St. Paul Catholic Newman Center 1572 East Barstow Avenue

Fresno, Ca 93710

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B | DECEMBER 24, 2023

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear sisters and brothers,

Christmas is a story with many valuable lessons. For many of us who find Christmas "not what it used to be," a messy commercial enterprise, a joyless chore - there's one lesson from today's gospel reading that's particularly relevant. Christmas teaches us to accept the humdrum, the "chore," the trivialities, and the messiness of life as a source of joy. The lesson is wrapped up in the birth of a baby.

The circumstances surrounding the birth of the Son of God were certainly messy. The story of Mary, Joseph, a shabby stable with a manger and straw, and shepherds and wise men on camels has been romanticized in legend, but the facts of life were not so romantic. According to the story, Mary traveled on a donkey while

she was pregnant, with a husband who, not long before, wanted to break off their engagement. The government census had to be honored, no matter her condition. There were no reservations at the innkeeper's house and they were turned away more than once in their search for lodging. It's unlikely that any doctor would approve the birth of a baby in a cow's stall, but it was what it was. Strangers kept coming in to gawk and wonder. An all-around messy situation--but still the angels sang "Gloria!"

Life is so messy that we can legitimately conclude that it's meant to be that way. There's never a time we don't have some kind of problem and there's never a day without its hassles. We plan a great Christmas gettogether for family and what happens? The cake falls, the buns get burned, Uncle Dave has a bit too much to

drink, Uncle Ralph and Uncle George get 'Into It" about the coming elections, cousin Suzie has the flu that we might all catch, and the dog just took a chunk out of the pumpkin pie. But God says it's okay. We can still sing "Joy to the world."

Joy is found in embracing life exactly as it presents itself--Having someone to hug us on a cold winter's night is better than a house full of valuable antiques. True friends are worth more than their weight in gold. Having good health is worth more than an impressive investment portfolio. Appreciative and loving children can guarantee a more enjoyable old age than all the "toys" we accumulate in our lifetime.

Joy to the World,

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Things have significantly slowed down in our young adult and campus ministry during the Winter break. A break that not only I but the young people welcome to slow down and remind themselves of the many joys they have in their lives by visiting loved ones, taking time that is usually filled with studies and work, to fill that time with leisure or just lounging around. This break serves as a breather to prepare and to look at what lies ahead.

Pray for our young adults that they may take this time to rest and be full of joy.—Edgar Guzmán

NEWMAN CENTER YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Bible Study

We will be taking a 2 week break because of Christmas Day and New Years Day. Join us as we continue reading the Gospel of Luke on January 8th. See you then!

Vatican Document on Blessings



To read Bishop's full statement on Fiducia
Supplicans please head to our media page on our site.

IS GOD CALLING YOU IN A NEW WAY?

If you are wanting to find a new way to be a part of our Newman community please consider helping us in these areas:

2024 Parish Directory Committee

Parish Welcome Committee

If you are willing to learn, or have past experience in any of these areas please reach out to Dan Nickerson at plc@csufnewman.com.

DECEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

2022		2023		
December 4	\$32,925.03	December 3	\$18,781.12	
December 11	\$8,571.19	December 10	\$17,967.39	
December 18	\$13, 492.37	December 17	\$27,665.68	
December 25	\$25,569.42	December 24		
DECEMBER 2022 TOTAL	\$80,558.01	DECEMBER 2023 TOTAL	\$64,414.19	



Knights of Columbus Wreaths Across America



John Cardinal Newman Council had the honor on December 16th to participated in wreaths across America. A few of our members were able to laid wreaths on the gravesites of our service, men and women. We also were able to help and donated 20 wreaths to this great and wonderful organization that bless these men and women who have proudly served our county for the Holiday Season.

St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

CHRISTMAS

Office Hours 2023-2024

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

OFFICE CLOSED

WEDS-THURS 12/27-12/28

OPEN 9AM-3PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

OFFICE CLOSED*

TUES-THURS 1/2-1/4

OPEN 9AM-3PM

*There will be no Daily Mass on January 1.



Confessions will be heard as scheduled on Thursdays from 4pm to 5:45pm and Saturday from 3:30pm-4:45pm.

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Claretian Youth Thanks YOU!

