

Brown-RISD Catholic Chaplaincy

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MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 10:30 am and 8:30 pm
Call (401) 863-2344 to confirm

BROWN-RISD CATHOLIC MINISTRY

Mission & Purpose

The Brown-RISD Catholic Chaplaincy provides opportunities for the students, staff, faculty and alumni/ae of Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design to celebrate their faith. Our goal is to help others deepen their spiritual lives within the context of community. Through worship, education and community outreach, we hope to enable the members of this community to bring their faith to bear on their pursuits within the Brown and RISD communities and beyond.

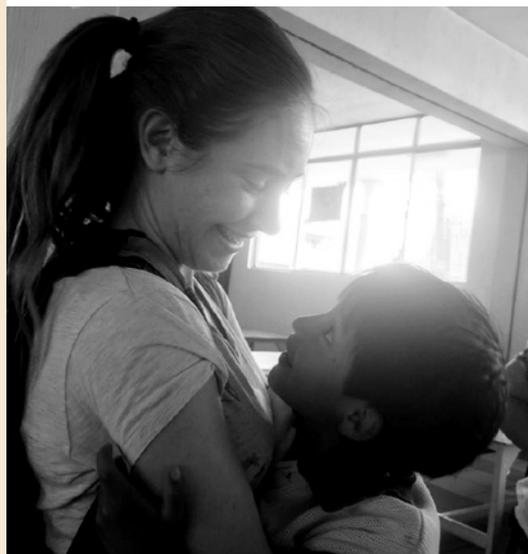
How to give to BRCC

The Brown-RISD Catholic Community (BRCC) encourages major gifts to Brown University. Did you know that all or part of these can be earmarked for the Roman Catholic endowment? While this does not aid the Becket Association's fundraising to provide a campus minister, we do depend on the interest from this endowment to fund more than half of the student programming in the Brown-RISD Catholic Community.

EXPERIENCING THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

■ BY JEANELLE WHEELER, BROWN '18

IT'S EASY TO GET SO USED TO DOING SOMETHING that you do it automatically without truly experiencing it. I can brush my teeth, comb my hair, and tie my shoes without even thinking about it! And just as it is easy to go through the motions while doing an everyday routine, it easy to “go through the motions” of being a Catholic.



The author at The Working Boys Center in Quito.

Going to Mass, for example, can become so routine that I don't fully experience it. This summer, however, through programs sponsored by Brown University, I had the opportunity to travel to Ecuador and Germany and experience being a Catholic in other cultures.

In Ecuador, for instance, I joined a group of other Brown students to visit the Working Boys Center in Quito, Ecuador. This Jesuit-run center works to educate entire families of Ecuadorians not only in the traditional school subjects, but also in a variety of trade skills so, that upon graduation, they can enter the workforce.

By working to make people's lives better, the center is a stellar example of living out the Catholic works of mercy by compassionately ministering to the community's needs. The school's Catholic identity is present everywhere. For example, “Padre,” one of the original founders of the center, celebrates Mass with the children every day in a packed school auditorium. As evidence of the greater Quito community's vibrant faith, it was easy to find statues of Mary in people's homes. Also, large signs announcing the arrival of Pope Francis' recent visit there were very prominent throughout the city. During my short visit to Ecuador, it was clear that being Catholic is not only part of one's personal identity, but also of one's cultural identity.

My visit to Germany, on the other hand, was a much longer trip, for I was there to teach at a month-long summer school in a small village called Wust near Berlin. I taught

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THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

continued from page one

English to various age groups while also both directing the music and playing the clarinet for the school's production of "West Side Story." Before I arrived in Wust, I also stayed for several weeks with my relatives who live in Frankfurt, Germany. In both places, I was eager to experience the Catholic communities. Wust, a very small town, has only one Protestant church, but it only has one service a year! However, I was able to go to Mass each week at the nearby village of Tangermünde. (I also helped an organist give a concert there!)

While in the city of Frankfurt with its many large, beautiful churches, I went to Mass each week. Unlike my experience in Ecuador, being "Catholic" or Christian did not seem to be embedded in the day-to-day experience of people's cultural identity. While the historical church structures are supported by the government, the worshipping communities are small and made up largely of older people. At Mass, I did not see many young

people in the pews... that is if you don't count the swarms of tourists peaking in from the back of the church to view some of the incredible religious art. I got the sense that the churches are treated more like art museums than worship spaces for the typical German and tourist. In other words, although I felt the historical presence of Catholicism in Germany, I did not feel it as being a prominent part of one's daily life as it was in Ecuador.

