# Proclaiming the Truth and Love of Jesus Christ to Harvard and to the World.

#### Annual Report of Contributors

Fiscal Year 2019 AND Fiscal Year 2020



#### SENIOR CHAPLAIN

# Father William Kelly



Dear Friends,

Even with Harvard University and the wider world still in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, allow me to express my gratitude to our loyal benefactors for our ministry. Life is changed at the Harvard Catholic Center, but not ended!

This Annual Report allows us to once again thank those who continue to support this vital ministry, "Proclaiming the Truth and Love of Jesus Christ to Harvard and to the World." In it, you will see the progress being made as our students and chaplains adapt to this new moment in our lives. You will read about the Siu sisters and their great relationship with us. You will hear more about our students in both the graduate and undergraduate programs, and about our hopes and dreams for how we will continue to nurture them in service to one another, to the Church, and to Christ. You will also find a list of the generous benefactors who by their prayers and financial support make this possible.

I encourage you to follow us on our YouTube channel, and God willing, when travel is once again part of our regular routine, to visit us at the newly renovated St. Paul's Church and the Harvard Catholic Center next door.

Let us know if there is anything that Fr. George, Fr. Patrick, the staff, or I can ever do for you.

Thank you and God bless you,

Rev. William T. Kelly, S.T.D.

Pastor and Senior Chaplain



HARVARD CATHOLIC CENTER

29 Mount Auburn Street Cambridge, MA 02138-6031

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

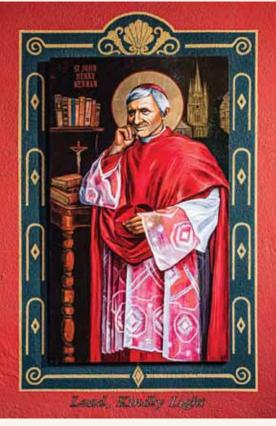
The Harvard Catholic Center invites the greater Harvard community to grow in a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ through Catholic worship, inquiry, prayer, and service, forming disciples who use their gifts for the flourishing of the Church and the world.

#### TO RECOGNIZE HIS **COMMITMENT TO**

and his influence on Catholic ministry at colleges and universities. St. Paul's Parish and the Harvard Catholic Center unveiled an icon of Saint John Henry Newman, October 13, 2019 the day of his canonization.

The icon was written by Agnessa Kesiakova in Sophia, Bulgaria. She is the same artist who wrote the icons of the saints in the Chapel of the Women Doctors of the Church inside the Catholic Center.

There are three significant items on the icon. First, the image of the saint himself; second, Newman's name written in the upper left hand corner, and third are the symbols: a bookshelf above his right shoulder, and above his left shoulder, the Church of St. Mary the Virgin and Oriel College, both at Oxford University.



"Lead, Kindly Light" are the first words of John Henry Newman's poem, "The Pillar of the Cloud," written in 1833.

The icon was dedicated in honor of John "Jack" Reardon Jr., AB '60, a champion of St. Paul's and the Harvard Catholic Center on October 29, 2020. The icon was given in grateful appreciation to the church and the Catholic Center by Harvard alumni and friends of Jack.

# "An Incredibly An Appreciation Valuable Gift to the Graduate Students Graduate Students"



Fr. George celebrates Mass at HLS Class Day. John Avila, JD '14 is pictured to the left of Father George.

"Faith matters... values matter... that's why the Catholic Center is important."

ack Brennan, HBS '80, knows whereof he speaks, not only from his own college experience but those of his wife, Cathy (HGSE '78), their sons Will (HBS '10) and Conor (HBS '15), and daughter Kara (HGSE '15), all of whom benefitted from the Harvard Catholic Center's dedicated program for graduate students.

hen Jack was a student at Dartmouth College, the spiritual focus on campus was the Newman Center there, and it became an important part of his college experience. In fact, he of history and events, and a wide-angled vision of current affairs. There is no finer calling than to remind them of their own calling, no more touching task than to help God touch them."

and guidance they will need to reach their goal of a college degree. So the Brennans are very much a Harvard family, but they are just as much a Notre Dame family. Jack has been chairman of the Notre



and Cathy were married at the Center. "It's easy to lose your way at college," says Brennan. "Neither Dartmouth nor Harvard is a natural place to have a strongly rooted Catholic culture." (Brennan can speak with some authority on this subject: his Business School essay was "Maintaining One's Faith in a Secular Environment.")

