

OUR CATHOLIC MISSION

TRUTH AND FIDELITY IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

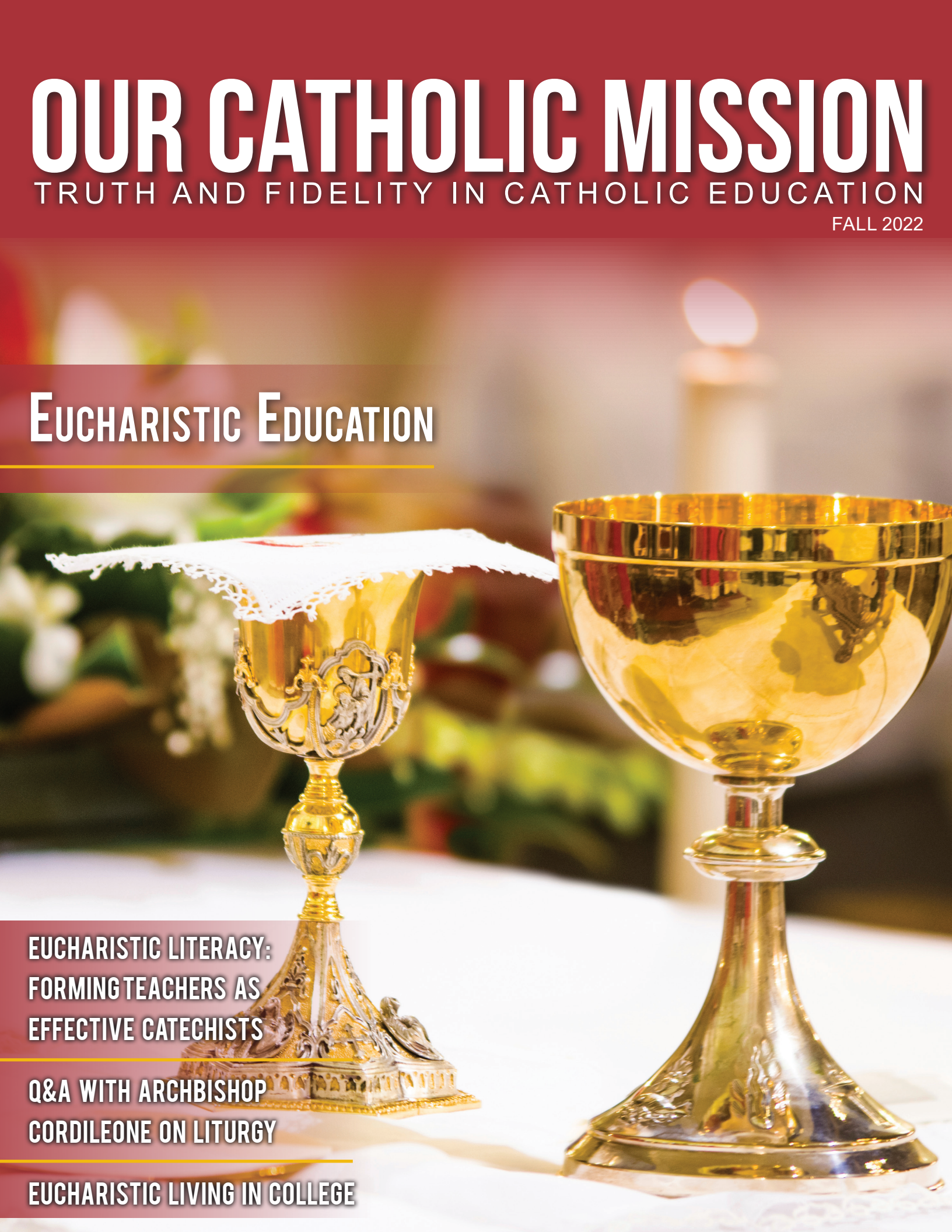
FALL 2022

EUCCHARISTIC EDUCATION

EUCCHARISTIC LITERACY:
FORMING TEACHERS AS
EFFECTIVE CATECHISTS

Q&A WITH ARCHBISHOP
CORDILEONE ON LITURGY

EUCCHARISTIC LIVING IN COLLEGE



The Lesson of All Lessons

I began preparing second-grade students to receive Christ, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, over 20 years ago. Later, as a catechist teaching in Catholic schools and parishes, most of my time was spent preparing middle school students for the Rite of Christian Initiation.

Each time I prepared for instruction on the Real Presence, I recalled my own preparation and reception. I was an older student, possessing full knowledge, tons of humility, and a holy wave of awe about what – rather “whom” – I would be receiving. Each time I shared this lesson, I wanted students to experience that same profound and overwhelming wave of gratitude and humility.

