

CHRIST CHURCH NEWMAN CENTER

OPENING HEARTS. CHANGING LIVES

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

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent

"...I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future."



Sunday Masses

9:15 am & 8:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Thursday, 8:00 pm

Friday, 12:00 pm

Confessions

Sunday, 7:30 pm

Thursday, 7:30 pm

Adoration

Thursday, 7:30 pm

This Week's Happenings

Tuesday (3/22):

Peer Ministry Mtg—4pm

CGS Level 1—5-6:30pm @SEAS

Bible Studies—5:30pm

Music Rehearsal—7pm

Wednesday (3/23):

CGS Level 1—9:30—11am & 5:45—7:15pm @ Mary Center

SEND—7pm at Newman

Family Formation—6:30—7:30pm at St. Mary's

Confirmation—7-8:30pm at St. Anthony

Thursday (3/24):

Mass—8pm

Friday (3/25):

Mass—12pm (Noon)

Sunday (3/27):

Mass—9:15am & 8pm

Coffeehouse—9pm

March 17th we celebrated once again the feast of St Patrick. It is good to remind ourselves of the great service to our Lord that Patrick dedicated his life to.

Patrick was born in Britain of a Romanized family. At age 16 he was torn by Irish raiders from the villa of his father, Calpornius, a deacon and minor local official, and carried into slavery in Ireland. He spent six bleak years there as a herdsman, during which he turned with fervor to his faith. Upon dreaming that the ship in which he was to escape was ready, he fled his master and found passage to Britain. There he came near to starvation and suffered a second brief captivity before he was reunited with his family. Thereafter, he may have paid a short visit to the Continent (Europe).

The best known passage in the *Confessio* tells of a dream, after his return to Britain, in which one Victorinus delivered him a letter headed "The Voice of the Irish." As he read it, he seemed to hear a certain company of Irish beseeching him to walk once more among them. "Deeply moved," he says, "I could read no more." Nevertheless, because of the shortcomings of his education, he was reluctant for a long time to respond to the call. Even on the eve of reembarkation for Ireland he was beset by doubts of his fitness for the task. Once in the field, however, his hesitations vanished. Utterly confident in the Lord, he journeyed far and wide, baptizing and confirming with untiring zeal. In diplomatic fashion he brought gifts to a kinglet here and a lawgiver there but accepted none from any. On at least one occasion, he was cast into chains. His untiring faith is mirrored in this prayer of St Patrick:

**Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.**

Blessings,
frjoe



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Tues., March 22—Lenten Reconciliation 6pm @ Newman Center
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Thurs., March 24—Discipleship 6pm in the Terrace
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Thurs., March 31—Discipleship 6pm in the Terrace
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Parish Office

396 1st Ave S | St Cloud, MN 56301 | (320) 251-3260

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Spring Confirmation Session – Wednesday March 23, 7-8:30 pm at St.

Anthony Parish Center

Family Formation Home Lesson Class (Optional) – Wednesday, March 23,

6:30-7:30pm Mary Center

SEND - Wednesday, March 23, 7:00-8:30pm Newman Terrace (dodgeball at 6:45)

CGS Level 1 - Tuesday, March 22, 5:00-6:30pm at SEAS; Wednesday, March 23, 9:30-11:00am and 5:45-7:15pm at Mary Center

High School Youth Group – Sunday March 20, 7-9pm Mary Center

All Confirmation Candidates – Spring Retreat March 20 or March 27

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday (April 14):

Holy Spirit—5:30pm

St. Anthony—7:30pm

Newman Center—8pm



Good Friday (April 15):

Newman Center—Noon

St. Anthony—1pm

Holy Spirit—3pm

St. Anthony—7pm

Easter Vigil (April 16):

St. Anthony—8pm

Holy Spirit—8pm (joined by Newman Center)

Easter (April 17):

