



Thank you for sending these young leaders out to share their faith with the world!



# on mission with FOCUS

A Newsletter for FOCUS Supporters

May 27, 2022

## THE FRUITS OF YOUR APOSTOLIC MISSION

Jesus was sent by His loving Father. Now, He sends you. You, in turn, are sending a new generation of Jesus' disciples through FOCUS.

Together, as the mystical Body of Christ, we are living out the Church's mission, which Pope Paul VI summarizes in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Apostolicam Actuositatem*:

- to spread the kingdom of Christ throughout the earth for the glory of God the Father,
- to enable all men to share in His saving redemption
- and that through us, the whole world might enter into a relationship with Christ.

All activity done within the Body of Christ is working toward the attainment of this goal — the Church's mission. In this edition of On Mission, we highlight some of the young leaders whom you have sent out to fulfill the Church's mission.

### HOW YOU SENT THESE MEN AND WOMEN

■ TO SERVE IN A UNIQUE MISSIONARY ROLE

■ TO SANCTIFY SOCIETY

■ TO BUILD UP THE CHURCH



### YOU'RE INVITED!

We're celebrating the close of a successful fiscal year with prayer and fellowship on:

**Wednesday | June 1, 2022**

Livestreaming begins at 4:30 PM MT with an end-of-the-year address from Curtis Martin followed by 5:00 PM MT Mass.

<https://vimeo.com/713051132>

# SENT TO SERVE IN A UNIQUE MISSIONARY ROLE

**“My favorite thing to teach and form missionaries in is that they are created to become a saint, that they are a son or daughter of God, and that is truth. That is reality. And when we live from that reality, God provides a fruitfulness in our apostolate just from living more from that truth. I think a lot of people come to staff thinking, ‘I am going to do this great thing for somebody else.’ And I always think, ‘Well, God placed you here for your sanctification. He wants you to be in this place at this time with these people at this point in your life to become a Saint.’ That is why He allows anything in His permissive will. He allows it so that we can be sanctified. We are making a great effort to share the Gospel with the world and God desires our hearts first.”**



DAN KREBSBACH  
FOCUS NORTH AREA DIRECTOR  
*Dan oversees mission on 37 campuses in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.*

You are sending men and women who continue to serve FOCUS after their initial missionary experience. They build up the Church and renew the world around them; they work for the Church while living the daily rhythm of life, bringing Christ to people at the gym, the grocery store, and everywhere in between.

“... in the Church are those lay people who devote themselves with professional experience, either permanently or temporarily, to the service of associations [within the Church] and their activities. There is a source of great joy for the Church in the fact that there is a daily increase in the number of lay persons who offer their personal service to apostolic associations and activities ...” (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 22).



**“Jesus has called me to continue to share the Gospel in an entirely new platform: social media. At this point we all know how much can be accomplished through the gift of technology. But the majority of social media is promising happiness through consumption of products, pushing a culture of pornography or comparing ourselves to everyone’s highlights. I’m in the business of changing that using FOCUS’ social media presence. We need a social revival.”**

MACLAINE CAPSHEW  
FOCUS SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT COORDINATOR

*Maclaine served as a missionary at the University of South Dakota before transitioning into her current role in FOCUS’ marketing department.*

# SENT TO SANCTIFY SOCIETY



You are sending those who bring Christ and His Church to people within every social structure, *sanctifying temporal order*, or transforming the world to reflect how it was intended to be in its creation by God.

“Christ’s redemptive work, while essentially concerned with the salvation of men, includes also the renewal of the whole temporal order. Hence the mission of the Church is not only to bring the message and grace of Christ to men but also to penetrate and perfect the temporal order with the spirit of the Gospel” (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 5).

**“During my time as a missionary, I came to discover that relationships are integral to pursuing the mission of evangelization. This reality has been further verified in my transition to a secular career. My working peers are hungry for deep and joy-filled relationships, and it is within that context that I have found fruitful opportunities to share the truth about God.”**

ANDREW COLLINS  
PROJECT ENGINEER,  
CMTA, INC.

*Andrew served as a missionary with FOCUS for three years, including as the Team Director for FOCUS at the University of Florida.*

**“The past three years as a missionary have prepared me well to move into the workplace, especially as a chemical dependency counselor. I will be working with inmates who are in dark places in their lives; because of my time as a missionary, I am equipped to reverence their humanity and to walk with them gently as they recover from their addictions. Outside of the workplace, I feel equipped to be bold in meeting new people in my future parish. This boldness is a skill I did not have before becoming a missionary.”**



GRETCHEN MCLAUGHLIN, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY  
COUNSELOR, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE PENITENTIARY

*Gretchen served as FOCUS missionary at the University of North Dakota.*

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR NEXT

## Giving Wisely

WEBINAR

**Tuesday, July 26,  
2:00 p.m. MT**

Learn about the advantages  
of creative stewardship!

For more information contact us at  
[PLANNEDGIVING@FOCUS.ORG](mailto:PLANNEDGIVING@FOCUS.ORG)

# SENT TO BUILD UP THE CHURCH



You are sending FOCUS missionaries and students to proclaim the kingdom of God and the Gospel in their religious vocations.

“Those in a religious vocation are entrusted with the ministry of the Word and the sacraments, wherein the laity work together with them to be ‘fellow workers for the truth’ (3 John 8). The laity and religious have complementary missions” (*Apostolicam Actuositatem* 2 and 6).

**“When I was a college student and then a FOCUS missionary, I found that law of joy, that when we serve others and when we serve something that’s meaningful, and especially when we serve God, we find happiness — we find fulfillment. As a priest, as a pastor, I get to speak meaning into people’s lives. I get to point them beyond the things that are daily anxieties, and I get to invite them to see the truth that is Jesus. Honestly, as hard as it might be to be a priest, there’s nothing better than that. Being a priest is a great joy. It’s a mission for the kingdom.”**



FR. BRIAN LARKIN, PASTOR, OUR LADY OF LOURDES, ST. LOUIS PARISHES, DENVER, COLORADO

*Fr. Larkin served as a missionary for two years after encountering FOCUS on campus at the University of Colorado.*

**“No words will ever be enough to express my thanks to Varsity Catholic. These people, this family, is a home; a place where you are *always* welcome, where differences are celebrated and support emanates.”**

MARISSA DEWISPELARE  
POSTULANT, MARIAN  
SISTERS OF THE DIOCESE  
OF LINCOLN

*Marissa (above right) served as a FOCUS Varsity Catholic missionary for three years after running cross country during her undergraduate time at Doane University.*



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE CAMPAIGN?  
FIND OUT HERE:

[WWW.FOCUS.ORG/RUN](http://WWW.FOCUS.ORG/RUN)

## YOU MADE A HEROIC IMPACT!

Thank you to all who joined us for the FOCUS 2022 Day of Mission, Prayer & Giving, this April 29, 2022! We were so grateful to be able to rally together as an entire apostolate. Your support helped us surpass our goal and raise **\$1,389,149** against our \$775,000 challenge gift! See your impact here:

[WWW.FOCUS.ORG/DAYOFMISSION](http://WWW.FOCUS.ORG/DAYOFMISSION)