But not only does Harvard have a priest chaplain dedicated solely to ministering to graduate students a fact that made a huge impression on Jack Brennan it's had the same priest in that role for the last quarter century in the beloved Father George Salzmann, O.S.F.S., ever tuned in to the unique challenges of graduate students and young professionals.

"The pressures they face are not lessened by forgetting or avoiding them," noted Father Salzmann. "Their careers require a direct assault on diseases and problems, a courageous inquiry into policies and puzzles, an exhaustive research

"I asked Conor where he was going to Mass," recalled Brennan, "and he said, 'Right on campus at the Business School, Dad.' My kids said there was a dedicated chaplain for grad students, and I thought that was incredible, so I became an annual supporter. Grad school students are not like undergrads; the challenges are different. The age range is 22 and up, so you think about messaging to that crowd—marriage, how to raise their kids so I found it to be an incredibly valuable gift to the graduate community. Bringing Mass to Harvard Business School students is symbolically striking."

A spirit of philanthropy extends to every member of the Brennan family. Cathy Brennan is founder of the non-profit CP Mentors, which proudly boasts many volunteer Harvard undergraduates and alums in its mission to give deserving students at inner city Cristo Rey Boston High School the extra support

Dame board of trustees since 2016, all three children attended ND as undergrads, and their daughtersin-law all went to the University as well. "The grandchildren could be models for the Bookstore (the on-campus store for Notre Dame apparel)," said Jack.

They don't play each other in football, but the two schools have a strong relationship. The Brennans alone constitute a Notre Dame - Harvard pipeline, but the road from South Bend to Harvard Square has been well-travelled over the years, and it comes as no surprise to Jack Brennan.

"I've been told ND grads have what we (Harvard graduate schools) are looking for," he said. "Men and women of accomplishment, great values... it's intellectually differentiated values that create leaders who will make a difference in the world, so it's a strong pipeline. The two institutions have great respect for each other."

John Avila, JD '14 has travelled that road as well. And like the Brennan's children, found a vibrant Catholic grad school community at Harvard.

"Having received my undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame, an institution deeply rooted in the Catholic tradition, I felt fortunate to have found an active and welcoming faith community in the Harvard Catholic Law Students Association," he said. "My experience with the CLSA was due in no small part to the leadership of Fr. George and the Harvard Catholic Center. We all felt very fortunate to have Fr. George as a part of our community, not just to celebrate Mass, but to accompany us on our faith journeys."

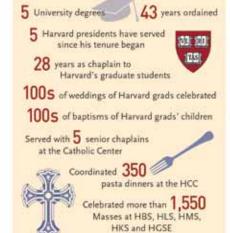
Jack Brennan thinks of the faith journey of his forebears, and there is a Harvard connection there as well: his father was the son of a janitor at Harvard Divinity School.

"I can't imagine what it was like to be Irish and Catholic 100 years ago in this country," says Brennan. "All were smart people with only elementary level educations, but their sons went to college and became CEOs of companies." (Jack is the retired CEO of Vanguard and is now chairman emeritus and an adviser to the investment firm.) "This partly explains the family's commitment to helping people get a break."

Just as it explains the family's commitment to supporting the Catholic culture at Harvard, specifically focused on the graduate student population.

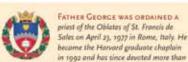
"Why should a secular school be an impediment to growing in one's faith?" challenges Jack Brennan. "It's so important that students have a place to be comfortable celebrating your faith, living your faith."

## The Father George Salzmann Graduate Chaplain Chair









one-half of his priestly life to Hanvard students and young professionals, helping them grow deeper in the faith through a closer, more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ. And still going strong! As an alumnus of Haward himself (PhD '87), Father George understands the challenges and demands facing students at the graduate and professional schools. He has celebrated countless weddings of Harvard alumni, baptized many of their children, and remains a loving spiritual father when difficult situations arise. Most importantly, Father George has been a man of God, living as Jesus teaches, and continuing to be a witness of His love and friendship for each of us. And always with a joyful smile.

