St. Paul Catholic Newman Center



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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C February 13, 2022 Readings: Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today's Gospel presents the Beatitudes according to Luke. They're very different than the Beatitudes found in Matthew's Gospel. Everything is different, even the setting. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus climbs a hill and delivers the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew's Gospel is written for Jewish Christians. It speaks about new attitudes, a new mind set necessary for the Kingdom of God. The heart must be pure, the spirit must be poor, those who mourn will be comforted, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Beatitudes in Matthew tell of some of the changes that the ancient Jews had to make in order to become Christians. Luke's Gospel was written by a gentile convert, Luke, and addressed primarily to gentile converts. His audience was poor - many were slaves or low-born. Their choice to follow Christ only made their situation worse, because just as it is today, Christianity was counter-cultural. They were being persecuted and were suffering. Jesus presents His message to them after coming down from the mount to the level plain. He was on the same level with them. He was also poor, suffering and persecuted. Jesus is speaking to His disciples who have taken risks and made sacrifices to follow Him. They have, as Jeremiah encouraged in the first reading, trusted in the Lord. Jesus is setting guidelines for what makes disciples true disciples. They turned their backs on materialism and chose a life which followed Jesus and would, in the short term, bring them deprivation, sorrow, hatred and rejection, but ultimately would bring them eternal happiness.

Luke presents only four Beatitudes. They don't have to do with attitudes, they deal with the present condition. "Blessed are you who are poor now. Blessed are you who are hungry now. Blessed are you who are weeping now. Blessed are you who are ostracized now." Luke then adds four woes - which are not present in Matthew's version. "Woe to you who are rich. Woe to you who are filled now for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now. Woe to you who are flattered by those who really don't care about you." These additions can make us feel uncomfortable. Being wealthy isn't necessarily evil. Thankfully, there are many in our society who have heard the message and taken it to heart and shared their abundance with those who are less fortunate.

However, our expectations are enormous and often blind us to the needs of the majority of the world. Our affluence can become a disease which can make us indifferent to the poverty right in our own neighborhoods. For those in our society who are indifferent to the costs of their wealth on the less fortunate, Luke presents the Woes. They are a "wake up" call - to look beyond our own immediate pleasures and excesses and to consider those who are left out.

Peace and Love,

Dereon John

Deacon John

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.



Campus Ministry News!



Week of February 13-20

Young Adults' Bible Study

We meet every Monday at 6:00pm. Join other young adults for a bible study discussion to discover the word of God and grow in your faith together.

Wednesday Student Night

Looking for a community to grow in your faith? Join us for our student nights inside Cardinal Newman Hall. This Wednesday, join us for some trivia followed by dinner starting at 6:00pm.

Valentine's Day Social

Join us for a scriptural reflection on love, followed by food and activities. You don't want to miss it! We will meet on Monday, February 14 at 6:00pm.

Campus Ministry Contacts

Edgar Guzman, Director: edgar@csufnewman.com

Fr. Byron Macias, Chaplain: frbyron@csufnewman.com

Stephanie Beas, Administrative Assistant: <u>catholicclub@csufnewman.com</u>

Catholic Charities Truck Help Needed

We need your help! <u>Due to the amount of donations that</u> we are receiving, we cannot continue to have the truck <u>unless we have more volunteers</u>. Volunteers help out once a month (usually the third weekend of the month unless there is a Monday holiday) before and after the Mass of their choice. Please contact the office if you are available to help.

Electronic Funds Transfer

Sign up to make your donation to the Newman Center via electronic funds transfer. Have your Sunday contribution, second collection, and / or your special gift donation automatically made weekly or monthly with a credit card. **One can also schedule recurring online donations**. For more information call Carol at 436-3434.

Faith, Family & Friends

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

All FF&F groups and class sessions meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. All Children's classes meet in Cardinal Newman Hall, Claretian High School Youth Group meets in St. John XXIII, and the Adult Group Session will meet in the Chapel. No registration is required to attend the Adult Sessions.

