

Final Report on Task Force for Eucharistic Education (2022–2025)

May 28, 2025

Final Report on Task Force for Eucharistic Education

Executive Summary

The U.S. bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival (June 2022 – June 2025) responded to a Pew Research poll finding widespread disbelief in the Real Presence of Christ. The Revival focused the first year on diocesan staff and priests, the second year on parishes, and the third year on a national Eucharistic Congress. It did not, however, place emphasis on Catholic education, the Church's most effective means of evangelization.

We believe **the crisis of disbelief in the Real Presence is a crisis of Catholic education**, especially among young people. Pew found that only 26 percent of Catholics age 18-40, most of them formed in public schools, believed in the Real Presence – yet 64 percent of the unbelievers were “unsure” or “unaware” of the Church's teaching on the Real Presence. This does not indicate their rejection of Catholic teaching. Instead, it reveals a lack of awareness and understanding among two generations of poorly catechized Catholics.

In the opening year of the Revival, Bishop Andrew Cozzens addressed The Cardinal Newman Society's meeting of Newman Guide college leaders and expressed confidence in their witness to Eucharistic education. He urged them to model this witness to other educators. Taking up this charge, The Cardinal Newman Society has collaborated with Catholic leaders and educators on a three-year project to advance the following objectives:

- **a revival of Eucharistic literacy**, by teaching students the truth of the Real Presence in the Eucharist;
- **a revival of Eucharistic liturgy**, by improving liturgical music, prayer, and reverence in Catholic school and college liturgies;
- **a revival of Eucharistic devotion**, by increasing students' devotion to the Eucharist through prayer and adoration; and
- **a revival of Eucharistic living**, by forming students in lifestyles that conform to the reality of Christ within them.

Task Force for Eucharistic Education

We launched the Task Force on June 29, 2022, during the **Sacra Liturgia Conference** at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, for which The Cardinal Newman Society was a lead sponsor.

The conference featured Cardinal Robert Sarah, former Vatican prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments; Cardinal George Pell, former Vatican prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy; and Bishop Steven Lopes of the Ordinariate of the Chair



of Saint Peter. It promoted a renewal of reverence in Sacred Liturgy, including chant and Latin prayer, and we helped recruit participants from Catholic schools and colleges.

On the first day of the conference, The Cardinal Newman Society hosted a **special session for Catholic leaders and educators** to kick off the Task Force. The special session was led by Patrick Reilly, President of The Cardinal Newman Society, and Bob Laird, Senior Counselor to the President and director of the Task Force project. Participants included Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco, several professors of theology and liturgical music, Catholic school leaders, choir instructors, and pastors. The session included vigorous discussion of the Task Force's goals and suggestions for school and college projects to increase reverence for the Eucharist.

Participants in the special session included:

- Dr. Stephen Bertucci, Director of the Great Books Program, Angelicum Academy (online)
- Mark Brumley, Editor, Ignatius Press
- Dr. Patrick Carmack, President, Angelicum Academy (online)
- Jill Chessman, Latin Teacher, Regina Pacis Academy, Greenwich, Conn.
- Dr. Kevin Clarke, Dean of the Institute for Lay Ministry and Associate Professor at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Mich.

- Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, Archbishop of San Francisco, Calif.
- Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka, Director of Sacred Music, St. Joseph's Seminary and College, Yonkers, NY
- Maggie Gallagher, Exec. Dir., Benedict XVI Institute, San Francisco, Calif.
- Father Joseph Illo, Pastor, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, San Francisco, Calif.
- Mother Teresa Christe Johnson, Superior General, Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa; Assoc. to Supt. of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Santa Rosa, Calif.
- Lynn Kraehling, Director of Music, Star of the Sea Parish, San Francisco, Calif.; Adjunct Professor of Music, Ave Maria University, Fla.
- Troy Lamoureaux, Associate Principal, The Gilbertine Institute of Catholic Studies, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- Father Ian McElrath, Theology Teacher, Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie, Pa.
- Thomas McKenna, Director, Catholic Action, San Diego, Calif.
- Prof. Kurt Poterack, Assistant Professor of Liturgical Music, Christendom College, Front Royal, Va.; Director, Christendom College Choir and Schola Gregoriana; Coordinator, Beato Fra Angelico Fine Arts Program
- Diana Silva, founder, ChantWorks; founding chair of music at Ave Maria University, Fla.
- Deacon John and Connie Stanley, Church of the Ascension, Overland Park, Kan.
- Dr. Lucias Tappan, Director of Liturgy and Music, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Topeka, Kan.; founder and director, Most Pure Heart of Mary Schola Cantorum
- Dr. Christoph Tietze, Fellow and Professor of Sacred Music, Graduate Theological Foundation, Mishawaka, Wisc.

In addition, at a **general session of Sacra Liturgia sponsored by The Cardinal Newman Society**, Patrick Reilly led a Q&A with Archbishop Cordileone. They discussed Eucharistic education in Catholic schools and colleges, and

Archbishop Cordileone's remarks were insightful and helpful. (See enclosed transcript.) Some highlights:

...We need to make sure the catechesis is correct, is solid, is convincing. But catechesis is more than what's taught with words. It's what is experienced. It's what is lived. It's especially how our worship is conducted. And it's the culture of the whole school.



I suppose it might be natural to think, if we're not thinking it all the way through, that if we have a Mass with school children, we want to make it relatable to them. So we sing music that is childlike music, this music that children listen to. But it doesn't seem to be working, because when they grow up, they then fall away from the practice of the faith.

...This is a Catholic birthright, all the beauty the Church has to offer the world. We need to open up these treasures to young people. As I said, we will really form a Catholic soul in them and they'll be Catholic for life. It's not something that they grow out of or they say they were raised in.

...We're seeing more of the faithful Catholic colleges, especially the universities, are turning out teachers that are deeply well-formed in the faith and can begin to turn schools around that need that happening.

...if the culture of the school is faithfully and vibrantly Catholic, a teacher who disagrees on some of these key issues is not, I don't think, going to feel very comfortable there. They're not going to feel like they fit in.

...It's forming the culture of the school, so that people who appreciate that culture will be drawn to it, and those who don't will be repelled by it.

