

My name is Greg Tandarich and I am a missionary with FOCUS, The Fellowship of Catholic University Students. Our mission at FOCUS is simple: Make disciples for Christ. First, we invite college students into a relationship with Jesus in the Catholic Church. Then, we accompany them along their journey. Finally, we equip them to share the Faith with others too.

I grew up in Kennett Square and I participated in the parish here at St. Patrick's, including altar serving almost every day at our 7:30 mass for nine years. I am the fifth of six children. I grew up in a very Catholic home, my siblings and I were homeschooled and raised in the Catholic faith. I graduated from Liberty University at the end of 2019 with a degree in business. I started my own business in marketing coming out of college. I worked with local small business providing services such as web design, graphic design and their social media presence. I was happy with the work I was doing post college, but I felt God calling me to something more recently. I attended an event in June of last year with a chastity organization. For senior weekend we went to the Jersey shore and had conversations with young people about the virtue of chastity and real love – God's love for us. The reaction of these young people and how they not only needed to hear this message, but desired to know more, really stirred in me the desire for mission work oriented especially towards my peers. Following that trip, I pursued that desire for mission by working with the same organization. I did tabling events with them and I also gave church talks sharing the Chastity message. I worked with other organizations as well throughout the year - pro-life organizations and organizations that work with the homeless in Kensington in Philadelphia. I was discovering more of what God was putting

on my heart and what he was calling me to. Through all this I was also living out my faith more intentionally, making it my own and I started going to daily mass again. I regularly attended the Newman center at West Chester University. This is where I discovered FOCUS, the missionaries on campus, and the impact they had on the students and community there. What attracted me to FOCUS was how they go to the students in friendship, inviting them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Walking with them to pursue lives of virtue and excellence, and bringing the hope and the joy of the gospel to them.

I received an offer to be a missionary with FOCUS after attending the interview weekend back in November. The training for this apostolate was in Lincoln, Nebraska starting May 22 for a month. Along with the over eight hundred missionaries, I received ninety classes on Human, Spiritual, and Intellectual formation. During training I found I will be serving at Queens College in New York City starting the fall semester.

I am speaking at all the Masses next weekend. I'm excited to share with you in more detail the mission and vision of this apostolate, my financial goals, and how God is using this work to change lives. I'll be praying for all of you. Thank you for your warm welcome and for your prayers.

God Bless,

Greg

To learn more about FOCUS and how you can support this important work, <u>visit https://focus.org/missionaries/gregory-tandarich/</u>or use the QR Code here



If you are interested in scheduling an appointment to learn more, please sign up at https://forms.office.com/r/Uw6kJr12DN or use the QR Code here

