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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A | FEBRUARY 12, 2023

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

Our readings this week have us reflecting on God's laws, statutes and precepts of the Church. Throughout the years, I would hear complaints about the Church having so many rules. To assist others in understanding and embracing our Church's Teachings I would suggest a closer look at the spirit and essence of the development of the law, rather than just becoming irritated or angry. So much of what was written depended on the context of what was occurring in society as well as a means of clarifying what the Church was actually trying to articulate. Many people do not realize is that a "multitude of these rules" were usually developed and written in response to an issue. Looking at the writings of St. Paul, you will see a pattern of addressing communities in a tone of a pastoral nature. Since the Church was young and not yet united with one another, his letters included advice as well as demanding higher ethical and moral standards among the people.

So many times, we hear the expression that "if I am not hurting anyone else, what difference does it make?" But what we do not realize is that we are hurting someone and not just "anyone" but the person that should be the most important in our lives...GOD! How can we ignore that God only wants what is best for us and not anything less. We must always recognize that the Holy Spirit inspired our Scriptures as well as our Apostolic Traditions from which we rely on as our guide. One very good example is the controversial topic of procreation and the roles of a couple as husband and wife. The encyclical, "Humanae Vitae", is one of those examples of the use of words and expressions written that are intended to transform us and bring us to a better understanding of what is truly intended for us. Here is just a short passage from that document:

"This love is first of all fully human, that is to say, of the senses and of the spirit at the same time. It is not, then, a simple transport of instinct and sentiment, but also, and principally, an act of the free will, intended to endure and to grow by means of the joys and sorrows of daily life, in such a way that husband and wife become one only heart and one only soul, and together attain their human perfection.

Then, this love is total, that is to say, it is a very special form of personal friendship, in which husband and wife generously share everything, without undue reservations or selfish calculations."...

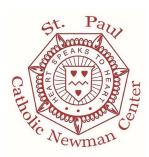
The entire document is written with love, compassion, and fidelity to one another and to God. In this document, we are "shepherded" to focus on how to be fully giving and open in our marital relationship... without reservations or conditions. This was just one small snippet from the thousands of words written throughout the years. Please take time to investigate, embrace, and recognize the care and love that Christ has shown for his bride – the Church.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2039, we read that: "Personal conscience and reason should not be set in opposition to the moral law or the Magisterium of the Church." Meaning that we should try to not allow our cultural climate to cloud our relationship with God or much less diminish it by ignoring the precepts, statues, and laws that God gives us. I hope that many of you will look for answers within our Church documents that you may have regarding what God requests from us, knowing that God's only desire is what is best for us.

Many blessings, Linda

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.



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WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12 TO FEBRUARY 19

COLLEGE HOUR AT FRESNO PACIFIC:

All students, staff and faculty are invited to join us for prayer at 10:00am during the Capax Dei Prayer time at Fresno Pacific on Monday, February 13 in the Warkentin Chapel.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our final Bible 101 Session led Karl Gurney. On February 13 at 6:00pm. in the John XXIII Student Lounge. We hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY STUDENT NIGHTS

All students are invited to our Student Night on Wednesday. February 15. Dinner at 6:00pm followed by this week's surprise activity, fill with energy and fun. Our community is always looking to grow, join us!

WORLD YOUTH DAY -A WORD FROM A PILGRIM

Hello, my name is Diego Ramirez. I am currently a student at Fresno State.

Growing up, religion was always implemented into my everyday life. My parents, whenever there were special events, would tune into a live stream to watch the Pope celebrate Mass. I have always wondered who that gentleman was that wore an all-white robe and why my parent's eyes would light up every time he spoke. Now that I am older, I have come to understand the importance of the Pope, and my religion as a whole. I want to go to World Youth Day to be able to experience a Pilgrimage for the first time. I am hoping that from this opportunity, I can get to know God in a way that I have yet to encounter. I believe that there is no better way to do so, than to attend World Youth

