

Fall 2026

NEWMAN *Connection*

NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & ALUMNI

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Together in Faith
Future of English Department
Thank You Donors
Upcoming Events



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

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NEWMAN

Catholic Schools

Newman Connection

Fall 2026

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Let's Connect

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A Message From Our Chaplain

Before the school year began in the classroom, I attended my first Friends of the Gridiron Steak Fry Fundraiser. That night I learned a great deal about the spirit of Newman Catholic Schools and was absorbed into the glory of the gathering. The setting helped us enjoy the natural beauty of rural Marathon County, its rolling hills and breathtaking vistas. The event itself had the warm feeling of a tight-knit neighborhood that looks more like family. Some history was shared with quality story telling. The presence of God was celebrated in simple prayer and expressions of faith from the hearts of our leadership. There was even a moment when the veil between heaven and earth was again torn in the victory Christ won over death as we recalled a loved one gone before us in the hope of the resurrection. It was beautiful.

Truth be told, my euphoria may have been accentuated because I became a big winner during the evening. Along with all the good feelings, I was able to take home a fire ring with s'more stuff, and a beanbag toss set showing off Victor, our beloved Cardinal mascot. There are future joys in the wins.

"Wherever we are, the Newman Catholic community seems to shine."

The evening was for me a good beginning to the year, a tribute to what Newman Catholic Schools can be for our parishes, our broader community, and each of our hearts. The sense of desire to be one in Christ with one another continued when the students returned to the spiritual and academic environment of the middle and high school building.

An example was the first Middle School Mass. Everything is once again new. Sixth graders are adjusting to different customs and practices, and we are all starting fresh. Still, there was a vibrancy in their participation. The music was joyful and reverent while also being uplifting and energetic. Spoken responses were clear and heartfelt. Volunteers came forward to lector and serve. Even a request for participants to help with the homily was met with immediate offers and collective enthusiasm. God was praised and I am sure His heart was pleased.

While we periodically gather the entire building for a Wednesday Mass, most weeks we celebrate the High School Masses on Thursday in the

'Christ the Teacher Chapel' just inside the main entrance. We began this practice second semester last year. Admittedly, it was a little bit of an adjustment for all, but my hope is that the liturgy there can help support a closer communion with Christ and an engaging celebration of the sacraments. The growing human maturity of the students deserves an environment which supports a similar growing and maturing relationship with God. The smaller space and the elevated nature of the sacred environment is certain to benefit our prayer together.

Wherever we are, the Newman Catholic community seems to shine. Whether on the volleyball court, in the classroom, at prayer together, or in service out in the community, we can make a difference. I think that difference comes from the fact that our eyes are not on ourselves, they are on the Lord. That is the identity we carry as a system of Catholic schools.

Christ inspires in us a supernatural vision for His world and our eternal destiny. We know that each person we encounter within and outside our walls is created in the image of God and given a mission to serve His glory. The common bond we have as Christians and as human beings draws us together for the purpose of education and formation, a curriculum that is divinely illumined by grace. The studies on which we embark, the horizons we explore, the teams we build, and the friends we gain give us a worldview that involves the whole person, dignified and perfected by the light of the Gospel. It seems like a complex network of interactions and responsibilities. But it is also a simple reflection of God's bright love for His children. In the spirit of our patron, St. John Henry Newman, "Lead on, kindly Light."



Rev. Woody Pace
NCS Chaplain



A Message From Our President

As Newman Catholic Schools embarks on the 2026–27 academic year, our system is experiencing a period of remarkable strength and forward momentum. Across all buildings, students and staff have returned with a renewed sense of purpose, embracing our mission of fostering disciples of Christ through Catholic faith, service and academics. This mission remains the foundation of our identity and the guiding principle for every decision, initiative, and relationship within our school community.

Newman Catholic Schools continues to be distinguished by its unity as one Catholic community, committed to faith formation, academic excellence and service to others. Our students benefit from a cohesive educational experience rooted in Catholic values, strengthened by parish partnerships and supported by generations of families who believe deeply in the importance of Catholic education in Wausau.

This year, Newman Catholic Schools is experiencing encouraging enrollment trends, strengthened alumni engagement, and continued support from families who value our faith-centered culture and high academic expectations. The momentum across our system is further reflected in the progress of our multi-phase building development project. Recent additions to our athletic facilities, ongoing construction efforts, and the early planning stages of our Academic and Faith Complex all demonstrate meaningful advancement and a shared commitment to the long-term vitality of our schools.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue this growth with the addition of Newman Catholic Chesterton Academy (NCCA), a high school rooted in Catholic classical education. The NCCA is preparing to welcome freshmen and sophomores for the 2027–28 school year, expanding the opportunities available to families seeking another option for a strong Catholic and academically rigorous education. This initiative further reflects our dedication to forming students in mind, body, and spirit, and to ensuring that Catholic education remains strong, accessible, and mission-driven for generations to come.

Most importantly, Newman Catholic Schools remains steadfast in forming young people who understand that faith is lived through action—through leadership, integrity, compassion, and service. As we continue to grow, we do so with confidence, gratitude, and a deep awareness of God's presence in our work.

Together, we move forward as one Catholic community.

