St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

1572 East Barstow Avenue Fresno, Ca 93710 Office 559.436.3434 csufnewman.com

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B | MARCH 3, 2024

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear sisters and brothers.

I think students would tell you that the hardest thing about taking exams is often not the exams themselves, but waiting for grades. What is most difficult about going to a hospital for tests is often not so much taking the tests, but waiting for the results. "It's worse not knowing what's wrong. If I knew, I could face it; not knowing is driving me up the wall!" We can understand that. Most of us are uncomfortable with uncertainty; we like things black and white. If there's a problem, we like to clear it up as soon as possible. We don't like living with ambiguity.

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, we can identify with those who were demanding "signs" – more proofs about the claims of Jesus. We can sympathize with those who wanted the assurance of worldly wisdom: "Show me." Jesus faces the same issue in today's Gospel passage. People are demanding a clear "sign" from Jesus, evidence to convince them of his authority. We can relate to that. There's enough confusion in life. It's frustrating when our children don't give us straight answers, and nerveracking when a spouse is in a bad mood and we ask, "What's wrong?", only to be told, "Nothing!"

Life itself is full of confusion, contradictions, and ambiguity. Life comes with no guarantees. But do we ever consider that it's supposed to be that way, that ambiguity is part of God's design for creation? Ambiguity exists for a purpose; it's what keeps life "alive." God knows our hearts, what tickles our imaginations, stimulates our minds, and motivates us. Demanding "proof" is a formula for boredom. Taking the journey of life without clear "signs" is what makes life challenging, creative, inventive, and exciting.

Case in point — why do we have to know the gender identity of a baby before it's born? Such a glorious gift should be a surprise! Nothing is more deadening for the human spirit than the predictable. We take a big step when we embrace ambiguity. We avoid major frustration when we accept life for the way it is: uncertain. Life is a hundred times more enriched when we can accept mystery, find spontaneity pleasurable, and give up our demands for "proof."

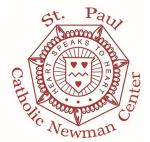
Trust in God and God's designs is all we need to maintain our peace of mind in the midst of life's endless turmoil and confusion. God knows what God is about, regardless of our level of understanding. He knows what we're about too. Everything in creation has its purpose, including confusion and endless possibilities for doubt.

Peace and love,

Deacon John

Mission Statement

Gifted by God, called by Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, St. Paul Catholic Newman Center is a parish committed to serving the academic community and all those who choose to be part of our parish family. We dedicate ourselves to bringing the transformative power of Christ to the world through word and action.



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CAMPUS MINISTRY

Wednesday Student Night

We will be having Student Dinner this Wednesday, March 6th at 6pm in the Cardinal Newman Hall. Following dinner there will be a Sports Night with a March Madness Basketball Bracket. Come join and meet students from other campuses!

Fresno State Mass

Join us for Mass at Fresno State this Thursday, March 7 at 12:30pm. We'll be in the Resnick Student Union. Follow our Instagram for more info.



Record Breaking Attendance Young Adult Bible Study

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Bible Study

Join our Bible Study this Monday, March 4th at 6:00pm in the Student Lounge. We will continue to look at the Gospel of Luke. Come and learn alongside other young adults about how scripture is alive in our daily lives.

Young Adult Trivia Night

Join our Young Adult Trivia Team as they gather every first Wednesday of the month at 7pm. This week March 6th they will be at the Barrel House Brewing located in Riverpark. All levels are welcomed!





Join us in embracing the Lenten season as a time of profound spiritual growth, drawing us closer to the heart of Christ and renewing our commitment to

the Eucharistic. As a parish community, let's find sustenance in both the provided Lenten companion and Our Daily Bread received in the Eucharist.

To access the weekly reflections and scripture meditations, scan the provided QR code.

PRAYERS:

♥ Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:

Dan Dungy Elizabeth Dungy Ralph De La Cerda Msgr. Raymond C. Dreiling Kathy DeMera Candy Jaquez

♥ And we pray for those who have died recently.

Bertha Casarez

If you would like to include the name of someone on this list, please contact the office or visit our website and fill out the form under the "Prayer Requests" tab.

Names of the sick / for special intentions will be published in the bulletin for four weeks, and then removed unless otherwise requested. Names of the deceased are published the week after death.

60th ANNIVERSARY!

St. Paul Catholic Newman Center will celebrate 60 Years on Friday, May 10, 2024. If you would like to help plan the May 10 "60's Reunion" Party, or other events on May 11th or 12th to celebrate our 60th Birthday, please contact Deacon John Supino at deak@csufnewman.com or 559-436-3434 ext 103! Let's all lend a hand, so we can have a "GROOVY" time!

