

SPRING 2026

NEWMAN *Connection*

NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & ALUMNI

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Newman Catholic Schools fosters disciples of Christ through Catholic Faith, Service and Academics

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NEWMAN *Catholic Schools*

Newman Connection Spring 2026

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Let's Connect

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A Message From Our Chaplain

As pastor, I love chatting with visitors returning to the parish. Places of faith fill our hearts with memories that stay alive. Often, the conversation turns quickly from the parish church to the school and the life it holds. Although the parish is important, school memories can feel more concrete. "I spent six years in that school," they will say, and reminisce about a teacher, a secret hallway, locker friends, or a favorite prank.

As chaplain, I enjoy seeing all these memories form in younger minds. Successes and failures are food for the soul, helping them mature as they grapple with the rewards and disappointments of life. In the hallways of the Catholic school, they discover more about themselves, one another, and the world around them. It is precisely in this discovery that they begin to thrive as human beings.

Among the benefits from Catholic schools to individuals, families, and societies, one stands out above the rest. I hope to point out, after a brief survey of other wholesome benefits, the most essential reason for our existence.

**"It is precisely in this discovery
that they begin to thrive as
human beings"**

Catholic schools tend to provide the best learning environment for growth. Our size encourages more individualized student attention. Our teachers recognize talents and passions possessed by each of their students and strive to support their growth. They also work enthusiastically to offer advanced education and college credit opportunities.

Participation in extracurricular activities and after-school events have space to welcome all participants. Sports, technologies, and the arts help students achieve a well-rounded formation. Competition tends to produce excellence, and we like to see our students shine.

Finally, our Catholic schools know that in this fallen world relationships are difficult. The two greatest commandments demand that we love God, neighbor, and self. But we struggle with identity issues, community strife, and divisive behaviors. Virtue and holiness seem

less rewarded than vice under the secular influence that surrounds and tempts us. In short, we are in desperate need of our Savior.



Our Catholic schools enter uniquely and essentially into this human predicament with intentional divine light. This is why we exist. We teach that self-respect and identity rest on the rock foundation of faith. From God's self-revelation, we believe that He creates us in His image, and He proclaims that we are 'very good' (Genesis 1).

Goodness is in our nature. Furthermore, following the incarnation and throughout our lives, we grow sacramentally in likeness to His Son, Jesus.

Catholic schools, in our passion for truth, recognize that this process toward God-like perfection enjoys human and divine assistance. So, we reverence all people as God has created them. But then we move each other toward the glory God intends. We live out what St. Paul admonishes, ". . . work out your salvation with fear and trembling. For God is the one who, for His good purpose, works in you..." (Phil. 2:12-13).

This is our hallmark. The transformation of salvation happens everywhere we follow the Spirit. I delight in seeing it happen to students of each new generation inherently loved by God and walking the halls of our Catholic schools.

Rev. Woody Pace
NCS Chaplain

A Message From Our President

In every chapter of over 140 years of history, Newman Catholic Schools has been strengthened by the shared belief that our mission is bigger than any one individual, classroom, or building. It is a mission rooted in faith, guided by service, and carried forward in academic pursuits of our students. It is strengthened by the collective commitment of families, educators, parish partners, alumni, and supporters who believe deeply in the value of Catholic education. Today, as we look toward the future, that spirit of unity is not only alive, but it is growing stronger.

Over the past year, our schools have taken meaningful steps to ensure that every student entrusted to us is supported academically, spiritually, and personally. These efforts have been shaped by collaboration, thoughtful planning, and a renewed focus on what makes Newman Catholic unique: a community that leads with compassion, strives for excellence, and places Christ at the center of all we do.

The positive momentum we are experiencing is the direct result of people coming together:

- 1 Students, families, and alumni who have shown unwavering support by offering thoughtful feedback, encouragement, and partnership.
- 2 Teachers and staff continue to demonstrate extraordinary dedication, embracing new approaches to learning while maintaining the traditions that define our identity.
- 3 Parish leaders and community members have continually stepped forward with generosity and enthusiasm, reinforcing the belief that Newman Catholic Schools is an essential part of the fabric of our region.

As we move ahead, we are focusing on initiatives that will elevate our experience and ensure long-term stability. These include enhancing and expanding academic offerings, expanding faith-formation opportunities, investing in staff development, and strengthening communication.

The path forward is bright, not because it is free of challenges, but because we face those challenges as one community. It means recognizing that every voice

matters and that every contribution — large or small — helps shape the direction of our community. When we work together, we create an environment where our students, families, staff, and parishes thrive.