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	\$10,000	15	\$150,000	\$1,150,000
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# The Father George Salzmann Graduate Chaplain Chair

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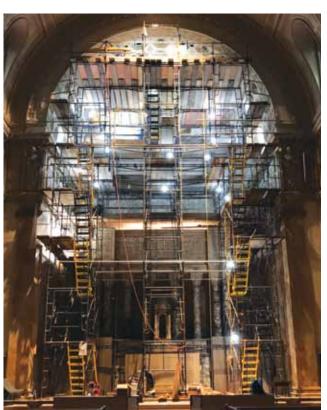
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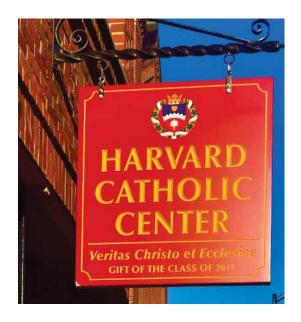
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# The Class of 2019 Senior Gift



hen Father Patrick Fiorillo joined the Harvard Catholic Center in 2017 as undergraduate chaplain he immediately began organizing off-campus retreats. When he was a student at the University of Hartford, Father Patrick attended a retreat sponsored by the campus ministry and he said it helped his desire to become a priest. He notes how important it is for students to get away from the "noise" of campus life to deepen their faith and to have fun with their classmates.

As Sean Gibney, AB '19 says, "Ultimately, retreats allow me to grow closer to God and my friends." Samuel Ho, AB '22 said about the retreats, "Throughout our lives, it is inevitable that we will face many struggles and will have to bear numerous crosses: therefore, we must try and find others with whom to bear our crosses so that

we are not trying to bear our crosses alone. The retreat showed me that I did not need to search far and wide for these people when I had members of the CSA to lean on."

So, the Class of 2019 decided that they would raise money for off-campus retreats, and also raise funds to replace the Harvard Catholic Center sign which hangs on Arrow Street.

We are truly grateful to the Class of 2019 for the beautiful sign, shown on the left, and especially for supporting the retreat experience for future Harvard students.

#### Grateful for the support from the following families:

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### "Retreats allow me to grow closer to God and my friends."



The undergraduate retreat at the Franciscan Guest House, Kennebunk, Maine, Spring 2019.

# IVINGTHFIRFAITH

ATHER GEORGE SALZMANN'S MOTTO MAY WELL BEGIN WITH the Gospel verse, "Knock and it shall be opened to you," but for Harvard's graduate chaplain, the whole thing goes more like this: "Knock and it shall be opened to you, but if it isn't, keep knocking!" And so it was that twin sisters Clarisse and Stephanie Siu (both HBS '15) came to know the Catholic Student Association at Harvard Business School.



Stephanie (left) and Clarisse Siu, Harvard commencement 2015.

"WE HAD JUST MOVED INTO AN APARTMENT ON Harvard Street, near St. Paul's church," recalls Stephanie. "Fr. Salzmann introduced himself after Mass one day, explaining he was the graduate chaplain at Harvard..." And soon enough came the knock.

"You must be a part of the Catholic Student Association and be in charge of the prayer group!" said Fr. George. The sisters explained that they were quiet in their faith, and while agreeing to be in the Business School CSA, they said they didn't think they were the best choice to lead a prayer group. "It wasn't the first impression I wanted to make at Harvard," remembers Clarisse. It had nothing to do with business!

"Well, he kept asking," said Stephanie, "And after saying 'no' to him more than once, Clarisse finally said to me, 'I think Father wants us to run this prayer group,' so we said 'yes,' and Father Salzmann said, 'That's great, and oh, by the way, it hasn't started yet."

This story will be familiar to the dozens and dozens of grad school and young professionals over the years whose introduction to the graduate chaplain was accompanied by an invitation: to the Sunday evening graduate Mass, to a speaker series, to a spaghetti get-together...

...to start a prayer group.