During my travels, I experienced how rich it is to be part of the Catholic international community. No matter where I went, and however much of an outsider I may have been, I could walk into a Catholic church and feel perfectly at home. Although the Mass was the same in format and structure everywhere, it was uniquely celebrated, revealing the richness of the local community's own cultural identity. By worshipping this summer in so many different places, I felt a deeper connection to the people of the local communities I visited and experienced myself as part of the diverse Catholic community around the world. And instead of merely "going through the motions," my experience of the Mass came alive again.

ANNUAL BECKET LECTURE: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015

Lemâitre, Teilhard, and Laudato Si': Science and Faith in Confrontation and Collaboration

DR. JONATHAN I. LUNINE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

The 2015 Annual Catholic Lecture will be delivered by Dr. Jonathan I. Lunine. Dr. Lunine is the David C. Duncan Professor in the Physical Sciences at Cornell University as well as the Director of the Cornell Center for Astrophysics and Planetary Science.

His work is on the forefront of research into planet formation, evolution, and habitability and includes analysis of brown dwarfs, gas giants, and planetary satellites. Dr. Lunine is the David Baltimore Distinguished Visiting Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, an interdisciplinary scientist on the Cassini mission to Saturn and on the James Webb Space Telescope as well as co-investigator on the Juno mission launched to Jupiter in 2011. In 2015 he was awarded the Jean Dominique Cassini medal of the European Geosciences Union. Dr. Lunine earned a B.S. in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Rochester in 1980 and a M.S. (1983) and Ph.D. (1985) in Planetary Science from the California Institute of Technology.



As a convert to Catholicism, Dr. Lunine maintains footholds in both the theological and scientific worlds. He is an active parishioner and speaker at churches and on college campuses and has worked at the Vatican Observatory and in conjunction with the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in Rome.

Dr. Lunine's lecture is entitled "Lemâitre, Teilhard, and Laudato Si': Science and Faith in Confrontation and Collaboration" and will explain why Pope Francis' latest encyclical is such a profound document and how it motivates us to think about the relationship between science and faith, using two priest-scientists as examples of different approaches to this issue. The lecture is Wednesday, December 2 at 5:00 p.m. in Petteruti Lounge, Stephen Roberts Campus Center on the Main Green of Brown University. This is a free event and open to the public. This annual lecture is generously funded by the contributions of alumni, parents, and friends of Thomas Becket Association.

Dr. Lunine's biography is courtesy of Wikipedia, Cornell University, and Dr. Jonathan Lunine. Photo is courtesy Dr. Jonathan Lunine.

DOWN THE HILL

■ BY TYLER MILLS, RISD '16

The RISD ministry is a unique part of the BRCC. Our mission is to bring the BRCC down the hill. We organize a once a month Mass on the RISD campus and fun events such as a Pancake Breakfast and Bubble Tea Social. Since we are the smaller school, the ministry gives a chance for other RISD Catholics to meet each other. We are a tight-knit community of artists and designers living out the Catholic faith. The goal is to bring the two schools closer together and engage them through faith and fellowship.

RISD and the BRCC have been a complete blessing to my development as an artist and my growth in the Catholic faith. The school demands an enormous amount of effort in the studio and requires a lot of stamina and agility to keep up and adapt to the campus. That pressure yields a great work ethic and dedication within the students, which personally has meant a great benefit in studio and in my life. I knew going to RISD would challenge me and keep me up into the hours of the night when no one really should be awake. But I didn't realize that half my education and experiences would be from clubs outside of the classroom particularly the BRCC. We are more than the classes we take. We have identities. The intersection of RISD and the BRCC has allowed me to explore the faith in a unique way combining my work with my life whether that is through a performance, a painting or a piece of architecture. The RISD ministry strives to create a space where those discussions and intersections exist.

I enjoyed being the RISD representative for many reasons. Firstly, serving the community has always been a manner for engagement. And byproducts of that engagement were new friends and enrichment of my time at school. A part of being the RISD rep is stationing the BRCC table at the RISD Block Party at the beginning of the year. This is really the only time on campus for clubs to promote themselves. I have a great time dancing, yelling at people, and hugging friends, welcoming the new school year. However, my favorite moments aren't the smiles but the perplexed stares and uncomfortable expressions some students get when they see a banner that reads: Catholic Community. Friends, after I hug them, will say, "OH... I didn't know you were Catholic." I respond jokingly, "Yeah! I just converted today. My hair is still wet from the baptism this morning." (My hair is wet because it's seriously hot outside and I sweat like a Catholic middle school boy going to confession in his itchy uniform.) I love these interactions because I am able to break people's misconceptions and start a dialogue about Catholicism and what it means to be Catholic. Representation is everything at art school and having an authentic understanding about groups of people is key for those whose job is to depict visually in the mediums the world consumes. What I try to do with the BRCC on campus is bring a unique presence on campus to add to the diversity at RISD.