The headmaster at St. Joseph Academy in San Marcos, Calif., knows this feeling well.

For Luke Heintschel, teaching about the Real Presence gains him an audience in the second-grade classroom each year to teach about the concepts of “transubstantiation” and “concomitance,” words most teachers regard as too difficult for seven-year-olds. But introducing them early underscores the most important of all lessons taught in Catholic schools,

and its importance is accentuated when Heintschel, the headmaster, delivers the instruction.

As embodied creatures, the experience of the Mass goes hand-in-hand with instruction.

The smell of incense, the singing of beautiful hymns, and the purposeful and reverent movements of the priest and altar servers as they acknowledge Christ’s presence in the tabernacle and on the altar: all expose students to the importance and transcendence of worship. As Archbishop Cordileone shares on pages six and seven of this issue of *Our Catholic Mission*, planning reverent liturgies is crucial to displaying the beauty the Church has to offer the world.

Not only is Christ present in the Mass, but we are blessed with opportunities to adore Him in Adoration and Benediction. Being in

His presence and willfully opening one’s heart to His abundant mercy and grace allows us to hear God’s voice and ex-

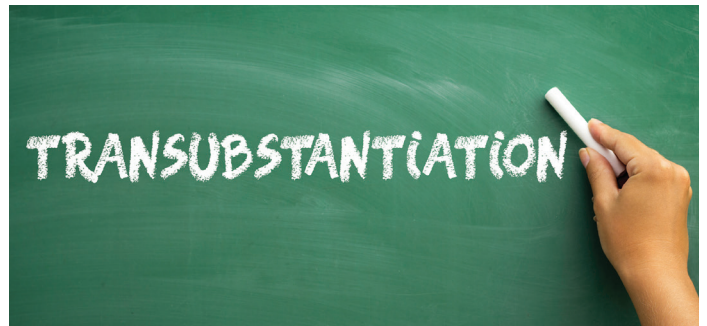
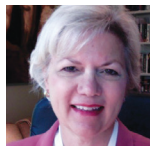
amine our conscience, seeking ways we might live in relationship with Him.

All of this is important to the formation of Catholic school students as they learn through Eucharistic teaching, liturgy, devotion, and living. If your school has lessons, liturgies, devotions, or examples of Eucharistic living, please consider sharing them under the projects section at eucharisticeducation.org or email me at ddonohue@cardinalnewmansociety.org

Our Task Force for Eucharistic Education supports the U.S. bishops’ Eucharistic Revival, a three-year program culminating on Pentecost 2025. So, keep submitting new projects we can highlight and promote during the next three years.

Many blessings,

DENISE DONOHUE, ED.D.,
vice president for educator resources
at The Cardinal Newman Society.
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“INTRODUCING THEM
EARLY UNDERSCORES
THE MOST IMPORTANT
OF ALL LESSONS TAUGHT
IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS”

If you have any questions or comments or would like digital copies of Our Catholic Mission to share with your staff and others in Catholic education, please visit cardinalnewmansociety.org/OCM or email Programs@CardinalNewmanSociety.org

Call for Members: Task Force for Eucharistic Education

I am excited to announce one of The Cardinal Newman Society's most important projects!

And don't just take my word for it: leaders who have partnered with us on this project include Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone (as ecclesiastical advisor) and directors of the U.S. Bishops' Catholic Education office, National Catholic Educational Association, Catholic Campus Ministry Association, Catholic Education Foundation, Faith and Reason Institute, Sophia Institute Press, Newman Guide colleges, and more.

I invite you, too, to join this effort in support of the U.S. bishops' three-year Eucharistic Revival.

Catholic education is the Church's primary means of evangelization, and so it is key to the success of the Eucharistic Revival. American Catholics' lack of belief in the Real Presence is not a crisis of dissent but of education, as surveys show that many Catholics falsely believe that the Church regards the Eucharist as only a symbol of Christ. We need better catechesis, reverent liturgies, and reforms that attract faithful Catholic families back to Catholic education.

Therefore, we launched the Task Force for Eucharistic Education to help solicit, identify, and promote inspiring efforts by Catholic schools, homeschools, colleges, and individuals to help revive:

- Eucharistic literacy, by teaching young people the truth of the Real Presence in the Eucharist;
- Eucharistic liturgy, by improving music, prayer, and reverence in school and college liturgies;
- Eucharistic devotion, by increasing prayer and adoration among young people; and
- Eucharistic living, by helping students live according to the reality of Christ within them.

