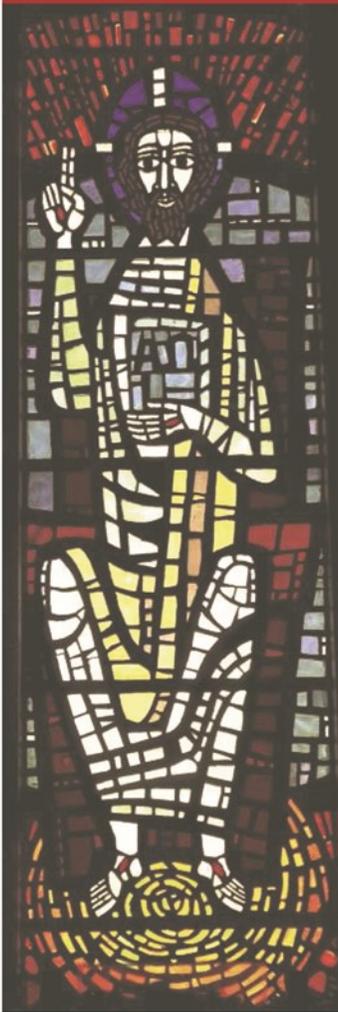


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csufnewman.com

The Epiphany of the Lord, Year B

January 3, 2021

Readings: IS 60: 1-6; EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6; MT 2: 1-12

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Matthew's story of the adoration of the magi has often been better understood by poets and artists than by scripture scholars. The poet and artist view scripture with awe and love – with the heart. The scholar approaches scripture systematically and analytically – with the head. Both have their place, but the story shows how Jesus enriches those who come to Him with their hearts. The magi came with joy and excitement in their hearts to see the Christ Child and God allowed them to see amazing things.

Although, at our Christmas pageants, we group shepherds and wise men together around the manger, the shepherds came from nearby and the wise men from far away. The wise men's visit probably took place long after the shepherds had left. Mary and Joseph remained near Bethlehem and Jerusalem until Jesus had been circumcised and presented in the Temple. Mary also needed time to recover from the delivery before traveling back to Nazareth.

Matthew includes some "dark" elements in his story:

- *Joseph decides to divorce Mary (Mt 1:19)*
- *Herod kills babies in an attempt to do away with the newborn king (Mt 2:16-18)*
- *Joseph and his family flee to Egypt to escape Herod's murder attempt (Mt 2:19-23)*

There are a number of important and interesting parallels between the stories of Moses and Jesus:

- *Pharaoh ordered that all Hebrew baby boys should be killed (Ex 1:16-22) just as Herod does (Mt 2:16-18).*
- *Moses was saved through the intervention of Pharaoh's daughter (Ex 2:1-10) just as Jesus is saved by a dream warning Joseph and Mary to flee (Mt 2:13)*
- *As a young man, Moses fearing for his life, fled from Pharaoh (Ex 2:15)*
- *The Lord told Moses, "Return to Egypt, for all those who sought your life are dead" (Ex 4:19), just as an angel will say to Joseph, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel for those who sought the child's life are dead" (Mt 2:19-20)*

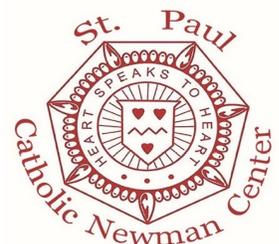
Matthew clearly intends for us to notice these parallels and to see Jesus as a Moses-like figure. However, we need to remember this significant difference: while Moses (at God's direction) saved Israel from slavery, Jesus will save the world from its sins.

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 3	6pm - Confessions	7pm - Young Adult Mass
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.

Children's Mass

We will have our Children's Mass on the first Tuesday of the month. Our next Mass will be this Tuesday, January 5 at 6:00pm. Reservations are required to attend Mass. Please visit our website to make your reservation.

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.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next Baptism Preparation Class will be Sunday, January 10 at 2:00pm via Zoom. The cost is \$10 per person. If you would like to attend, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 3	IS 60: 1-6; EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6; MT 2: 1-12
9:30am Mass for John Godburn	Chapel Courtyard
11:30am Mass for Jayden Quinn Lotz	Chapel Courtyard
Monday, January 4	1 JN 3:22-46; MT 4: 12-17, 23-25
8:00am Mass for Fr. Sergio Negro	Facebook Live
6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	Google Meet
Tuesday, January 5	1 JN 4:7-10; MK 6:34-44
6:00pm Children's Mass (Mass for Janet Wigim)	Chapel Courtyard
Wednesday, January 6	1 JN 4:11-18; MK 6:45-52
8:00am Mass for Jeanne Ansolabehere	Facebook Live
Thursday, January 7	1 JN 4:19-5:4; LK 4:14-22
5:00pm Confessions	East Parking Lot
6:00pm Mass	Facebook Live
Friday, January 8	1 JN 5:5-13; LK 5:12-16
8:00am Mass for Sr. Ann Cornelia Sullivan	Facebook Live
3:30pm Food Distribution	East Parking Lot
6:30pm Young Adult Game Night	Zoom
Saturday, January 9	1 JN 5: 14-21; JN 3:22-30
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

Prayers:

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

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.

