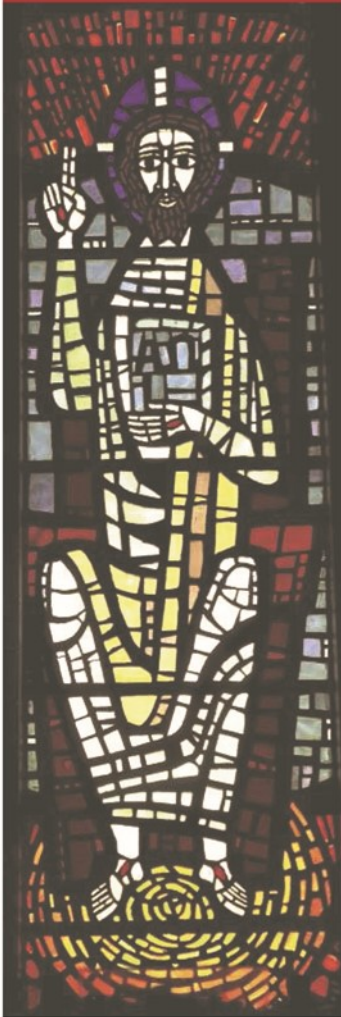


St. Paul
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Newman
Center



1572 East Barstow Avenue
Fresno, Ca 93710
Office 559.436.3434
csufnewman.com

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Year C

December 26, 2021

Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52



A Christmas Prayer Christmas Day 2021

On this morning, we pray to Joseph, an anxious father who, just the evening before, had to tell his beloved wife, Mary, that the best he could do was to bed her down in an animal shed, and hope that it would be warm enough and comfortable enough as she labored to give birth to their child.

St. Joseph, help us to appreciate that our plans will not always work, and we must adjust to make do, trusting that God will be with us.

On this morning we pray to Mary, Mother of Jesus, a woman exhausted from the pain of childbirth, but joyous that her newborn son was resting peacefully even if it was a simple bed of straw, wrapped in whatever material was available. You endured a long night but somehow knew that this tiny miracle, composed of the essence of the universe, would change the course of history.

Blessed Virgin, be with us as we endure our own trials. Help us to realize that the dawn will come, all will be well, trusting that God will be with us.

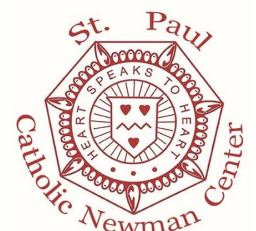
On this morning, we pray to an infant Jesus just hours old, born of the earth and on the earth, waiting for the first light to illuminate the face of his mother and father, blissfully unaware of what has just happened, and what his future holds: love and laughter, friends and family, power and humility trust and betrayal, life, death and, yes, resurrection.

Dear Jesus, enlighten us creatures of the universe, so we may hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, that we may love deeply, laugh heartily, and be moved by suffering. Teach us to exercise power wisely, face life fully and death with dignity trusting that you, our beginning and our end, are always with us.

*Dan Misleh
Founder, Catholic Climate Covenant*

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.



Storytime with Papa Deak

Deacon John (aka Papa Deak) will be sharing a storytime with us for all of Advent and Christmas. He will read one Tomie de Paola book a week. We will meet with Papa Deak via Zoom from 7:00pm to 7:30pm on the following nights (Christmas pajamas optional!):

Tuesday December 28

Wednesday January 5

Please email joyoflovemoms@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Christmas with the Farmworkers and Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus hosted a special dinner at Cardinal Newman Hall this past Saturday (December 18) to thank farmworkers (*campesinos*) in the Fresno area for doing the hard work to bring food to our tables. These Essential Workers and their families were treated to dinner catered by Pardini's, lively Baile Folklorico (traditional Mexican dances), singing á la the late, great Vicente Fernández, gift certificates, and toys for the children. A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus Marina Council 4834 of Venice, CA for graciously funding the event and coordinating the invitees, and for Deacon John and his staff, parishioner Tom Kane, and Newman Council 9445 and Master Don Gentleman (St. Helen's Church) Council 11335 for helping coordinate locally.



Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: During the Christmas season, we reflect on the images of peace that the prophets said would come when the Messiah arrived on earth. We hear about lions and lambs lying down together and of swords being beaten into plowshares. January 1st is World Day of Peace. Yet we live in a world in which war and violence shatter the peace for which the Old Testament prophets yearned. All of us as one global family are called to do our part to bring peace to our world. Your challenge this week is to be a peace-maker—in your family, with your friends and colleagues at work or school, in your community. How can you bring people together, encourage others to settle disputes without resorting to violence, or advocate for global peace?

