St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

1572 East Barstow Avenue

Fresno, Ca 93710

Office 559.436.3434 csufnewman.com

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

January 23, 2022

Readings: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Comments on Creation by Pope Francis

The love of God is at the center of everything. Creation, the Pope says, is the fruit of God's love: His love for each of His creatures, and especially for humanity, to whom He has given the gift of creation, as a place in which "we are invited to discover a presence".

However, the Pope continues, "This means that it is for humanity's capacity for communion to condition the state of creation. It is therefore humanity's destiny to determine the destiny of the universe." The connection between humanity and creation lives in love, and is corrupted if it is lacking, and if it fails to recognize the gift that has been given. The Pope explains that the exploitation of resources, in an irresponsible way, in order to gain power and wealth, that is then concentrated in the hands of a few people, creates an imbalance destined to destroy the world, and humanity itself.

Pope Francis asks if this state of environmental emergency might not become an opportunity to turn back, to choose life, and thus to review economic and cultural models, thereby realizing justice and sharing, where every human being can enjoy equal dignity and equal rights. In our time, he said, we have forgotten the active and open dimension of "being", instead privileging the dimension of "having" – a possessiveness that leads to closure, where human beings define themselves, and recognizes themselves, only to the extent of their material goods. In such a situation, those who have little or nothing "risk losing their faces, so that they disappear, becoming one of those 'invisibles' who populate our cities".

The Holy Father, however, cautions that a technological revolution and individual commitment are not enough. Awareness, he says, is gained primarily through an "authentic spirit of communion". We must start again from forgiveness: asking forgiveness of the poor and the exclusive, first of all, in order to be capable of asking forgiveness also of "the earth, the sea, the air, the animals..." For Pope Francis, seeking forgiveness means totally revising one's own way of thinking; it means profound personal renewal. Forgiveness, he says, is only possible in and through the Holy Spirit. It is a grace to be implored humbly from the Lord. Forgiveness, then, is to become active, undertaking a journey together, and never in solitude.

Pope Francis says that, in addition to reviewing one's own lifestyle and changing one's mentality, we must also have a vision. Believers can find this vision in the liturgy, and especially in the celebration of the Mass. Bread and wine are the first foods that humans obtained by transforming the fruits of nature, the wheat and the grapes, through their own ingenuity. In the Mass, humans offer bread and wine to God; and God, through the Holy Spirit, transforms them into the Body and Blood of Christ. He restores them to humans in His greatest gift, the gift of His Son. Bread and wine, the Pope says, are inserted into a circle of symbols: gift of God, commitment of man, work, effort; necessary food and daily bread; joy and the feast of wine. "And just as in the Eucharist the bread and the wine become Christ because they are bathed by the Spirit, the personal love of the Father; so creation becomes the personal word of God when it is used with love". In these words we can see Pope Francis' hope.

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.



Faith, Family & Friends

Faith, Family & Friends - Canceled Until February 8

As Covid cases are surging all around us, the parish has decided to cancel all Faith, Family & Friends sessions until Tuesday, February 8.

All FF&F Groups: Children, Claretian High School Youth, and the Adult Group will not meet until Tuesday, February 8. This cancelation also includes the Children's Mass that was scheduled for February 1.

All FF&F groups and class sessions will resume on Tuesday, February 8 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

We pray that you will all be safe and healthy!

Family Life Ministries

Men's Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group meets on Mondays after morning Mass from 8:30am to 9:15am in the Library.

Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation

John Prandini invites you to join in on a series of classes to explore the Sacraments of the Church - Past & Present. During each session, we will view a short educational video on each Sacrament, followed by a discussion and Q&A session. It is open to all parishioners! Members of the Adult Confirmation program and RCIA are especially invited and welcomed. Classes are on Tuesday evenings beginning February 8 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the Chapel. Class dates: February 8, February 15, February 22, March 8, March 15, March 29. No registration or fee is required.

Prayer Ministries

Christian Meditation meets weekly on Tuesdays at noon in the Community Room, for 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by a brief lesson about this ancient Christian prayer tradition and discussion. Christian meditation utilizes the mantra "Maranatha" (a word in Jesus' own Aramaic language meaning, "Come, Lord Jesus") in order to quiet the mind and come to silence, meeting Jesus in the depth of our own being, beyond words or images. 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.

Catholic Charities Truck

The Catholic Charities Donation Truck will be at the Newman Center <u>January 29-30</u> to collect donation items after all Sunday morning Masses. Donations brought to the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses can be left in the white bin in the Chapel Courtyard. Thank you for your support.

RCIA

If you interested in becoming Catholic or know of someone who may be interested, this is a good time to start RCIA. Please leave contact information at the front desk and we will follow up or you can contact Charles Arokiasamy – 286-6372 or by email rcia@csufnewman.com.