The project was announced this summer at Sacra Liturgia, an international conference on the liturgy co-sponsored by The Cardinal Newman Society. The Task Force invites educators, parents, and students to sign up at [EucharisticEducation.org](https://eucharisticeducation.org) and identify projects including academic conferences, research, publications, formative student programs, liturgies, prayer, and more—anything that strengthens understanding and devotion to the Eucharist within Catholic

“LACK OF BELIEF IN THE REAL PRESENCE IS NOT A CRISIS OF DISSENT BUT OF EDUCATION”

schools, homeschools, or colleges. These need not be new efforts; we are eager to promote the good work of Catholic education, including ongoing education and formation.

The Cardinal Newman Society will highlight and promote Task Force members and their projects through *Our Catholic Mission* and Catholic media. Already the Task Force includes many of America's most faithful Catholic schools and colleges among its inaugural members.

We hope for an explosion of inspiring projects that help renew faithful Catholic education and form a new generation of young people deeply in love with Jesus Christ. Come, share your efforts to support the Eucharistic Revival! See more information and join the Task Force at <https://eucharisticeducation.org>. **OCM**

PATRICK REILLY
is president and founder of
The Cardinal Newman Society.



Eucharistic Literacy: Forming Teachers as Effective Catechists

At Mass, you often see mothers whispering into the ears of their squirming toddlers. Occasionally you can catch the words, “Look, it’s Jesus!” Shortly after the consecration, the congregation echoes loudly this whispered declaration of faith, “Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.” Both confessions are needed to help the child see who is present on the altar; who is present to us in the Blessed Sacrament. Eucharistic literacy begins with the family and is supported by the parish family.

What, then, if these great truths learned at home and at Sunday Mass are largely forgotten the rest of the week? In secular schools, Christ is disregarded as irrelevant to daily life, and learning is focused on career readiness and a secular worldview that pretends Christ never redeemed the world. Perhaps, then, it is no surprise that most young adult Catholics who never had a strong Catholic education do not believe the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

There is a need for the Eucharistic revival, and Eucharistic literacy through Catholic education is a crucial component.

The revival can take many approaches, but at Sophia Institute for Teachers, we have seen the importance of forming Catholic educators: parents, catechists, and teachers. This mission extends beyond giving them the tools to teach, but also inviting them to experience Divine Love through the Sacraments. How can teachers proclaim, “Look, it’s Jesus,” without knowing His gaze upon them?

There is much that Catholic schools, dioceses, and colleges can do to form educators who are already hired. Since 2014, the Sophia Institute has provided day-long catechetical workshops for tens of thousands of Catholic educators around the country, and we are happy with the impact of this simple solution. A theological scholar’s more intellectual sessions are balanced with practical, pedagogical sessions from a Sophia master teacher that model concrete ways to make these concepts present to the students. The teachers’ imaginations are fed, and then they are sent home with lesson plans to use with their students. But most importantly, there are sessions for reflection and prayer, with the Holy Mass at the center of the day.

At our recent workshop on the Eucharist called, *Encountering God’s Love in the Sacraments*, Franciscan University’s Dr. James Pauley made four points for teaching students during this Eucharistic Revival:

- 1 | teach and show them how to deeply invest,
- 2 | help them develop fluency in Sacramental language,
- 3 | help them see the Mass as the supreme encounter with love, and
- 4 | provide them a joyful witness to Jesus in the Eucharist.

All four of these points were incorporated into the pedagogical sessions hosted by our master teacher, Jose Gonzalez. He led teachers in meditating on the mysteries of the Eucharist through sacred art. They learned, some for the first time, about how the Old Testament revealed the gift of the Eucharist in the New Testament. And Jose drew on his experience to offer engaging ways to speak and teach about the Mass and the Liturgy. All these activities were ordered





to the joyful experience of Holy Mass and Adoration together.

The results were encouraging: 93 percent of attendees reported feeling more confident and renewed in teaching the Faith, 89 percent gained new lesson ideas, and 93 percent learned new content about the Eucharist. These figures align with typical feedback from our workshops.

This is how we will see a genuine revival in our schools. Teachers of all subjects must see that the goal is not only familiarity with the doctrine of the Eucharist, but leading young people and their families to an authentic encounter with the Lord through the Eucharist. Strengthening Eucharistic literacy among students—helping them truly know and gain some understanding of the mysteries of the Eucharist—begins with hiring teachers who themselves are “literate” in the Church’s teaching and devotion to the Holy Sacrament. But just as ongoing formation is needed in all subjects, so is catechetical formation for all teachers.

