EVENTS:

**Campus Ministry Events:**

**EVENT:** 
- CHORAL PRACTICE 
- INVISIBLE CHILDREN MTGS 
- LIFT (Living in Faith Together) 
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MTGS 
- LIFT (Living in Faith Together) 
- WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 
- TWILIGHT UNDER THE TAPS 
- PAX CHRISTI / LIFT MOVIE NITE 
- NAME TAG & BIRTHDAY SUNDAY 
- FALL RETREAT "Lord of Heaven and Earth" 
- THEOLOGY UNDER THE TAPS "God is Green" 
- SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESS) 
- SOUP SHACK
- LEWISTON TOPS

**DATE/TIME:**
- TUESDAYS 8:00PM
- WEDNESDAY 5:30PM
- THURSDAY 6:00PM
- MONDAYS 7:00PM
- 10:25-7:00PM
- 10:27-7:00PM
- 10:31-10:00PM MASS
- 11:2-10-12:15PM
- 11-5 TO 11-7 TO 11-10 TO 7PM MASS
- 12-03 TO 12-4-10
- 11-14-10-10PM MASS
- 11-17-10-6PM
- 11-17 & 18-10-7PM
- 11-20-10
- 11-28-10-10PM MASS

**LOCATION:**
- STUDY LOUNGE
- ALUMNI CHAPEL
- LLGC
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**The Office of Campus Ministry Newsletter**

Matthew 25:40: The Central Truth of Family Life

Happy Family Weekend!

It’s a sincere sentiment I share with you all on this wonderful occasion. Each year, I look forward to Family Weekend. It “fills out” the family portrait of our students began at CARE and continued in Freshman Orientation. It’s great to meet families, hear their stories, and see first-hand the similarities between siblings and parents. And Family Weekend’s venue is rather relaxed—marked difference from the Move-In Day madness!

This annual Family Weekend reminds us anew that family is important. It helps us to appreciate more fully who we have in our parents and siblings during college years. It expands the bonds of family by enabling us to enter into families of roommates and classmates. (It isn’t unusual for NU families who met on Family Weekend to remain in touch long after their children have graduated!) And it makes us aware of a truth easily lost in today’s individual and isolated world: we are all members of the family of God.

Our time at Niagara (and beyond NU) is a “family faith journey” that we do not walk alone. From our family of origin, to our “intentional” NU family of friends, we go forth as members of the greatest of all families - the mystical Body of Christ. For each baptized and committed Christian, true “family” goes beyond borders of biology or personal preference. As St Paul reminds us so powerfully in his letter to the Ephesians:

“You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone (Eph.2:19-20)

This past year, NU celebrated the 350th Anniversary of the lives of Sts. Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac, two premier “household of God” members whose lives were forged in faith and lived in loving service to God and neighbor. Their legacy of love of God and service to neighbor made possible enduring institutions, including two religious communities; the Vincentians and Daughters of Charity; and two lay movements still active today: the St. Vincent DePaul Society and the Ladies of Charity.

Both Vincent and Louise were born into less-than-ideal family situations and lived in very challenging times, like our own today. But both allowed Jesus to animate their hearts and minds. Both took to heart Matthew 25:40, the “central truth” of the mystical Body of Christ: “I tell you the truth; whatever you did for the least of my brethren, you did for me.” As members of the Christian family and Niagara household, we too must widen our horizons to love and serve others as Jesus did, using the example of Sts. Vincent and Louise as our guide. Let it begin anew today, and every day!

Fr. John T. Maher, C.M. ’76
Director, Campus Ministry
University Chaplain
“If you want to cultivate peace, protect creation”

These words were chosen by Pope Benedict XVI as the theme for World Day of Peace 2010. In his annual message, the Holy Father wrote: “The quest for peace by people of good will surely would become easier if all acknowledge the indivisible relationship between God, human beings and the whole of creation” (If You Want To Cultivate Peace, 14).

As a Church, we have a responsibility towards creation and a “duty to exercise that responsibility in public life, in order to protect earth, water and air as gifts of God the Creator meant for everyone, and above all to save mankind from the danger of self-destruction” (If You Want To Cultivate Peace, 12). The Campus Ministry Retreat Team has heard the call of our Holy Father and taken his words as inspiration for our upcoming Fall Retreat, “Lord of Heaven and Earth.” The retreat, which will be held Nov 5-7 at the Abbey of the Genesee, will provide students with opportunities to deepen their understanding of God’s role in creation and in their own lives. Student leaders and staff will present talks and workshops on various topics of God and Nature. Participants will also experience a bit of the Cistercian prayer tradition, praying alongside the monks who live and work at the Abbey. There will be time for rest, prayer, fellowship, and plenty of good food!

