



March 11, 2026

A Call to Bridge the Gap from Adolescence to Young Adult

Greetings in Christ,

Through the Office of Faith Formation & Parish Life and the Office of Catholic Schools, the Archdiocese of Hartford and Newman Connection are excited to announce a partnership designed to help young Catholics stay connected to their faith during one of life's most pivotal transitions: the move to college, military service, or the workforce. With nearly 80% of young Catholics drifting away from the Church during these years, your involvement is crucial to changing this narrative.

This partnership is about more than gathering names—it's about building bridges to Christ-centered communities where students can grow in their faith and thrive. Together, we will:

- **Engage Families:** Equip parents with tools to guide their children through this transition.
- **Gather Comprehensive Information:** Collect contact information, college attending, student interests, and insights to ensure they are intentionally welcomed into an authentic Catholic community.
- **Empower Ministries:** Provide campus ministers and chaplains with resources and best practices to connect with these young adults meaningfully.

Newman Connection will use their **Called App** to deliver names and insights directly to campus ministers, ensuring every student receives a warm welcome into a vibrant Catholic community.

Let's take this opportunity to strengthen the Catholic lifecycle and ensure no one is left behind during this critical time. Thank you for your dedication to accompanying our young people on their journey with Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher J. Coyne".

Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne
Archbishop of Hartford

cc: Reverend Monsignor James A. Shanley, Vicar General
Revered Daniel J. Hackenjós, Dean of Religious Life for Catholic Schools
Kelly Henderschedt, Archdiocesan Director of Faith Formation
Valerie Mara, Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Joshua Kay, Associate Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries