

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A | OCTOBER 1, 2023

In preparing for the Feast of St. Francis this upcoming Wednesday, I'd like to take a little time to spend with the Saint himself, and let his story continue its work on me. On one hand, Francis' tale follows a common script in the calendar of official saints: a rich kid does something foolish, is humbled by catastrophe, repents, and dedicates their life to a radical faith that cuts against the grain of their social location. On the other hand, Francis had a singular effect on the Church of his time, and his legacy was disputed, negotiated, and argued over almost immediately after his death. We can think of famous examples of his unique legend: preaching to animals, an audience with Egypt's sultan, or a confrontation with a notorious wolf. As I sit with his story, however, I come back to an aspect of his witness that doesn't quite inspire or amaze me, but rather *disturbs* me.

Francis of Assisi died in immense physical pain, his body worn not only by the constant burdens of active ministry but also by chronic health impairments that grew steadily worse until the end. I do not envy the life of the saint, as so many like Francis do not "end well," at least according to our current norms. His insistent and almost rapacious devotion to God's glory as expressed in physical creation is a protest against the ways that our activities do not cooperate with our Sibling the Earth. The final season of his life is also a reminder of the physical limitations of our earthly pilgrimage. Rather than eschewing the burden of his body's weakness, Francis accepted it in faith with heartfelt gratitude. For him, death is a part of the completeness of creation within which we are embedded. It should not surprise us that his famous Canticle includes the stanza: *Be praised, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whose embrace no living person can escape.*

In this way, the stigmata is a sign of Christ's presence in the very cycles of life and death, and not merely a miracle instrumentalized for the sake of impressing others and reviving particular devotions. As Pope Francis writes about his namesake in *Laudato Si*, St. Francis "takes us to the heart of what it is to be human." We are reminded this week that to be human is to glorify God not as a master of creation, but as a relative of all created things and beings. As residents of California we should also mind the advice of the saint, who told his followers not to imitate him, but look to Jesus. After all, the collapse of native ecosystems and society in California began under the missionary activity of Francis' followers. May we resolve to relate in a better way to God and to each of our relations.

-Karl A. Gurney, Director of Liturgy

P.S. I hope to see many of you and your beloved animals on Wednesday! More info on page 3!

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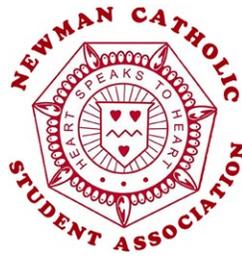
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CAMPUS MINISTRY

Wednesday Student Dinner

We will have our next Student Dinner October 4th, inside the Cardinal Newman Hall. We begin with dinner at 6pm followed by Mass. We will have our Student Lounge opened for studying or to pick up pantry items!

Photo of the Week



WEDNESDAY STUDENT MASS

NEWMAN CENTER YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Bible Study

Join our Bible Study gathering Monday, October 2nd at 6:00pm in the Student Lounge. We will continue to look at the Gospel of Luke.

Trivia

Join our trivia team as we go to Barrell House in River Park at 7:00pm. We go together every first Wednesday of the month.

A Special Message from

Dan Nickerson, Interim Parish Life Coordinator:

This week we learned that after over 50 years of education, the Fresno Montessori School housed here at St Paul Catholic Newman Center decided to close its doors on Friday. The Montessori Board of Directors stated that several factors including the recent passing of their director in June, low enrollment, and financial issues all influenced their decision. The Montessori School has been a close partner with our parish family for so long, so that makes the news even harder. Some parents and staff are meeting to discuss possible ways to resurrect the school, so we ask for your prayers of support for them and for all families and staff who are affected by this sudden announcement.



OCTOBER 4
THE FEAST OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Blessing of Animals

BLESSINGS AT
7:30AM, 12:00PM, AND 6:30PM

MASS AT 8:00AM AND 6:00PM

COMMUNION SERVICE AT
12:00PM

ALL CELEBRATIONS HAPPEN
ON THE FRONT PATIO!

ALL ARE WELCOME!



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

KICKOFF REVIVAL WEEKEND!