WORLD YOUTH DAY STATISTICS (1984 TO 2023)			
YEAR	COUNTRY	ATTENDANCE	
1984	Vatican City	300,000	
1985	Italy	300,000	
1987	Argentina	1,000,000	
1989	Spain	600,000	
1991	Poland	1,600,000	
1993	United States	700,000	
1995	Philippines	5,000,000	
1997	France	1,200,000	
2000	Italy	2,000,000	
2002	Canada	800,000	
2005	Germany	1,000,000	
2008	Australia	400,000	
2011	Spain	2,000,000	
2013	Brazil	3,700,000	
2016	Poland	3,000,000	
2019	Panama	700,000	
2023	Portugal		

Day with many other young people, gathered together as a Catholic community. I'm a lost college student at the moment, not knowing what I really want to pursue, if it's still medicine or not, I hope to find direction when I'm there.

CAMPUS MINISTRY CONTACTS

Edgar Guzman, Director: edgar@csufnewman.com Fr. Byron Macias, Chaplain: frbyron@csufnewman.com Karina Tellez, Administrative Assistant: catholicclub@csufnewman.com

From Fr. Byron Macias, CMF

In the Gospel this weekend Jesus shares his secret to a good life: when it comes down to our spirituality, it is not enough to do, but we have to be!

Jesus today speaks to the crowds saying that He Himself is the fulfillment of the law (of Moses). And he says: "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37). The Pharisees were good at just "doing" things but there was no sense of conviction or conversion in their life; that's why they eventually plotted a plan to kill Jesus (how about that for such leaders of the faith ©).

Let us surpass the Pharisees and embrace Jesus' secret to a good life: let us not stay in the doing but let us transcend into being. Our faith is a dynamic relationship with the dynamic-par-excellence God! Let's allow ourselves to be absorbed into that dynamism!

HIKE WITH MARY

Save the date: Saturday, March 4 from 8:00am to 11:00am! Sign up with Ryan or Jessica Borunda at borunda.ryan@gmail.com or with me: frbyron@csufnewman.com

PRAYER FOR OUR CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Our own Edgar Guzman, Director of Campus and Young Adult Ministries, will be very busy this week: he is leading a prayer service at Fresno Pacific University; the next day he will be part of Fresno City College Club Rush; then, there is Student Night on Wednesday! Edgar can use your prayers and support as he is our Newman Center's ambassador to all our catholic college students in the diocese!

Also, please pray for our RCIA people who will be having their retreat this coming Saturday! Hold in prayer these men and women who are entering the Catholic Church this Easter! And consider being a sponsor (and enrich your Catholic portfolio!).

WOMEN'S GUILD

Kudos to our amazing Women's Guild on their amazing efforts to make our community better through their prayer, commitment and altruism. They just hosted the Janka screenings a couple of days go and this weekend they are having their baked goods sale. Please support them and share with them some words of affirmation for their good works. And, also, ladies: please consider joining them!

SAVE THE DATE: BURRITOS!

Please support our Knights of Columbus in their next Breakfast Burrito sale on Sunday, February 26 after all morning Masses.

SAINTLY QUOTE

"Let us then, my brethren, endure in hope. Let us devote ourselves, side-by-side with our hoping, so that the God of all the universe, as he beholds our intention, may cleanse us from all sins, fill us with high hopes from what we have in hand, and grant us the change of heart that saves."

St. Cyril of Jerusalem.

HAVE A LAUGH

A priest and a pastor stood near a sharp curve on a busy road holding signs. "The end is near!" read the priest's sign, while the pastor's warned, "Turn around before it's too late!"

As he passed by, a dude in a sports car yelled "Idiots!" and shook his head. Then he blasted his horn, raised one finger and stomped on the gas. Moments later the clerics heard the sound of screeching tires, followed by a big splash.

The priest turned to the pastor and said, "Maybe we should change our signs to 'Bridge Out'."

Flu Season

We want to remind everyone to practice healthy habits as we gather for Mass and other events here at the parish.

