

## MEET IAN CHORNE

*Kennesaw State University Student  
Campus Ministry  
Office of Evangelization and Discipleship*

*“Without campus ministry, many of us would never have met, and I’m grateful for the community it fosters at KSU.”*

Though I was raised Catholic, it was in college that I truly embraced my faith through campus ministry. As president of KSU Campus Ministry, I helped create groups for spiritual events like adoration, praise and worship, and outreach initiatives. Through these friendships, we’ve all grown into better versions of ourselves, supporting each other along the way. I find comfort in [John 14:18-31](#): **“...I will not leave you desolate.”** This scripture reassures me during the stresses of college life.

Kennesaw State provides essential resources to student organizations, but the greatest offering comes from the Archdiocese of Atlanta. In the early 2000s, they purchased an old house on KSU's campus, adding a chapel in 2010. This space serves as a "third place" for students to study, attend daily mass, enjoy free lunches, and participate in Bible studies and social events.



## MEET MS. ANDERSON

*St. Peter Claver Catholic School  
Office of Catholic Schools*

*“We nurture in each student a sense of uniqueness—an awareness of his/her self-worth, self-esteem, and God-given talents. Each student is seen as an integral member of the total church, school, home, and civic community. We strive to develop each child’s greatest individual potential and put God at the forefront of all we do.”*

The mission at St. Peter Claver Regional Catholic School (SPC) is to learn, lead, inspire, and serve in local and global communities. **Students push themselves to new heights in academics and teachers set the foundation for the future Saints in our seats.** We have future leaders in the Science Olympiad, safety patrol, choir, and oratorical presentations. God is at the forefront of all that we do. Service is key in our school model. Students serve in Gregg’s pantry (the local food drive), as altar servers, and build relationships between kindergartners and eighth graders with mentoring from our oldest to our youngest students.

## MEET SEMINARIAN MARK PIENDEL

*Office of Vocations*

*“I am infinitely indebted to those who support seminarians and fund our schooling and formation by giving to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, and their praying for us.”*

I believe I am one of the most blessed people ever because Jesus takes care of me and others through me. I have a front seat to watching the Grace of God work in our lives. **As a seminarian, I am in an intentional process of prayerfully learning to live as Christ did and be sent on a mission to a broken world - something only possible with support from many, many, people.** I am ecstatic about being a priest for the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Our community is extremely diverse, growing and becoming increasingly hungry for a personal relationship with Christ. People want to know the riches of God and I journey there with them. Now is a beautiful time to be part of the Church in Atlanta, and I cannot wait to have my own parish so I can watch Christ heal many wounds and restore a zeal that the first apostles had in the early Church. I pray for vibrant and dynamic people to come and grow in their devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist.



## MEET SUZIE BLAYDES

*Adult and Family Faith Formation  
Office of Evangelization and Discipleship*

*“I believe there is an ever-present need for the Body of Christ to accompany those who desire to know the Lord and to come home to Him. So many people are hungry for truth, and for the one thing necessary: Jesus Christ.”*

Throughout my college and adult years, I prayed that someone would ask me how to become Catholic and if I could help them in that journey. One day, I was offered a position as the Sacramental Coordinator at the Catholic Center, University of Georgia. I facilitate sacramental preparation for adults, children, and families and work closely with Fr. Michael with the OCIA program. We have 20-30 candidates for the sacraments at any given time - ranging from preparing for all 3 sacraments of initiation to Catholics completing their Christian initiation. We have students and non-students who undergo spiritual formation. College students are in a formative time in their lives when they are open to Christ's call and to seeking out their vocation in life. **Little did I know God had this opportunity for me all along to do what I have felt strongly called to do: walk with others in their journey to become Catholic or return to their Catholic faith.**



## MEET DEACON NORM KELLER

### Permanent Diaconate

*“Every year, my family contributes to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, and I encourage everyone to give. The appeal supports many vital charities, including exceptional assistance for our seminarians and priests. Without our priests, we cannot receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Where would we be without Him in our lives?”*

I’m from the Atlanta area, and both my wife and I are cradle Catholics, educated in Catholic schools.

**I’ll never forget the moment I felt the Lord’s call.**

One night, I had a dream where Jesus asked me, “Norman, I’ve sent messengers, and you are not acting on my word?” Initially, I dismissed it, thinking it was just a dream. But the next night, Jesus questioned why I hadn’t pursued becoming a deacon.

At work, I prayed while gazing at the crucifix. That day, I visited my pastor and shared my experience. To my surprise, he replied, “Norman, we’ve been praying for this for three years! Do whatever is necessary, and I will support you.” Five years later, with my wife Barbara’s unwavering support, I was ordained.



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