

Newman parishes take their name from John Henry Cardinal Newman. Cardinal Newman was an Anglican clergyman who converted to Catholicism in 1845. He has become the unofficial patron saint of university education. The Feast Day for Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman is October 9<sup>th</sup>.

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## An Introduction to the **NEWMAN Catholic Parish**

**Eau Claire, WI**

**Our mission, our focus, our community**



# Introduction

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**T**hank you for your interest in joining the Newman Parish as a sustaining member. We want to help you on your faith journey and aid in your discerning if the Newman Catholic Parish in Eau Claire is a good fit for you. We are a community of people promoting the spiritual development of its members through liturgical celebrations, sacramental preparation, educational programs, social justice opportunities and social gatherings. The Newman Parish in Eau Claire was established by Bishop Fredrick Freking in 1969 and has as its primary mission the serving of students, faculty and staff of UW-Eau Claire and Chippewa Valley Technical College. The Diocese of La Crosse established Newman parishes to provide a welcoming community which foster and promote the Catholic faith of students attending college away from their home parishes. Newman parishes have a small but dedicated parish membership, (approximately 325 households) who sustain the parish in its work. This sustaining membership provides a stable parish support system for Newman's outreach to students.

***Anyone wishing to become a sustaining member of Newman Parish should be committed to supporting this unique mission.***

Support from sustaining households can come from their time, talent and/or treasure. Sustaining members are committed to weekly worship with this community. They are also willing to engage in other liturgical, social justice, educational and family life activities of the parish. These activities require time and/or talent and may include some of the following:

- Teaching religious education classes
- Reader, usher or Eucharistic minister at Mass
- Baking for student suppers, student retreats and other parish wide events
- Singing in our various choirs
- Joining a Newman team at the Community Table, Beacon House, Sojourner House, etc.
- Being a mentor at the Busy Student Retreats

- Joining a Newman Small Group – there are groups for students as well as stationary members
- Decorating and maintaining our worship space and ERC grounds

Of course there is a need for financial support which enables our parish to carry out the ministry to students and other various parish ministries. Households accepted for sustaining membership will be asked to share in this responsibility as well as those related to time and talent.



Newman parishioners provide food for the students who study or relax at the ERC during Fall and Spring finals week.

## Next Steps

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**H**opefully this introduction has given you a clearer picture of the Newman Parish's nature and mission. If you feel that Newman may be a good fit for you, we encourage you to contact our parish office at 715-834-3399 or [parishoffice@newmanec.com](mailto:parishoffice@newmanec.com) for information about how to join us at Newman. Once again we are pleased that you are considering joining our parish and look forward to discussing membership with you.