We issued press releases announcing the new Task Force, including the following members of the Steering Committee:

- Ecclesiastical Advisor: Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, Archdiocese of San Francisco

- Mary Pat Donoghue, Executive Director, Secretariat for Catholic Education, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Deacon Keith Fournier, Dean, Catholic Online School
- Charlie McKinney, President, Sophia Institute Press
- Father David Pivonka, T.O.R., President, Franciscan University of Steubenville
- Dr. Robert Royal, President, Faith and Reason Institute
- Dr. Michael St. Pierre, Executive Director, Catholic Campus Ministry Association
- Patrick Reilly, President, The Cardinal Newman Society
- Monsignor James Shea, President, University of Mary
- Lincoln Snyder, President, National Catholic Educational Association
- Father Peter Stravinskis, President, Catholic Education Foundation
- Sister Cecilia Anne Wanner, O.P., President, Aquinas College (Nashville)

Inaugural institutional members of the Task Force included:

- Academy of Our Lady (Marrero, La.)
- Ave Maria University (Ave Maria, Fla.)
- Beckman Catholic High School (Dyersville, Iowa)
- Belmont Abbey College (Belmont, N.C.)
- Benedictine College (Atchison, Kan.)
- Christendom College (Front Royal, Va.)
- Father Gabriel Richard High School (Ann Arbor, Mich.)
- Holy Apostles College & Seminary (Cromwell, Conn.)
- Holy Child Catholic School (Tijeras, N.M.)
- Holy Rosary Academy (Anchorage, Alaska)
- John Paul the Great Catholic University (Escondido, Calif.)
- Magdalen College of the Liberal Arts (Warner, N.H.)
- Maur Hill-Mount Academy (Atchison, Kan.)
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School (Coraopolis, Pa.)
- Regina Pacis Academy (Norwalk, Conn.)
- Rhodora Donahue Academy of Ave Maria (Ave Maria, Fla.)
- St. John Vianney High School (St. Louis, Mo.)

- St. Theresa Catholic School (Sugar Land, Tex.)
- Thomas More College of Liberal Arts (Merrimack, N.H.)
- University of Dallas (Irving, Tex.)
- University of St. Thomas (Houston, Tex.)
- Walsh University (North Canton, Ohio)
- Wyoming Catholic College (Lander, Wyo.)

We have since added the following institutional members, which committed to special educational projects during the Eucharistic Revival:

- Adeodatus (Pasadena, Calif.)
- Angelicum Academy (online)
- Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh (Pa.)
- Aquinas College (Nashville, Tenn.)
- Aquinas Learning (Manassas, Va.)
- Archdiocese of Galveston–Houston (Tex.)
- Benedict XVI Institute, Archdiocese of San Francisco (Calif.)
- Blessed Sacrament Academy (Concho, Az.)
- The Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)
- Coeur du Christ Academy (Coeur d’Alene, Idaho)
- Diocese of Arlington (Va.)
- Diocese of Grand Rapids (Mich.)
- Diocese of Peoria (Ill.)
- Diocese of Venice (Fla.)
- Faith Based Communications
- Holy Trinity Homeschoolers (Gainesville, Va.)
- Institute for Catholic Liberal Education
- Live Vertical (Springfield, Pa.)
- Missio Dei
- Mother of God School (Gaithersburg, Md.)
- Newark Catholic High School (Newark, Ohio)
- St. Anthony of Padua Church (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- St. Joseph Catholic Church (Tex.)
- St. Joseph’s Catholic Church (Sequim, Wash.)

- St. Patrick's Seminary & University (Menlo Park, Calif.)
- St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church (Springfield, Va.)
- St. Thomas More Academy (Middletown, Md.)
- St. Thomas the Apostle Parish (Munhall, Pa.)
- Sophia Institute for Teachers (Manchester, N.H.)
- University of Mary (Bismarck, N.D.)
- University of Notre Dame - Ave Maria Press (Notre Dame, Ind.)

Eucharistic Education Projects

The hub of the Eucharistic Education Task Force was www.EucharisticEducation.org, a website for individuals and institutions to join the Task Force and identify projects and resources focused on one or more of our four objectives:

- a **revival of Eucharistic literacy**, by teaching students the truth of the Real Presence in the Eucharist;
- a **revival of Eucharistic liturgy**, by improving liturgical music, prayer, and reverence in Catholic school and college liturgies;
- a **revival of Eucharistic devotion**, by increasing students' devotion to the Eucharist through prayer and adoration; and
- a **revival of Eucharistic living**, by forming students in lifestyles that conform to the reality of Christ within them.

There are currently 139 Task Force members (both individuals and organizations), and they have provided 103 projects and resources. The Society promoted the projects through multiple newsletters and other publications during the three-year effort.

Over and over again, school principals raved about the numerous project and resource options found on the website. One story is worth telling: Early in the program, a principal in Arizona called and lamented that she was happy to see numerous "how to" resources for parents regarding holy hours, but she needed something simpler. Our response was to create one from the many



resources on our site. A week later, she had a professional webpage with sufficient resources for parents learning about Eucharistic holy hours.

Your generous support for the Eucharistic Education Task Force provided us the resources necessary to quickly create a website that would drive Catholic educators to a digital resource devoted to nothing but Eucharistic education. The Society was able to upload many of its existing resources along with other valuable Eucharistic education tools. Thank you!

Moreover, the Eucharistic Education Task Force motivated many Catholic schools, colleges, and other organizations to place an emphasis on educating and forming young people with love for the Eucharist—an aspect of the Eucharistic Revival that needed much greater attention. While many of the projects identified by the Task Force were already in motion, many others would not have occurred without the encouragement of The Cardinal Newman Society and the attention that the Task Force brought to the Revival.

Here are just a few highlights among the featured projects:

[Academy of Our Lady \(Marrero, La.\)](#)

This grade 8-12 school for girls put together an **outstanding program of Eucharistic revival, titled “Engage Hearts and Minds to Eucharist for Daily Living.”** The program had two emphases: the Mass and peer ministry.

