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Knowing Newman

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Get Involved at the Newman Center!

In a time of resolutions for the New Year why not grow your faith? We offer a wide variety of ways to help you grow! An easy place to start would be to join a ministry and serve your community. Some of our ministries include Liturgical Music Ministry, Peace and Social Justice, Men’s Ministry, The Women’s Guild (See more in our Ministry Spotlight), support our college students through Campus Ministry, or join our Liturgy Team. Speaking of Liturgy, have you considered becoming a liturgical minister? You can serve as a Communion Minister, a Lector, an Alter Server or an Usher. You can sign up for your preferred Mass time. We will train you in any of these areas. Find one that fits your interests and get involved. Check out our Ministry Brochure in the hallway or go on our website to see more information on each ministry.

If you want to learn more about your faith consider joining Faith Family & Friends. It is not too late to join! They meet every Tuesday night and have some great options for adult faith education. Married and engaged couples can consider attending the Marriage Enrichment Series *Marriage Works!* This is a great way to learn how to strengthen the bond of marriage at any stage. This is a six week series that begins January 8 so sign up soon! If you are busy Tuesday nights then consider becoming a sponsor for RCIA or Adult Confirmation. Help someone along their faith journey. As they learn more about their faith, so can you! Training will be provided.

Each year we put on events to raise funds for the parish. In the winter just before lent is our Mardi Gras dinner and auction. We enjoy an evening full of good food, dancing and auctions. There is a silent auction as well as a dessert auction for you to peruse and bid on items. In the fall is our International Food and Craft Festival. We spend the day enjoying food from all over the world and handmade crafts from local vendors. There is also live entertainment as well as a fun space for the kids to play. There are many ways to get involved in these events from the planning, to item donations, to volunteering during the event. The proceeds from these events go directly to Parish Ministries.

Please visit our website to see more ways to get involved. If you have any questions about any of these ministries or would like to get involved, please call the office and we can put you in contact with them.

Welcome to the Newman Center!

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00am—5:00pm

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil:

5:00pm

Sunday:

7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

7:00pm

Weekdays:

Monday – Thursday: 7:00am

First Friday: 7:00am

Communion Service:

Friday 7:00am

1572 E. Barstow Ave.

A Treasured Christmas Gift

By Rosie Hernandez

It was the Saturday before Christmas and I was on my way to my sister's house to celebrate my mother's 80th birthday with family and friends. It was a three-hour drive for me, returning the next day so I could be ready to sing on Christmas Eve. I was already tired, and hoping to get there before I felt like I needed a nap!

I made my usual Starbucks stop, getting out of the car to stretch my legs, and as I walked toward the entrance, a man was walking back to his car, and he was applauding. I thought perhaps his family or friends were in a nearby car...or maybe he was applauding my horrible parking job (I was almost over the line). I went inside, waited patiently for my latte, and returned to my car.

To my surprise, the man was parked next to me, on the passenger side, with his family loaded into the car for a trip. I could see the back full of packages. He knocked on the window of my car and I thought, "Oh, no. Maybe my parking was that bad and he is upset!"

He asked me where I got the decal on my car.

The previous weekend I had purchased a "Keep Christ In Christmas" magnet from the Knights of Columbus, and just that morning had remembered to put it on the back of my car. He was so excited to see it, he thanked me for openly proclaiming my faith, and asked where he could find one for his car. He said he was a teacher of the faith for children in his church and had been trying to teach to both his students and his own children the real meaning of Christmas.



Winter at the Newman Center

This winter we have a few exciting things coming up. At the end of January the Women's guild will be having their annual Women's Retreat. It will be January 26 in Cardinal Newman Hall (more information in the ministry spotlight). That same day our Adult Confirmation candidates will be Confirmed at St. Anthony's. Please pray for them as they continue along their faith journey.

In February our second year Confirmation candidates will be going on their retreat to get away from the hustle and bustle of life and reconnect with God. The Women's Guild will continue their annual tradition of selling Valentines Day cookies. Please support them by buying their homemade baked goods so they can continue all the good work that they do. Our Mardi Gras Dinner will be happening at the end of February. Please keep an eye out for when tickets go on sale and when we will begin accepting donations for the auctions. We cannot have this fun night out without your help. Thank you to those who have supported us in the past, we hope that you will continue to support us this year.