"He really was genuine in wanting to reach people, to share the love of God with people," recalls Clarisse. "We got involved because he asked. We all need to 'ask,' to just put it out there and not worry about what people think. God is in charge."

Fr. George wanted a place of prayer on campus, small and manageable, but it just needed to get started, he said, and that's what the sisters did, despite worrying about, well, what people might think.

"We were a little nervous about announcing it, afraid of looking uncool," recalled Stephanie. "But we promised each other we would do this every week."

"My sister said, 'Well, we're here — that's two!" said Clarisse.

But others did come—because the Siu sisters had asked and most of the ones who came wound up forming the CSA leadership, including Stephanie and Clarisse, who were co-presidents of the association the following year, and to no surprise, favorites of the graduate chaplain.

"Clarisse and Stephanie are very devout, and so they were natural leaders with the Catholic Student Association," said Fr. George. "They spearheaded weekly scripture readings and prayer sessions in Spangler Hall each week for the HBS students, and they were regular lectors at the eight o'clock Sunday Mass in the Class of 1959 chapel on the Business School campus."

The twins grew up in a Catholic family in Toronto, just the girls and parents Peter and Louisa. Their undergraduate years took them both to the University of Chicago, where Stephanie majored in economics and Clarisse did a double, math and economics. Both were involved in the school's Catholic center activities. Clarisse remembers reading Augustine's Confessions for

a freshman class as being an important stop on her spiritual journey. "We are conditioned to think of God as distant, a being who created the planet and left it alone. I didn't

know that God was a person who loves me personally, who desires my friendship."

Following graduation from the University of Chicago, Clarisse took a job with J.P. Morgan in New York and later San Francisco, while Stephanie went with Goldman Sachs in New York, and later Brentwood Associates, a private equity firm in Los Angeles. Six years later, Harvard business degrees in hand, they traveled back to the west coast - Clarisse to work for LinkedIn in San Francisco, and for Stephanie it was a return to Brentwood until a headhunter called about a position with a discount tool company, of all things. It was not the career path she had imagined, but she was intrigued by this LA-based five billion-dollar company that was owned by one man, and that owner was so impressed with Stephanie that he called personally to offer her the chance to create her own job at the company. Clarisse reminded her that she had wanted to get out of private equity for a while, her mother Louisa reminded her of "what God does in our lives when we trust in Him," and a priest friend in LA reminded her of the Gospel passage where Iesus beckoned Peter to walk to Him on water: "Do not be afraid!"

She took the job. Stephanie is now the "Director of Customer Growth Strategy" for Harbor Freight Tools.

Both women enthusiastically support the Harvard Catholic Center. "I never expected to rediscover the Catholic faith at the Harvard Business School, but thanks to the good people at the Harvard Catholic Center, that is what happened to me," said Clarisse.

"I am forever grateful to God for His mercy and

to all of the wonderful priests, missionaries and

Catholic faithful at Harvard who encouraged

me to respond to God's grace." — Clarrise

"I am forever grateful to God for His mercy and to all of the wonderful priests, missionaries and Catholic faithful Harvard who encouraged me to respond to God's

grace. That's why I continue to support the Harvard Catholic Center today."

"Unfailingly faithful to Jesus Christ and His Church, the wonderful people—and in particular, the clergy—at the Harvard Catholic Center encouraged and trained us to courageously be the sign of contradiction in a secular world and give witness to the truth through our words and works," added Stephanie. "An institution like the HCC is a rare treasure. I am honored to support it."

Meanwhile, both continue in other ways to "put it out there," as Clarisse would say - unafraid, with a lesson learned when a graduate chaplain at Harvard asked them to start a prayer group. Stephanie is president of the Young Catholic Professionals chapter in LA, a national organization whose aim is to inspire young professionals to witness to Christ in the workplace. And Clarisse has come a long way from the days of being shy about promoting a prayer group at Harvard, organizing twice weekly prayer vigils at a local Planned Parenthood in San Francisco.

"Abortion is completely wrong, and we need to do something about it. We are killing people in the womb, and we have to come to witness," said Clarisse. "There is an active lie being perpetuated around this issue. We need to tell the truth: life begins at conception! The people who are here doing this work inspire my faith every day."

