



WARHAWK Catholic HERALD

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FROM THE DIRECTOR



Praised be Jesus Christ!

I'm pleased to share this newsletter to update you about all the great things that are happening this year in Warhawk Catholic.

We have been busy welcoming new and returning students—inviting them into our campus ministry community and into deeper relationship with the Lord. One of the blessings of this new school year has been welcoming four full-time Brew City Catholic Missionaries onto our staff, as well, which has impacted our ministry greatly both in terms of outreach to the campus and in walking with the students who come to us. These young adult missionaries are on

fire for the Lord and our Faith! Please pray for their continued success in their mission and for our Warhawk Catholic ministry as it grows and expands. In this newsletter you will learn more about what is happening in our ministry and read several testimonials from those who have been impacted by our ministry, especially current students and our alumni. Whether you have personally benefitted from the presence of the Church on a college campus or simply see the value of receiving the ministry of Christ at such an important point in a young person's life, you know the work of campus ministry and of evangelization on our campus is crucial. Thank you for your interest in our work. Please know of our prayers for all our benefactors and supporters!

- Brian Zanin

50 YEARS OF WARHAWK CATHOLIC!

Warhawk Catholic's student group celebrates 50 years of being a chartered campus

organization this year. University of Wisconsin - Whitewater students have had various Catholic student organization renditions since 1916, when 60 Catholic women

created the first Catholic club on campus, the Catholic Girls' Society, which later opened to Catholic men in 1920. As a co-ed club, the group called itself the Mercier Club.



In the mid-1960s the Mercier Club reinvented itself as the Mercier-Newman Club. Then, in December 1969, a formal charter was drawn up for the Catholic Student Coalition, under which charter the current student organization, Warhawk Catholic, still operates, 50 years later. Watch for more updates about 50 years of Warhawk Catholic in

the coming year! Also, if you have a Mercier Club, Newman Club, Catholic Student Coalition, or Warhawk Catholic memory you'd like to share with our readers, please e-mail bromanc@archmil.org with your memory. Thank you!

PROFILE SR. CECILIA JOY KUGEL



Sr. Cecilia Joy Kugel recently made her first profession of vows in June with the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. Prior to her profession she visited her hand print she made as a graduating senior on the wall of the Campus Ministry Center on North Prairie Street. Sr. Cecilia Joy graduated from UW-Whitewater in 2016.

After three years as a postulant and novice, Sister Cecilia Joy Kugel made her first profession of vows in June with the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc, Wis. Fr. Dave Beaudry received the vows. Fr. Hilary Brzezinski, OFM, blessed the habits and veils of the sisters professing. Sister Cecilia Joy is a 2016 graduate from UW-Whitewater and participated in the Catholic Student Coalition (now Warhawk Catholic) on campus. She was a guest speaker at a Warhawk Catholic large group meeting during the 2018-19 school year and visited the memory wall in

the ministry center where outgoing seniors started a tradition of painting their hand prints before graduation. "I am so blessed God led me to the ministry at Warhawk Catholic while I was a UW-Whitewater student," Sister Cecilia Joy said. "It gave me a great community to be a part of while discerning religious life." Alumni and current students who would like to reach out to Sister Cecilia Joy may do so by finding her on Facebook (Cecilia Joy Kugel) or by sending her an e-mail at sceciliajoy@fscclalledtobe.org.



PROFILE AUTUMN LONGBERG

Hi! My name is Autumn Longberg, and I am a junior studying Sociology with a double minor in Psychology and Human Services Foundations.

I grew up in Greenville, Wis., where my church had a stellar youth group called Hearts on Fire. Every Thursday night throughout the summer we would attend daily Mass and hang out afterwards. It was simple, but that simplicity allowed for the Lord to build strong friendships. Through the witnesses of those around me, I saw that Catholicism is not a "what" but a "Who." From those experiences, I knew I wanted to find a Catholic community at school that would challenge me to continue growing in my relationship with Christ, so I joined Warhawk Catholic my freshman year.

Some of the highlights of Warhawk Catholic for me have been the cookie bakes, Spring Fling and Fall Ball dances, and Thursday night adoration. There are many opportunities offered by Warhawk Catholic, and I firmly believe a person can find something that draws them into the community. There are many changes coming to the ministry this year, and I cannot wait to see how the Lord works through all of it.