The school’s focus on Eucharistic Education included using all Religion classes at the beginning of the school year to intentionally focus educating the students on the significance of the school Masses, and then continued throughout the years with liturgy and deeper understanding of the True Presence. This also included:

- expectations on dress, behavior, and etiquette;
- music appropriate to the dignity of the Mass;
- encouraging participation at Mass using visuals;

- encouraging parental participation and enforcement of the norms for Mass attendance;
- inviting staff of the diocesan/archdiocesan office of Catholic schools to attend;
- Eucharistic Miracles Project on display throughout campus;
- encouraging students to make daily Adoration a priority in their lives;
- asking all Religion classes to dedicate one bulletin board in their classrooms to Eucharist education;
- student selection and training as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, with certification given by the Archdiocesan Office of Worship and commissioning at the first school Mass;
- speakers on the power of the Eucharist during the school's Service week in January;
- evening community Adorations with invitations to all students, faculty and staff, parents, and community; and
- Eucharistic candlelight procession with invitations to all students, faculty and staff, parents, and community.

The school also has a Peer Ministry program, open to 12th grade students, which has a pre-school-year retreat to promote peer-to-peer ministry leadership. Peer ministers are selected by application and interview, meeting requirements of service with pastor recommendation. Elements of this program focused on Eucharistic education and included:

- peer Ministers given the book, *Becoming Eucharistic People* (Ave Maria Press), during class lessons to prepare themselves to lead their peers in this mission;
- peer Ministers teamed up with "Catholic Women in Action" to promote Eucharistic events both to the student body and community;

- newly formed Peer Minister Jr. Club, open to 8th – 12 grade, to support and help with ongoing projects and also to brainstorm and create new ones;
- assistance from local parish priests, including donated books for education, help with creating the Eucharistic Miracle displays, and advice on engaging both heart and mind of our young people;
- priest invitations to classroom lessons focused on Eucharist and the True Presence; and
- peer ministers hosted retreats/talks for the local Catholic grammar schools.

[Aquinas College \(Nashville, Tenn.\)](#)

Aquinas College, a Newman Guide Recommended college sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, partnered with the Nashville diocesan Catholic Schools Office to plan and implement a **day-long in-service day for all teachers and principals of the diocese**. The purpose of the day was to set teachers on fire for the Eucharist, so that they in turn could bring this love for the Eucharist to their students.

The day was structured as a “Faith Rally,” centered fully on the Eucharist. It began with praise and worship music, which led into the dynamic keynote speaker, who included a variety of anecdotes to keep the teachers’ attention. Following this, small groups, each led by one of the Nashville Dominican sisters from Aquinas, discussed how each individual could grow deeper in his or her devotion to the Eucharist, including practical suggestions and how to bring devotion to the Real Presence into the classroom setting.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated with all due solemnity by the bishop. After lunch, all took part in a Eucharistic procession across campus, ending in a Holy Hour. Pastors from the schools represented were invited to come and hear confessions, and almost all were able to do so. As all remained in their places, the priest processed with the monstrance in order to

give almost every individual teacher an individual blessing. The day concluded with Benediction.

Aquinas College also established a speaker series early in the Revival with experts discussing various elements of Eucharistic education. The series was mimicked by several other colleges recommended in the Newman Guide.

[Benedictine College \(Atchison, Kan.\)](#)

Benedictine College, a Newman Guide Recommended college, put together an **amazing three-year program for the Eucharistic Revival**. The College's plan to Transform Culture in America specifically calls for increased Eucharistic devotion. In line with the Revival's strategic pillars, Benedictine College has redoubled its efforts to form students in the doctrine of the Real presence of the Eucharist, foster Eucharistic devotion through encounters with Christ, and extend its teaching and witness, cultivating a culture of the Eucharist on campus and beyond.

Formation

- Academic Lecture Series on the Eucharist: In the 2022-2023 academic school year, professors of the Theology Department offered a public lecture series about the Eucharist. Topics included the Eucharist in the Early Church, the Liturgy as the End of All Creation, Eucharistic Themes in Dante's Commedia, and the Eucharist and Nuptiality.
- 2023 Symposium on Transforming Culture: Benedictine College's annual conference in Spring 2023 focused on the Eucharist. The symposium offered a unique forum for current and emerging leaders to share ideas and best practices. Scholars, field professionals, clergy, professed religious, and students presented papers on their research and professional experience, providing time for fellowship, reflection, and dialogue concerning topics integral to the New Evangelization. The theme, "Proclaiming the Real Presence: The Body of Christ in a Secular World," addressed the power of the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist as a source of cultural transformation.

- **Book Distribution and Study:** In collaboration with the Theology Department, the College distributed orthodox books on the Eucharist to students and provide opportunities to further engage the material through book studies and public presentations. Some of these books are: John Paul II's *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, Brant Pitre's *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*, and Joseph Ratzinger's *God Is Near Us*.
- **Special Topics Courses on Eucharist:** Throughout the National Revival, the Department of Theology offered special topics courses on the Eucharist that allowed students to undertake an extended study of this most crucial component of the Catholic faith.
- **Theology on Tap – Eucharistic Revival:** Benedictine College has sponsored a series of Theology on Tap events focused specifically on the Eucharistic Revival. Topics include how the Eucharist transforms our relationship with God and the rest of creation, Eucharistic apologetics, St. Paul on the Eucharist, and the Eucharist and the *ars moriendi* tradition. Students gather together with faculty members to enjoy a beer (or root beer) while discussing the source and summit of the Catholic faith.

Devotion

Benedictine College already has a strong culture of devotion to the Eucharist. Eucharistic Adoration is offered 45 hours each week in Memorial Chapel and 75 hours each week in the local parish. The Eucharist is present in four dorm chapels across campus, providing an abiding presence where the students work and live. Many students are daily communicants, attending one of three Masses offered daily and four Masses offered on Sunday. Benedictine College Campus Ministry also hosts two major Eucharistic processions each year, making manifest Christ's presence throughout campus.

- **Perpetual Adoration:** Benedictine College is constantly looking for ways to increase access to the Eucharist. The College worked with St. Benedict Parish to explore instituting Perpetual Adoration, giving

students, faculty, staff, and the wider Atchison community the chance to adore Christ in the Eucharist at all times.

