St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

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

Easter Sunday, Year B

April 4, 2021

Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

The Deacon's Speakin'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The resurrection is the foundation of our faith in the Christian way of life. As St. Paul instructed the early Christians, "If Christ is not raised from the dead, then our faith in is vain." There is power in the resurrection of Jesus. It has faithfully sustained a mission that has been ongoing for two thousand years. It is also a power we should never underestimate, or fail to make use of, in our quest for enriched and successful living. We might take note of why this is so. The resurrection is power for us because it is our assurance that Jesus is alive and well and with us always. He is not an ancient mythological character we study, or a memorable heroic figure of the past, but a living, vibrant person who continues to be actively engaged in his mission. Through our baptism and faith we are united with Jesus in a living relationship; he is the vine and we are the branches. As Paul states in this week's reading from Colossians, we are "raised with Christ" and it is Christ "who is our life." We do not go through life, therefore, unconnected and without purpose. We are part of Jesus and part of God's great plan for the fulfillment of creation. Meditating on this wondrous truth of our faith cannot help but enliven us and uplift our confidence to attain our destiny.

The resurrection is also power for us in an important lesson it teaches. Good and bad, despair and hope, joy and suffering always exist side by side in this world. Jesus didn't avoid pain and suffering; he embraced his cross as fully part of God's will. We create sadness and frustration for ourselves by expecting, if not demanding, Easter without Good Friday, success without effort, better lives for ourselves without having to die to our old lives. The Easter and Good Friday experiences are intimately bound together in every aspect of life. Once we accept pain as well as pleasure as part of normal living, we are significantly less immobilized by hardships or demoralized by reversals of fortune. This is power for effective living. Easter does not discount Good Friday, but it certainly outshines it, proving that there is no affliction, no setback, and no misfortune we face that cannot serve as a stepping-stone for something wonderful.

We need never languish in despair for whatever we endure. The resurrection of Jesus encourages us to look for the oasis in the desert, the silver lining in every cloud. We find power in meeting our problems and doing what we need to take care of ourselves by the assurance of eventual victory. He is the vine and we are the branches. We are part of Jesus and part of God's great plan for the fulfillment of creation.

(From Sunday Reflections)

Happy Easter!

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.



Campus Ministry News

Young Adult Mass

Every Sunday, we host a Young Adult Mass at 7:00pm. This is an opportunity for students, young adults, and young professionals to come together and be among others our age giving thanks to God. Join us before Mass at 6:00pm for confessions or adoration followed by Mass at 7:00pm.

Donations

Thank you to all who have continued to donate snacks, school supplies, and household items. We make all of these items available to students every Sunday evening at our Young Adult Mass. The need is still there to help students save a little money by offering these items for free. If you could donate any of these resources please reach out.

Campus Ministry Contacts

Edgar Guzman, Director: edgar@csufnewman.com

Fr. Byron Macias, Chaplain: frbyron@csufnewman.com

Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Amazon will give .5% of your purchase to the Newman Center through Amazon Smile. Just add "St Paul Newman Center" (no period after St) as your charitable organization on your new or existing account and shop! When you shop be sure to be on smile.amazon.com so that part of your eligible purchase can go to the church. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up. It is an easy way to give back to the church. To sign up click on the link to Amazon Smile on our website.

Blood Donations Needed

The Central Valley blood supply is critically low. Consider donating if you can. The Central California Blood Center needs donors of all blood types. Donations will immediately help community members in need from all walks of life and ease the stressful burden of our front-line health care workers. Online scheduling is simple through their website where you can select an appointment location, date and time that fits your schedule. https://www.donateblood.org/ or call (559) 389-5433.



Claretian Youth

Thanks to all the youth who attended our first CY (Claretian Youth) Mass and meeting last month!

Our next gathering is on Tuesday, April 20 at 6:00pm in the Cardinal Newman Hall Courtyard!

The theme is: "Jesus Lost and Found"

Registrations are still open! Just click here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d
e/1FAIpQLSfWnLJ_q7IPCvOALFeRrEYGK9UTRZwLgaKaAt02PXjtcq40g/viewform?
vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&gxids=7628

You can also email frbyron@csufnewman.com.

Help us spread the word!

Claretian Youth Group Parents

On Tuesday, April 20 at 6:00pm, Fr. Byron will gather and preside over the Claretian Youth Group Mass and meeting outside of St. John XXIII in the Cardinal Newman Hall Courtyard. The parents of those High Schoolers are invited to attend our parish's weekly Tuesday Mass at 6:00pm in the Chapel followed at 6:30pm by a Reflection and Discussion session in the Chapel Courtyard led by John Prandini. These sessions will help parents accompany their child on their spiritual journey. The themes discussed will mirror those covered during the Youth Group meetings.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Diocesan Department of Restorative Justice is hosting a Divine Mercy Chaplet for crime and violence victims in our Diocese.