Jeff Gulan
NCS President



Education Commission			Finance Committee
Parish Representatives	Pastoral Leadership	System Leadership	Chris Pfender Committee Chair
Chris Pfender Finance Committee Chair	Rev. Sebastian Kolodziejczyk St. Matthew Parish & NCS Dean	Jeff Gulan NCS President	Gary France
Michael Murphy Holy Name of Jesus Parish Rep	Rev. Al Burkhardt Mary, Mother of Good Help Parish	Sarah Keene Director of Advancement & Alumni	Ron Klimisch
Marcy Stenstrom St. Therese Parish Rep	Rev. Tom Lindner St. Anne Parish, Church of the Resurrection & St. Michael Parish	Sarah Welch NCECC; St. Michael Site Director	John Knoll
Mike Rosenthal St. Michael Parish Rep	Rev. Woody Pace Holy Name of Jesus Parish NCMS/HS Chaplain	Amy Faust NCECC; St. Therese Site Director	Tanya Riehle
Laura Reamer Church of the Resurrection Parish Rep	Rev. Janusz Kowalski St. Mark Parish & St. Therese Parish	Caleb Feidt NCES: St. Anne Principal	Jeff Gulan NCS President
John Knoll St. Anne Parish Rep		Pam Fochs NCES: St. Mark Principal	Ashley Zastrow Financial Controller
Jack Reeves St. Matthew Parish Rep		Jim Lynch NCCS: Holy Name Headmaster	Jessica Noll Assistant Financial Controller
We would also like to remember Rick Svennes, who passed away this past year, and thank him for his many years of service as Chair of the Education Commission and as a member of the Finance Committee.		Hilary Rinke NCMS/HS Principal	Sarah Keene Director of Advancement & Alumni
		Thomas Reichenbacher Diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools	

The Education Commission and Finance Committee act as consultative bodies in the ministry of Catholic school education. These leadership groups help form policy and aide in guiding the system forward towards continued success.

Thank you to the committee members who help lead the Newman Catholic Schools system. We are one in Christ and one in our desire to support the youth of our Catholic community. Thank you for helping the students of Newman Catholic Schools grow in faith and knowledge.

Thank You For Your Guidance & Support!!

Thank you

Thank you to our Catholic Community!

Catholic schools reflect the importance of integrating the faith with the educational process, and is a ministry shared by all within the Catholic community. Newman Catholic Schools is truly grateful for the support that our Catholic community gives the students, faculty, and staff to help ensure the system's mission is fulfilled.

Newman Catholic Schools is blessed to have the financial support of the local parishes, which is necessary to ensure financial viability. Thank you to the parishes and parishioners for giving back to NCS and Catholic education. Your support is a blessing that is not taken for granted!

Thank you to all within the Wausau Deanery, but a special thank you must be given to the core pastoral leaders who offer their guidance and leadership:

Very Rev. Sebastian Kolodziejczyk
St. Matthew Parish & NCS Dean

Rev. Al Burkhardt
Mary, Mother of Good Help Parish

Rev. Woodrow Pace
Holy Name of Jesus Parish
& NCMS/HS Chaplain

Rev. Tom Lindner
Rev. Al Slowiak
St. Anne Parish, Church of the
Resurrection & St. Michael Parish

Rev. Janusz Kowalski
St. Mark Parish
& St. Therese Parish



*NCCS: Holy Name student at the
2025 December All Schools Mass*





Together In Faith

All Schools Masses Bring Our Community Together

by Jacci Lepak

For the past two years NCS has been blessed to join together four times each school year to celebrate Mass with students across all NCS locations. It has been a blessing to celebrate and share this time together, and we are incredibly thankful to our Wausau Deanery priests for welcoming us to their parishes. We are also very thankful to our generous donors who support this effort by covering the cost of busing for the system. Without these people, these celebrations together would not be possible.

As a Catholic school system, sharing and celebrating our faith together is a vital part of fulfilling our mission. This is visible within all Newman Catholic Schools classrooms, hallways, playgrounds and at weekly Mass. Annually, we have always gathered as a community, inviting all surrounding Wausau Deanery schools to our Catholic Schools Week Mass. It is a beautiful time to gather students, teachers, staff and community members together, building a sense of belonging and strengthening our relationship with God.

As we embark on the 2026-2027 school year, we are blessed to celebrate the third year of offering multiple All Schools Masses where all NCS schools are invited and come together to celebrate our faith and foster our relationship with God.

We were blessed to begin this year's All Schools Masses at St. Michael Parish. We look forward to gathering again throughout the school year:

Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 9:30am
Holy Name of Jesus Parish

Thursday, February 4, 2027 at 12:45pm
NC Middle & High School

Thursday, March 18, 2027 at 9:30am
St. Mark Parish

***Dates, times, and locations are subject to change.
Please watch NCS communications for the most current information.**

**"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have;
God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind."**

Hebrews 13:16



Built To Serve

Three Perspectives on a Week of Service in Central Wisconsin



This summer I went on a group mission trip. A mission trip is where you stay in a school for a week and help local residents. Some things you do to help are building porches, painting, and fixing things. You also get to pray and learn about God.

I liked mission camp because it was fun. Our resident, Tammy (local resident), was very kind to us. We helped paint her house. I fixed some things like doorknobs, cabinets, and a small glass sliding cabinet. You also have fun. You make memories.

