

NEUMANN INSTITUTE NEWS

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University-wide Theme for 2018-2019: *Live the Truth in Love: Stewardship*

Stewardship calls us to acknowledge that everything has been given to us by a loving and all-good God. Our response to this goodness and love is gratitude. As citizens of the local and global community, we embrace the responsibility to use the gift of education in service of others, especially the least among us. We consider how our decisions affect the common good and the entire created universe.

At Neumann University, we emphasize three aspects of Stewardship:

We receive gratefully, use carefully, and share generously the resources available to us.

We care for creation as a sacred Gift from God.

We promote Catholic Social Teaching by working for peace with justice.

As we reflected on *Stewardship* in preparation for this year's theme, members of the NIFS committee suggested that we highlight *Stewardship of Self and Creation*, *Stewardship of our Catholic Franciscan Mission*, and *Stewardship of our University mission and strategic vision*. There was also a recommendation that we "recycle" some of our past programs and activities and collaborate whenever possible with other departments. In addition, to promote awareness of the value of *Stewardship*, we will place visual reminders of monthly themes on the second floor bulletin boards in the stairwells in Bachmann and in the elevators of the RAB.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, we will highlight a monthly theme.

Please note that all programs listed are accurate as of August 18, but subject to change.

Additional information will be shared closer to the date of each event.

- **September: Season of Creation – Stewarding the Gift of Self and the Gift of Creation**

- * Spend 20 minutes of contemplative/mindful time in creation once each week using "Mindful Walking" guide.
- * Participate in the *Walking Together* prayer service at noon on September 7 in Sacred Heart Chapel.
- * View student-created booklets and video on [Sacred Spaces](#)
- * View YouTube reflection [Creation Calls](#)
- * Learn more about the Season of Creation (September 1 to October 4) at the [Season of Creation website](#)
- * Revisit NIFS-created 2017 [videos](#) on *Season of Creation*.

- **October: *Respect Life: Celebrate Diversity*...** In the Catholic tradition, October is traditionally celebrated as *Respect Life* month. During the month of October, we encourage reflection on the value of the dignity of the human person and diversity in the Franciscan tradition.
 - * Promote and where appropriate participate in the Franciscan Mission Week activities sponsored by Campus Ministry.
 - * Participate in the Day of Reflection on *Stewarding the Gift of Self: Stepping Out of our Minds into the Heart of God* on October 9 from 9 AM to 2 PM at Our Lady of Angels Convent.
 - * Participate in the *Living the Change* Interfaith panel and vegan meal on October 12 from 12:40 to 1:40 PM in the Student Multipurpose Room (organized by Interfaith Faculty Mini-grant initiative).
 - * Participate in an interfaith prayer service to celebrate the *Spirit of Assisi* at noon on October 26 outside near the Peace Pole.
 - * Participate in a Lunch and Learn session on the dignity of the human person and a consistent ethic of life on October 30 from 1 to 2 PM in the Assisi Room.
 - * View and discuss one of the following videos and/or another video of your choice:
 - ◇ [The Danger of a Single Story](#) by Chimimanda Ngozi Adichie
 - ◇ [Six Strangers in a Dark Room](#)

- **November: *Gratitude***
 - * Send messages of gratitude to others (cards, email, ecards).
 - * Recommit to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
 - * Educate yourself about the “rules for recycling”: [6 Things You’re Recycling Wrong - The New York Times](#).
 - * Support the Neumann University Campus Ministry Homeless project.
 - * In gratitude for all the good things you have received, support the Neumann Campus Ministry Christmas Giving Tree project.
 - * Donate gently used clothing to a local charity or the [Neumann University Wardrobes for Work](#) project.

- **December: *Greccio* and importance of *Incarnation* in the Franciscan tradition**
 - * Read the article [The Franciscan View of the Human Person](#) for additional insights into the meaning of the Incarnation in the Franciscan tradition.
 - * Attend the Greccio celebration on December 2, 2018.

- **January: Revisit the meaning of *Stewardship***
 - * Participate in the Day of Reflection on *Stewarding the Gift of Self: Stepping Out of our Minds into the Heart of God* on January 8 from 9 AM to 2 PM at Our Lady of Angels Convent.
 - * Read the article by Bishop Robert Morneau on the [Theology of Stewardship](#).
 - * Use [The 12 Gardens of Stewardship](#) as the basis for a personal inventory on your embrace of *Stewardship*.

- **February: Black History Month – *Promoting Peace with Justice for All***
 - * Participate in at least one campus activity in celebration of Black History Month.
 - * Read the USCCB pastoral letter on *Racism* which will be released in November. For a preview of the pastoral letter see the article <https://cnstopstories.com/2018/06/14/bishops-pastoral-letter-on-racism-on-track-for-november-vote/>
 - * Participate in a discussion of the *Pastoral Letter on Racism* at a Lunch and Learn session on February 13 from 12:40 to 1:40 in the Assisi Room.