The St. Paul Catholic Newman Center's Eucharistic Revival Team invites you to join us for our Fall kickoff event on the weekend of October 7 and October 8. At the conclusion of every Mass, we will have a Eucharistic Procession. Bring a friend and a special statue, rosary, or picture of a saint. Additionally, any adults 40+ years old and families who are interested in going to the Eucharistic Congress next July please email eucharistic.revival@csufnewman.com for more information.

SEPTEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

2022		2023	
September 4	\$23,266.18	September 3	\$13,358.60
September 11	\$18,343.85	September 10	\$19,153.91
September 18	\$23,403.77	September 17	\$11,932.84
September 25	\$11,137.47	September 24	\$12,492.52
SEPTEMBER 2022 TOTAL	\$76,151.27	SEPTEMBER 2023 TOTAL	\$56,937.87

FIRST SUNDAY ADORATION

Please join us for First Sunday Adoration on Sunday, October 1st and all first Sundays at 8pm, right after the 7:00pm Mass. Spend some time with Jesus in adoration. Fr. Byron will also have Confessions during that time. We are also looking for volunteers to help us with music! Please email Fr. Byron if you are interested in being a part of this special time.

Parish Information

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am | 9:30am | 11:30am | 7:00pm



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
Saturday | 3:30pm to 4:30pm
or call for an appointment

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday | 9:00am to 3:00pm

MAIN PHONE LINE:

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.

PRAYERS:

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

Elizabeth Fritzl	Jerry Zamora
Deacon Jim Arnold	Carla Fatek
Sylvia Soublet Myles	Joseph Soto
Tom Castellazo	Dan Dungy
Alan Sodersten	Elizabeth Dungy
Rosemary McCave	Albert Gabriel Valencia

♥ And we pray for those who have died recently:

Michael O'Neill
Michael Leonardo

If you would like to include the name of someone on this list, please contact the office or visit our website and fill out the form under the "[Prayer Requests](#)" tab.

Names of the sick / for special intentions will be published in the bulletin for four weeks, and then removed unless otherwise requested. Names of the deceased are published the week after death.

FRESNO CATHOLIC SINGLES

Fresno Catholic singles is having our monthly meeting and potluck on the first Thursday of every month in the Newman center cafeteria at 5:30 pm. Our group is open to any unmarried Catholics in the diocese of Fresno who are 40 years and older.

Bulletin and Parish Media

TO SUBMIT ANNOUNCEMENTS, ARTICLES, OR FLIERS FOR THE BULLETIN, WEBSITE, OR SOCIAL MEDIA:

Email the Newman Communications Team at
communications@csufnewman.com

Submissions should be given no later than Wednesday of the week prior to publishing.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 26TH SUNDAY ORD.TIME

7:30am	Mass for Needs & Int. Parishioners	Chapel
9:30am	Mass for John Godburn	Chapel
9:30am	RCIA Catechumenate	Library
11:30am	Mass for Maria Victoria M. Balli	Chapel
7:00pm	Mass for Suu Dinh Truong <i>et. al</i>	Chapel
8:00pm	First Sunday Adoration & Confessions	Chapel

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2 GUARDIAN ANGELS

8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
8:30am	Men's Morning Scripture Study	Library
10:00am	Grief Share	Cafeteria
6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study	Student Lounge
6:30pm	Adult Confirmation	CNH 101

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
6:00pm	Faith, Family & Friends	CNH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4 ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

7:30am	Blessing of Animals	Patio/Front Lawn
8:00am	Mass for SJM Class of 1961	Patio/Front Lawn
10:00am	Marian Movement of Priests	CNH 103-104
12:00pm	Communion Service and Blessing	Patio/Front Lawn
12:00pm	Sacred Fire Book Study	CNH 105
6:00pm	St. Francis Mass	Patio/Front Lawn
6:00pm	College Night	CNH 101
6:00pm	Prayer & Life Workshop	Library
6:30pm	RCIA Inquiry	Community Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:00am	Communion Service	Chapel
4:00pm	Confessions	Chapel
5:30pm	Fresno Catholic Singles	Cafeteria
6:30pm	RCIA Inquiry	Community Room
7:00pm	San Lorenzo Reception	Cafeteria

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:00am	Mass for Micaela Lopez Avila	Chapel
8:30am	Sacred Heart Devotion for Families	Chapel
8:30am	First Friday Adoration	Chapel
12:00pm	Benediction	Chapel
5:30pm	Food Recovery Network	Cafeteria
6:30pm	Lay Claretian Evangelizers Missionaries	Library