We invite dioceses to schedule workshops with the Sophia Institute for

Teachers, or schools and colleges can follow a similar model in their teacher formation programs. One key is to ensure that each workshop attendee leaves with all the tools they need to continue what they began. We provide multiple lesson plans, following the example of Our Lord by both informing and giving personal witness. Teachers tell their students, “Look, it’s Jesus!” by what they say, the content they teach, and how they behave. The lesson plans offer consistent support, guidance, and encouragement.

To help develop “fluency in Sacramental language,” as Dr. Pauley recommends, our *Spirit of Truth* series of lesson plans immerses the students in vocabulary from an early age. For example, we don’t wait until 5th or 7th grade to introduce the word “transubstantiation” but begin in 2nd grade, when most are preparing to re-

ceive First Communion. The students are guided to find the root of the word “substance” and make the connection with the word “transform,” even if the concept is not completely mastered for many years.

We hope that through the encounters with the Lord facilitated by these lessons, teachers will see their pivotal role in the classroom. The teacher stands alongside the parent, proclaiming to the children, “Look, it’s Jesus.” This requires

a vibrant faith, fluency in the Sacramental language, and a personal connection with Christ. Belief in the Real Presence can only come from God by grace, but teachers can lead students to Him.

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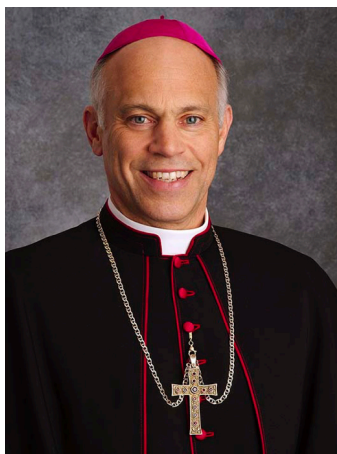
“JUST AS ONGOING FORMATION IS NEEDED IN ALL SUBJECTS, SO IS CATECHETICAL FORMATION FOR ALL TEACHERS”

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Q&A with Archbishop Cordileone on Liturgy, Education

It was a special honor for The Cardinal Newman Society: in June, President Patrick Reilly had the opportunity to interview Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone in a public conversation about the renewal of sacred liturgy and Catholic education.



Archbishop Cordileone is a hero of ours. He has been a champion of faithful education, standing in support of clear moral standards for San Francisco's Catholic school teachers. He also has a special dedication to traditional and reverent liturgy through his Benedict XVI Institute, which sponsors beautiful Masses and new sacred art and music, and as ecclesiastical advisor to our Task Force for Eucharistic Education.

One of the pillars of our Task Force is renewing Eucharistic liturgy: improving music, prayer, and reverence in Catholic school and college liturgies. So when Archbishop Cordileone hosted the international *Sacra Liturgia* conference near San Francisco last June—featuring former Vatican officials Cardinal Robert Sarah and Cardinal George Pell—we jumped at the chance to co-sponsor the event and present a special session with the Archbishop. Here are some excerpts.

Reilly: Let's start with this concept of Eucharistic education. The Vatican's documents on Catholic education have made it clear that the sacraments—both participation in the sacraments and also formation of students to receive sacraments—are foundational to an authentic Catholic education. Yet the surveys show that upwards of 70 percent of young adult Catholics today do not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Thinking particularly about Catholic education—Catholic schools, Catholic homeschooling, college level—what immediate priorities would you recommend for improving a Eucharistic education in our Catholic institutions?

Abp. Cordileone: We need to make sure the catechesis is correct, is solid, is convincing. But catechesis is more than what's taught with words. It's what is experienced. It's what is lived. It's especially how our worship is conducted. And it's the culture of the whole school.

I would focus then on renewing the liturgical life in the school and focusing on the *ars celebrandi* which, as [Cardinal Sarah] pointed out, is not just the celebrant of the Mass, but it's everyone. Everyone has a role in the Mass so that it's celebrated properly. What kind of music is sung? What are the movements like? Are those who serve the Mass, are they taught to present themselves reverently, to walk gracefully with true liturgical sense? These are little things, but they add up, and they create a sort of an atmosphere...

I mean, there are so many riches the Church has to offer. ... This is a Catholic birthright, all the beauty the Church has to offer the world. We need to open up these treasures to young people.

Reilly: Catholic intellectual development is also a birthright. It's a right of baptism to be able to understand the world and understand reality through the light of our faith. Is there something that maybe more needs to be done in terms of the Church fully embracing the different modes of education, the growing variety of types of education, and not being stuck in one particular model?



Abp. Cordileone: I do believe we need more sort of versatility in the forms of education. I think we're still trying to transition into a new reality, although we are making progress. But you can't replace the idea of schools run by religious orders—nuns and brothers and priests...

