## St. Paul Catholic Newman Center



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

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

August 28, 2022

Readings: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

On any given weekend at St. Paul Catholic Newman Center, there is an energy and presence that begins to coalesce around an experience of encounter in which the People of God and the Trinity come together to celebrate the Body of Christ. What happens is not a private devotion of a few "worthy" individuals in "good standing", but instead a community of sinners called to come together with all our messiness, to be fed. Like every important gathering, there is much to do and many who have spent hours to make it meaningful. Think about the people involved in planning, practicing music, preparing to lector, altar serving, creating the environment that welcomes: writing homilies, preparing to be the best greeter, usher, Eucharistic Minister, or hospitality person in the Cafeteria. The actual word Liturgy means, "the work of the people". The most important group not mentioned in the long list are those of us who occupy the chairs (pews). How do we come to the table Jesus has prepared for us?

Today's readings provide a beautiful template for us and I am sure the homilists will expand our understanding. Rather than venture into their territory, I would like to reflect on two saints that grace the weekend Liturgical calendar and are known by many beyond the Catholic Church. They are St. Monica, August 27 feast day, and her son St. Augustine, August 28 feast day. Most of us have heard about this mother and son duo but let us go a little deeper into what they bring to us.

"The power in the lives of the Saints is that they reveal so much of our own unique stories and experiences through their lives. They are not much different from us. We have similar struggles, issues, joys, and dreams. They are like us in all things, but they never gave up, which is why the Church revers them as an example of Christian life." I encourage you to check out this short blog to get in touch with them. <a href="https://blessedisshe.net/blog/monica-augustine-mother-son-duo/">https://blessedisshe.net/blog/monica-augustine-mother-son-duo/</a>

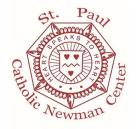
Augustine is one of the great teachers of the Catholic Church. I have wrestled with him and some of his teachings for most of my adult life, yet I have come to see him as a friend. My religious community's foundation is rooted in his teachings on humility the ground of Christian life and community life, "Have the mind of Christ," as Paul says to the Philippians. What would that Mind of Christ look like? We, School Sisters of Notre Dame, turn to Augustine one of our founding forces and in particular this quote.

"What drew me closest to my brothers (sisters) was the delight of the laughing and chatting together; of showing our affection for one another by kindly services; of reading together from books that spoke of pleasant things; of joking together amicably; of disputing now and then but without resentment, as one is wont to do with oneself; of awakening by rare contest the pleasure of being one in mind; of mutually instructing one another; of longing for the absent one, and tasting the joy of (their) return. We loved each other with all our hearts, and these marks of our friendship that were shown in our faces, by our voices, in our eyes and a thousand other ways were among us like ardent flames that fused our souls together and of many made but one." St. Augustine, Confessions.

Continued on page 2

#### 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.



Continued from page 1

Returning to the opening paragraph about preparation for Sunday Liturgies, what lessons can we learn from these two saints?

Monica can teach us hope and persistence when life and situations look most bleak. Her humility to trust God is at work, even if she could not see it. She trusted in Jesus and in his power to work in her son's heart, as she prayed for Augustine's conversion for many years. More importantly, she never stopped loving him, even when he went against everything she instilled in him as a child. No one is too far gone for the power of Jesus.

Augustine teaches us that even if our actions are far from the precepts of the Church, we can still be open to the workings of Jesus in our lives, and in a flash, fall in love with the power of attraction and radical conversion. Most people don't come to faith through dogma, laws or rules, but they do through a personal encounter with God, most often in the type of community Augustine describes in his writings called His Confessions.

On any given weekend at Newman, the preparation. openness, and the Spirit make it happen, and we humbly accept the fact that "many are made One".

Have a wonderful week. Sister Kathleen Drilling, SSND

### Faith, Family & Friends

Adult Sessions, Kindergarten thru Eighth Grade Religious Education, and High School Faith Formation will begin on Tuesday, September 6. We will begin this year by celebrating with an



intergenerational Mass and a blessing of the students' backpacks at the end of the Mass. If a student would like to participate in that Mass, please contact Sister Kathleen, Director of Religious Education or Karl Gurney, Director of Liturgy. Registration forms are available on our website.