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

7:30am	Men's Coffee and Scripture	Cafeteria
3:30pm	Confessions	Chapel
5:00pm	Mass for Msgr. Raul and Carlos Sanchez	Chapel

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 27TH SUNDAY ORD.TIME

7:30am	Mass for Monica Lucido Baker	Chapel
9:30am	Mass for Deborah Bone	Chapel
9:30am	RCIA Catechumenate	Library
11:00am	First Year Confirmation	CNH
11:30am	Mass for Ben Beltramo	Chapel
12:30pm	Second Year Confirmation	CNH
7:00pm	Mass for Needs & Int. Parishioners	Chapel

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE

For the week of October 1 to October 7, 2023:

- **Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October 2023:**
"For the Synod: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world."
- **The Synod on Synodality** convenes at the Vatican from October 4 to October 29:
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/255397/synod-2023-what-has-pope-francis-said-about-synodality>
- **Monday, October 2**
International Day for Non-violence
- **Wednesday, October 4**
Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.
Conclusion of the Season of Creation.
Release of Pope Francis' update to Laudato Si: an article on this update:
<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/laudato-si-part-2-an-ongoing-dialogue-of-the-signs-of-the-times/>
Pope Francis' Encyclical Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship:
https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica-fratelli-tutti.html
- **Friday, October 6**
5:30pm Food Recovery Program in the cafeteria
- **Saturday, September 30**
Today, Pope Francis will create 21 new Cardinals, bringing the number of eligible cardinal electors to 137.

For so much more on all things Social Justice, visit our website or contact Jim Grant at jim@csufnewman.com

Coming Up...

MEXICO MISSION TRIP

Join Fr. Byron on a Mission Trip to La Mesa, Mexico, this December 11-18, 2023. For more information, join our Lay Claretian Evangelizers this Friday, October 6 at 6:30pm in

HIKES WITH MARY

Join us for our Hike with Mary this Saturday, October 7, 2023. We meet at 8am at the parking lot in front of the cafeteria. We hike while we pray the Rosary, celebrate Mass and grow in knowledge and experience about the Blessed Virgin Mary. For more information, call the parish office or talk to Ryan and Jessica Borunda or Fr. Byron.

Current... MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Email John Prandini for information on these ministries and more: prandinij@csufnewman.com

Faith, Family & Friends: meets this Tuesday evening, October 1 at 5:45 – 7:00pm in Cardinal Newman Hall. This will be our first Intergenerational evening where all families, adults and children will meet together and remain in Cardinal Newman Hall for a special Creation Care/St. Francis Event provided by Fr. Byron and Jim Grant. There will be information and activities for all ages. Please join us for a fun-filled and spiritual evening building community with one another!

Family Ministry

Joy of Love Moms: empowers moms to connect our families to play, pray, serve and grow in faith together. Gather with us each First Sunday of the month after the 9:30am Mass on the playground. If you and your family would like to sponsor an upcoming First Sunday activity or snack, please email us at joyoflovemoms@gmail.com.

Men's Ministry

Men's Monthly Saturday Coffee Group will meet Saturday, October 7th, 7:30 – 9:00am in the Cafeteria. We gather to reflect on Scripture as a source of our collective spiritual wisdom and to form friendship bonds with other men of faith. Please join us and bring a friend.

Men's Weekly Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group: meets on Monday mornings, 8:30-9:15am after morning Mass in the Library.

Prayer Ministry

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in Cardinal Newman Hall, room 104.

Soul Core: Body-Mind-Soul. Soul Core incorporates stretching and light exercise movements while praying the **rosary**. The focus of our time together is **praying the rosary**; the exercises are an **invitation** to move our bodies, but are **not a requirement** - so everyone of all ability levels can participate and pray together. If you choose to join us, please bring a mat/towel, and wear comfortable clothes that allow you to move freely. Soul Core is offered to adults on selected Tuesday evenings within our Faith, Family & Friends program, 6:00 - 7:00pm.

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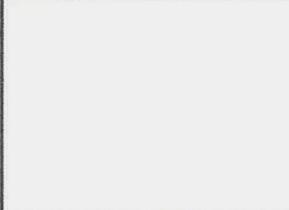
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