The Church has, I think, been slow to enthusiastically embrace homeschooling, because we're so invested in our schools. It's part of our Catholic identity as Catholics in the United States. We are so proud of our Catholic school system and we're very invested in that. So I think we've been a little bit reticent. But I like the hybrid idea, supporting parents who want to educate their children at home, but having opportunities for them to come together.

Reilly: The Vatican recently issued a document on Catholic education—on Catholic identity in our schools. One of the major emphases of that document was on the witness and the formation of the teacher. And so, when we talk about Eucharistic education, trying to teach young people to behave as if the reality of Christ is within them, how important is it that Catholic educators themselves model this Eucharistic lifestyle?

Abp. Cordileone: It reminds me of that now oft-quoted line of Pope St. Paul VI from *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, about how the world looks for witnesses more than teachers, and if it looks for teachers, it's because first they're witnesses. The teachers do have to be a witness to the identity and the mission of the school.

...It's forming the culture of the school, so that people who appreciate that culture will be drawn to it, and those who don't will be repelled by it...

School departments have to be very careful about whom they hire in any discipline... not just in religion courses, philosophy courses, but in every discipline. And to try to actively recruit from, again, the good and faithful Catholic colleges and universities.

Reilly: Your Excellency, we certainly appreciate your example and your strength in continuing to improve Catholic education and to bring the faith to as many young people as possible. So thank you, and God bless you!

OCM

Mass Appeal at Sacred Heart Academy

Sacred Heart Academy is a classical, K-12, parochial school in Grand Rapids, Mich., that turned around completely after nearly closing its doors in 2012.

Fr. Robert Sirico, who recently retired from his duties as Sacred Heart's pastor, told us his secret: "We instituted daily Mass, and that was the most impactful and simplest decision," he said. "...it's a real Mass, not a kid's Mass. There is silence with the Mass, and so beginning the day with that kind of prayer is very enriching."



The entire parish is invested in the school. "The weekday Mass is completely full: the parents come, the weekday parishioners, and the students," says Fr. Sirico. "This has revitalized the entire parish. It was dying, and now it's one of the most alive."



Promoting Eucharistic Devotion

Teaching young people about the Eucharist is important, but as Pope St. John Paul II warned in *Catechesi Tradendae*, the academic life can become too “intellectualized” without sacramental and Eucharistic devotion. Our students need to know of Christ’s Real Presence in the Mass, but then they need to love and adore Him.

At Donahue Academy, a parish K-12 school in Ave Maria, Fla., that I am honored to lead, we have taken several steps to promote Eucharistic devotion. Of course these are not the only ways of doing it, but they might suggest ideas for other Catholic educators.

1. Make devotion an explicit, visible part of the mission

Our School’s mission statement declares it to be a place “in which students encounter Christ and pursue excellence in all things. Our students will deepen their love of God and others through the pursuit of all that is true, good, and beautiful.”

We express that mission visibly in our school seal, which includes images of our parish church, a monstrance, a stylized Sacred Heart as part of a shamrock (our school’s team name), a book, and the words *Christum novisse* (encountering Christ). The seal serves as a story platform where we share how students will encounter Christ and pursue excellence through the sacraments (especially the Eucharist), their love for God and each other (the Sacred Heart), and their studies (the book).



While other schools will have unique articulations of their missions, all Catholic schools hold a common mission outlined by the Church. This mission is articulated in The Cardinal Newman Society’s *Principles of Catholic Identity in Education*:

- 1 | Inspired by Divine Mission
- 2 | Models Christian Communion and Identity
- 3 | Encounters Christ in Prayer, Scripture & Sacrament
- 4 | Integrally Forms the Human Person
- 5 | Imparts a Christian Understanding of the World

One can quickly see how devotion to the Eucharist hits all five principles. The Eucharist is the summation of everything we are trying to do as a Catholic school. If students get the Real Presence right, everything else naturally falls into place.

2. Make Mass a central, reverent, and frequent part of school life

Offering daily Mass creates a strong, vibrant Catholic culture. At Donahue Academy, we have a slightly longer school day (15-20 minutes based on grade level), and by offering Mass without a homily, our worship ends in 25 minutes. Mass is held in the gymnasium, and even that helps build community by having one grade set up in preparation for Mass and another grade tear down. The worship space is kept dark, with Gregorian Chant playing as students arrive. We kneel directly on the floor or in the bleachers, stressing the importance of reverence even when it seems a bit uncomfortable.