### **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.

### Ignatian Retreat for Busy People

Join us in this spiritually invigorating 34-week Ignatian Spirituality Retreat specifically designed for busy people. Experience your relationship with God coming alive in the midst of everyday life and discover a freedom and peace too often out of reach in the modern world. This can be a selfdirected online retreat or you can choose to meet with others to enrich your experience in a supportive group setting to share your insights gained each week.

The Retreat begins with an in-person orientation on Wednesday, September 7 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the Newman Center Community Room.

Each Sunday thereafter, you will be provided with an online link to the week's retreat materials that takes only 10 - 20 minutes to read or listen to.

Retreat Fee: A \$20 materials fee for retreat materials. Weekly optional discussions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm in the Community Room, facilitated by John Prandini, MA - Director of Ministries

To Register or for information: email John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com.

#### Second Collection Last Weekend

We raised \$2707.32 last weekend for St. John's Cathedral. Thank you for your generosity.

### Peace, Social Justice, and Catholic Church Calendar

August 28 (1963) More than 250,000 people marched on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's "I Have a Dream" Speech.

August 29 (2005) Hurricane Katrina slammed the Gulf Coast and New Orleans, killing 1,500

August 29 Passion of St. John the Baptist

August 30 (1999) After 24 years of brutal occupation, East Timor became independent.

August 31 (1925) U.S. Marines end 10 year occupation of

September 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation



### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, August 28

7:00pm Mass

	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19,	22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14
7:30am	Mass for Jean Wiekle	Chapel
9:30am	Mass Int. of Ben Nicholson	Chapel
11:30am	Mass for Jacob Castillo and RCIA Dismissal	Chapel
12:45pm	Baptisms	Chapel
3:00pm	Igbo Mass	Chapel

Monday, August 29 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mk 6:17-29

Chapel

8:30am Mass for Donald Wakita Chapel
8:30am Men's Morning Scripture Study Library
6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study St. John XXIII

Tuesday, August 30 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Lk 4:31-37

8:00am Communion Service Chapel 6:00pm FF&F Teacher Meeting Cafeteria

Wednesday, August 31 1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

8:00am Mass in Memory of Elisa Chapel
12:00pm Universal Christ Book Study Cafeteria
6:00pm College Night CNH 101
6:30pm Prayer and Life Workshop CNH 105

7:00pm RCIA Inquiry Community Room

Thursday, September 1 1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

Fresno State Football Game - 7:30pm

8:00am Communion Service Chapel
9:30am Stanziale Visitation and Rosary Chapel
10:00am Stanziale Funeral Chapel
4:00pm Confessions Chapel
6:00pm Mass Int. of Sr. Joanne Bauer Chapel

Friday, September 2 1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

8:00am Mass Int. of Deacon John Supino Chapel 8:30am Sacred Heart Devotion for Families Chapel

Saturday, September 3 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Lk 6:1-5

7:30am Men's Saturday Coffee Group Cafeteria 5:00pm Mass for Dolores Monahan Chapel

Sunday, September 4 Wis 9:13-18b; Phmn 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

7:30amMass for Marciana LeyvaChapel9:30amMass for John GodburnChapel11:30amMass for Gus Short and RCIA DismissalChapel7:00pmMassChapel

### Live Streaming

We will are live streaming our 9:30am Mass on Sundays. Use the QR Code below to tune in.



### **August Contributions**

2021		2022	
Aug. 1	\$17,923.00	Aug. 7 ACH	\$27,087.20
Aug. 8 ACH	\$20,215.21	Aug. 14	\$14,826.61
Aug. 15 <b>ACH</b>	\$10,196.11	Aug. 21 <b>ACH</b>	\$12,042.82
Aug. 22	\$16,574.61	Aug. 28	
Aug. 29	\$10,557.30		
August Total	\$75,466.23	August Total	\$53,956.63

### Prayers:

- For those who died this week: Sr. Paulette Tiefenbrunn, SSND, Rev. Mr. James Dewey, Dora McClain
- Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:

