

Let there be light!

Many thanks to parishioner Sean Benzoni who has been helping to organize some necessary repairs and upgrades to the lighting on the Catholic Center property. Two new wall packs were installed at the rear of the building which illuminate the whole backyard as well as a newly positioned outdoor seating area. Two pole lights at two (very dark) corners of the property were repaired and are shining brightly. An obsolete and unsightly aluminum pole light near the front entrance, as well as an inoperable wall pack on the front of the building, have been removed. Two new lights affixed to the garage will keep the parking lot well lit. Another pole light that required some digging to repair will be operable soon. And four new fixtures for exterior lighting in the courtyard arrived this week! Thanks to Sean and the team from James J. O'Rourke Electric for all their help and assistance. Without your generous giving to the Catholic Charity Fund appeal, these kinds of projects would not be possible. For that, I am grateful!

I would also like to thank John DiGiacomo and Ed Folgo who contributed three air conditioning units to the Catholic Center. One was placed in the residence, the second in the office area that I share with Judy, and the third in our FOCUS/conference room. Thank you for your generosity!

Again, be aware that our first official University Mass of the new academic year is **tonight at 8:00pm** in Christ the King. We'll be starting the evening with our annual **kick-off barbeque at 6:00pm** at the Catholic Center. Feel free to stop by and welcome our new and returning students. And thanks to those who volunteered to bring a side dish or a dessert.

I'd like to extend a very special thank you to Joan and Julio Maggiasco who hosted our two new FOCUS missionaries, Maria and Lauren, at their home for the first week of September until the missionaries' permanent residence was available. Thanks for so generously embracing Saint Paul's admonition to the Church at Rome: "*Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God*" (Rom 15:7).

Speaking of FOCUS, I wanted each of the missionaries to be able to introduce themselves. Each has prepared a brief bio below. If you see them around the parish or the campus, be sure to welcome them! Thanks again for all of your support and never hesitate to email us at rhodycatholic@gmail.com or visit us on the web: rhodycatholic.com or facebook.com/uricatholiccenter. –Fr. Joe

Maria McDonough: Hello! My name is Maria McDonough and I hail from the wonderful state of Missouri! I am currently serving in my fourth year as a FOCUS missionary and I am excited to be here this year as the Team Director at URI! I love Irish dancing, accordion music & all things Irish!

Justin and Bridgette Harper: We are thrilled to be starting our 2nd year as FOCUS missionaries at URI! We are originally from Seattle, WA & St. Louis, MO, married last December, and are expecting our first child in October! See you at Mass and the Catholic Center!

Lauren Lagassie: Hi! I am Lauren Lagassie! I am a Connecticut native and a recent graduate from UConn! I am a first year FOCUS missionary here at URI! Two of my favorite things are the beach and the New England Patriots so Rhode Island is the perfect fit for me!



From L to R: Bridgette Harper, Maria McDonough, Lauren Lagassie, Justin Harper