Faith, Family and Friends

Faith, Family and Friends will resume meeting on Tuesday, January 4 for our monthly Children's Mass! Please join us in the Chapel at 6:00pm. **Please note that masks are required.** If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Family Life Ministries

Men's Saturday Coffee Group will meet Saturday morning, January 8 from 7:30am to 9:00am in the Cafeteria for coffee, to share our collective spiritual wisdom as we form friendship bonds with other men on our individual spiritual journeys.

Men's Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group meets on Mondays after morning Mass from 8:30am to 9:15am in the Library.

SoulCore will meet on January 1 immediately after the 10:00am New Year's Day Mass.

The Hero Within

This unique seminar and support group uses psychological archetypes for spiritual direction and greater self-awareness on your unique life journey. The seminar meets for 10 sessions facilitated by John Prandini on Thursday evenings, January 13 - March 17, 2022 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm in CNH 101. This seminar is recommended for everyone, but especially those who have experienced any significant loss or life-altering event. It is an opportunity to discover more deeply who you are and the hero that lies within you. There is no class fee, but participants are required to purchase the book, *The Hero Within*, by Carol Pearson in advance of the class. Advance registration is required. To register email John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com.

Prayer Ministries

Christian Meditation meets weekly on Tuesdays at noon in the Community Room, for 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by a brief lesson about this ancient Christian prayer tradition and discussion. The group is off for the rest of December, but will resume meeting in January. Christian meditation utilizes the mantra, "Maranatha" (a word in Jesus' own Aramaic language meaning, "Come, Lord Jesus") in order to quiet the mind and come to silence, meeting Jesus in the depth of our own being, beyond words or images. The group is a member of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Meetings are facilitated by Benita Lankford. For information email contact John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com.

Weekday Mass and Communion Service Schedule

Our weekday Mass schedule is as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:00am

First Tuesday at 6:00pm

Thursdays at 6:00pm

Communion Services all remaining Tuesdays at 8:00am and every Thursday morning at 8:00am

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 26

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52

7:30am Mass for Elvira Sanchez Chapel
 9:30am Mass for Rizal D. Abrina and Gloria G. Abrina Chapel
 11:30am Mass for Robert Recendez Chapel
 12:45pm Baptisms Chapel
 3:00pm Igbo Mass Chapel
 6:30pm Prayer Activity Chapel
 7:00pm Young Adult Mass Chapel

Monday, December 27
 Office Closed – No Mass

1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Tuesday, December 28

1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18

8:00am Communion Service Chapel
 7:00pm Storytime with Papa Deak (via Zoom)

Wednesday, December 29

1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

8:00am Mass for John Buckley Chapel
 6:00pm Scriptural Rosary Community Room
 6:30pm PAIN Cafeteria

Thursday, December 30

1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

8:00am Communion Service Chapel
 4:00pm Confessions Chapel
 6:00pm Mass Chapel

Friday, December 31

1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

8:00am Mass Chapel

Saturday, January 1

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

New Year's Day

10:00am Mass Chapel
 11:00am SoulCore Chapel
 5:00pm Mass Chapel

Sunday, January 2

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

7:30am Mass for Tim England Chapel
 9:30am Mass for Jennifer Alvarado Chapel
 11:30am Mass for Carolyn De Francesco Chapel
 5:00pm Bilingual Mass Chapel
 6:30pm Prayer Activity Chapel
 7:00pm Young Adult Mass Chapel

December Contributions

2020		2021	
Dec. 6 ACH	\$17,435.05	Dec. 5 ACH	\$43,245.07
Dec. 13	\$16,236.00	Dec. 12	\$13,586.45
Dec. 20	\$15,701.50	Dec. 19 ACH	\$20,108.88
Dec. 27	\$9,334.00	Dec. 26	
Dec. Total	\$58,706.55	Dec. Total	\$76,940.40

*This amount includes one time gifts for the *Heart Speaks to Heart* program. Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

Prayers:

- ◆ **Those who have died this week:** John Segura
- ◆ **Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:**