Join us virtually on Facebook next Sunday, April 11 at 12:30pm. Just look for the Crime Survivors Ministry - Restorative Justice Office page on Facebook. The event will be livestreamed from our front yard.

Food Distribution

We have a drive-thru food distribution every Friday from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Bags are distributed in our east parking lot to each vehicle. The entrance to the parking lot is at the east side gate and vehicles exit through the south gate. Please make sure to wear a mask.

Faith, Family & Friends

Faith, Family & Friends is our parish religious education and faith formation program for EVERYONE - Single adults, couples, and families!

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During this time when we are unable to meet together in large groups, we invite those of you who wish to receive Religious Education & Faith Formation resources for adults and / or children to register.

Adults: Register for our FF&F Adult Religious Education series by emailing John Prandini, Director of Ministries, at prandinij@csufnewman.com with your name, primary email address, and cell phone number. You will then be placed on the list to receive these free resources.

Recommendation: All families with children join the Joy of Love Moms - Family Ministry led by Jakki Pucheu. Joy of Love Moms is sending out weekly emails that provide great ideas and information on fun faith formation activities for children and parenting suggestions to help you reduce stress and improve family communication. You can sign up by sending an email to joyoflovemoms@gmail.com requesting to be put on their email mail list.

For additional information contact Adults: John Prandini, MA at prandinij@csufnewman.com Children: Sr. Kathleen Drilling at skd@csufnewman.com

Family Life Ministry

FF&F Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation Ministry will send adult religious education and faith formation videos and resources to adults wishing to receive them. If you wish to be on the list of recipients, register for our FF&F Adult Religious Education Series by emailing John Prandini

at prandinij@csufnewman.com with your primary email address and cell phone contact number.

You will be placed on the list to receive these free resources. You can also register by texting the message: SPCNC to 84576 and following the prompts you receive.

The Ignatian Spirituality Group has begun a weekly online Ignatian Spirituality Retreat for Everyday Life. Weekly Zoom meetings are held for those wishing to be included. Email John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com for details on how to enroll and participate.

Men's Scripture Study Group

If you'd like to receive weekly emails please send an email to John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com to enroll.

Meditation Opportunities

Christian Meditation If you'd like to receive weekly emails from our Newman Center's Christian Meditation Group, member of the World Community of Christian Meditation, email christianmeditation@csufnewman.com. The group is facilitated by Benita Lankford.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to help us with the following positions for the Saturday 5:00pm Mass: a bathroom monitor and ushers. We also need ushers at the Sunday 11:30am Mass. If you are able to help, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Mass Reservations

Please check your reservations to make sure that you are not booked for two different Mass times over the weekend. This will help us open up spots at our Masses for those who want to attend. If you need help cancelling your reservation at a Mass that you are no longer planning to attend, please email Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: The Good News of the resurrection is proclaimed this week in our Scripture readings. This good news is meant for everyone. Jesus was and is a universal savior. One of the insights we receive on Easter Sunday comes from Acts 10. Peter, struggling to be faithful to the teachings of Jesus, announces that he has learned that "God shows no partiality." This helped to shape many decisions made by the early Church leaders—and it should form our decisions as well. Your challenge this week is to examine how well you live by God's example. Do you personally and/or as a household show partiality to particular groups of people based on their race, religion, economic level, or occupation? Do you exclude any groups on the same basis? If your reflection reveals partiality to some and exclusion of others, make a commitment to change. Identify three steps you can take so that in the future you can say that you, like God, show no partiality.

A Promise of Hope and Healing

Thank you to those who still continue to give donations to our campaign. We have collected \$210,302.70 which is 97.2% of the amount pledged. There is still time to fulfill your commitment.



Electronic giving is the preferred, easy, safe and secure way to give to our parish. To schedule a recurring electronic gift directly from your bank account or credit card, please contact Carol at carol@csufnewman.com.

Please remember to make your payments accordingly. Thank you again for your generous support of St. Paul Catholic Newman Center!