Just as Fr. George inspired the Siu twins to explore their faith with others at "one of the most secular campuses in the entire world," as Stephanie puts it.



Clarisse Siu served as a lector at the HBS Mass during her time at Harvard.

"Fr. Salzmann brought us in, to what was to become the next step on our faith journey, she says. "The Catholic Student Association provided such a welcoming, supportive environment. Faithfulness to the teachings of Jesus Christ has been the best part of it. It can be an intimidating place, but the Harvard Catholic Center was home...it felt like this was where we belonged."

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Sister Maria Veritas AB '10 (far right) of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, visited the HCC, February 2020.

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Solemn Mass with Baptism, Reception and Confirmation, May 30, 2020, St. Paul's Church. 16 of 24 RCIA candidates were present at this in-person Mass.

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Rev. Justin Whittington, SJ

In Honor of Rev. Michael Castori, SJ,

Class of 1982

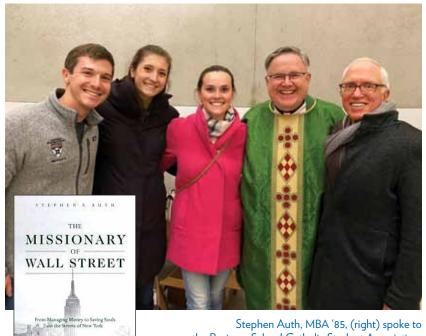
Mr. Caroline L. Wolverton

Aundra Zack & David Zack In Memory of Patricia "Pat" Judge

Dr. Anthony Zangara, MD

Mr. and Mrs. Roger J. Zino

The Catholic Center apologizes in advance for any errors or omissions in this report. Please contact Doug Zack, Director of Advancement, 617-491-8400 or DZack@HarvardCatholic.org to make any corrections.



# Senior Class Gift 2020

#### "So, whether it is something painful like Covid-19, or something joyful like a graduation, do something first that is simple yet profound: pray!"

Those were the words of encouragement that Father Kelly gave to the Class of 2020 in his homily during the (virtual) Baccalaureate Mass, May 24, 2020. We know the year didn't end the way the students had hoped for, but the Chaplains and FOCUS missionaries rallied, with very short notice, to have a "senior send-off" as a way to recognize the accomplishments of the seniors.

Because of the generosity of members of the Class of 2020 and their parents, the Harvard Catholic Center was able to install a sign onto the façade of the HCC. Now future Harvard students will know the precise entrance to the Harvard Catholic Center. We want to give special recognition to Samantha Hand, Ify Ogu and Kevin Kearns, who helped solicit their classmates for the Senior Gift. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Class of 2020 Gift.



#### Grateful for the support from the following families and students:

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Undergraduate Chaplain Fr. Patrick Fiorillo offers a blessing to the Class of 2020 during the last-minute senior send-off, March 10, 2020

# Society of Crimson Catholics -Recurring Gift Donors

Monthly donations can contribute mightily to the mission of the Catholic Center. We are grateful to those individuals to give regularly. The following are members of the Society of Crimson Catholics for FY 2020 (and continuing!).

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#### WITNESS THE POWER OF YOUR MONTHLY GIFT

Name: Nam Hyan Kim

Class Year: 2021

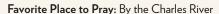
Concentration: Joint History and Anthropology

(Archaeology)

Hometown: Fairfax, Virginia

High School: Robinson Secondary School

Favorite Saint and Why: St. Joseph. As a loving father to Jesus and a faithful spouse to Mary, he was the saint who allowed me to witness the immense joy contained within the humble Holy Family.



Favorite Place to Study at Harvard: The Eliot Dining Hall

Favorite Off Campus Dining Choice: Not guite the dining choice, but grabbing ice cream has always been a favorite of mine to do (Amorino's, the gelato place near Eliot House, has a special place in my heart)!

Fondest Memory of the Harvard Catholic Center: I felt very lost during my first month on campus and I found myself at Totus Tuesday in front of Christ in a way I had never been before. I was sitting in the back, hidden in the dim church light. As I prayed and looked at Jesus, there was an overwhelming love that surged through me and my heart so warm, as if God were giving me a glimpse into the love He had for me. This is one of the first times I felt so moved in prayer, and it led me to be more involved in the parish and the Catholic community on campus.