Family Life Ministries

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

Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation

John Prandini invites you to join in on a series of classes to explore the *Sacraments of the Church - Past & Present*. During each session, we will view a short educational video on each Sacrament, followed by a discussion and Q&A session. It is open to all parishioners! Members of the Adult Confirmation program and RCIA are especially invited and welcomed. Classes are on Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the Chapel. Class dates: February 15, February 22, March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29. No registration or fee is required.

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. 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.

RCIA

God has blessed us with many people wanting to become Catholic. We have three candidates and eight catechumens in the catechumenate and another five in Inquiry. In two weeks these five inquirers will go



through their Rite of Acceptance but have run out of sponsors. We desperately need another five sponsors. If you are a practicing Catholic and have received baptism, confirmation and Holy Eucharist, you qualify. If you are interested in serving as a sponsor and share your faith with these new candidates and catechumens, or if you have questions about sponsoring, please contact Charles Arokiasamy at <u>rcia@csufnewman.com</u> or 559-286-6372. Or leave your contact information at the front office and we will follow up with you.

It is a lot of fun being a sponsor and you will find yourself learning many things you did not know about your own faith.

Weekly Calendar

		i Coruary C		
	15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26	-		1
Wheelchair Sunday		202	21	
7:30am Mass for Muriel Wolf	Chapel	F. b. 7	¢20 502 00	Esh C
9:30am Mass for Benedicto Severo Diaz 10:00am HS Confirmation Class	Chapel CNH 101-103	Feb. 7	\$20,593.06	Feb. 6
11:30am Mass for Larry Yost	Chapel	Feb. 14 ACH	\$ 9,225.50	Feb. 13
2:00pm Baptism Prep Class (via Zoom)	Спарег	Feb. 21 ACH	\$11,165.27	Feb. 20
6:30pm Prayer Activity	Chapel			
7:00pm Mass	Chapel	Feb. 28	\$12,199.66	Feb. 27
	·	Feb. Total	\$53,183.49	Feb. To
Monday, February 14	Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13			
8:00am Mass Int. of Dr. Tom Tuten Family	Chapel			
8:30am Men's Morning Scripture Study	Library			
6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study / Valentine's So	ocial CNH 101			
Tuesday, February 15	Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21			
8:00am Communion Service	Chapel			
12:00pm Christian Meditation	Community Room			
4:00pm Hall of Fame Mtg.	Cafeteria			
6:00pm Faith, Family & Friends	CNH, Chapel			
Wednesday, February 16	Jas 1:19-27; Mk 8:22-26			
8:00am Mass for Rosemary Griffith	Chapel			
6:00pm College Night	CNH 101	_		
6:00pm Scriptural Rosary	Community Room	Prayers:		
6:30pm PAIN	Cafeteria		ho have died	this weel
Thursday, February 17	Jas 2:1-9; Mk 8:27-33		for those who	
8:00am Communion Service	Chapel	intentions a	nd prayers:	
4:00pm Confessions	Chapel		Guzman, Joa	
5:30pm The Hero Within	CNH 101		I Lowe Limon,	
6:00pm Mass for Elinita Verona	Chapel		ail Love, Ron [ons, Julissa M	
			Garr, Kathy P	
Friday, February 18 Ja	as 2:14-24, 26; Mk 8:34–9:1	Kathy Brechmann, Issac Orozco		rozco, Dia
8:00am Mass for Amelita Kinsley	Chapel		y Janelli, Sano n Vasquez, Da	
Saturday, February 19	Jas 3:1-10; Mk 9:2-13	Becerra, Alice	e Schultz, Sr. F andy Trejold, J	Rosa Mar
Second Collection - Catholic Communications			olorio, Jennife	
8:00am Secular Franciscans	Cafeteria		ff Janzen, Kitty	
5:00pm Mass for Vic Roznovsky	Chapel	Tommie Huet	ttmann, Melvin	i Helm far
Sunday, February 20		Danny Hyatt,	ner Quiroz Fan Sr. Joanne Ba	auer, Dea
1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23	; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38		on Jim Rooney	
Second Collection - Catholic Communications			a, Alma Alba, , JoAnn Myers	
7:30am Mass for Mike Gerking and Gene Raine	ri Chapel	Daniel Xavier		, wornca
9:30am Mass for Trini Ramirez and Baptisms	Chapel	2 3.1101 / (4110)		
11:30am Mass for Sandy Ullmann	Chapel			
11.50am Wass for Sanuy Ommann				
6:30pm Prayer Activity	Chapel			

