while in college. It allowed me to feel like a part of CCM, which enabled me to build relationships within this community and create a home that could foster my faith life in unimaginable ways. When I was asked to rector the retreat this year it was an easy choice to say yes and take on this responsibility. I knew that this retreat has the power to change lives. Through all the planning, decisions, and stress, I held my trust in God and just asked him to impact the Awakeners, the way He did when I first went on the retreat. Being a part of the planning that gave someone the opportunity to witness God's love for them brings me great joy. My heart was throbbing with happiness as I watched Awakeners feel that love and begin to build that home for themselves at CCM."

-Jacob Beck, Senior

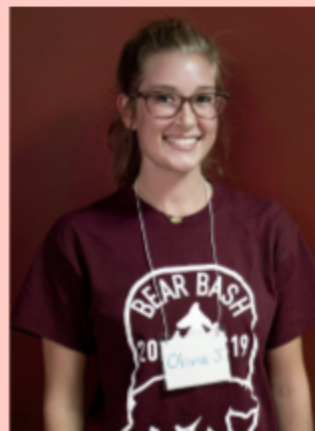


"I went to Awakening thinking this will be like any other high school retreat I was wrong! Awakening teaches you about many things and is an experience that you just have to go through. I have no regrets about going on Awakening and recommend it to anyone. Even if you are on the fence about it, I would encourage you to give it a chance and go!"

-Bryce Backes, Sophomore

"The Awakening Retreat was nothing like I had experienced before. From listening to other students' testimonies to worshipping in a doration with everybody, this weekend was full of many heartfelt moments. I felt my relationship with Jesus grow much deeper in just these three days. Transitioning to college hasn't been an easy process, but Awakening showed me that CCM will be my home away from home for the next four years. Praise God for an incredible weekend of growing spiritually, developing friendships, and worshipping our Lord."

-Katherine Fraser, Freshman



"My faith was not as strong being away from my home parish, but this retreat provided the praise and prayer I needed to dive even deeper into my faith. Faith-filled friends are a key component to leading a Catholic life and Awakening introduced me to a countless number of amazing people. I am definitely blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of it and look forward to seeing it's impact on this Catholic community!"

-Olivia Jordan, Junior

Staff Highlights

My name is Sister Sarah Harbaugh and I am a volunteer here at CCM. In 2016, I entered religious life with the Adorers of the Blood of Christ. I am originally from a small town, Hecker, in southern Illinois. This year I am an apostolic novice, which means that I am learning about the balance of community, prayer, and ministry. My afternoons are spent volunteering at CCM. Some of my tasks include leading a discernment group, helping with activities, and spending time with the students. While at CCM, I feel like I have found a spiritual home. Next semester, I will be moving to Wichita and I will greatly miss the relationships I have built at CCM.

-Sister Sarah, Volunteer



When the Lord called me down here to Springfield, I knew He was presenting an opportunity to *trust* in Him in a deeper way. In many ways, I see my own personal journey of trust and surrender being directly applied to how I am able to minister to students. For any student to make that leap of faith to get involved at CCM, or to discern a deeper calling from the Lord, it first takes a level of trust – in God, in the Church, and/or in the people that welcome them. I see my Outreach Campus Minister role as one of building those bridges of trust. It is truly amazing to see the ways that God has prepared me for this role, and even more amazing to witness the ways His grace flows through this crazy life of campus ministry as students grow to trust more in the God who loves them so much.

- Arick Middeke, CM

Every day is a new adventure with the great joy of the unexpected. I enjoy planning out my day with a to-do list, but the greatest gifts are the unexpected conversations. During any given day you can find students gathering at CCM relaxing or studying between classes. I appreciate my coffee breaks when I check in with the students and it often turns into a great spiritual conversation. As part of my job I oversee the small group ministry. This is a way for our students to grow in fellowship and faith. Our groups this semester are discussing many different topics, such as, Sunday scripture, the Holy Spirit, and Theology of the Body. Mentoring the small group leaders is a great joy of mine where I am able to meet one on one with each leader and help guide them on how to lead others to a greater relationship with Christ.