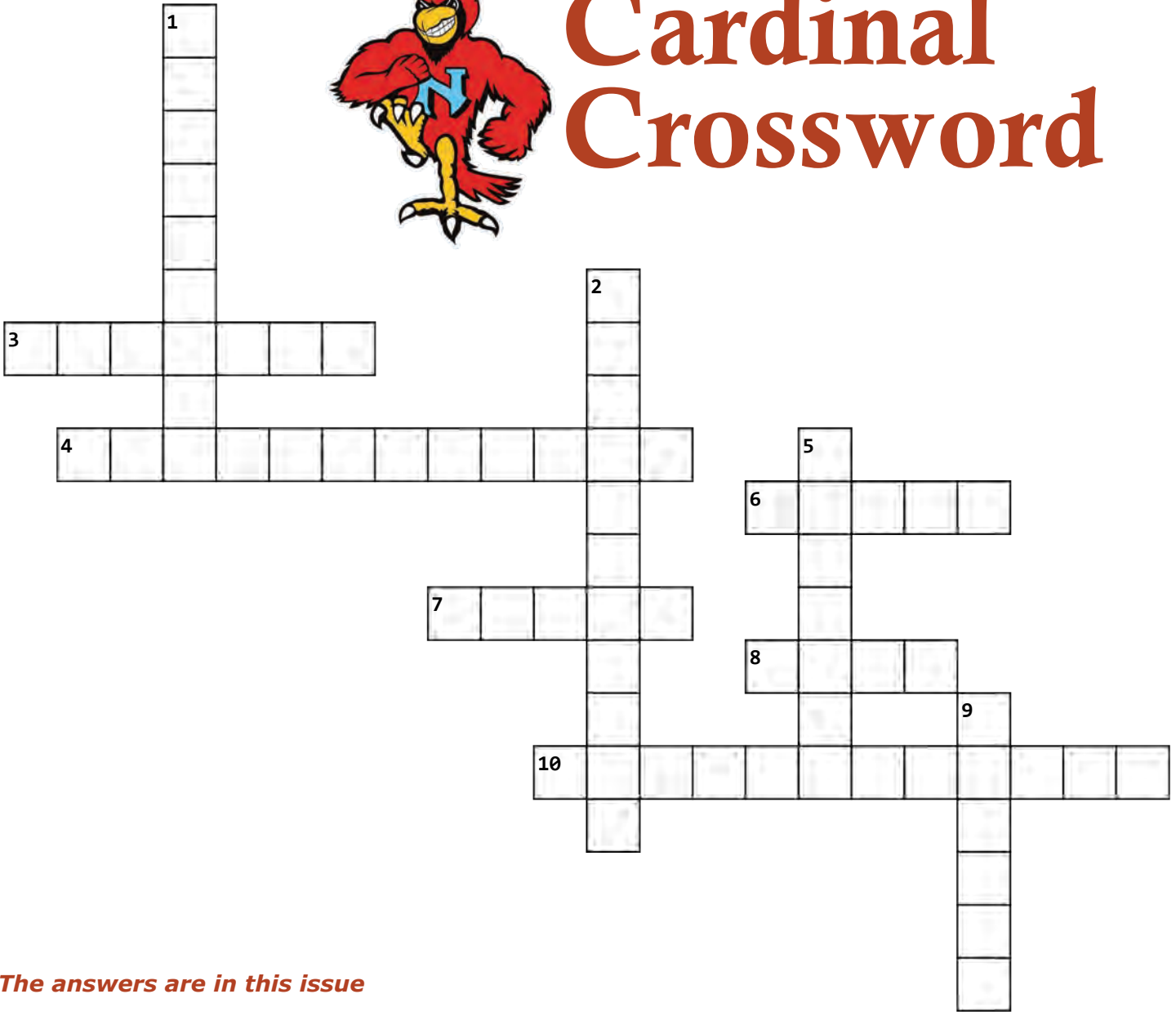


Thank you for your continued faith in Newman Catholic Schools. Your support, prayers, and partnership are essential to our success, and they inspire us to keep moving forward. Together, we are building a future defined by strength, unity, and a shared commitment to excellence in all that we do.

Jeff Gulan
NCS President



Cardinal Crossword



The answers are in this issue

Across

- 3. La Crosse university offering dual credit through Newman Catholic
- 4. Aaron '08's profession outside the farm
- 6. During CSW, students are encouraged to take ownership of their what?
- 7. Country where Dr. Balliet provided care during Army service
- 8. The former acronym of our district (not NCS, but what?)
- 10. City where NCYC is held

Down

- 1. Name of NCS Booster Club's annual golf fundraiser
- 2. District Office department that supports fundraising and alumni relations
- 5. The last name of one of the two honorees receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award at our upcoming Founder's Day celebration
- 9. Last name of the student who wrote the Senior Reflection

Hayley Knoll, 6th grade, reading
at the CSW All Schools Mass



F
A
I
T
H



NCECC: St. Michael



NCECC: St. Therese



NCES: St. Anne



NCES: St. Mark



NCCS: Holy Name



NC MS/HS



Our Faith in Action

Catholic Schools Week 2026

by Jas Norton

At the start of Catholic Schools Week (CSW), every building across the Newman Catholic district was asked to collect basic supplies for neighbors in need. By the end of the week, the effort resulted in 169 completed Blessing Bags, along with additional donated items spread across the NC Middle & High School cafeteria.

CSW not only highlights the value of Catholic education, but it also emphasizes our faith in action. During the CSW All Schools Mass, Fr. Sebastian encouraged students to move beyond observation and take an active role in their faith and community.

CSW challenges students to take ownership of their faith and become active participants.

This year's service project partnered with the Good Shepherd Warming Center, which serves individuals experiencing homelessness in the Wausau area. Winter conditions in Wisconsin increase the need for essential items such as socks, gloves, toothpaste, and nonperishable snacks.

Throughout the week, our middle and high school students sorted and assembled donations into individual Blessing Bags. Items that began as requests on a sign-up sheet became practical supplies intended for immediate use. The completed bags were distributed through the Warming Center to individuals in need during the winter months.





An Unforgettable Experience

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

by Sarah Keene

“I had an amazing time at NCYC. It truly brought me closer to God in many ways that I didn’t even expect. You don’t know what to expect but when you see the stadium filled with so many young people, it takes your breath away. Being able to go there and experience it was life-changing and I am glad that I got to do so with my friends.”

-Madison

“I had such a fun time at NCYC! It was really inspiring to see so many people my age praising God and being open about their faith. It was also great to experience it with friends and meet new people from different places. The whole experience was eye-opening, uplifting, and very encouraging. Being surrounded by that kind of energy made my faith feel stronger and reminded me that God is always with me. NCYC is something I’ll always remember, and it motivated me to keep growing in my faith even after coming home. I’m really thankful I had the chance to go to NCYC 2025!”

-Addie

“My experience at NCYC opened my eyes to how God’s truth can alter my life and allow me to help the people around me.”

-Kate

You walk into the Indianapolis Colts Lucas Oil Stadium. The lights are up and the atmosphere is electric. 15,000+ students are on their feet, chanting and singing. The joy is radiating all around you. People are wearing crazy hats and blinking lights and beachballs are being batted around in the air. Surprisingly, you are not at an NFL game. You are at the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) and your life is about to be deeply impacted.

NCYC is like no other experience you will ever have. High School students from around the country gather every year to praise Jesus, meet new friends and loudly proclaim the faith they love.



The focus of each conference enhances your relationship with Jesus, your faith, your church and your peers.

The dynamic speakers dive deep into the meat of what we believe as Catholics, while encouraging participants to put these truths into action. Whether it be in the large group held in the stadium or during the break-out sessions, attendees are sure to be inspired.