Bottles of hand sanitizer are placed near the chapel entrance. And masks are available at the front desk. *(Please only request what you need for Mass so there are masks still available for others.)*

We will continue our practice of consuming the Eucharist under the species of the Body only until further notice. We will also remove the baptismal font unless there is a baptism during or immediately following a Mass.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

YEAR OF THE DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Bishop Joseph Brennan, in honor of the Year of the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival, announces a Pilgrimage to the Shrines of the Diocese of Fresno. Each Shrine has designated a week of prayer and events, which the faithful are encouraged to attend.

Bishop Brennan has also decreed that those who visit these shrines during the designated times and fulfill the necessary conditions shall receive a plenary indulgence.

More information can be found on the diocesan website, as well as by contacting the parish office. We pray that all who engage in this pilgrimage will be united in prayer!

FRESNO-METRO VICARATE

The Shrine of St. Therese February 26 through March 5 Daily Activities, Liturgies and Devotions

Everyone is invited to attend any of Liturgies or Devotions throughout the week.

Stress in Your Marriage?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it.

This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage.

For confidential information about or to register for the program in Fresno from March 3rd through the 5th please call us at (559) 862-6765 or email: Fresno@RetroCA.com

PARISH REGISTRATION

There are times you may need to provide verification of membership at the Newman Center, especially regarding the reception of any Sacraments and Church law that requires strict record-keeping. For this reason, we ask you to please register as a member of the parish. To qualify for any verification the following criteria is required:

Hence, personal registration, active involvement and participation in worship and other activities on a regular basis are required to receive any documenting letter (e.g. for purposes of being a Catholic sponsor/godparent) of membership in St. Paul Catholic Newman Center.

You can register at the front desk, or through our website.

We also ask that you check in with the Parish Office to periodically verify your contact information.

It is important that we have everything current in our records.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE

For the week of February 12 through February 18, 2023

• African American History Month Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for

• February 2023:

"We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may Increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those in need" <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> watch?v=f5uRUQDiJ-g

• Sunday, February 12

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A Matthew 5:17-37 Each day we pray "Thy Kingdom Come" What are we doing to hasten that process? Will we be invited to enter it?

1809 Birthday of Abraham Lincoln 1909 Founding of NAACP 2020 Querida Amazonia is published <u>https://www.vatican.va/</u> content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papafrancesco_esortazione-ap_20200202_querida-amazonia.html International Day of Women's Health

• Monday, February 13

- Tuesday, February 14
- St. Valentine's Day

1817 Birth of Frederick Douglas <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> watch?v=O0baE_CtU08

6:00pm to 7:00pm Faith Family Friends Vatican II Deacon John Document on the Church

• Wednesday, February 15

International Childhood Cancer Day 2003 15 million demonstrate against the War in Iraq

• Thursday, February 16

• Friday, February 17

5:30pm to 6:30pm in Newman Cafeteria-Join us for our Recovery Program this week! When you see what we do, you may want to volunteer monthly! (see Matt 25:31-46)

Saturday February 18

Feast of St. Bernadette Soubirous 1688 Quakers in PA adopt 1st Antislavery resolution in U.S. history 1957: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on cover of Time magazine

For so much more,

visit the SPCNC website: CSUFnewman.com/ministries and scroll down to "Peace and Social Justice"

Jim Grant, Volunteer, Social Justice Advocate jimgrantbc@gmail.com

FEBRUARY CONTRIBUTIONS

2022		2023	
February 6	\$32,474.82	February 5	\$21,131.89
February 13 ACH	\$22,038.14	February 12	
February 20 ACH	\$18,049.85	February 19	
February 27	\$13,059.34	February 26	
FEBRUARY 2022 TOTAL	\$85,622.15	FEBRUARY 2023 TOTAL	\$21,131.89

Mass for Peace

Friday, February 24 | 5:30pm St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

(Stations of the Cross will immediately follow)

RCIA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) has 16 people now in the RCIA process preparing to receive Sacraments. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners who have volunteered their time to be sponsors for all of them. We are so blessed, that now we have another 10 additional people and more who wish to join next month. Therefore, we are once again looking to our community and praying God will inspire you to become a sponsor.