The author presents a gag gift to RISD senior Ryan Murphy at the annual BRCC Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

BECKET ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Please mark your calendars for the **Annual Meeting of the Thomas Becket Association** on **Sunday, October 4, 2015** at 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Chaplains' Meeting Room, #411 in the J. Walter Wilson building on the corner of Waterman and Brown Streets. This meeting is open to all members of the Thomas Becket Association, which includes all donors and recipients of this newsletter. *Please call us at (401) 863-3314 or email catholic@brown.edu if you plan to attend.*

THANK YOU FR. AUGUSTINE AND FR. NIC FOR YOUR MINISTRY IN THE 2014–15 SCHOOL YEAR



As my year as one of the Catholic chaplains at Brown University comes to a close, I am grateful to God for the many moments of grace that I experienced in service of the students, staff, and faculty of the university.

I will especially remember the *ad hoc* Holy Week services we had moving from one location to another because Manning Chapel had been declared structurally unsound and in need of repairs. Each location whether it was Sayles Hall on Brown's campus, the Taproom at RISD, or St. Joseph's Parish on the East Side, revealed the incredible diversity of the Catholic Church. And yet the holy mass was the same in each place displaying the unity within that diversity, as we worshiped the one true God, Father, Son, and Spirit, together. These liturgies were beautiful because of the collaborative work of the members of the BRCC. I have never worked out of a temporary mobile sacristy — Angie's car — but it was an amazing success! God is flexible.

In the end, it was the relationships I was privileged to share at the BRCC that I will treasure the most, relationships that were formed at get-togethers, RCIA meetings, holy hours, and meals at the Ratty. They taught me about God's mercy and His love.

Fr. Nicanor Pier Giorgio Austriaco, O.P.

One of the many blessings of this past year for me was the privilege of serving the Brown-RISD Catholic Community as one of its interim chaplains. God, or at least my Dominican provincial, or perhaps even both, might have thought that my fulltime teaching and scholarly responsibilities at Providence College could be coordinated quite well with this new ministry. Initially, looking at myself and at my two meager years as a priest, I thought this might be a stretch. God would have to provide and figure out how to work things out. But he's pretty good at that; he is *God* after all. As I soon came to realize, God provided for my shortcomings and lacks — lacks of experience, of time, and of much more — by stretching me.

It didn't feel so much like a strain or some medieval rack, but rather like a good kind of stretch, the kind an athlete does before and after practices, or a person does when she wakes up from an afternoon nap. I came to appreciate not only being stretched into a new campus environment, into a new ministry, into new activities; I also and more deeply appreciate being stretched into the lives of new friends in Christ and having them be stretched into mine. I think the exercise of stretching — of going a bit beyond the limits of our present flexibility — is not the worst way of connecting with others and realizing more and more those connections that already bind us together in the body and blood of Jesus.



What I have received in the course of this year and what I have hopefully helped to give others at the same time, is a whole collection of new connections and friends, and a whole treasure of memories with them. It will be quite some time before I forget our lovely Sunday Masses in Manning Chapel, our pastoral council meetings and our community activities and gatherings, our retreats, our "Meet the Priests" events on the green, and so much more. I remember one of the moments that really moved me was the generosity of the twenty or so Good Samaritan students who after one Sunday evening Mass in snowy winter trooped down College Hill to help push out my car that had gotten intractably stuck on the way up. That snowy night, we were like a band on parade. With my friends, my sorrow had turned into our joy. And this was just one instance of the generosity and stretching that our students and community members have shown and continue to show one another.

When I see such concrete charity at work in my friends and in the construction of our common life together, not only am I edified, but also I am very much encouraged to continue stretching myself and being stretched by both God and neighbor. I am grateful for all the stretching and connecting that God has done for us this year in the BRCC and excited for what is still to come.

Blessings,

Fr. Augustine Reisenauer, O.P.

THE BRCC WELCOMES FATHER ALBERT DUGGAN

A LETTER FROM THE NEW CHAPLAIN

Nothing escapes God's providence.