- **Additional Chapels:** Benedictine College is currently undertaking a study to determine whether to focus resources on building a dedicated student chapel or to continue adding small chapels to each dorm. The College is also looking into building a small academic chapel that will afford students, faculty, and staff easier access to space for adoration and communal prayer during the day.
- **40-Hours Devotion:** Each spring, Campus Ministry hosted a traditional 40-Hours Devotion, consisting of Mass, 40 hours of Eucharistic adoration, another Mass, and a procession.
- **Saints of the Eucharist Lecture Series:** Following Pope Benedict XVI's sage advice that "for faith to grow, we must lead ourselves and the persons we meet to encounter the saints and to enter into contact with the Beautiful," in the 2023-2024 academic school year, faculty and other presenters offered a lecture series on the Eucharistic devotions of various saints and holy men and women of the Church, including Cyril of Jerusalem, Alphonsus Liguori, Thomas Aquinas, Thérèse of Lisieux, and Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

Extension

One of the priorities of the College's plan to Transform Culture in America is the extension of the mission of the College to off-campus audiences. To do so without witnessing to the Eucharist would belie Benedictine College's Catholic identity.

- In tandem with the Theology Department, Campus Ministry formalized a training program to equip students with the practical and theoretical knowledge that they need to take the Gospel message out to the nations. This program began with student leaders prior to the 2024 Eucharistic Congress and was opened up to the wider student body to

encourage all students to be missionaries of the Eucharist in the third year of the Revival.

- Create Video Series on the Eucharist: Over the summer in 2022, Benedictine College’s faculty and Ex Corde Center for Catholic Media produced engaging videos that convey the truths of the Catholic faith while inviting individuals into closer relationship with Christ.
- Host National Eucharistic Procession: Benedictine College was honored to use its beautiful campus and facilities to host the National Eucharistic Procession, drawing Catholics from around the area into deeper union with Christ and solidarity with one another.
- Youth Outreach Initiatives: Benedictine College Campus Ministry hosted monthly youth outreach events throughout the school year and several camps and conferences throughout the summer. The 2022–2023 school year and 2023 summer conferences focused on forming students in the Church’s understanding of Christ’s presence in the Eucharist and fostering the devotion to Him.
- Host “Eucharistic Miracles of the World” Exhibition: The College used its facilities to host the “Eucharistic Miracles of the World” Exhibition, providing a forum for the faithful to witness God’s great love for us in every instance of the Eucharist through the unique manifestations in these extraordinary Eucharistic miracles. The display was located prominently in the John Paul II Student Center to help reinforce the centrality of the Eucharist to the Christian life. (As an aside, the “Eucharistic Miracles of the World” Exhibition was a prominent project at both K–12 schools and colleges throughout the three-year project.)

Diocese of Venice (Fla.)

The Department of Education of the Diocese of Venice, Florida, sponsored a **15-week, diocesan-wide project on devotion to the Most Holy Eucharist**. The Department of Education provides all the resources necessary for classroom teachers and students to participate. This is intended as a way to supplement

religion classes and a way to teach students different forms of prayer and spiritual leadership.

The 15-week initiative included:

1. Student-led classroom lessons: Selected eighth grade student leaders taught a lesson on the Eucharist to their classmates to kick-off the 15-week devotional project.
2. Teacher-led weekly classroom activities: The website made available PDF resources about Eucharistic miracles to show in the classroom or distribute to students.
3. Student visits to the Blessed Sacrament: Beyond the usual visit that occurs at Mass, students were encouraged to visit Our Lord in the Tabernacle outside of Mass. With each visit during the 15 weeks, students were encouraged to say the Devotional Prayer to the Most Holy Eucharist.
4. Digital Blessed Sacrament Visit Tracker: The Diocese provided a “tracker” on the website so that teachers could help students keep count of the number of times they visited Our Lord. The school with the most visits was recognized at the end of the devotional project.
5. Catholic Altar Learning Set STREAM Project: Each school received a Catholic Altar Learning Set for a differentiated STREAM project. This included a CAD/CAM 3D modeling challenge for students.
6. Art Competition: The Diocese sponsored a student art competition to produce artwork based our Catholic artistic tradition around the Most Holy Eucharist.

[Holy Child Catholic School \(Tijeras, N.M.\)](#)

This Newman Guide Recommended school began a **weekly Holy Hour every Wednesday from 3-4**. The school purchased a small Eucharistic library with resources for conducting a Holy Hour and also provides digital resources to help families learn the basics about Eucharistic Adoration.

“My inspiration came from the fact that I know that the real power behind any school initiative comes from Jesus Himself,” says Principal Janice Martinez. “Real transformation happens when we sit in front of Him in the Blessed Eucharist. Only then can He renew our minds, heal our hearts and give us the inspiration and resources to have the school that He desires.”

The school is also reviving study and use of Eucharistic Hymns, particularly in Latin, such as *Tantum Ergo* and *O Salutaris Hostia*. Students sing them in music class and study them in Latin class.

Newark Catholic High School (Newark, Ohio)

This school is **working to restore traditional elements of the liturgy**. To emphasize the sacrificial aspect of the Mass and the Real Presence, the school has invited priests to offer the Mass *ad orientem*, with the approval of the local bishop, so that the emphasis is on the act taking place on the altar and not the person making the offering. The school eliminated Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, so there is an understanding that the Eucharist is so sacred that it is not to be haphazardly distributed by anyone, but properly by a priest who is consecrated to serve that function. The school set up kneelers at the two communion stations, so that students who wish to show additional reverence to the Eucharist by receiving kneeling and on the tongue may feel free to do so. This is also supported by catechesis in theology classes on reverent reception and distribution of the Eucharist and the theological reasoning behind celebrating Mass *ad orientem*.

University of Mary (Bismarck, N.D.)

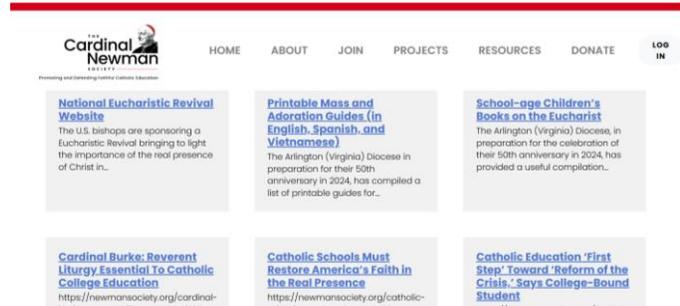
The University of Mary, a Newman Guide Recommended college, is using liturgical music to convert the hearts and minds of the faithful and draw them to Christ. Beginning in 2023, students in **the University’s Cappella embarked on a two-year project, devoting rehearsal time and resources to record a collection of music focused on the Eucharist**. This includes chant, antiphons, hymns, and polyphony from a wide range of years and styles. This collection features Eucharistic *fervorinos* from Father Dominic Bouck, the University

Chaplain, and Monsignor James Shea, the University President and one of the National Eucharistic Revival speakers. During a spring 2024 tour of Spain and France, the students sang and recorded at the sites of Eucharistic miracles: Monserrat and Zaragoza, Spain.

