



November 4, 2018

Volume 2, Issue 3



# Knowing Newman

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## International Food & Craft Festival

On October 21 we had our International Food & Craft Festival. It was a delightful day filled with fun, food, crafts, and entertainment. We had a great turn out for vendors and patrons. We saw many different foods from all over the world such as, bratwurst sausage, pizza, lumpia, Chinese chicken salad, tacos, Armenian food, Syrian food, and much more!

Local artisans were able to showcase their talents at our craft booths. They were full of beautiful hand-made items from art work to wooden plaques to jewelry. Patrons could peruse the crafts and support the artist by purchasing their creations.

Our children had a blast at our Children's Corner. They played games, ran through an obstacle course, got their face painted, and won prizes. We were also visited by Fresno State PD, Fresno Fire, and American Ambulance who come out to show the kids their vehicles and talk about what they do to serve our community. Thank you to our generous donors who made the Children's Corner a free space for the kids to go and have fun.

We also had a day full of live entertainment. We saw live bands, cultural dancers, and more!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our Festival. Events like this are important to keep our ministries and our parish as a whole running. Whether you came out to eat food and check out the artisans, or volunteered your time to help put this event on, bought raffle tickets, or made a monetary donation to sponsor part of the Festival, we are grateful for you and your commitment to the Newman Center.

If you did not come out this year we will see you at next year's Festival!



## 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.

Fresno, CA 93710

## Knights of Columbus Council #9445



The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization. Founded by the Venerable Michael J McGivney in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882, to support the Catholic Irish widows in his parish. With its rapid growth his ideals were reached and has since become the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world (USA, Military Bases overseas, Canada, Mexico, The Philippines, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania and South Korea).

Our members only Insurance program is rated the highest in the industry.

Our John Cardinal Newman Council, #9445, was Chartered on November 26, 1986 when the Rev. Sergio Negro was pastor. Local Councils are mandated to support our local parish and communities. You have seen our members being involved in parish functions as well as raising monetary funds for different local charities (Wings Fresno, Garden of Innocence, Food Recovery Network, etc.), our own Knight's charities, as well as financially supporting various parish programs (CNH Hall building fund, VBS, Confirmation, Fr. Sergio Scholarship Program, etc.) through our (former) Fireworks, Pancake Breakfasts, Breakfast Burritos, Christmas Cards, Crosses for the Holy Land sales, etc. The Coats for Kids, Wheelchairs and Infant of Prague Adoption Services are just some of the other major recipients from your support. We have also financially contributed directly to our parish from our profits. Our current major fundraiser is the parking lot for Bulldog Football Games. These funds help us financially support a seminarian, Mr. Arturo Cisneros, and other programs.

We are always looking for good Catholic Gentlemen who would like to join us and be involved in a brotherhood who hold high ideals of Catholicity.

For more information on the Knights of Columbus please go to [www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org) or [www.kc9445.org](http://www.kc9445.org). You can also contact us at [www.membership@kc9445.org](mailto:www.membership@kc9445.org), or just ask us.

## St. Paul Catholic Newman Center Women's Guild Serving our Community

By Lynn Stenson

Holy Cross Center for Women held their "You Are Worthy" Graduation Program October 18, 2018. The brief ceremony was modest in a classroom on the humble campus. The fourteen graduates appeared to be from all walks of life and the various challenges that can come from society. There was beauty in the room, and one could sense the respect for each other, the two-phase program they had successfully completed and the mentors who worked interactively to bring these women to a turning point in their lives.

The graduation program began with a review of the education points presented through the courses required for graduation, domestic violence prevention, how to focus and deal with depression and anxiety, how to build and maintain self-esteem and a special yoga class to release negatives and bring positives into one's life. These valuable skills help these women to be stronger individuals aiding them in family life, employment opportunities and relationships. Then a beautiful prayer was shared by a recent graduate whose lovely artwork adorned the front of the program we all had been given. The graduates were awarded their certificates with several sharing words of thanksgiving for this great learning opportunity and how it has helped them in changing their lives and preparing them for a brighter future. Sister Mary Clennon CSC, Director gave closing remarks praising the graduates and thanking all those involved. Sister Mary asked us all to share with everyone the important work that is a part of everyday at Holy Cross Center for Women so more families can benefit from this tremendous community resource.

The Women's Guild was honored to serve the reception for the graduates and their mentors. The wonderful ladies that comprise our Guild were inspirational in volunteering time, skills and experience to make the reception special and enjoyed by all.

We truly shared in the principles of our **Mission Statement: 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.

Please consider joining us!

## Ministry Spotlight:

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. It is the Church's official way for adults to become Catholic. RCIA was officially established after Vatican II. In the early days of the Church becoming a Christian was dangerous due to Roman spies trying to infiltrate the church. If you wanted to join the Church you needed someone to advocate that you were a good person who wanted to follow Christ. These were the original sponsors. Before Vatican II anyone who wanted to join the Church had to meet with the priest in private and study the Catechism. Now the RCIA program is about building a community with new Catholics as well as the rest of the congregation.

RCIA is for unbaptized adults. It is a year-round program where the participants will be baptized at Easter. Our focus is formation and transformation as well as discerning what God is calling you to do. When people move from Inquiry to Catechumenate they do not talk about becoming Catholic, but rather a disciple.

