St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

1572 East Barstow Avenue

Fresno, Ca 93710 Office 559.436.3434 csufnewman.com

The Ascension of the Lord, Year B

May 16, 2021

Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mk 16:15-20

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Jesus' ascension is both an ending and a beginning. The resurrection appearances are at an end, His revelation of the kingdom of God is complete, and the promise of a Messiah is fulfilled. Now begins the work of His disciples to teach what they have learned and to share what they have witnessed. It's not a promising start. Like any new venture or transition in life, it's a moment of great uncertainty, confusion, and apprehension. Jesus places His church in the hands of a group of illiterate fishermen and otherwise ordinary, unremarkable people. Yet, what began with those followers of Jesus, has grown and flourished through the centuries to this parish family of ours.

On the mountain of the ascension, Jesus calls us to be His "witnesses" – to tell others about the good that God has done in the Easter mystery. Jesus asks us to be witnesses of God's presence in our midst – to be agents of hope, compassion, and peace.

We have heard the story of Jesus and observed His presence in the love we have experienced in our own lives. We are now called to extend that love into the lives of others and into the lives we share as families, as church, and as humankind. We are called to continue Jesus' work to teach, to witness, and to heal in our own small corners of the world. We must hand on the story that has been handed on to us about Jesus and His Gospel of love and compassion.

"Most of us can't do great things. We can only do small things with great love."

- Saint Mother Theresa

Peace and love,

Deacon John

Deneon 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

College Night

Join us this Wednesday for our Student Night. Visit our webpage or social media bio for the link!

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

RCIA

Interested in becoming Catholic? If you have never been baptized or if you are baptized in another denomination but would like to become Catholic, please contact Charles Arokiasamy at ncoffice@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 personal 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 explore and 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.

Food Distribution

parish.

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. Thank you to Catholic Charities for providing the food that is distributed at no cost to our



Claretian Youth!

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

Our next gathering is on Tuesday, May 18 at 6:00pm in the Cardinal Newman Hall Courtyard!

May's Theme: "Jesus Heals a Boy Possessed by an Impure Spirit" -Mark 9, 14

Help us spread the word!

Claretian Youth Group Parents

On Tuesday, May 18 at 6:00pm, Fr. Byron will gather and preside over the Claretian Youth Mass and meeting 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.

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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.

Faith, Family & Friends

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

For **Children and Youth** materials, contact Sr. Kathleen Drilling at skd@csufnewman.com.

Recommendation: All families with children join the Joy of Love Moms - Family Ministry led by Jakki Pucheu.

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 Joy of Love Moms Group 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.

Men's Scripture Study Group If you'd like to receive weekly emails with Scripture Reflections and Commentaries, and other Faith Formation materials, please send an email to John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com to enroll.

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.

Spiritual Direction

The Pandemic for many people has become a spiritual crisis. Spiritual Direction offers a way to process the isolation, losses, and turmoil in the world. Spiritual Directors help you find deeper meaning beyond the crisis while growing in greater intimacy with God and one another. For more information contact the office at ncoffice@csufnewman.com or 436-3434.

Second Collection this Weekend

This weekend we are taking up a collection for Catholic Charities for all the wonderful things they do for our community and beyond. Please consider donating. Thank you for your generosity.

A Promise of Hope and Healing

Thank you to those who still continue to give donations to our campaign. We have collected \$214,322.70 which is 98% 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 Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: When Jesus ascended into heaven, his glorified physical body was no longer with us. But he commissioned the apostles (and us through them) to be his body on earth until he came again. We are called to be the hands and feet, the heart, the mouth, the shoulders of Jesus to those in need. Your challenge this week is to ask which part of the Body of Christ you are called to be right now. Does someone need you to be his ears, listening to their story? Or might you be called to be his prophetic voice, challenging someone or a group of persons to live more justly? Be the Body of Christ this week. (Don't forget that receiving Jesus in the Eucharist will help you in this task.)

Catholic Charities Golf Classic

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Catholic Charities will not be hosting their annual classic golf tournament. In lieu of the tournament, they are hosting a raffle. Golf Tournament donations of \$500 or more made now through June 30th will be entered to win a day in paradise with your favorite foursome at one of the best public courses in the state and the country – The Links at Spanish Bay.

