



# Cathlete News

E-Newsletter of Catholic Athletes for Christ (CAC)  
*The First Name in Catholic Sports Ministry*

Summer 2013

## Wash. Nationals' Craig Stammen Joins CAC Athletes Board

In June, CAC announced the addition of the Washington Nationals' Craig Stammen to the organization's Athletes Board and speakers' bureau.

In 2012, the right-handed relief pitcher had the best year of his four-year major-league career, going 6-1, with an earned-run average of 2.34 for the National League Eastern Division champions.

A native of North Star, Ohio, Craig played football, basketball, and baseball at Versailles High School and then continued his baseball career at the University of Dayton.

He credits much of his career success to hard work, determination, and trusting in God's providence. Craig is a regular attendee of CAC-hosted Masses both at Nationals Park and on the road.



Washington Nationals' pitcher Craig Stammen

[Click here](#) to read an interview with Craig that was featured in the *National Catholic Register* earlier this year.

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## **Chicago Cubs, Tampa Bay Rays Add CAC Ministry Programs in 2013**

With the start of the 2013 baseball season, CAC was proud to announce the addition of two MLB teams -- Chicago Cubs and Tampa Bay Rays -- that agreed to provide CAC and its chaplains access and a location to celebrate Mass at the stadium for players and personnel.

Former Mississippi State baseball star and minor league prospect, Fr. Burke Masters, serves as the Cubs chaplain while in Tampa, Fr. Tom Anastasia celebrates Mass at the stadium and provides service to Catholic players and team personnel.

Mass has now been celebrated at 24 MLB stadiums as a result of CAC's MLB outreach. Please pray for our efforts to expand the program to include all 30 major league teams.

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## **CAC Participates in "Faith Day at the Ballpark" Event in Milwaukee**



Rev. Jerry Herda, CAC Milwaukee Brewers Chaplain, celebrates Mass for 250-275 Catholics at the "Faith Day at the Ballpark" event at Miller Park in Milwaukee on June 8.

On June 8, CAC participated in the third annual "Faith Day at the Ballpark" event at Miller Park in Milwaukee. CAC's Kevin O'Malley attended the event.

The event began with Mass in the tailgating section of Miller Park where 250-275 Catholics attended Mass. The previous year's program attracted 80 Catholics to Mass. CAC Brewers chaplain, Rev. Jerry

Herda, celebrated the Mass. Following Mass, Lighthouse Catholic Media officials distributed Catholic CDs to event attendees.

Nearly 270 Catholics attended the Brewers vs. Phillies game in Miller Park's Mountain Dew Deck as a group, which provided an excellent view of the playing field and a nice location to gather. CAC is currently working with the program's organizers to look at ways to both enhance the initiative and possibly expand it to additional cities.

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# CAC Advances Its High School Chapter Program and Promotes "Cathlete" Core Values

"CATHLETE" CORE VIRTUES

**CHARITY** *Charity is the virtue of putting others before ourselves.*

**Goal:** We should all seek to love one another as Jesus has loved us, placing other's needs before our very own. In sports this means learning to care about those around us, even our competitors. Treat each person we meet not only how we would want to be treated ourselves, but moreover how Jesus Christ would treat them if He were present.

*"Perfect love means putting up with other people's shortcomings, feeling no surprise at their weaknesses, finding encouragement even in the slightest evidence of good qualities in them."*—St. Therese of Lisieux

**HONESTY** *Honesty is the virtue of being conformed and dedicated to the Truth.*

**Goal:** We should all seek to be men and women dedicated to the Truth, the truth of Jesus Christ and His Gospel. This is a truth that exists outside of our own human mind, a truth that we get the grace of participating in every time we read sacred scripture or participate in the sacred mysteries.

*"No one is truly poor but except the one who lacks the truth."*—St. Ephraem the Syrian

**HUMILITY** *Humility is the virtue of being aware that God is the author of all good, and the realization that we are not God.*

**Goal:** We should seek to give credit to God who is the source of all that is good and seek to do all things for the greater glory of God, rather than taking credit for His handwork.

*"Live among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped."*—Phi 2:5-8

**MEEKNESS** *Meekness is the virtue of submitting to the will of others out of respect and deference for their dignity as a person.*

**Goal:** We should all seek the good in those around us, looking to affirm and honor them for the good of who they are, submitting ourselves to their will, rather than living for the satisfaction of our broken and selfish.

*"Blessed is the one who takes no more pride in the good that God says and does through him, than in that which He says and does through someone else."*—St. Francis of Assisi

**MODERATION** *Moderation, also known as temperance, is the virtue of being in control of our passions and having self-mastery.*

**Goal:** We should all seek to be in control of our whole lives at all times. Our passions do not have power over us; we instead have power over them. We should have the ability to tell ourselves "No" and be in control of our appetites for the things of this world and the simple pleasures of life.

*"Do not follow your lusts, but restrain your base desires. If you allow yourself to satisfy your desires, this will make you the laughing-stock of your enemies. Do not indulge in luxurious living, nor get involved in such society"*—Sirach 18:30-32

**PURITY** *Purity, also known as chastity, is the virtue of being clean in mind and body, as well as modest in our dress and speech.*

**Goal:** We should all seek to be in control of our sexuality. We are not to deny our human sexuality, but rather embrace it, accept it, and integrate it into our very person through the use of temperance. True chastity requires diligence and discipline, always being on guard against temptations of the flesh, so that we may truly love, cherish, treasure, and honor others as we should.

*"Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, and that you are not your own?"*—1 Cor 6:18-19

**SPORTSMANSHIP** *Good Sportsmanship is the virtue of treating others with dignity and respect in sporting events; winning with graciousness and losing with dignity and honor.*

**Goal:** We should all seek to compete to the best of our ability, treating ourselves, our fellow teammates, and our competitors with dignity and honor. Our behavior should reflect at all times that of Christ and our demeanor speak to the value of healthy competition. Instead of looking for the easy way to win or resort to cheating, being a good sport means that there are no short cuts to victory.

*"I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith."*—2 Tim 4:7



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(Click on image to download printable PDF of the "Cathlete" Core Values handout)

CAC's first diocesan-wide high school chapter program will begin its second year in the Trenton, N.J. Archdiocese this fall. CAC is thankful to Bishop David O'Connell and everyone involved in the CAC chapter program for its very successful launch in 2013 and look forward to even more exciting developments this year and beyond.

CAC Board Member Jim Delaney continues to spearhead CAC chapters in the Philadelphia Archdiocese high schools this year as the organization continues to expand the number of schools participating in the program. CAC's first parish-based chapter in Charlotte, N.C. at St. Mark's Catholic Church continues to thrive as do our many other chapters around the country.

CAC is also excited to announce the start of its first chapter in the Arlington, Va. Diocese at Seton School in Manassas, Va., under leadership of Athletic Director Dan Vander Woude and CAC Board Member Kevin O'Malley.

Additionally, CAC's Board of Directors has approved pilot programs for junior high chapters in Oklahoma, Louisiana, and California for this fall. For anyone interested in considering development of a chapter program in your school or diocese, please contact [ray@catholicathletesforchrist.com](mailto:ray@catholicathletesforchrist.com).

In addition, CAC recently unveiled a new "Cathlete" Core Values handout and poster for use at high schools and colleges interested in promoting Catholic values in athletics. The core values focus on charity, honesty, humility, meekness, moderation, purity, and sportsmanship.

Several schools have already requested the handouts and posters and more requests are expected this fall. If you are interested in receiving the CAC "Cathlete" Core Values information, email Kevin O'Malley at [kevin@catholicathletesforchrist.com](mailto:kevin@catholicathletesforchrist.com) for details.

## CAC Meets with Bishops at USCCB Meetings in San Diego

CAC Founder and President Ray McKenna and CAC Episcopal Chair Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield, Ill. were joined by CAC's MLB alums Mike Sweeney and Jeff Suppan at an informal meeting held in San Diego in June as part of the USCCB meetings. Over 20 bishops participated in the meeting and expressed excitement about further expanding CAC's ministry in their dioceses.

## CAC's Plans for New Web Site and Promotional Materials

CAC is working hard to expand its operations and outreach to enhance its current programs and develop new ones, including a formalized high school chapter program.

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In addition, CAC is preparing to revamp its web site and prepare new printed materials to further promote the organization and its various ministry and spiritual programs. To that end, CAC is trying to raise \$10,000 over the next two months to advance these important programs.

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!** Without these funds, CAC will not be able to meet its 2013 program goals. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to CAC to help make its expansion plans a reality. Click on the "Donate Now" button to get information on how you can help CAC reach its 2013 goals.

Thank you for your support!

## CAC Adds New Members to Episcopal and Advisory Boards

CAC President Ray McKenna recently announced several changes to its Episcopal and Advisory Boards.

Three new members were added to the Episcopal Board:

**The Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone**  
Archbishop of San



Bishops Cordileone of San Francisco, Bishop Listecky of Milwaukee, and Bishop O'Connell of Trenton, N.J. (l to r) were recently named to CAC's Episcopal Board.



Francisco, Calif.

Bishop Cordileone was installed as the archbishop of San Francisco on October 4, 2012. He previously served as bishop of the diocese of Oakland, Calif. He enjoys swimming and spectator sports, especially professional baseball and football.

**The Most Reverend Jerome ListECKI**  
Archbishop of Milwaukee, Wis.

Bishop ListECKI was named the 11th archbishop of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee by Pope Benedict XVI on February 23, 2009, having previously served as bishop of the Diocese of LaCrosse, Wis. He was captain of his high school tennis team, played guard on his college basketball team, and coached high school basketball. A native of the South Side of Chicago, Bishop ListECKI is an avid White Sox fan.

**The Most Reverend Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.**  
Bishop of Trenton, N.J.

Bishop O'Connell is the 10th Bishop of Trenton. A priest of the Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Mission, also known as the Vincentians, Bishop O'Connell has been the leading voice in the development of CAC's high school chapter program.

In addition to the Episcopal Board changes, two new members were appointed to CAC's Board of Directors -- Msgr. Tom Machalski of Orchard Lake, Mich., and Christopher Rowe of Northern Virginia.

[Click here](#) for more information on the CAC's athlete, episcopal, and advisory boards.

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## In Memoriam...



Bishop Joseph McFadden of Harrisburg, Pa., meets with Harrisburg Senators' player on the playing field.

CAC was saddened by the news that The Most Reverend Joseph McFadden, Bishop of Harrisburg, Pa., died unexpectedly on May 2.

Bishop McFadden, 65, served on CAC's Episcopal Board and was instrumental in establishing the first CAC high school chapter in Philadelphia.

He played basketball at St. Joseph's University and upon graduation he coached the J.V. and Varsity Basketball Teams.

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## Upcoming CAC Events

- **September 21:** Catholic Sports Conference, Manassas, Va., co-hosted by CAC and Seton School. Event features Belmont Abbey College President Dr. Bill Thierfelder.
- **October/November:** 3rd Annual CAC "Courage Award" Presentation Event in Northern Virginia.
- **November:** Meetings with CAC Episcopal Board members at the annual USCCB meetings in Baltimore, Md.
- **November 19-21:** CAC's 7th Annual Major League Baseball Retreat.

For more information on events, email [kevin@catholicathletesforchrist.com](mailto:kevin@catholicathletesforchrist.com).

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### Stay Connected



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