



The New Priest

Get to know our new Catholic Campus Minister at Elon University - Father Peter C. Tremblay!

Annual Report

Thank you to all the donors who made a financial gift to Catholic Campus Ministry at Elon University last year.

Jimmy Mitchell

CCM students reflect on a talk about mercy given by well-known Catholic speaker Jimmy Mitchell during his visit to Elon.

The Catholic Phoenix

FALL 2016 ISSUE



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

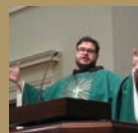
WEDNESDAY:
7:30pm - Holt Chapel

FRIDAY:
12:10pm - Numen Lumen Pavilion



I AM CATHOLIC

Watch the incredible "I Am Catholic" video to see what it's like being a Catholic student at Elon.
org.elon.edu/ccm/iamcatholic



FATHER PETER'S HOMILIES

Get to know Father Peter by listening to some of his homilies delivered to the CCM community.
org.elon.edu/ccm/videos

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FRONT PORCH FRIDAY

By Melissa Purgert, Class of 2018

This past September, Elon CCM hosted a new event, Front Porch Friday, which was a huge success in gathering the Elon Catholic community and friends. The evening took place at the Newman Center on South Campus. Inside the house, there were several stations with leaders heading up a milkshake bar - making dozens of milkshakes with a variety of flavors and toppings!

Outdoors, we had frisbees flying, games of corn hole, ladder ball, and animals from nearby not-for-profit Kopper Top Life Learning Center. Old friends sat together on the grass and caught up on summers, and new friendships formed in the beautiful weather.

I had a great time partnered up with my friend playing corn hole against Father Peter and Servant Leader, Amanda Corso. The event was a great way to relax at the end of

the week and incorporated things that every college kid loves: food, puppies, and music. Despite my team not winning corn hole, it was a great opportunity to get to know Father Peter and have fellow CCM friends cheer on our teams. In addition, the puppies, kittens, and bunnies all over the front yard of the Newman House truly made for an enjoyable experience as crowds of students gathered around to hold and pet them. The little furry friends were much needed, especially after the first few weeks of school when everyone begins to miss their pets from home.

The event was such an amazing time; I look forward to next year's Front Porch Friday and getting to meet more amazing people while continuing to build friendships in faith. I can always look forward to CCM hosting an amazing event, making my Elon experience just that much more memorable.

Truitt Center for Religious
and Spiritual Life
Numen Lumen Pavilion

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Fax: 336-278-7439

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Get to Know Father Peter

How and when did you arrive at Elon?

I arrived at Elon on August 1st of this year. I was asked by my religious superior to come to Elon and serve as the next Catholic Campus Minister. My most recent assignment was teaching Morality and Philosophy at an inner city Catholic high school in Baltimore. Upon hearing that Elon CCM was my next assignment, I was overjoyed and thrilled to be the next chaplain here.

Tell us about your hometown and family.

I'm from Orchard Park, NY, which is just south of the city of Buffalo and the home of the Buffalo Bills. I'm still a Bills fan to this day. My family was, and still is, a very devoutly Catholic family. I have four brothers including a fraternal twin brother. While I do miss the snow of Buffalo, I am enjoying the beautiful weather here in North Carolina.

How did you decide to become a Franciscan?

During my time at St. Francis High School and then at Franciscan University of Steubenville, I fell in love with the spirit and life of St. Francis of Assisi. So after I graduated with an undergraduate degree in theology in 2003, I joined the friars who had run my high school. I spent many years of prayer, work, and discernment with the friars, and it was then that I knew I would spend the rest of my life serving the Church in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

What has been your favorite part, so far, about serving at Elon?

My favorite part of serving at Elon has been the warmth, enthusiasm, and spirit of welcome that I have received from everyone. I've been especially moved by the dedication, faith, and hard work of the students in CCM. They inspire me to be a better priest, Franciscan, and chaplain.

What are some of your favorite things?

Well, my favorite food is chicken wings. I love good chicken wings and I have the belly to prove it! My favorite movie is an old classic, *Casablanca*, with Humphry Bogart. My favorite hobby is more of an avocation. I'm very dedicated to woodworking and furniture making. I've made everything from small boxes and bowls to large chests and tables.

What are you looking forward to while at Elon?

There is an incredible opportunity that lies before us. I deeply believe that our world needs strong Catholic leaders to engage our culture and witness to their Catholic faith. I am excited about helping our students find their voice and learn the skills that they will need to question, challenge, and engage a world and culture that is growing more secular and ever more divided. Today, in response to the New Evangelization, we need to empower our young people to challenge and question the secular world around them. We need to train future evangelists of the Catholic faith. Doing this work is what I look forward to the most here at Elon.