Every \$500 donated will count towards one entry to win. To make a donation, you can visit the Catholic Charities website, https://ccdof.org/fresno/, click the "donate" button, and under "Apply my donation to" click on Golf Classic. You can also mail your donation to 149 N. Fulton Street, Fresno. CA 93701 ATTN: Golf Classic.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, May 16 Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mk 16:15-20

7:30am Mass Chapel
9:30am Mass for Joe Camoroda Chapel Courtyard
11:30am Mass for Matthew Briam Chapel Courtyard

Monday, May 17 Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33

8:00am Mass Int. of Michael Scambray Chapel 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study Google Meet

Tuesday, May 18 Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a

6:00pm Mass Chapel 6:00pm Claretian Youth Group CNH Courtyard

Wednesday, May 19 Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19

8:00am Mass Chapel

Thursday, May 20 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26

5:00pm Confessions Chapel 6:00pm Mass for Edna Mae Widenfeld Chapel

Friday, May 21 Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19

8:00am Mass Chapel
3:30pm Food Distribution East Parking Lot
6:30pm Young Adult Game Night Zoom

Saturday, May 22 Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25

5:00pm Mass Chapel

Sunday, May 23 Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

7:30am Mass for Russell Castillo Chapel

9:30am Mass for Rizal Abrina Chapel Courtyard
11:30am Mass for Donna Hadrian Chapel Courtyard

May Contributions

2020			2021		
May 3		\$8,430.00	May 2		\$16,289.46
May 10	ACH	\$18,840.00	May 9	ACH	\$19,440.00
May 17	ACH	\$15,355.00	May 16	ACH	
May 24		\$7,822.00	May 23		
May 31		\$7,145.01	May 30		
May Total		\$57,592.01	May Total		\$35,729.46

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 answering phone calls and emails Monday—Thursday and checking messages on Fridays. 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.

Prayers:

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

Christopher Evans, Angela Scialabba, Kathy Papagni, Judy Marchi, Michael Vienna, John and Kathy Brechmann, Madeline Lynes, Brittany and Penelope Baeza, JoAnn Myers, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, Paty Bretado, Kristijan, Laura Johnson, Vic Telles, Deacon Mike Avila, Timothy Hacker, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Fr. John Schmoll, Daniel Padilla, Anna Trevino, Sandra Barrie, Deacon Joe Parugrug, Mark Lang, 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.

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 and a greeter at the Sunday 11:30am Mass. If you are able to help, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Follow us!



St. Paul Catholic Newman Center



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College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



newmancenter fresno

Moving Outward

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ► Acts 1:1-11 The Ascension of Jesus
- ► Ephesians 1:17-23 A Spirit of wisdom
- ► Mark 16:15-20 The Commissioning and Ascension

The author of the Gospel of Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles. In the first reading today, Luke tells the story of Jesus' Ascension into heaven in greater depth than in his Gospel. First, he recaps the 40 days Jesus spent with his followers after his resurrection. Next, Jesus repeats the promise that the disciples will receive power from the Holy Spirit—a foretelling of the Pentecost which we will celebrate in two weeks. Finally, Jesus commissions them to spread his message throughout the world, starting in Jerusalem, after they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

If we think of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles as a two-volume work (as Luke seems to have intended), then the Gospel moves toward Jerusalem at its climax where it ends after Jesus is raised from the dead. Then, the Acts of the Apostles begins in Jerusalem, but moves outward from there to "the ends of the earth"—at least the known ends of the earth in Jesus' time and place. The point is clear: Jesus' teachings aren't to be contained to one location or culture. He wants the Good

News spread far and wide, and the disciples will discover that the Holy Spirit gives them what they need to do it.

We may wonder sometimes why Jesus had to "go away," but perhaps it was only because he went away that the Holy Spirit was unleashed into the world. As the story in Acts of the Apostles unfolds, we learn how much the first apostles and their friends were able to do once they receive the outpouring of the Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT
CAN COME AS A
HUGE WIND, OR
TONGUES OF FIRE,
OR A DOVE ...

OR A WINDBLOWN
BURNING DOVE?

Grace was given to each of us according to
the measure of Christ's gift."

Sheepish Question:

What am I doing with the gift of the Spirit?

Jesus may not have been physically present anymore, but his ongoing presence through that Holy Spirit allowed his followers to travel throughout the Mediterranean world and reach more people in their lifetime than he ever did. Because of their willingness to follow Jesus' instructions to witness to him throughout the world, there are now more than two billion Christians on earth.

Questions of the Week

Who do you

has passed away yet whose spirit is still alive and making an impact on others?

Where or to whom might Jesus be inviting you to witness to him?

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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

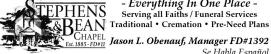
but have eternal life." John 3.16



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