Father Bill Kottenstette, who will celebrate his 50th anniversary in the priesthood in the next year or so, stands in front of the construction of the new Newman Center on Monday.

"I was walking down the street with my boyfriend at a high school dance," Anna said. "... And feeling completely comfortable, I thought to myself, 'I wonder if they're gay?'" For the first time, Anna felt accepted socially. She finally overcame his fear of coming out.

"This idea of pronouns is confusing to me," said Father Kottenstette, who said the thought of it comes to him "for me." He added, "I'm seeing it more in my other classes such as sociology, psychology and English, and it seems to be accepted."

"I have trouble with the idea that they can be affected by what other people think," he said. "I'm struggling with it also, I've come to realize." He added, "I don't have the answers, but I think it's important to listen to them and respect their autonomy that our society avoids." He said, "I like my job, but I do not get up every morning and think about it."

"I don't feel like I'm going to be able to have a family," said Anna. "I felt that was difficult for me."

"I just want to have a family," said Father Kottenstette. "... I don't want to do anything that's going to affect my vocation."

"In a sense, I don't feel like I'm doing something wrong," he said. "... I feel like I'm doing something right." He added, "I'm trying to do my best." He said, "I have the support of my friends and the Newman community." He said, "I like my job, but I do not get up every morning and think about it." He said, "I have trouble with the idea that they can be affected by what other people think."