Joan Renner, Margery Toll, Kristal Lowe Limon, Abigail Love, Linda Alvarez, Julissa Mojarras, Estefania Medina, Mary Garr, Kathy Papagni, Michael Vienna, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Sandra Barrie, Nettie Shute, Sandy Keith, Dan Dungy, Isabel Wiggins, Monica Becerra, Alice Schultz, Dick and Jan White, Sr. Joanne Bauer, Jan Fusselman, Nyla Zender, JoAnn Myers, Monica Baker (Lucido), David Toll, Susan Olson, Mary Yoakum, Maria Coronel, Clara Marrone, Penny Mull, Judy Marchi, Raymond Ram, Nacho Flores, William Rogal, Donna Garcia, Kim Bach, John Cook, John Morgenroth, Walt Whelan, Martin Zapata, Carl Britto, Hannah York, Lisa Pinedo, Lexi Leon, Frances' Parents, Toni Schneider, Zenaida Billena, Ani Lara, Sally Caglia, Maria Sanchez, Camila Carousso, Ramona Egan, Maryjane Abella, Michelle Coyle, Nancy Georgio, Efrain Garza, Jessie Joseph Ruelas, Randy Avila, Jorge Martinez, Dr. Jim Davis, Amy Davis, Barbara Barrows, Carlos Garcia, Marian Martin, Fr. Kevin Bray, Sam Scialabba, Diane Decker, Tommy Estep, Jeri Maxwell

To better serve our Faith Family we are updating our list of prayers. Names for the sick / special intentions will remain in the bulletin for one month then removed from the list unless otherwise notified. 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 Intentions" tab.

### Parish Information

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Weekday Masses: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00am

First Tuesday 6:00pm, Thursday at 6:00pm

**Communion Services:** Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00am **Reconciliation:** Thursday 4:00pm to 5:45pm or call the

office for an appointment.

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm

CLOSED FRIDAY

### Family Life Ministries

#### Joy of Love Moms

The Joy of Love Moms Group invites families to the west playground after 9:30am Mass for an opportunity for children and families to meet, socialize and play together. Please join us!

Men's Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group

This ministry meets on Monday mornings at 8:30am in the Library after our 8:00am morning Mass.

### Prayer Ministry

#### **Christian Meditation**

This ministry will resume on Tuesday mornings beginning September 20 from noon to 1:00pm in the Community Room. Sessions include 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by a brief lesson about this ancient Christian prayer tradition and discussion. The group is a member of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Meetings are facilitated by Benita Lankford. For information email

contact John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com.

### **Book Study: The Universal Christ**

by Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM.

There is still time to register and join this insightful bookstudy group!

- Where and When: Newman Center Cafeteria, noon to 1:00pm
- To Register: Please contact John Prandini at <a href="mailto:prandinij@csufnewman.com">prandinij@csufnewman.com</a>.
- Please purchase the book in advance and read the Introduction "Before We Begin" and Chapters 1 & 2...
- Facilitated by: John Prandini, M.A., Director of Ministries
- · No fee
- Bring your lunch and a friend!

### Spirituality of the 12 Steps

This course is a spiritual journey through the 12 Steps to help you grow in your relationship and intimacy with God through Christ Jesus. It will introduce you to the spirituality of the 12 Steps through the integration of Sacred Scripture and aspects of Ignatian Spirituality to enrich your journey along the Steps.

When: Thursday evenings from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, beginning September 8, 2022 and continuing through Thursday, November 17, 2022.

Where: Cardinal Newman Hall, Room 103

Fee: \$20 for materials.

Facilitator: John Prandini, MA - Director of Ministries

To Register: email John Prandini, Director of Ministries at prandinij@csufnewman.com.



#### Seeking Wednesday Student Night volunteers:

We begin our Wednesday Student Dinners August 31st. This evening has been the bedrock of our outreach to our students, all made possible by YOU!

#### There are two ways to help:

<u>Meals:</u> You, along with 5 others will provide either a meal from a restaurant, a gift card (e.g., VISA gift card/cash), or a homemade dish (main dish, salad, or dessert).