When I got to Newman I did not want to go. I wanted to stay home. I got there and set up my cot (do not recommend an air mattress because they can pop). Then we had free time, an assembly, dinner, and lights out. The next morning we got woken up by music, ate breakfast, and went to the worksite. We met Tammy and she

brought us a popsicle. We worked, had lunch and devotions, then worked for a bit before going back. That was our daily schedule. On Wednesday we got out early to go to places and have fun.

During that week, we changed Tammy's life and she wanted to start going to Church. My life was changed too. I saw God differently. I learned valuable life skills. I had fun at group mission camp. You should go. Grab family and a friend and go to mission camp. You will like it, trust me, you will!

-James Meyer; 6th Grader at NCMS



Group Mission Trips, Habitat for Humanity of Wausau, and Newman Catholic MS/HS partnered to bring volunteers together to serve families across central Wisconsin.



Being a part of the large group mission project this summer was a very humbling experience for us as food service staff. We watched 375 people come together and work through the heat and smoky weather for the benefit of our community.

The students and staff always thanked us and told us how much they appreciated what we were doing for them, when they were honestly the ones working so hard to make Wausau a better place. It was a real joy to work with them!

-Tammy Lammar; NCS Food Service Coordinator



Having traveled to multiple states for over 10 years for other trips with Group Mission Trips, it was certainly a unique experience to move into Newman MS/HS for the week and serve our local Wausau community.

Knowing the partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Wausau was strong, I was assured that our work was for well-deserving families. Shout out to the NCS staff for rolling out the red carpet to all the youth and adults that came to serve as well! I look forward to future projects and experiences of service like this!

-John Schmitt; St. Anne Group Mission Leader



Seeing the World Differently

A Journey Through Europe Brings History to Life and Opens the Door to What Comes Next

by Ryan Moore

Mark Twain once wrote that "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness...". I have seen this quote come alive in my own life and travels. The people I have met and places of great historical importance that I have seen from Northern Ireland to Kazakhstan to Chile have changed the way I see the world. Coming away with the understanding that the way a culture functions might be different than yours, but it is just that. Their way of doing things is simply different and nothing more. Travel is a reminder that we are all made in the image of God and his beloved children.

Providing NCS students with the opportunity to test Mr. Twain's quote and expand their own understanding of the image of God is the reason that I wanted to take students on a trip. On this trip I had one student who had never been on a plane and about half who had never left the country. It was an honor to be there for so many new experiences. Going to Paris, Nice, Monaco, Florence, and Rome seemed to be a fantastic opportunity to expose our students to two of the major capitals of the world. In Florence, Rome, and Paris they would be able to see up close so many of the places that we study in my World History class.

"My school trip to Europe was definitely the highlight of my summer. I loved exploring Paris, Rome, Nice, Florence and Monaco with my friends, experiencing different cultures, seeing famous landmarks, trying new foods and meeting new people. There were so many moments from the trip that I know I will never forget. I'm so grateful I had the opportunity to go!!" -Eleanor

We started with Versailles in Paris, from seeing the palace which every other modern palace is based on to seeing the gardens and fountains the students really enjoyed. We experienced something that is not often seen which was an empty Arc de Triomphe and Champs Elysees. It is usually very crowded with people, but we were lucky to be there on a day when a festival closed the Champs Elysees to cars. We were even able to take a high speed train to the South of France.

In Monaco, which was without question the kids' favorite

stop on the tour, they were able to see the streets where the Monaco Grand Prix was run (they taught their clueless teacher all about it!), see the Prince's Palace, and see incredible Mediterranean views. Nice was their opportunity to swim in the Mediterranean. A refreshing break from the heat wave we were experiencing!

"The trip was super fun! There were so many sights to see, great picture-taking opportunities and experiences. Our group attended Mass, and it was really cool to see how a different dialect discussed the process. The main highlights were the amazing paintings in the Louvre, the high-speed train through the French countryside into Monaco, and the Palace of Versailles. These were only a handful of our experiences, but I can confidently say we would all go back!!" -Skylar

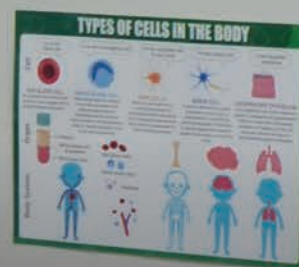
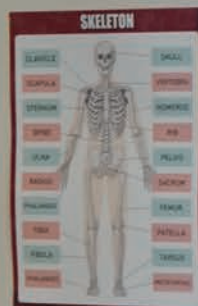
Florence, the heart of the Renaissance, took us back to that incredible era of history as all around us were the results of that great age. In Rome, we spent our first afternoon trying to find shade and exploring our fourth country on our journey, the Vatican. We went to the Vatican Museum and saw St. Peter's Basilica. This was the part of the trip I was most excited for. Taking Catholic students to the Vatican has been something I've wanted to do for quite some time. Being in the Sistine Chapel, where Popes are elected and so many major events have taken place, was amazing. On our final day in Rome we were able to visit the Coliseum, see the Forum of Ancient Rome, and toss a coin in the Trevi Fountain guaranteeing our return to Rome.