In summary, above is a representation of some of the projects initiated by the schools and colleges. Many of these were repeated by others. As the website became more prominent, more and more schools reported projects which in many ways mimicked other projects that had already been submitted.

Eucharistic Education Resources

As mentioned, the website of the Eucharistic Education Task Force also features resources to help Catholic educators teach reverence for the Eucharist.



Over and over again, school principals raved about the numerous project and resource options found on the website. One story is worth telling: Early in the program, a principal in Arizona called and lamented that she was happy to see numerous “how to” resources for parents regarding holy hours, but she needed something simpler. Our response was to create one from the many resources on our site. A week later, she had a professional webpage with sufficient resources for parents learning about Eucharistic holy hours.

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Here are a few highlights among the featured resources:

[Benedict XVI Institute for Sacred Music and Divine Worship](#)

The Benedict XVI Institute of the Archdiocese of San Francisco published “[How to Start a Parish Schola](#)” by Diana Silva, founder of ChantWorks and founding chair of music at Ave Maria University, Fla.

[Diocese of Arlington](#)

As part of its 50th anniversary celebration and in support of the U.S. bishops’ Eucharistic Revival, the Diocese of Arlington published the following free resources:

- [The Mass Explained](#): Video series on the Mass where a priest explained what was transpiring during a previously celebrated Mass by the diocesan bishop.
- [Eucharistic Symposium](#): Video of Diocese of Arlington symposium on the Eucharist, featuring Archbishop Charles Chaput.
- [How to Pray Using the ACTS Method](#): Video explaining how to pray during Eucharistic adoration.
- [The Forty Hours Devotion](#): Guides for 40-hours devotion before the Blessed Sacrament.
- [Mass Guide](#): Prayers for Mass, authored by sisters of the Diocese of Arlington.
- [Adoration Guide](#): Prayers for Eucharistic adoration, authored by sisters of the Diocese of Arlington.
- [Liturgical Guides](#): Numerous guides for download, focused on the Rosary, Mass, and Adoration

[Sangreal](#)

The Sangreal Podcast featured Patrick Reilly, President of The Cardinal Newman Society, on "[The Eucharist as the Great Teacher](#)."

[Sophia Institute for Teachers](#)

Sophia Institute's Teaching the Faith with Current Events series produced "[Dwindling Belief in the Real Presence Among U.S. Catholics](#)," a lesson plan exploring what the Church proclaims about her most precious Sacrament, why the Eucharist should be preeminent in our lives and in our devotions, how we can truly participate in Christ's Sacrifice at Mass, and what it means to carry our Faith out into the world with gratitude and joy.

[U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)

The document [The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church](#) was developed by the Committee on Doctrine of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved by the full body of the USCCB at its November 2021 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication.

Eucharistic Education Fellows

In addition to the Task Force projects, a key portion of this initiative was The Cardinal Newman Society's four Eucharistic Education Fellows, who published research and provided expert recommendations in the following areas:

- recommendations for reverent liturgy in schools and colleges;
- best practices for Eucharistic education in school, homeschool, and college curricula; and
- best practices for promoting Eucharistic adoration and devotions (like processions) in Catholic education.

We are still working to promote the work completed by the Fellows, including formal publication in booklet format, distribution to our lists of Catholic educators and diocesan superintendents, promotion via social media, and interviews on the Cardinal Newman Society Podcast.

On April 9, 2024, The Cardinal Newman Society presented an online webinar titled, "Ideas for Eucharistic Worship and Instruction in Catholic Education with Fr. Jonathan Duncan and David Bonagura, Jr." Participants included our working group of Catholic school principals and diocesan school superintendents. The full webinar can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/951997043?share=copy>.



David Bonagura, Jr., was the 2023–2024 Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Education. He is an adjunct professor of theology at Catholic Distance University, which is recognized in the Society's Newman Guide for faithful Catholic education; adjunct professor of classical languages at St.



Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y.; and Latin teacher at Regis High School in New York City.

His fellowship research centered around best practices for Eucharistic education in school, homeschool, and college curricula. David produced two substantial publications for The Cardinal Newman Society:

- *The Eucharist: The Summit and Source of Catholic Education*: This incredibly detailed and helpful essay explains the notion of “Eucharistic education” and recommends programming and curricular resources for Catholic elementary and secondary schools to teach the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. (See enclosed.)
- *18 Recommended Books for Teaching the Eucharist*: After reviewing available books about the Eucharist and the Mass, David identified 18 of the best resources for Catholic educators and families. (See enclosed.) He is working on updates to increase the count to 20 or 25 books.

In addition, the first essay was abridged and published in The Cardinal Newman Society’s magazine for Catholic educators, *Our Catholic Mission*, in the July 2024 issue (“[What Is Eucharistic Education – Why Do We Need It](#)”).

While a Cardinal Newman Society fellow, David also worked on his new book addressing the Real Presence and other topics: *100 Tough Questions for Catholics: Common Obstacles to Faith Today* (Sophia Institute Press, 2025). It is rooted in his many years of teaching in Catholic education and answering the tough issues from students on hot-button issues.

As a fellow, David was asked to use his usual platforms—he is a frequent writer at The Catholic Thing and Catholic World Report, as well as other publications—to promote Eucharistic education. Some of these articles are outside the term of his fellowship, but we have included them to show the scope of David’s impact in support of this effort.