I am a large group leader this year, and I am excited to share the faith with others especially on the topics of prayer, the Holy Spirit, Mary, and the saints! Besides taking on this role, I am excited for the four full-time Brew City Catholic Missionaries that we will have on campus because they have gone through

college themselves and understand the challenges of living out the faith in college.

Something I want everyone to know about Warhawk Catholic is that we are more than a student organization on campus; we are a Catholic community seeking to uphold the good of one another and striving to be authentic and intentional men and women of Christ. God Bless!



PROFILE JACK BOLOG

I'm Jack Bolog, from Kenosha, Wis. and am a Junior double majoring in Human Resource Management and Marketing. I had a profound experience with Christ in my summer going into college. When

I was looking into ways to deepen my faith on campus, I came across Warhawk Catholic (Dub C) and it led me to a path of deeper self-discovery and who I am as a Catholic-Christian. I feel blessed that I have had this group to be with me during my college experience. Warhawk Catholic introduced me to a group of like-minded people, a community where I knew everyone belonged. It made me very comfortable in sharing my faith and living out my Catholic life. It showed me that faith is something meant to be shared.

I used to be an active participant [in Warhawk Catholic], now I am a large group leader. I enjoy being a part of the group during Dub C sessions as much as I do leading topics! I look forward to

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► PROFILE

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getting to know all of the new students who join us. I hope that our community on campus is able to grow and flourish. Being a part of a strong and virtuous community is truly one of the most important things to have in life.

I would like you to know that without [the financial support of donors], we wouldn't exist. Our community is supported by these donations and without them we would not be able to flourish as we are now. Dub C is able to provide scholarships for conferences to students so that we can afford to go to these life-changing experiences. Ultimately, just know that a simple donation from you is helping to transform a future saint! Please consider a donation to this great ministry.

ALUMNI REFLECTIONS

Warhawk Catholic - it was always a space I could be stress free and I was also thankful my college had this group I could go to. I went on the World Youth Day trip to Poland, and it of course is an experience I will never forget. I would not have gone on this trip if it wasn't for Warhawk Catholic. It was so nice spending time with others who had the same values and made good choices daily to put others before themselves. Warhawk Catholic is also fun! The cookie bakes were my favorite and I always enjoyed going to the student mass Sunday nights.

- *Cara Smoczynski '17*

I attended UW-Whitewater my junior and senior years of college. My participation with Catholic

Campus Ministry was minimal, but a positive memory & I regret I wasn't more involved. I was part of the "suitcase" students & left most weekends. I remember the intimate Bible study in my dorm was nice & no pressure - respectful of where I was in my life at that time. It was nice having St. Patrick Church so close to campus. During a time of life when we are searching for "the truth & greater enlightenment," Catholic Campus Ministry can play a life-changing or life-fulfilling part of a person's life as they prepare to step into the world. Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary! God guide your steps always!

- *Mary Nehrling '78*

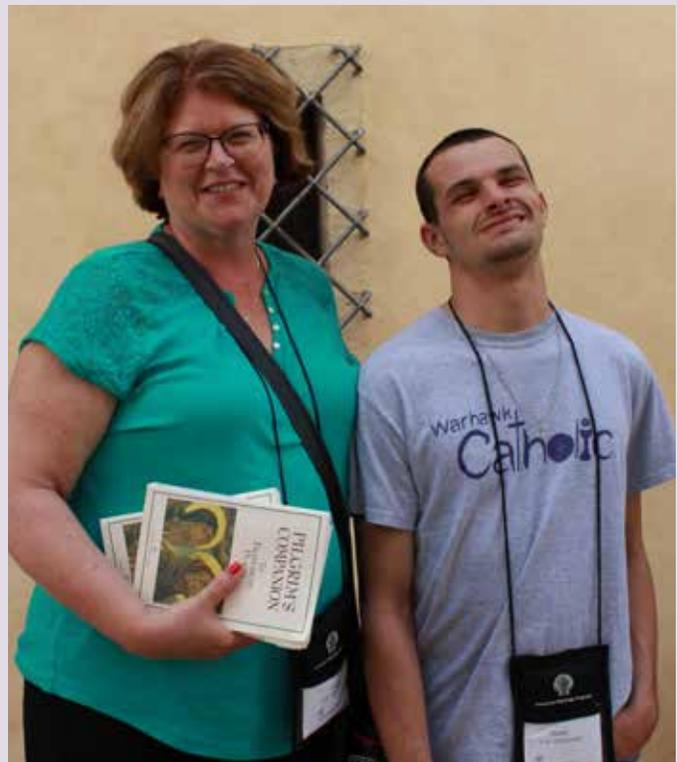
DONOR PROFILE JUSTIN HILLMAN ('19) SUPPORTING EVANGELIZATION

Justin Hillman graduated August 2019 from UW-Whitewater with a minor in Recreation and a major in Health & Human Performance. He's been an intern over the summer at a recreation center near his home that works with people who have disabilities and is now working at the center post-graduation.