Daily Mass is required for grades K-8, but with parental permission, grades 9-12 can select Mass or a silent study hall that begins with reading the daily Gospel. Approximately 80 percent of our high school students voluntarily attend Mass. On Fridays, Mass attendance is required, and a short sermon is added along with beautiful, sacred music sung by a choir. We invest heavily in our choir and shower them with treats and awards as they serve multiple functions in our community. We heavily recruit and entice students to join the choir to ensure its elevated status.

In addressing the current loss of Eucharistic devotion in the Church, Father Peter Stravinskis has said, "Clear, unambiguous, orthodox teaching on the Holy Eucharist must be bolstered by unequivocal signs and symbols in the sacred liturgy. Students desperately need a sense of the sacred, of mystery, and of awe in God's presence. To get students to encounter Christ in the Eucharist, we must do Liturgy and worship extremely well."

In celebrating the Eucharist, we Catholic educators should be thoughtful, intentional, and spare no expense in time, effort, or accoutrement to fill this need. The challenge is real, and the response must be guided by the Spirit and the rich

traditions of the Church, of which so many students and parents are unaware. Great things await students under such direction!

3. Make the Tabernacle accessible

We turned our most central and visible classroom space into a beautiful Eucharistic chapel, big enough for an entire class to visit. Every day our students walk by the chapel, prompting many to stop in for a visit. When the faculty "catch" the students praying or vice versa, powerful values are communicated and quietly strengthened. The ease and naturalness of a Eucharist encounter goes a long way!

4. First Friday Adoration

The U.S. bishops' conference emphasizes that Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.

For younger students, we start small with some singing and prayers, but we slowly help them grow in the ability to dwell peacefully in silence before the Lord. Each class takes time to adore Christ throughout the day, and we include the

entire school in Benediction. The space is kept dark and prayerful with candles and lingering incense.

For the older students who may spend up to a full-class period in His Presence, we have Rosaries, Bibles, prayer books, and journals on hand. Also, at our first and last faculty meetings of the year and our Christmas celebration, the faculty gather for 30 minutes of Adoration and Benediction to pray for each other and their students.

5. Eucharistic processions

We offer a Eucharistic procession during Catholic schools week, with stations set up around the outside of the school. We find that having a Rosary procession in October prepares for the needed reverence and focus to achieve a school-wide Eucharistic procession in January. It is important to keep silent and focused and, when appropriate, kneel on the bare ground as a community in worship and humility. Again, the fruits of this are real and even spectacular!

OCM

DAN GUERNSEY, ED.D., is a 30-year veteran of Catholic education and currently Principal of the Donahue Academy in Ave Maria, Fla. He is a senior fellow at The Cardinal Newman Society and editor of *Adoration: Eucharistic Texts Throughout Church History* by Ignatius Press. dguernsey@cardinalnewmansociety.org



- 1 | MAKE DEVOTION AN EXPLICIT, VISIBLE PART OF THE MISSION
- 2 | MAKE MASS A CENTRAL, REVERENT, AND FREQUENT PART OF SCHOOL LIFE
- 3 | MAKE THE TABERNACLE ACCESSIBLE
- 4 | FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION
- 5 | EUCHARISTIC PROCESSIONS

Eucharistic Living in College



Among young adult Catholics, nearly three-quarters do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. It's a staggering statistic, but it's not all that surprising given the state of our culture and many college campuses today.

Most colleges, even many wayward Catholic colleges, give little regard to the commands of Jesus Christ. Students face toxic campus environments with high rates of binge drinking, drug use, and a rampant hook-up culture. They're taught from a secular worldview and may be fed false theology.

Now imagine four years—some of the most formative in life—immersed in a truly Catholic culture and education. It's life-changing! Students are taught proper theology that explains the Real Presence in the Eucharist. And they learn how to live a “Eucharistic life” with Jesus Christ at the center.

At a faithful Catholic college, you'll find students encouraged to pray, receive the sacraments, form good friendships, grow in modesty and virtue, have good clean fun, and discern their careers and voca-

tions in prayer. These are fruits of Eucharistic living.

The pillars of Eucharistic living

One faithful Catholic college that encourages Eucharistic living—that is, helping students live according to the reality of Christ within them—is Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio.

“Saint Francis of Assisi wrote more about the Eucharist in his writings than anything else—and he lived the Eucharist! He called his followers, and he calls us today, to be devoted to the Eucharistic Lord,” explains Father Jonathan St. André, TOR, vice president of Franciscan life at the University.

We “encourage ‘Eucharistic living’ on campus by making the Eucharist the center of our lives,” Fr. St. André explained, pointing to daily Mass, Sunday Mass, perpetual Adoration on campus, the Festival of Praise that includes Adoration and praise and worship music, and a message delivered one Saturday evening each month.