[“A Eucharistic Advent”](#) – The Catholic Thing, December 8, 2024

[“Burying Three Outdated Assumptions”](#) – Catholic World Report, August 13, 2024

[“Catholicism and the Truth About Ideology”](#) – Catholic World Report, June 19, 2024

[“Why Do We “Practice” the Faith?”](#) –The Catholic Thing, March 10, 2024,

[“Toward a Eucharistic Education”](#) –The Catholic Thing, January 30, 2024,

[“Eucharistic Revival, Thanksgiving, and the Call to Love”](#) –The Catholic Thing, November 22, 2023

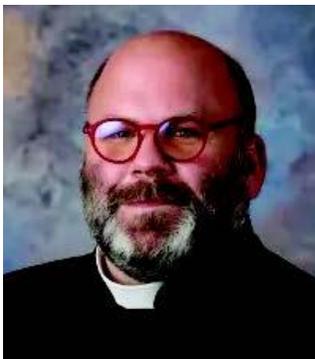
[“Catholic Schools, the Communion of Saints, and the Eucharist”](#) – Catholic World Report, November 10, 2023,

[“The Eucharist and AI”](#) – The Catholic Thing, November 5, 2023,

[“Ministers Return to Their Classrooms”](#) – Catholic World Report, August 20, 2023

[“Making Catholic Schools Catholic”](#) – Catholic World Report, July 12, 2023

[“Can Catholicism Be Passed on Without Catholic Culture?”](#) – Catholic World Report, May 19, 2023



Father Jonathan Duncan was the 2023–2024 Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Devotion. A former Episcopal priest, he is the associate pastor of St. Mary’s Parish in Greenville, S.C., and chaplain of St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Greenville, which is recognized in The Newman Guide. He is also chaplain of the Furman University Catholic Campus Ministry.

Father’s fellowship work centered around recommendations for reverent liturgies in schools and colleges. He completed several essays and resources, compiled in the following two booklets:

- *The Eucharist-Centered Catholic School*: A wonderful help to school leaders and chaplains (see enclosed), this includes:
 - “An Understanding of Worship in a Catholic School Environment”: An overview of the key components of worship within Catholic education.
 - “Restoring the Psalms to Catholic School Liturgy”: An argument for restoring sung psalms throughout Catholic school liturgies.
 - “Retreating to Real Life”: Recommendations for Catholic school retreats, with emphasis on the Eucharist at the center.
 - “Sample Homily: Life for Life”: A homily explaining the sacrificial nature of the Eucharist.
 - “Sample Homily: A True Feast”: A homily explaining the Eucharist as meal.
 - “Sample Homily: Food for the World”: A homily explaining the Eucharist as feeding souls in hunger.
- *The Mass Explained to Catholic Students*: A resource for teaching and increasing reverence for the *Novus Ordo* Mass. (See enclosed.)

In addition, the first essay in *The Eucharist-Centered Catholic School* was abridged and published in The Cardinal Newman Society’s magazine for Catholic educators, *Our Catholic Mission*, in the July 2024 issue (“[Forming the Hearts and Minds of Students for Worship](#)”).



Dr. Randall Smith was the 2023–2024 Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Liturgy, focusing his research on best practices for promoting Eucharistic adoration and devotions in Catholic education.

Dr. Smith is a Professor of Theology at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Tex., which is recognized in the Society’s Newman Guide for faithful Catholic education.

He holds a Ph.D. in medieval studies and philosophy and an M.M.S. from the University of Notre Dame, as well as an M.A. in theology from the University of Dallas (also a Newman Guide college). He is president of the International Catholic University (CatholicThinkers.com).

As part of his fellowship work, Randall produced the essay, “Eucharist, the Heart of Education.” (See enclosed.) It is an insightful contemplation of the portal sculpture of the Chartres cathedral, displaying the seven liberal arts, with a Eucharistic image of Jesus Christ in the center. Randall’s essay explains the foundations of Catholic higher education, rooted in the Eucharist and the fount of truth.

In addition, Randall presented his essay as a keynote address, “Eucharist the Heart of Catholic Education,” at The Cardinal Newman Society’s Newman Guide Leaders Summit at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, on June 13, 2024. His essay was also abridged and published in The Cardinal Newman Society’s magazine for Catholic educators, *Our Catholic Mission*, in the July 2024 issue (“[Eucharist the Heart of Catholic Education](#)”).

As a fellow, Randall was asked to use his usual platforms—he is a frequent writer at The Catholic Thing, as well as other publications—to promote Eucharistic education. Some of these articles are outside the term of his fellowship, but we have included them to show the scope of his impact in support of this effort.

“[A Catholic Renaissance](#)” – The Catholic Thing, November 12, 2024

“[Liturgy: Active or Contemplative?](#)” – The Catholic Thing, October 1, 2024

“[Aim Even Higher](#)” – The Catholic Thing, June 25, 2024

“[Eucharistic Faith and the Design of Churches](#)” – Sacred Architecture Journal of The Institute of Sacred Architecture, Vol. 54, June 2024,

“[The Eucharist and Catholic Education](#)” – The Catholic Thing, March 5, 2024,

“[Eucharistic Faith and the Survey](#)” – The Catholic Thing, January 23, 2024,

[“The Logic of Belief”](#) – The Catholic Thing, September 5, 2023,

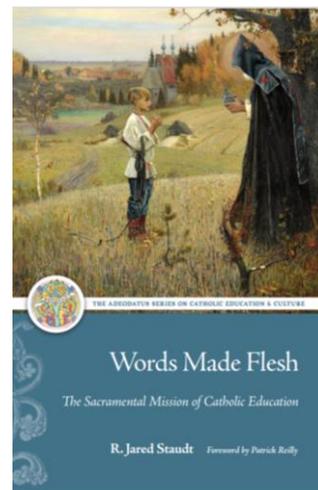
[“Beauty is Necessary for Prayer”](#) – The Institute for Sacred Architecture, Vol 44, Fall 2023

[“Preaching 101”](#) – The Catholic Thing, August 1, 2023



Dr. R. Jared Staudt is our 2024–2025 Cardinal Newman Society Eucharistic Education Fellow. He holds a doctorate from Ave Maria University (AMU) and has taught at the Augustine Institute, University of Mary (UMary), St. John Vianney Seminary, and Rosary College. AMU and UMary are both recognized in the Society’s Newman Guide for faithful Catholic education. Rosary College is a new Catholic college and has a provisional recognition in the Guide. He currently serves as Director of Content for Exodus 90.

