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Dear fellow Newmanians,

This is certainly an exciting journey leading the St. John Henry Newman Association of America. I was brought aboard to help revitalize an association that has prided itself on fostering fellowship, academic motivation, and rich spiritual growth. My 9 years with this organization inspire me to assist in our shared patrimony while looking honestly at the state of this marvelous association with an intent on offering a vibrant future. It is no accident that our patron was canonized just prior to the pandemic shutdown - an event that impacted our leadership and conference attendance. Now more than ever, St. John Henry Newman is with us as we continue to promote his life cause. As all who attended the tremendous 2023 conference at CUA, the state of our association is convincingly “coming to port after a rough sea”.

As you know the heartbeat of our association is our annual conference. These brilliant meetings offer us time to gather, to think and to worship. Year in and year out, our superb presenters offer intriguing papers without putting their audience asleep. My career as an orthodontist (dental specialist) helped me discover that a quality association fosters “a philosophical habit of mind” which requires a variety of presentations shared with a community of warm, rich, diverse minds. Unique to our association is that our vibrant academic and religious Newmanian discussion includes worship and spiritual growth. Combining these three vital components is not typical of purely academic conferences. Our 2024 conference which will be held at the University of Dallas July 25 through July 27, 2024. We feel that the theme, “Newman, Man of Letters: His Literary Power”, will be attractive to many potential presenters who admire Newman’s literary genius. Our call for papers flyer is attached. Please pass this along to friends and colleagues. All of us, guided by grace, remain our sure and certain hope for the future.

My charge to all of you is to support our association by attendance and participation at our annual meetings, financial assistance, and vigorously publicizing our association to anyone interested in Newman. My aim is that every religious, academic and parishioner who has even the slightest interest in St. John Henry Newman should know of our existence. Your board is leading this effort by actively promoting our association world-wide by establishing contacts with theology departments, Oratories, Ordinariates and Newman authors. Please forward directly to me any contacts that you feel beneficial to our growth, and please reach out to your friends and colleagues who may be interested in joining our association and share your own positive experiences as a SJHNAA member!

Finally, our annual call for membership dues is now. Please renew your membership for 2024 before February 21 (Cardinal Newman's birthday). Your **dues and donations** help underwrite our annual meeting and biannual newsletters, support the management enabling the association to function and, when possible, offer scholarships for young minds and hearts. Dues renewal and donations can be done with the attached form or with PayPal from our website, www.stjhnaa.org. Presently, at our quite affordable annual conference registration rates we need approximately 40 meeting registrants.

Please keep our efforts in your prayers.

St. John Henry Newman,
Pray for us.

Warm Regards,
Ron Snyder

“Ex umbris et imaginibus in veritatem”