

Sun & Balance

THE RENSSELAER NEWMAN FOUNDATION

VOL 53, NO. 1 — SPRING 2018

Dear Alums, Family and Friends:

This issue of our Sun & Balance is filled with some very exciting news! As many of you know, this year we are celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the C+CC. We have had some wonderful programs covering a range of topics...religion in Star Wars and Harry Potter, health care and business ethics, concerts by various student singing groups, and a special program by The Sage Singers at Christmas. All these events have seen a renewal of old friendships and numbers of new friends who have never been in our building. This spring we continued with our traditional Lenten Speaker Series. April begins with a burst of special events highlighted by Fred's Café - 50 years in the making. We are celebrating our significant milestone well~!~

I'd like to share something very special that happened as a result of our anniversary. Two generous friends came to us with an opportunity that continues to uplift us all. A challenge grant was placed on the table for us. We have been offered \$200,000 if we can raise this amount outside the normal gifts given to support the C+CC and its ministry here at RPI. When this offer was made, it truly overwhelmed us with gratitude for their kindness and generosity. Since then, we have already raised \$100,000 toward the goal of making the match and now I am asking you to help us raise the remaining \$100,000. This request is over and beyond your usual generosity and we are aware that this extra push may be a serious stretch. Please consider something a little special this year for us designated for the challenge.



Now, what's the money going to be used for? We need to refurbish the organ completely. To do this properly, it will cost approximately \$75,000. We have had appropriate professionals evaluating the instrument and proposals will be coming forth soon. In addition, money will be set aside and designated for our music ministry. This is an all encompassing area including the sound system, programs, and a variety of "incidentals" that arise from time to time but enhance our efforts.

This is a memorable year in the life of the C+CC. This challenge grant made it even more so. I hope you can assist us in this extraordinary moment.

Our Lenten Speaker Series this year entitled "Sacred Spaces and Sacred Places" was challenging and inspirational. We are so grateful for each of the speakers who came to celebrate our 50th Anniversary and help broaden our minds and deepen our faith.

I cannot begin to thank you on behalf of all those whose lives we have been able to touch because of your generosity of time, talent and treasure. You are in our thoughts and prayers daily here at the C+CC and will continue to be so. We pray that you have had a prayerful and spirit-filled Lent and may the joys of Easter be part of your daily experience.

Sincerely and In the Lord,

Father Ed Kacergus
Chaplain and Pastor





Restoration continues on our 50 year old building

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop on amazon? Next time you shop, support The Rensselaer Newman Foundation by starting at smile.amazon.com. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the total price of your purchase to the RNF.

Listen to our Lenten Wednesday Speaker Series on [Youtube.com/ChapelCulturalCenter](https://www.youtube.com/ChapelCulturalCenter)

This year we have expanded to a new platform and launched a new channel on YouTube. Please visit and follow us on there. Check out the 2018 speakers... Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS (*Artist*), Brother Guy Consolmagno, SJ (*Director of the Vatican Observatory*), Michele Saracino (*Professor of Religious Studies*), Sister Chris Partisano, CSJ (*Spiritual Director*), and John Waite, FAIA (*Architect, John Waite Associates*).

Talks recorded from previous years of the Lenten Speaker Series, as well as videos from events are coming soon.



Upcoming Events

April 4	Peace Crane Project	10:00am
April 6	RPI Chamber Ensembles Concert	7:00pm
April 7	RPI Concert Choir Concert	2:00pm
April 13	Rensselyrics Invitational	8:00pm
April 21	Albany Pro Musica Concert	8:00pm
April 27	Fred's Italian Cafe	6:00pm
April 28	Sage Singers Concert	7:00pm
May 4	Rensselaer Club Spring Concert	5:00pm
May 11	Samaritan Child Care Art show	11:30am
June 7	Capital Pride Singers Concert	7:00pm

Please check our website for more information about upcoming events. All are welcome.

The Phelan Wiberley Society

The Phelan-Wiberley Society is a community who shares the vision of our early leaders, Fr. Thomas Phelan and Steve & Betty Wiberley. It consists of alumni, parishioners, friends, faculty and staff who support the vision of The Rensselaer Newman Foundation by including the Foundation in their long-term financial and estate plans. Members of the Society belong to a select group of individuals who have chosen to extend their legacies while furthering the work of the Foundation.