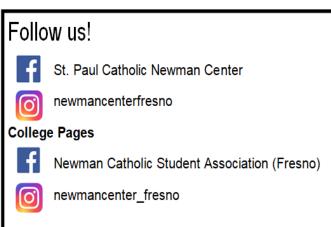


2021		2022	
Feb. 7	\$20,593.06	Feb. 6	\$32,499.82
Feb. 14 ACH	\$ 9,225.50	Feb. 13 ACH	
Feb. 21 ACH	\$11,165.27	Feb. 20 ACH	
Feb. 28	\$12,199.66	Feb. 27	
Feb. Total	\$53,183.49	Feb. Total	\$32,499.82

ek: Louie Perez

equested special

er, Margery Toll, Frances H., Olivia King, Olivia Gary Payne, Linda Alvarez, Estefania Medina, Laura Michael Vienna, John and iana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, ie, Nettie Shute, Sandy y, Isabel Wiggins, Monica aria Branco FHIC, Dick and rillo, Piper Linden, Jose John Schutt, Bobbie n, Catherine Simone, amily, Don Dallas family, Calandri, Rob Hyatt, acon Steve and Angie usselman, Nyla Zender, Rick DeLeon and Family, a Baker, Scott Alston,



Creation Care Tips

"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit." - Jeremiah 17:7-8 Many of us have a real obsession with lawns. Indeed, all the time invested in lawn care and grooming reflects this: laying down sod or seeding, removing weeds, mowing, watering, fertilizing... but do all these efforts produce a harvest? No. We can't eat grass. Here is an idea: replace your lawn with plants that are drought tolerant, native to your locale, and/or will produce food to eat (trees or vegetable gardens). Some municipalities have programs now that offer rebates for those converting their lawns to less-thirsty greenscapes. You will never have to mow again, and depending on what you replace your lawn with, you might never have to water again.

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: February is Black History Month. In addition, we celebrate President Lincoln's birthday on February 12. Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation to restore to African Americans their God-given right to be treated as human beings fully equal in God's eyes with the rest of society. Jesus told us his mission was to emancipate people from the things which oppressed them—poverty, enslavement, despair, whatever broke the human spirit. Your challenge this week is to emancipate someone from injustice. Who needs to be freed from oppression? Is it the kid at school who is constantly picked on? Is it the worker who is discriminated against? Is it the elderly shut-in? Whom will you liberate?

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign engages and builds Catholic Communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Fresno to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

Job Opportunity: Parish Administrator (Parish Life Coordinator)

St. Paul Catholic Newman Center (SPCNC) seeks a Parish Life Coordinator to manage the operations of our Parish. Our mission is to reach out to and serve college students as well as to serve the faithful who have chosen to be a part of our vibrant parish community. Requires five years' experience in management including supervising others, and a bachelor's degree, preferably in management or a related area. For more information visit website <u>csufnewman.com</u> or text / call Dave Meyer at (559) 269-0002.

Secular Franciscans

St. John the Baptist Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order invites all to Online Contemplative Morning Prayer: Daily from 6:00am to 7:00am.

Liturgy of the Hours is shared on the screen.

Short pauses are observed throughout. 20 minutes of silent prayer after the Liturgy of the Hours.

