



A Worthy Organization

Parents Greg and Sandy Janis discuss why Elon Catholic Campus Ministry is an organization worthy of their support.

Ignited By Truth Conference

For a different spiritual experience, students attend a Catholic conference this year for their annual Spring Retreat.

A Student's RCIA Journey

First-year student Taylor Stephens recounts the support she received from her family and the CCM community.

The Catholic Phoenix

SPRING 2018 ISSUE

Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life
Numen Lumen Pavilion

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:
11:00am
Holt Chapel

4:00pm & 6:00pm
Elon Community Church

TUESDAY:
9:00pm - Holt Chapel

WEDNESDAY:
7:30pm - Holt Chapel

FRIDAY:
12:10pm - Numen Lumen Pavilion

CCM on SOCIAL MEDIA

 facebook.com/ElonCatholic

 instagram.com/ElonCCM

 twitter.com/ElonCCM

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 youtube.com/ElonCCM



Guests of Honor

By Emily Keller, Class of 2019

On March 4th, our Catholic community joyfully welcomed Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama to the 6pm Mass at the Elon Community Church and to our March Sunday Supper that followed afterward. Additionally, our community was excited to have Elon's ninth president Dr. Connie Book, a practicing Catholic, join us at Mass and dinner as well. Our ministry was so happy to have two incredible guests with us on this very special Sunday.

During the homily, Bishop Zarama first complemented our choir and recalled how the lovely voices of the choir used to bring him to Mass when he was in his late teens and early twenties. He also talked about making ourselves presentable for God and to clean our souls like we clean our rooms. This takes effort especially in college, but he was thrilled to see the great participation of Catholic students in their faith. Bishop Zarama spoke of being joy-filled Catholics both when receiving the Eucharist during Mass as well as exiting the church and going out into the world. He called us to share the joy of Jesus

we receive with everyone we meet.

After Mass, it was a Sunday Supper for the record books! The members of the Elon Community Church and a local CCM parishioner catered an incredible meal for the 120 people at Sunday Supper in the Community Life Center. They were so kind and generous to all of us in attendance.

Both Dr. Book and Bishop Zarama were able to mingle with students and community members who wore shining smiles as they chatted with our special guests. Bishop Zarama's humility was incredible, and his ability to talk and interact with each person further emphasized his love for the Church and its people. Dr. Book is extraordinarily down-to-earth, and I certainly loved talking with her to learn more about her and her new role as Elon President.

It was truly a gift for both of them to join our ministry for a celebration of the Mass and to make it such a memorable day for everyone. We hope for future visits from Bishop Zarama and a continued relationship with President Book for many years to come!

Spring by the Numbers

STUDENT SERVANT LEADERS:

- Emily Keller, President
- Maya Aboutanos
- Brittany Barton
- Carrie Carlisle
- Daniel Castillo
- Maggie Cornejo
- Maddie Gall
- Hannah Feldhues
- Mikey Lee
- Mary Leupold
- Catherine LoGrande
- Heather Nelson
- Andrew Novinski
- Chris Pottorff
- Fernando Puig
- Emily Trainor
- Marina Thornton
- Leah Vail
- John Walkowski

ADVISORY BOARD

- Cynthia Touloupas, Chair, P'13
- Dcn. Bob Bridwell, '71
- Kristen Burke, '18
- Jon Dooley
- Russell and Melanie Feather, P'15,'17,'19
- Greg and Sandy Janis, P'20
- Kevin Krasinski
- Matthew Krause, '16
- Tracy McCool, '11
- Samantha Murray, '15
- Ralph and Mandy Nelson, P'20
- Fr. Andy Santamauro
- Robert and Elizabeth Siletzky

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Student Ministry Coordinator
Leah Breindel
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ELON DAY
170 Donatons
\$21,607 Raised
Thank you!

SUNDAY SUPPERS
275 Served
over Four
Suppers

SPRING BREAK SERVICE
20 Traveled
to Jamaica
and South
Carolina

SPRING RETREAT
23 Students
to Ignited By
Truth Conference

EASTER MASS
460 Total
Attendance

An Organization Worthy of Giving

By Greg and Sandy Janis, Parents 2020

Our family supports the Elon Catholic Campus Ministry because we want to see the program continue to grow and provide a great environment for our sons and daughters to practice their faith throughout their college experience. We are very fortunate to have Fr. Peter and his staff who provide a very positive and fun environment for our daughter Renee and other young adults to practice their faith.

Students are welcomed into the community when they arrive as freshman but are also encouraged to join in with fun events tied in with college life at any time they like. Now a rising junior, our daughter has made lasting friendships with other students who share the same faith and values through Sunday Mass and small groups. Other activities like Sunday Supper, Mass on the Grass, Fall Retreat at the Beach, and the Spring Break service trips provide great opportunities for students to get involved with the organization.