Special Synod Listening Session

Monday, March 11, from 9:00-10:30 AM or 6:00-7:30 PM

In preparation for the Second Assembly of the Synod on Synodality happening in October we are asked to reflect on three questions:

- 1. Where have I experienced or witnessed encouragement and/ or challenges in our shared mission as Church?
- 2. Where have I witnessed Church structure (parish, diocesan, universal) fostering or hindering our shared mission?
- 3. What is needed to help all the baptized respond to our shared mission to proclaim the Gospel and live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

The responses will be collected and shared with the Synod participants before the Assembly at the Vatican. Parishioners and others from the Fresno area interested in contributing to the next phase of the Synod Process will meet in Cardinal Newman Hall on Monday, March 11, from 9:00-10:30 AM or 6:00-7:30 PM and prayerfully reflect in tables together around these three questions.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Jim Grant (jimgrantbc@gmail.com).

Weekly Schedule

	Y, MARCH 3	3RD SUNDA	Y IN LENT
7:30am 9:30am 9:30am 9:30am	Charities Truck Needs and Intentions f Mass for John C. Godt RCIA Catechumenate RCIA First Scrutiny Mass for Michel, Cathe Mass for Nick DeBene 1st Sunday Adoration	ourn erine & Con O'Sulli detto	Chapel Chapel Library Chapel van Chapel Chapel Chapel
MONDA	Y, MARCH 4		
8:00am 8:30am 6:00pm	Communion Service Men's Morning Scriptu Young Adult Bible Stud		Chapel Library dent Lounge
TUESD	AY, MARCH 5		
8:00am 6:00pm	Communion Service Faith, Family & Friends	3	Chapel CNH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

8:00am	Mass for Gus Ledesma	Chapel
10:00am	Marion Movement of Priests	Community Room
6:00pm	College Night	CNH 101
6:00pm	Marian Movement of Priests (Cenacle Chapel
6:00pm	Prayer and Life Workshop	Library
7:00pm	RCÍA Inquiry	Community Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
8:30am	Lenten Discernment	Library
	Confessions	Chapel
5:30pm	Fresno Catholic Singles	Cafeteria
6:00pm	Mass for Allan Kennedy	Chapel
6:00pm	The Life of Jesus Book	Community Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Communion Service	Chapel
Fish Fry	CNH 101-102
Food Recovery Network	Cafeteria
Stations of the Cross	Chapel
	Communion Service Fish Fry Food Recovery Network Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Special Collection: Catholic Relief Services

3:30pm	Confessions	Chapel
5:00pm	Mass Nally Tocol	Chapel

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT Special Collection: Catholic Relief Services

	Mass for Erlinda Lopez	Chapel
	Mass for Mike Gerking	Chapel
9:30am	RCIA Catechumenate	Library
11:30am	Mass for Needs and Int. of Parishioners	Chapel
11:30am	RCIA Second Scrutiny	Chapel
2:00pm	Filipino Mass	Chapel
7:00pm	Mass for Steve Rontell	Chapel

Next Week's Special Collection is for Catholic Relief Services

WAY OF THE CROSS WITH FR ROBERT

Fr. Robert and The Eucharistic Revival Team invite you to the Way of the Cross on the trails of Fresno and Clovis on **March 16.**

We will meet at **7:30AM** at the church and drive to the site. The route is about 15 miles, and all the necessary details can be found on the posters on Father's window in the foyer. If interested, contact Father Robert at frrobert@csufnewman.com.

Mass in the Outdoor Area (West Side of Chapel)

Several parish families would like to sit outside on the West Side of the Chapel under the covered area. Next week we will test the speaker to support this. You may bring your chairs to set up there. For Communion, it may be easiest to come in from the back chapel doors.

Director of Family and Life Ministries Position

Looking for a wonderful opportunity to enrich the lives and well-being of the parishioners and families of our Newman Center parish? Contact Dan Nickerson at plc@csufnewman.com for more information or to apply.

Mr Charles Arokiasamy (of RCIA Fame) will serve as Interim Family and Life Ministries Director until a permanent hire is in place.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PARISH DIRECTORY

Our Parish Directory Committee has picked the week of Apr 29 for parishioners to take photos for the new Parish Directory. More information will be coming soon!

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM:

Have technical skills to help us with our website, social media, and communications?

Volunteer Receptionist Needed:

Have good people skills and a few hours a week to cover the front desk?

If you want to help with any of these, contact Kendra DeLuca-Leiker at volunteercoordinator@csufnewman.com.

