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# The Mustard Seed



**O'Reilly Catholic Student Center  
MSU-DRURY-OTC**

## Upcoming Events

For more information, check [www.ccm847.com](http://www.ccm847.com)

December 1st

Celtic Christmas Concert

7 p.m.

Admission is free, donations are accepted and will benefit Best Buddies and Catholic Campus Ministry

January 26th, 2019

Jack Frost 5K

Register Today

[ccm847.org/jack-frost-payment](http://ccm847.org/jack-frost-payment)

Cost \$30 pre-registration, \$35 day of the race.



From the  
Director

Fr. Francisco

Javier

Reyes,

C.M.F.

Hard to believe, we are at the end of the fall semester! As I am writing, the students are getting ready for thanksgiving break. Soon, we will be saying "good-bye November, hello December." The unavoidable is here: temperatures are dropping, and darkness is falling earlier and earlier. We long for warmth and light; we run to the car in the morning as we rush to work or school; we pull on our hats, zip up our coats, and tug on our gloves. Although everything around us seems to be dying or becoming inactive, we remember that Spring is not far off and we anticipate the new beginning .

Here at CCM, we had a great start for the academic year of 2018-2019. Our new peer ministers are trying to keep up with their assignments, small groups are up and running, and a new and refreshing freshman class is around the house. In this issue of *the Mustard seed* you will see and hear about some of the things our students have been up to: faith and leadership formation, awakening 68, fun activities, and more.

God is alive and has his way to bring to life the message of the gospel! In the midst of difficult times in the Church and in our world, it is edifying to see our students so enthusiastic about their faith. Yet, our ministry depends on you and all our partners. We rely upon your extraordinary generosity to help us continue the work on our campuses. Thank you for your generosity!

Please be assured of our prayers for you and all whom you love during this season. Do pray for us, that we may continue to respond more fully to the call of Christ.

May God bless you and your families always!

*Fall 2018*





The most important thing I learned at El Futuro is here was that we are not the future, but the present and we need to take action and live our faith so we can be better prepared to lead the Church into the next generation.

-Jesus Zavala, Senior

ETC was an amazing learning experience for me. The faith and leadership skills that I learned helped me contribute to CCM and the amazing people here.

-Jacob Carron, Junior



MARIA DOHACK | FRESHMAN | ST. LOUIS, MO

"I first came to CCM because I'm very strong in my Catholic faith and I was really excited to find a community to further that faith with. I love how everyone is actively seeking out their faith and choosing to deepen their relationship with God here. I'm signed up for a small group and I'm going on the Awakening retreat to get involved. I'm just really excited to be here with my brothers and sisters in Christ!"



SAM NACK | FRESHMAN | EUREKA, MO

"CCM has been super welcoming to me. Everyone here is just so kind. They are really open and easy to get to know, and I have never walked in without three or four different people greeting me by name and asking about my day."



RILEY GRIESEMER | SENIOR | SPRINGFIELD, MO

"To put it simply, CCM is my home and the people, my family. The friends I have made in this community have challenged me to become the best-version-of-myself. They genuinely care about me as a person, and they encourage me to live unapologetically as a Catholic woman. My college experience would be nothing without the joy and friendships that this ministry has given me."



NOLAN SHANNON | FRESHMAN | ST. CHARLES, MO

"I was really involved with my youth group back home, so it seemed pretty natural that I'd come to CCM. My favorite thing about CCM is how devoted everyone is to their faith. The people here don't just go to events, they also come to adoration and Mass because they're so important. I'm looking forward to getting involved, especially with the Knights of Columbus."



DEB ZERR | SOPHOMORE | ARVADA, CO

"When I toured Missouri State, I visited CCM and instantly felt at home. The strong sense of community and family all wanting to grow in faith is what I like most about it. I attend events and participate in a small group. Next year I would love to lead a small group or help plan more events. I also like to collect angel figures and statuary!"



RACHEL YAROS | JUNIOR | LEE'S SUMMIT, MO

"The first event at CCM that I attended was the fall camping trip last year. I went spelunking in a cave with Father and Sister Michelle! I also was a part of the intramural soccer team and went on Spring Retreat, Restless, last year. One of my favorite things to do at CCM is to sing and praise the Lord with my friends. No matter who you are, it always feels good to express your gratitude to the One who's got your back!"