Justin was one of the seniors in 2019 who pledged or gave monetary gifts to Warhawk Catholic prior to graduation. He wasn't active in Warhawk Catholic for his entire tenure at UW-Whitewater, however the time he did spend with the group made a difference in his life. He was attending the Sunday night student Mass for two years before making the connection between it and the Warhawk Catholic student organization. "But when I found it, it was great," he said.

He began frequently attending Warhawk Catholic's Wednesday night large group meetings and he

► DONOR (Continued on page 4)



Justin Hillman '19 and his mother, Carol Hillman, traveled with Warhawk Catholic to Italy for the student pilgrimage in May 2018.

GROWING COMMUNITY LEADERS



“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”

Matthew 7:7

My name is Laura Cicero (Laura Kozial). I attended UW-Whitewater from 1997-2000, back when Warhawk Catholic was called Catholic Student Coalition (CSC), and before Brian was the campus minister (if you can imagine that)! I studied Accounting and now I am a CPA working part-time at a small tax firm. I was born and raised in Johnsborg, Ill., and now live in Lindenhurst (just west of Gurnee).

When I started at UWW in the fall of 1997, I was excited about starting

over in a new place, and all the opportunities that may await. I heard about CSC at the organizational fair held on campus and started attending meetings right away my freshman year. We did not have a youth group at my home parish, so the idea of having a group just for the Catholic faith intrigued me. After the first few meetings, I was hooked. I began to get involved in volunteering at the nursing home and attending retreats. After a couple years, I headed up the cookie bake fundraiser.

Leaving UWW and starting out on my own was an exciting time, but also frustrating. My days in CSC were some of the best times I ever had up to that point, and I made friends I will have for life. Starting out in a new town with a new job, new apartment, and new church was

a bit overwhelming. I could not find a church around me that had a young adult group where I could continue my sense of community that I had felt at UWW.

When my husband and I were pregnant with our first child, we had just moved to Lindenhurst, and knew we needed to find a parish. We chose Prince of Peace in Lake Villa. We liked the environment and the welcoming atmosphere. It definitely felt like home to us. When my son was about 1 ½ years old, I got invited to a retreat at church called Christ Renews His Parish. During the retreat, I asked someone if there was any kind of support group for young mothers at church. They said, “No, but why don’t you start one?”

► **ALUMNI** (Continued on page 5)

► **DONOR** (Continued from page 3)

participated in Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday nights. “I loved the men’s group with Fr. Mark that met right after Adoration,” he said.

Justin said he appreciated learning about intricacies of his faith at Warhawk Catholic’s large group meetings. “Our faith can be overwhelming as a whole, but if you break it down you can understand it more and it will bring you closer to the reality of the faith,” he said.

He also found great benefit in St. Mel’s Chapel, which is located in one of the Campus Ministry Center houses. “It helped to know that the Lord was present on our campus, and I could go and pray and just talk with the Lord without even going off campus,” he said.

He also appreciated the welcoming atmosphere. “Where I come from, I don’t have a lot of friends that are Catholic, but I went to Mass with my mom and dad every Sunday before college,” he said. “What kept me coming back to Warhawk Catholic was there actually were people my age. It was a whole new world for me.”

“It really was the community,” he said of what drew him to Warhawk Catholic. “No one was left out. We really try to be brothers and sisters in Christ, helping each other grow.”

And when Justin encountered rough spots in the college experience, he found it helpful knowing that there were people he could fall back on, whether that be Brian Zanin, the campus minister, his Catholic friends, or one of the Brew City Catholic missionaries.

“I believe that my generation is absolutely losing their faith,” he said. “It is sad, but it is true.”