St. Anthony—8am

Newman Center—9:15am

Holy Spirit—10:30am

Newman Center—8pm

Parish Prayers

Anne Fields	Aaron Volker	† Bette Bartos
Nancy Huber	Pat Overman	† Rich Theisen
Penny Zook	Gene Hoelscher	+Mike Schmiesing, brother of Sharon
Waletzko's grandson Isaac	Millie Moran, sister of Jay	+Carol Reiter
Kathy Williams	Schroeder	+Ed Schnettler
Kevin & Melissa Kruger's brother Mark	Deb Brancale, mother of Jennifer Wucherer	+Jim Pehler
Linda Urbik	†Katie Waletzko	+Denise Keller
Dave & Caroline Williams's son Jeff	†Don Prom	+Mary Kelley, sister of Barb Grachek
Courtney Vorell's father	†Renee Miller	+Jennifer Symalla
Paul Snyder	†Will Ellenbecker	+Elaine Quella
Grace Bellicot	†Stanley McElhone	+Bob Huber
Doug Nieters	†Bill Schroeder	+Dawn Newton
Mil Voelker	†Vern Cronin	+Roy Hoelscher, brother of Jay Schroeder
Tom Keaveny	†Donald Lardy	+Robert Surma
Dale Baune	†Sallie Bellicot	
Isla Johns	†Deborah Rodriguez	
	†Valerie Meinz	

Visit our livestream! Search YouTube:

Christ Church Newman Center



Daily Readings are found at usccb.org



A big heartfelt thank you to Joan Spring for her many years of dedicated, wonderful service to Christ Church Newman Center and all the parishioners, children, and students who have come through the doors for the past ten years! You will be greatly missed in the office; however, we look forward to continuing to pray and worship with you!

Many blessings for your future endeavors!



Join us for... LENTEN DISCIPLESHP!



Next 2 Thursdays in Lent - 6pm-7:30pm

Mar. 24, 31

FREE Meal @ 6PM - Followed by Discussion - All Invited!

Church Cleaning

Church cleaning will be on Saturday, March 26 starting at 9:30am. Volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work! :-). Thank you for helping to keep our church clean and beautiful!

LIVING STATIONS

Please consider signing up to take part in this year's living stations which will take place on Good Friday. We are in need of readers, musicians, and actors (non-speaking roles). If interested, please talk to or email Philip: pshefveland@scsucatholic.org

Promoting the Common Good

The Catholic Social Justice Teaching of promoting the common good is needed more than ever today! Join us to learn how to have conversations with our family, friends, neighbors, congregation members, co-workers, and classmates about difficult issues around race and class that build solidarity and connection!

What: Bridging Conversations Training
When: March 27th 11:00 am – 12:30 pm Via ZOOM
Presented by: Alexa Horwart
Sponsored by: Newman Peace and Justice Committee

Sign up on the website!

Parish Staff

Music, Stacy Ellens: sellens@scsucatholic.org

Pastor, Fr. Joe Herzing: frjoe@scsucatholic.org

Pastoral Assoc., Joan Spring: jspring@scsucatholic.org

Office Manager, Janice Wuebkers: jwuebkers@scsucatholic.org

Campus Ministry Director, Philip Shefveland: pshefveland@scsucatholic.org

November Town Hall Take Aways

Introduction:

The initiative to hold a Town Hall meeting to listen to community members' thoughts, feelings, and hopes about "life at Newman" originated in the Parish Council. The entire parish was invited to the event, which was held on Sunday, November 14, 2021, in the Terrace at Newman. It was the first of several Town Hall meetings that we hope to hold during the 2021-2022 year. Over 50 people attended in person, and email responses were received from another 20 individuals.

Opinions were sought in three general areas: What brought you to Newman? What do you currently value at Newman? What do you see our future at Newman might be? An additional goal was to strengthen parish relationship through meaningful conversation, so to meet that goal, people were randomly assigned to small discussion groups. Groups were led by a pre-arranged volunteer and a notes taker recorded responses. Special thanks to these volunteers!

Results were recorded and categorized into 5 general areas by several members of the Parish Council. These "Take Aways" are summarized here to provide the parish with a direct way of seeing results. Please contact Pat Welter or Caroline Williams to see more specific information if needed. These results will be used by the new Parish Council and Parish Committees moving forward.

1. A Welcoming, non-judgmental culture:

The majority of participants at the Town Hall came and stayed at Newman because of the welcoming, accepting, inclusive, non-judgmental and diverse culture and climate they found when they arrived. The phrase, "All are welcome" and openness to all was often mentioned. Many cited a keen sense of community and feeling of "belonging" at Newman.