First-Year Experiences

Being Catholic at Elon



Heather (right) at the CCM Beach Retreat with fellow first-year student Dana Pajk.

By Heather Nelson, Class of 2020

Hi, my name is Heather Nelson and I am a freshman at Elon this year. Coming into college is rough, but being a devoted Catholic girl at a small liberal arts school can be even rougher. However, Elon's CCM has helped me transition into college and allowed me to feel welcome here, helping me live out my Catholic lifestyle and beliefs. CCM has given me friends who I can count on in any situation, made me feel that my beliefs are ok and accepted, given me a safe place to go when I need to talk to someone, allowed me to still live out my faith to Jesus, and is always there to remind me that Christ loves me no matter what.

In high school, I was an active member in my church's youth group, where my best friends and I would meet up at 5:45 in the back of the church to chat, before we all walked up to the reserved youth group section in the church

for the 6pm teen Mass. It was as much of a social event as it was a religious one. They made Mass fun and made me look forward to Mass. Coming into college, I was nervous I wouldn't be able to find those friends, but CCM helped me find them! CCM helped me meet people who I now walk to church with and hug, not just shake hands with during the Sign of Peace part of the Mass.

CCM also allowed me to meet amazing upperclassmen who knew what it was like to be Catholic at Elon and knew what it was like when our views, as Catholics, weren't accepted. Whether it have been on sex before marriage, God being real in my philosophy or sociology class, or not being quite so bummed out over the election results, they have always been there for me. I can't wait to do more with CCM as I continue my next four years here at Elon.

Fall Break Service Trip

An Encounter with Mercy and Compassion

By Cecilia Nelson, Class of 2020

This fall break, I had the opportunity to travel with CCM to serve with other students in a community outside of Charlotte. Specifically, we were working in the Holy Angels facility in Belmont, NC. This organization, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, takes in many differently-abled people of all ages and backgrounds from across the state of North Carolina. We got the privilege to meet and work with many of the residents, but our service was mostly in beautification of the facility, which was exciting because this felt like it was through this type of work that we could help the organization most. We cleaned up and closed down their summer center, Camp Hope, which had activities like boat rides and barbeques over the summer but needed to be shut down for the winter. Next, we stained a deck of one of the group homes. This project took a majority

of our time; we spent around eight hours over the course of two days covering the entire surface.

We had the opportunity to explore downtown Charlotte as well as the town of Belmont. This was an awesome adventure because we had an experience of learning more about the area we were serving. We tried different foods, went to a Latin festival and explored Belmont Abbey (Catholic) College.

We closed the trip with a wrap-up with Dennis Kuhn, chaplain and executive vice president of Holy Angels. He expressed his gratitude and we discussed how, even though the situations can be viewed as being trapped in a tragic and unfortunate life, we can view them as God views them. We are all made in God's image even when it comes to people who appear to be in woeful conditions, and God loves us all unconditionally.



Cecilia (middle) with Emma Barry and Deirdre Kronschnabel at Camp Hope.

Annual Report of Giving 2015-2016

Thank you.

Catholic Campus Ministry at Elon University is incredibly grateful for the generous financial support we have received over the past year. We rely on our donors as our primary revenue source to fund our programs, events, supplies, and personnel. The following list recognizes all donors who made a financial gift to Catholic Campus Ministry during the Elon fiscal year from June 1, 2015 - May 31, 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please send any questions to T Huynh-Duc at tduc@elon.edu.

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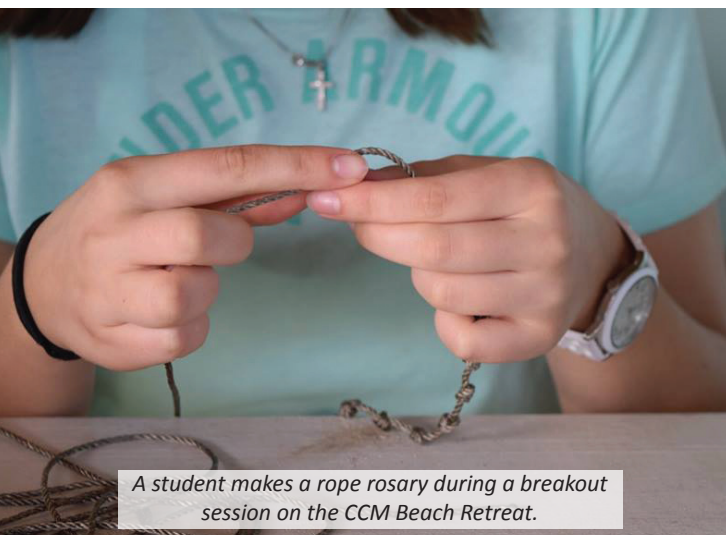
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A student makes a rope rosary during a breakout session on the CCM Beach Retreat.