If you are a practicing Catholic and have received Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. You can be single or married (in the Church) and have three to four hours per week, please contact Charles Arokiasamy at rcia@csufnewman.com or leave your contact information at the front desk. You will be contacted and if you like one of our sponsors can share how meaningful and enjoyable their experience has been.

God of all Creation,

We ask you to bring comfort to the people of Turkey and Syria, whose lives were instantly shattered by two strong earthquakes. Please comfort them through the pain of losing loved ones, homes and more.

On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of central Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 21,000 and continues to climb.

Across affected areas in both countries, apartment buildings and schools have been leveled. Some airports, roads are closed and many hospitals are unusable. Schools have been closed across the country.

Your gifts will help partners to provide safe shelter, and access to food, clean water and hygiene supplies. Please go to: https://support.crs.org/donate/earthquakes? ms=agicrs2023eqk00her00 to fill out the secure form to make a one-time donation to help families affected by the earthquakes.

Amen

February... Ministry Programs

Lenten Book Study

The Passion and The Cross, by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OFM.

"For Jesus, the hidden secret that holds the key to everything is the cross: the wisdom of the cross and the brokenness of the one who died on the cross. If we grasp that reality, we will have the key to understanding the rest of life; if we do not grasp that wisdom, the meaning of life will always be somewhat of a riddle to us." Ronald Rolheiser

This book study begins on Thursday, February 23, 12:00noon to 1:00pm, and will continue for six sessions through March 30, 2023. Book Study group will meet in the SPCNC Cafeteria.

Please read in advance: The Preface and pages 1-3. Register by Monday, February 20, 2023.

Bring your lunch and invite a friend!

Grief Support Ministry

Grief Support Ministry offers spiritual and emotional support to those who are coping with the death of a loved one.

The next series of Grief Support meetings will begin on Monday, February 27 meeting from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Grief Support will have six sessions through April 3, 2023. The group meets on Monday evenings in the SPCNC Community Room. Registration is required so materials can be prepared for participants.

Faith, Family & Friends

Faith, Family & Friends is the Newman Center's Religious Education and faith formation program for EVERYONE of all ages - Children, High School Youth and Adults.

Faith, Family, and Friends meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Please arrive early to have all participants in their classes by 6:00pm – Children and Adults.

Adult Sessions: Family Life Topic: Couple Communication Skills with Dave and Cheryl Belden; Scripture Topic: Read, Reflect and Discuss the Up-Coming Sunday Scripture Readings with Tina and Matt teNyenhuis; Catholic Faith Topic: The Story and Promise of Vatican II with Deacon John Supino and Jim Grant.

Men's Ministry

Men's Weekly Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group:

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

For more information on any of these programs or to register, please contact John Prandini, Director of Ministry at <u>prandinij@csufnewman.com</u>.



Do you feel called to the Vocation as a Permanent Diaconate?

Men between the ages of 32 and 59 in the Diocese of Fresno may apply to enter Permanent Diaconate Formation.

Application deadline is May 31, 2023.

Go to dioceseoffresno.org/permanent-diaconate or call Office of the Permanent Deaconate 559-4933-2840

POLICY FOR ALL PARISH COMMUNICATION

The Newman Center's Communication's Team is in the process of reviewing policy and procedure for all communications (i.e. print, web, social media, etc.) within the Newman Center community. In order to ensure continuity of our mission, Catholic identity, Newman Center brand, grammar, content, standard of quality, etc. it is important to establish guidelines and best practices. Therefore, all information associated with St. Paul Catholic Newman Center must be reviewed by a member of the Communications Team prior to being printed, posted, or distributed. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

All bulletin information must be submitted by 10:00am Wednesday to guarantee insertion in Sunday's bulletin. Email to Communications@csufnewman.com.