And the music..... absolutely on FIRE! Main-stream Catholic artists will move you to be more joyful, kind, loving and in tune with being a Catholic youth today!

All of this, plus the bonus of Mass with 250+ priests and bishops, and opportunities for Reconciliation and Adoration!

NCYC is an amazing opportunity to get tuned into your faith and have your life changed forever. We hope you join us in 2027!!!





Father Tom Lindner

The Priest Who Never Stopped Being a Journalist

by Jas Norton

Many people know their pastor through brief moments. A homily on Sunday morning. A greeting in the narthex. A quick conversation at a parish gathering. Behind those moments is a week filled with work that most parishioners never see.

For Fr. Tom Lindner, pastor of St. Anne Parish and the Eastside Parishes (St. Michael Parish and Church of the Resurrection) in Wausau, much of that work happens quietly between Sundays. Beyond celebrating the sacraments and leading parish life, his days include writing reflections, recording messages, sharing ideas, meeting with parishioners, and finding ways to help people stay connected to their faith and to one another throughout the week.



Much of that unseen work involves communication. Parish communities depend on clear messages, thoughtful reflection, and regular connection throughout the week. Writing, preparing emails, recording video messages, and helping people understand what is happening in the life of the Church are all part of that effort. For Fr. Tom, those skills grew out of a background that began long before the priesthood.



He studied journalism at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire and spent nearly a decade working in newspapers. By the time he left in 1990 to enter the seminary, he was serving as city editor at the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram. The habits he developed there continue to shape the way he approaches ministry today.

“You don’t just put that background away,” Fr. Tom says. “It comes with you.”

“The Mission Is Always the Same: To Proclaim the Good News of Jesus.”

Ordained in 1995, Fr. Tom later spent more than 20 years serving students at Newman University Parish in Stevens Point. Campus ministry brought a new lesson every year. If you want to reach people, you have to meet them where they are. As communication tools evolved, so did the ways he connected with the community. Letters gave way to email, and conversations expanded to social media and video.

Through it all, one thing has remained steady. “The mission is always the same,” Fr. Tom says. “To proclaim the good news of Jesus.”

The ways people receive messages may continue to evolve, but the heart of Fr. Tom’s work remains unchanged. Through preaching, writing, and ongoing communication with his parish communities, he continues the work that has always defined his ministry: sharing the Gospel and helping people stay connected to the life of the Church.

Photo Info

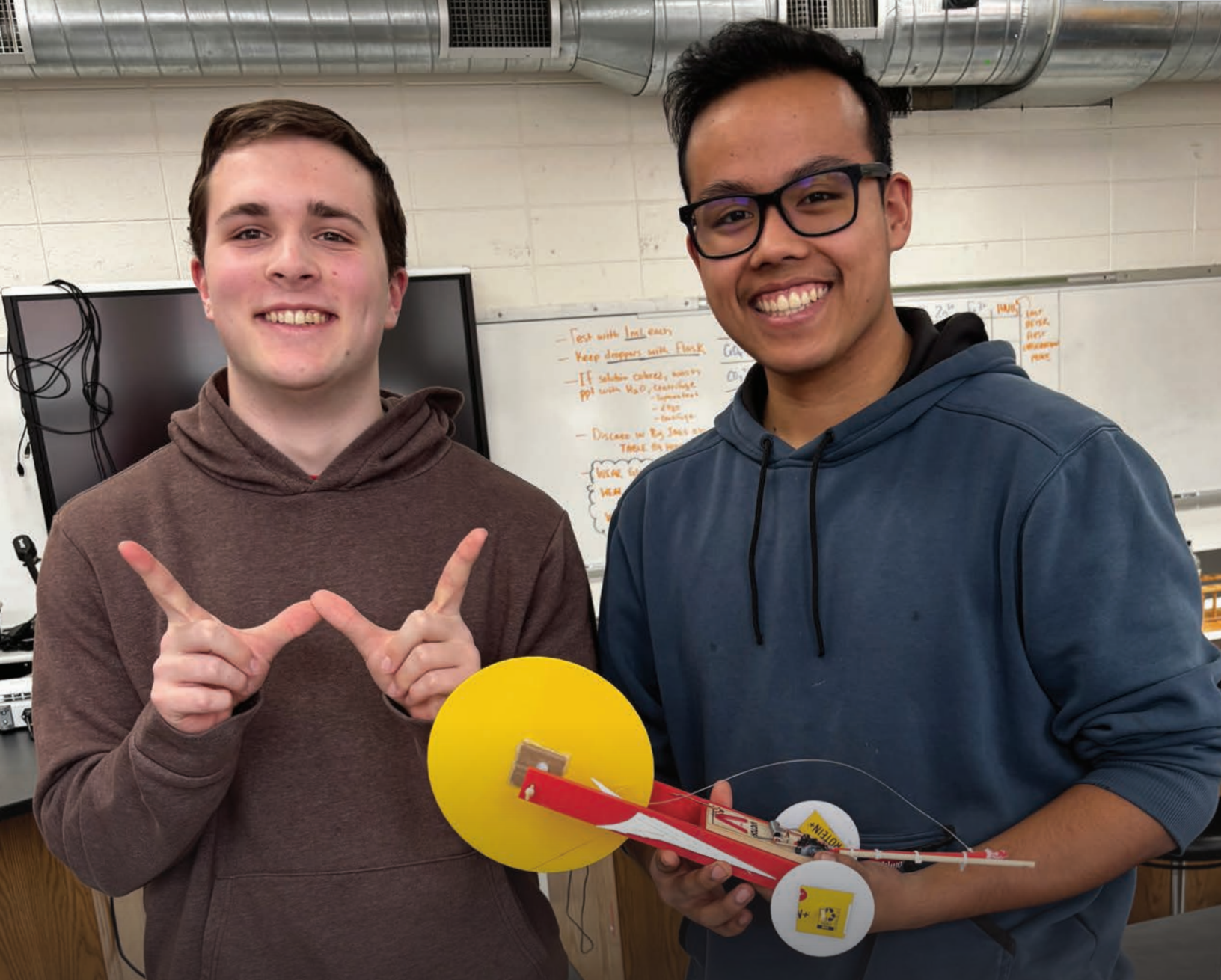
Top: Fr. Tom at his ordination with former colleagues at the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram

