

St. Paul
Catholic
Newman
Center



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Fresno, Ca 93710
Office 559.436.3434
csufnewman.com

The Baptism of Our Lord, Year B

January 10, 2021

Readings: IS 42: 1-4, 6-7; ACTS 10: 34-38; MK 1:7-11

The Deacon's Speakin'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

*A religion may have appeal when it imposes few demands on its followers, but this is not the case of the religion of the prophet Isaiah and it's certainly not the religion of Jesus Christ. In the first reading today, Isaiah speaks in God's name to the chosen people. Those words are offered to all of us as a challenge to do God's work. God didn't "choose": this people (us) to be preserved as museum pieces, but to be a light to all nations. Mark's gospel speaks of the baptism of Jesus. This wasn't only a purification ritual; it was also a rite of commission. Immediately following His baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, Jesus began His public ministry. As we read in the gospel passage, we are baptized not only in water, but baptized with the Holy Spirit. This means we are empowered to do what Jesus did – **Go about doing good.***

Most of us understand that the church has a mission, but not ourselves personally. We see baptism as a "christening", but not as commissioning to perform a ministry. We experience close union with Jesus in Holy Communion, but we're not inclined to feel this same union when we're delegated by Him, to carry out His work. For many of us religion remains "private". We see ourselves as members of a church rather than servants – doers – of a cause.

The truth is – We are baptized for a cause. Baptism commissions us to do the work of Jesus according to our capabilities. It is our duty to teach, counsel, admonish, heal, forgive, comfort, feed the hungry, be a light to those in darkness, whenever other people need such help and we're in a position to offer that service. Not a day goes by that we don't take note of people who need a helping hand, a kind word, a touch of sympathy, a piece of welcomed advice, a warning, a sign of peace, a prayer, an answer to a pressing question. These are all opportunities for us to perform acts of ministry.

Peace and love,

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!

Wednesday Student Night

We are on Winter Break! See you back on the 20th of January.

Young Adult Mass

Every Sunday, we'll be hosting a young adult Mass at 7:00pm. This is an opportunity for students, young adults, and young professionals to come together and be among others our age giving thanks to God.

Join us before Mass at 6:00pm for a prayer activity followed by Mass at 7:00pm.

YOUNG ADULT MASS CALENDAR

January 10	6pm—Confessions	7pm—Young Adult Mass
January 17	6pm—Confessions	7pm—Young Adult Mass
January 24	6pm—Confessions	7pm—Young Adult Mass
January 31	6pm—Confessions	7pm—Young Adult Mass

Mission Trip

Save the date: December 13-21, 2021. Please sign up by emailing
Fr. Byron: frbyron@csufnewman.com

We have a Facebook Page for better communication: Mission Trip Fresno 2021 for more information.

Campus Ministry Contacts

Edgar Guzman, Director: edgar@csufnewman.com

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

Faith, Family & Friends

Faith, Family & Friends is our parish religious education and faith formation program for EVERYONE - Single adults, couples, and families!



During this time when we are unable to meet together in large groups, we invite those of you who wish to receive Religious Education & Faith Formation resources for adults and / or children to register.

Adults: Register for our FF&F Adult Religious Education series by emailing John Prandini, Director of Ministries, at prandinij@csufnewman.com with your name, primary email address, and cell phone number. You will then be placed on the list to receive these free resources.

Recommendation: All families with children join the Joy of Love Moms - Family Ministry led by Jakki Pucheu. Joy of Love Moms is sending out weekly emails that provide great ideas and information on fun faith formation activities for children and parenting suggestions to help you reduce stress and improve family communication. You can sign up by sending an email to joyoflovemoms@gmail.com requesting to be put on their email mail list.

For additional information contact

Adults: John Prandini, MA at prandinij@csufnewman.com
Children: Sr. Kathleen Drilling at skd@csufnewman.com

Email Addresses

If you have changed your email address in the past year or if you are not sure if we have your email address, please send Carol an email at carol@csufnewman.com. This way, we will be able to email your contribution statement and it will help us defray the cost of postage.

Donations

You can make your donations to our parish through several portals. Sign up to make your donation to the Newman Center via electronic funds transfer (ACH), credit card, PayPal, or your banks online banking system. You can designate your donation to Sunday Contributions and / or special gifts automatically made weekly or monthly. One can also schedule reoccurring online donations. For more information send an email to Carol at carol@csufnewman.com. We appreciate your support!

Family Life Ministry

FF&F Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation Ministry will send adult religious education and faith formation videos and resources to adults wishing to receive them. If you wish to be on the list of recipients, register for our FF&F Adult Religious Education Series by emailing John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com with your primary email address and cell phone contact number. You will be placed on the list to receive these free resources. **You can also register by texting the message: SPCNC to 84576** and following the prompts you receive.

The Ignatian Spirituality Group has begun a weekly online Ignatian Spirituality Retreat for Everyday Life. Weekly Zoom meetings are held for those wishing to be included. Email John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com for details on how to enroll and participate.