My hope is that this trip opened the students' minds to what could be. From places they want to see again, to places they've heard about that they now have to see, to a university study abroad, or even living abroad at some point. The world awaits and I believe this trip gave these students the tools and knowledge to engage the world with confidence.



Corner of NCECC: St. Michael
STEM Room

MATH





Planting Possibilities

Winter Wonderland STEM Support at Work Across Newman Catholic Schools

by Jas Norton

A year after Winter Wonderland 2025 put a spotlight on STEM, the impact of that support can now be seen across Newman Catholic Schools.

Funds raised through the event brought a variety of new STEM materials, equipment and hands-on learning opportunities to classrooms throughout the district, reaching students from our youngest learners through 12th grade. The resources may look different from one classroom to the next, but the goal is the same: to spark curiosity and give all of our learners more opportunities to explore, create, experiment, and discover through hands-on learning.

At our early childhood centers, new age-appropriate resources introduce even our youngest infant learners to early STEM concepts through age-appropriate play and discovery.

Elementary students have additional tools to work in their classrooms, including lab tables and hydroponic growing stations that bring lessons in plant science, agriculture, and sustainability to life.

Those growing stations also became an opportunity for collaboration across grade levels. This past spring, Newman Catholic High School biology students visited elementary students to demonstrate how the systems work, share what they had learned and help them get started.

The STEM resources made possible through Winter Wonderland 2025 are giving students more opportunities to ask questions, test ideas, solve problems and turn what they are learning into something they can see and experience for themselves. As students grow, those experiences can grow with them.

Winter Wonderland is only one night, but bringing it to life takes an incredible amount of support. Its success has always depended on people who believe in our students and are willing to invest in their future.

On Saturday, November 14, 2026, we will celebrate the 39th Winter Wonderland Benefit Auction, and invite you to be part of a tradition that has been making a difference for Newman Catholic students for nearly four decades. This year, our Fund-a-Need will focus on investing in our mission: Catholic faith, service, and academics.



1. Seeds are planted
2. Seedlings begin to grow
3. Lettuce reaches full size
4. It's harvested and served



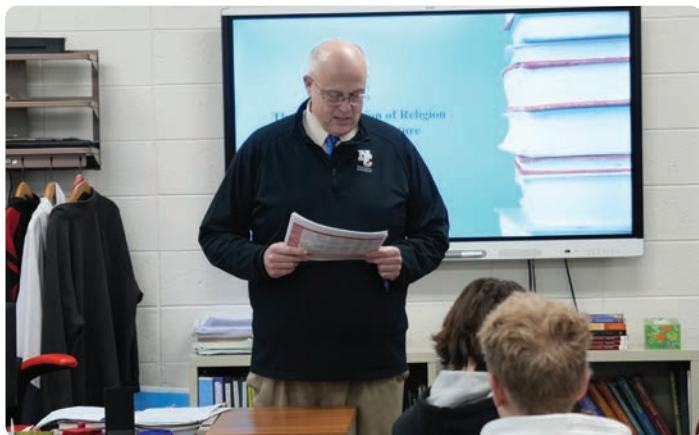
One of five hydroponic lettuce growing stations across the district. Students can watch the lettuce grow from seedlings to harvest, and eventually enjoy it for lunch!



A Foundation for the Future

The Future of English and Theology at NCHS Through the Lens of a Seasoned Teacher

by Tony Noll



When I began teaching at Newman Catholic High School ten years ago, I could not have predicted how much my role or our department would change. During that time, I have worked alongside eight different partners in English, watched our curriculum evolve, and added Theology to my teaching responsibilities. Perhaps the most meaningful has been the opportunity to welcome one of my former students, Grace Thums, back to Newman as a fellow teacher. Watching Grace grow from a student sitting in my classroom into a trusted friend and peer is a rewarding full-circle moment. The shift from teacher to colleague proves that the relationships all Newman Catholic teachers cultivate in these classrooms truly stand the test of time.

“Finding the right words, organizing an argument, and putting their own thoughts on paper are all part of learning *how* to think.”

Over the past ten years, I have been part of building a consistent English curriculum across Newman’s schools, with a focus on strengthening reading and writing skills while examining a purposeful progression of literature. Last year, we brought English and Theology together, allowing us to recognize how naturally the skills of the two disciplines complement one another.

Whether students are analyzing literature, studying Scripture, or examining Church documents, they are learning to read carefully, think critically, and communicate their ideas clearly. Those skills cross naturally between

English and Theology and help students not only understand what the Church teaches, but also articulate and defend their faith.

The need for the development of critical thinking skills are more important today than ever. Artificial intelligence has changed education quickly, giving students access to technology that can produce polished writing almost instantly. Interestingly, one of our responses has been a return to something very traditional: handwriting. There is value in asking students to put away the technology, slow down, and wrestle with an idea themselves. Finding the right words, organizing an argument, and putting their own thoughts on paper are all part of learning how to think, whether they are developing a literary argument in English or explaining a matter of faith in Theology.



Classical literature continues to be my passion. My students certainly know about my love of Shakespeare, along with works such as Beowulf and The Odyssey. I love these timeless works because they remind us that while the world around us has changed dramatically, the fundamental problems of humanity have always been the same. People have always wrestled with courage, loyalty, pride, sacrifice, temptation, love, loss, and what it means to live a good life. Those same questions naturally carry

over into many of our discussions in Theology.