For Details and to request the Zoom Link, please email or call Everardo Pedraza, OFS at fct.ofs@gmail.com or 559-230-9736. All are welcome!

Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Amazon will give .5% of your purchase to the Newman Center through Amazon Smile. Just add "St Paul Newman



Center" (no period after St) as your charitable organization on your new or existing account and shop! When you shop be sure to be on smile.amazon.com so that part of your eligible purchase can go to the church. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up. It is an easy way to give back to the church. To sign up click on the link to Amazon Smile on our website.



PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Stop at the Parish Office to pick up an application. Hours Tue-Fri 8:30 am-1:00 pm & 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

> **QUESTIONS?** Contact: Neira Herrera (559) 485-6210 nherrera@stjohnsfresno.org

THE DIOCESE OF FRESNO IS HIRING!

Marketing and Communication Specialist

A Marketing and Communication Specialist, at the direction of the Director, assists creating and publishing content, overseeing office activities, brainstorming ideas and assists with developing newsletters and other publications. Assists the Director in writing press releases, monitoring media coverage, and attend both external and internal events. Their primary duty revolves around ensuring internal operations run effortlessly, provide essential assistance to the communications department, and upholding the Diocese's external image

Learn more: https://dioceseoffresno.org/office-of-human-resources/

NOW HIRING

- HOUSEKEEPING
- WEDDING/QUINCEAÑERA COORDINADOR

From Fr. Byron

St. Valentine's is around the corner, so make sure you get your candy on time! Speaking about St. Valentine's Day, I remember a couple making a promise to each other: "I promise to love you although I can't promise I won't hurt you." Sounds harsh, but it makes some sense... and it does happen! The thing about life is that we indeed go through ups and downs. One day we are rich in joy and one day we are poor of it. One day we are filled with hope and one day we are hungry for it. One day we laugh and one day we cry. One day we are praised and one day we are hated or insulted. One day people say we are angels and one day people say we are evil. Jesus knows this and that's why in the Gospel this weekend he makes a beautiful promise to us all: your reward will be great in heaven when we live a life emulating the Son of Man.

Pay close attention to what's going on in the Gospel. Jesus is preaching to all these people from "all of Judea ... and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon"

Then, he raises his eyes towards the people and says:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven."

Blessed are you, good people of St. Paul Catholic Newman Center when you are poor or hungry or weeping or hated on account of doing your best to live a life that reflects Jesus' revolution of love, humility, hope and acceptance; for that will never be in vain.

Jesus knows life is not easy, but he gives us hope, hope that no one loves in vain; no one hopes in vain; no one prays in vain. Yet, sometimes it is very hard to find that hope when it gets buried on layers of hate, pride or spiritual narcissism –which eventually hurt us. Just as couples can promise to love but can't promise not to hurt, Jesus promises us hope and liberation even if our faith is put to the test. That is his promise: the promise of the Son of Man, who is stronger than anything, even death! Let us embrace it and let our lives remind others about it.

Happy Valentine's Day; I do love you but God loves you like no one else can. Pray for me as I am giving the Mission Novena at The National Shrine of St. Jude in Chicago. See you on the 22nd!

Claretian Youth

There is Claretian Youth this Tuesday. The theme this month is "Jesus Cries" – Luke 20: 41-44. This Tuesday is Fun Day (To love God and make God known to others) and we will be having water games; please dress accordingly.

Saintly Quote

"The most powerful weapon to conquer the devil is humility. For, as he does not know at all how to employ it, neither does he know how to defend himself from it." - Saint Vincent de Paul

Have a Laugh

What do you call a sleepwalking nun? A "roamin" Catholic.

Wheelchair Sunday

The Knights of Columbus have been partners with the American Wheelchair Mission since 2003 under the umbrella of the Global Wheelchair Mission. Through this program, the Knights of Columbus have delivered wheelchairs to destinations worldwide or right here at home to veterans, retired Priests or Religious, and other local needs. Through your generous donations, you can answer the prayers of the poorest of the poor, and our veterans in need, to help them gain mobility, hope and freedom. For each \$150 gathered in donations, it will sponsor and deliver a brand new wheelchair that would retail for over \$500. Your donation of any amount will help the Knights change lives in an immediate and tangible way.

