

St. Paul
Catholic
Newman
Center



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Pentecost Sunday, Year B

May 23, 2021

Readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

THE DEACON'S SPEAKIN'

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Pentecost celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit energizing Christians for a mission to change the world into the kingdom of God. But, it's a mission which many view with apathy, if it's even considered at all. We barely have enough time to take care of responsibilities in our own backyards, much less take on a commitment to the "world." And as much as we'd like to show our Christian goodwill to others, we often feel helpless to effect change. It's wonderful to have pious ambitions to make our world a better place, but where do we get the power to do so?

This is the predicament that faces the apostles in today's Gospel. They're depressed and afraid and find themselves in limbo not knowing for what or why. Hiding behind locked doors, they talk and discuss recent events, but feel handicapped by their powerlessness. But then something happened. There's no question that on Pentecost they underwent a profound transformation. They got their collective acts together, so to speak, and charged out to spread the good news about Christ and His message.

We might wonder what really happened in that locked room to transform them. What "psyched" them and shifted their powerlessness to passionate energy? The readings from Acts and the Gospel simply say that the Spirit came upon them. But what does that mean? We may say they received a special grace from God, but how does the Spirit work? Is it possible for us to get that Spirit for ourselves?

If we look closely, what happened becomes apparent. The apostles stayed together as a group. They faced up to their inadequacies and their inability to go it alone. Putting their trust in God and in one another, they began to pull together again, united in their love of Jesus and His mission. They faced up to their responsibilities and experienced mutual support in a common cause. And it happened – they got Spirit! Every day we can see how this Spirit works. There's no secret about this "power;" it's the power of people being attentive, caring, and supportive of one another in a common effort.

In the Acts of the Apostles, the apostles left the safety of the upper room to proclaim the Good News. They did exactly what Jesus did before He was put to death. They risked their lives for the Kingdom of God. They gave up their safe place for the safety of the Kingdom.

It's easy to stay in a safe place. It's easy to hold on to our comfort level, but Christ continually calls us out of the "upper rooms" of our lives. He continually calls us to embrace the challenge of the Gospel. He calls us to be different, to be holy. He calls us to embrace virtue! He calls us to many insecurities.

I don't know who's credited with the quote, "If you want to give God a good laugh, tell Him your plans." That's because God has plans for each of us beyond our imaginations, plans, ways that we can bring love to others.

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

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 Charles Arokiasamy at 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.

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. **Thank you to Catholic Charities for providing the food that is distributed at no cost to our parish.**



Vaccination Clinic

Save the date. We will be hosting a vaccination clinic at the Newman Center. We will be offering Pfizer doses for those 12 and older in partnership with the Fresno County Health Department and UCSF Fresno. First doses will be administered on Sunday, June 13 from 8:00am - 1:00pm. Second doses will be administered on Sunday, July 11 from 8:00am - 1:00pm. More details to follow.

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.

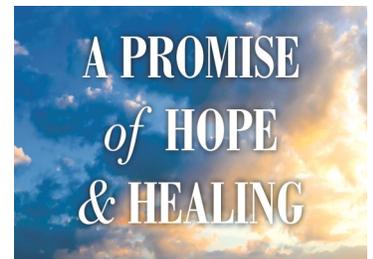
A Promise of Hope and Healing

Thank you to those who still continue to give donations to our campaign. We have collected \$214,622.70 which is 98% 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!



Storytime with Papa Deak

Please join Deacon John for a Zoom story time this Tuesday, May 25. We read a story every 4th Tuesday of the month. Please email joyoflovemoms@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Children's Mass

Our Children's Mass is on the first Tuesday of the month in our Chapel Courtyard. It will be on Tuesday, June 1 at 6:00pm. Reservations are required to attend. Please visit our website to make your reservation.

Faith, Family & Friends

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

For **Children and Youth** materials, contact Sr. Kathleen Drilling at skd@csufnewman.com.

Recommendation: All families with children join the Joy of Love Moms - Family Ministry led by Jakki Pucheu.

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 Joy of Love Moms Group 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.

Men's Scripture Study Group If you'd like to receive weekly emails with Scripture Reflections and Commentaries, and other Faith Formation materials, please send an email to John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com to enroll.

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.

Spiritual Direction

The Pandemic for many people has become a spiritual crisis. Spiritual Direction offers a way to process the isolation, losses, and turmoil in the world. Spiritual Directors help you find deeper meaning beyond the crisis while growing in greater intimacy with God and one another. For more information contact the office at ncoffice@csufnewman.com or 436-3434.