- Ann Schwartz, CM



Student Highlights

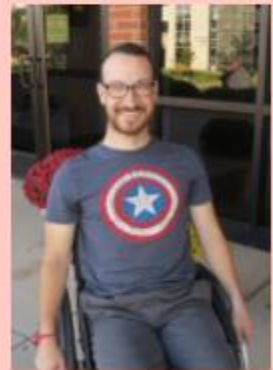


Being a peer minister has been an amazing experience so far. I have gotten to meet so many new people, develop a supportive family, and grow deeper in my faith. I love bringing CCM together with students at MSU. I am beyond grateful for all of the experiences I have had so far as a peer minister.

-Mya Kemper, Sophomore

For me, Peer Ministry is a great way to give back to the community at Catholic Campus Ministry. My favorite part is getting to know the incoming freshmen and showing how our community here at CCM can truly become a family.

- Zack Ritter, Sophomore



Volunteering at Convoy of Hope



Students from CCM volunteer at Convoy of Hope to support their local community and the issues of hunger around the nation. Our student volunteers helped sort through and package food that was then sent out to communities in need. This is a way our students can act for social justice issues.

- Teresa Aguayo, Junior

CAMPING & CAVING TRIP—Freshmen and Transfer Students



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Annual Report of Giving 2018 - 2019

We are incredibly grateful for your generous financial support, and we rely on you as a primary revenue source to fund our programs, events, supplies, and personnel. The following list recognizes over 250 donors who made a financial gift to CCM during the fiscal year July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019.

