

Eagle's Wings

Director Campus
Ministry /
University Chaplain
Fr. John Maher, C.M.
286-8415
jmaher@niagara.edu

Campus Ministers
Monica Saltarelli
286-8409
ms@niagara.edu

Fr. Bruce Krause, C.M.
286-8412
bkrause@niagara.edu

Secretary
Marisa Barile
286-8400
mbarile@niagara.edu

RCIA Information
Call Fr. Bruce Krause
286-8412

Weddings and Baptisms
at
Alumni Chapel
Call Fr. John Maher
286-8415

Mass Intentions
are accepted for each
Weekday and Sunday Mass
for \$10 per Mass.
Call 286-8400 or stop by
the office.
They are also listed on our
website.

Campus Ministry
Web Page
www.niagara.edu/ministry

Newsletter On-line
from the above website,
click on NEWSLETTER

Mass Schedule
Sunday Masses:
11 am, 4:30 pm & 10 pm



Fr. John T. Maher, C.M. '76
Director, Campus Ministry
University Chaplain

"The Kingship of Christ"

One of my warmest childhood memories are visits my family made to my grandparents' apartment in Brooklyn. In making the trek from New Jersey, we five kids and parents would pile into the family car and drive to the majestic George Washington Bridge, heading to Brooklyn via the fascinating streets of Manhattan's concrete canyons.

Arrival at my grandparent's apartment was an adventure. Finding a Sunday parking space could be, as my father would say, "rarer than hen's teeth." In cold and rainy weather, he had more colorful expressions. Once up the winding stairs, we would feel the warm embrace of my grandparents, hear their Irish brogues, and be thrust into a room of aunts, uncles, and cousins who welcomed us *"even though you have the misfortune to live over in Jersey"*.

With opera records playing in one room and NY Giants' game in the other, it was only a matter of time before my aunts and uncles would start to fiercely argue about politics- and I loved to sit and listen. (They would make pikers of today's TV pundits.) A frequent target of the tribe was Governor Nelson Rockefeller, whom they often called "the king". Because of his financial wealth and enormous political power, "Rocky" was a force to be reckoned with. Whenever his policies irritated my relatives (which was often), there was one refrain heard: *"Well, as they say, it must be good to be the king!"*

Even today, politicians, celebrities, sports heroes, and famous folk all have those 'king-like' moments, when the world appears to be their oyster. We envy them, emulate them, deride them, but we participate in their 'kingship', as a plethora of magazines, web sites and TV shows force feed us constant doses of celebrity gossip disguised as news.

How different is the Kingship of Christ! This feast ends our liturgical year and signals the beginning of Advent to ready us for Christmas. At face value, Jesus' kingship is not one to be envied or emulated. He is mocked by Roman soldiers, abandoned by the disciples who swore they would stand by him, and dies on a cross, the most shameful of deaths. No wonder people of his time had trouble accepting his resurrection from the dead- no 'king' dying in such ignominy could be a leader who would bring forth the Kingdom of God.

Yet, that is what happened. We see in Jesus' kingship a model of the servant who suffers, who trusts in God against all odds, and who walks with us in moments of light and times of darkness. Society today may tell us 'it's good to be the king', but Jesus shows us what it truly means to be King - God-like kingship: love, service, sacrifice, and hope. Here's hoping your Advent will be a time to deepen the Kingship of Christ in your heart and hearth.

"As One Who Serves"



Servant leadership is not a commonly shared image of leadership. We like to think of the charismatic, energetic and highly popular persons as the prime candidates for positions of leadership. These qualities may well be desirable for someone to possess in his or her role of leadership. However, these expectations tend to overlook the prime attribute presented to us in the Gospels – namely, that of servant. Admittedly, this designation presents some problems, today. We are understandably uncomfortable with an expectation of servant leadership, which reduces the person to a more or less servile role, such as slavery presented years ago. Women, too, may find this identity of “servant” leaders disconcerting due to the subservient role with which they have been placed in our society for so many years. Still, I would maintain that a person can indeed exercise her or his leadership role, no matter what the position might be, without so demeaning herself or himself. There are a couple of characteristics with this approach to leadership that I would like to briefly mention.

The primary characteristic of a servant leader is his or her capacity to inspire persons with a vision that goes beyond the individual, and to which persons are willing to make a genuine commitment. This means that the vision is much larger than the leader, and she or he is ready to give her or his all to its advancement during their tenure in office. Often, as certainly Jesus had to do when preaching about the reign of God, servant leaders must be willing to hold this vision before others again and again. They may not preach about this vision, but they will certainly feel compelled to communicate this vision in a variety of ways. I would add that presenting this vision is especially important during difficult times when persons might just as easily throw in the towel so to speak. Urging others to remain firm in their commitment in the face of adversity is no easy task. Such a commitment invariably means some sacrifice of one kind or another on the part of the leader. It remains an imperative, though, for anyone who wishes to follow the example of Jesus.