<u>Kitchen:</u> You can help in preparing all that is needed to serve dinner alongside 2 other volunteers.

The commitment consists of one Wednesday a month. To signup you may reach out to our campus ministry administrative assistant at <a href="mailto:catholicclub@csufnewman.com">catholicclub@csufnewman.com</a>. You can also find a Google Form to sign up on the Website Homepage under Campus Ministries.

Thank you!

#### **Young Adult Bible Study**

Every Monday at 6:00pm, join other young adults to reflect and share how the word of God challenges us and lives in our lives. Come join us in the Student Lounge.

#### **School Supply Drive**

One way we have been able to help in preparing students for their studies is easing the burden of buying school supplies. You'll find, located by the reception desk, a bin to collect donations. Items that students most request are: pens, index cards, highlighters, pencils.

#### **Student Lounge:**

As the school semester begins we will continue offering our study lounge to students and others. As an added bonus we like to offer a few snacks and drinks. If you'd like to donate an item(s) see our list below.

- microwavable ready meals
- water bottles
- snack size chips
- granola bars
- · pastry snacks

#### Campus Ministry Contacts

Edgar Guzman, Director: <a href="mailto:edgar@csufnewman.com">edgar@csufnewman.com</a>
Fr. Byron Macias, Chaplain: <a href="mailto:frbyron@csufnewman.com">frbyron@csufnewman.com</a>
Karina Tellez, Administrative Assistant:
<a href="mailto:catholicclub@csufnewman.com">catholicclub@csufnewman.com</a>

### Meet Our New Sergio P. Negro Scholars

On Founders Day, you will be introduced to our two newest Sergio P. Negro Scholars. They will be "officially introduced" at our 9:30am Mass on Sunday, September 11. Both will be the recipients of \$2,500 scholarships and you will have the opportunity to meet and congratulate them at a reception immediately following Mass. They will also be introduced at the 7:00pm Mass that evening, again with a reception to follow.

Hector Rodriguez is a repeat recipient, having received a Sergio P. Negro Scholarship while completing his senior year at Fresno State, majoring in Industrial Technology. Hector, who hails from Wasco, graduated this year and has been accepted into a graduate program, allowing him to further advance his knowledge and skills in Industrial Technology. This past year, Hector served on the Leadership Council of the Catholic Student Association and has provided assistance with numerous activities. His involvement has reaffirmed and deepened his faith as well as providing a home and friendship. This coming year, he will be assisting Father Byron in developing a ministry for graduate students and young professionals.

Hector states that, now that he's graduated, he has two goals. First, he wants to stay in the Central Valley and use his knowledge and skills to improve the lifestyle of those who call this valley home. The son of field workers, he wants others in his community to be able to look and say, "He went to Fresno State and graduated, I know I can do that too." He also wants to use his knowledge to help the agricultural industry shift from practices that are harmful to our environment to those that are more eco-friendly.

Christina Hernandez was still seventeen when she came from McFarland to attend Fresno State. When she arrived in Fresno, she immediately began a search "for a Catholic church where I could continue my religious practices." When asked specifically how she found Newman, her quick response was "I Googled it." She says she immediately felt "welcomed in this center, mostly because students are greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

While now an "old" eighteen year old, Christina was able to achieve junior standing at Fresno State by having taken advanced placement courses taught at McFarland High School in conjunction with Bakersfield Community College. Explaining that, while it took her some time to adapt to her new environment in Fresno, she has been able to participate in activities hosted by the Center as well as attending Care Creation team meetings. As a Liberal Studies major, she also decided to volunteer with Faith, Family, and Friends last year (her first). She signed up in hopes of being an assistant but ended up as the teacher for the third graders. She states that this was a beautiful experience that she hopes to repeat. Christina's goal to return to her home town and become an elementary teacher, allowing her to expand the knowledge of her students. She hopes that she can provide them with the tools necessary to make their world a better place. She also plans to use her vocation at her local church, including becoming a catechist. She says she knows the children have many questions about their beliefs and faith as well as a great hunger for knowledge. She intends to be there to guide them in their faith and provide the information and support they need.