The RCIA process at the Newman Center is designed to be a safe and welcoming place to personally experience Christ and develop your relationship with Jesus in a supportive community. We don't throw a bunch of doctrines and rules at you. Instead, we provide a place for you to develop your faith journey with Jesus as a Catholic Christian. If you are a baptized Catholic, spread the word and consider becoming a sponsor of those seeking Christ.

Secular Franciscans

St. John the Baptist Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order invites all to Online Contemplative Morning Prayer: Daily from 6:00am to 7:00am.

Liturgy of the Hours is shared on the screen.

Short pauses are observed throughout. 20 minutes of silent prayer after the Liturgy of the Hours.

For Details and to request the Zoom Link, please email or call Everardo Pedraza, OFS at fct.ofs@gmail.com, 559-230-9736. All are welcome!

Second Collection Next Weekend

There we will be a second collection for Campus Ministry next weekend. Your gift will help cover important expenses and maintain many of our services we provide for college students to grow in faith. If you are unable to donate this week, we will continue having this special collection on the months with a 5th week. We thank you for your generosity and support.

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.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 23

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

7:30am Mass for the Lopez Family Chapel 9:30am Mass for Jim Cook Chapel

10:00am HS Confirmation Class (via Zoom)

11:30am Mass for Frances Hernandez Chapel
6:30pm Prayer Activity Chapel
7:00pm Young Adult Mass Chapel

Monday, January 24 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Mk 3:22-30

8:00am Mass Int. of Lucia Nicholson Chapel
8:30am Men's Morning Scripture Study Library
6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study St. John XXIII

Tuesday, January 25 Acts 22:3-16; Mk 16:15-18

8:00am Communion Service Chapel

12:00pm Christian Meditation Community Room

Wednesday, January 26 2 Tm 1:1-8; Mk 4:1-20

8:00am Mass for Peter Sharkey Chapel 6:00pm College Night CNH 101

6:00pm Scriptural Rosary Community Room

6:30pm PAIN Cafeteria

Thursday, January 27 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25

8:00amCommunion ServiceChapel4:00pmConfessionsChapel5:30pmThe Hero WithinCNH 1016:00pmMass for Sandy UllmannChapel

Friday, January 28 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34

8:00am Mass for Robert Maly Chapel

Saturday, January 29 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41

Catholic Charities Truck

Second Collection – Campus Ministry

5:00pm Mass for Frances Hernandez Chapel

Sunday, January 30 Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 4:21-30

Catholic Charities Truck

Second Collection - Campus Ministry

7:30amMass for Maria DeLaLuz Torres LopezChapel9:30amMass for Ricardo and Carmelita SungaChapel11:30amMass for Gladys JoyceChapel12:45pmBaptisms (Group)Chapel3:00pmIgbo MassChapel6:30pmPrayer ActivityChapel7:00pmYoung Adult MassChapel

January Contributions

2021		2022	
Jan. 3	\$28,062.05	Jan. 2	\$23,472.00
Jan. 10 ACH	\$19,438.31	Jan. 9 ACH	\$25,019.38
Jan. 17 ACH	\$12,113.06	Jan. 16 ACH	\$13,713.42
Jan. 24	\$8,549.00	Jan. 23	
Jan. 31	\$9,140.55	Jan. 30	
Jan. Total	\$77,302.97	Jan. Total	\$62,204.80

Prayers:

- For those who have died this week: Fr. Joseph Heffernan, Vic Roznovsky, Dick Owen, Larry Mendez
- Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:

Sr. Ana Rosa Guzman, Joan Renner, Margery Toll, Frances Garcia, Fr. Joe Baca, Kristal Lowe Limon, Jessica H., Olivia King, Olivia Arriaga, Abigail Love, Ron Dodds, Donna Lang, Mark Lang, Gary Payne, Willie Jacques, Linda Alvarez, Marianne Coons, Julissa Mojarras, Estefania Medina, Laura Willers, Mary Garr, Kathy Papagni, Michael Vienna, John and Kathy Brechmann, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Sandra Barrie, Nettie Shute, Sandy Keith, Meghan Vasquez, Jacob Blake, Dan Dungy, Isabel Wiggins, Monica Becerra, Alice Schultz, Sr. Rosa Maria Branco FHIC, Dick and Jan White, Randy Trejold, Jose Murillo, Piper Linden, Jose Guadalupe Solorio, Jennifer Payne, John Schutt, Bobbie Sweeden, Jeff Janzen, Kitty Culleton, Catherine Simone, Tommie Huettmann, Melvin Helm family, Don Dallas family, Reed Waddell, Tom & Summer Quiroz Family, Joe Calandri, Rob Hyatt, Danny Hyatt, Sr. Joanne Bauer, Deacon Steve and Angie Taylor, Deacon John Supino

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College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



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From Fr. Byron

Here's something I came across online. It is a beautiful speech attributed to Pope Francis that has warmed up my heart and hope it warms up yours as well:

"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you.

Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only

to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life.

Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us,

free, joyful and simple.

It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes".

It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry".

It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you".

It is to have the ability to say "I love you".

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ...

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness .

That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom.

And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance.

Use your losses to train patience.
Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity.
Use pain to plaster pleasure.
Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence.
Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show."

Christian Unity

We are celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity around the world from January 18-25. Please say a prayer that the light of Christ brings all his believers together in dialogue, mutual understanding and acceptance.

Laudato Si

How is your 2022 Laudato Si Goal to "live simply" going? 'In Laudato Si' Pope Francis invites us to, "return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things, to be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not to succumb to sadness for what we lack." (222). As a way to live Laudato' Si, we invite you to look for ways to use less, to share more, and to focus on relationships instead of things.' Check out some ways in https://livelaudatosi.org/

Also, we are moving forward with our parish project to create our Community Garden. In fact, Chris De Leon will be speaking to us next week after Masses to tell us a little bit more of how the project will become reality in our parish.

Please join us on our Creation Care Meeting on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 7:00pm in the Cafeteria. Let us do our part to honor and protect another wondrous gift God has "created" for us: the wonderful world in which our life and faith unfold.

Santo Nino

Last Sunday we hosted the Santo Nino celebration for the first time ever in our parish. I really want to thank all the people who organized the Mass (including Fel and Marilou Abenoja, Esterita, Janetta, Tess, Dr. Val and the Filipino choir, the Pilipino Catholic League and the Santo Nino Groups). We had a Rosary / Procession around the church culminating with a beautiful Mass! Check out our Facebook page for some photos.

Claretians Retreat

Father Paul and I will be attending our Claretian Province Retreat from January 31 - February 4. Please keep us in your prayers; we will do the same for you. Check the bulletin and the website for schedule of daily liturgies during the above mentioned week.

Claretian Youth

Our youth group will resume on February 8 at 6:00pm in the St. John XXIII Student Lounge. Due to the recent class cancellations due to Covid surges and me being away at the Claretian Retreat, the best thing is to postpone our gatherings until the 8th of February. I apologize for the inconveniences.

Hikes with Mary

Thank you to all the people who attended our *Hike with Mary* on Saturday, January 22. We had a wonderful time enjoying creation and praying and learning about the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our next *Hike with Mary* is on Saturday, February 26. All are welcome! Send me an email to sign up and I will make sure I keep reminding you, or you can sign up by scanning the QR code on the Campus Ministry bulletin board. My email is: frbyron@csufnewman.com.

Prayer During Times of Covid19

"For all who have contracted coronavirus, we pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable, we pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety, we pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety, we pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance, we pray that no family will face financial burdens alone. For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status, we pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world, we pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers, we pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen." US Bishops.

Saintly Quote

"Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly." - St. Francis de Sales (His feast is tomorrow, Monday, January 24)

Have a Laugh

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a Priest when I grow up."

"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?"

"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit down and listen."

Creation Care Tips

But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."—1 Corinthians 12:24-26 In this passage St. Paul was writing about our human bodies, but his words can just as easily be applied to the earth and all of creation. If one part of nature suffers, all of creation suffers. Whatever you believe is the cause of climate change, most every scientist agrees that the climate is changing and millions of people around the world are suffering as a result. This week, commit to having an open and respectful conversation with someone who may not be in agreement with you about their thoughts on climate change. Rather than trying to change their mind, focus on trying to understand their viewpoint.

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: This is the last week of National Poverty Awareness Month. Poverty in the U.S. affects over 37 million people. The largest age group affected is children. Your challenge this week is to increase your own awareness of childhood poverty. Go online and find statistics on the national, state, and local levels. Read why there are so many children living in poverty in our country. Share what you learn with others so they become more aware as well. Then find one concrete action you can take this week to help a child suffering from poverty in your local community.

Ecumenical Environmental Meeting

Pope Francis and the Catholic Church are not the only Christians committed to hearing "The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor".

Right here in Fresno members from the Mennonite Community, The Wild Church, St. James Episcopal Cathedral, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno will be meeting on Wednesday, January 26 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm in the Sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno, 2672 East Alluvial Avenue Fresno, CA 93720 (between Chestnut and Willow).

Please join Jim Grant in sharing what we are planning to do with our community Garden, as well as learning from the other churches their resources and response to the climate crisis and its effects right here in the valley.

