

St. Paul
Catholic
Newman
Center



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Office 559.436.3434
csufnewman.com

Palm Sunday, Year B

March 28, 2021

Readings: Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

The Deacon's Speakin'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The drama that unfolds in this week's passion reading is a commentary on human fickleness. We witness the crowd, at one moment proclaiming "Hosannas" to Jesus and in the next, screaming for His crucifixion. We hear the Jewish leaders who would protect their interests at whatever price, and the Roman governor, Pilate, who would sacrifice justice for political expediency. Then, even more painfully, we note that Judas betrays Jesus, Peter denies him, and his closest friends and followers abandon him. It sounds like a day in the life of our representatives in Washington!

More than likely, we could provide our own stories of how we have experienced fickleness and betrayal at other people's hands, even those who have been near and dear to us. On the other hand, if we're honest with ourselves, we probably can provide examples of our own fickleness, and how others have suffered from our selfishness. There have been times when we betrayed our ideals and abandoned our friends, times we joined the crowd and judged or condemned people we knew little about, times we opted for expediency by offering a "convenient" lie, times we protected our own interests by doing all in our power to put down our competition.

Human nature makes us all partners in weakness. Through all His experience of fickleness and betrayal, Jesus keeps his peace and dies on His cross with words of compassion and forgiveness. This is the message of Passion Sunday: compassion for human weakness and forgiveness for human fickleness. Jesus knows our hearts. Compassion allows Him to love us despite our weaknesses.

Despite these failings, there is still a great deal of goodness in all of us. The goodness often comes out in surprising ways. Scrooges become generous. Enemies become close friends. Hatred turns into love, and curses become blessings. When we're under attack, and on the defensive, the worst in us usually comes out, but when we're in an atmosphere of love and acceptance, the best in us comes out also.

So it's compassion, not condemnation or counterattack, that's called for, a compassion that arises from an understanding of who and what we are as human beings and what we're capable of, both bad and good. Compassion creates the atmosphere of love and acceptance that allows the good in us, and others, to emerge. This is the compassion that "makes up" for our human nature. The compassion of Jesus far outweighed the fickleness of his friends-and enemies.

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!

Young Adult Mass

Every Sunday, we host 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 confessions or adoration followed by Mass at 7:00pm.

Donations

Thank you to all who have continued to donate snacks, school supplies, and household items. We make all of these items available to students every Sunday evening at our Young Adult Mass. The need is still there to help students save a little money by offering these items for free. If you could donate any of these resources please reach out.

Campus Ministry Contacts

Edgar Guzman, Director:
edgar@csufnewman.com

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

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.

Help Needed

We need help tearing down after the 11:30am Mass on Easter Sunday. If you are able to help, please email Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Altar Flowers

Each Easter season, we fill our sanctuary with flowers provided by parishioners' generous donations. Please consider participating in this longtime Newman Center tradition by donating in the name of a departed loved one. Their names will appear in the Easter Weekend bulletin.

Donations can be made online by Wednesday, March 31 (Please put the name of the deceased in the description e.g. Flowers in Memory of John Smith).



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 joyoflovmoms@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

Volunteers Needed

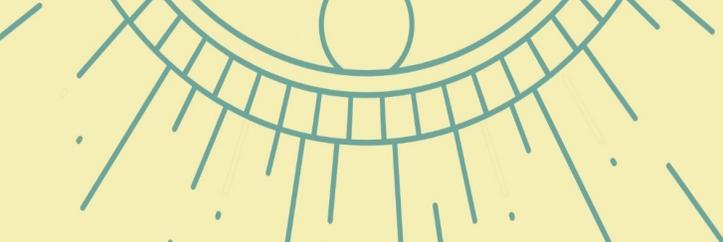
We need volunteers to help us with the following positions for the Saturday 5:00pm Mass: a bathroom monitor and ushers. We also need ushers at the Sunday 11:30am Mass. If you are able to help, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Mass Reservations

Please check your reservations to make sure that you are not booked for two different Mass times over the weekend. This will help us open up spots at our Masses for those who want to attend. If you need help cancelling your reservation at a Mass that you are no longer planning to attend, please email Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Weekly Justice Challenge

The First Reading for Palm Sunday is from Isaiah (50:4-7) and contains one of several powerful images of the "Suffering Servant" found in this book of the Bible. While the author was describing the nation of Israel when he wrote, the passages about the suffering servant took on new meaning after the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is easy to see how Jesus embodied the traits of Isaiah's suffering servant, one of which was his peaceful approach to conflict. Jesus exemplified non-violence, even when he was attacked, spat upon, mocked, and scourged. He met violence by turning the other cheek. He asks us to do the same now. Your challenge this week is to examine your conscience for any signs of violence in your life—in your actions, but also in your words. Make a commitment to respond to violence against your person, be it bullying, being yelled, at or being physically attacked, with a strong but peaceful response.