### Football Parking Passes

Season parking passes for the Newman Center are now available for a guaranteed spot all six home games for \$150. If you would like to purchase a pass, you may do so at the front desk

### We Need Your Help!!!

The pandemic had yet another victim. Between jail lockdowns and volunteer concerns, the presence of a Catholic ministry in the Fresno jails has all but disappeared. We are trying to rectify this problem by recruiting volunteers to conduct services for and make visits to the Catholic inmates. If you are seeking to personally encounter Jesus, guaranteed you will find Him there.

If you are at all interested in this rewarding ministry, we invite you to an Introductory Meeting on Wednesday, September 14 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm here at the Newman Center. We will describe in depth the function of a volunteer, answer questions and guide you through completing the security clearance application. To help us prepare, please text (preferred) or call Elida Foster at (559) 288-0033 or Tien Nguyen at (559) 287-6441 to let us know that you are coming. Hope to see you there. God bless!

### Adult Confirmation Help Needed

Our adult confirmation program goes from the end of September to the beginning of January.

We are looking for people to be a part of the formation team. Whether you would like to do a presentation, lead prayer, help with paperwork and phone-calling, or shop for snacks, we can use your help.

Call or email Fr. Paul if you have questions or would like to assist with this wonderful ministry.

# College Community at the Heart of our Parish

In keeping with our mission to serve catholic college students, following the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish, a scholarship endowment fund was established. With seed money from the anniversary celebration and with the continued generous donations from parishioners, along with investment earnings, our fund has grown. The purpose of the fund is to assist upper division and graduate students who are planning on entering a ministry. This could include many forms of ministry including teaching, social services and healthcare professions. To be considered, students must have either attended our parish while growing up or become an active, participating member during college. This year we will be awarding \$2,500 scholarships to two students on Founders Day. We will also have a second collection that Sunday allowing you to provide support for this ministry to our students. This helps honor Father Negro's substantial legacy and our parish's special dedication to the college community.

From Fr. Byron Macias, CMF

In the Gospel today, Jesus really retaliates against the seed of all sin and evil: HUBRIS! And hubris is an ancient Greek word "meaning pride or arrogance, used particularly to mean the kind of excessive pride or conceit that often brings about someone's downfall."

And pride is all around us and it can be so sneaky that it can permeate all aspects of our lives: just look at social media! If it takes over our lives, we can end up bad: we can end up poor, crippled, lame or blind.

How many times we can be poor in mercy; or crippled by anger; or lame by overwhelming events or blind to ourselves or others... I can tell you the many times I have been all that... I'm telling you, hubris is not a good thing!

Yet, Jesus always comes up with a plan B! In life, we will indeed be poor, crippled, lame or blinded by pride. Yet, Jesus will keep inviting us to his wedding banquet. In a world in which humanity and dignity are becoming disposable, Jesus still has faith in us!

If Jesus has faith in us, let us also have faith in him and simply do what he says. Today's message is clear: let humility be the compass that leads our lives. It will not make life any easier, but walking through life in the right direction will do something (and something good) for us!

Slaves and Kings: The Life of Saint Anthony Claret

I can't believe we had two sold out days in the showing of the movie about St. Anthony Claret. You made it possible! It is humbly to realize that you all made history! You filled out a movie theater to support a Catholic (non-Hollywood) film in a mainstream theater.

Thanks for your time and treasure and for the wonderful Catholic statement you made last Monday and Tuesday.

I also want to apologize to all the good people who were unable to purchase a ticket.

And I want to thank the generous people who gave up their tickets and seats (including our own Edgar Guzman) so that our youth and college students can see the movie.

May St. Anthony Claret reward you for generosity.

Someone once said that we don't find the saints; they find us! Get to know him; he is a good one!

**Claret Way** 

Our Claretian Youth will have a new name: Claret Way!

This is in solidarity with the thousands of youth groups in Claretian places around the world.

We are still meeting on Tuesdays at the same time and place. Please don't forget to register under Faith, Family & Friends.

