

Campus Ministry and Service Learning NEWSLETTER

"We know truth, not only by the reason, but also by the heart." - *Blaise Pascal*

"Let us consider the way in which we spend our lives." - *Henry David Thoreau*

April 2026 Edition

Spring Mass Schedule

Upcoming Events

April Religious Holidays

For Reflection

Service Spotlight - ASB

Other Campus Events

Spring 2026 Mass Schedule

Remaining Masses on campus:

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 15 2 p.m.

Mass of Thanksgiving for 2026 graduates



For Reflection

"If rivers come out of their icy prison thus bright and immortal, shall not I too resume my spring life with joy and hope?"

— *Henry David Thoreau, Journal, 29 February 1852*

"I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours."

— *Henry David Thoreau, Walden*

"A man does best when he is most himself."
— *Henry David Thoreau, Journal, 21 January 1852*

- When and where do you feel most like yourself?
- What brings you joy? What sustains your hope?
- What dream(s) do you want to pursue?
- What holds you back from living the life you've imagined?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rosary Group | Mondays | 1:00 p.m.

Resurrection Chapel

Join this student-led group in praying the Rosary on Mondays in Resurrection Chapel! Don't worry if you're not familiar with this prayer - rosaries and "how-to" sheets are available.

Service Fair | April 6 | 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Dion Center Lobby

Stop by the Dion Lobby to meet some of our community partners, hear about how they serve those in need, and learn how to get involved! This is a great opportunity for students who have not taken SERV100 yet to start thinking about where they want to serve!

Faith Feeds | April 15 | 5:30 p.m.

SGA Conference Room

Gather for dinner and a discussion about caring for God's creation - a theme of Catholic Social Teaching! We'll discuss the theme itself, organizations that do this work, and ways that each of us can practice this theme in our day to day lives.

Historical Forgiveness | April 21 | 12:30 p.m.

Dion Boardroom

in collaboration with the Office of Community & Connections

This gathering invites our community into a guided, thoughtful, and courageous conversation about historical wrongdoing, collective memory, and the path toward repair - both within society and Catholic spaces.

Lunch and Learn | April 22 | 12:15 p.m.

Dion Boardroom

Gather for lunch and a discussion about sustaining your spiritual life over the summer! What spiritual practices are working for you and how can you continue them? What practices might you like to add to your life? What resources are there to help you grow spiritually when you're not at Riv?

Have an idea for a program? Let us know!

Email campusministry@rivier.edu with your idea or request!

CONNECT WITH US!

We're here for you and are happy to support your journey of finding meaning and purpose in your life!

Dion Center: Room 203
campusministry@rivier.edu



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Fr. John Bucchino

University Chaplain
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Stop by the office or email us to set up a time to chat!

Shining the Spotlight on Service

Alternative Spring Break 2026

Alternative Spring Break (ASB) is Rivier's annual week-long service trip. The program includes 4-6 "predeparture meetings" during which participants learn about the community they will serve and the social justice issues faced by the community, nightly reflection throughout the week of service, exploration of the area, and an unpacking session once the group returns.

This year, our group (comprised of ten students and two staff members) travelled to Phoenix, Arizona to serve at the Phoenix Rescue Mission's food bank, St. Mary's Food Bank, and the Andre House of Hospitality. We learned about food insecurity and housing insecurity in Phoenix and how all three organizations work to address the immediate needs of the community. It was interesting to note the similarities and differences between the organizations! We really enjoyed getting to know the staff and other volunteers, too!

At the end of the week, we visited the Chapel of the Holy Cross in Sedona and the Grand Canyon! Both provided an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of the environment and to get in touch with our spirituality, whether through attending Mass, spending time in nature, or both!



Upcoming Service Opportunity - NSKS Annual Walk/Run

The Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter is looking for volunteers to help with their annual walk/run fundraiser! There are different tasks to assist with and different time slots available. Please reach out to Hayley Sutherland (hsutherland@rivier.edu) for more details and to sign up!