Back to School



GREG KELLY | SOPHOMORE | SPRINGFIELD, MO

"I started coming to CCM at the welcome Mass last year. Over the next month, I started coming more and more and finally decided that CCM was a place that I needed to be. I soon met so many loving people and made a lot of new friends, friends that I will have for the rest of my life. I cannot thank the people at this Ministry enough for what they have given me. I have grown so much more in my faith and have been blessed with many authentic friendships. To this I say, 'I love you all.'"



CASEY STANGL | JUNIOR | LAKENHEATH, ENGLAND

"My dad is in the military, so I came to Missouri State not knowing anyone. My experience at MSU was very rough until Awakening my first fall semester. That weekend was life changing, I made so many friends. I found my home away from home at CCM."



ALEX SHANNON | SENIOR | ST. CHARLES, MO

"My experience at CCM has been formative to my college career. The people that are at CCM push me to be a better person. When you surround yourself with people who are striving to be the best people they can be, it will rub off on you!"

This is why you should give to **#iGiveCatholic**  
**Nov. 27, 2018**  
<https://springfieldcg.igivecatholic.org/organizations/catholic-campus-ministry-springfield>





Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. I have arrived to CCM and have received the warmest welcome I could have imagined. I have always wanted to do full-time campus ministry and it is an immense joy being here.

I come from Jayhawk country (don't hold it against me), my hometown being Lawrence, KS. I loved growing up there, active in the music programs singing and playing saxophone and spending my weekends helping my dad fix cars, build decks and fences, remodel houses, paint houses, and a whole myriad of projects that I still love to find; including projects here at CCM already.

After high school I hopped around different colleges and majors before landing at Pittsburg State in Pittsburg, KS (not Pennsylvania) to study business. It was here I wandered into the Newman Center and rediscovered the power of having an active spiritual life and growing in holiness with Jesus Christ. I had the opportunity to give of myself in many ways while a part of that community, even being a peer minister. Eventually through help from the staff and a sacramental life I discovered I might have a calling to the priesthood.

I finished at Pitt State and started seminary at Conception Seminary College in Conception, MO and then moved up to Kenrick School of Theology in St. Louis, MO. My time in seminary was a whirlwind of spiritual growth, academic rigor, and conversion of heart. After 3 years of seminary I decided that I wasn't so much called to the priesthood as I was called to some temporary time of seminary formation.

I got to do a year of retreat ministry last year before I finally reached my dream job doing campus ministry at a college and it is such a wonderful gift. I look forward to leading students into the depths of truth, beauty, and goodness that is Jesus Christ and His Church.

Homecoming 2018



Homecoming is always a good time to see the alumni coming home to CCM. We enjoy reminiscing old times and homecomings from the pass.

-Mother Bev



"As a freshman going on Awakening for the first time, I felt an overwhelming sense of peace and love that I did not know was real on this side of Heaven. I learned for the first time that God calls everyone to an intimate relationship to Him and that His Heart is a place of rest. Awakening was where I first encountered Jesus, and where I found my home and family at CCM. After being asked to rector Awakening 68, I felt so honored to have a small part in planning the weekend that was so integral in my faith life, and so excited that it would have that same impact on so many other students."

-Riley Griesemer, Senior, Awakening Rector #68



"Unbelievable. Awakening was a series of loving events that not only elevated my participation in the Catholic faith, but helped me grow as a person in such a short time. There was so much I learned and even more that I took away from the retreat."

-Tyler Frey, sophomore.



"I've been to many retreats growing up, from Luke 18 to Kairos. They all have impacted me in many ways, but they don't compare to the spiritual growth I experienced at Awakening. I felt like I discovered a new side to my relationship with God. I wouldn't have developed this without the Awakening Retreat."

-Mya Kemper, freshman.



"I went through so many emotions in such a short period. It was the first retreat I had ever been to, so I didn't have any idea of what to expect. And what a great surprise! It was such an awesome experience. I got close with so many people and I feel so much more at home at CCM. It definitely made me think differently about our faith, which is a good thing. I came from a Catholic town and I never really experienced something that stimulating, for lack of a better term. 11/10 highly recommend."

-Alex Mannebach, freshman.





Annual Report of Giving 2017-2018

Catholic Campus Ministry is incredibly grateful for the generous financial support we have received over the past year. We rely on our donors 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 from JULY 1, 2017- JUNE 30, 2018. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you have any questions, please contact Bev Franklin at 417-865-0802.

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