The Joy of Love Moms' Group is a family ministry led by moms. To join Joy of Love Moms email Jakki at joyoflovemoms@gmail.com.

Men's Scripture Study Group

If you'd like to receive weekly emails please send an email to John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com to enroll.

Meditation Opportunities

Christian Meditation If you'd like to receive weekly emails from our Newman Center's Christian Meditation Group, member of the World Community of Christian Meditation, email christianmeditation@csufnewman.com. The group is facilitated by Benita Lankford.

Mass Requests

If you would like to schedule a Mass request for 2021, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com. The suggestion donation is \$10 per Mass.

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend, we will have a second collection to support the Diocese of Fresno's Seminarian program. The average cost of a year of formation is \$65,000 per seminarian. In addition to your financial help, your spiritual support is crucial. Your prayers for those in the seminary and those who are discerning a possible call to serve is a source of strength and encouragement. Please remember to pray for your seminarians.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 10 IS 42: 1-4, 6-7; ACTS 10: 34-38; MK 1:7-11

9:30am Mass for Steve Rodemeyer Chapel Courtyard

11:30am Mass for Joe and Trini Ramirez Chapel Courtyard

Monday, January 11

HEB 1: 1-6; MK 1: 14-20

8:00am Mass Intentions of Glen Schott Facebook Live

6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study Google Meet

Tuesday, January 12

HEB 2: 5-12; MK 1: 21-28

6:00pm Mass for Betsy Lucido Facebook Live

Wednesday, January 13

HEB 2: 14-18; MK 1: 29-39

8:00am Mass Int. of the Rossi-Del Dotta Family Facebook Live

Thursday, January 14

HEB 3: 7-14; MK 1: 40-45

5:00pm Confessions East Parking Lot

6:00pm Mass for Jack C. Patrick Facebook Live

Friday, January 15

HEB 4: 1-5, 11; MK 2: 1-12

8:00am Mass for John Murao, Jr. Facebook Live

3:30pm Food Distribution East Parking Lot

6:30pm Young Adult Game Night Zoom

Saturday, January 16

HEB 4: 12-16; MK 2: 13-17

Sunday, January 17

1 SM 3:3B-10, 19; 1 COR 6: 13C-15A, 17-20; JN 1:35-42

9:30am Mass for Betsy Lucido Chapel Courtyard

11:30am Mass for Katherine Dillon Chapel Courtyard

Prayers:

- ◆ **For those who have died this week:** Deacon Albert Montejano, Roland Francisco, Sr. Olvido Galiana, RCM.
- ◆ **Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:**
Veronica Reyes and Family, Victor Cleveland, Chris Elias, Deacon Mike Avila, Jeannine Kim, Tom Lucas, Rhonda Weakland, Frank Esquivel, Kristal Lowe Limon, Fr. Joaquin Arriaga, Deacon Alberto Montejano, Nettie Shute, Sandy Keith, Meghan Vasquez, Msgr. Scott Daugherty, Deacon Trinidad Guadarrama, Jacob Blake, Dan Dungy, Isabel Wiggins, Rose Derby, Monica Becerra, Alice Schultz, Nancy Martin, Sr. Rosa Maria Branco FHIC, Lou Freeman

Prayer Requests: Please note that names for the sick / special intentions will remain in the bulletin for one month. 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 436-3434 or go on our website and fill out the form under the "Prayer Request" tab.

January Contributions

2020		2021	
Jan. 5	ACH \$26,162.78	Jan. 3	\$28,062.05
Jan. 12	\$12,535.99	Jan. 10	ACH
Jan. 19	ACH \$29,850.17	Jan. 17	ACH
Jan. 26	\$10,778.27	Jan. 24	
		Jan. 31	
Jan. Total	\$79,327.21	Jan. Total	\$28,062.05

Weekend Masses

Sunday Masses are celebrated at 9:30am and 11:30am in the Chapel Courtyard. Reservations are required to attend Mass. Reservations can be made online by visiting our website.

Live Streaming

Sunday Mass is live streamed at 9:30am. Daily Masses are live streamed at 8:00am on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and at 6:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday. All Masses are streamed on Facebook Live. Look for us under "St. Paul Catholic Newman Center".

Office Closure

Our office is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. If you need to drop anything off at the office, we now have a mailbox by the front door at the main building. We can be reached on our main line at 436-3434 or by email at ncoffice@csufnewman.com.

Follow us!



St. Paul Catholic Newman Center



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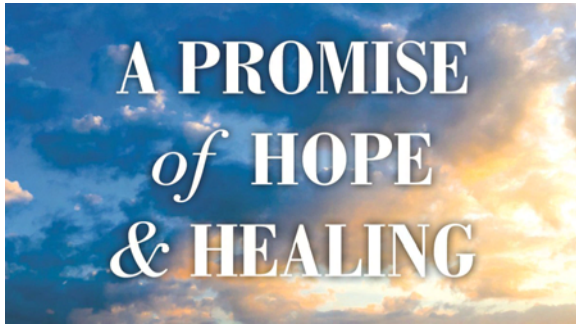
College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



newmancenter_fresno



A Promise of Hope and Healing

Although our campaign has ended, thank you to the generosity of our parishioners; we are still receiving new and additional pledges. We have received \$208,803 in pledges and have received 94% of that amount.