CCM is a growing ministry that is led by student Servant Leaders and has strong



support from alumni, parents, faculty, and community members through the Advisory Board as well as Fr. Peter and his staff. We encourage all Catholic parents of Elon students to support participation of your young adults and to support this organization so that it can continue to serve and grow the Catholic community at Elon.

Support CCM at: org.elon.edu/ccm/makeagift

Getting Ignited!

By Mackenzie Hall, Class of 2020



On April 28th, servant leaders Emily Trainor '19 and Andrew Novinski '19, organized more than 20 Elon students as we attended the Ignited by Truth Catholic Conference at North Carolina State University. There, we listened to a variety of speakers, including Fr. Robert Spitzer, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, and a crowd favorite, Mark Hart.

Mark Hart, the most energetic and engaging of the speakers, spoke, specifically, of living a joy-filled Catholic life. He focused on the humor of our faith and maintained the attention of the audience with plenty of jokes. However, he also offered thoughtful insight that called us to consider how we spread the joy of Christ with others. Do we consider our faith a burden? And if not, why do we walk around like we do?

Bishop Zarama circled back to this idea in the Mass that concluded the conference. He encouraged everyone to “turn their frowns upside down” when processing to receive the Eucharist. The

Eucharist is the greatest thing that God has given us and yet we approach it looking miserable, grim, and solemn. We learned, however, that there is an important difference between reverence and misery. Jesus wants us to receive Him with the utmost joy in our hearts, so a simple smile is a good way to start!

Both Mark Hart and Bishop Zarama's talks, among others, inspired many faith-filled conversations that we shared with one another in small groups throughout the day. Questions like, “How do we share the good news we believe to be true with others and, specifically, with our fellow students at Elon?” were of great prevalence in these conversations. Ultimately, we were being challenged in our faith in ways we hadn't considered before, which both scared and excited us. Overall, we, Elon students, greatly enjoyed spending the day as honorary members of the NC State Wolfpack growing in our faith on this year's Spring Retreat.



Embracing the Faith

By Taylor Stephens, Class of 2021

College was a new beginning for me, the next chapter in my life story. As a child my parents didn't pressure me into going to church; they wanted me to make the decision to pursue my faith on my own rather than being forced. Although I had grown up going to church every Christmas Eve with our extended family and had been baptized Catholic, I never truly knew what it meant to be Catholic. Through middle school and high school, I prayed every night to God and listen to my grandparents talk about the true blessings God offers to us every day. My entire family's love and support had helped me become more interested in what it meant to be Catholic. I had wanted to pursue my faith more during my senior year of high school, but I didn't truly find my way until I met my sponsor, Heather, who introduced me to CCM.

During the Fall Semester, I attended with Heather the “Liturgy on the Lawn,” a Sunday Mass held outside the Holland House - Elon's



Catholic Newman Center . Meeting the CCM community and my RCIA leader, Tricia McCarthy, helped me realize I wanted to fully embrace my faith. Since then the CCM community has welcomed me with loving arms and helped me grow through every step of the Confirmation process. My experience was everything I had hoped for and more; Tricia and Heather were always available to answer questions about RCIA topics, and Father Peter was loving and supportive in helping me receive the sacraments as well as throughout the entire process. Others within the CCM community were friendly, willing to help, and so welcoming as I went through the process.

If I could do it all over again, I would do it even sooner towards the start of the Fall Semester, because I felt so privileged and blessed to learn about the teachings of Catholicism from the most welcoming community, and I am blessed with their love and support as I continue to grow as a newly confirmed member of the Church.



The Catholic Phoenix
CCM Newsletter

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Graduation Mass 2018



"Being supported by CCM the past four years has permitted me to know what love and community looks like. I will most certainly miss the people who have become and will always be my confidants, cheerleaders, best friends, and faith sharers." - Kristen Burke



"What I'm going to miss most about CCM is the incredibly welcoming and laid back community that's always been a source of support and friendship over the years." - Madison Petrella



"CCM has granted me with one of the best and most important communities during the entire past four years at Elon. Since there are just too many amazing and impactful memories and experiences with CCM, I cannot say that there is just one that is my favorite. However, I can say, that CCM has motivated, encouraged, and challenged me to grow socially, spiritually, intellectually, and in service. My experiences and growth with CCM is one of the many things that I will take with me on my journey after graduation." - Elizabeth Canto



"There are too many good memories to count. Definitely living in the Holland House for two years, which has been the source of many good friendships during that time." - Elizabeth Bilka



"I have so many great memories with CCM. By far the most memorable was Beach Retreat. Especially as a first-year, I felt welcomed into a supportive community, and the weekend always left me feeling at peace and rejuvenated." - Cassandra Tumas