

St. John Paul the Great Catholic Campus Ministry
2603 Old Omen Road.
Tyler, TX 75701
www.uttylercatholic.org



Students promoting on Campus Mass for the Feast of the Archangels

September 2016 Newsletter

St. John Paul the Great Catholic Campus Ministry
Serving the students of the University of Texas at Tyler and Tyler Junior College

[Visit our Website Click Here](#)

Chaplain's Message

These days of fall bring with them a welcome respite from the warm weather of Texas, and as we begin the grueling 2nd half of the semester, I beg you pray for our students and their academic endeavors.

Growing up a kid from east Texas, I've encountered through the years many challenges to my faith, and to the whole idea of Catholicism as being a Christian "religion" in general. To answer these questions, I've studied for years the gift of our beautiful Catholic faith, and have consistently come down to two major points of departure with our Christian and non-Christian brothers: authority and credibility. For most non-Catholic Christians, it is the authority issue—the challenge of Papal Authority, the Magisterium, and the veracity of the rather extensive scripture-inspired doctrines we hold to be true. For non-Christians, it is often the question of credibility: our lack of moral credibility due to the priest scandals, the credibility of faith in a post-Enlightenment scientific world who desperately wants to separate faith from reason, and the issue of credibility regarding the proofs for God's

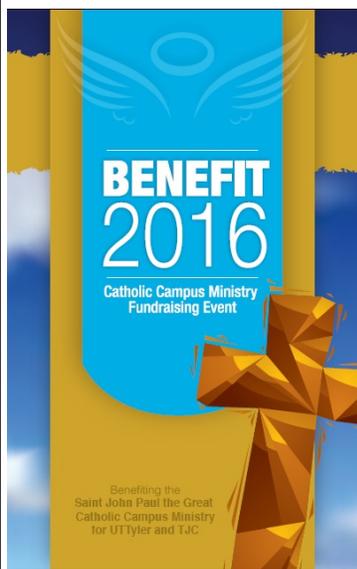
existence. What lies at the heart of all of these concerns is not so much the "what" of our faith, but honestly, the "why"! People are moved by action, by witness, by integrity from people of faith-and with this in mind, I want to encourage you all to look at this Campus Ministry as a training ground for students in not just the "what", but more importantly, in forming the "why" in each of them- because the example of faith in this generation will ultimately help to transform a culture desperately seeking a reason for hope. Thank you so much for your support of this ministry, and please be assured of our prayers for you and your families!



In Christ, through Mary,

Fr. Justin Braun

Catholic Campus Ministry Benefit 2016- SUCCESS!!!



The Fall Benefit Banquet 2016 was a great success! We are pleased to announce that to date we have raised \$54,000, which surpassed our goal of \$52,230.

Once again, thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Student Profile- Patrick Cook

Year: Sophomore

Major: Electrical Engineering

Hometown: Malakoff, TX

Favorite Saint: St. Theresa Michael the Archangel

Why did you choose to attend UT-Tyler? "I knew that UT-Tyler had an accredited Engineering program, was close to home, and that I could live with my grandparents in Whitehouse. I actually transferred from TVCC in Athens. When I visited that campus I got a good feeling and decided to attend.

How did you get connected with Campus Ministry? "My Grandparents told me about the ministry, and so I decided to pop in. I came to a Wednesday night program, I learned a lot and felt very welcomed by everyone at the center.

What sort of activities are you involved with at the JP2 center? " I have been involved with Catholic Underground on Wednesday nights, and Theology of the Body on Thursdays, as well as daily Mass. I have also been going on Campus with Jodi and Fr. Braun for outreach. Have also been playing a lot sports with students and staff, especially ultimate frisbee and campus golf."



Do you have any special devotions? "I pray the rosary and attend daily Mass multiple times a week.

What are your plans after graduation? "I want to work in Solar Technology, specifically solar panels. I want to stay in Texas, preferably East Texas.

Introducing Lauren Gengler- FOCUS Missionary

Tell us a little bit about yourself: I grew up in Wichita, Kansas. I have one brother. I attended Missouri State University and majored in Theater Education. My parents are both practicing Catholics, and I grew up praying as a family, which had a strong impact on me.

How did you get involved with Campus Ministry at your university? When I visited Missouri State, I went to check out the Catholic student center. I really liked the ministry, and it was a big reason I chose to attend. During my Freshman year I got involved in FOCUS and attended a bible study. I was challenged to work on my prayer life and grow in a deeper relationship with Christ.

What made you decide to join FOCUS? As I went through college, I gradually took on more leadership roles. I found that it was very fulfilling and it made me more open to the idea of being a missionary. Through prayer, I felt strongly that God was calling me to become a missionary, specifically on campus.

What do you think of your FOCUS team? The team is doing great, feels like a family. I think good word to describe our dynamic is "complimentary". We mesh well together. I think we are having a great impact on campus.

Besides striving for holiness and drawing people closer to Christ, what are your interests? I lovetheater and the arts. That's one of my passions. I am also a big fan of movies, specifically old movies. Also a book worm, the classics. I love books and artthat stimulates my mind and helps to bring about good conversation. I enjoybeing outdoors – hiking and riding my bike. And of course fellowship.



Fall 2016 Schedule



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Adoration and Confession: 4:45-6:00pm @ JPPII Center
Mass: 6:30pm @ Cowan (FAC 1009)

MONDAY

Adoration: 9:00-10:00am @ JPPII Center
Campus Rosary: 6:30pm @ Harvey Deck
Monday Funday: 7:00pm, location changes

TUESDAY

Adoration and Confession: 4:00-5:15pm @ JPPII Center
Mass: 5:30pm @ JPPII Center
Christian Initiation Classes: 7:00-8:30pm @ JPPII Center

WEDNESDAY

Adoration: 1:00-5:00pm @ JPPII Center
Confession: 3:15-4:45pm @ JPPII Center
Mass: 5:30pm @ JPPII Center
Catholic Underground: 6:00-8:00pm @ JPPII Center

THURSDAY

Adoration and Confession: 4:00-5:15pm @ JPPII Center
Mass: 5:30pm @ JPPII Center
"Your Body and God": 7:00-8:00pm @ JPPII Center

FRIDAY

Adoration and Confession: 11:00am-12:00pm @ JPPII Center
Mass: 12:15pm @ JPPII Center

Development Corner

If you would like more information about how you can support John Paul the Great, please contact:

Dan Onderko
Development Director
(903) 830-8917
dancmtyler@gmail.com

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