“But then we looked toward him... and he grasped us by the hand... He stretched out to us the hand that sustains and carries us. He supports us. Let us fix our gaze ever anew on him and reach out to him. Let us allow his hand to take ours...”

Pope Benedict XVI

A Newman Thanksgiving

Pullion: A Beautiful Net

Page 2
Over the recent Thanksgiving holiday, I had sometime to reflect on how Thanksgiving is my second favorite holiday of the year.

I love the feeling of sitting around the dinner table with loved ones, over-eating the best foods, and relaxing around the TV with the football games on. It’s also the time when we, as college students, enjoy a short break from the stress of schoolwork and class. And man was I looking forward to that!

Thanksgiving is a great holiday. Not only does the food and company make it great, but it reminds us of the blessings we have in our life. And when things go wrong or our paths are changed, one of the comforts we can indulge in is to reflect on the blessings God has given us. For me, a big one is my family. Thanksgiving just has given us. For me, a big one to reflect on the blessings God created by our Father, in His image.

But I heard something recently that put a smile on my face immediately and reminded me of an even larger family that I can always turn to, at any second of any day. It is something that I’ve known since I was little, but it never really struck me as it did in this moment. It was said to me that every human being on this earth is our brother and sister, and we should think of them as part of our beautiful family. Because whether they choose to accept it or not, they were created by our Father, in His image.

Hearing this opened my eyes. I am called to love every stranger because he is my brother and she is my sister. Every robber and every saint, every atheist and every Christian; they are all my brothers and sisters. After hearing this, I have never felt alone. Especially in a time for me when I am struggling with a lot right now, I am constantly reminded by my brothers and sisters to turn to God and to give it all up to Him, because He is our father and He will always take care of us. My family, through God, is the biggest net I have, and I am very grateful.

This Thanksgiving I am thankful for so much. I am thankful for my loving family, my wonderful boyfriend, every single friend, and I am so very thankful for my Newman family. God has given me all these blessings, and with Him at the head of our one giant family, we can always feel at home.

Chelsea Pullion
Music Committee

It is built on heart and trust, and despite the differences or the fights, whether they are big or small, family is there, and always will be.

No two families are the same. Every family has different dynamics, different rules, and every family comes in a different size. In some cases, pets are considered family or maybe people feel closer to friends of theirs, rather than people they are biologically related to.

But I heard something recently that put a smile on my face immediately and reminded me of an even larger family that I can always turn to, at any second of any day. It is something that I’ve known since I was little, but it never really struck me as it did in this moment. It was said to me that every human being on this earth is our brother and sister, and we should think of them as part of our beautiful family. Because whether they choose to accept it or not, they were created by our Father, in His image.

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WHO IS NEWMAN?
Newman? No - not the nemesis of Jerry from the TV show Seinfeld. We are named after BLESSED JOHN HENRY CARDINAL NEWMAN.

Over the last century on many secular colleges and universities around the world, centers have been founded to meet the spiritual needs of the Catholic people as well as to be a voice in the dialogue between the Church and the secular world on these campuses.

These centers are named after Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman. Newman lived in the 19th Century, was a professor, became a convert to the Catholic faith and is still remembered among many things as a holy priest.

Among the many theological writings he did was “The Idea of the University” a series of essays where he observed that the University and the Church are driven by the same goal - the search for the universal truth.

WHAT IS NEWMAN?
The NEWMAN CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY has been an active organization at Montclair State University for over 50 years. Our mission is to help students grow in their faith through spiritual, social and community outreach programs. We do this through helping each other deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church which he founded. We are sponsored, funded and operated by the ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK. We are chartered as a CLASS II ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION and are a recognized active partners with the University on many committees and initiatives.

What a feast
Over 40 members of Newman - Montclair and Ramapo (MONTAPO) gather together to celebrate Thanksgiving dinner on November 20th. Miss the event? Check out the Calendar on page four to find out about upcoming events.

About the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry at MSU
UPCOMING EVENTS

**Nov. 28-Dec. 12**
Join the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and Newman Catholic in our first co-sponsored food drive. From Nov. 28-Dec 12 both organizations will be collecting NON PERISHABLE FOODS (Boxed or canned) that will be distributed to needy individuals throughout the state thru New Jersey Community Food Bank. You can bring items to either organization’s meetings, programs, services and offices during these few weeks.

**Dec. 11**
Food Bank - Interested in helping needy families? Join your fellow Newmaners in our monthly visit to NJ Food Bank this coming Saturday, December 11. Contact Megan Springsteen for more details.

**Tuesday-Wednesday**
This Wednesday is the FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - A Holy Day of Obligation. A Vigil Mass will be celebrated TUESDAY, DEC 7 at 4:45 PM in the Newman Center Chapel; On the Feast Day, WEDNESDAY, DEC 8. Masses will be at 12:15 PM in the Student Center Ballroom and 4:45 PM in the Newman Center Chapel.

**Today’s Readings**
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

**Monday**
Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 5:17-26

**Tuesday**
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-3, 10-13; Matthew 18:12-14

**Wednesday**
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

**Thursday**
Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1, 9-13; Matthew 11:11-15

**Friday**
Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-4, 6; Matthew 11:16-19

**Saturday**

**Dec. 12**
Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:6-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

**Dec. 13**
Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17; Psalm 25:4-9; Matthew 21:23-27

**Dec. 14**
Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Matthew 21:28-32

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Food Bank - Interested in helping needy families? Join your fellow Newmaners in our monthly visit to NJ Food Bank this coming Saturday, December 11. Contact Megan Springsteen for more details.

**Toys for Tots**
While you’re Christmas shopping, why not pick up a new toy for some boy or girl to brighten their holiday? Bring the new, unwrapped, unopened gift to Sunday Night Mass or the Newman Center by December 12th and we’ll make sure they get to the local US Marine Corps drop off center. Thanks!