Looking to the future, a strong desire was expressed to maintain and intentionally increase these characteristics and to attract college students and younger adults and families. A concern was expressed that Newman may be losing some of these traits and becoming less inclusive, less open-minded and pushed to be similar to many other Catholic churches. The impact of the pandemic on the parish community also weighs on people's minds.

2. A Vatican II Church:

Living out the principles of Vatican II as "the people of God" was and is a foundational value expressed at the Town Hall Meeting. This was described in many ways:

- *A vision of a loving and caring God;
- *Decentralizing the hierarchy and increasing and empowering the role of the laity;
- *A laity who are active and involved in the church community;
- *Acceptance of examining multiple viewpoints and the freedom to express opposing views;
- *Challenging parishioners and young people to a lived faith in the larger community;
- *Adopting liturgical practices "in the spirit of Vatican II" which signify an open, welcoming, and inclusive community.

Moving forward, many believe that Newman needs to be more focused on a Vatican II spirit for today's world. This includes:

- *Promoting a wider understanding of Vatican II and its meaning today;
- *Opportunities for dialogue and diverse opinions about the many troubling issues confronting people today;
- *Challenge and support to live out "a theology for the common good."
- *Many cited the words and teachings of Pope Francis as a needed guide to move forward.

3. The Liturgy:

If the spirit of Vatican II was and is foundational at Newman, many said they experienced it in the liturgy first. From the translation into English, the move to inclusive language, the vibrant and diverse contemporary music employing multiple instruments and rhythms, the unique and welcoming liturgical practices, and the life lesson homilies, people felt welcomed, inspired, and part of a vibrant faith community.

The liturgy continues to be important, but there is concern about a kind of return to a pre-Vatican II spirit that seems to have happened with a resulting decrease in a sense of inclusion, vibrancy, and relevancy. Repeated calls are for more careful planning to include diversity in the music and especially in the homilies - including a need to hear lay women and men speak to the relevant issues of today raised by the Gospel message as well as to resume liturgical practices signifying a welcoming community.

4. Spiritual Growth for All: The Parish, Students, and Youth

The importance of spiritual growth for permanent members as well as students and its connection to living in today's complex world was a major gift which people said they found at Newman. It was why they stayed and is what they desire again. As one person said, "We are all students of life and are urged to continue to grow spiritually." The lively liturgy and meaningful expression of the sacraments were central to this, but adult education, including videos, discussions, "struggles with grace," guidance from contemporary men and women theologians and lay people, and thought provoking challenges made Newman a "faith home" for many.

Focus on College Students:

While people were and are clear that Newman has a special mission to college students, many voiced that the calling was to serve students by helping them develop a mature spirituality, and much of this comes through experience in a Vatican II parish living out the faith. One person said it was by establishing a spiritual connection and "reciprocal relationship of the spirit that feeds us and inspires us to grow." Many felt that Newman needs more student involvement, and that the decline of students in the parish is related to a decline in the open, inclusive, relevant spirit of Vatican II in the parish. Others added that it means going where students are – in the larger community through various forms of outreach and social justice activities like presence at community events such as PRIDE in the park.

Teens, Pre-Teens, REP, and Young Adults:

The current Religious Education Program drew many comments relating to what people would like to see at Newman, from wanting to revisit REP for younger students, to wanting it back in Newman. More activities for pre-teens and teens were also called for, as well as outreach for singles in the parish.

5. Social Justice:

Feedback from every discussion group at the Town Hall cited social justice as an important part of Newman's mission which brought people and kept them here. It was described as a critical way Newman "lived out the spirit of Vatican II" and pointed to how the diverse spiritual development activities – many focused on social justice issues - "nourished and challenged" both adults and students together to stretch and act out their faith in ever deepening ways. This included speakers for coffee hour, social justice sermons, and more "Gospel Way" outreach in the larger community to immigrants, refugees, and the many oppressed people living here. These and more were among the strong calls for greater social justice focus in all of Newman's ministry going forward to provide opportunities to gain moral vision and clarity around challenging issues in today's world that call us to action.