FEBRUARY CONTRIBUTIONS

2023		2024	
February 5	\$21,131.89	February 4	\$20,141.22
February 12	\$16,951.44	February 11	\$19,060.31
February 19	\$13,697.18	February 18	\$18,328.71
February 26	\$12,014.35	February 25	\$14,603.37
FEBRUARY 2023 TOTAL	\$63,794.86	FEBRUARY 2024 TOTAL	\$72,133.61

COMMUNAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK

We will celebrate a communal Anointing of the Sick AFTER all the Masses on Laetare Saturday and Sunday: March 9-10. Laetare means: "Rejoice!" and expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts, almsgiving and prayers. On Laetare Sunday our priests and deacons wear rose-colored vestments, This change in color indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the somber days of Passiontide. Receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (which is NOT Last Rites) is a wonderful way to strengthen our bodies, hearts and souls as we continue our Lenten journey into Holy Week!

Knights of Columbus Burrito Breakfast Breaking the Chains

Thank you Parish for supporting the Knights of Columbus Council 9445 and Breaking the Chains. We sold 183 Breakfast Burritos to help support, Breaking The Chains, who works with law-enforcement agencies to provide rescue, relocation, restorative, and residential services to victims of human trafficking. Our next breakfast is on March 17, for Garden of Innocence. Future Burrito Breakfast Dates are on our bulletin Board.

Saint Damien-An Example For All

Parishioner, Fred Peterson, will do a presentation on St Father Damien de Veuster on Wed, Mar 13, from 12 - 1 PM in the Library. Come gain insight into St Damien's ministry to the leprosy-afflicted patients in Hawaii. The focus will be on his spirituality, faith, example, and ministry, which serve as examples for us all.

Navy Coin Found. Contact office if it is yours.

Current...MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Welcome to Charles Arokiasamy, who will serve as Interim Family and Life Ministries Director. He can be reached at our new email:

lifeministry@csufnewman.com

Faith, Family & Friends

Faith, Family & Friends is for everyone!

Come join our night of Adult Faith and Youth/ Children's Religious Education! We all gather at 6:00pm in Cardinal Newman Hall. Individual class sessions will begin at 6:15pm and end at 7:15pm.

Adult Topics:

Catholicism's Pivotal Players

Sonya Sidhu presents Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism: *The Pivotal Players* series

Deacon John presents a discussion on **How to have** conversations in a polarized world.

Soul Core: Body-Mind-Soul.

Soul Core incorporates stretching and light exercise movements while praying the rosary. All ability levels can participate and pray together. If you choose to join us, please bring a mat/towel, and wear comfortable clothes that allow you to move freely.

Men's Ministry

Men's Weekly Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group: meets on Monday mornings, 8:30am-9:15am after morning Mass in the Library.

Family Life

Joy of Love Moms—Rooting Your Teen in the Faith— Moms Book Club

The Moms of Teens book club continues for one more session. We will meet in the Cardinal Newman Hall small conference room (just inside the main parking lot entrance) from 11:00-12:00 on Sunday, March 10.

Please contact joyoflovemoms@gmail.com for info.

Prayer Ministry

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in the Community Room, and Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm in the chapel. Please join us at the time most convenient for you!

Vacation Bible School. Families and parishioners, we want your help to make a great program for our kids!!!

We have set tentative dates of **June 17-21, 2024** for Vacation Bible School here at our parish!

This is a week filled with music, crafts, skits, friends, and learning about our faith together



We are excited to resurrect this amazing Newman tradition and need to build a team of adult and youth volunteers. If you are interested in helping or want to hear more about it for your family, please join us for a planning meeting

Please contact Mary Renner at <u>clergyassistant@csufnewman.com</u>. with any questions. We hope to see you there!

HELP WITH BISHOP'S BIRTHDAY!

Our beloved <u>Bishop Joseph Brennan</u> will celebrate his 70th birthday on March 20th. Parishioners (adults and children alike) are invited to bring a card or letter that may be dropped off at the front desk. We will be mailing a package for cards to arrive in time for his birthday! <u>Please</u> drop off your cards by Sunday, March 3rd.

Claretian Youth Easter Project

During the month of March, the Claretian Youth Service Project will prepare plastic eggs for distribution on Easter Sunday to the children of our parish.

We are asking for donations of plastic eggs and individually wrapped small candy to be placed into the plastic eggs.

Our goal is to have 1000 plastic eggs to share on Easter Sunday following the 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses. We will have a special visit from the Easter Bunny that morning! Eggs may be brought to the parish office by Sunday, March 17th. Thank you for your generosity!

<u>RCIA</u>

This Sunday, and in the following two Sundays at different masses, we have four elect and seven candidates who will go through their scrutinies. As they go through their public scrutiny, it is important to remember that all of us are also called to privately scrutinize ourselves on how faithful we have been to the call of Christ in our lives.

FIGHT HUNGER WITH CRS:

In addition to supporting CRS through Rice Bowls, would you also like to support CRS by visiting Rep. Jim Costa's Fresno office during the Spring Recess to discuss CRS work, especially as it relates to their efforts to reduce hunger and improve food security and agricultural outcomes globally?

