

#### Spring Break Mt Pleasant, SC

CCM's domestic spring break program brought eight students to partner with Habitat for Humanity in Mount Pleasant, SC.

#### Spring Break Adelphi, Jamaica

CCM's international spring break program made a return this year, sending twelve students to Adelphi, Jamaica.

#### Easter and **More Spring Events**

See pictures from various spring events on campus, including Easter Sunday and Mass on the Grass.

# The Catholic Phoenix

#### SPRING 2017 ISSUE



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE** 

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: 4:00pm & 6:00pm Elon Community Church

WEDNESDAY: 7:30pm - Holt Chapel

FRIDAY: 12:10pm - Numen Lumen Pavilion



#### **SPRING** RETREAT

Students found the meaning behind, "The Cross is steady while the world is turning."

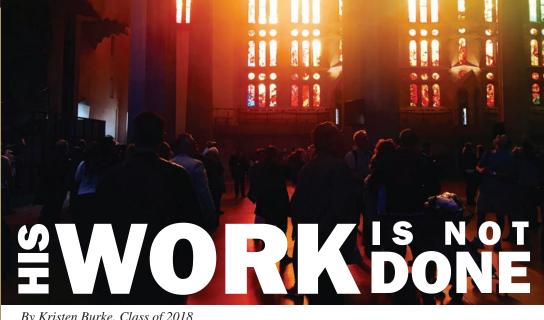


#### MASS on the GRASS

After being rained out last year, CCM's Mass on the Grass was successfully held outside this year! Pictures online!

#### CCM on SOCIAL MEDIA

- twitter.com/ElonCCM
- facebook.com/ElonCatholic
- 0 instagram.com/ElonCCM
- flickr.com/ElonCCM
- youtube.com/ElonCCM You



#### By Kristen Burke, Class of 2018

t is a blessing and a privilege that we are Lable to feel. Whether those feelings are positive or negative, they contribute to our identity. While studying abroad in Spain this past fall semester, I was given the privilege to engage in some of the most breathtaking experiences that permitted feelings to consume me. No single experience is fresher in my mind or more impactful than my weekend visit to the city of Barcelona.

There, as I stood at the base of the Nativity Facade of La Sagrada Familia, the famous Catholic basilica, I was overtaken by an unexplainable feeling. Although the intricacy of the architecture was remarkable, the reality of its unfinished beauty was even more captivating. The construction began in 1882 and today, only 70% of the work is completed.

As I entered the basilica, I lost my footing. I was weak in the knees. I was struck by the natural light beams entering the stained glass windows. I was amazed by the magnitude of the structure. I was within the walls of a structure that I identified with. I, too, am an unfinished piece of work.

In the course of my 21 years on Earth, the hands of our Maker have shaped me. His work is not done and His plans for the future are greater than I could imagine. That is the insight that I was shown there in that place and have since carried with me so close to my heart. You do not have to travel far or lose your footing to feel the overpowering grace of our God. You do have to realize that you, too, are an unfinished masterpiece. We are being crafted each and every day to do the work of our Lord. Today, back at Elon, I strive to live in a manner that reflects my faith because I do not know who I would be without it. I would not know the light. I would not know myself. I simply would not be.

#### 🖲 **ELON** UNIVERSITY

#### Catholic Campus Ministry

Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life Numen Lumen Pavilion

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## A Dedication

## Mount Pleasant, SC Habitat for Humanity

#### By Isabella Santelia, Class of 2020

Seven other students, our Peer Ministry Coordinator, and I went on CCM's spring break service trip to Charleston, South Carolina. The focus of this mission trip was affordable housing. We worked with Habitat for Humanity on a house in Mount Pleasant as part of their Collegiate Challenge alternative break program. The house on which our previous CCM group worked during last year's mission trip was finished and on the same plot, which was really exciting because we were able to see what the final result of our work will look like!

It was my first time working with Habitat for Humanity, so I wasn't familiar with using the power tools or the different stages of building a house. We worked on priming and painting, hammering metal hurricane blockers to the interior and exterior, securing the roof, installing wood for support, and even got to use a few power tools including a power saw and electric drill. The staff on site as well as dedicated regular volunteers were helpful in making sure we were successful in our given tasks. There were also home repairs for other houses in the area. The project we worked on in addition to the house was painting and priming a trailer home.

After our work days, we spent time at the beach, went mini golfing, visited Birds of Prey to learn, and spent time in downtown Charleston. After going on this trip, I plan to work with Habitat for Humanity again in the future because it is such a great organization that taught us all valuable skills for home building and repairs that we can use to help others. I am also thankful to Elon CCM for the opportunity to have spent my time serving the community and in working with such a special group of fellow students dedicated to serving others.





## to Love and Service

### Adelphi, Jamaica Mustard Seed Communities

#### By Emily Keller and John Walkowski, Class of 2019

This Spring Break, Father Peter and a group of 12 students went to Montego Bay, Jamaica, to volunteer with Mustard Seed Communities. Mustard Seed is an organization dedicated to caring for the most vulnerable and marginalized populations in the countries where they serve. They currently have locations established in Jamaica, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. Thanks to the generosity of a grant, we were able to spend the week in Adelphi, Jamaica, at the Blessed Assurance site, about an hour inland from Montego Bay. At this site, we had the pleasure of serving disabled kids between the ages of 7 and 18 who have absolutely nowhere else to go. Blessed Assurance truly is a special place on this Earth that does an amazing job caring for the sweetest of kiddos in Jamaica.

To say this was a life-changing experience would be an understatement. We received so much more out of this trip than we could have ever hoped for. Taking care of kids, especially those with disabilities, was definitely out of our comfort zone, so you can imagine what it was like going to the middle of the Jamaican rain forest to care for disabled orphans, many of whom barely spoke English. Of course, many of our greatest experiences come from times when we force ourselves outside of our comfort zones. This was certainly no exception. We felt ourselves grow so much, both as caretakers to the kids and also as servants of God.

Although our main purpose of the trip was to spend a week caring for the kids, there was even more to gain. It is nearly impossible to put into words the incredible opportunity of fully experiencing another country and its culture. During our week there, we had a chance to go to Mass with the Bishop at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Montego Bay. We also drove to Moneague and visited another Mustard Seed location, Jacob's Ladder, a site that takes in many of the disabled adults in Jamaica. We then spent the rest of the day on the beach in Ocho Rios. The combination of all of these experiences provided such an immersive and wholesome week for us, and one we certainly won't soon forget.







e, the heart remains open and youthful, and it expands g good." - Pope Francis, 10/2/2016



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## Spring is in the air!

Photos from Spring Semester Events







### Look Fuside!

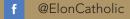
His Work Is Not Done by Kristen Burke, Class of 2018

Spring Break: Mt Pleasant, SC by Isabella Santelia, Class of 2020

Spring Break: Adelphi, Jamaica by Emily Keller and John Walkowski, Class of 2019

### Did you know?

The best place to see these and more photos of Elon CCM's various events are on our Facebook page and Instagram account. You can also get the latest updates on activities and events.



@ElonCCM