December Contributions

2019		2020	
Dec. 1	\$15,116.18	Dec. 6 ACH	\$17,335.05
Dec. 8 ACH	\$19,658.80	Dec. 13	\$16,236.00
Dec. 15	\$18,241.48	Dec. 20 ACH	\$15,701.50
Dec. 22 ACH	\$18,609.50	Dec. 27	\$9,334.00
Dec. 29	\$12,924.21		
Dec. Total	\$84,550.17	Dec. Total	\$58,606.55

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.

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College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



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A Promise of Hope and Healing

Thank You — Our Final Results!

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your response envelope for our *A Promise of Hope & Healing* program. Because of your generous gifts, we are able to stabilize the parish finances. We reached a pledge total of \$207,000. These funds will help with the financial well-being of our spiritual home, and we cannot thank you enough for your continued support.

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: In Sunday's Gospel we hear the story of the "astrologers from the east" who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus. They remind us that Jesus was a universal Savior. He came to redeem all of us, including the lepers, tax collectors, and prostitutes. He even reached out to the hated Samaritans, although it was forbidden by law to have any type of contact with them. Your challenge this week is to explore how open you are to the "Samaritans" in your life—those people who are different from you in their faith, their ethnicity, their politics, or their lifestyles. Then do two things. First, find something you share in common with this group. Recognize your common humanity. Second, learn one new thing about this group that you didn't know before which is worth celebrating. It might be a prayer practice you could embrace, or a recipe for their food which you could try. It could even be a new way of caring for God's creation. Open your heart to be stretched, get out of your comfort zone, and discover the face of God in the Samaritans around you!

0



A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

FROM TWENTY-THIRD PUBLICATIONS

God beyond
calendars and clocks
let me dwell often enough
in that realm
where there is only
NOW
in You

Give me grace enough
To live in the moment
To trust You always
To see You
In each encounter
To find You
In each person
To seek You
in every circumstance
To live well
All the time
You have given to me
NOW.
Amen.

from *In Due Season 1: Prayer for Autumn, Advent, Christmas and Winter Feastdays*

Courage to Follow a Star

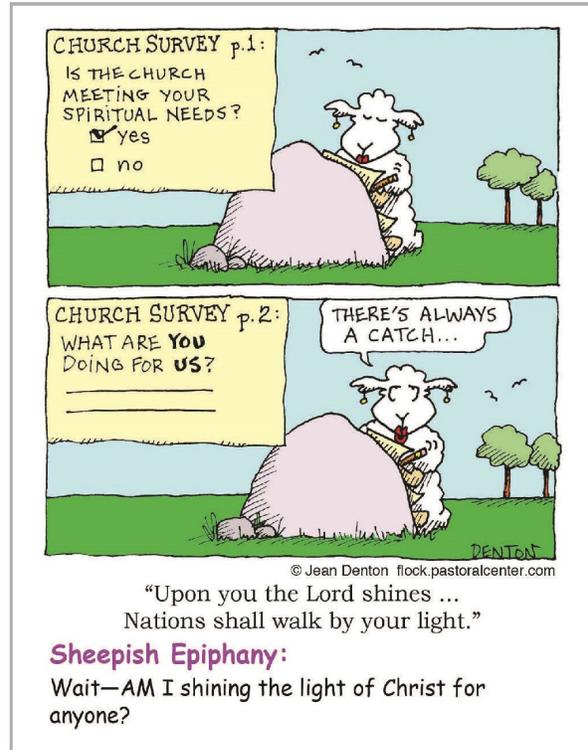
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Isaiah 60:1-6 - Glory of the new Zion
- ▶ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 - Commission to preach God's plan
- ▶ Matthew 2:1-12 - The visit of the Magi

The Feast of the Epiphany brings the Christmas season to a close as the Magi visit the infant Jesus. "Epiphany" is a Greek word meaning a "showing" or "manifestation." In this context it refers to the public recognition of Jesus as the newborn king of the Jews.

Not much is known about the Magi: their names, their country of origin, or even how many there were is never mentioned in the Bible. So who were they? In Jesus' time, the term Magi referred to a caste of Persian priests. They were astrologers who looked to the stars as guides. We don't know their place of origin, except that it was from somewhere east of the Holy Land, perhaps Arabia or the Syrian desert because of the gifts they brought.

Whoever they were, the mysterious people who came to worship Jesus were pagan foreigners. They would have been well-educated and wealthy. They were also seekers, willing to give up the comforts of their daily lives for a long journey to an unknown destination. They were courageous enough to seek an audience with the feared tyrant, King Herod. Clearly, something very powerful was drawing them, and they trusted that they were being led. Later, they trusted their dreams that they should not return to Herod and returned to their homes by a different route. We can only wonder how their lives



were changed by the baby and the Holy Family they met.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What new thing(s) did the scriptures reveal to you this Christmas season about who Jesus is in your life or whom he wants to be for you?
- 2 In what ways are you called to be like the Magi, courageous and trusting although you may not know where you are being led?

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"For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

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