Flowing out of the sacraments, “Eucharistic living” is encouraged through the “experience of living in small faith communities called ‘households’ where students live like Jesus Christ, with other students seeking to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit and going out to sanctify the world.” Nearly half of the student body lives in a household, in which students share life's ups and downs, pray together, and hold each other accountable.

Additionally, “our professors strive in the classroom to communicate the integration of faith and reason in every discipline.” Fr. St. André added, “We also encourage our students to see that they possess great dignity as creatures of body and soul, and this is manifest in their humanity; a humanity ennobled by the gift of the Eucharist.”

Beauty encourages Eucharistic living

The Eucharist is at the heart of Magdalen College of the Liberal Arts in Warner, N.H., where beautiful liturgy, art, sacred music, and Catholic culture help students live a Eucharistic lifestyle.

“Scenic mountain vistas are the backdrop to Magdalen’s 100-acre campus atop Mount Kearsarge, and a brick and granite chapel stands at the center. It is the intentional hub of the community,” explains Tristan Smith, director of collegiate choirs at Magdalen. At midday, all classes and activities are paused for daily Mass. Liturgy of the Hours, all-night Eucharistic adoration, and Eucharistic processions are frequent on campus.

Magdalen is intentional about exposing students to beauty, which leads them to Christ. Students learn chant, polyphony, and classic hymns, they write Byzantine icons, and they participate in reverent liturgy in both Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms.

Holy Week liturgies on campus are especially impressive, with Gregorian Chant included in Palm Sunday Mass and Spy Wednesday Tenebrae Service, and bells and Alleluias marking the Great Easter Vigil. “All our efforts combine to render our best gifts of beauty to God,” the College declares.

“When visitors stop by Magdalen College, they often express wonder at the

hospitality of students, the reverence of the liturgies, or the rich harmonies of the 70-voice choir. Upon departing, visitors feel like they are leaving home,” remarks Smith.

“They are not wrong,” he says. “When young Catholics invite Christ into their heart, He makes it His home, seamlessly and effortlessly. The Eucharist is our resting place; a resting place that we at Magdalen College call home.”

Living with Christ

With the Eucharist at the center of campus, students at faithful Catholic colleges are encouraged to make a right ordering of priorities and a right way of living.

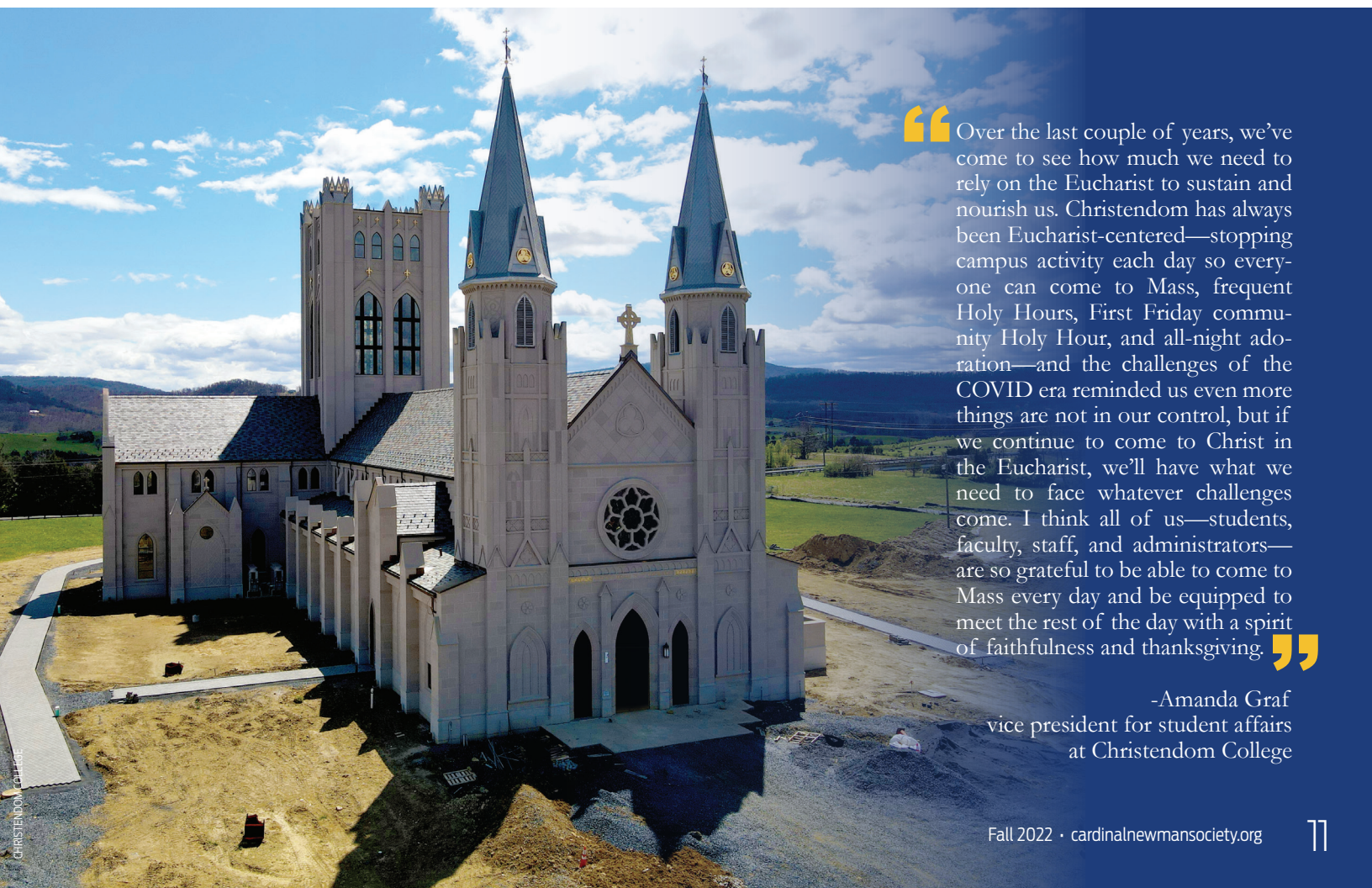
That’s exciting to a growing number of college-bound students, such as Sarah Davis, who is The Cardinal Newman Society’s 2022 Essay Scholarship Contest winner. Davis is a freshman at Christendom College in Front Royal, Va., this fall because she wants to “maintain and augment” the foundation she’s received in the faith, “rather than having to struggle to keep it.”

