



# BENGAL CATHOLICS NEWSLETTER





## THE END DRAWS NEAR

*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

- Joshua 1:9 -

As I write this newsletter, I'm reminded how our time here on campus is full of new beginnings. Nothing really ends; We just move to something new.

At the conclusion of the semester, we will take those moments to say goodbye to those who have achieved what they set out to do here at ISU, wishing them well for their new beginnings. We will then take stock of what remains and prepare ourselves to welcome those coming in a few months who will start a new beginning on campus.

As I think about all of the people we have already encountered, it makes me ever more thankful for everyone who supports St. John's through their prayer & giving. You're helping to build the Kingdom here at ISU.

Small Group Studies, Dinners & Discussion, Sunday Socials, Holy Hours, Sunday Masses, & informal gatherings have helped grow, build, & transform our Bengal Catholics



Community. We continue to meet new people with the hope of them encountering such a spirit-filled group of Catholics that they can't help but desire to experience the same joy that has transformed our lives.

Fr. Costance loves Ping-Pong so we recently hosted a 'Bengal Catholics Invitational' on a Friday. He sadly did not emerge victorious - soundly beaten by eventual champion, Matt Pigatti. He will have his second chance at our next tournament on April 29th.

We also hosted a 'Noche de Baile' where some students taught us cultural dancing, much to the delight of the whole community.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Name:** Joseph Lemos,  
**Major:** Psychology. Bio minor  
**Year:** Senior.



### Why I like St. John's.

St. John's is a place to really go deeper in your faith. There are great resources, especially mentors, who want to walk through faith with you. It was something I didn't expect to need. They are the most genuine & giving people on campus that truly desire you to feel known and loved. I love the community that comes here.

### Any advice for incoming freshmen?

Your college experience is what you make of it. Don't fall for the lie that faith can be found apart from the Church. Learn how to pray. That way you will stay connected to your faith.

# THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

St. John's joined the local parish, Holy Spirit Catholic Community to celebrate the Paschal Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. Many parishioners remarked about how great it was to see so many of our community at these liturgies, seated together, preparing for Easter with them.

One of our candidates, Ethan Lang, brought forth the Oil of Catechumens at the Holy Thursday Mass. Our Campus Minister, David O'Neill, brought forth the Oil of the Sick - something that has continued to bless him as he battles cancer.

Sadly, the weather on Good Friday was uncooperative and we were unable to hike up Red Hill at ISU to meditate on the Stations of the Cross. The chapel sufficed.

As you can see in the picture on the previous page, the Easter Vigil was a purely joyous occasion, especially for Fr. Costance. Oren Crafts was baptized into the Church; Ethan Lang & Shane Robison were received into full communion with the Church; Kadie Roche received Confirmation. Many thanks must go to Gabriella Cliffords, one of our FOCUS Missionaries for preparing them so well for their entrance into the Church.



## BY THE NUMBERS

- 80-100 regular Sunday Mass attendees.
- 15-20 regular 'Holy Hour' attendees.
- 25-30 Dinner & Discussion attendees.
- 35-40 Small Group Study attendees.
- 17 students being formed as missionary disciples.
- 44 participants at SEEK22 in Boise.
- 150+ students fed each week.
- 4 students received into full communion with the Catholic Church.



## FUNDING THE FUTURE

Support the programming crucial to the mission of St. John's. Invest in your parish's future and the continued growth of this vital ministry.

Contact David O'Neill to discover ways to make a lasting impact on the future of St. John's.

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208-406-2290



## WAYS TO GIVE

St. John's is always seeking to improve the ways in which we evangelize the Idaho State University campus.

Over the last 5 years, we have improved many areas of our building - study, library, dining room, lounge, downstairs, etc. This summer, we will continue to upgrade our lighting to be more energy efficient

As we continue to grow and update our 55+ year old building, our attention is being drawn to the chapel. If you are interested in helping beautify our worship space, we are currently exploring the purchase of a new crucifix and Stations of the Cross. Please contact David if this is an area where you feel called to give.

Have you considered being a monthly donor? Monthly gifts help us plan accordingly for all the activities and services we provide. A simple recurring gift of \$30/month goes a long way at St. John's. Go to [www.bengalcatholics.com](http://www.bengalcatholics.com) to find out more.

Lastly, you can always use the envelope provided to make a one-time gift, supporting the various needs of the Center - include in the memo line any donor intentions you may have. We appreciate all the ways in which you help grow the Church here at Idaho State.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

if you have any intentions that you would like to be added to our prayer requests, please reach out to Dave & we will include them.



- For the continued conversion of students at Idaho State University, especially those currently in RCIA.
- For all our student leaders.
- For all students on campus who experience mental health issues, especially anxiety and loneliness.
- For students preparing to graduate..
- For the safe delivery of baby Cliffords.
- For Faith & Carson as they prepare for marriage.
- For all incoming students next Fall.
- For the complete healing of David O'Neill from cancer.