- **March: *Focus on Women* and their contribution to the Franciscan world and to Neumann University**
 - * Participate in a reflection on Clare of Assisi and her legacy to the Franciscan world at a Lunch and Learn on March 7 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM in the Assisi Room.
 - * Participate in a visit to OLA Convent and a discussion on the history and mission of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia and the Third Order Regular Franciscan family on March 27 from 4:10 to 5:00 PM.
 - * Support the activities of Catholic Sisters Week.

- **April: Revisit *Laudato Si***
 - * Participate in an Earth Week celebration beginning with Mass at noon on April 24 and continuing with a festival in the Neumann Circle until 3 PM.
 - * Read or re-read *Laudato Si*.
 - * Review the basic principles contained in *Laudato Si* by viewing the following:
 - ◇ [Top 10 Things You Need to Know about Pope Francis' Laudato Si'](#) Fr. James Martin, S.J., presents the ten things you need to know about the encyclical. (4.5 minutes)
 - ◇ [Laudato Si animation](#) 5 minute animated version with key points of the document
 - * Develop a deeper understanding of [Laudato Si](#) by viewing the video series presented by Franciscan Friar Dan Horan.
 - * Review and work to decrease your own ecological footprint; take the [Ecological Footprint Quiz](#) - interactive and fun, but also informative and challenging.

2018-2019 Days of Reflection on Stewardship of Self

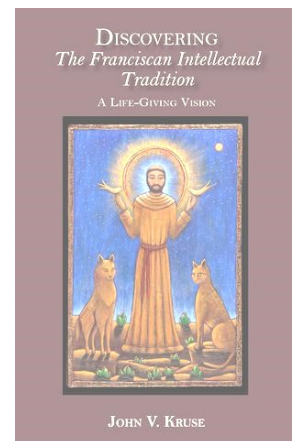
Days of reflection will be offered from 9 AM to 2 PM
at Our Lady of Angels Convent on October 9, 2018 and on January 8, 2019.

These days will include a morning program by Sister Lynn Lavin, OSF on ***Stewarding the Gift of Self: Stepping Out of our Minds into the HEART of GOD.*** The afternoon will offer the opportunity to explore contemplative practices such as Mindfulness, Tai Chi, Yoga, and the Labyrinth.

If you wish to participate in the reflection opportunities,
please register with Sr. Mary Ann **at least two weeks in advance at mccarshm@neumann.edu.**

Book Study on Stewardship of our Catholic Franciscan Mission

Have you ever wondered how to articulate the meaning of the Franciscan intellectual tradition? As part of our *Stewardship* focus this year, we are offering an opportunity to explore this question by reading and discussing the book *Discovering the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition: A Life-giving Vision* by Dr. John Kruse. Dr. Kruse's short (76 page) book provides a clear and readable introduction to the tradition in three chapters. Following each chapter are questions to stimulate reflection and sharing. The book study will include three meetings with an opportunity to hear from Dr. Kruse and share insights and questions with colleagues. One book study will be offered each semester. Participants will receive a copy of the book.



Fall dates

- Breakfast 8:00 to 9:00 on September 12: Introduction and Chapter 1
- Lunch from 11:20 to 12:50 on October 2: Chapter 2
- Wine and Cheese from 4:15 to 5:30 on November 12: Chapter 3 and Conclusion

All sessions will be held in the Devine Hospitality Suite in the Mirenda Center.

Register for the Fall Book Study by September 1, 2018 at mccarthur@neumann.edu.

Spring Dates—to be announced

Building Intercultural Competencies for Catholic Colleges and Universities: Integrating Intercultural Competencies on Your Campus

Recognizing the increasing diversity among the students attending Catholic colleges and universities, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities has developed interactive intercultural competency training workshops. Three workshops will be offered this year. On September 27 and 28, the first training workshop will take place at Chestnut Hill College. Neumann University personnel who attend will adapt the workshop for our campus. The first workshops will be offered for Neumann personnel on November 8 from 11:20 to 12:50 and on November 29 from 11:20 to 12:50. Watch for additional information!

AFCU Symposium 2018

Every other year, the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities (AFCU) sponsors a Symposium that brings together faculty, staff, administrators, and students from the 24 Franciscan colleges and universities. The University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL hosted the symposium this past summer from June 5-7, 2018. The theme, *With Living Stones: Building a Franciscan Future ... Together*, explored the *Characteristics of Franciscan Education*. Eighteen Neumann University faculty and staff members, together with President Domes and Vice President Chris Haug, attended the symposium. Several Neumann personnel offered presentations. Some of the faculty are willing to share their presentations. Dates and times will be announced.

The next AFCU Symposium will take place on our campus from June 2-4, 2020!

Online self-paced course on the Franciscan tradition

The Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities (AFCU) has developed a resource for faculty and staff who wish to incorporate elements of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition (FIT) into their teaching or ministry. This course allows faculty and staff members to identify key elements of the FIT, to locate and utilize FIT resources, to understand ways to incorporate the FIT in specific courses and programs, and to develop learning activities. The course is self-paced and is in the form of a PowerPoint presentation.