The direction of the English curriculum transitioned logically into an examination of our course offerings, as well as an expansion of what we could offer in terms of college level instruction. In the past five years, we have partnered with Viterbo University in La Crosse, giving juniors the opportunity to take Dual Credit Writer's Practice I and II, while seniors can take Dual Credit American and British Literature. Students earn university credit through their work in these courses rather than depending upon their performance on a single AP examination. We are already discussing additional dual credit offerings for next year.

“There is value in asking students to put away the technology, slow down, and wrestle with an idea themselves.”

The crossover between English and Theology is also reflected in our teachers. Grace Thums and I both teach in the two areas, allowing us to carry many of the same expectations for reading, writing, and critical thought between our classrooms. Grace, a 2022 Newman graduate, was the quiet, dependable student in my classroom who consistently produced excellent work. One of my clearest memories of her is completing her senior capstone presentation during the COVID 19 pandemic entirely through audio after her computer refused to stream video. Now, just a few years later, she is my colleague and has proven to be a tremendous asset to Newman and our department.

This year, Lindsey Canny also joined us after eight years of teaching at Pacelli. Lindsey teaches English 3 and English 4 for our non dual credit students and brings valuable experience with Publications. She has taken over the yearbook, a responsibility I filled for six years. Together, the three of us bring different experiences and strengths to a department that now reaches across English and Theology. I am excited about the stability and possibilities this team provides.

In the end, the sense of stability and community is also a large part of why I have remained at Newman for ten years. I have seen firsthand the impact Newman can have on a family. I watched the school help shape my son Ben into the young man he has become, and I now have the opportunity to watch my youngest daughter, Livy, grow within that same community. My wife and I also experienced that support personally during my first year at Newman, when my family went through a difficult time that required me to step away from school. I was new to Newman, but the message from the school was clear: take care of your family, and we will take care of things here.

That experience showed me very early what the Newman community could be, and I have never forgotten it.



There have been many changes during the last decade, but the relationships and sense of community I found at Newman have remained. As I look ahead, I am excited about a department that brings English and Theology together, not simply because we share teachers, but because both disciplines challenge students to read carefully, think deeply, communicate clearly, and wrestle with questions that matter. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue building that foundation for the next generation of Newman students.



The Next Chapter

The Future of English at NCHS Through the Lens of an Alumna and Newer Teacher

by Grace Thums

When I walked across the stage at my high school graduation, I knew what profession I would go into. I wanted to teach. However, I never imagined that I would be back at Newman Catholic Schools as a teacher, especially not in the same classroom that I took several classes in.



I was a student at Newman High School when COVID-19 shut the entire school down. But we, the students and the teachers, still found a way to make the best of it. I didn't understand it then, but watching my teachers respond to that crisis was inspiring.

Today, working with my former teachers has given me an advantage; I have colleagues who

I know are rooting for me. One thing I've learned is that teachers hope for all their students to thrive, even their past ones, and I am very grateful for their guidance.

With their constant support and encouragement, I have my eyes set on some great things this year. I am currently teaching freshman and sophomore English, along with Sacraments for juniors. In the English department, my target is to create confident writers, effective and respectful communicators, and independent thinkers.

For the majority of my English instruction, I take on a role as a "guide," allowing students to lead their own discussions and to problem-solve in pairs. My overall goal is for students to leave my English classroom in 10th grade feeling



comfortable and prepared for more advanced analyses in upper-level courses.

"My target is to create confident writers, effective and respectful communicators, and independent thinkers. I want my students to lead their own discussions and problem-solve."

Returning to Newman as an educator carries a unique perspective for me. Even as I encounter new experiences as a teacher, I can still see whispers of my high school memories clinging to the rooms here. Whether it's the



rigorous work I proudly completed in Mrs. Gasper's biology class, or the literature discussions I had in English with Mr. Noll, reflecting on my time as a student reminds me why I am here.

As a teacher at Newman, I will strive to help my students succeed and discover who they are meant to be, just as my former teachers inspired me to follow in their footsteps.



Founder's Day Award Ceremony

A Legacy of Celebrating Generosity and Success

by Sarah Keene

The Founder's Day Award Ceremony was created over 30 years ago as a way for Newman Catholic Schools (Wausau Area Catholic Schools at the time) to celebrate our history and to formally thank the alumni, benefactors, and volunteers who have gone above and beyond within their community, within our schools, and in honor of our namesake, Saint John Henry Newman.



After a four year break from hosting Founder's Day, Newman Catholic Schools was excited to once again be able to honor the men and women who had made a difference. Taking the time between events allowed the Founder's Day Committee to refocus its efforts to ensure the awarding process was thoroughly reviewed and strengthened.

"This event celebrates our history and formally thanks those who have gone above and beyond."

One primary goal was to restructure the Athletic Hall of Fame awarding process. For many years, decisions were made based on a nomination process with research facilitated after names were received. Though qualified candidates were always selected, the committee found that deserving athletes were missed because of lack of nomination. To rectify this, the committee chose to take the time to create a database of athletes based on statistical and historical information. This helped identify individuals deserving of the honor, lessening the chance that an athlete is missed. The review process also allowed for selection criteria to be updated for clarity, and offered an opportunity for the Athletic Hall of Fame awards to expand to allow for a Team Hall of Fame category.

