



We live for the Lord.

Dear Friends-

Have you ever heard someone say something like: "That Loretta, she is a living saint!"? Obviously, that is a great compliment to Loretta. She must be doing something right, and living in a way that shows joy, and speaks something of God. But I would like to point out, that the compliment should describe all of us. In this Sunday's Mass, Saint Paul points this out very clearly in our Second Reading:

Brothers and sisters:

*None of us lives for oneself,
and no one dies for oneself.*

*For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord...*

I know Saint Paul is instructing the Christians in Rome, because scripture scholars tell us that he had not yet been there when he was writing his letter. But my guess is he is describing other communities of Christians that he has been a part of. I am certain that Saint Paul is not describing every human person; but specifically, those who know who they are, and to whom they belong. I have known some people who appeared to live for themselves, and who, (if they do not freely receive God's love) will or have died for themselves. But Saint Paul would tell us that they never really lived. Because we were made by God, and we were made for God. Therefore, to truly live we must be in relationship with Him. To further this idea, I would point out that Saint Paul never refers to believers as Christians. He refers to them as Saints.

Now, with my point being established, I would like to make an invitation.

For six years now, the Newman Center has had the privilege of working side by side with the **Fellowship of Catholic University Students, (FOCUS)**. It has been a dynamic relationship. We have welcomed many missionaries to our campus. Many of our students have gone on to be FOCUS missionaries. And a few have transitioned from being FOCUS missionaries, to working full-time in campus ministry on other university campuses.

After this past academic year, three of our missionaries were asked to take on other leadership positions at other campuses. Luke Landiak is now in Lincoln, NE. Katherine Hopping has moved to Champaign, IL. And Liz Foley is now in Ames, IA. I particularly rejoice in the fact that we have sent Liz Foley to be the team leader of focus at Iowa State. And Aurelia Isenbart, another former FOCUS missionary who served here is now the campus minister at Iowa State. There is hope for the Cyclones yet. :)

So, this year we have three new missionaries that we would like to introduce. After the 6:00 PM Mass this Sunday, September 17th, we are putting on a little social event to **Meet the FOCUS Team**. Please join us in officially welcoming Nathan, Alayna, and Caitlin. And welcoming back Kobe and Carly. I am very excited about our new team because I see them as living for the Lord. And yes, like the rest of us, there is always room for spiritual growth. I think they are living Saints. As I hope you are as well.

A work in progress...



Fr. Jeff Belger
Priest Director

P. S. Next week our undergraduate students will participate in the Fall Retreat- Iron Sharpens Iron! We have 8 days left in our 80 Days to \$8000 campaign to raise funds for our 2 annual retreats. To date, we have raised \$3520! Thank you to all who have supported this campaign. Did you know the Newman Center subsidizes an estimated \$85 per student per retreat so that we can keep the registration fees low? Our goal for our Fall Retreat is 88 student attendees! Please consider donating to this part of our ministry that impacts so many! You can donate today via our online giving at www.iowacatholic.org or mail/drop off a check to the Newman Center: 104 E Jefferson Street, Iowa City, IA 52245. Please write Retreat in the memo. Thank you! Please pray for our students, student leaders, retreat speakers, and staff as they prepare for the retreat next weekend!



September - Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

Our Mother of Sorrows, with strength from above
you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus,
and with tender care you bore him in your arms,
mourning and weeping.

We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you.
We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you.
We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion.

Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and
stand by all your children who need comfort and love.
Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs.
Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen!

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Visit the website at www.iowacatholic.org.*

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