If you would like to share your name and intentions with us or learn more about the Phelan-Wiberley Society, please contact Diane Waters at waterd3@rpi.edu or (518) 276-6517.

50th Anniversary Special Events

Our calendar is full of events and it truly will be an opportunity for all to celebrate. There will be a variety of events including several performances by RPI students including the Concert Choir, Chamber Ensembles, and Acapella groups.



We have the Sage Singers, directed by Michael Musial, with us on 28 April presenting "The Requiem of John Rutter (b. 1945)."

On 27 April, we present Fred's Café – 50 years in the making! The C+CC will be transformed into an Italian Café featuring the finest of all the Kacergiano fixings.

Albany Pro Musica will join us in celebration and perform with a chorus of over 40 members. They will present, "Let's Talk About Love", choral music that touches the heart on 21 April. Tickets will be available at the C+CC office and link on our website.

Please consider joining us in the festivities as we commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the C+CC. For more time and date details please see the upcoming events section!



Ash Wednesday Midnight Mass with Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D.



\$200,000 Challenge
in honor of the



of the
C+CC: IT'S UP TO US

If we said your donation to RNF would be worth twice the amount you actually gave, would you consider making a pledge today?

Make your gift count twice.

Recently RNF was presented with a Challenge by a close friend of ours. Our friend will match each increased or new donation to RNF dollar for dollar for a total amount of \$150,000. Then, another close friend stepped forward being so motivated by the first friend. The second friend added \$50,000 to the Challenge—bringing the overall amount to \$200,000. We now have the potential to raise a total of \$400,000 from this extraordinary combined Challenge.

We Are Off & Running

This incredible effort kicked off in late October at our Board of Trustees meeting and *Committee of One Hundred* event. We are pleased to announce we have gotten out of the gate quickly led by 100% Staff and Board participation and have raised \$100,000 already.

Will you help us reach \$200,000?

How Will RNF Use the Money Raised?

On a weekly basis, we host many events and music programs and we have an opportunity to do so much more but are limited by the resources available. The money raised will be used to assist in our music ministry. Additionally, we have some other one-time projects to address. This includes refurbishing our organ to restore its outstanding sound, and improving the audio system. We are very proud of our efforts as we fulfill the Scriptures' statement, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord" (Ps. 98). Your help will continue this great tradition.

Will you help us enhance our music ministry?

Recognizing that RNF is experiencing program growth and corresponding expenses, our generous challengers believe our community will consider increasing their annual giving to RNF to help us to thrive and be that special place for the RPI community and the parishioners of Christ Sun of Justice. They are motivating each one of us to consider giving more. Again, each gift in response to this Challenge will be matched by our challengers dollar for dollar. To qualify, the gifts must be above what we do annually in response to requests like Mass collections, board giving, or the Sun & Balance. Thank you for considering this special request.



\$200,000 Challenge
in honor of the



C+CC: IT'S UP TO US

Cut off the form below and use the envelope provided when showing your support.

**\$200,000 Challenge in honor of the 50th Anniversary
of the C+CC: IT'S UP TO US**

I (we) are pleased to pledge a total of \$ _____ to this Challenge.

I(we) will fulfill this over: 1 year 2 years

Pledge payments will be made: semi-annually annually beginning _____ / _____
month year

Please make check payable to the Rensselaer Newman Foundation and place "50th Anniversary" in the memo line.

This gift will be matched by my employer: _____

If your gift will be matched by your employer or if you wish credit for annual or lifetime giving to RPI, please make your check payable to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and place "C+CC 50th Anniversary" in memo line and designate RPI as the recipient on the matching gift form.

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone (indicate home, business, cell) _____

Please initial here if you wish your donation to be anonymous _____

The Rensselaer Newman Foundation

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Please visit our website or follow us
on Facebook to view a full list of
upcoming events.

Musical Updates



New Boston Grand Piano



**Proposal Sketch
for Organ**

The C+CC now has a brand new Boston performance grade piano made by Steinway & Sons. A high-quality concert grand serves to increase the quality of performances and music liturgy. Also, we are amidst planning a complete restoration on the circa 1870 George N. Andrews Organ. This organ was rebuilt for The Rensselaer Newman Foundation back in 1968 by the Chase Organ Company. Through sound and music we hope to enhance all of the events at the C+CC with a deeper more gratifying experience.