Founder's Day does not simply honor the athletic success of its alumni, but also allows for celebration of two other key categories, the Cornerstone Award and the Distinguished Alumni Awards:

Cornerstone Award: honors an individual or couple whose influence and support has greatly contributed to the success and growth of Newman Catholic Schools.

Distinguished Alumni: honors an alumna and alumnus who are respected in their community for their volunteerism and conduct towards their fellow citizens. They have made a positive contribution, specifically towards the Catholic community, and continue to support Newman Catholic High School.

The 2026 Founder's Day Honorees

Cornerstone Award

Reverend Allan Slowiak

Distinguished Alumna Award

Bernadette "Bernie" (Sikorski) Baumann, Class of 1957
Linda (Seidl) Wagner, Class of 1978

Distinguished Alumni Award

Jeff Gress, Class of 1995

Athletic Hall of Fame Award

Jerry Halkoski "Hale", Class of 1968
Mike Walden, Class of 1980
Leah (Lemke) Wycklendt, Class of 2006

Coaches Hall of Fame

Paul Michlig, Class of 1996

Team Hall of Fame

1952-53 Varsity Boys Basketball
1972-1973 Varsity Girls Tennis
1991 State Champion Baseball Team

Congratulations to this year's honorees. Thank you for all you have given in support of Newman Catholic Schools.

NEWMAN IN THE NEWS! READ ALL ABOUT IT

BREAKING NEWS

Set Cornerstone Ceremony for Newman High

The Most Rev. John P. Treacy, La Crosse, bishop of the La Crosse Diocese, will be here to participate in the program as the cornerstone of the Newman Catholic High School building on W. Bridge St. is laid during a ceremony set for Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

As a lay representative of the Catholic parishes of the area, the principal address at the event will be given by Atty. Emil Wakeen, this city.

Plans for the program, which will include a solemn prayer and benediction, with Bishop Treacy presiding, were announced today by the Rev. Cletus Abst, headmaster of the school.



October 13, 1953:

Bishop Treacy lays the cornerstone at the future Newman High School. 1130 W Bridge St, Wausau

Super Bazaar for Benefit of Newman High School Athletics

Newman High School property on 1100 W. Bridge St. will be bustling with activity tomorrow as the crews of the 20 booths for the first annual Newman High School Super Bazaar converge on the empty lots for the big affair Sunday which starts at 1 and continues until 7:30 in the evening.

July 24, 1953:

1st Annual NHS Super Bazaar was held to raise money for Newman athletics

Entire proceeds from the bazaar will go to the Newman High School Athletic Association for the support of the athletic program at the new three-year Catholic High School.

Day's Program

Co-operating in the event are the six local Catholic parishes, each of whom will sponsor three booths, and the Columbian Squires, who are to have two booths. Entertainment will include a rifle range, casting booth, ring tosses, paddle wheel, fish pond, mice games etc., and performances of the Holy Name Fun Band at 1:30 and 3:30. There will also be booths for lunches and refreshments.

Adequate parking space is assured as the Columbian Squires have reserved the lots directly west of the midway for this purpose. Head electrician, Leo Stieber, has provided outlets for lights and amplifying needs.



August 1972:

Under direction of Rick Schroeder, the NHS Marching Band traveled to Munich, Germany for the international band competition, part of 1972 Olympics.

Newman High Band wins Class B title in Germany

Newman High School's Olympic Band won the Class B championship in competition held in Wiesbaden, Germany, Thursday afternoon.

And there wasn't much doubt that the band was better. The announcement was met with shouts and shrieks and tears of joy that continued from the stadium, throughout a bus ride and into the hotel.

A celebration was held that evening in one of the restaurants and many telephone calls were made to Wausau. Band Director Richard Schroeder was especially pleased and commented on how a new marching band had become a marching unit in a short period of time and with a lot of hard work.

Newman received a superior rating in the competition, which drew a large crowd to the Wiesbaden stadium. The band was cited for excellence in inspection, marching, playing of music and music selection.

Other bands in Class B competition included those from Kenton, Ohio, who Schroeder said provided the stiffest competition. Oakwood, Ohio, and Central Catholic High School from Indiana. All received excellent ratings.

First place in Class A went to Berganville, Ind. Class C championship went to Aquinas High School of Fort Madison, Iowa.

A total of 14 bands and 1,500 youngsters competed for the privilege to perform in Munich, site of the Olympics.

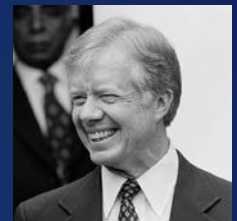
A special train will take the winning bands to Munich Saturday morning. There they will get a chance to see the Olympic atmosphere and athletes first hand.

The band will perform at three sites in Munich, either the Olympic Village, Town or youth camp. It had not been determined where Newman's band will play at this morning.



March 31, 1979:

President Carter visited to speak at Dave Obey's 10-year celebration in Congress held at Newman High School.



City is honored

Welcome Mr. President!

Wausau will receive a rare honor this afternoon when President Jimmy Carter comes to town.

