



By Public Safety and Emergency Management • Nov 10, 2025

Welcome to the latest issue of Keep Catholic Safe.

The holidays are coming, but that doesn't mean you should lighten up on safety! Use our tips, plus join us for a free self-defense class this month.

As always, if you have a safety question or see something suspicious, contact the Department of Public Safety (DPS) at 202-319-5111.



“It takes less than a minute for a thief to strike.”

Kirk McLean, Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Emergency Management

The **number one reason** thieves break into cars on and near campus is easy opportunity: They see a laptop or other tech, backpack, box, or other item in view, and break in.

It takes as little as **30 seconds** for someone who is intent on doing harm to approach your vehicle — or park next to it — steal your belongings, and leave. Don't become a target.

What you can do to avoid a car break-in

- **Park in a well-lit area**, if possible.
- **Do not leave your car running** unattended, even for a minute.
- **Lock your doors** and make sure all windows are closed.
- **Do not leave tech, packages, boxes or bags visible, even if empty.** You may know they are empty, but a thief does not.
- **Tinted windows** are not enough to keep your items safe.

[Get more safety tips on our Safety Updates page.](#)

Self Defense Classes

Learn self defense

Join **experts** from the Department of Public Safety for free self defense classes.

👉 **Next dates:** Wednesday, Nov. 12 and Nov. 19, 6 p.m., in Caldwell Hall, Room 117.

Please note: No classes in December.

Holiday Safety Checklist

Before leaving for Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks

1. **Secure valuable belongings.** Make sure your valuable items are stored safely. Better yet, consider taking them home during the break.
2. **Turn off appliances.** Unplug electronics and appliances to prevent potential hazards in your absence. This includes common areas of offices and inside student residences.
3. **Secure all windows and doors.** Ensure all windows and doors are properly locked before leaving for the break.

Emergency Preparedness & Active Threat Training

Attend an Emergency Preparedness Session

Join us for a free emergency preparedness training:

- Monday, Nov. 17, 3 to 3:30 p.m. in Hannan Hall, Room 103
- Tuesday, Dec. 9, 10 to 10:30 a.m., Caldwell Hall, Happel Room
- Tuesday, Dec. 9, 3 to 3:30 p.m., Caldwell Hall, Happel Room

The **Office of Emergency Management (OEM)** offers customized emergency preparedness and active threat training to our campus community.

Different groups may have specific safety concerns or unique needs. We provide specialized preparedness training sessions to address those concerns and ensure everyone is well-prepared.

Whether you are part of a student group, faculty, or staff, we can design training programs that cater to your specific requirements.

[Email OEM](#) to plan a training session that best suits your group's needs.

Key Contacts

Emergency Contact Information

- [Catholic.edu/safety](#): online safety resource hub
- 202-319-5111 - call to report on-campus suspicious activity or crime, or call for a safety escort
- 911 - call to report off-campus suspicious activity or crime
- [Rave Guardian app](#) for CUA community members to keep safe and up to date

Emergency Contact: 202-319-5111 (On Campus) / 911 (Off Campus)



The Rave Guardian App

Turn your cell phone into a personalized safety device by downloading the **FREE Rave Guardian application**, available for Android and Apple devices.

[iOS Download](#) | [Android Download](#)

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[Department of Public Safety](#), 121 Leahy Hall / [catholic.edu/safety](#)

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