Left: Fr. Tom with Newman Catholic students at a school Mass

Right: Participants at a pilgrimage in February to Huehuetenango, Guatemala, where Blessed James Miller was killed

BONUS CONTENT

Watch the full interview that inspired this article on St. Anne’s YouTube channel at youtube.com/@stanneswausau, titled **Quick Things Conversation: Turning the Tables on Fr. Tom.**





A Head Start on College Success

Dual Credit Courses at NCHS

by Hilary Rinke

Newman Catholic High School offers robust dual credit opportunities through partnerships with several higher-education institutions, including Viterbo University, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point (UWSP), and Northcentral Technical College (NTC). These programs let students earn both high school and college credits at the same time—strengthening transcripts, reducing future college costs, and smoothing the transition to higher education—while remaining fully immersed in the supportive NCHS community.

Classes are taught on site by Newman Catholic teachers who meet college credentialing requirements, so students benefit from familiar classrooms and trusted instructors while experiencing the rigor of college coursework. Course offerings span the humanities, sciences, and health sciences, giving students a variety of pathways to explore their interests and career goals.

English

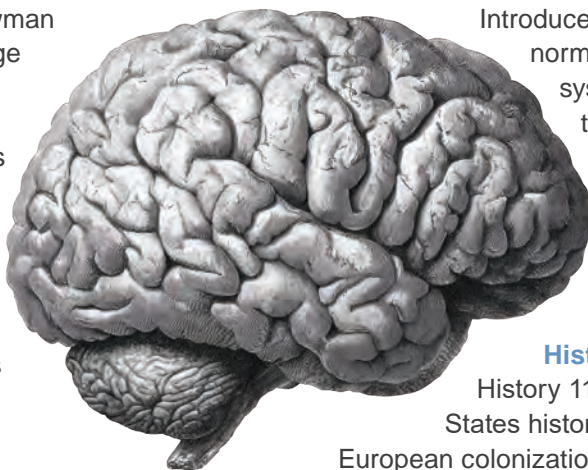
English sequence begins with The Writer's Practice I and II, designed as freshman-level college courses that focus on the foundations of academic writing, research, logic, and rhetoric. Students learn to craft evidence-based arguments, refine their communication skills, and collaborate on projects that mirror university expectations. The sophomore sequence advances to Topics in American Literature and Topics in British Literature. These courses challenge students with close reading, contextual analysis, and comparative study of major authors and movements—from Whitman and Dickinson to Shakespeare and Eliot—deepening students' appreciation for literature's influence on culture and society.

Biology and Anatomy

Science offerings include UWSP Biology 101: Introduces non-major students to the basic principles of Biology and acquaints them with the diversity of life. Exploration of basic cellular-level processes, genetics and reproduction, evolution, biological diversity, physiology, and ecology, with emphasis on the applicability and relevance of biological concepts, scientific method, and technology to the general public.

Body Structure and Function

Introduces structures and functions of normal human anatomy using a body systems approach. Learners will have the opportunity to demonstrate competency of select course objectives. This course provides a flexible introduction to the concepts of General Anatomy and Physiology.



History

History 111 covers the first half of United States history (1492-1865), beginning with the European colonization of the Americas, continuing on through the American Revolution, the ratification of the Federal Constitution, the democratization of politics and religion, territorial expansion and commercial development, increasing sectional tensions over slavery, and ending with the Civil War. The HST 102 class addresses the characteristics of contemporary American society as a product of major developments, policies, conflicts, and legislation that occurred from 1865 to the present. Major topics include: reconstruction after the Civil War, industrialization and its consequences, themes and patterns of American foreign policy, the Progressive Era and the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, America's role in the era of globalism, and domestic and foreign policy developments since World War II.

Legacy With NCS

Class of 2026 From Early Childhood Through Graduation

Newman Catholic Schools forms students from their earliest years through graduation. Some members of the Class of 2026 began their journey in our early childhood programs and have remained part of the Newman community every step of the way.

These students represent the full path of a Newman education. From preschool classrooms to high school graduation, they have grown in faith, learning, and community.

Their journey reflects the heart of Newman Catholic Schools. A place where students are supported, challenged, and formed year after year.

The students listed on these pages have been part of Newman Catholic Schools since their earliest days. Today, they graduate not only with knowledge, but with a foundation that will continue to guide them in the years ahead.



Congrats Class of 2026!

Key

2P = 2-Year-Old Preschool

3P = 3-Year-Old Preschool

LCC = Licensed Child Care

Senior Reflection

Class of 2026

When we first passed through the doors at Newman Catholic, we all wanted to grow up right away and skip the wait. Now, we wish we could turn back time and go back to when life felt simpler and worries felt smaller. None of us realized how fast time would fly. It feels like just yesterday we were freshmen, but now, in just a few months, we will walk across the stage on graduation day and may never be all together again.

High school had many parts, grades, classes, and assignments but more

than anything, it was a challenge. We learned how to manage busy schedules and push through days when motivation felt impossible to find. Along the way, we learned life lessons and faced real challenges that can't be measured by a test score or written in a gradebook.

The Class of 2026 has been together for a long time. Some of us have known each other since preschool, growing up side by side and learning from one another along the way. As a class, we experienced moments of stress, growth, and uncertainty. We learned how to stay up late studying, how to rely on each other during

by Mateo Romano

difficult times, and how to laugh at the unplanned moments life threw our way. All of this brought us closer together as a class.

One of the most important ways Newman has shaped us is through faith. Through prayer, service, and daily examples, we were encouraged to grow in our relationship with God and live out our faith beyond the classroom. Newman taught us that faith is not just something we practice at school, but something we carry with us into the world we are about to enter.

