

### **Music Minister Begins to Build Duke Catholic Center Choir**



The Duke Catholic Choir during 11am Mass, led by Andrew

Getting a head start to any plan is important. Here at the Duke Catholic Center, we have recently completed the first of our Strategic Plan priorities: Hiring a Music Director to facilitate a music ministry of excellence. The Duke Catholic Center is pleased to announce the addition of Andrew Witchger, the new Music Director and the latest addition to the Duke Catholic Center team!

The impact on the liturgy has been substantial. Senior Hillary Walker said, "Andrew has brought a lot of energy, talent and innovation to the music program. The positive change was obvious from the first mass I went to that he directed."

Andrew has worked in Catholic liturgical music for over 25 years. After spending ten years on the road touring the country with his family's Irish band, "Shae Laurel," Andrew joins us at the Duke Catholic Center to take the music ministry at the Duke Catholic Center to the next level.

"It is my hope to grow the Music Ministry and have a large choir and orchestra that can reach beyond the bounds

of Duke University, not only pointing to God, the source of life, but also rekindling the Holy Spirit on campus in our lives

and Church," said Andrew. "At this point in the life of young Catholics, it is most important that we give our best to those who will go out and help shape our Church and world."

Since Andrew arrived at the beginning of January, participation in the music ministry has surged. Previously, the Mass choir consists of choir members, a pianist and the occasional instrumentalist. Last Sunday there were 4 singers, 2 violins, 1 viola, 1 bass, 1 flute, 1 clarinet, and a piano.

Andrew rehearses with Danielle Kubicki, '15, on the concert bells



## Have a gently used musical instrument sitting in your attic?

We would love to put it to use if if you would be willing to donate and ship it to us. Students who can play, but their instruments are at home, would love the opportunity. Any musical instrument would be appreciated. Just let us know!

-St. Augustine



# He who sings prays twice

ne of the regrets of my life is never learning to play a musical instrument. I have always wanted to play the trumpet (my Dad played a bugle), but musical instrument lessons were not in the cards for me as a kid growing up, and much as I may day dream otherwise, I don' see them on the horizon either. And yet I have loved singing my whole life and have long respected those who have a gift for music. Music is transformational for so many on so many different levels. Who doesn't like some form of music?

Liturgical music is a unique brand in the midst of the world of song. It evokes so much that it seems hard to imagine that it would not play a substantial role in the spiritual life. In surveys of those who consider attending Sunday worship, people generally indicate three things they are looking for: A Welcoming Environment, Good Preaching, and Good Music (we would hope they are also looking for the Good Lord as well!!!). Reflecting on the role of music in liturgy, then Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger noted the importance of music when he stated "Mere words do not suffice when man praises God." Who can argue with that?

The Duke Catholic Center has been blessed for years with talented students who have organized

and lead our liturgical music. And vet, as our ministry has grown we have realized the need to have a professional to lead and help our students'



music ministry to flourish in the same way as most parishes. Having Andrew Witchger to join our staff as our Director of Music has been a blessing that has borne fruit since his first Sunday with us and we are excited for the future. May our singing, our doubled prayers as Augustine says, give God glory as we continue to offer thanks for the many blessings of our ministry here at Duke. Thanks most importantly to all of you for your support that has enabled this ministry to grow.

> Fr. Michael T. Martin, OFM Conv, Director 919.684.1882 fr.mike@duke.edu Follow me on Twitter @TheDukePriest

# **Mid-Year Report by the Numbers**

\*over same period in 2011-2012 Academic Year

### Average attendance at...

2

Sunday Mass	
Daily Mass	
Holy Hour	
Tuesday Night Dinner	
Catholicism and Coffee	
Awakening Retreat	67
5 Small Groups	

**DUKE**CatholicCenter

Freat Gear Ahead

Accomplished Duke Students Set to Lead Catholic Center in 2013

In December, Duke Catholic staff chose the new Students Directors to lead in 2013. In the new Student Director class, we have a mechanical engineer that has built an internet café in Togo, a junior who is one of seven brothers, a Duke Resident Assistant, a Chapel Scholar, and a Duke pediatric ward volunteer. Among their many accomplishments and wide range of interests, they have one thing in common: Their desire to lead the Duke Catholic Center and further develop the faith-filled, Christcentered community at Duke. The new student directors are: Connor Cotton, Joe Yetter, Kelly Schuering, Melina Lopez, Joe Yetter, and Natalie Ferguson.



## Lenten Advertising

The Duke Catholic Center is starting this year's Lenten season with the theme "Commit" to remind students on campus to commit to their faith during this special time of the year. We've advertised the Commit theme in the Sunday bulletin, trendy wristbands, and on our website.

We've also placed this 5' by 7' banner outside of the Bryan Center where it will be seen by thousands of students who walk through the building to find a place to study, get to class, or have a meal.





# Help Us Teach the Faith

Every year we hear students who say, "I wish I could learn more about my faith." We are excited about an excellent Catechism for Youth titled, "YOUCAT." YOUCAT is an accessible, contemporary expression of the Catholic Faith. The appealing graphic format includes Questions-and-Answers, highly-readable commentary, summary definitions of key terms, Bible citations and inspiring and thought-provoking quotes from Saints and others in the margins. We would like to purchase 20 copies to give to inquiring students. Total cost is \$400.

If you would like to help subsidize this project, please contact Michelle Barreto at michelle.barreto@duke.edu

### PEER-TO-PEER RCIA

In an effort to provide a flexible, customizable RCIA program, the Duke Catholic Center has trained catechists' to lead one-on-one RCIA programs this year. So far, it has been a huge success. The program trains student to become catechists allowing them to become proficient in their own Catholic faith and become faith leaders in the church. It also allows more students interested in RCIA to participate because of the increased flexibility in meeting time. The RCIA participants receive catechesis that meets them where they are in their own faith journey. This year, there are over fifteen enrolled in the RCIA program! We ask for your prayers as these students and community members discern their faith.

Look for us online!



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Mass Schedule

SUNDAY MASS 11am, Goodson Chapel (Divinity School) 9pm, Duke Chapel

#### DAILY MASS

MON: 12pm, Duke Memorial Chapel

TUES: 5:45pm, Falcone-Arena House

WED: 5:15pm, Goodson Chapel (Divinity School)

THURS: 11:30am, Yoh Football Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Team Meeting Room