

Jared Murray

Mr. Rutherford

Oxford Scholar

November 12, 2024

Cardinal Newman 2000-2004

Cardinal Newman is a timeless and limitless destination for growth internally and externally. Since the founding of Cardinal Newman in 1964, it has been a center of growth for the mind, body, and soul. Although Newman has changed over the ages, its core values and beliefs, rooted in the Catholic faith have remained consistent. Cardinal Newman has produced athletes, entrepreneurs, teachers, doctors, engineers, and much more, but it isn't the accomplishments that make them special; they're special because they embody Newman's core values. To examine one section of Newman history, the years 2000 to 2004 are home to all star athletes, excellent teachers, remarkable doctors, and philanthropists who give their time and money back to the community that sculpted them.

Cardinal Newman has been a center of development for students and teachers for years, however, this development has been occurring in Newman simultaneously. In recent years Cardinal Newman has been a top athletic school in California. This however, wasn't always the case. In the years 2000 to 2004 football was nowhere near the level it is now. In fact, basketball and baseball were arguably the most prominent sports. Piner and Newman used to be rivals and the stadiums would be filled with students from Newman and Ursuline, which were still separate at the time. There would be chants echoing the halls; chants we still use today to support our

athletes. In 2004, the varsity baseball team was the “Most Desirable Team to Beat”. That year they achieved the greatest record in CN history with 25 wins and only 3 losses. In comparison to now, our school has been extremely successful in football and baseball where stadiums are filled with students, parents, and faculty. While Newman hasn’t always been a sports school, there is an athletic legacy that lives on today.

Cardinal Newman has been known for its exceptional achievements but most remarkable, its values. Newman is centered around the Catholic Church which provides the basic moral values of our culture. These values have remained constant throughout all of Newman's history. Safety, respect, unity, service, faith, leadership, and more. 2001 and 2002 truly embodied the theme of safety and respect. The horrific events that happened on September 11, 2001 swept the country by surprise. Although Newman is physically so far from New York, the students and faculty prayers were ever so close. A candlelight vigil was held in the Newman community to mourn and remember those whose loved ones did not return. Masses had always been a time for the community to come together but this year there was a new importance added. At Newman we have and remain a center of safety and guidance.

Love, support, and gratitude filled the air during mass. As Newman was and has set goals to be a center of the Catholic community, spirituality is prominent in the Newman society. In the year 2004, Cardinal Newman celebrated its 40 year anniversary. During this celebration, Bishop Daniel Walsh displayed 4 of Newmans challenges to come. To examine one he said, “First, this school must continue to identify itself as-and be-a Catholic School without apology. The gospel values proclaimed by Christ and his Church must be the heart and center of this institution, which must nurture them in the hearts of the students here,” (page 10 of A Magazine for the Cardinal Newman High School Community: Volume 5 No. 3: July 2004). It has since been 20

years and Newman has indeed upheld this tradition. The faith has been nurtured in many ways where loving, supporting, and grateful masses have only enhanced this. In 2004, masses were prevalent but had some differences from our masses today. There is documentation of students administering the Eucharist during a mass in 2004. There are students giving tribute to family and friends through speeches. Students also had the opportunity to confess their sins via writing during some masses. Although these are minor differences, they display how mass used to be more interactive. While our masses have changed, our faith has remained constant. Despite these changes to how our faith is displayed we are still loving; we are supportive; and we are grateful for every moment.

Service and community; two core values of Newman that continue to center our learning and fulfill our faith. When looking at how Newman and Ursuline have given back to the community, the years 2000 to 2004 should be explored. When analyzing physical service and providing help to people in need, these years were home to some of the most active projects. Service used to be in person, hands on, and meaningful. This is prevalent in students' memories, photos, yearbooks, and Cardinal Newman magazines. These in person, hands-on projects held more meaning and provided these students with a different sense of community and service. In today's era, money and fundraisers have been the new wave of service; which can be attributed to the media. In the years 2000 to 2004, media and technology was not as accessible for all people, especially teens. Whereas now media is accessible in most teenagers, adults, and unfortunately even children's pockets. Newman used to be a model for expanding the community through personal service. In recent years, Newman has not upheld this standard of active service; rather it's become a source of impersonal funding for many organizations.

Cardinal Newman has evolved over the decades, but its core values remain the same. From its humble beginnings to its present dominance, the school has vowed to nurture the mind, body, and soul. The years 2000 to 2004, mark a time of athletic achievement, community, and spiritual connection. These years serve as a testament to the school's lasting legacy. This group of astounding students have made significant contributions not only to the Newman community but to the surrounding world. As we look to the future, Newman must continue to serve the greater community in a way that displays our core values. Newman should remain the heart and soul of our community as it offers safety and security in an ever developing world.