



Church Life Internship Past and Current Interns

Profiles for Church Life Interns are specially crafted between the staff and faculty of the McGrath Institute for Church Life and each intern. The interns identify their interests, passions, and gifts, while the McGrath team matches these to real leadership and research opportunities in service to Church life.

2017-18 Interns, with mentors and general description of projects:

- ❖ McKenzie Brummond (mentor: Carolyn Pirtle)
To study and practice the art of music composition, while also apprenticing in the leadership of Church Life Vespers and Stories of Grace Evening Prayers
- ❖ Catalino Espino (mentor: Professor Tim O'Malley)
To consider the role of the Psalms in attuning one's affections toward God, particularly in regards to the affections experienced by young adults during college, with a special emphasis on mental health from a neuroscience perspective.
- ❖ Shaun Evans (mentor: Professor Tim O'Malley)
To develop an aid for assessing homiletic practice on campus based in medieval homiletic practice, making some of this research available for a pastoral audience via the Church Life Journal.
- ❖ Colleen Halpin (mentor: Professor Lenny DeLorenzo)
To contemplate Mary in the life of the Church, specifically in Catholic education, the spiritualities of the saints, and cultural devotions; plus, contributing to the revival of Marian spirituality and devotions through writing and introducing specific practices.
- ❖ John Michael Hogue (mentor: Jessica Keating)
To reflect on the models of masculinity in the Catholic tradition and to consider the ways liturgical practice, sacred art, and the spiritualities of the saints can heal the imagination. Initiate and lead men's formation group.



- ❖ Luisa Mader (mentor: Professor Lenny DeLorenzo)
To study the art of storytelling as a privileged instrument for evangelization and to craft real, human stories emerging from unanticipated perspectives (now called the “Magnificat Project”).
- ❖ Lydia Piendel (mentor: Jessica Keating)
To contemplate the role of memory in the Christian life, specifically how the loss of memory that occurs with Alzheimer’s disease and/or dementia impacts one’s relationship with the community and God.
- ❖ Stephanie Reuter (mentor: Professor Lenny DeLorenzo)
To study and develop pedagogical practices for utilizing art and literature to renew the imagination in and for faith formation efforts, while also developing the “Stories of Grace” podcast and evening prayer series.
- ❖ Tracey Schirra (mentor: Scott Boyle)
To examine the role of religious literature—specifically the Catholic novel—in shaping the Catholic imagination and practices of emerging adults, while also creating new resources and proposals for especially college settings.
- ❖ Joey Wikelski (mentor: Jessica Keating)
To contemplate the role of Catholic Social Teaching in the work of evangelization, catechesis, and liturgy, with a particular emphasis on how historically black parishes respond to the concrete spiritual, social, economic needs of their members.



2016-17 Church Life Interns with mentors and project descriptions:

- ❖ Madeline Lewis (2016-17, mentor: Professor Lenny DeLorenzo)
 - Primary Focus: To study and practice crafting “stories of grace” for the renewal of the Catholic imagination and as a means for evangelization and catechesis.
 - Main Activities: compose and record (audio and video) “stories of grace,” edit “stories of grace” from others for weekly podcast, research ways to incorporate stories of grace into theological and catechetical settings in schools and parishes, coordinate and host Stories of Grace Evening Prayer Services monthly, teach in Notre Dame Catechist Academy.

- ❖ Andy Miles (2016-17, mentor: Scott Boyle)
 - Primary Focus: To study how Gospel parables are used in parish catechetical settings and Catholic school religious education.
 - Main Activities: Observe Catholic high school theology lessons that utilize parables, research classic biblical exegesis and homilies relating to parables, compose reflections on catechetical and theological approaches to teaching parables, teach in Notre Dame Catechist Academy.

- ❖ Alex Viegut (2016-17, mentor: Jessica Keating)
 - Primary Focus: To research distinct models of parish catechesis, with special attention to how catechetical leaders train, support, and empower (volunteer) catechists.
 - Main Activities: serve as aid in Catechesis of Good Shepherd atrium, participate in pilgrimage to Malta and observe the catechetical centers of the Society of Christian Doctrine, interview parents about faith formation approaches, visit local dioceses and parishes to observe catechetical models.