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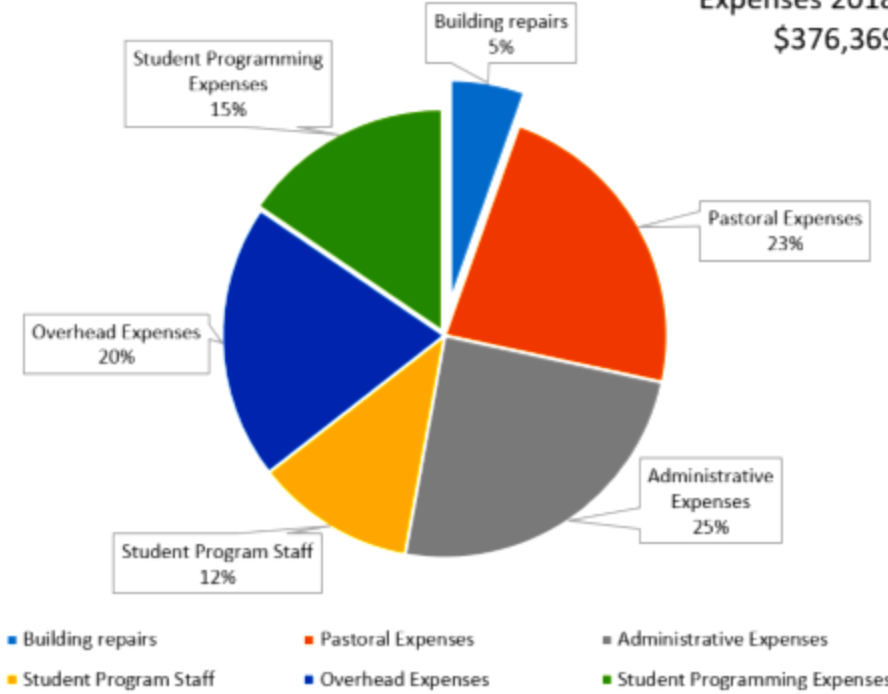
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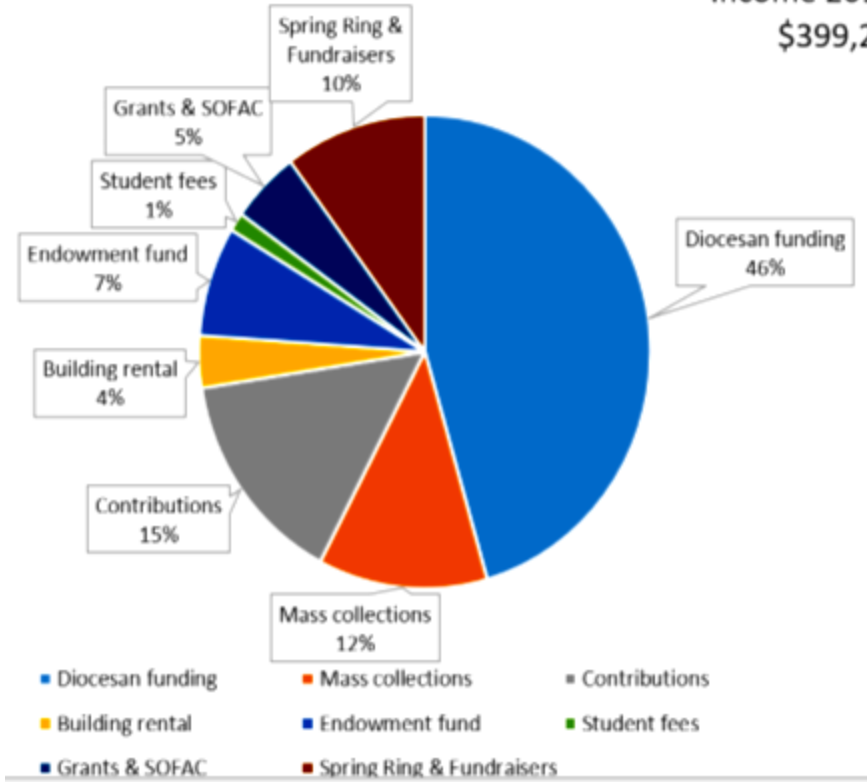
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Income 2018-2019
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**By remembering OCM in your Will,
 you will continue to live on through the
 lives of the many student that
 become the leaders of our Church.
 What a wonderful tribute to you!**
 Contact Bev
bfranklin@ccm847.org
 (417) 865-0802



Coming into college, I was beyond terrified because my high school was tiny compared to Missouri State. I remember going to some of the Welcome Week events at the beginning of the school year and meeting some people at CCM. Then I went to Awakening and knew I had found a family and faith community all in one at CCM. My family at CCM not only pushes me to be a better disciple of Christ, but also are some of the greatest pals I could ever imagine."

-Morgan Ladyman, Senior

Forty years ago I was asked to fill in for a friend for two weeks until they could hire someone to fill her position. Forty years later I am still at Catholic Campus Ministry! For eight years my husband and I prayed for children. We were blessed with two beautiful daughters and then, after 17 years of marriage, a son. I truly believe God listens to your prayers because throughout my 40 years at CCM, I have been blessed to be a "mother" in the lives of approximately 14,000 students. I have laughed, loved, cried and given motherly advice to as many as have asked for my time. I always laugh and say that I have heard more confessions than any priest!

In my years with the ministry I have worked out of six different locations, some nicer than others, but all are amazing as I have seen the future of the Church develop and grow. I am now seeing my students' children come through CCM. In my 40 years, I have lead Base Groups, communicated with students and alumni, updated databases, prepared Friday lunch, arranged special events, arranged for community rentals, campaigned for donations, helped with mailings, coordinated volunteers, and more recently have worked in Development and Alumni Relations. There is not a single day that I do not thoroughly enjoy and love my time here.

I celebrated my 70th birthday this year and realized I have spent more than half of my life living my passion for a career. A student said to me once, "Only person that has been here longer than you, Mother Bev, is God!"

- Bev Franklin (Mamma Bev)

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