A second characteristic is the leader’s ability to draw upon the wisdom, expertise, and skills of others. We seem to adore the person who can seemingly do it all. We want our heroes because, in part, it lets the rest of us off the hook. Yet, many times the tasks before those in leadership is quite daunting, and will require the contributions of many to help this vision reach fruition. A servant leader will call upon others to make contributions for the sake of the vision, not to inflate the standing of the leader before others. In other words, the leader has not been placed on a pedestal. Again, we can look at the example of Jesus who from the outset of his ministry called upon others to join him.

Campus Ministry and Vincentian Eagle Leadership will sponsor a retreat on “servant leadership” on January 30th thru February 1st at the Abbey of the Genesee. This is an opportunity to reflect, pray and share what it means to be a servant leader both now and in the future. I sincerely hope that you will consider joining us for this retreat. Registration forms will be made available soon. Spaces are limited at Bethany House, so you will want to be sure to register early. For more information about the retreat, please see Fr. Bruce or Marisa in the Office of Campus Ministry. Please also mark your calendars for a retreat scheduled at Stella Niagara from March 20th through the 22nd. There will be more information about this retreat next semester.

B.A.S.I.C. BOUND!

Congratulations to the following that will do a week of service through B.A.S.I.C. January 4-12, 2009 in Trenton, NJ: **Lauren Costello'11,**

Casie Baillie'09, Mike Daloia'09, Lacey Howcroft'09, Lauren Parkhurst'09, and Dan Schasel'11 and the following will serve at

Vincentian site in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, PA: **Kirsti Holland '11, Sara Enser'10, Jessica Prinzing'10, Chelsea**

Riedl'10, Amanda Torrelli'10, Meredith Nevins'10, Devan Corcoran '11, Samantha Evans'10, Don Denz'09, T.J. Colangelo '09, Cassie Shelton'10, Ashley

Bantelman'10, Deandra Modica '10, Janna Besant '10, Mary Gillig'10, Anna Toep'12, and Chris Dugan '12.



the

Giving Tree!

The holiday season will be tough for many. Please take a tag off the Giving Tree located in the Chapel and the lower level Gallagher Center. Each tag gives a name, age, clothing size, and in some cases a gift wish of a child in need. The gifts will be dispersed to children in need from the Joan Male Center and the Niagara Falls area. If you are out shopping and see an ideal gift for a child but you did not take a tag, feel free to buy it and drop it off to Campus Ministry. It will definitely find a good home. Unfortunately, many families cannot think about Christmas until the last minute so those extra gifts not assigned always come in handy. As it gets colder, the need to keep warm is a necessity. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting hats, gloves, and scarves for the Our Lady of Lebanon Food Pantry which can also be dropped off at Campus Ministry. St. Vincent de Paul said, "We must pass from affective to effective love. That is a love which takes flesh in works of charity, service of the poor which is undertaken with joy, constancy and tender love."

St. Vincent de Paul Society...

The St. Vincent de Paul Society continues to gladly serve the Niagara Falls district. Their assistance and hard work has helped maintain the Church's presence on eastside primarily at Our Lady of Lebanon Food Pantry. Some of their activities besides the food pantry this semester included: the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift store, the haunted house at Holy Family Church, cards for veterans at Veterans Hospital, Thanksgiving baskets, food and hygiene item collections, the St. Vincent de Paul Triduum, and collecting groceries at Tops. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is always looking for new members. Service opportunities are available in the mornings, evenings, and weekends. Please know that when you buy concessions at the men's basketball games during the semester, you are assisting the St. Vincent de Paul society support their numerous projects for the poor and marginalized.

Upcoming Events:

- **Tree Blessing** warm up with some hot chocolate and cookies - LLGC - Thursday, December 4th @ 12:15pm - Remember to bring an ornament that symbolizing your club or department!!
- **Pre-Christmas Mass** - Alumni Chapel - Sunday, December 7th @ 5 pm After Mass there will be a dinner to follow - more details to follow...
- **Giving Tree** - help us by making this year a success for a less fortunate family - simply take a tag off the giving tree and return the gift unwrapped to the Office of Campus Ministry - LLGC



Announcements for Alumni Chapel

- ***DAILY MASS IN ALUMNI CHAPEL***

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:15 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday at 12:35 p.m.

- ***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2008***

11 am Mass and 5 pm Mass. There will be no 10 pm Mass

- ***SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE ALUMNI CHAPEL***

11:00 am Mass
4:30 pm Mass
10:00 pm Mass