

A Statement from the University of Arizona Religious Council as we join together to grieve Dr. Thomas Meixner:

The University Religious Council joins the entire University of Arizona community of students, faculty, staff, and alums in sharing the shock, anger, and grief of losing a long-time beloved colleague, Thomas Meixner, yesterday in a tragic shooting on campus by a former student. Words fail to describe the depth of the fear and loss that many people across the university and throughout Tucson are feeling now. Our heartfelt love goes out to everyone who knew Dr. Meixner and who are now experiencing his sudden loss. We grieve especially for his family and departmental colleagues, for whom this sudden tragedy is the culmination of many months of intimidation.

Our prayers and spiritual support are especially with his family, his friends, his students, and his colleagues. We stand as a faith community in solidarity against violence of any kind and offer our pastoral counseling services for anyone who needs consolation, companionship, or conversation at this time. May God's strength and comfort be with us all.

As a Council, we are grateful for the leadership of our colleagues at the Catholic Newman Center in this moment, as they grieve the loss of a member of their own community while simultaneously striving to offer their support to the wider campus community.

Dr. Meixner's family described him as a man "trying to save the earth's most precious resource" - water. So, today, as we remember his life and seek a deeper understanding of his legacy, we invite you to honor that legacy as you encounter and cherish the water on which we depend.

With our deepest respect,

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