

MAKE WAY

FELLOWSHIP OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

SEEK23 - ST. LOUIS, MO

17,000 people, 300 priests and bishops, all in St. Louis for 4 days! SEEK was incredible this year! I am always reminded at this conference of how big and universal our Church is, yet how small it is at the same time. The experience of running into so many familiar faces in a crowd of 17,000 people is a common one. At SEEK I got to connect with missionaries and students that I have met along the way on this missionary journey. To witness how the Lord has transformed the lives of these people was my highlight. Seeing students decide to become missionaries and missionaries deepening their relationship with Christ was fortifying to me. Praise God!



Father Mikel! Check out his podcast: Catechism in a Year!



Is that Jesus?



No, that's Jesus!



So many priests and bishops processing in for Mass!



Some of the IT team at a team-building off-site!

IT COMMITTEE

My role at SEEK was the head of the IT committee. As you can imagine, there usually a lot of technological necessities that come with an event of this size. I supported our Events team in providing timely support to anyone who had issues accessing online content and anything else that came up. When I wasn't working I was able to attend various talks, masses, and catch up with missionaries and students!

RECRUITMENT WEEKEND



I didn't get to take any photos from the recruitment weekend, but look at all these excited people at SEEK23!

Prior to SEEK, we hosted a recruitment weekend in St. Louis, welcoming men who felt called to serve as missionaries. The vision was to transition from the recruitment event immediately to SEEK, so that these men could experience firsthand what FOCUS is all about.

As an interviewer for the weekend, I had the privilege of getting to know the applicants, and witnessed how the Lord is at work in their lives. As I listened to their stories, I was reminded of the ways in which God had transformed me through my own missionary journey.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Transitioning from being an on-campus missionary to working in IT at FOCUS has been a significant change, but I know this is where the Lord wants me. While the nature of my work is very different now, I continue to be convicted of the importance of the mission of FOCUS—to know Christ and make him known, and am excited to be a part of it in a new way.

As a missionary, my days were often filled with direct ministry work, which was rewarding but also challenging at times. Now, in my IT role, I am working behind the scenes to support the work of the missionaries and provide the tools that allow them to be more effective in their outreach. It's a different kind of role, but it is one that I can uniquely fill.

Of course, there have been some challenges in this transition. Learning new technical skills and adjusting to a new work environment has taken some time and effort. But I am extremely grateful for this new role and the opportunity to serve the Church and FOCUS.



Dan (blue shirt) and Morgan (to Dan's left) from our Mexico City Mission Trip last Spring

UPDATE FROM BROWN

FOCUS has been serving at Brown University for six years now. In that time, we have only had one student from that campus become a missionary. This year there are two men who that I worked with last year that have said yes to being a missionary with FOCUS. Pray for Dan and Morgan and their first year as missionaries.