PRAYERS:

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

Ivan and Carlos Brian Allen Monica Baker (Lucido) **Roanne Castillo** Bridget Coates De La Cruz Family Dan Dungy David Dungy Beau Gendron Marv Beth Hall Sandy Keith Abigail Love Magdalena Lovejoy Susan Olson Kristina Pasma Hector Daniel Rodriguez Shonda Scheldt Kristin Torres Mary M. Wamaitha

To better serve our Faith Community we try to update our list of prayers regularly. Therefore, we have the following policy:

Names for the sick / special intentions will be published in the bulletin for four weeks, then removed unless otherwise notified or requested. 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 559-436-3434 or go on our website and fill out the form under the "Prayer Requests" tab.

Parish Information

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm **Sunday:** 7:30am | 9:30am | 11:30am | 7:00pm

(SB)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday / Wednesday | 8:00am First Friday (of the month) | 8:00am Thursday | 6:00pm

COMMUNION SERVICES: Tuesday / Thursday | 8:00am Friday (Except First Friday) | 8:00am

RECONCILIATION: Thursday | 4:00pm to 5:45pm or call for an appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday | 9:00am to 3:00pm Friday | 9:00am to 12:00 noon

PARISH TELEPHONE: 559.436.3434

FOR ANY MEETINGS OR APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE.

For any after hour emergency, please listen for telephone prompts to leave a message.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12			
Sirach 15:15-20/1 Corinthians 2:6-10/Matthew 5:17-37 or			
5:20-22a,	27-28, 33-34a, 37		
7:30am	Mass for Ron Dodds	Chapel	
9:30am	Mass for Roy Giovannoni	Chapel	
	Baptisms (During 9:30am Mass	5)	
11:30am	Mass for Pacencia Miclat	Chapel	
	RCIA: Dismissal	Community Room	
2:00pm		Cafeteria	
7:00pm			
	Intentions of the Parishioners	Chapel	
MONDA	Y, FEBRUARY 13		
Genesis 4	:1-15, 25/Mark 8:11-13		
8:00am	Mass for Claire Zylka	Chapel	
8:30am	Men's Morning Scripture Study	Library	
6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study	St John XXIII	
6:30pm	RCIA: Catechumen	Cafeteria	
TUESDA	Y, FEBRUARY 14		
	:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Mark 8:14-21		
	Communion Service	Chapel	
	Faith, Family & Friends	Cardinal Newman Hall	
0.0000	r ann, r anny a r nonae	(K-8) Cardinal Newman Hall	
	(High School Youth)	St John XXIII Student Lounge	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15			

Genesis A:1 15 25/Mark 8:11 12

Genesis 4	:1-15, 25/Mark 8:11-13	
8:00am	Mass Intention for Christopher Li	beu Chapel
9:30am	Marion Movement of Priests	Cardinal Newman Hall 104
4:00pm	Prayer and Life Workshops	Library
5:00pm	Training (For Distribution of Ashe	es) Chapel
5:30pm	Ignatian Retreat for Busy People	Community Room
6:00pm	College Night	Cardinal Newman Hall 101

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Genesis 9	:1-13/Mark 8:27-33	
8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
4:00pm	Confessions	Chapel
6:00pm	Mass for Rose and John Barretto	Chapel

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Genesis 11:1-9/Mark 8:34—9:1		
8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
5:30pm	Food Recovery Network	Cafeteria

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Hebrews	11:1-7/Mark 9:2-13	
8:00am	Secular Franciscans	Chapel / Cafeteria
8:00am	RCIA Retreat	Cardinal Newman Hall 103
5:00pm	Mass for Mike Arroyo	Chapel
Catholic Charities Truck		

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Corinthians 3:16-23/Matthew 5:38-48			
7:30am	Mass for Salvatore and Maria Pranzo	D Chapel	
9:30am	Mass for John Cook	Chapel	
	Confirmation Preparation Year One	Cardinal Newman Hall	
11:30am	Mass for Joseph and Angela Pranzo		
	RCIA Dismissal	Community Room	
	Confirmation Preparation Year Two	Cardinal Newman Hall	
7:00pm	Mass for Needs and		
	Intentions of the Parishioners	Chapel	

Catholic Charities Truck





POR FAVOR APOYE A ESTOS ANUNCIANTES