Legacy With NCS Continued

Lillian Bodenheimer
3P – 12th Grade

Gavin Boyle
5th Grade – 12th Grade

Lucas Erdman
3P – 12th Grade

Anna France
3P – 12th Grade

Alexis Gliniecki
3P – 12th Grade

Cooper Guld
2P – 12th Grade

Addison Puent
3P – 12th Grade

Damien Puent
3P – 12th Grade

Everett Puent
3P – 12th Grade

Griffin Puent
3P – 12th Grade

Mateo Romano
1st Grade – 12th Grade

Jasmine Rossi
Kindergarten – 12th Grade



As we prepare to leave for college, work, or whatever path lies ahead, we do so with mixed emotions, excitement, sadness, and even fear. But we leave with a strong foundation and a sense of pride, knowing where we came from and how far we have grown.

Thank you, Newman, for the memories, the challenges, and the people who made these years unforgettable. The Class of 2026 will always be grateful to call this school a part of our story.

Tanner Henley
2P – 12th Grade

Hannah Kroeger
3P – 12th Grade

Brecklyn Lindner
Kindergarten – 12th Grade

Molly Merrill
6th Grade – 12th Grade

Aarydyn Mesenberg
5th Grade – 12th Grade

Quincy Pfender
3-Year-Old LCC – 12th Grade

Lucas Pfiffner
4-Year-Old LCC, 4K,
& 2nd – 12th Grade

Mallory Rozwadowski
3P – 12th Grade

Adalyn Schmitt
Infant LCC,
& K – 12th Grade

Brianna Schulz
3P, 4K, & 1st – 12th Grade

Tyler Sherry
9th Grade – 12th Grade

Camille Sobolewski
4K – 12th Grade

Fong Thao
1st Grade – 12th Grade

Lauren Thiel
Kindergarten – 12th Grade

Let's Celebrate!

NCECC: St. Michael



Let's Celebrate!

- We raised over \$400.00 to support school safety efforts
- Ms. Marie, Cook, won the Dish Defeater award at a recent conference

We Enjoy

- Offering culture-building art projects for our students, families and staff
- Our annual Read Across America event where we celebrate our love for reading and Dr. Seuss



Let's Celebrate!

- Our lunchroom was refreshed with new paint, sound panels, updated tables, and creative pillars
- We added a daily schoolwide prayer time at the end of each day

We Enjoy

- Offering Coffee with Caleb to continuously strengthen our partnership between home and school
- Celebrating students in our Cardinal Cafe, which highlights students who consistently display our beloved Cardinal traits

NCES: St. Anne



Let's Celebrate!

- We achieved a five-star YoungStar rating
- Two grants were received, covering the cost of busing for Summer Camp adventures

We Enjoy

- Playing on our playground and recently added new Buddy Benches and a Little Tikes camper and slide
- Using our new STEM carts, offering exploration of the solar system, weather and the human body

NCECC: St. Therese



Let's Celebrate!

- The brand new wood chips on our playground, installed by the St. Mark Home & School Association and Building & Grounds
- Our new 3D printer, mystery science labs and the new American Flag installed by a local Boy Scout Troop



We Enjoy

- Our Bring It! celebrations, highlighting the Cardinal Traits we live by every day
- Welcoming Wausau Country Club Pro Guests to help us learn about and enjoy golf, a great lifelong sport



NCES: St. Mark



NCCS: Holy Name



Let's Celebrate!

- Our new carpeting, lighting, phone/intercom/speakers system, water fountains, and playground fence
- New Bibles were purchased for every student and we added books to our library

We Enjoy

- Attending Blessed Brother James Miller day with Bishop Battersby
- Actively participating in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program

Let's Celebrate!

- Mrs. Gasper was selected as a recipient of the 2026 WSST Excellence in Science Education Award
- E-Sports and other returning student activities are creating new ways for students to get involved

We Enjoy

- Mr. Dickinson's daily strength and conditioning sessions offered in our newly remodeled fitness center
- Brand new curtains for the stage in our gym



NCMS & NCHS

The Legacy Behind Balliet Field

Dr. Charles Balliet

by Sarah Keene



If you were to ask a longtime member of our community if they knew Dr. Charles Balliet, you would assuredly be graced with a wonderful story of how he helped the individual, their child or their family in a time of need. How he made a house call when a patient couldn't make the trip to him. How he offered students free physical exams when their parents couldn't

afford them. How he accepted payment in baked goods or services without question. You would hear how Dr. Balliet was a truly selfless man.

He was a beloved member of the Wausau community because he viewed everyone equally. No matter your race, creed, gender or place in society, he believed everyone deserved compassion and understanding. His love and belief in humanity were qualities that he instilled in his children, encouraging each of them to do good in their community. He would often tell his children, "If you want to help a community, you have to be part of the community," and he lived that message.

Dr. Balliet and his wife, Maxine, loved to host events, dinners, and fundraisers at their home to help raise funds for worthy causes. They were dedicated members of their family parish, St. Mary Parish, raising their children with a strong devotion to their faith. All five of their children, James '67, Mary '68, Joan '71, Susan '74 and Kelly '76, graduated from Newman High School. Dr. Balliet believed strongly that "activism is a part of Catholicism," and he raised his children to embrace that belief system; to live the Gospel by being kind to others just as God taught us.

In 1980, Newman High School honored Dr. Balliet by naming the football field after him as a thank you for the many years of service he offered to the students and to the community. This was a small expression of the gratitude that the Newman community had for the man who made a difference in the lives of so many. Unfortunately, Dr. Balliet passed away at a young age but his legacy lives on. When Newman High School, now Newman Catholic High School, began the recent Athletic Complex Campaign, there was never a question that the football field would remain Balliet Field because it is important to keep Dr. Balliet's legacy alive.

Because it has been many years since the field received its name, it seemed the right time to share Dr. Balliet's story once again, to ensure the younger generations understand the importance of the name and the man behind it. To share Dr. Balliet's story, two of his daughters, Mary and Susan, were invited in to share their memories.

Q1 Your father believed deeply in the power of different perspectives. Can you remember a time - at home or in the community - when he encouraged people to listen to each other or think differently?

Dad was a proponent of all races living together and helping each other. He began his career when the Civil Rights movement was strong, and believed that it was important to do what he could to help make positive change. He was a member of the NAACP and once walked in a Unity March alongside Fr. James Groppi, former Catholic priest and civil rights activist. He believed individuals deserved the positions they earned no matter their race, bringing the first African American radiologist to the Wausau community.