Whether you're a Democrat, Republican, independent or of another political persuasion, the occasion is something to take note of.

The president's visit is a privilege that many cities our size only dream about. For us, today, it'll be reality...a reality that area residents, young and old, will remember and cherish for years.

Rep. David Obey, D-Wausau, deserves most credit for bringing the president here. It reflects well on Obey's standing in Congress that the president is taking time from one of the busiest schedules of anyone in the world to speak for Obey in his hometown.

And plaudits are also due the many people involved in getting Wausau ready for the president. From Central Wisconsin Airport where he'll be landing to Newman High School where he'll speak, local people had a lot of extra work this week in meeting security, communications and other needs of the president.

Their cooperation with federal officials was excellent.

It is our hope that all area citizens will join us in welcoming the president and extend to him the warmest of hospitality and a greeting befitting his high office.

We realize that not everyone agrees with all of President Carter's policies and actions. Our own editorials have sometimes been critical of his stands. But such honest disagreements can be put aside for a few hours as we all salute the president.

After all, the presidency is a cornerstone of our democratic heritage. As such, it merits a respect that transcends partisan politics and ideological differences.

The presidency is more than one man. It's an institution that represents all Americans.

A salute or cheer for Jimmy Carter today can be as much a cheer for the presidency as for the man.

And such a welcome would be a fine way for the city to say, "Thanks for stopping in, Mr. President."



May 4, 1972:

Rock band "Rush" performed at Newman High School during a break in their "All the World's a Stage" tour.



Page 14—The Daily Herald, Wausau-Merrill, Wis.—Wednesday, May 4, 1972

Rush sets concert

Rush with guest artist Max Webster will present a concert Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Newman High School, Wausau, sponsored by Pentagram Productions Ltd.

Tickets are available in Wausau at the Grand Theater, Team Electronics and Music Tree and from Rush Concert-Tickets, P.O. Box 1762, Wausau. They will also be sold at the door.

Since the release of its debut album two years ago, Rush has spent nearly all of its time touring, either in the U.S. or Canada.

During its first tour the group worked as an opening act to Uriah Heep and later Rory Gallagher. At nearly all the gigs, the group got at least one encore, a good sign that Rush was to become a band to be reckoned with. Another sign was record sales which jumped from 10,000 to 70,000 during the tour.

In 1975 the group won the Juno Award (the Canadian Grammy) as the most promising new group. A four-month U.S. tour with Aerosmith and Kiss followed.

The group's most successful album, "2112," was released in March. In Canada, three of the group's four albums have qualified for gold awards.



Rush sets concert

The rock group Rush will present a concert in Wausau Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Newman High School.

NEWMAN TRIVIA TIME!

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW NEWMAN?

1. In what year did Catholic education start in Wausau?

2. What is the name of Newman Catholic High School's former newspaper?

3. What was Newman High School's original mascot?

4. When did the mascot become the Cardinal?

5. How large was Newman High School's first class, the class of 1955?

6. How many graduating classes has Newman Catholic High School had?

7. Who were the first inductees into the NC Athletics Hall of Fame?

8. When were the first classes held in the Newman building, four years after NHS actually opened?

9. What was the first varsity girls sport and when did it begin?

10. What is the longest running school dance in Newman Catholic history?

11. Who is Newman Catholic's football field named after?

12. When did the system's largest fundraiser, Winter Wonderland, begin?

13. Who was Newman High School's first principal?

14. How much did it cost to build Newman High School?

1.) 1883 2.) The Red Hat 3.) The Pioneers 4.) Fall of 1958 5.) 78 students (78 first Pioneers) 6.) 72 classes 7.) Laurie (Schmidt) Severino, Class of 1978 & Stan Olejniczak, Class of 1955 8.) Fall of 1956 9.) Varsity Tennis, 1973 10.) Peppermint Dance 11.) Dr. Charles Ballet 12.) 1987 13.) Rev. Charles Herbert, 1951-1955 14.) \$873,013

2025-2026 Benefactors

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ACADEMIC, ATHLETICS & FAITH COMPLEX

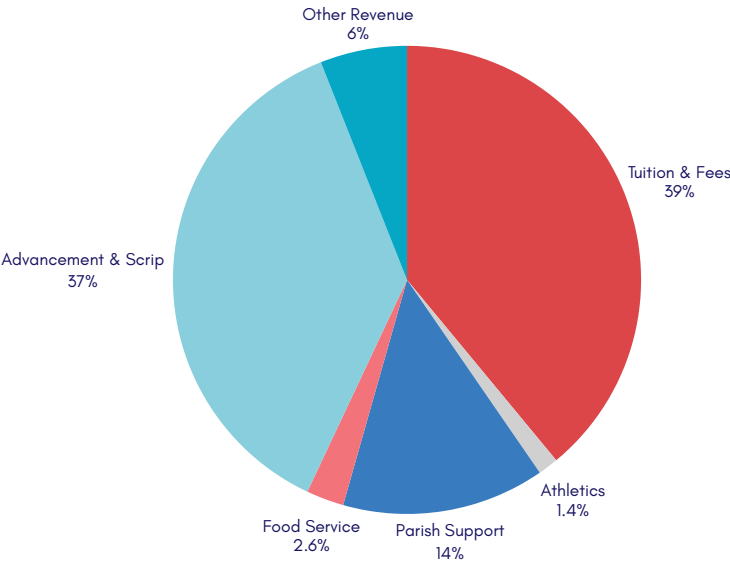
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2025-2026 Financial Snapshot