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 4Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-97:30am MassCNH Courtyard9:30am MassCNH Courtyard11:30am MassCNH Courtyard

Monday, April 5 Acts 2: 14, 22-33; Mt 28: 8-15 Office Closed

8:00am Mass Chapel 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study Google Meet

Tuesday, April 6Acts 2: 36-41; Jn 20: 11-186:00pmChildren's MassChapel / Facebook

Wednesday, April 7 Acts 3: 1-10; Lk 24: 14-35

8:00am Mass Chapel

Thursday, April 8 Acts 3: 11-26; Lk 24: 35-48

6:00pm Mass Chapel

Friday, April 9 Acts 4: 1-12; Jn 21:1-14
3:30pm Food Distribution East Parking Lot

6:30pm Young Adult Game Night Zoom

Saturday, April 10 Acts 4: 13-21; Mk 16: 9-15

5:00pm Mass Chapel

Sunday, April 11 Acts 4: 32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20: 19-31

7:30am Mass Chapel

9:30am Mass for Rose Barretto Chapel Courtyard

11:00am HS Confirmation Class Zoom

11:30am Mass John Godburn Chapel Courtyard

12:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Facebook

Prayers:

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

Kristijan, Laura Johnson, Vic Telles, Jerome Murao, Deacon Mike Avila, Timothy Hacker, Diana Mora, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Fr. John Schmoll, Daniel Padilla, Anna Trevino, Sandra Barrie, Deacon Joe Parugrug, Mark Lang, Nancy VanGalder, Tom Lucas, Kristal Lowe Limon, Nettie Shute, Sandy Keith, Meghan Vasquez, Jacob Blake, Dan Dungy, Isabel Wiggins, Rose Derby, Monica Becerra, Alice Schultz, Nancy Martin, Sr. Rosa Maria Branco FHIC

Prayer Requests: Please note that names for the sick / special intentions will remain in the bulletin for one month. If deceased, names are only published the week they died. If you have someone who is in need of prayers please contact the office at 436-3434 or go on our website and fill out the form under the "Prayer Request" tab.

March Contributions

2020		2021		
Mar. 1	\$17,894.05	Mar. 7	ACH	\$21,491.37
Mar. 8 ACH	\$29,313.83	Mar. 14		\$13,710.00
Mar. 15	\$11,873.17	Mar. 21	ACH	\$13,363.38
Mar. 22 ACH	\$6,257.00	Mar. 28		\$9,168.00
Mar. 29	\$4,139.00			
March Total	\$69,477.05	March To	otal	\$57,732.75

Children's Mass

Our Children's Mass is on the first Tuesday of the month. Our next Mass will be this Tuesday, April 6 at 6:00pm. Reservations are required to attend Mass. Please visit our website to make your reservation.

Weekend Masses

Saturday Mass is celebrated indoors at 5:00pm in the Chapel. Sunday Masses are celebrated at 7:30am indoors in the Chapel and at 9:30am and 11:30am outdoors in the Chapel Courtyard. Reservations are required to attend Mass. Reservations can be made online by visiting our website.

Office Closure

Our office is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Staff members are working remotely and checking emails and phone messages. If you need to drop anything off at the office, we now have a mailbox by the front door at the main building. We can be reached on our main line at 436-3434 or by email at ncoffice@csufnewman.com.

Follow us!



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College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



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Hearts Before Minds

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ► Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Peter's discourse
- ► Colossians 3:1-4 Mystical death and resurrection
- ▶ John 20:1-9 The empty tomb

Each of the four gospels recounts slightly different details of Jesus' resurrection. Yet they all begin with a note that the stone which had sealed the tomb has been rolled away, and that the tomb where Jesus' body was laid is now empty. Those who first saw these things were confused and couldn't understand what they were

seeing. Despite
Jesus' predictions during
his lifetime that
he would die and be
raised from the dead,
none of his followers
seemed able to comprehend immediately what
had happened.

Some Jews at the time of Jesus believed there would be a general resurrection of all of the dead at the end of time. Others, like the Sadducees, didn't even believe in that. It's no wonder, then, that it took some time for Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the other disciples to piece together the incredible news that Jesus had been raised from the dead. It would take them many more days and weeks to really begin to understand all the implications of his resurrection. They had nothing in

their experiences to compare this to as they lived into a completely new reality -



"I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord."

Sheepish Question:

Where do I see and celebrate new life today?

a lived experience of life after death. Their hearts would have felt the joy long before their minds could make sense of Jesus' resurrection.

Questions of the Week

Does Easter feel any more significant to you this year because of how you experienced Lent? Why?

Have you ever been so surprised by joy that it took you some time for your mind to catch up to what your heart was experiencing? How so?

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For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish

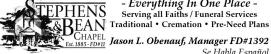
but have eternal life." John 3.16



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