When the Stockbridge Munsee Tribe in Bowler (historically known as "The Last of the Mohicans") needed a physician, Dad answered the call. He made such a difference in the Stockbridge Munsee community that they honored him at a tribal ceremony by presenting him with an eagle feather, one of their greatest honors. When dad passed, the head of the tribe spoke at his funeral. He would take us with him occasionally when he visited the reservation, encouraging us to embrace the community and learn about the culture.



He helped everyone and anyone who needed it, never discriminating against an individual or community. During his time in the Army, he was stationed in Korea and while there provided medical care to a leper colony. He was a true humanitarian who never did it for the accolades but because he believed in the rights of all people. As his granddaughter once said,

"He would uplift the marginalized." Dad believed in helping others because they were all children of God and he truly lived the Gospel.

Q2 With all of the work your father did in the community, what drove him to become a team physician as well? What's a moment that really captures who he was and why that role meant so much to him?

He wanted to make sure that athletes received the care that they needed to stay healthy while playing. Honestly, he had mixed feelings about young people playing football because of the harm it could do to the body. He believed that getting involved was the best way to help keep the athletes safe.

Coach Russ Grundy and our dad developed a special bond, often sharing articles about how to properly train and prepare athletes to lessen injury. They worked together to develop a training and conditioning program. Prior to Newman, he worked at DC Everest for 10 years as a team physician.

Our Dad was well liked by the players and helped them out to make sure they could play if they wanted to. He would perform sports physicals at the school to make sure everyone could receive one and to ensure all of the athletes were healthy enough to play. He wanted to deter the potential for injury as much as possible.

Q3 Beyond being a doctor, Dr. Balliet was a mentor and steady presence for others. When did you see that side of him show up in a way that surprised or moved you?

It wasn't just one thing, he was always an example of being good in the world and being a witness for Christ. When Dad's sister, Carolyn, won an award for her own good work, she shared how her brother mentored her and encouraged her to ask, "What more can I do?" That was exactly how he lived, always looking for ways to help others.

"He always looked for ways to help others"

Q4 If your Dad were sitting with us today, what do you think he would hope people remembered most about how he treated others and contributed to the community?

He would want people to remember what God taught us, to be kind to everyone no matter who they are or where they come from. He would want us to remember that all of God's children deserve love and kindness.

Dad was constantly helping people regardless of status or where they were from and he made sure to teach all of us that everyone deserved respect and help. He would say, "You never talk about someone negatively when you haven't walked in their shoes." He never judged and always treated people with respect. If you were to ask all five of us to share about Dad, I don't think we possibly know everything that he did but we always knew how he treated others.

Q5 Your Dad met people from every walk of life – community members, players, coaches, parents, colleagues. Is there a favorite story that shows his sense of humor or the easy way he connected with just about anyone?

He had a dry sense of humor that lifted everyone up and never ripped you down. He wasn't sarcastic but he would bring light into dark situations. I don't know that there is a specific story but I can definitely say that we remember him laughing and making others laugh.

One thing we can share definitively, he was never too busy to have fun and spend time with his family. We would ski, go ice skating, play baseball, and much more. A great example of the fun we had, we lived right below St. Mary's hospital near the bottom of the hill. Dad would let us sled down that big hill leading to 6th Street. He would stand at the bottom and give us the "all clear" if cars weren't coming before we took off and went sailing across 6th Street. He loved to have fun with us. He worked hard and played hard.

Q6 Is there anything else that you would like to share about your Dad?

He was a selfless source of help and comfort for all ethnicities and he was truly humble. Though mom and dad were members of society and financially sound, he raised his children to know that we were not above others.

When on a family trip out to Washington DC, I remember dad taking the side roads. Not because he liked the scenic route but because it allowed him to drive past the cotton fields, to remind us of the hardships in the world and that we must all do our part to help ease the discomfort of others. He wanted to teach his children humility.



Having Mary and Susan stop in to share their Dad's legacy helps bring his memory back to the forefront. It is always important to revisit our history and Newman Catholic High School is truly grateful for all that Dr. Charles Balliet did for our community and students. His memory lives on every time a game is played on Balliet Field, and everyone is invited back to enjoy a game, reminisce, and share a story or two about Dr. Balliet and the difference he made in your life or in the life of someone you love.



FOUNDER'S DAY AWARD BANQUET

The Founder's Day Award Ceremony began almost two decades ago to honor the men and women who have made a difference in the lives of the students, staff and families of Newman Catholic Schools.

Honorees are selected for the selflessness, dedication, service, and devotion they have shown in support of the Newman Catholic family, as well as, for the athletic success they had while a student. The selection process is managed by committee and is based off of external nominations and internal research to uncover the strongest candidates.

Honorees are chosen in the following categories:

- Cornerstone Award**
- Distinguished Alumna & Alumnus**
- Athletic Hall of Fame**
- Coaches Hall of Fame**
- Team Hall of Fame**

For the first time in many years, this year's Founder's Day will be hosted at Newman Catholic High School. Bringing the event back to the school offers a perfect opportunity for alumni to visit their alma mater, reminisce while touring the school and to learn how the school has changed since they walked the halls of Newman Catholic High School.

Founder's Day Award Banquet
 Sunday, June 28, 2026
 Newman Catholic Middle & High School

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 HONOREES

CORNERSTONE AWARD

Reverend Allan Slowiak

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

- Bernadette (Sikorski) Baumann, Class of 1957
- Linda (Seidl) Wagner, Class of 1978
- Jeff Gress, Class of 1995

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME HONORS

- Angie Roiger, Class of 1995
- Leah Lemke, Class of 2006
- Jerry Halkowski (Hale), Class of 1968
- Mike Walden, Class of 1980

COACHES HALL OF FAME HONOR

Paul Michlig, Class of 1996

TEAM HALL OF FAME HONORS

- 1952-53 Boys Basketball Team
- 1973 Girls Varsity Tennis Team
- 1991 State Champion Baseball Team



Building a Legacy: The Prososki Family Farms

From 40 Stalls to 1,100 Cows

by Nate Prososki



When John and Linda Prososki purchased their farm in the mid-2000's, the operation was modest—a single red tie-stall barn with just 40 stalls. It was a humble beginning, but one built on vision, work ethic, and a commitment to excellence. Today, that same farm stands as a modern dairy enterprise preparing to milk approximately 1,100 cows across two sites by the end of the year, following completion of a new 700-stall barn in mid-April with the help of all the family! They also manage crops from 1,000 acres of land they own and an additional 600 acres of rented land. Their sons, Newman Catholic alumni, Aaron '08, Luke '11, and Nathan '14, have been a part in making this a family run farm at the highest level.

