

# CHRIST CHURCH NEWMAN CENTER

OPENING HEARTS, CHANGING LIVES

scsucatholic.org | 320-251-3260 | newmancenter@scsucatholic.org |    @SCSUNewman

**May 21st, 2023**

7th Sunday of Easter



### Sunday Masses

9:15am & 8:00pm

### Confessions

Sunday, 7:30pm

### This Week's Happenings

#### Tuesday (5/23):

Parish Council Meeting: 7-9pm

#### Wednesday (5/24):

Clarification of Thought Peace and Social Justice: 5:30-8:30pm

#### Thursday (5/25)

Young Adult Praise and Worship at St. Augs 6-8pm

#### Sunday (5/28):

Mass: 9:15am & 8pm

**God is king of all the earth**

Psalm 47: 2-3, 8-9, 10

## Going Home: A Reflection from Deacon Vern

As they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. Acts 1:9

As disciples of Christ, we, too, understand that relationships change. The eleven disciples experienced it. They were friends and students of Jesus for three years. And then he is crucified, and they are alone. But three days later, he is resurrected and appears to them differently – and they doubted. And now he is going home, but with a promise that he would send the Holy Spirit to always be with us.

After ten years of enjoying the warmth of Florida winters and the availability of many ministry opportunities as a deacon in a large growing parish, Diane and I have sold our Florida home to return to Minnesota as full-time residents. With the especially abundant snow of the past winter here in Minnesota, the question that has been asked of us is, "Why?"

Maybe, it was the restless hearts that St. Augustine tells of in his conversation with God: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." I sensed this restlessness as a corporate nomad, asking my family to live in different communities throughout the Midwest, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Louisville, Kentucky. Although we enjoyed the experiences, our intention always was to return to Minnesota, to close out our lives, God willing, in Minnesota, where it began.

Our 2014 decision to live seven months a year in Florida came with the knowledge that two homes would eventually be a burden. Concentrating on what is most important could best be done in the midst of family and old friends. So, we have returned to enjoy the blessing of having our family and siblings in Minnesota, nearby Wisconsin, and South Dakota. And maybe, going home to Minnesota was a longing to return to our roots, where our gift of faith was first nurtured.

We will miss our Florida friends and neighbors of the last ten years, the 7:30 a.m. bicycling buddies, our vibrant St. Anne parish community, and hosting relief from the cold for our northern family members and friends. But we look forward to again celebrating the holidays and the holy seasons in Minnesota with our immediate family of six daughters, four sons-in-law, and nine grandchildren. We feel blessed to have them nearby in the Twin Cities and western Wisconsin. In addition, I still have eight siblings, but with my four sisters all encountering major health issues, it is time for Diane and me to accompany them.

As we age, Diane and I have decided that now is the time to consolidate the bulk of our life into one home. To simplify our lives to better assist our family, the parishioners of our cluster, the Diocese of St. Cloud deacon community, our new bishop, Minnesota neighbors, and friends in the years we pray to be blessed with.

And we could return to Minnesota to help others make their life transitions. And to be near others that can help us in this faith journey to age gracefully and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

May God bless all our efforts as we transition. As our relationships change, may we also grow and evolve. May we not feel orphaned by Jesus' ascension but be filled with his promise of the Holy Spirit to assist us in our faith journey as we age.

To honor Jesus' words: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

And we thank you for your warm Minnesota welcome.

Vern Schmitz

### Parish Office

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Follow us!



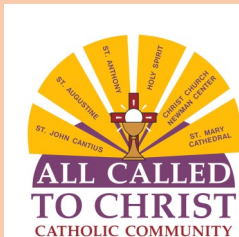
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## Young Adult Praise and Worship

Join us for a night of benediction, brats, brews, & bean bags! Young Adults and their families are invited (young children are encouraged)!

Thursday, May 25th, 6pm-8pm at St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud, MN 442 2nd St SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304



## Quilt Blessing

If you have any finished quilts to donate to Newman's prayer quilt ministry, please bring them in by the morning of June 4th, as we will bless them during the 9:15am Mass!

## Peace and Social Justice Committee seeks your input

The PSJ committee is sending an email this week to all parishioners, inviting input about social justice issues of concern on which we could focus in the coming months.

## Join Us for a "Clarification of Thought" gathering (Wed, May 24th)

The Central MN Catholic Worker community is offering its next "Clarification of Thought" gathering — and Neman Center will again be the host, on Wed, May 24th, from 7-8pm.

These gatherings — a tradition in the Catholic Worker movement — are opportunities for participants to engage in dialogue about various social justice issues, drawing upon our faith tradition, Scriptures, lived experiences, and related resources.

Those interested in participating can do so in person on the Terrace (a simple meal of soup-and-bread, beginning at 6:15pm, will be available) — or via Zoom.

To learn more about this gathering, to indicate if you plan to join in-person, or to request a Zoom link, contact Kevin LaNave at, <klanave@scsucatholic.org>, or (320) 640-7627.

Daily Readings are found at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org)



Visit our livestream! Search YouTube: Christ Church Newman Center

## Parish Prayers

†Anne Fields	Schroeder	† Valerie Meinz
Nancy Huber	Kelly Hoppe's mother-in-law	† Bette Bartos
Penny Zook	Helen Trisko	† Rich Theisen
Waletzko's grandson Isaac	Carol Agnes	† Mike Schmiesing, brother of Sharon
Kathy Williams	† Betty Strobel	† Carol Reiter
Kevin & Melissa Kruger's brother Mark	Cathy Wieme's mother, †	† Ed Schnettler
Linda Urbik	Carol Skoien	† Jim Pehler
Courtney Vorell's father	†Katie Waletzko	† Denise Keller
Paul Snyder	†Don Prom	† Jennifer Symalla
Grace Bellicot	†Renee Miller	† Elaine Quella
Doug Nieters	†Will Ellenbecker	† Bob Huber
†Mil Voelker	† Stanley McElhone	† Dawn Newton
Tom Keaveny	† Bill Schroeder	† Robert Surma
Isla Johns	† Vern Cronin	† Geneva Cameron
Aaron Volker	† Donald Lardy	† William Luketich
† Gene Hoelscher	† Sallie Bellicot	† Michael Garrity
Millie Moran, sister of Jay	† Deborah Rodriguez	



Newman hosted the youth group from Sacred Heart Sauk Rapids for their final youth group and senior blessing.



## Parish Staff

Canonical Administrator: Father Mark Stang  
 Sacramental Minister: Father John Paul Igbowke  
 Campus Ministry Director: Philip Shefveland — [pshefveland@scsucatholic.org](mailto:pshefveland@scsucatholic.org)  
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