

October 2023

Back to School

ST. PAUL'S

Newsletter

FATHER'S CORNER

Back to School

Praised be Jesus Christ!

First off I'd like to thank you for taking the time to stay in touch with us at St. Paul's through these newsletters. It's one of the great blessings of modern technology to help us all stay connected. For this corner, I'd just like to ask that you help connect other people you know with our vocations and St. Paul's newsletters. As you know, we send out each issue every other month and our hope is to help families stay connected with seminarians and foster a vocational culture at home, and help those around the diocese to know what's happening at the best Newman center in Idaho (don't tell Fr. Chase at U of I).



It would be a great help if you were able to share the website with your local priests/parish office and encourage them to put it in the bulletin so we can get more people connected, especially on the vocations side of things.

This month of October is dedicated especially to our Lady of the Rosary. It was this month when our Lady of Fatima gave the great miracle of the sun and asked that everyone pray the rosary for the conversion of sinners. Please commit to praying the daily Rosary either on your own or even better as a family, and remember St. Paul's in your prayers.

Peace!

LABOR DAY CAMPING TRIP

Every year, the center hosts a camping trip for the students to encounter God in nature. This year, we had the entire camp JPJII up in Cascade to ourselves! It was incredible and we can't wait for the next trip.





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STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Alberto Jaramillo

This year has been moving fast, so it's nice to have this time now to stop and say Hi! My name is Alberto Jaramillo II and I was hired as the new Coordinator of Campus Ministry here at St Paul's, BSU. It's funny to see the official title typed out. Most people refer to this position as the Campus Minister, but I think the title is more of how I see my role. My passion is helping people find opportunities to encounter God. Notice how I didn't say 'helping people encounter God' but rather "helping find the opportunities." I can't force God into your life and thus can't force an encounter with Him either. What I can offer you is a time and a place where you can allow for that encounter to happen. I can encourage you to keep going on this journey, I can even walk with you a bit. But that door to God must be opened from the inside.

This is where I come in. I've been very blessed to have the family and friends I do now. That was certainly not always the case. To say I fell from the path would be kind. There's no need to go into my past because only the devil lives there. It was on my way back to God that I was able to see just how far I fell. They say that you never suffer from addiction until you get sober. That's because it was your addiction that was making you numb to the real problem. At some point you have to find something deeper than your own opinion of yourself to keep you going. You'll be surprised at the evil that has been done by people who think they're a good person. I was falling into the same trap. Afraid of becoming like those around me, I found myself trying to grasp at anything religious. Every cross I found went into my pocket, every bible verse was folded and put in my wallet. It was almost becoming compulsive, but it made me feel safe.



It was that "feeling safe" that I focused on. Why were these little trinkets making me feel this way? I immediately chalked it up to nostalgia. It made sense, I felt safe as a kid, and this reminded me of those simpler times. However, this feeling was different. I felt like I was being welcomed home. Everyone knows the story of the Prodigal Son, I've heard the story a thousand times as a child. The difference was, I was no longer a kid and I wasn't the son who stayed home. For the first time I got the true meaning of the story, our hearts are restless until they rest in the Lord. I realized that I was pretending to be the person others saw me as and not the one God sees. To have someone look at you with only love and yearning in their heart is what we all seek. After finding it, my heart has only ever wanted to help others do the same. This is why becoming the Coordinator of Campus Ministry was an easy 'yes'. I want everyone to know what that gaze feels like, and to know that you are enough. You, you are the reason I'm here and I will not rest until you rest with Him.



Campaign Update

Renovating Student Housing

Hello students, alumni, and donors!

As many of you know, St. Paul's is a ship that runs on blood, sweat, tears, the help of our sponsors, prayer, and the grace of God. Even though it may seem that everything is at peace, and all flows perfectly here at the center, there is always something that needs to be done, fixed, or updated. Right now, we are really focusing our attention on the student housing we provide. We are blessed to have a couple of apartments we can lease out to students, but with that blessing comes quite a bit of work. We wanted to give you, our community, and our sponsors, a minor update about where we are at with our fundraising goals. The major goal that we are trying to reach is \$11,867.76. We have currently been blessed with \$5,375.00 and are so grateful. The last bit we need is \$6,492.76 and we are sure that we will be able to make that goal soon. Thank you all so much for all of your support either through donations, time, or prayer.

Blessings to you and yours,
The St. Paul's Community



UPCOMING EVENTS



- **October 7th (Sat.)** - Alumni tailgate: Football vs. San Jose
- **October 20th-22nd (Fri-Sun.)** - Holy Spirit FOCUS retreat
- **October 28th (Sat.)** - Football vs. Wyoming
- **November 1st (Wed.)** - All Saint's Day
- **November 2nd (Thurs.)** - All Soul's Day
 - 6:00 pm Dinner
 - 7:30 pm Cemetery Mass
- **November 11th (Sat.)** - Football vs. New Mexico
- **November 20th-26th** - Thanksgiving break
- **November 25th (Sat.)** - Football vs. Air Force