What bridges the gap between those early days and the present expansion is not just infrastructure—it's genetics, teamwork, family, and an unwavering focus on improvement.

The Cow That Changed Everything

Every great breeding program has a cornerstone, and for this farm, that foundation was a heifer named Mojo. Purchased at a sale in the early years, Mojo proved to be transformational. She produced exceptional daughters, and nearly every animal the farm still collects embryos from today traces back to her lineage. Mojo didn't just contribute to the herd—she helped define it. Her impact launched the farm's genetic success and set the trajectory for a program that now competes at the highest levels worldwide.

A Commitment to Progress

While the farm's roots remain important, none of the original facilities still stand. In their place are newly built structures designed with two priorities in mind: animal comfort and workplace efficiency. Modern dairy farming demands facilities that support both cow health and employee productivity. Every building project has been approached with those goals at the forefront. The newest addition—a 700-stall barn nearing completion—marks another significant milestone in the farm's growth and forward-thinking philosophy.



A Family-Driven Operation

Behind the facilities and genetics is a tightly coordinated team, each family member playing a critical role in the farm's success.

Aaron '08, is a veterinarian and co-owner of Sunshine Genetics. He oversees the entire genetic program, ensuring the herd remains competitive on a global scale. In addition to genetics, Aaron manages much of the farm's financial planning and is deeply involved in overall business strategy. Aaron and his wife Bri have three children, Henry, Theodore, and Leighton.

Luke '11, the Operations Manager, keeps the physical side of the farm running smoothly. He oversees building projects, manages crop and field work—including what gets planted and when—and coordinates animal movement between the two farm sites and partner farms that raise young heifers. Luke and his wife Taylor have three children, Ray, Elly, and Ty.

Nate '14, the Herd Manager, is responsible for the animals themselves—ensuring they remain healthy, comfortable, and productive. Duties include overseeing all breedings, vaccinations, and general herd health, monitoring treatments, advising employees on care protocols, and transferring approximately half of the farm's embryos alongside John. Managing the workforce across both farms is also a central part of the role, with support from Luke when needed.

Though each person has defined responsibilities, the farm operates as a unified team. Whether it's lending a hand with fieldwork or stepping in to support herd management, collaboration is constant among the family.

The Workforce Behind the Success

No operation of this scale succeeds without dedicated employees. The farm is supported by a strong, experienced workforce, including several team members who have been with the operation for years. Their consistency, skill, and commitment are instrumental in keeping daily operations running smoothly.

Looking Ahead

From a 40-stall red barn to a modern, multi-site dairy approaching 1,100 milking cows, the journey reflects strategic growth grounded in genetics, infrastructure, and teamwork. With a powerful genetic foundation tracing back to Mojo, state-of-the-art facilities designed for comfort and efficiency, and a committed team driving the operation forward, the future of the farm looks as strong as its foundation.



Tax-Savvy Ways to Leave a Legacy

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)

Do you have an individual retirement account (IRA)? Are you 70 1/2 or older? If yes to both, did you know that you can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), avoid paying taxes and decrease your taxable income by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), also known as an IRA Charitable Rollover, is a nontaxable distribution of up to **\$108,000** made directly to a qualified charitable organization

Leave a legacy while helping to further the mission of Newman Catholic Schools!

Though QCDs do not qualify for a charitable deduction, they do count towards your required minimum distribution. For this reason and those laid out below, making a charitable contribution from your IRA is truly advantageous.

Making a QCD donation means...

- You will pay no income tax on your gift
- You can help support your favorite causes
- Your gift can help build your charitable legacy
- You can use your IRA in the way you want



Planned Giving Bequests

Leave a bequest and you are leaving a legacy which supports the students, faculty and staff of Newman Catholic Schools. A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make but one that leaves a lasting impact. With the help of an advisor, you can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift be made to family, friends or Newman Catholic Schools as part of your estate plan.

What are the benefits of making a bequest?

- You leave a lasting legacy to be remembered
- You lessen the burden of taxes on your family
- You may receive estate tax savings

What are your options?

A bequest can be made in several ways:

- You can gift a specific dollar amount or asset
- You can gift a percentage of your estate
- You can gift from the balance or residue of your estate
- You can make a beneficiary designation of certain assets

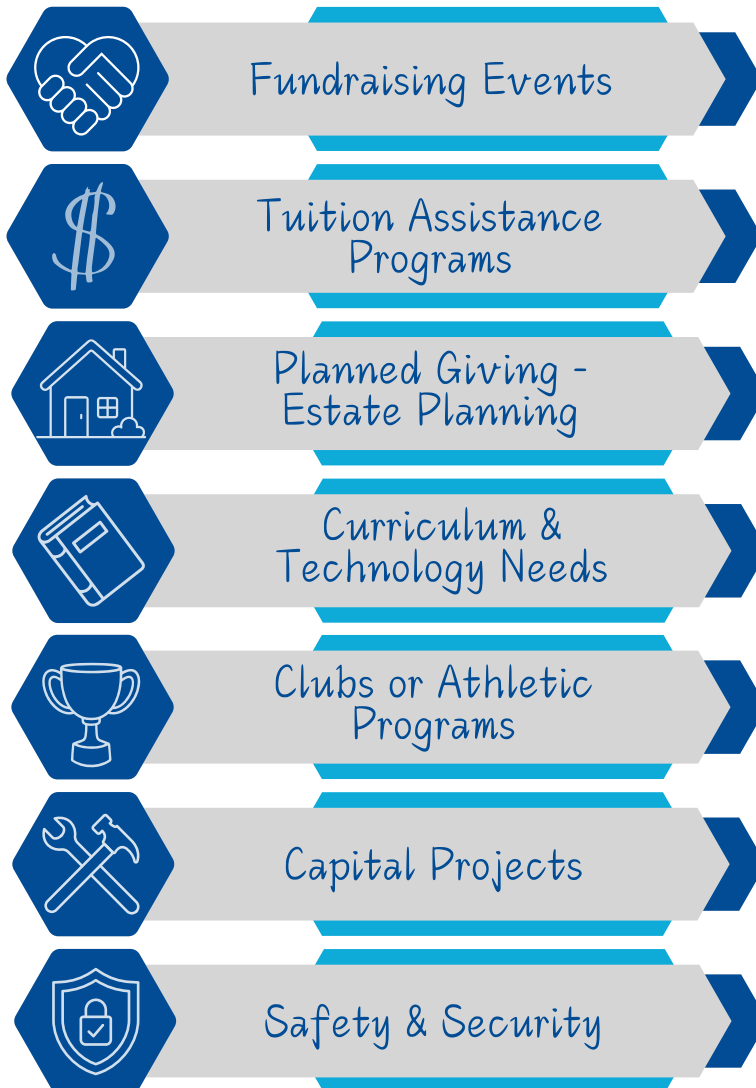
Learn more by calling the Advancement & Alumni Office at 715-842-4805