Sr. Ana Rosa Guzman, Joan Renner, Margery Toll, Frances Garcia, Serafin Munoz, Joe Calandri, Ray Navarro, Glen Nelson, Doreen M.Kawaguchi, Suzanne Swanson, Fr. Joe Baca, Kristal Lowe Limon, John Robles, Jessica H., Olivia King, Anthony DeBenedetto, Eric Amador, Deacon Alan Shearer and family, Abigail Love, Olivia Arriaga, Ron Dodds, Donna Lang, Mark Lang, Deacon Ed Valdez and Family, Gary Payne, Willie Jacques, Linda Alvarez, Marianne Coons, Julissa Mojarras, Estefania Medina, Laura Willers, Fr. David Enriquez, Mary Garr, Kathy Papagni, Michael Vienna, John and Kathy Brechmann, JoAnn Myers, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Sandra Barrie, Deacon Joe Parugrug, Tom Lucas, 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, Dick and Jan White, Randy Trejold, Jose Murillo, Piper Linden

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Synod

Under the guidance of our longtime parishioner Jim Grant, we are currently putting together our Synod Committee. Please keep us in your prayer as we begin this important process for our Church. More information can be found on our website: <https://csufnewman.com/synod-synodal-church>

Year End Giving

Have you included St. Paul Catholic Newman Center in your estate plans? You can add the parish in your will / trust or even leave the Newman Center as a beneficiary of a retire or bank account and even your life insurance policy. Please contact Deacon John for more information.

San Joaquin Memorial

San Joaquin Memorial High School 2022-2023 Enrollment Applications and Financial Aid and Scholarship applications are now open on www.sjmhs.org. Scholarship applications close January 15. For more information and to schedule a Shadow Visit Day and / or a tour contact Bianca Blanchette, Director of Admissions, at (559) 268-9251 ext 139 or bblanchette@sjmhs.org.

New Year's Day Mass

We will have Mass on January 1 at 10:00am to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

Office Closed

Our office will be closed on Monday, December 27. There will be no morning Mass.

Creation Care Tips

"And this shall be a sign for you; you shall find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger." —Luke 2:12 Our sacred scripture story tells us that the newborn Jesus was wrapped in swaddling clothes (the only thing Mary and Joseph had on hand), not a perfect blanket sewn with love. One of our Christmas traditions is to offer beautifully wrapped presents to friends and family. Unfortunately, this tradition involves cutting down tens of thousands of trees to make wrapping paper, most of which can't be recycled and gets discarded soon afterwards. This year, why not find alternatives for wrapping our presents, such as newspaper, old posters, or other reused paper? Some people use cloth napkins, which can be reused; others prefer using gift bags which can also be conveniently reused later on. When wrapping your gifts this year, be creative to prevent depleting our forests.

RCIA

If you interested in becoming Catholic or know of someone who may be interested, this is a good time to start RCIA. Please leave contact information at the front desk and we will follow up or you can contact Charles Arokiasamy – 286-6372 or by email rcia@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 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 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.



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Learn more:

<https://dioceseoffresno.org/office-of-human-resources/>

From Father Byron

Today is a very special day. The entire Church remembers and prays for you and your family on the Feast of the Holy Family. But, what makes the Holy Family a Holy Family? Certainly, as you read in the Gospel today, Joseph, Mary and Jesus are not that different from us. They come to church; they go on trips and their teenage son gets lost! Yet, what makes them holy is not that they are perfect; what makes them holy is that they never leave God outside their lives. You too are a holy family as long as you never forget about God. You too are a holy family as long as you never leave God outside your life. Again, Christmas consists in God incarnating into our very own human existence so that it can be good, redeemed, protected and holy even in the midst of our imperfections. Let us strive to invite God into our lives by prayer, sharing our family values and principles, and living life in such a way that our words and actions preach about hope. That's what makes our families holy! So, happy Feast of the Holy Family to you, holy families!

Children's Mass

Join us on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 6:00pm for the Children's Mass with our amazing Faith, Family & Friends! All are welcome!

Claretian Youth

We thank all the youth and chaperones who joined us for our youth group activities last week: the Christmas outing and the Posada with the Campesinos. In a particular way, we thank our amazing Christi Anderson for her generosity and discipleship through her generosity and time.

Knights of Columbus

Again, our Knights of Columbus were the catalyst for serving our field workers last Saturday. Through their generosity, time and talent, they hosted an amazing dinner to honor the campesinos in the Fresno area. This was a joint collaboration with the Marina Knights of Columbus. Kudos to Bruce and Lucy Myers as well as to our awesome Tom Kane and our brother Knights for their uncanny ministry. They have also shared many other generous charities last month with the community. If you would like to join the Knights of Columbus, please contact Bruce Myers, Grand Knight, at bruceemyers@gmail.com.