He says he hopes with his donation that he can help younger Catholics stay in the Church by supporting efforts at Warhawk Catholic that reconnect young adults with the true presence of the Eucharist. “Why wouldn’t you support people trying to bring others to Christ?” he asked. “If I can support someone doing this, I know, if a student is going to be at large group, or at Mass, they are going to find out about what we believe. Maybe I can’t do this by myself, but I know that Warhawk Catholic can do this for me.”

► **ALMUNI** (Continued from page 4)

One thing led to another, and with the help of a co-leader, I formed a new ministry at our parish called Parents of Little Angels. The support group is aimed toward parents (or grandparents) of kids under age 5. We met once a month and divided our meetings into part discussion for the parents and part activity/craft for the children. Three years after my son was born, I had twin boys. The support from the parents in the ministry was unbelievable, and helped me survive those rough first years. I had finally found that sense of community that was lacking since I had left UWW. Now my twin boys are in second grade, and I have since passed on the leadership of the ministry. It makes me so happy to know that the ministry I started eight years ago is continuing on and bringing new parents together as they adapt to parenthood and raising their kids in the Catholic faith.

I know that my strong sense of community at UWW helped build a foundation that allowed me to have the courage to start this new ministry. Every time I felt discouraged, I just said a prayer, asking for guidance as to what I was supposed to do, and God would always lead me in the right direction. My advice to all graduating students is that if you cannot find the sense of community when you leave UWW, then God is calling you to start your own path. It may take awhile to find the way, but I always believe everything happens for a reason. He will reveal his plan when the time is right...just be willing to listen.

FROM FR. MARK



Greetings all!

There is a buzz around Warhawk Catholic as this new school year begins. The end of August, our new Brew City Missionaries arrived and are settling in, meeting students and the others God sends their way. It's been fun to see them connect to our St. Patrick daily Mass community and start making presence at our weekend liturgies. Our student community always brings life and joy to our regular parish members.

As a faith family, the St. Patrick Parish is beginning a year dedicated to the Holy Spirit. We are asking the Lord to ignite his fire in us, striving to grow deeper in a faith that transforms each day into a moment of God's love and care. Certainly our students will be part of this experience, both praying with and for us in the parish, as well as receiving the benefits of God's spirit propelling them into UWW to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*- Fr. Mark Niehaus
St Patrick Parish Priest*

Goings On



Warhawk Catholic alumni (from left) Tonya Gratz '01, Katy O'Connor '00, and Laura Cicero '00 were among the nearly 40 people who attended our open house on June 29. Parents, current students, friends and alumni from Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago, and more local communities, stopped by to see our two houses, talk with Brian Zanin the campus minister, and visit. A big blessing of the open house was the many children of Warhawk Catholic alumni who were able to make some new friends. They made great use of the backyard while their parents were able to visit with each other. We at Warhawk Catholic were very happy to have them all here. Thank you for coming, everyone!



Our outgoing 2019 Warhawk Catholic seniors generously contributed \$5,460 to the ongoing mission of Catholic campus ministry at UW-Whitewater through the Senior Class Gift program. Please keep these recent grads in your prayers as they make their transitions into the working world and daily life of the Church off campus!



New incoming UW-Whitewater students and their families, as well as a few returning, stopped by the Campus Ministry Center for an Open House and picnic on Move In Day.



The fall semester has begun and we have four Brew City Catholic missionaries helping to spread the word about their faith (and Warhawk Catholic!) at UW-Whitewater. Welcome to (from left) Matthew Johnson '19, Anna Kozlowski, Sarah Wenk, and John Lesniewski.



Catholic Campus Ministry at UW-Whitewater
336 N. Prairie Street
Whitewater, WI 53190



JOIN US!

Come see us at the UW-Whitewater Homecoming! We will be tailgating outside Perkins Stadium on Sat., Oct. 12 from about 11:30 a.m. until the 2 p.m. game. Alumni, parents, friends, students all welcome.



Bequests and planned gifts help us build a foundation at Warhawk Catholic for future generations. If you have already included Warhawk Catholic in your estate plans, please let us know – we'd like to personally thank you. If you would like more information about will and bequest options, please contact Claudia Broman at (608) 247-2481.

ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep us updated on your life away from UW-Whitewater and Warhawk Catholic! Send a note with your name and contact information to: bromanc@archmil.org.

CORRECTION

Our last newsletter referred to three students (two are now alumni) who joined the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil this year. Their correct names are Nayeli Govantes, Matthew Postlewait '19, and Matthew Johnson '19

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