GIVE OF YOUR TIME, TALENT, OR TREASURE



Newman Catholic Schools would not succeed in its mission without the generous support offered by the Newman Catholic community. Whether offering financial support, volunteering time or talent, or offering mentorship to students, NCS is grateful to the donors, volunteers, coaches, and mentors who come forward to make a difference in the lives of the students.

Have you ever wondered how you too can give back? Perhaps you have but didn't know where to start. NCS welcomes you to reach out and learn how you can make a difference by offering your time, talent, or treasure to support:



Contact Sarah Keene, Director of Advancement & Alumni, to learn how you can make a difference.

715-842-4805 / skeene@newmancatholicschools.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you to the generous donors who have contributed to Newman Catholic Schools' Scholarship Program. Over \$150,000 in K-12 scholarships are awarded each year to help lessen the financial burden of tuition payments.

- Mary Bandoch Memorial
- Bishop Gerard Battersby
- Bishop John Paul Educational Endowment
- Mary T. Carlson Memorial
- Catholic Daughters - Court of St. Rose
- Catholic Financial Life
- Class of 1963 - Jim & Mary Kay DeBroux
- George & Lucille Ferguson Memorial
- William L. & Marlene J. Fredrich Memorial
- William Goggins Memorial
- Raymond & Marie Goldbach Foundation, Inc.
- Thomas D. Hammer Memorial
- Sally M. Hattenhauer Scholarship Fund
- Holy Name Parish Men's Society
- Holy Name St. Catherine Council
- Randy Juley Memorial
- Katie Kennedy Memorial
- Steve Klos Memorial
- Knights of Columbus
- Frank & Johanna Liszewski Memorial
- Lorraine Moadlo Scholarship Fund
- Glen Mroczenski Memorial
- Lucille Murphy Scholarship Fund
- Josephene Myszka Memorial
- NCHS & NCMS Home & Schools
- Robert & Ruby Neugebauer Memorial
- Newman High School Class of 1961
- Raphoon Family Memorial
- Paul & Ruth Schultz Foundation
- Edward J., Gertrude, & John D. Sorges Memorial
- Marilyn Spletter Memorial
- St. Anne Fatima Council
- St. Anne Parish - George L. Geisler Education Endowment Trust
- St. Mark Ladies Council
- St. Matthew Soup Supper
- St. Paul Parish
- St. Therese Little Flower Council
- Harold & Ruth Tessmer Memorial
- Fred & Carol Wakeman Memorial
- Christopher Wallschlaeger Memorial
- Richard Yaeger Education Fund



Witness the Difference at Newman Catholic Schools

*Enroll now for the
2026-2027 school year!*

Newman Catholic Schools offers an education embraced by

- **FAITH** where students grow as Christians, both individually and as a community
- A culture of **SERVICE** where students live God's word by giving of themselves to others
- Rigorous **ACADEMICS** enhanced with social-emotional learning

Visit newmancatholicschools.com to learn more!

“We are thankful for teachers who have given personalized care to our children, challenging them in their areas of giftedness and supporting them where they need help. We love that our children are surrounded by others who love Jesus, they get to pray and worship with their school family, and our faith is integrated into their learning and school activities.” ~Ethan & Kim Gilray

Newman Catholic Schools fosters disciples of Christ through Catholic faith, service and academics.



2026 NCS ATHLETIC SUMMER CAMPS

Get involved and stay active this summer!
Join NCS athletic summer camps!

REGISTRATION OPENS IN APRIL!



COME ON OUT FOR NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' FAMILY NIGHT AT THE



**THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH
VS. MADISON MALLARDS
FIRST PITCH 6:05PM**

**LET'S CELEBRATE THE END OF THE 2025-2026
SCHOOL YEAR TOGETHER!**

More information coming soon!

You're Invited!

**Holy Name of Jesus Parish
Summerfun**

June 5 & June 6

Visit holynamewausau.com
to learn more

**St. Florian Parish
St. Florian Picnic**

July 25 & July 26

Visit stflos.org
to learn more

**St. Anne Parish
St. Anne Fest**

June 12 & June 13

Visit stanneswausau.org
to learn more

**St. Therese Parish
August Fest**

August 8 & August 9

Visit sttheresecc.org
to learn more

**St. Mark Parish
June Bug Festival**

June 14

Visit smproths.org
to learn more

**St. Agnes Parish
Sports Banquet**

September 19

Visit stagnescatholicparish.com
to learn more

**Thank you to our supporting parishes and local Catholic
community for your support!**

Newman Catholic Booster Club SwingFest Dual Cup Scramble



SAVE THE DATE!



**Friday, July 17, 2026
Noon Shotgun Start**

Information for sponsorships, donations,
and team sign up is coming soon!



Newman Catholic Schools
1130 W Bridge Street
Wausau, WI 54401



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Newman Catholic Schools fosters disciples of Christ through



Catholic Faith



Service



& Academics