March is the beginning of Lent! Ash Wednesday is on March 6. Please keep an eye out for times of Ash services and more. The college students will be going on their weekend long spring retreat in March. They will be taking that time to strengthen their friendship with God and each other.

Please join us for some of these winter events. For more things happening at the Newman Center please visit our website.

Ministry Spotlight

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild is a parishioner founded ministry for Women. The Guild was founded eight years ago when a parishioner saw the need to start a women's ministry. Today, the ministry is still going strong with passionate and dedicated members who give back to the parish and live out their mission statement. Their mission is to, *"Provide spiritual opportunities for growth, promote fellowship and Christian service through projects that benefit our Church, its members and the surrounding community and build bonds of friendship through social activities."* They live this out through all the good works they do for the church.

The Guild supports the parish through service, donations, as well as a variety of other projects. They have two main fundraising activities throughout the year. One is their Valentine's Day cookie sales. For this they bring in homemade baked goods to sell before and after the weekend Masses. The other is their Women's Retreat. The proceeds from these fundraisers go to a variety of methods to support the parish. A few examples of these are: every year the Guild participates in the giving tree to support the families in need. They host the bunco party that is sold at the Mardi Gras Fundraiser. All the proceeds from the party go back to the parish. Every Christmas they give the altar servers gifts. They support many other activities going on at the parish as well as making general donations.

Their retreat is coming up this month on Saturday, January 26 from 8:30am to 1:30pm. In the past the retreat has been in the spring, but this year they want to provide the women of the parish an opportunity to ring in the new year with a renewal of the spirit and faith. This year's retreat, *Catholics Fully Alive*, will be led by Fr. Paul, CMF. The two topics of discussion are, "Why Being Catholic Matters" and "Living an Authentic Catholic Life". This is not only a great opportunity for a renewal of faith, but also to meet other women in the parish as well as the community. Tickets are \$25 per person, which includes a continental breakfast and buffet lunch. Ticket sales begin Saturday, January 5 before and after all the Sunday Masses and at the front desk during the week.

The women in this ministry are passionate about the work that they do. They volunteer their time as often as they can. One Wednesday a month they support the college Wednesday Night Dinner by providing dinner for them as well as serving the students and cleaning up. Last month they went Christmas Caroling at the Nazareth House to bring Christmas cheer to the residents. Individuals also volunteer their time beyond Guild activities.

All women of the parish are invited to join this ministry. They meet on the second Thursday of the month in the Cafeteria. Their January meeting will be Thursday, January 10 at 6:30pm. See their page on the website for all meeting dates. There are many ways to participate in this ministry even if you cannot make the meetings. Helping with any of the activities is a great way to get involved. They have a yearly fee of \$20 to join. Please consider coming to a meeting and finding out for yourself what it is all about. For more information please contact the Women's Guild President Veronica Watson at vwatson713@att.net



4 Don't forget to follow us to get the latest updates on the church and events!



St. Paul Catholic
Newman Center



NewmanCenterFresno

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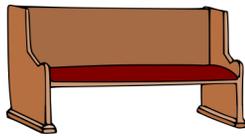
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View from the Pew

We want to hear from you!

This segment will be the voice of the congregation. We want to hear the view from the pew. We want positive messages from our parishioners. Things that you liked, something that moved you, or things you think are important and need to be shared with the rest of the church. These articles should be no more than 250 words. Article submissions can be sent to bulletin@csufnewman.com. One article will be published in each monthly newsletter. Submissions for the January Newsletter need to be turned in by December 21 at 5:00pm.

Prayer for the New Year

January 1

God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so

that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.



January at the Newman Center

January 1: OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Day

January 8: Faith, Family & Friends Resumes

January 20: Second Collection for the Seminarians

January 20: Knights of Columbus Breakfast Burrito Sales

January 21: OFFICE CLOSED - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 23: College Night Resumes

January 26: Women's Guild Retreat