

## **Resolution 035**

### **A Resolution to Improve Access to Confession on Campus**

**Sponsored by: Senator Curioso**

**Co-Sponsored by: Senator Suarez**

***Whereas,***

The sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also known as Confession, is a sacrament in the Catholic Church where the faithful, out of hatred of sin and desire for conversion, ask for God's forgiveness along with reconciliation with His Church. The sacrament requires the faithful to confess their sins to God, who, acting through a priest, absolves them from sin.

***Whereas,***

Confessions at the Catholic University of America (CUA) are held at St. Vincent de Paul Chapel during the following times:

- a. Sunday, 8:15-9:00 pm
- b. Monday-Friday, 4:30-5:00 pm
- c. Tuesday, during Silent Adoration, 7:00-8:00 pm
- d. Wednesday, during Praise and Worship Adoration, 9:00-10:00 pm
- e. Thursday, during Solemn Adoration, 9:00-10:00 pm

***Whereas,***

There is usually a long line of the faithful who wish to receive Confession at each of the currently designated times. Also, there are often times when people are still waiting in line past the designated end times for Confession.

***Whereas,***

The current spaces designated for Confession in St. Vincent de Paul Chapel are very small, with limited entry access for students with assistive mobility devices, thus rendering Confession at St. Vincent de Paul Chapel inaccessible to students with disabilities.

***Whereas,***

There are wheelchair accessible places on campus that would require only minimal modifications, if any, to be suitable for Confessions to be held in those locations.

***Whereas,***

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, located across the street from campus, offers Confession at the following times in spaces that are much more wheelchair accessible:

- a. Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am-12:00 pm and 3:00-5:00 pm
- b. Sunday, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:15-2:15 pm in Spanish, and 2:30-4:30pm

***Be it enacted that,***

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that:

1. Campus Ministry designates time during the week to hear Confessions in a wheelchair accessible location on campus starting in the Fall 2023 semester.
  - A. This location should be soundproofed through the use of white noise machines.
2. Campus Ministry publicizes the new time(s) that Confessions will be heard at the start of the Fall 2023 semester.
3. Campus Ministry further advertises the hours that Confession is available at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Agreed to by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ yeas to \_\_\_\_\_ nays on this date: \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ abstaining and \_\_\_\_\_ not present.

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Anthony Crnkovich  
*President of the Student Government Association*

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Maevis Fahey  
*Vice President of the Student Government Association*