Thank you to our Newman Family for your generous support of our Claretian Youth Care Packages!
Your generosity enabled us to create 76 Care Packages that will be distributed to homeless people and those in need in our community. We are so grateful and appreciative for the outpouring of the requested items! Holy Moments were happening in John XXXIII as Claretian Youth High School teens joined by the 7th and 8th grade teens, were busy writing cards, making fleece scarves and assembling the care packages that included holy cards and booklets of faith. A Huge Thank you to the Claretian Youth Leadership Team who made this special night possible.



Parish Information

WEEKEND MASSES: **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am | 9:30am | 11:30am | 7:00pm

(KR)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday (except First Monday) / Wednesday | 8:00am

First Friday (of the month) | 8:00am Thursday | 6:00pm

COMMUNION SERVICES:

First Monday / Tuesday / Thursday | 8:00am Friday (Except First Friday) | 8:00am

RECONCILIATION:

Thursday | 4:00pm to 5:45pm Saturday | 3:30pm to 4:30pm or call for an appointment

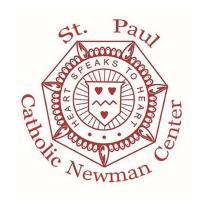
OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday | 9:00am to 3:00pm

MAIN PHONE LINE: 559.436.3434

FOR ANY MEETINGS OR APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE.

For any after hour emergency, please listen for telephone prompts to leave a message.





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Carl and Margaret Christiansen

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Gabrielle DeBoer Allen

Ronald K. Dodds

Edward and Catherine Donoghue

Lauren Douglass

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Clarence and Patti Erickson

Ethel and John Evanski

Marcia Falk

Falk family

Mary Lou and Merle Flattley

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Maurice and Ruth Hogan

Virginia Holloway

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John, Hazel, and Ruth Lewis

Carl and Mae Linkletter

Barbara and Stephen Lombarde

Emilio Lopez

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Matthe Mata

James Mathis

Maul Family

Jim Maxwell

Maxwell family

McCauley and Steiner family

Dora McClain

Patti McConnico

Olwyn McConnico





ALTAR FLOWERS DONATED IN REMEMBRANCE OF ...

Names listed alphabetically by last name.

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Salvador Mejia

Millar family

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Morgenroth family

Muller and Spratt families

Nelson family

Paul and Joyce Neumeier

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Charlene O'Connell

Olge family

Ernest and Mary Ann Olivias

Victoria N. Palacio

Frances and Salvador Palacio

Parents of Christina and Arturo

Duran

Parents of Tom and Cathy Lean

Jack and Naomi Patrick

Lai Pham

Faustino and Lupe Pineda

Hope Pineda

Armando and Ofelia Portillo

Tony and Teresa Prandini

Manuel G. Quintero

Reeves family

Robert and Betsy Reyes

Ryan Roberto

John and Sandy Roberto

Grace Rodriguez

Samuelson family

Arnold and Rebecca Sanchez

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Stoeckle family

Mary and Jack Supino

Susie

Dixie Sutherland

Lindsey Thompson

Pat Tyburski

VanderDussen family

Viloria family

Reed Waddell

John Wallace

Norma Wallace

Robert Wallace

Scott White

Cecil and Sylvia White

Ted and Lorna Wolski

Glen Wolski

Yorde and Smith families















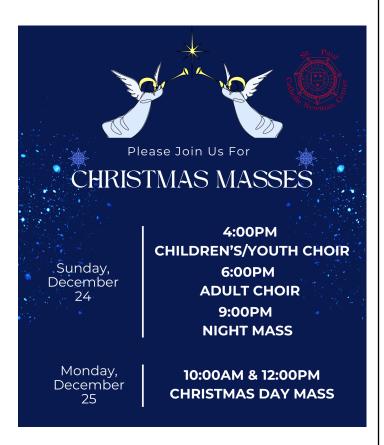
PRAYERS:

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

Jolie Justina Kenneth DeLuca Kathy DeMera Betty Lindsay Tim Camacho Steve Camacho Susan Olson Rev. Msgr. Tony Janelli Dan Dungy Elizabeth Dungy

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.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE NOTE:

Unusually this year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve! This means that we will hold our Advent Masses in the morning at our normal times (7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am) and then begin our Christmas Masses in the afternoon according to the schedule above.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24—DECEMBER 31

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 4TH SUNDAY ADVENT (B)

7:30am	Mass for August Short	Chapel
9:30am	Mass for John Godburn	Chapel
9:30am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Community Room
11:30am	Mass for Rick Kay	Chapel
NATIVITY OF THE LORD (VIGIL)		