Contact Jim Grant for more Information about CRS (crs.org) or visiting Rep. Costa.

St. Joseph's Table (Bishop Brennan Message)

"It is that time of year where I invite you to join me in celebrating St. Joseph's Table. St. Joseph's Tables have always been about sharing our food and blessings with the poor. I will be celebrating a St. Joseph's Table Mass on Sunday, March 17th, at 10:00 am at Holy Spirit Church in Fresno, and I strongly encourage you to join me in prayer as we again feed the hungry on that Lenten Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food items on the weekend of March 16th and 17th." Please place items on or around the table in the foyer by the reception desk.



Last name to donate a dessert :

M-O Mar 8

P - S Mar 15

T-Z Mar 22

Please Join Us For

HOLY WEEK 2024



Thursday, March 28 7:00PM HOLY THURSDAY MASS

ADORATION WILL FOLLOW IN THE COURTYARD

Friday, March 29 3:00PM
CELEBRATION OF THE
LORD'S PASSION

Saturday, March 30 7:45PM EASTER VIGIL MASS

Sunday, March 31 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM* EASTER SUNDAY MASS

*there will be no 7:00pm Mass on Easter Sunday www.csufnewman.com St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



IN THE CHAPEL EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 6:00PM

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"Heart Speaks To Heart" Stewardship 2024

<u>Thank you</u> so much for your participation! We ended with:

- 27% response rate from our registered parishioners
- Over \$63,000 in new/increased annual commitments
- Over \$80,000 pledged/received for Roof/ADA gifts!
- 48 New Families committing to our parish offertory

Roof Repairs started this week.

We still need pledges or gifts of \$310,000 to support our Roof Repair and ADA Upgrades. Pray about what you might be able to give to help us get these essential maintenance projects completed!

Retrouvaille

Thinking about separation or divorce? Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? **Retrouvaille** (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together.

The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. The next English weekend in Fresno will be held March 8-10, 2024. For confidential information or to register, please call us at (559) 862-6765.

NEW ART FOR THE CHAPEL?

This Sunday after Mass, our parishioner and professional artist, Chris Lessley, will host an Open House to discuss a proposed Art Project for our Chapel.

The proposed project would have paintings of Holy People on the back wall, reflecting the same style as our beautiful stained glass in front.

We ask you to please stop by and look at Chris's demo exhibits and spend some time talking to him about his ideas and **your ideas!**

PARISHIONERS will have the opportunity to talk directly with Chris and to VOTE on whether you support the project or not.

This is a proposed project, and Chris is working to get grant funding to do the project, to train young artists and to involve parishioners in what the project to reflect our chapel's current beauty, our parish mission, and our diversity of parishioners.

Please plan to join us after Masses! If you would like to talk to Chris at a different time, please contact the office.

FILIPINO MASS: MAR 10, 2024 AT 2PM

We welcome all Filipinos to join our Filipino Mass at St. Paul Catholic Newman Center. Mark your calendars for every 2nd Sunday of the month at 2 PM for the Eucharistic Celebration. Come and please join us in our Filipino Mass!

FLOCKNOTE ROLL-OUT

We are almost complete with the FlockNote testing. Please watch for an update next week for your turn to join FlockNote and check/update your Parish Registration information, or to register if you are not already registered.

We are very excited about this new tool, that will have financial-system level security, great communication capability, and many tools for parishioners to stay in touch, check their contributions, and even make contributions.

Campesino Program: Rosaries for Outreach

The California State Council of the Knights of Columbus recently established a Campesino (farmworker) Program to support and assist those whose hard work brings food to our tables. Through the generosity of KofC councils around the State, and our local KofC Chapter and Councils, the Knights have coordinated with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fresno (CCDF) and funded a food distribution for campesino families. Over 5,000 permanent and seasonal farmworker jobs with the Prima Wawona Company will soon be eliminated by that company's recent closure.

The Knights, with CCDF logistical support, will be distributing 300 food boxes in Cutler during April. To show our support, and prayerful thanks and encouragement, we would like to include a Rosary in each food box. If you have a Rosary at home that you can spare, please enclose it in an envelope or small container and bring it to the Newman Center, noting "Campesino Program" on the envelope. Thank you for your help and support for our local Campesino families.

Bulletin and Parish Media

TO SUBMIT ANNOUNCEMENTS, ARTICLES, OR FLIERS FOR THE BULLETIN, WEBSITE, OR SOCIAL MEDIA: Email the Newman Communications Team at

communications@csufnewman.com

Submissions should be unformatted text, with pictures uploaded separately. They may be subject to editing and are not guaranteed for publication, so consider if the website or social media would be suitable alternatives versus the bulletin proper.

Submissions are accepted no later than 12:00pm on Wednesday of the week prior to publishing.

Thank you from your parish staff!

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