RCIA has four steps, Inquiry, Catechumenate, Enlightenment and Purification and after baptism, Mystagogia. The process begins with Inquiry. Anyone who is seriously considering if they want to become Catholic would come and join the discussion. Through Inquiry individuals work on discernment; if being Catholic is what God is calling them to. They build community through these meetings and discussions so that they know that they are not alone in the process. They can also get any impediments out of the way that would interfere with them becoming Catholic.

The second step is Catechumenate. This is more of an in-depth learning experience. At the 11:30am Mass those in Catechumenate are dismissed after the sermon to continue learning from the scripture readings. They hear from a speaker who connects their talk to the readings, and then they have a discussion. Each of the participants will also take turns bringing food to feed the other participants as a way of beginning a life of service. Many of the participants, even those who begin in September, will get baptized at Easter.

Enlightenment and Purification, is a more intense period of preparation beginning with a day-long retreat. Mystagogia is a time when the newly baptized get introduced into the life of the parish.

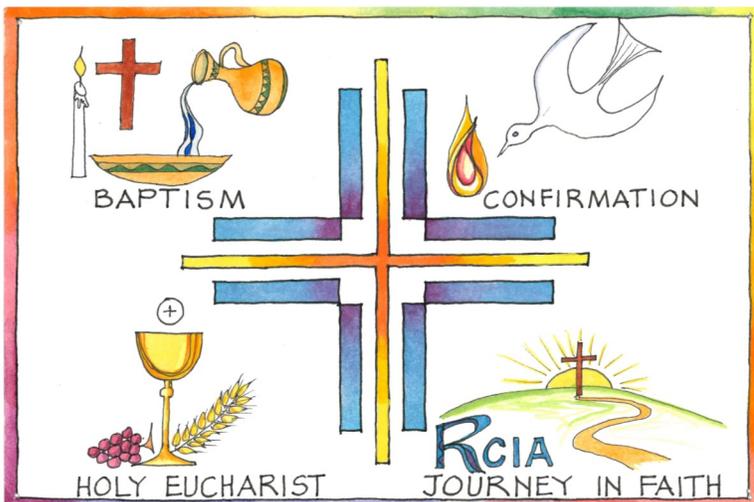
Sponsors are still an important aspect of RCIA. They follow their candidates through the journey of RCIA and are with them once they are accepted into the Church. Most sponsors have said that they have enjoyed the time they spend as a sponsor and that they learned more about their own faith. Sponsors have to meet three criteria: they need to have received all the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation), they need to be an active Catholic, and if they are married they need to have been married in the Church.

Other RCIA programs are more instructionally based where participants come and learn. Our program is more a process of discernment much like the process that priests and people in Religious life go through to before they are ordained or professed. We also try to include the community as much as possible. We will be having our Rite of Acceptance during the 9:30am Mass on

November 18 so the congregation sees the faces of the participants and the participants see the support of their brothers and sisters in Christ. During the blessing those near the participants can lay hands on them in support and blessing.

Our RCIA Team works with the participants to help guide them along their journey. The team is small, but they are a strong and dedicated group. They are always accepting more members to the team. If you would like to join the team please contact Charles at [charles.arok@icloud.com](mailto:charles.arok@icloud.com).

If you know anyone who is thinking about becoming Catholic, or if you would like to become a sponsor please contact Charles at [charles.arok@icloud.com](mailto:charles.arok@icloud.com).



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



St. Paul Catholic  
Newman Center



NewmanCenterFresno

## Office Directory

### Parish Life Coordinator:

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## GOD IS YOUNG

By Sister Kathleen Drilling, SSND

During the past few weeks Pope Francis has presided over the International Synod focusing on the youth of the world. I have tried to follow the Synod in bits and pieces but to help me be in solidarity with what was going on in Rome I stumbled on a small book recounting a conversation between Pope Francis and Thomas Leoncini called *God is Young*.

“God is young! God is the Eternal One who has no time, but is able to renew and rejuvenate Himself and all things continually. The most distinctive attributes of the young are also His. He is young because He makes all things new and loves innovation; because He astonishes and loves astonishment; because He dreams and wants us to dream.” (Pope Francis)

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and every other Sunday St. Paul's comes alive with God, who is forever young. On those days the buildings overflow with young voices, laughter, a million questions, and so much energy. On Tuesday (Faith Family & Friends) and Wednesday (College night) nights, and Sundays (Confirmation) the young of our parish come to learn and experience God and God's Community. As they become more and more comfortable within God's House here at Newman they sink their feet into the soil of the Catholic Church and begin to make it their own. I am reminded each week that I am “old”, but I am so lucky to hang out with God who is Young through the children, teenagers and young adults who grace us with their presence. They are always new. They are full of energy, spontaneity, and the desire for change like the youthful qualities of God that can be rallied to fight the many problems facing the Catholic Church and the world at large. I am reminded again and again how much they need us and we need them. Pope Francis says they are the “young prophets” and we are the “old dreamers”. We may at times drive each other crazy but they need us to dream and we need them to see visions. Let us continue to welcome each other warmly and pray for each other daily. May we stay forever young as God is YOUNG.

## November at the Newman Center

November 1: All Saints Day

November 6: Election Day

November 12: Office Closed—Veterans Day

November 16: NCSA Fall Dance

November 18: RCIA Rite of Acceptance

November 18: Second Collection—Domestic Needs & Fair Trade Coffee Sales

November 22: Thanksgiving

November 22 & 23: Office Closed

November 25: Knights of Columbus Breakfast Burrito Sales