Holy Day of Obligation

4:00pm	Mass for Jose Bonifacio Garcia	Chapel
	Mass for Dixie Sutherland	Chapel
9:00pm	Mass for Needs & Int. Parishioners	Chapel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Holy Day of Obligation

OFFICE CLOSED

10:00am Christmas Day Mass	Chapel
12:00pm Mass for Charlie Lynes	Chapel

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

ST. STEPHEN

Chapel

OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 ST. JOHN EVANGELIST

0.00am Mass for Nellis Taylor

7:00pm Mass for Josh Bishoff

8:00am	Mass for Nellie Tovar	Chapel
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28		HOLY INNOCENTS
8:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Confessions	Chapel Chapel Chapel
FRIDA	, DECEMBER 29	THOMAS BECKETT
8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
SATUR	DAY, DECEMBER 30	
3:30pm 5:00pm	Confessions Mass for Mike Arroyo	Chapel Chapel
SUNDA	Y, DECEMBER 31	HOLY FAMILY
9:30am	Mass for Jan Fusselman Mass for Vaughn Melcher Mass for Paul Rodriguez	Chapel Chapel Chapel

WOMEN'S GUILD

The next Women's Guild monthly meeting will be Thursday, January 11th, 2024. Join us at 6:30pm in the Cafeteria. If you're looking for a way to contribute to our parish and connect with other women, please join us!

Upcoming Event:

- Women's Spiritual Retreat Saturday January 27 -8:30am to 1:00pm in Cardinal Newman Hall.
- Cookie Sale February 10th & 11th



ADVENT PARISH DISCERNMENT

We thank you for your prayers and participation in our Parish Discernment time during Advent.

Please take a few moments after mass to write something you felt called to during your discernment. We have set up a bulletin board in the foyer to provide you room to share how the Holy Spirit called to you.

In January, we will begin the Action part of the discernment process, where you can start to be involved in your parish and community as you were called.

Please look for those opportunities to use your gifts and talents to serve God. If we do not have a ministry already, maybe you can be the light to help us get it started! Let us know! Blessings, Dan Nickerson (PLC) & your Discernment Team!



Thank you Newman community for your generosity. You have provided many families, in eight communities, with food cards to make their Christmas a happier one. So many families suffer from food insecurity, but with your help of <u>over 400 donations</u>, you have made it easier for them this Christmas. God Bless you and have a wonderful 2024.

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 for us to publish instead of the bulletin proper. Submissions are accepted no later than 12:00pm on Wednesday of the week prior to publishing. Thank you for your cooperation.

Current...MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Email John Prandini for information on these ministries and more: prandinij@csufnewman.com

Faith, Family & Friends wishes all of our parishioners a wonderful Christmas and New Year! Many thanks to all of our families and friends who have participated this year. Faith, Family & Friends is for everyone! So please join us in the New Year to grow in your faith and your relationship with God. You will meet many wonderful people from our parish community.

We will begin in the New Year on Tuesday, Jan.9th, 2024 with a new schedule. We will all gather - parents, youth and children - at 6:00pm in Cardinal Newman Hall. Individual class sessions will begin at 6:15pm and end at 7:15pm. This will allow families additional time after work and school activities to arrive with less stress.

Adult Topics: In January, the adults will again have 3 class options: a Family Life topic - Parenting Strategies; a Catholic Faith topic - Caring for the Whole Person & Catholic Apologetics; and a Prayer option - SoulCore.

The Family Life option will include 3 sessions by Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and parishioner Amanda Bernabe. She will present on: 1. Attachment - How to Cultivate Secure Attachment with Our Children. 2. Increasing Empathy in Our Children. 3. Increasing Resilience in Our Children. Amanda will give a clinical perspective on each of these, but will also add how these pieces apply to us as children of God and open up those conversations.

Men's Ministry

Men's Weekly Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group: will not meet December 25 or January 1.

Prayer Ministry

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in Cardinal Newman Hall, room 104. The group will meet for a Christmas potluck on Wed. Dec. 20 at 9:00am. *** They will not meet on Wednesday, Dec. 27th.

Family Ministry

Rooting Your Teen in the Faith-- Moms Book Club. Some of the Joy of Love families have teens going through the Confirmation program and are looking for ways to connect their teens to other participants as well as come together for support in raising faith-filled teens through the high school years. Those interested are invited to join the book club as they read through *Rooting Your Teen in the Faith, A Field Guide for Catholic Parents* by Kim Cameron-Smith. If you are interested in this or future meetings, please email joyoflovemoms@gmail.com

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