“I am convinced that a faithful Catholic college which is strongly devoted to the Eucharist will uniquely and positively impact my religious, moral, intellectual, and social formation,” explains Davis. While many students lose their faith in college, Newman Guide colleges are helping students grow in faith rooted in the Eucharist.

And it’s no wonder, therefore, that Newman Guide colleges are disproportionately preparing students for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Christendom College has fostered more than 90 vocations to the priesthood. Approximately 10 percent of alumni of Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, Calif., have pursued a religious vocation.

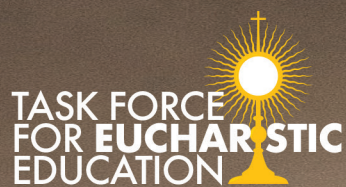
Ultimately, the goal for all students at faithful Catholic colleges is Jesus Christ Himself. Rather than sadness and a college experience that spirals them into sin, faithful Catholic education leads students to lasting happiness and holiness. **OCM**

KELLY SALOMON is director of family and parish programs at The Cardinal Newman Society. ksalomon@cardinalnewmansociety.org



“Over the last couple of years, we’ve come to see how much we need to rely on the Eucharist to sustain and nourish us. Christendom has always been Eucharist-centered—stopping campus activity each day so everyone can come to Mass, frequent Holy Hours, First Friday community Holy Hour, and all-night adoration—and the challenges of the COVID era reminded us even more things are not in our control, but if we continue to come to Christ in the Eucharist, we’ll have what we need to face whatever challenges come. I think all of us—students, faculty, staff, and administrators—are so grateful to be able to come to Mass every day and be equipped to meet the rest of the day with a spirit of faithfulness and thanksgiving.”

—Amanda Graf
vice president for student affairs
at Christendom College



www.eucharisticeducation.org

JOIN THE TASK FORCE FOR EUCHARISTIC EDUCATION

A recent survey showed that nearly seven-in-ten Catholics believe that the bread and wine used at Mass are mere symbols of the body and blood of Jesus. However, the survey also found that most of those same Catholics do not know what the Catholic Church teaches regarding transubstantiation.

This is why The Cardinal Newman Society is launching the Task Force for Eucharistic Education—an initiative to help solicit, identify, and promote inspiring efforts by Catholic schools, homeschools, colleges, and individuals to help revive Eucharistic understanding and devotion.

We want you to participate! All you have to do is visit www.eucharisticeducation.org and share the projects you or your school are engaging in, including academic conferences, research, publications, formative student programs, liturgies, prayer, videos, or any other ideas.

If you have any questions,
contact Bob Laird at 703-367-0333 x 103
or blaird@cardinalnewmansociety.org



**THE CARDINAL
NEWMAN SOCIETY**
Promoting and Defending Faithful Catholic Education

www.eucharisticeducation.org