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: May 21st has been designated as World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. It is very interesting to note that this day occurs in the week before we celebrate Pentecost, which is a story about unity in diversity. How appropriate! Cultural diversity is a buzz term today, but it also is something which we Catholics—by our very identity, since “catholic” means universal—embody. As Catholics, we are a diverse people in every way: age, gender, economic status, race, personality, location, and so much more. We are called to embrace and celebrate our differences, not try to make everyone else over in our image and likeness. Your challenge this week is to experience and celebrate something in another culture. It might be a particular prayer, or an ethnic dish, or a type of music. Whatever you choose, embrace the gift of the culture. Offer a prayer of thanks to God that while we are all created in God's image, we are also created in unique and different ways from each other.

Catholic Charities Golf Classic

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Catholic Charities will not be hosting their annual classic golf tournament. In lieu of the tournament, they are hosting a raffle. Golf Tournament donations of \$500 or more made now through June 30th will be entered to win a day in paradise with your favorite foursome at one of the best public courses in the state and the country – The Links at Spanish Bay. Every \$500 donated will count towards one entry to win. To make a donation, you can visit the Catholic Charities website, <https://ccdof.org/fresno/>, click the “donate” button, and under “Apply my donation to” click on Golf Classic. You can also mail your donation to 149 N. Fulton Street, Fresno, CA 93701 ATTN: Golf Classic.

Blood Donations Needed

The Central Valley blood supply is critically low. Consider donating if you can. The Central California Blood Center needs donors of all blood types. Donations will immediately help community members in need from all walks of life and ease the stressful burden of our front-line health care workers. Online scheduling is simple through their website where you can select an appointment location, date and time that fits your schedule. <https://www.donateblood.org/> or call (559) 389-5433.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, May 23 Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

7:30am Mass for Russell Castillo Chapel
 9:30am Mass for Rizal Abrina Chapel Courtyard
 11:30am Mass for Donna Hadrian Chapel Courtyard

Monday, May 24 Gn 3:9-15, 20; Jn 19:25-34

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

Tuesday, May 25 Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31

6:00pm Mass Chapel
 6:30pm Storytime with Papa Deak Zoom

Wednesday, May 26 Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Mk 10:32-45

8:00am Mass for Rose Barretto Chapel

Thursday, May 27 Sir 42:15-25; Mk 10:46-52

5:00pm Confessions Chapel
 6:00pm Mass Chapel
 6:30pm Tacos and Theology Google Meet

Friday, May 28 Sir 44:1, 9-13; Mk 11:11-26

8:00am Mass for Mary Bejarrano Chapel
 3:30pm Food Distribution East Parking Lot
 6:30pm Young Adult Game Night Zoom

Saturday, May 29 Sir 51:12cd-20; Mk 11:27-33

5:00pm Mass Chapel

Sunday, May 30 Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

7:30am Mass Chapel
 9:30am Mass Chapel Courtyard
 11:30am Mass for Joanne Lippert Chapel Courtyard

Prayers:

- ◆ **For those who have died this week:** Enrique Araneta, Jr.
- ◆ **Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:**
 Christopher Evans, Angela Scialabba, Kathy Papagni, Judy Marchi, Michael Vienna, John and Kathy Brechmann, Madeline Lynes, JoAnn Myers, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, Vic Telles, Deacon Mike Avila, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Fr. John Schmoll, Sandra Barrie, Deacon Joe Parugrug, 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.

May Contributions

2020		2021	
May 3	\$8,430.00	May 2	\$16,289.46
May 10 ACH	\$18,840.00	May 9 ACH	\$19,440.00
May 17 ACH	\$15,355.00	May 16 ACH	\$15,904.21
May 24	\$7,822.00	May 23	
May 31	\$7,145.01	May 30	
May Total	\$57,592.01	May Total	\$51,633.67

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 to the public due to Covid-19 restrictions. Staff members are answering phone calls and emails Monday—Thursday and checking off messages on Fridays. If you need to drop anything off at the office, we 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.

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 and a greeter at the Sunday 11:30am Mass. If you are able to help, please contact Jenna at jenna@csufnewman.com.

Follow us!



