

Catholic Campus Ministry



Catholic Campus Ministries (CCM) across the diocese are supported by the Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries. These ministries provide support to all college-aged students during a time in their lives when historically many fall away from the faith. College is a time when students are encouraged to question the faith and only to trust in beliefs that can be visually seen or scientifically “proven.” Campus ministries’ goal is to help students grow in their faith and to realize that science and religion are not mutually exclusive.

Campus Ministries continue to thrive in each of the following universities and colleges in our area: George Mason University (GMU), Marymount University, the University of Mary Washington (UMW), Christendom College, and Shenandoah University.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS:

- The office worked to support the growing Catholic Campus Ministry at Shenandoah University. Mass and Confessions are being offered on campus every Sunday evening.
- Over 50 students from UMW and Marymount University participated together in a joint weekend retreat for upperclassmen from the two schools. This was the first time these schools have worked together to provide a common event for their students.
- The CCM at GMU now hosts 52 bible studies on campus. In addition, they have created a women’s sorority and men’s fraternity experience for students to immerse themselves within a community designed to support their human, spiritual, intellectual, and apostolic formation while in school.
- Students from each of these colleges participated in the Catholic Campus Ministry Summit held in Richmond. This is a great opportunity for students to participate in a large Catholic conference with nearly 800 other Catholic students.
- Many students in these and other colleges in our area take advantage of an “Alternative Spring Break” to serve at our mission parishes in the Dominican Republic. Through these mission trips, students are given the opportunity to give of themselves and their time in serving those who are less fortunate. Both mission parishes in Banica and Pedro Santana, Dominican Republic are run by diocesan priests and are funded by the Bishop’s Lenten Appeal.

STEADFAST IN *faith* AND JOYFUL IN *hope*