Holy Thursday
April 1 - 6PM
Inner courtyard

Easter Vigil
April 3 - 7:30PM
Newman Hall courtyard

Good Friday
April 2 - 3PM
Inner courtyard

Easter Sunday
7:30AM, 9:30AM
11:30AM



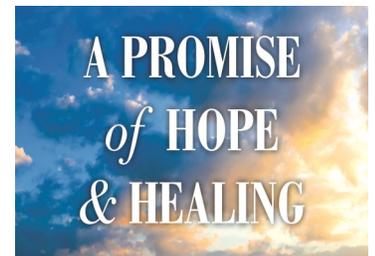
St. Paul Catholic Newman Center invites you to celebrate with us:

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

April 1-4, 2021 | 1572 E. Barstow Ave. Fresno, CA
Reservations and masks required: visit csufnewman.com

A Promise of Hope and Healing

Thank you to those who still continue to give donations to our campaign. We have collected \$210,302.70 which is 97.2% of the amount pledged. There is still time to fulfill your commitment.



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 Calendar

Sunday, March 28 Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

7:30am Mass for Maria Morales Chapel
 9:30am Mass for Frances Hernandez Chapel Courtyard
 11:30am Mass for Ruben Ibarreta Chapel Courtyard

Monday, March 29 Is 42: 1-7; Jn 12: 1-11

8:00am Mass Chapel / Facebook
 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study Google Meet

Tuesday, March 30 Is 49: 1-6; Jn 13: 21-33, 36-38

6:00pm Mass Chapel / Facebook

Wednesday, March 31 Is 50: 4-9a; Mt 26: 14-25

8:00am Mass for Eugene Raineri Chapel

Thursday, April 1 Ex 12: 1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Holy Thursday
 6:00pm Mass Chapel Courtyard
 6:30pm Young Adult Rosary Zoom

Friday, April 2 Is 52: 13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42

Good Friday
 3:30pm Food Distribution East Parking Lot
 6:00pm Stations of the Cross Chapel / Facebook
 6:30pm Young Adult Game Night Zoom

Saturday, April 3
 Gn 1:1-2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15-15:1; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4;
 Ez 36: 16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6: 3-11; Mk 16:-17

Easter Vigil
 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass CNH Courtyard

Sunday, April 4 Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

Easter Sunday
 7:30am Mass CNH Courtyard
 9:30am Mass CNH Courtyard
 11:30am Mass CNH Courtyard

Prayers:

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

Jerome Murao, Deacon Mike Avila, Mildred Moens, Timothy Hacker, Diana Mora, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Fr. John Schmoll, Daniel Padilla, Anna Trevino, Sandra Barrie, Deacon Joe Parugrug, Mark Lang, Nancy VanGalder, Tom Lucas, Kristal Lowe Limon, 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

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.

March Contributions

2020		2021	
Mar. 1	\$17,894.05	Mar. 7 ACH	\$21,491.37
Mar. 8 ACH	\$29,313.83	Mar. 14	\$13,710.00
Mar. 15	\$11,873.17	Mar. 21 ACH	\$13,363.38
Mar. 22 ACH	\$6,257.00	Mar. 28	
Mar. 29	\$4,139.00		
March Total	\$69,477.05	March Total	\$48,564.75

Children's Mass

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

Weekend Masses

Saturday Mass is celebrated indoors at 5:00pm in the Chapel. Sunday Masses are celebrated at 7:30am indoors in the Chapel and at 9:30am and 11:30am outdoors in the Chapel Courtyard. Reservations are required to attend Mass. Reservations can be made online by visiting our website.