This weekend is the Knights of Columbus "Wheelchair Sunday". Brothers from our council will be available to accept donations for the wheelchair program in the lobby after all Masses. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Foundations Course for RNs

The Diocese of Fresno is once again offering the Foundations course for RN's wishing to become certified as a Faith Community Nurse (FCN). This course is being offered March 3 -6, 2022 Completing the FCN Foundations course will enable an RN to begin and manage a Health Ministry program within their respective parish as well as provide 34 CEU's. If interested and would like additional information please contact: Roxanna Stevens RN, FCN at Roxanna@dioceseoffresno.org or 488-7474, ext.108 JoAnn LoForti, RN, FCN at jloforti@dioceseoffresno.org; or 488-7474, ext. 108.

Parish Registration

There are instances when, as a member of the parish, you must provide verification of membership at the Newman Center. This is necessary as it applies to the administration of Sacraments and the required record- keeping. For this reason, we ask you to please register as a member of the parish.

Verification (written) of membership in this non-territorial parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fresno may be provided for any baptized Catholic who fulfills any of the following:

- registered in our parish database for a period of six months or more
- reference of regular parish involvement by a member of the parish pastoral staff
- identification as a regular member of our worshiping community (attendance at Mass on the Lord's Day) by a member of our pastoral staff

Since we, unlike other Catholic parishes, do not have a specific territorial area, designated by parish boundaries, living in the vicinity of the St. Paul Catholic Newman Center does not automatically mean membership in this parish. (The territorial parish area in which SPCNC is located covers portions of Saint Anthony of Padua parish and Sacred Heart parish.) 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 SPCNC.

February 13, 2022 • 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C

Good News or Bad News?

This Week's Readings at Mass

- Jeremiah 17:5-8 True wisdom
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20 The resurrection and faith
- ► Luke 6:17, 20-26 The great discourses

The word *gospel* comes from the Greek word meaning "good news." At some points, Luke's Gospel might seem like "good news for the poor" and "bad news for the rich," though, as in today's passage. Matthew's version of the Beatitudes includes only positive promises such as "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of God." Luke's version, however, includes strong words from Jesus to those who are living in comfort now.

We get the sense that Jesus' audience here includes some very poor people to whom he speaks directly. "Blessed are *you* who are poor... blessed are *you* who are hungry now... blessed are *you* who weep now," not the more generic "blessed are the poor in spirit... blessed are those who mourn."

The crowd must also include some wealthy listeners because Jesus also addresses them directly "But woe to you who are rich... woe to you who are full now..." There are many other places in this Gospel (and the Acts of the Apostles, which Luke also wrote) where Jesus speaks bluntly about wealth, poverty, and practices that contribute to economic inequality.

Although Jesus says some things that are hard for the rich to hear, he doesn't dislike rich people. He did banquet with them frequently, after all! Jesus came to free *everyone* from what holds them captive, and he knows that for some rich people it is their wealth which imprisons them. His words may sound like "bad news" on the surface, but if they help free



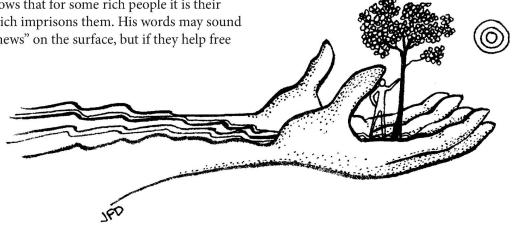
people and move them towards greater generosity, justice, and trust in God rather than possessions, then ultimately Jesus is speaking good news.

Questions of the Week

What strikes you first when you hear this version of the Beatitudes? What is your initial reaction?

Which line of the Beatitudes most speaks to you today?

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