THE CATHOLIC CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Dear Families,

I hope this finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share with you the amazing things happening at the Catholic Center, especially in our Religious Ed program where your children are growing in their faith, led by the incredible college students here at UGA. I'm humbled by how much God is working through this community, and I'd like to ask for your help to keep it all going.

Here's just a bit of what we've been seeing:

- We're serving **500 meals a week** to college students, creating a place where they feel welcomed and connected. It's a small gesture, but it's been so impactful in their lives.
- Over **150 students volunteer** at the Catholic Center, many of whom are leading your children's Religious Ed classes each week. These college students are giving their time, and it's amazing to see them so dedicated to sharing their faith.
- Our **evening programs**—spiritual, social, service-based, and even sports—are helping students build community and grow in their own faith journeys.
- We've had to **add another Sunday Mass** because of how many students are attending. Seeing these young people show up for Mass is truly heartwarming and inspiring.
- Our priests are hearing confessions for about **5 hours a week**, witnessing real moments of grace and conversion in the lives of these students.
- We've extended Eucharistic Adoration hours because students are hungry for that quiet time with God—a break from the chaos of college life.
- Our **FOCUS missionaries** are leading weekly Bible studies, helping students deepen their faith and grow closer to Christ.

One of the most beautiful things happening is a growing openness to **vocations**. We have students discerning calls to the **priesthood**, **religious life**, **missionary work**, and living as **evangelistic laity**. Their willingness to follow God's call is truly inspiring.

But with all of this growth, we're facing new challenges. We **need your help**—whether through prayers, encouragement, or financial support. The students here are doing incredible things, and they're passing that on to your children through our Religious Ed program, but we need a strong foundation behind them to keep this work going.

I'm so grateful to be part of this community and to see the beautiful impact it's having on both the college students and your children. I can't do this alone, and we're trusting that God will continue to provide through people like you.

Thank you so much for everything you've already done. Your support means the world to me, and it helps us continue to nurture the faith of these young people—both those leading and those learning.

Thank you and Go Dawgs!

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Fr. Brian McNavish

Director | UGA Catholic Center