Synodality

Be part of Church history and help the Church serve you and your loved ones better! On the day you were baptized, Christ claimed you as a prophet, king and priest. As such, you have the right to the sacraments and the wonderful treasures of the Church; and another important right you have is the right to tell us how we can be more prophetic, servant and evangelizing to you. As we see attendance declining, people leaving the Church, young people becoming indifferent, please share your experience and your wisdom so that we can become more effecting in reaching out to our people, the People of God. Please be part of this conversation in which your voice will be heard (this has not happened in the Church for the past 60 years) and be part of the Synodality Process (Synodality means hearing the voice of the people). Contact me or Jim Grant at jimgrantbc@gmail.com. The upcoming generations need you and one day will thank you. Please, I beg you, help us help you.

Thank you!

Father Paul and I thank you for remembering us this Christmas. May God reward you for your generosity and care of us. We are humbled and honored to serve you.

Office Closed

The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 3, 2022 in observance of New Year's Day. We will not have daily Mass on that day.

Happy New Year!

As a new year knocks at our door, let us remember that the same God who was there with us yesterday and today. God will always be by your side tomorrow! Let's look at the future with hope and let that hope be that guiding star that will guide you to where you are called to be. Happy New Year St. Paul's family!

Saintly Quote

"If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family." - St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Have a Laugh

A Catholic priest announces at church one day, "I will be in Rome next week. If any of you have a wish, I will light a candle in Rome so that the wish will come true."

A woman announces, "My husband and I have been married for several years, but have never borne any children. Can you light a candle so that we can have children?"

"I will do that," says the priest.

Five years later, the woman says to the priest, "Since you went to Rome and lit that candle, I have given birth to two pairs of twins and a set of triplets, and now I am pregnant with quadruplets!" She then gives the priest a plane ticket to Rome.

"You are too kind," says the priest. "You don't need to thank me."

"I'm not thanking you," says the woman. "I just want you to blow out that candle."

The flowers on the Altar are in remembrance of ...

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John and Cristina Murao
John Murao Jr.
Jose Murao
Delores Murphy and Jack
Phillips
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Charlene O'Connell
O'Hare Family
Ogle Family
Our Beloved Parents, Susan
and Bill Kuhn
Victoria Palacio
Papagni Family (John and
Rita)

Past Family
Bessie and Bill Patton
Jack and Naomi Patrick
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Colleen Weakland
Cecil and Sylvia White
Mark Whiteley
Lorna Wolski
Ted Wolski

Just Like a Normal Family

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 - Samuel's birth
- ▶ 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 - We are children of God
- ▶ Luke 2:41-52 - The boy Jesus in the Temple

With the story of Jesus' birth still fresh in our minds on this first Sunday after Christmas, the church uses the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family with all of the readings focused on families. It is fitting that the Gospel reading gives us a glimpse into the less-than-perfect nuclear family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It offers a good reminder that even though they are holy, that doesn't mean their family life was idyllic all the time.

As Catholics, we believe that Mary was conceived without sin (the Immaculate Conception) and that Jesus was sinless. Joseph was a regular guy like the rest of us. Still, living in a family is hard at times, whether your family is 2/3 sinless or not. When people live in close quarters, and there is stress about food, housing, travel, childcare, and extended family ("who was supposed to be watching Jesus, anyway?"), it's normal for frustration and impatience to flare. Factor in a budding teenager who is pushing for greater independence and parents who don't fully understand their son and you have a story like we hear today.

Mary and Joseph's feelings of anxiety and guilt at the end of their journey—and their frustration with Jesus after they found him—weren't sinful. Neither was Jesus' exasperated response, which he very



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“We are God’s children now;
... we shall be like him.”

Sheepish Question:
Recognizing my own shortcomings, how can I strengthen--and be strengthened by--God's holy family?

well may have delivered with an eye-roll: “Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” After all, Jesus was fully human, and he had to go through the same process of growing up as any child does. He wasn’t born knowing how to walk or talk. His parents had to teach him his manners and ask him to help with chores. Just like he would have experienced the “terrible twos,” he had to go through puberty with all its complexities and identity conflicts. It’s no wonder, then, that at the end of a long family trip with a 12-year-old, the “holy family” had a “regular family” moment.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What stands out for you most in this Gospel passage? Why?
- 2 As Christians, we believe that Jesus was both fully human and fully divine. Does this story of the 12-year-old Jesus emphasize his humanity or divinity more for you? Which do you tend to relate to more when you think of him and pray to him?

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