Electronic giving is the preferred, easy, safe and secure way to give to our parish. To schedule a recurring electronic gift directly from your bank account or credit card, please contact Carol at carol@csufnewman.com.

Please remember to make your payments accordingly. Thank you again for your generous support of St. Paul Catholic Newman Center!

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: The first reading on Sunday talks about the mission of the Messiah, and Isaiah clearly proclaims that it includes bringing justice to the earth. Isaiah writes, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations..." Your challenge this week is to reflect on how important justice is in YOUR life. Do you seek it, not just for yourself and your family, but for all those who suffer from injustice—in the local community, in the U.S., and across the world? Do you speak out when you see someone being treated unjustly? Pray that you can be a person of justice in whom God can be well-pleased as He was with his Son.



Food Distribution

We have a drive-thru food distribution every Friday from **3:30pm to 5:30pm**. Bags are distributed in our east parking lot to each vehicle. The entrance to the parking lot is at the east side gate and vehicles exit through the south gate. Please make sure to wear a mask.

2020 Giving Tree

This year we celebrated twenty years of sponsoring the "Giving Tree" at Christmas time.



Due to the pandemic, while it was difficult to "operate as usual", we were successful in meeting the needs of others. The cooperation and support from you, our parishioners, and other community members have made it possible to provide a meal or two to our brothers and sisters in need. All eight communities supported through our Giving Tree have expressed a sincere "thank you" for the gift cards we shared with them.

A heartfelt thank you to all from your Social Outreach Committee (SOS). Have a blessed 2021!

RCIA

Interested in becoming Catholic?

If you have never been baptized or if you are baptized in another denomination but would like to become Catholic, please contact ncoffice@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 personal 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 explore and 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.

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.

Come! Listen!

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Isaiah 55:1-11 - Invitation to abundance
- ▶ 1 John 5:1-9 - God's testimony of love
- ▶ Mark 1:7-11 - The baptism of Jesus

Although baptism as Christians know it didn't exist in the time before Jesus, Jews did - and still do - practice cleansing and purification rituals. If we think about how the Israelites lived so much of their history in a dry and dusty region, it's not a surprise that there is a lot of emphasis on water in their culture and religion. There are some places in the Middle East that are lush and fertile, but for the nomadic tribes who made up the early Jewish people, lush and fertile weren't the norm.

In the first reading from Isaiah today, Isaiah wrote to people who lived in a land where water was extremely precious - for basic survival and cleanliness. His ringing invitation, "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters" could be read literally, as in "We've found a source of water! Come and get a drink! Wash yourselves!" Or we can read it metaphorically, as we do at the Easter Vigil when the catechumens who have been preparing for baptism are finally called to the baptismal font. As an RCIA Director, I see every year how the catechumens' spiritual thirst grows as they realize that the "stuff" of our culture can't slake their spiritual thirst. They are learning to seek out "living water" that will satisfy them in a way that physical necessities can't.

Isaiah's proclamation reminds us that God offers us all we need for our spiritual food. It's all free and available to everyone; we just need to know where to look. Hint: our spiritual food won't be found scrolling through social media, or on the news, or in watching how the Joneses next door are living. Maybe it's heartening, or maybe it's discouraging, but the people Isaiah was writing to over 2,000 years ago struggled with the same things we do today — spending money "for that which is not bread" and working for



"that which does not satisfy." Just like them, Isaiah is calling us to reevaluate our lives and our priorities.

Isaiah tells us we have to make an effort to listen to God and to "seek the Lord." How do we do that? It will look different for every person. It might be waking up 15 minutes before family members to have quiet time with God while sipping coffee. Maybe it's journaling at the end of the day. Perhaps it's joining a prayer group to connect with others who are seeking God too. Perhaps it's going for a walk at lunchtime to clear your mind, or calling a loved one to ask for advice or support. However it is that you can make time to open some space, "incline your ear" to hear what God is speaking.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What are you thirsting or hungering for that money can't buy?
- 2 What do you spend your money on that does not satisfy? What do you consume (physically or otherwise) that is not nourishing?



EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

If you know of someone who lives in the City of Fresno and has been unable to pay their rent, mortgage, or non-city utility bills, due to a loss of income related to COVID-19, we may be able to help. Please share this information.

Fresno Housing Retention Program

Requirements:

1. Live in the City of Fresno
2. Past due rent, mortgage or non-city utility bills from April 1 to December 31, 2020
3. Low income
4. Financially impacted by COVID-19



Required Documentation

- Signed rental agreement or mortgage
- Identification
- EDD claim history
- Proof of loss of income
- Copy of past due bills

For application information, please call:
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