

Campus Ministry and Service Learning NEWSLETTER

"Some seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge: that is curiosity.
Others seek knowledge that they themselves be known: that is vanity.
But there are still others who seek knowledge in order to serve
and edify others, and that is charity."
— St. Bernard of Clairvaux

September 2026 Edition

Note from the Director

Upcoming Events

Spring Mass Schedule

For Reflection

March Religious Holidays

Other Campus Events

Note from the Director

Welcome back everyone! I hope you are having a great start to the semester. As you may have heard at the Blessing on the Academic Year, Campus Ministry's theme for the year is "building roots" - building a strong foundation and remaining rooted in the things that matter most. This will show up in the programming you see throughout the year.

Additionally, Fr. John and I want to plan programs and events based on what matters to **you**, what will help you grow in your faith, and what gives you a sense of meaning and purpose. **All students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to take the very brief survey using the QR code to the right.** This will help us know what type of programs are helpful and when best to host them. Thank you for helping us serve you better! - Emily

2026-2027 Survey

Please use the QR code below to access the short, anonymous survey. It includes 6 multiple choice questions and 5 *optional* short answer questions.

Your responses are very helpful to us as we plan programming and work to support the campus community!



Fall 2026 Mass Schedule

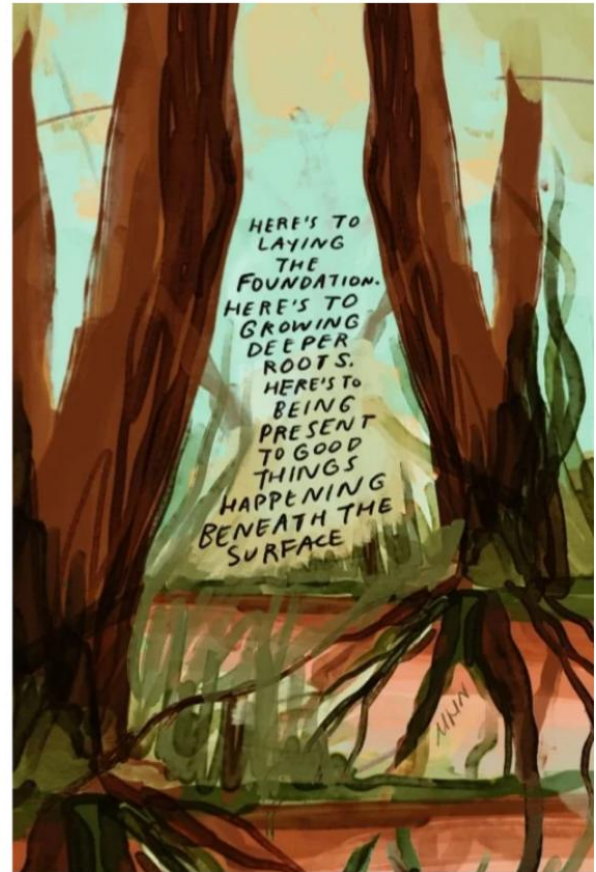
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	11 AM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 <i>Alumni Mass</i>	10 AM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18	12 PM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8	12 PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6	12 PM

Join us after Mass for a social with light refreshments!
If you need transportation to Mass on other Sundays,
please email edaversa@rivier.edu in advance.



For Reflection

Please enjoy this artwork and text by Morgan Harper Nichols! You can access this photo and the reflection that accompanies it at:
<https://www.thestorytellerco.com/blog/laying-the-groundwork>



S.E.R.V.E. Program Application!

Applications for this year's S.E.R.V.E. Program (formerly known as ASB) are live! We are pleased to be expanding the program this year to offer two trips - one during spring break and one during the second week of June. These experiences are opportunities for students to serve communities across the country, learn about social justice issues faced by those communities, and work alongside organizations who are addressing those concerns.

Students can access the info packet and application using the QR code to the right or stop by Dion 203 for a printed copy. Also, watch your email and instagram for the schedule of information tables being held around campus.



Seek justice
Engage in dialogue
Respect our neighbors
Value faith, vocation & purposeful living
Embrace growth

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/11 Film Viewing and Remembrance

Fri. 9/11, 1:00-1:45 pm in the Dion Reception Room

The Rivier community is invited to view a 30-minute film featuring first-person stories from the attacks and their aftermath. Following the film viewing, Fr. John Bucchino will lead a moment of silence and lead participants in prayer remembering the lives lost.

Yoga in the Garden | 9/11 | 2:00 p.m.

Join Emily in the Alumni Garden for some relaxing exercise! No experience needed; all are welcome! Yoga mats will be provided.

Foundations | Mondays | 1-2 p.m.

This new weekly program focuses on the basics of faith and helps participants put together the building blocks of their own faith life. Whether you want to explore faith and spirituality for the first time or grow more in your faith, this is a welcoming space for you! Basically a "religious ed class for young adults" - but way more fun!

Lunch and Learn | 9/15 | 12:15 p.m.

Join Emily and Fr. John for lunch and a discussion about the intersections of spirituality and daily life! This month's topic is "rooted in values" - what keeps you ground through life's ups and downs. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP on campus groups.

Other Programs | TBD

Watch Campus Groups and your email for information on these programs that are currently being planned:

Weekly Rosary led Kristin and Luke
Campus Ministry Club Meetings
Community Service with Major Drive led by Mia
Build Day with Habitat for Humanity
Fall Bible Study
Praise & Worship Night

Have an idea for a program? Let us know!

Email campusministry@rivier.edu with your idea or request and we'll try to make it happen.

CONNECT WITH US!

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

Shared email:

campusministry@rivier.edu
riverserves@rivier.edu



Emily Daversa

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Fr. John Bucchino

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

SEPTEMBER RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

ROSH HASHANAH (JUDAISM) 9/11-13/2026

“Rosh Hashanah, literally the ‘head of the year,’ is the Jewish new year. It is a time of introspection and atonement. The central theme and practice not only of Rosh Hashanah, but of the entire fall holiday season, is teshuvah — a word commonly translated as “repentance,” but which more literally means “return.” Rosh Hashanah — and the holiday that follows it by ten days, Yom Kippur — are intensely focused on teshuvah. Many Jews see this as a time to make amends or apologize to those they have wronged in the past year and resolve to do better in the year about to begin.

One of the common practices of Rosh Hashanah is attending synagogue services and hearing the blowing of the shofar, or ram’s horn, the central mitzvah of the holiday. Another beloved practice is the Tashlich service, in which one’s sins are symbolically cast into a natural body of running water.”

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/rosh-hashanah/>

GANESH CHATURTHI (HINDUISM) 9/14/2026

Ganesh Chaturthi is a Hindu festival honoring Lord Ganesha and celebrating wisdom, prosperity, and new beginnings. The Office of Global Engagement has events planned throughout the week - all are invited to attend, celebrate, and learn about this tradition! Please check your email for more information.

YOM KIPPUR (JUDAISM) 9/20-21/2026

Yom Kippur is a Jewish day of fasting and prayer that falls ten days after Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year. According to Jewish tradition, every individual’s fate for the year is “written” on Rosh Hashanah and “sealed” on Yom Kippur. Today, Yom Kippur is observed as a day of personal reflection and prayer. Fasting and prayer are the central components of the holiday.

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/yom-kippur/>

OTHER CAMPUS EVENTS/PROGRAMS



**Ask an RA about
ResLife Programs!**

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