Jared’s fellowship is different. We have agreed to a partnership to promote his book, [Words Made Flesh: The Sacramental Mission of Catholic Education](#) (Catholic University Press, 2024), which directly advances our goals for the Eucharistic Education Task Force. Patrick Reilly wrote the foreword to the book, and The Cardinal Newman Society contributed toward its publication and promotion with a grant made through the sponsoring organization Adeodatus. Jared, in turn, has agreed to work with the Society to promote Eucharistic education in article, interviews, and social media.



Jared also recently authored *How the Eucharist Can Save Civilization* (TAN Books, 2023), an argument for Eucharistic devotion. We interviewed Jared and published the [interview](#) on the Task Force website. We also published the interview in The Cardinal Newman Society’s magazine for Catholic educators, *Our Catholic Mission*, in the July 2024 issue (“How the Eucharist Can Save Civilization: A Q&A with Dr. Jared Staudt”).

While a fellow, Jared has written several articles that promote Eucharistic education and reverence:

[“The power of images in an iconoclast culture,”](#) Catholic World Report, November 15, 2024

[“Classical or Catholic? A sacramental approach to education,”](#) Catholic World Report, September 12, 2024

[“The Eucharist and the mission of the laity: The case of extraordinary ministers,”](#) Adoremus, August 24, 2024

[“The power of silence and the problem of sound in adoration,”](#) Catholic World Report, August 8, 2024

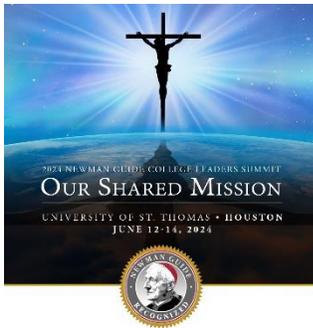
[“Words Made Flesh,”](#) The Imaginative Conservative, August 4, 2024

[“How to Receive the Eucharist Worthily,”](#) The Catholic Gentleman, July 17, 2024

[“Why Can’t I Hear God?”](#) The Catholic Gentleman, May 15, 2024

Events and Speaking

As noted earlier, we announced the Task Force on June 29, 2022, during the **Sacra Liturgia Conference** at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, which The Cardinal Newman Society co-sponsored. At a general session sponsored by The Cardinal Newman Society, Patrick Reilly led a Q&A with Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, discussing Eucharistic education in Catholic schools and colleges.



The Cardinal Newman Society hosted the first-ever **Newman Guide Leaders Summit** at St. Thomas University (Houston) in June 2023. Over 100 Catholic college presidents and senior leaders participated. One of the keynote speakers was our Eucharistic Education Fellow Dr. Randall Smith, speaking on the Eucharist as the heart of Catholic education.

We helped promote attendance by Catholic educators at **Gregorian Chants Every Catholic Should Know**, an online conference for Catholic music educators sponsored by the Catholic Institute of Sacred Music on October 18-19, 2024.

The Cardinal Newman Society is co-sponsoring the **Adeodatus Conference** for Catholic educators at Belmont Abbey College in June 2025. In partnership with The Cardinal Newman Society, a full day has been planned with speakers on Eucharistic education. Patrick Reilly will speak on the Society's Eucharistic Education Task Force and the role that the Eucharist plays in Catholic education. Eucharistic Education Fellow Jared Staudt will speak on themes from his book, *Words Made Flesh: The Sacramental Mission of Catholic Education*. Other speakers on Eucharistic themes include:



- Ioana Belcea: liturgical and devotional artist and lecturer
- Joshua Hren: founder/editor of Wiseblood Books; co-founder of Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at University of St. Thomas, Houston; co-founder of Great Books Honors College at Belmont Abbey College
- James Matthew Wilson: Cullen Foundation Chair in English Literature and founding director of the MFA program in Creative Writing at the University of Saint Thomas, Houston
- Fr. Spencer Howe: co-founder and vice chairman of the Rossasecca Project to renew the Catholic mission of the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.

The Cardinal Newman Society is a sponsor of the **Fons et Culmen Sacred Liturgy Summit** at St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif., on July 1-4, 2025. The conference will focus on the promotion of the sacred liturgy and liturgical formation in Catholic parishes and schools. Speakers include Cardinal Robert Sarah, Cardinal Sean O’Malley, Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, and Bishop Earl Fernandes. Patrick Reilly will speak on the Society’s Eucharistic Education Task Force and the role that the Eucharist plays in Catholic education.

Fons et Culmen
**Sacred Liturgy
 Summit**

In addition, The Cardinal Newman Society worked with the leaders of the **Fellowship of**



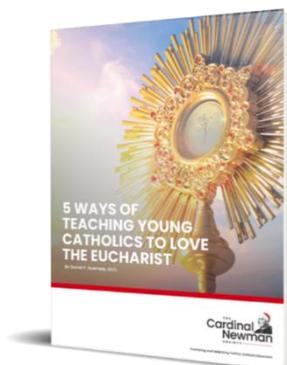
Catholic Scholars, urging them to make Eucharistic education the theme for their national conference. The Fellowship has recently announced that its September 2025 conference theme will be “The Eucharist,” featuring speakers including Paul Vitz, Fr. Robert Spitzer, and Gerald Boersma of Ave Maria University.

Outreach and Marketing

Anticipating the launch of the Eucharistic Education Task Force in 2022, The Cardinal Newman Society set a Eucharist theme for our annual **Newman Guide essay contest**. We asked high school seniors to write essays explaining why it is important that education is centered on the Eucharist. The \$5,000 scholarship winner, Sarah Davis, wrote: “Just as devotion to the Eucharist has been integral in my formation growing up, it is also a non-negotiable factor when considering college options. A college which has a deep love for our Eucharistic Lord will enable me to continue placing God at the center of my life, grow in knowledge of the truth, and develop authentic relationships, ultimately leading me to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.”