Office Closure

Our office is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Staff members are working remotely and checking emails and phone messages. 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

Not Wearing a Costume

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Mark 11:1-10 - Welcomed with palms
- ▶ Isaiah 50:4-7 - The suffering servant
- ▶ Philippians 2:6-11 - Jesus, compassionate high priest
- ▶ Mark 14:1-15:47 - The passion of Jesus

Each Gospel writer tells the story of Jesus' passion and death slightly differently, emphasizing particular aspects of Jesus that each especially wants future generations to remember. Mark's gospel makes it very clear that Jesus suffered intensely, and that he experienced deep human emotions.

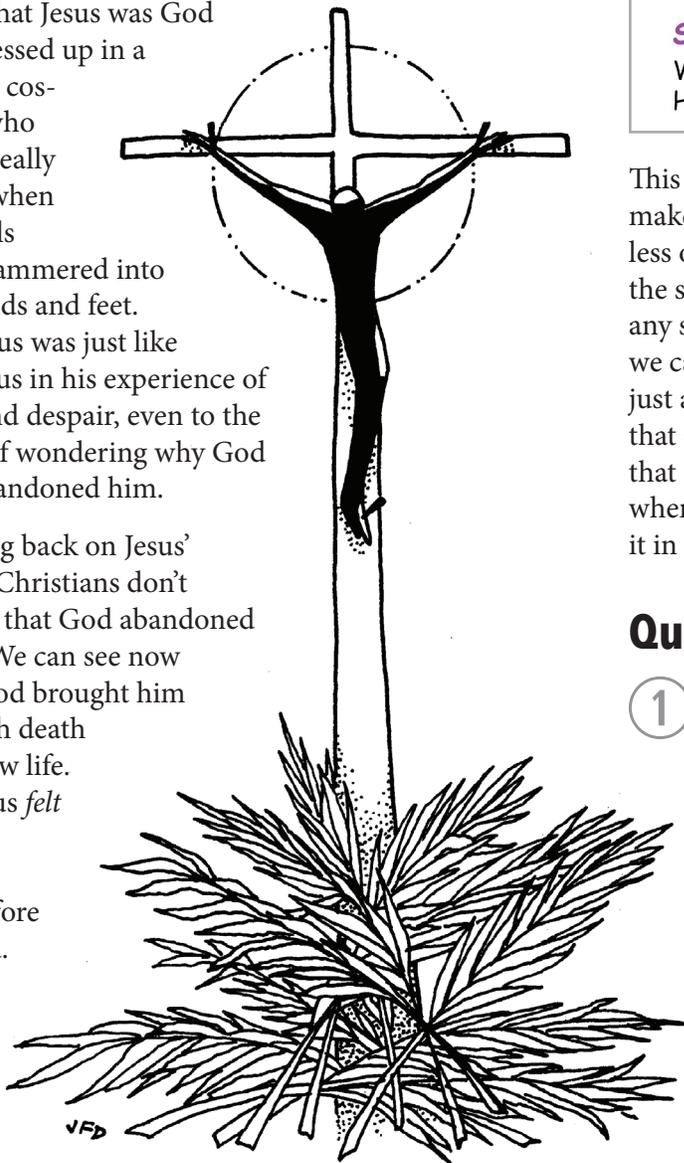
Mark does not want us to think that Jesus was God just dressed up in a

human costume who didn't really suffer when the nails

were hammered into his hands and feet.

No, Jesus was just like one of us in his experience of pain and despair, even to the point of wondering why God had abandoned him.

Looking back on Jesus' death, Christians don't believe that God abandoned Jesus. We can see now how God brought him through death into new life. Yet Jesus *felt* abandoned just before he died.



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“The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced.”

Sheepish Question:
What am I searching for as I approach Holy Week?

This point can remind us that our feelings do not make up all of reality. If we feel despairing or hopeless or that all is lost, we can remember that Jesus felt the same. If we are terrified of death, or we can't feel any sense of God's presence with us in our suffering, we can be assured that God has not abandoned us, just as God did not abandon Jesus. Sometimes all that can be done is to stay the course, remembering that God found a way to bring life out of death, even when Jesus and the others around him could not see it in the moment.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Have you ever felt abandoned by God? Looking back on that time now, do you have a sense of how God was still present and active then? How?
- 2 Think of people in your life now who are suffering or despairing for any reason. How might you make yourself available to them so that they will know they are not alone?

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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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