Sixteen years ago, a young man from Michigan intent on a career in medicine matriculated at Brown University. Eight years ago, he entered religious life as a novice in the Dominican Order. This year, he returns to College Hill as the new chaplain for the Brown-RISD Catholic Community.

As I settle once again in Providence, I remind myself that God foresaw all of this, even if no one else would have imagined it!

For the past two years, I worked as the Catholic chaplain at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. As a Brown alumnus, I was honored to be appointed by Bishop Tobin as the new chaplain for the BRCC. Picking up stakes and transitioning to ministry in a lively university setting promises to be both a challenge and an opportunity.

I begin this new assignment mindful and very grateful for the work of my priestly predecessors. My Dominican confereres, Frs. Nicanor Austriaco and Augustine Reisenauer, O.P. served the community on an interim basis for the past year. And still very palpable is the influence of Fr. Henry Bodah, whose seventeen years as chaplain spanned my own undergraduate days. Indeed, Fr. Bodah was instrumental in my discerning a vocation to the priesthood and to the Dominican Order.

In the brief time I've had to settle in here in Providence, it's become patently clear how much the Brown-RISD Catholic Community depends on the devoted work of a lay campus minister. In the midst of so many transitions over the past year and a half, Angie Howard-McParland has been an invaluable locus of continuity for our community. As this summer winds down and we enter upon the new academic year, I have been relieved to find that so many details have already been attended to by her! Because Angie's salary is funded entirely by the support of the Becket Association, it is my hope that, with generous contributions from alumni, parents, and other friends of our community, we can keep the campus minister's position on solid footing for years to come.

The fine academic preparation I received on College Hill notwithstanding, my involvement in the Brown-RISD Catholic Community stands out among the fondest memories of my time at Brown. It is here that I began to appreciate the profound interconnectedness of faith and reason in pursuit of the truth. The BRCC doubtless helped to set me on the course I'm now traveling. It is my hope that, with God's grace it will continue to be a spiritual home for the students at RISD and Brown.

Keep us in your prayers!

Fr. Albert Duggan, O.P. (Brown, '03)



It is here that I began to appreciate *the profound interconnectedness of faith and reason* in pursuit of the truth.

BrRiOswdN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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is a private corporation made up of Catholic alumni/ae and other supporters whose mission is to provide funding for the Catholic ministry at Brown and RISD. Contributions to the annual fund are crucial as they are the only source of support for important ministry resources including: the campus minister's position; a series of lectures by Catholic intellectuals; Becket operational costs; and material needs not covered by the chaplaincy's programming budget.

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Many, many thanks to all who donate to the Thomas Becket Association. You make it possible for us to continue the Catholic presence at Brown and RISD. Without your help there would be no Catholic campus minister here for our young people.

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The entire campus joined together for a vigil following student tragedies in March.

This list includes donations received from August 2014 through July 2015. We apologize for any omissions. Please contact us with any corrections.

EVENTS IN THE BRCC COMMUNITY...



Julia Romanski '16, Jeannie Le '16, and Lauren Galvan '16 attended a Mardi Gras-themed dinner the night before Ash Wednesday. This annual tradition features dishes prepared by student leaders and staff and an open invitation is issued to all for fellowship.



Brandon Dale '17 and other students attended a Valentine's Day dance at Tockwotton Assisted Living Facility in East Providence, where BRCC members regularly serve and visit with residents.



The first annual BRCC Summer Book Club provided a weekly gathering for students in Providence to read and discuss a faith-based text with peers. Our selection for this summer was *Not Less than Everything: Catholic Writers on Heroes of Conscience from Joan of Arc to Oscar Romero*.



This spring, we ventured to the Agape Community for our second semester retreat. Agape is an intentional Catholic lay community focused on sustainability, nonviolence, and social justice in a life of faith and prayer and is located in Hardwick, Massachusetts.



With Manning Chapel under emergency construction, Holy Week was a bit of a scramble this year, but we uncovered some blessings in the form of new space. A classroom in Sayles Hall (left) was transformed into a peaceful altar of repose for the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday. All were invited to spend time in adoration until midnight. Over 400 people attended Easter Mass in Sayles Hall this year (right). We wouldn't have fit into Manning if we tried!



The Pastoral Council enjoyed an amazing opportunity of having lunch with renowned theologian and Dominican, Gustavo Gutierrez. Gutierrez is widely considered the founding father of liberation theology and was accepting an honorary degree from Providence College.