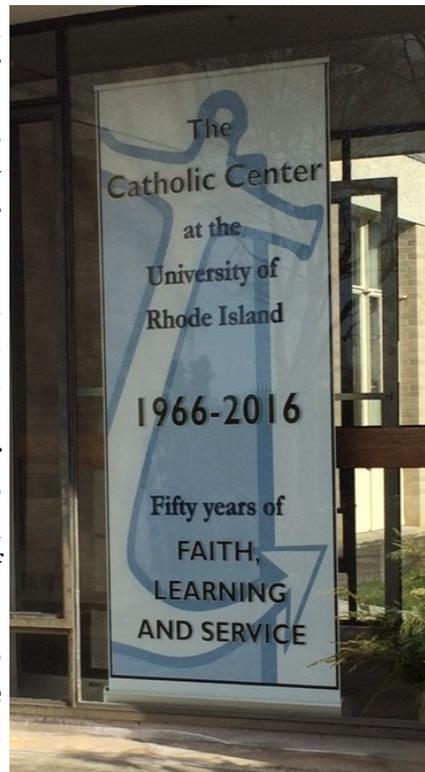


## URI CATHOLIC CENTER NEWS

You may have noticed! Last week, two large banners were delivered and placed at the front entrance to the Catholic Center in commemoration of our fiftieth anniversary. Printed on the banners is the motto for our anniversary: ***"Fifty years of faith, learning and service."*** These three dimensions have shaped and guided the mission and ministry of the Catholic Center for fifty years and, please God, they will continue to guide and shape it for another fifty!

- ♦ **FAITH:** Saint Paul reminds us that it is by grace we have been saved through faith (Eph 2:8). For fifty years, the Catholic Center has stood as a testament to the gospel of Jesus and has facilitated an encounter with him in the community of the Catholic Church. This, above all, is why we exist: to invite all seekers at URI—students and faculty alike—to hear the call of Christ and to support them in their response to that call. We do that through our own witness, through opportunities for prayer and spiritual development, and most especially through the celebration of the sacraments.
- ♦ **LEARNING:** We cannot love what we do not know. For fifty years, the Catholic Center has formed countless people—young and old—in the teaching and mission of Christ our Savior. Through catechetical programs, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, presentations and lectures, the accessibility of Catholic publications, and many other means, the rich heritage of our Catholic intellectual tradition has been celebrated and passed on to new generations. What a rich heritage it is.
- ♦ **SERVICE:** The scriptures challenges us to consider that if we cannot love the brother or sister whom we have seen, we are incapable of loving the God whom we cannot see (1 Jn 4:20). For fifty years, the Catholic Center has encouraged and promoted service to Christ in the suffering, the poor, and the vulnerable. Through the concrete acts of Christian charity sponsored or promoted by the Catholic Center, countless people have encountered the love and mercy of Jesus. From mission trips to food drives to nursing home visits—among many other activities—the Catholic Center has helped students to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.



I hope in the coming weeks to finalize, announce and introduce to you the Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, whose task it will be to help us celebrate this important milestone and also share more broadly news of the good work that is done at the Center on a daily basis.

If you are a URI alum and have not yet had an opportunity to send us your contact information (including maiden name, date of graduation, major, current physical and email addresses, and phone number), please email us at [rhodycatholic@gmail.com](mailto:rhodycatholic@gmail.com).

Now that the spring semester is underway, we can expect a full complement of student liturgical ministers at the 8pm University Liturgy. Many thanks to the parishioners who filled those roles over winter break and to the faithful attendees who continued to join us despite the smaller numbers!

Lastly, we have been experiencing some difficulties with the chapel heating. On several occasions now, I've gone into the chapel in the morning to put up the heat only to find it wasn't working at all. We've had the repairmen out now about a half dozen times, and things seem to be resolved (fingers crossed). But because of the uncertainty of the situation I've asked Fr. Jared if we could have the 7am Lenten daily liturgy in the church. He graciously agreed. So if you're planning on attending the 7am Mass during Lent, please head to Christ the King. The 12nn Mass will continue to be held in the Catholic Center chapel.

Thank you again for your prayers and for your support.

-Fr. Joe