#### **Hike with Mary: Save the Date!**

We will resume our Hikes with Mary on Saturday, October 1! Please save the date and register. Send me an email with your name, contact number and the number of people attending.

Tacos and Theology

We had a good time with our first Tacos and Theology last Thursday. We talked about the Doctors of the Church: What makes them and how they become it.

Our next session will be on Thursday, September 29 at 6:30pm. Please contact Edgar for more information (we can also use some taco donations; please contact Edgar).

Away

Being a Claretian demands that besides our parish assignment we have Congregation assignments. So far this year, I have been out for work for my Claretian Congregation. Yet, I will be away September 1-6 to stay with my family (finally vacation!). Then, September 8-15, I will be traveling to Peru to meet with the Claretians from the Americas who are ministering to the Youth. In Peru, I will make time to visit the tombs of St. Rose of Lima and St. Martin de Porres and will light up a candle for you all. Please keep me in your prayers and be good to Fr. Paul!

**Saintly Quote** "He loves, he hopes, he waits. Our Lord prefers to wait Himself for the sinner for years rather than keep us waiting an instant." - St. Maria Goretti

Have a Laugh

Fr. Byron visits an elderly person from his congregation. As he sits on the couch he notices a large bowl of peanuts on the coffee table. "Mind if I have a few?" he asks.

"No, not at all!" the woman replied.

They chat for an hour and as father stands to leave, he realizes that instead of eating just a few peanuts, he emptied most of the bowl. "I'm terribly sorry for eating all your peanuts, I really just meant to eat a few."

"Oh, that's all right," the woman says. "Ever since I lost my teeth all I can do is suck the chocolate off them."

### **Role Reversal**

This Week's Readings at Mass

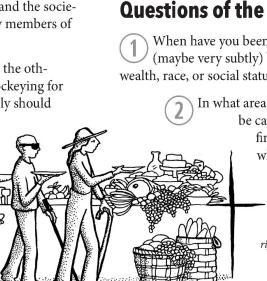
- ► Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Humility
- ► Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a God the judge; Jesus the mediator
- ► Luke 14:1, 7-14 A lesson in humility

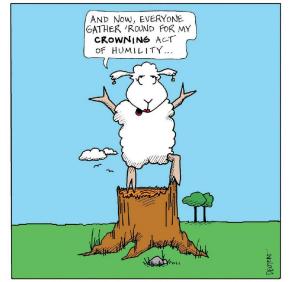
Jesus is an astute people-watcher. Throughout the Gospels, he notices and comments on the subtle behavior and language of those around him, reading into the hearts of the people he encounters. In the Gospel today, Jesus presumably notices that he is being observed carefully by his host and the friends of the leading Pharisee who had invited him to dinner. Knowing that they were also studying him carefully, he boldly launches into a teaching about pride and humility when he notices the social posturing that goes on as the guests jockey for the best seats at the table.

As usual, Jesus is an "equal opportunity offender;" this time calling out his host and his companions for a social practice that was widely accepted in their day—aiming for the highest rung possible on the social ladder. While the host might have been seeking gratitude and honor for inviting Jesus and hosting such a famous guest, Jesus doesn't waver from his teaching and preaching about God's particular concern for the poor, the outcast, and the forgotten in communities. His bluntness calls out both the individuals playing their social cards and the societal practice itself that isolates so many members of society.

After probably offending his host and the other guests by calling on them to quit jockeying for position, he goes even farther. Not only should

they humble themselves in each others' company, but they should also go out of their way to "exalt" those who will never be





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"Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God."

Sheepish Question:

Who am I trying to impress?

able to repay them: the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. To understand how shocking the suggestion was in his day, we might imagine in our time an extravagant destination wedding in a fantastic location. Jesus is suggesting that the hosts should invite as guests the locals of the service industry (those who clean the bathrooms in the airport, the wait staff at the restaurants, the hotel room cleaners, etc.) and the homeless of the area instead of the friends and family of the bride and groom!

### **Questions of the Week**

When have you been guilty of exalting yourself (maybe very subtly) because of your education, wealth, race, or social status?

> In what area(s) of your life might you be called to humble yourself or find a way to "exalt" those who are "lowly"?

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