Bring a sack lunch if you'd like. Covid Restrictions will be enforced and masks are required everywhere on campus. If you can attend, please contact Jim at jimgrantbc@gmail.com.

THE DIOCESE OF FRESNO IS HIRING!

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Under general supervision from the Director – Office of Formation and
Evangelization, plans, develops, implements, and evaluates all aspects of
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personally performs/conducts youth/young adult ministry related
activities/tasks; and performs related job duties and responsibilities as
assigned.

Learn more:

Santo Nino Thank You

Santo Nino is a Roman Catholic title of the child of Jesus. The image of Santo Nino is the oldest surviving Christian artifact in the Philippines. Originally, a gift from Spanish explorer Ferdinand Magellan to the local chief of Cebu Rahaj Humanon on their Christian baptism in 1521.

After Magellan's death, the little Jesus disappeared until 1565, 44 years later where it was rediscovered under a pile of ashes unscathed inside a wooden box. The survival of the statue was seen as a sign of many miracles and ever since, it has been believed to have miraculous powers.

The image now lies in the Basilica de Santo Nino and became a favorite destination for millions of pilgrims each year. For four and half centuries now the image of Santo Nino continues to make wonders in the lives of many Filipinos.

The devotion of Santo Nino is the most popular devotion in the Philippines and has spread worldwide and throughout the United States.

Every year, The Feast of Santo Nino is celebrated on the third Sunday in January, followed by a nine day long "Sinulog" festival celebrating the local conversion to Christianity with parades, music and dance.

For this year's festival on January 16, hundreds of Filipinos gathered at St. Paul Catholic Newman Center and brought their personal statue of Santo Nino and placed them on a decorated table in front of the altar, creating a sea of Santo Niños staring at the congregation.

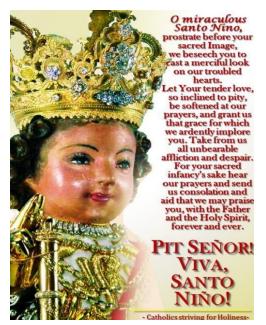
The festival began with a candlelight procession around the church grounds, some carrying a replica of Santo Nino, rosary and the final celebration of the Holy Mass.

We are so grateful to St. Paul Catholic Newman Center for opening up their doors, to Fr. Paul Keller who officiated the Holy Mass, Deacon Bill Lucido and most especially Fr. Byron Macias for bringing this blessed celebration a reality in spite of the pandemic.

We also want to thank the following who planned and made this celebration a success. Sally Wee, Judy Ramirez, Marlyn Magno, Mina Estaya, Jun Abenoja, Esther Littlejohn, Janetta Gutierrez, Joan Tabaino and the members of Woodward Park 2 Choir headed by Dr. Simbre.

Thank you Santo Nino 1 and 2 and all who attended the service. May the grace of Santo Nino be with us always, Amen.

- Fel and Marilou Abenoja



He's From Where??

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 Ezra reads the Law
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 Analogy of the body
- ► Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 Beginning of Jesus' preaching

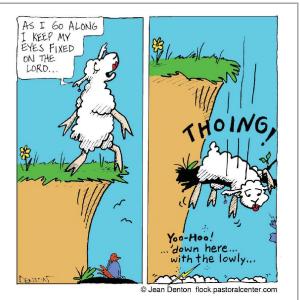
Luke reminds us that Jesus is from the town of Nazareth, a backwater village of about 500-1,500 people, most of whom were poor and illiterate. As part of the immensely powerful Roman Empire spread across the Mediterranean, Nazareth would barely have registered on the radar of the rulers of the day.

No wonder that the world was shocked to hear about an itinerant preacher from there who was attracting a great following. In John's Gospel, we hear how incredulous this seems. When Philip told Nathanael about Jesus for the first time and mentioned he was from Nazareth, Nathanael burst out, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" (Jn. 1:46).

But here is Jesus, already gaining fame and respect in the area, reading from the Old Testament scroll. (He's from Nazareth, and he knows how to read!) He was not from the priestly class, yet by the time he comes back to Nazareth on this particular day, Jesus had already assumed the role of a religious teacher by speaking in the local synagogues. Then he reaches beyond that role and announces he is the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy about the anointed one sent by God. This happens very early

in Luke's Gospel,





"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor."

Sheepish Question:

With my eyes fixed on Jesus, where does his Spirit lead me this week?

and Jesus is starting off with a bold proclamation, unapologetic about his background and upbringing. He is setting the tone for the work he has come to do.

Questions of the Week

Who do you know from a background of no reputation who has made a positive impression or impact on you? Maybe they were from a tiny town, or went to a little-known college, or didn't go to college at all, or in some way rose above their station.

Which of Jesus' lines about what he was anointed to do strikes you as most exciting or hopeful? Why?

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