Wish List

Catholic Campus Ministry at Elon consider ourselves abundantly blessed to have been able to serve the student and university community over the years. The generosity of our donors and benefactors has allowed us to provide for many programs and events. Here are some current items on our wish list that we are hoping to have donated in the coming year. If you would like to fund any of these, please contact Fr. Peter at ptremblay@elon.edu or 336-278-7355.



CCM's Alpha Omega program pairs first-year students with an upperclass mentor.

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- \$2,000** Catholic Speaker Fund for a speaker for one semester
- \$1,000** Music Books for Sunday Masses for new liturgical year
- \$800** Awakening Retreat Sponsorship for Eight Students
- \$500** Celebration/Recognition Dinner for Graduating Seniors
- \$400** Local Food and Shelter Service Projects for one year
- \$400** Student Leadership Retreat before Spring Semester
- \$200** One Monthly Sunday Supper after Masses
- \$150** Newman Hospitality Ministry (Food breaks during finals)
- \$100** Spring Retreat Scholarship for Two Students



Newman Center BBQ

At the beginning of every year, Catholic Campus Ministry celebrates the return of students to campus by hosting the Newman Center BBQ. With tables set up all over the front lawn of the Catholic house on campus, over 100 returning and first-year students came together to dine on North Carolina-style BBQ, coleslaw, hush puppies, and more. Students stayed late into the sunset enjoying each other's company and some competitive lawn games.

Sunday Supper: Kids' Meal

Elon CCM provides a free dinner once every month after the 6 p.m. Sunday Mass as an extension of the Eucharistic feast! Held in the Community Life Center of the Elon Community Church, student leaders and other students volunteer to cook the whole meal for 60-80 others. The Kids' Meal in October is always one of the more popular Sunday Suppers, where the students get to dine on all their childhood favorites like chicken nuggets, fries, and Kraft mac & cheese!



Dining on Campus

(But not in the dining halls!)



CCM Homecoming Tailgate

The tailgate culture is growing at Elon, and CCM is right there in the action! The CCM Homecoming Weekend Tailgate is a wonderful opportunity to welcome not only current students but also all of our CCM alumni. While feasting on more BBQ, our students, alumni, staff, families, and friends were all able to catch up and spend time together. Many even took a ride on the ferris wheel that Elon University brought in this year!

First Years' Dinner

A tradition that was started by previous Catholic Campus Minister Fr. Gerry Waterman, the First-Years' Dinner expanded this year welcoming over 25 first-year students. They were so excited to get away from the dining halls to receive a home-cooked meal from Fr. Peter that the tables overflowed the dining room of the Newman Center. Many agreed with fellow first-year student Julianne Plourde when she said, "It just felt like home."



JIMMY MITCHELL

Well-known Catholic speaker and musician comes to Elon

By Emily Keller and Emily Trainor, Class of 2019

Mercy is the love from God that we do not deserve. We were fortunate enough to have Jimmy Mitchell, a Catholic speaker and musician, share his ministry and love for the Lord with us. The topic was on the history of mercy and his experiences with it. We followed the story from the beginning of time through Pentecost to see how much love God has poured out for us throughout salvation history and still today. Along with his stories of history, there were corresponding pieces of music he wrote that delved deeper into a new experience of emotions. He explained how his music is inspired by the love of God, and encouraged the listener to let the music guide them through their journey whether it is through a vision, feeling, or thought. Jimmy spoke about his personal stories of how mercy has led him to evangelize youth to realize God's love.

Jimmy brought a new perspective to how we view mercy by tying in music. Each song had a distinct story of how it came to be and a guided vision that he shared for the song. After each song was played he asked what we felt or shared his own personal story,

which was a special experience because he was talking with us and bringing our love for God together as one. He made everyone in the room feel as he was talking to us individually and through his personal stories of hiking a mountain in Guatemala, discovering a cave in Austria, or Adoration with over 300 teens and chaperones in Georgia, he showed how God's love and mercy is truly infinite.

Sometimes college can be stressful and classwork and extracurricular activities can overcome a student's time and energy. Jimmy brought a perspective of light and love sharing stories filled with hope and joy that come out of sorrow and despair. We all carry our own crosses, but since the beginning of time, God has constantly poured out his love for us and to this day, is still in love with each and every one of us. It is important for each of us to remember that deep undying love from a Father who is so merciful during each part of the day. From praying a morning offering the minute you wake up to doing an examination of conscience at the end of the day, we are to live each day for and with the Lord.





The Catholic Phoenix
CCM Newsletter

Catholic Campus Ministry
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Look Inside!

2015-2016 Annual Report

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