Supporting the Mission Through Fiscal Responsibility

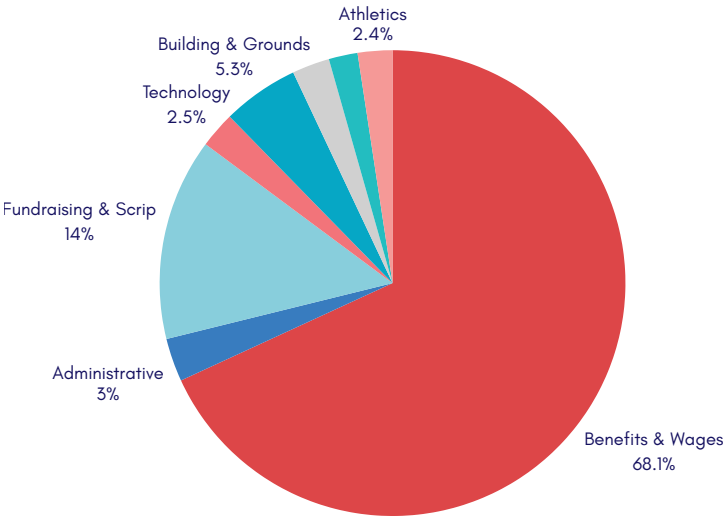
2025/2026 Revenue: \$11,174,132



Breakdown of Revenue Sources

Tuition & Fees (Includes Child Care)	\$4,360,753
Parish Support	\$1,571,742
Advancement & Scrip	\$4,102,715
Food Services	\$288,968
Athletics	\$158,146
Other Revenue Sources	\$691,808

2025/2026 Expenses: \$9,686,028



Breakdown of Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$6,623,796
Administrative	\$258,591
Fundraising & Scrip	\$1,346,685
Building & Grounds	\$508,571
Instructional	\$250,368
Technology	\$243,899
Athletics	\$232,792
Food Service	\$204,443

Capital Projects Completed

- ✓ **\$227,328 Parking Lot Project Finished**
completed between Fiscal years 2025 & 2026
- ✓ **\$37,710.00 Carpeting of Classrooms**
- ✓ **\$21,360 Classroom Repainting**
- ✓ **\$5,685.42 Addition of Campus Ministry Office Window from hallway**
- ✓ **\$7,334 Replacement of Ice Machine in Trainer's Room**

Academic, Athletics & Faith Complex

During 2025-2026 fiscal year, work on phase II of the complex campaign ended allowing for phase III funding to be raised:

2025/26 Campaign Donations: \$5,924,304.89
2025/26 Campaign Expenses: \$5,660,813.02

Campaign Fund Balance as of June 30, 2026: \$263,491.13

Tuition Assistance Awarded

- \$204,350 in K-12 Scholarships**
- \$179,760 in Financial Aid**
- \$194,360 College Scholarships**
Awarded through NCS program



LEAVE A LEGACY WHILE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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

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

Projects that have been funded through Legacy Giving:

- Window Replacement
- Remodeling of the Family & Consumer Ed Room
- Remodeling of the Chemistry Lab
- Future creation of the Engineering Lab
- Creation of the Innovation Lab
- Improved safety & security measures
- Increase in course offerings through funding of instructional needs.

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

Newman Catholic Schools

Trunk-or-Treat

Sunday, October 25
from 1-2:30pm

**Newman Catholic Middle &
High School Parking Lot**
1130 W Bridge Street, Wausau

No Weather Makeup Date

Check the NCS Facebook page for
updates in case of inclement weather

enjoy trick-or-treating in a
safe and family-friendly environment

NEWMAN Catholic Schools newmancatholicschools.com

Liturgy of Remembrance

Each year Newman Catholic Schools comes
together to remember our alumni who have
passed on to their glory.

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

8:30 am - Prayer Service

9:45 am - Mass with the Students

Reception Following Mass

All are welcome to join the Newman Catholic
Schools' community to remember and honor
our deceased alumni. May God forever keep
them in His loving embrace.

"Cardinals appear when angels are near."



WINTER WONDERLAND AUCTION

Save the Date

and support the students of
Newman Catholic Schools

**Live Auction, Raffles, Silent
Auction and more!!**

November 14, 2026
Hilton Garden Inn

Raising Funds to Support the Mission and Our
Faith, Service & Academic Needs!

Learn more at www.winterwonderlandauction.com

2026 Christmas Programs

NCECC: St. Michael

Monday, December 1 at 5:30pm

NCECC: St. Therese

Friday, December 4 at 3pm

NCES: St. Mark

3P - 1st Grade Thursday, December 3 at 6pm

2nd - 5th Grade Tuesday, December 8 at 6pm

NC Middle & High School

Wednesday, December 9 at 6pm

NCES: St. Anne

Thursday, December 10 at 6pm

NCCS: Holy Name

Monday, December 14 at 6pm

Please come and enjoy the beautiful voices!



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