

# The JMU Catholic Connection

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*We want to hear from you!*

*Use the attached return envelope to send in a donation or to just let us know what you think about the stories you read in this edition!*

## Set the World Ablaze

This is an exciting time in history to be Catholic. As baptized Catholic Christians, we are called to encounter the joy of the Gospel and spread it throughout the Earth. Jesus tells us, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matt. 28:19-20) Our mission here at Catholic Campus Ministry is to share the Good News about the person of Jesus Christ to the 20,138 students in James Madison University. Although the Great Commission of Jesus Christ may seem a little daunting, we will succeed with much prayer and trust in the Lord.

For this fall semester, our ministry of evangelization has been flourishing through Catholic Dukes Week, info tables, and our Catholic inquiry sessions. The first week of school was Catholic Dukes Week which included a huge ultimate Frisbee game on the Quad, an ice cream social in Festival, a campus-wide Catholic scavenger hunt, and a Haiti-themed game night at the CCM House. The week brought over two hundred students and we all had an absolute blast. Throughout the month, we also had on-campus information tables where students could learn more about our ministry, join Bible studies, or hear about all of our exciting social events. Lastly, we have weekly Catholic Inquiry sessions until the end of the semester, where Father Ken dis-

usses certain topics within the Catholic faith. This is a great way to learn and understand our faith as it has been present for over 2000 years.

Pope Francis tells us, "We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, in our parish or diocesan institutions, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel." Now is the time to share our faith, especially when we could be the only Gospel that one will ever know. Please keep us JMU students in your prayers so that we may encounter the joy of the Gospel and let our Catholic voice be heard.

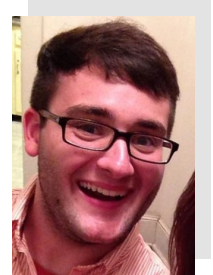
- Gian Gonzalez, Chair of the Evangelization Committee and class of 2016



Gian will be attending the SEEK conference this year! See Upcoming Events for more information.

## CCM hosts Bishop DiLorenzo

For the first time ever in the history of JMU's Catholic Campus Ministry, Bishop DiLorenzo of the Diocese of Richmond ventured all the way to Harrisonburg to say Mass for the hundreds of college students that come every weekend. His visit was exactly what the college community needed at eleven o'clock in the morning. His homily, filled with wisdom and plenty of humor, struck a chord with everyone in the room. He reminded us not to hide behind substances to cope with the stresses of everyday life, but to tackle them with time, friends, and the love of God.



- Ben Denton, Student Campus Minister and class of 2015



"He is so down to Earth and gets college students. That's what we really need in the Church now: more

leaders that understand the youth who will eventually carry on the faith."

- Mackenzie Cate, class of 2016



"My favorite part of the visit was definitely at the end of Mass. Everything was already perfect, but Ben and

Katrina went up for announcements and brought Bishop DiLorenzo a goodie bag full of JMU things. When he cuddled the stuffed Duke Dog I died. It was the most adorable moment ever. I hope he comes back so we can let him meet the real Duke Dog."

- Sarah Robertson, class of 2016



"The first thing the Bishop said to me was, 'He (Father Ken) is working you ladies too hard!'"

Myself and the three other girls that were outside with me just laughed at how candid Bishop DiLorenzo was. It was also very nice to see him taking an interest in campus ministries by getting to know the people of our CCM as well as what we have to offer to the JMU community."

- Sarah Heider, class of 2016

Below: Photos of Bishop DiLorenzo with the Duke Dog, CCM's FOCUS missionaries, and some JMU goodies.



## Student Reflections: Pope Francis

Humble, modest, giving, courageous, and merciful are all words that fit when describing Pope Francis. He takes on a whole new view on what the job of the Pope is. Pope Francis started from the very beginning by shocking the world and reminding us Catholics who we are called to be and how to be it. He does some of that through the words he speaks, but the larger impact he makes is by actually doing. We see him go out into the streets and be with the sick, the poor, and those who are typically shunned from society. We see him talk about subjects we normally shy away from: same-sex marriage, families, divorce, and contraceptives. Especially in this day and age, we need to be able to understand and then stand up and



Pope Francis, courtesy of Catholic Online

defend what the Church teaches us about these topics. He shows us how to confront these difficult subjects in a way that isn't offensive. Most

importantly, Pope Francis shows us true love. He teaches us through example how to love like Jesus



Katrina on a beautiful spring day at JMU on the quad.

Christ loves us: without judgment, without discrimination, and with open arms. The CCM community at JMU looks up to his example in many ways. Pope Francis has given our community a beautiful example of how to be strong leaders in our faith, bold in our actions, and most importantly, examples of selfless love.

*-Katrina Aducci, Assistant Student Campus Minister and class of 2015*

## Upcoming Events

<b>Alternative Spring Break</b>	Over 35 students have already signed up for the continuing tradition of Alternative Spring Break. They will be spending their week reaching out to the poor and sharing their faith in 5 different locations in March.
<b>SEEK 2015</b>	Two years ago, over 40 students attended this fantastic bi-annual national retreat and training conference hosted by FOCUS. We'll be kicking off the adventure on New Year's Eve with 11 pm Mass and fireworks.
<b>Encounter with Christ</b>	The Diocese of Richmond is hosting 3 EWC retreats later this spring. The retreat is open to college students across the diocese and is a great opportunity for students to step back from the pressures of college and deepen their relationship with Christ.



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Serving the community of James Madison University

## How can I Help?!

68% of CCM's program support comes from the donations of parents, alumni, and community members. Your financial support of Catholic Campus Ministry today ensures that the Church has a meaningful presence on campus – nurturing faith and intellectual growth and inspiring lives of service, stewardship, and social justice.

### Join the Living Faith Society!

It's one of the most significant ways you can support CCM. These automatic monthly gifts to CCM provide predictable, dependable income that allows us to plan for the future. Check out our website ([www.jmuccm.com](http://www.jmuccm.com)) for more information.

One-time gifts can be given online also.

**Pray for the Students and the Ministry!**

## Mass Times

### Daily Mass

5:00 pm Monday at the CCM House  
12:30 pm Wednesday at Taylor 4th floor  
5:00 pm Thursday & Friday at the CCM house

### Sunday Mass

11:00 am at the CCM house  
5:00 pm at the CCM House  
9:00 pm at the CCM house

### Reconciliation

4:00 pm on Thursday &  
always by appointment