For more information on this Fall get-away, please contact Kristina and pick up a registration form and brochure in Campus Ministry (LLGC). All are welcome to sign up in the Office of Campus Ministry (LLGC) by Friday Oct. 29.

“Let the Celebration Begin”

Let me ask you, “Is it possible for only one person to celebrate?” I suppose it can be done, but a celebration truly finds its meaning when two or more persons gather for this said purpose. I expect you have been to dances where persons stand back and wait for someone else to step forward and take the lead. Reasons such as “I don’t want to embarrass myself” and “I don’t want to stand out like a sore thumb” make us more inclined to sit back to see what others will do. When I believe it is safe to hit the floor or say something, then I enter the fray. Others join in, though, the mood becomes much more festive! The reason for getting together in the first place finds its true purpose. Persons more readily say, “I am glad that I came!”

Are there not parallels with the liturgy, or what is better known as the Eucharist or Mass? If the celebration consists of one person only, namely the priest, how can this truly be a celebration? For many years, the Catholic Church has discouraged “private” masses with just one person present precisely because it does not reflect what should be a communal celebration. Even where an assembly of persons is in attendance, this is not another opportunity for the congregation to sit back, relax, and watch as the priest does his thing. Sadly enough, this happens all too frequently in parish celebrations of the Eucharist. It is little wonder that persons leave early and feel less than fulfilled because their deepest yearnings for guidance and hope through the proclamation of the Word are lost and persons are not fed at the table of the Lord. They feel that much less prepared to face Monday morning and the rest of the week. Absent is any sense that I have been to church, today that others and I have heard of God’s saving work in our lives; and we have truly given “thanks” to God for these wondrous gifts.

With the liturgical reforms of Vatican II and since this time, there has been an effort to promote “full, conscious and active participation” on the part of the congregation in the liturgical celebrations, most notably in the Eucharist. Perhaps the Church has not done a sufficient job in educating persons about the liturgy, especially about the changes which have occurred over the years. This is lamentable, but not impossible to address. If we believe that the Eucharist is the summit of all that we do in the course of a week, and it is what most clearly defines us as Catholics, should we not want to educate ourselves about the liturgy? As the words full, conscious and active suggest, this is really not possible unless persons individually and collectively understand and seek to imitate what is being celebrated each and every week.

It is my hope that the series “A View from the Pew” held two consecutive nights each month between now and the middle of April will enable all of us to become more than bystanders at the Eucharist; we prefer instead to participate actively and fully. The motivation for this shift has to come from an internal and freely made choice to worship the Lord with all of our capacities; namely mind, heart and soul. I want to invite you join me for “A View from the Pew.”

“Let the Celebration Begin!”

Memories Impacting A Lifetime…

A couple of weeks ago I attended NU Alum Weekend. There were many rich memories floating around from my friend, acquaintances, and former students...Interesting enough there was a common thread despite the generation that wove through their glowing recollections. The alums fondly reminisced about service experiences in particular the B.A.S.I.C. (Brothers And Sisters In Christ) immersion trips. Many lasting friendships as well as finding a marriage partner occurred as a result of participating in these Vincentian Mission adventures which begins and ends with an unforgettable coach ride.

This year the tradition continues...Mark your calendar for January 9 -17, 2011. This year Campus Ministry is offering 3 B.A.S.I.C. sites at this time: Philadelphia (Germantown), PA; Camden, NJ; and Emmitsburg, MD. Each site is unique. The schedule includes group bonding, spiritual reflection, service opportunities, and some free time. There is an array of service from working in schools, soup kitchens to home rehabs and various outreach centers. You will encounter people of all ages as you turn the coin and meet the face of Christ.

You certainly do not have to wait for the BASIC trip to get involved in service. The St. Vincent de Paul Society, a student founded and student-run organization is always offering countless service opportunities. The meetings are held every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the LLGC Study Lounge, Gallagher Center, Lower Level 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

If you would like more information about any of the above opportunities, contact Monica Saltarelli, Campus Minister at ms@niagara.edu.

Mr. Davis concerning the homeless outreach, “Guy wrote: “Wow.....I so miss this. Good times for a good cause.”

“View from the Pew” sponsored by the Class of 2011.

November 17th
Theology and Spirituality of the Assembly

November 18th
Spirituality of the Eucharist

December 1st
RCIA, Sacraments and the Assembly

December 2nd
Parts of the Mass

Study Lounge, Gallagher Center, Lower Level 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Fr. Bruce Krause, C.M., Campus Minister

Kristina Schliesman, Campus Minister

Monica Saltarelli, Campus Minister

Campus Minister