What Three Words Would You Use to Describe the HCC: Comforting, Warm, Nurturing.

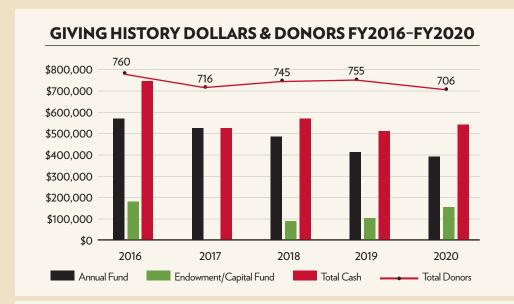
As a way of saying "thank you" to those who join "The Society of Crimson Catholics," we will share with you a student profile each month. We recognize your loyal commitment to Catholic life at Harvard and we know you'll enjoy learning more about the students that you are supporting.

Not a member and would like to receive the student profile? Please consider joining The Society of Crimson Catholics at HarvardCatholic.org/donate.

When you make a monthly recurring gift you are a champion for Christ by sustaining the ministry for Harvard Catholic students.

# The Harvard Catholic Center Consolidated Expenses

FISCAL YEAR 2019 (JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019) • FISCAL YEAR 2020 (JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020)

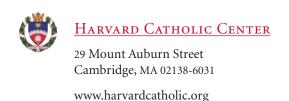


	FY 2019	FY 2020
Clergy & Religious Stipend and Benefits	\$90,633.00	\$98,828.00
Salaries	\$162,214.00	\$172,437.00
Benefits	\$17,905.00	\$38,385.00
FOCUS Missionaries	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Development	\$27,056.00	\$34,896.00
General & Administration	\$27,901.00	\$21,044.00
Facilities	\$85,230.00	\$72,790.00
Conferences	\$19,766.00	\$11,683.00
Other	\$1,755.00	\$840.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$512,460.00	\$530,903.00

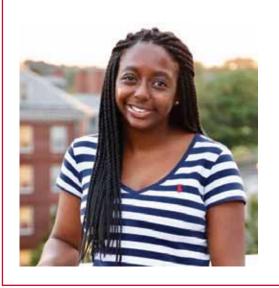
he unrestricted Annual Fund is the largest source of income for the Harvard Catholic Center and we depend on the support of alumni, parents, foundations and friends to be able to provide essential evangelization and ministry to the undergraduate and graduate student communities.

Our ministry does not receive funding from Harvard or the Archdiocese of Boston. That is why the Annual Fund is so critical to our mission, bringing students closer to their relationship with Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, inquiry and Catholic social teaching.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT of our mission as we proclaim the truth and love of Jesus Christ to Harvard and to the world. Please continue to pray for the Harvard Catholic Center.



#### **CATCHING UP WITH THE CLASS OF 2020**



lizabeth D'Haiti is the 13th Harvard graduate to become a missionary with FOCUS, a Catholic collegiate outreach whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the gospel with college and university students. The Northern Virginia native graduated this spring with a concentration in integrative biology and a secondary in global health and health policy. Elizabeth began serving as a FOCUS missionary at Columbia University in New York City this fall. Please pray for Elizabeth and for all of Harvard's FOCUS missionaries.

"Though I wasn't very involved with the Harvard Catholic Center until my junior year of college, I know that my relatively short time in this amazing spiritual community will have a huge impact on the rest of my life. I grew up Catholic, but during my high school and early college years I was mostly involved in protestant and nondenominational communities. During my journey back to Catholicism, the HCC became my home and provided a community of people who loved me well, patiently answered my questions, and inspired me with their own beautiful faith and dedication to mission. Because of these experiences, I decided that I wanted to spend the rest of my life following Jesus' example of loving sacrificially, creating disciples, and fostering spaces like the HCC for those like my younger self who long for authentic Catholic community, but may not know it yet. I'm excited to continue this journey as a FOCUS missionary and I am grateful to those at the HCC for their support and example!"