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College Pages



Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)



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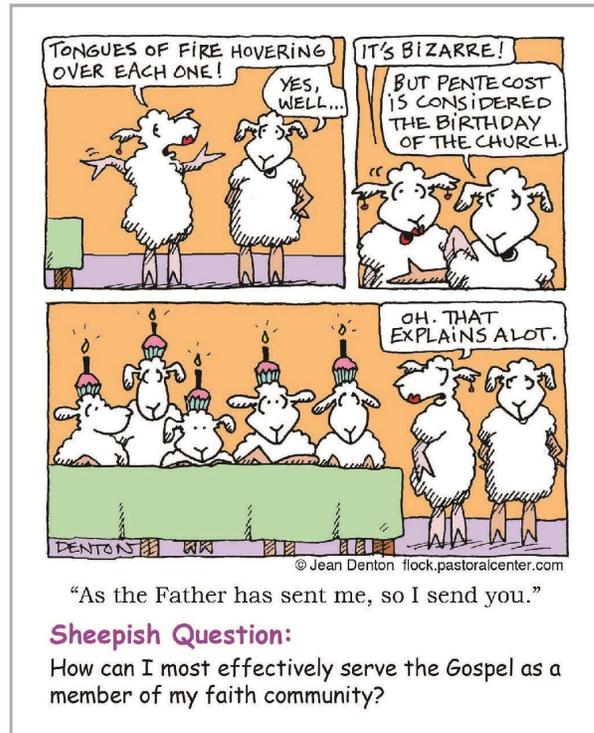
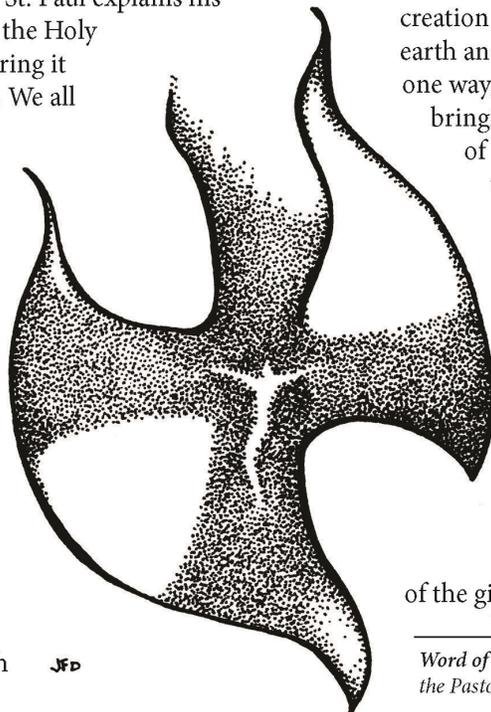
From Babbling to Fluency

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Acts 2:1-11 - Descent of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 - Many gifts, one Spirit
- ▶ John 20:19-23 - Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to the disciples

In the first reading today, Luke tells us that the Spirit came upon the disciples dramatically and gave them the gift of tongues—the ability to communicate with foreign visitors who were from all over the known world. It is a scene that is almost an exact reversal of the story of the Tower of Babel found in Genesis. In that story, everyone in the whole world spoke the same language. In their selfish pride, they came together to build a city and a tower to reach to heaven to “make a name for ourselves.” God humbled them by confusing their language so they could no longer understand one another. Their speaking sounded like nothing more than “babbling,” and for that reason, their city became known as Babel. With the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the scattering of people and confusion of languages is overcome by the Spirit so that everyone can hear and understand “the mighty acts of God.”

In the second reading, St. Paul explains his understanding of how the Holy Spirit works by comparing it to our physical bodies. We all understand that our different body parts have different functions and that all are needed for our health and well-being. St. Paul taught that the Holy Spirit can be understood to work among us in the same way. As individuals, we have all been given certain spiritual gifts that the world needs and which



can benefit everyone. The source of all those different gifts is the one Holy Spirit.

In the Gospel reading, we hear John’s account of how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples: he breathed on them. That image would have reminded them, and their fellow Jews, of the story of creation when God made Adam out of the dust of the earth and breathed into him, bringing him to life. In one way, when Jesus breathed on the disciples, he was bringing them to life in a new way. Now, instead of being huddled behind locked doors because they were afraid, they are given the courage and strength to go out and spread the Good News with all those who hadn’t yet heard of Jesus and his message of love.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What are some gifts you feel you have been given in order to serve the world?
- 2 In what area(s) of your life right now do you feel the need of the gifts of the Holy Spirit?

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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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