You can access and download the course here: <http://franciscancollegesuniversities.org/portfolio-view/the-franciscan-intellectual-tradition-in-your-course/>. The course is free and designed to be used flexibly. No prior approval needed, but we would like to identify the extent to which the course is used. Please email Sr. Pat Hutchison if you decide to participate.

IMPORTANT CELEBRATIONS

Mass of the Holy Spirit

Catholic colleges and universities traditionally begin the academic year with a special Mass asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our Mass of the Holy Spirit will be celebrated in Our Lady of Angels Chapel on Thursday, August 30, at 11:30 AM. After Mass we invite you to join in a Picnic and assist in serving lunch to our students as an expression of our value of *Service*.

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and Franciscan Mission Week

On every Franciscan campus, October includes special celebrations connected with the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. Our Campus Ministers have created a full agenda of activities. We encourage attendance at the Blessing of Animals at 4 PM on September 30 and the Mass for the Feast of St. Francis at noon on October 4 in Sacred Heart Chapel. Please encourage students to attend the other Franciscan Mission Week activities:

Service Fair: Monday, October 1 from 11 AM to 2 PM

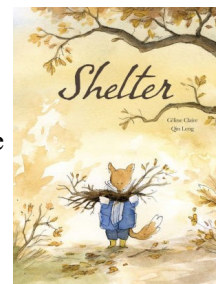
Blessings on Tap: Tuesday, October 2 at 8 PM

Assisi "Pilgrimage": Wednesday, October 3 at 6 PM

Fall Break Service Trip: Friday, October 5 to Tuesday, October 9

Bock Book Award 2018

The winner of the 2018 Bock Book Award is **Shelter** written by Celine Claire and illustrated by Qin Leng. Watch for details about the award presentation once the date and time are set.



Greccio

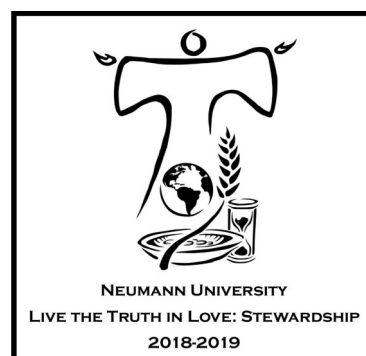
St. Francis of Assisi was the first to commemorate the birth of Jesus with a live Nativity. Please join us as we commemorate this beautiful tradition on Sunday evening, December 2, 2018 at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Mirinda Center for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development. Sunday evening Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Chapel.



NIFS Five-Year Review

This year the Neumann Institute for Franciscan Studies will participate in the required Institutional Effectiveness Office Assessment. This assessment will invite input on the effectiveness of the NIFS in strengthening our Catholic Franciscan tradition and values.

Please reflect on how NIFS might better serve your needs and be prepared to share your input!

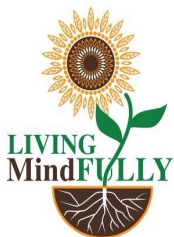


Franciscan Spiritual Center Programs

(contact NIFS for information on funding)

Living Mindfully

presented by Susan Long
Wednesday, September 19, 2018
10 AM – 3PM



Foundation of the Qur'an:

Sacred Texts in Sublime Places
presented by Michael Calabria OFM
Friday, September 28 –
Saturday, September 29



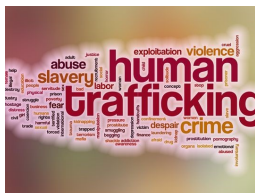
The Sultan and the Saint - view the movie



facilitated by
Sr. Pat Hutchison OSF
Tuesday, October 2, 2018
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Annual Trafficking Symposium:

The Role of the Church in
Modern Day Slavery
Saturday morning,
November 10, 2018



Taize Prayer – Advent

Thursday, December 6, 2018
7-8 PM

Celtic Spirituality

presented by Carmel Boyle
Monday, March 11, 2019
6:30 PM



Lenten Day of Prayer:

“The Wounded Healer”
presented by Sr. Clare D’Auria OSF
Wednesday, March 27, 2019
10AM – 3 PM

Eco-Spirituality in Nature:

A Contemplative Walk
led by Sr. Julia Keegan OSF
Wednesday, May 1, 2019
10AM – 3 PM



2018-2019 NIFS Committee

Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, Chair
Jenelle Abnett
Lisa Bjorkelo
Gail Corso
Richard Cunningham
Lee DelleMonache
Tammy Feil
Claudia Kovach
Jackie Martin
Janet Massey
Sr. Suzanne Mayer, IHM
Sophia Park
Anne Ramirez
Sr. Linda Sariego, OSF
Rev. Stephen Thorne
Sr. Diane Tomkinson, OSF

Sr. Marguerite O’Beirne, OSF, ex officio
Sr. Mary Ann McCarthy, OSF,
Administrative Assistant