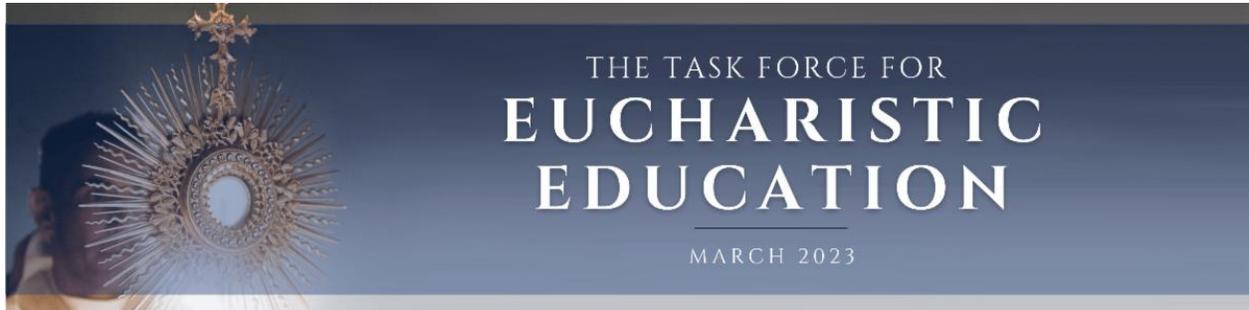
In his article in the *National Catholic Register* ([“We Need Eucharistic Education,”](#) June 11, 2022), just as The Cardinal Newman Society was gearing up for the Eucharistic Education Task Force, Patrick highlighted Sarah Davis’s essay and the value of a Eucharistic education.

In September 2022, Patrick Reilly wrote an article for *Inside the Vatican* ([“Catholic Educators Renewing Devotion to Eucharist,”](#) September 1, 2022), announcing the Eucharistic Education Task Force and making the argument for education that forms young people in reverence for the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. “Today we see both ignorance about the sacraments and lack of reverence among those who confess the Real Presence of Christ. Catholic education is the Church’s best response to this crisis,” Patrick wrote, “but it must rediscover its source and life in the Eucharist if it is to recover from its long decline.”



In 2023, The Cardinal Newman Society embarked on a program to increase our digital footprint. To advance the goals of the Eucharistic Education Task Force, we created and promoted an e-book, **“Five Ways to Teach Young Catholics to Love the Eucharist,”** by Dr. Dan Guernsey, Senior Fellow and Education Policy Editor of The Cardinal Newman Society. (See enclosed.) We also distributed a

Facebook survey on the Eucharistic Revival and the need for education on the Eucharist. The e-book and surveys have had at least 1.3 million impressions on Facebook, and more than 25, 800 people have downloaded the e-book.

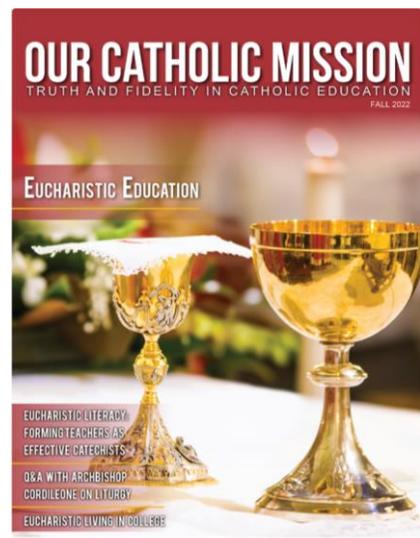


From February 2023 through April 2024, we produced and distributed to our email lists of Catholic educators a monthly newsletter to share and promote participation with the Task Force for Eucharistic Education. These featured new projects on our website and encouraged educators to replicate model projects at their schools and colleges.

Finally, The Cardinal Newman Society has dedicated two entire issues of our magazine for Catholic educators, *Our Catholic Mission*, to Eucharistic education. These are mailed to 10,000 recipients in Newman Guide Recommended schools and colleges, as well as other Catholic education leaders. The digital version is promoted by email to another 80,000 Catholic educators and Cardinal Newman Society members.

The [Fall 2022 issue](#) of *Our Catholic Mission* featured the launch of the Eucharistic Education Task Force, with articles including:

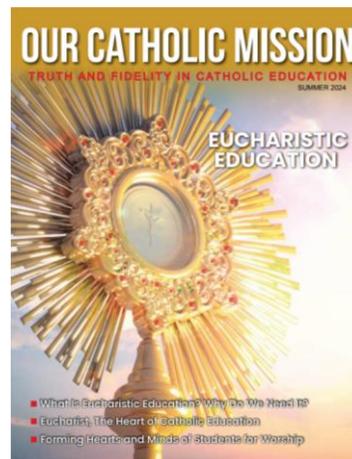
- “Eucharistic Literacy: Forming Teachers as Effective Catechists”: Eucharistic literacy among students begins with hiring teachers who are literate in the Church’s teaching on the Sacrament of sacraments. But just as ongoing formation is needed in all subjects, so is catechetical formation for all teachers.



- “Eucharistic Liturgy: A Q & A with Archbishop Cordileone”: In this discussion with Archbishop Cordileone of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, he shares how catechesis is more than what is taught with words but is especially how worship is conducted.
- “Eucharistic Devotion: How to Promote Eucharistic Devotion at Your School”: Here are five ways this Principal promotes Eucharistic devotion at his K-12 school.
- “Eucharistic Living in College”: At college, young people are encouraged to do many things, but at faithful Catholic colleges, students learn how to live a Eucharistic life. What does a Eucharistic life entail? Find out more and share with families of school-age children.

The [Summer 2024 issue](#) of *Our Catholic Mission* featured articles by each of the 2023–2024 Task Force Fellows (as mentioned in the Fellows section above), including:

- “What Is Eucharistic Education? Why Do We Need It?": David G. Bonagura, Jr., the Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Education, explains how the Eucharist should be the center of a school’s life, informing everything it does, including its academic curriculum, formational programming, and extracurricular activities.
- “Eucharist, The Heart of Catholic Education”: Randall Smith, the Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Liturgy, shows how an effective Catholic education means the integration of knowledge bridging the divide between the natural sciences and the humanities. Smith uses the lessons etched in the architectural framework of the Cathedral of Our Lady in Chartres, France, to display this integration and communicate a profound message about the Eucharist.



- “Forming Hearts and Minds of Students for Worship”: Father Jonathan Duncan, Cardinal Newman Society Fellow for Eucharistic Devotion, shows that to understand the place of the Eucharist in Catholic education, we must first understand and contemplate the four elements of worship: worth, training, method, and culmination.
- “How the Eucharist Can Save Civilization: A Q&A with Dr. Jared Staudt”: An interview with Eucharistic Education Fellow Jared Staudt on his book, *How the Eucharist Can Save Civilization* (TAN Books, 2023), an argument for Eucharistic devotion.