When: Sunday, April 12th (volunteer time slots vary between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm)

Where: Rivier's Campus (volunteers will check in at Muldoon)

Who: Anyone can volunteer! No athletic skills necessary!

APRIL RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

PASSOVER (JEWISH)

April 1-9, 2026

Passover, one of the most widely celebrated holidays in the Jewish calendar commemorates the exodus from Egypt, the journey toward redemption, and our personal paths as we move toward freedom. Typical celebrations include gathering for the Passover Seder (an organized meal), retelling the story of the exodus, and for some refraining from activities/work on the first two and last two days of Passover.

HOLY THURSDAY (CHRISTIAN)*

April 2, 2026

Holy Thursday begins the Easter Triduum—the three days leading up to Jesus' Resurrection. Its formal name is Mass of the Lord's Supper, which was the first celebration of the Eucharist. A notable part of the Holy Thursday service is the washing of the feet, in which the priest washes the feet of 12 parishioners. Jesus did this to demonstrate to his disciples how they are to serve others through selfless love.

GOOD FRIDAY (CHRISTIAN)*

April 3, 2026

Good Friday is the only day in the entire year in which no Mass is celebrated. During the service on Good Friday, the Passion is read and the Eucharist (consecrated on Thursday because this service is not a full Mass) is distributed. Veneration of the Cross and solemn intercessions – a set of shared prayer intentions offered universally on this day—are other unique elements to the Good Friday service.

HOLY SATURDAY/EASTER SUNDAY (CHRISTIAN)*

April 4-5, 2026

The Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil, a unique liturgy and perhaps the most important liturgy of the year. The Easter Vigil ends the Triduum and begins Easter celebrations (which continues on Easter Sunday). During the Easter Vigil, a fire lights the Paschal candle, and the flame is shared throughout the church to individual handheld candles. The Liturgy of the Word, which includes up to nine readings during Easter, demonstrates the connection between the Old and New Testaments and how Jesus fulfilled Scripture and achieved salvation for all humanity. Any adult becoming Catholic through the OCIA process is baptized, confirmed, and receives their first communion at this Mass.

**These dates are for the Roman Catholic and Protestant celebrations. The Greek Orthodox Church has their own schedule, and Easter sometimes aligns with the Catholic/Protestant celebrations but not always.*

YOM HASHOAH (JEWISH) April 13-14, 2026

Yom HaShoah remembers and honors the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust as well as the heroism of survivors and rescuers. This annual day of remembrance serves as a reminder and a continued promise to never let such a tragedy ever happen again.

OTHER CAMPUS EVENTS/PROGRAMS



FACULTY SPEAKER SERIES
Presented by Regina Library
Sponsored by the Rivier University Alumni Association

Dr. Elizabeth Harwood

Presenting on: **Challenging Common Myths About Mental Illness**
Library, 4/6, 11 am - 12 pm



s e r v e s
SERVICE FAIR

Dion Lobby, 4/6, 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Dion Lobby, Tuesdays in April
11 am - 1 pm

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

RIPPLES OF PLASTIC

Dion Reception Room
4/7
6-7 pm

co-curricular

Dion Lobby & Parking Lot
4/14
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

SIP SIP SAFE-STAY SAFE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS DAY

Library, 4/16, 12:30-1:30 pm

SPRING into POETRY

WOMEN/AFAB PEOPLE & ADHD

Addressing gendered expectations & how those inform diagnosis, misdiagnosis, and mental health challenges

Dion Boardroom, 4/16, 12:30-1:30 pm

Pop the Hood: Car Maintenance Workshop
Dion Parking Lot, 4/16, 3:00-4:30 pm

Graduation Scaries: Dinner & Alumni Panel
Dion Reception Room, 4/16, 5:30-7:00 pm

Glow Casino Night
Dion Reception Room, 4/23, 7-11 pm

Spring Carnival
Outside Muldoon, 4/24, 4-7 pm

**There are so many events happening throughout the month!
Check Campus Groups for more details and to RSVP.**

