



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

October 6, 2024

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Masses
10am & 8:00pm

Confessions
Sunday, 7:30pm

Pastor:

Father Derek Wiechmann
fatherderek17@gmail.com

Sacramental Minister:

Father JohnPaul Igbokwe
igbokwejohnpaul7@gmail.com

*In case of immediate need, call your parish office to reach a priest directly.

This Week's Happenings

Tuesday (10/8)

Bible Study 5:30pm Wil's Place
100th Ann. Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Wednesday (10/9)

Prayer Ministry 11am
1st Sacraments Parent Mtg. 6pm
Confirmation 7pm

Thursday (10/10)

Theology on Draft 6pm

Saturday (10/12)

Community Meal 11:30am
Pub Party 5pm

Sunday (10/13)

100th Celebration 10am Mass followed by 11am Dinner

Dear brothers and sisters,

Welcome back Fr. John Paul! He has safely returned and is beyond grateful for the support he has received from all of you. I am coordinating a time for him to share his pictures of videos of his visit back home.

The election season is fast approaching. It can be a time of anxiety for everyone. I encourage each of us to enter into this time prayerfully, asking the Holy Spirit to guide and form our consciences.

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops' article document, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" says the following: "The Church equips its members to address political and social questions by helping them to develop a well-formed conscience. Catholics have a serious and lifelong obligation to form their consciences in accord with human reason and the teaching of the Church. Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere "feeling" about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil. Conscience always requires serious attempts to make sound moral judgments based on the truths of our faith.

As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right" (no. 1778). 18. The formation of conscience includes several elements. First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics, this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church as contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices. Finally, prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God. Catholics must also understand that if they fail to form their consciences in the light of the truths of the faith and the moral teachings of the Church they can make erroneous judgments."

I have heard some folks say that they are not going to vote. It is our duty and our privilege to vote. Let us continue to pray for our country during this election season.

Peace!
Fr. Derek

A reminder the clergy conference is October 6th to 9th for all priests and Fr. Derek is on his trip to Poland October 15th to 25th

Parish Prayers

†Shawn Preisler
†Arleen Boyd, Mother of Glenda Prom
†Parisa
†Julie Gabrielson
†India Faith Krueger Wasilowski
†Bob Trisko
†Frank Roehl
•Nkeiru
•Innocent, Chinwe, and their family
†Mary Helen Montgomery
•Aaron Dockendorf
†Mary Morton

Update for the 100th Anniversary

The RSVP has been extended to Monday evening,
October 7, 2024

(Call Newman, use the QR Code, or
scsucatholic.org to RSVP)

Saturday, October 12, 2024

There's a lot of family friendly fun planned for this evening from 5 to 9 PM. We have generous donors so we can share brats, beans, chips and more. The music is guaranteed to be fun for listening or dancing! And games and activities are planned for young and old alike.

Sunday October 13, 2024

Frs. Derek and Kevin will preside and provide us with a great homily! A chicken dinner will follow the 10 AM mass. Again generous donors are covering the cost of the meal for everyone to enjoy.



Youth Group Calendar for September/October:

October 6th: Topic Night

October 13th: Activity Night

October 20th: Men's & Women's Sessions

Remembering Mary Helen Montgomery

November 23, 1938 – June 24, 2024

An informal celebration of life for Mary Helen will be held on Sunday, October 20 in the Newman Center Terrace, 2:00-4:00. Together we will honor the life, loves, and laughter of Mary Helen as we share stories and prayers surrounded by photos and friends.

SAVE THESE DATES

The Peace and Social Justice Committee is offering a combination of two "presentations-and-conversations" (with coffee-and-rolls) about the process of applying the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to moral and political issues.

Sun, Oct 20th, after 10 am Mass, featuring Michael Rios, from Catholic Charities of Mpls/St Paul

Sun, Oct 27th: after 10 am Mass, featuring Sr Eilis McCulloh, from NETWORK Catholic Social Justice Lobby

Join the
100TH ANNIVERSARY
choir!



REHEARSALS
SUN, 9/29
TUES, 10/1
TUES, 10/8

EMAIL STACY
FOR MORE INFO

Mass
Sun, Oct. 13

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Derek Wiechmann fatherderek17@gmail.com

Sacramental Minister: Father JohnPaul Igbokwe

Director of Discipleship & Evangelization : Philip Shefveland—pshefveland@scsucatholic.org

Cluster Business Manager: Janice Wuebkers—jwuebkers@spiritandsaints.org

Music Director: Stacy Ellens—sellens@scsucatholic.org

Cluster Office Manager: Nathan Schmitt—nrschmitt@spiritandsaints.org

Office Assistant/Coordinator of Middle School Faith: Melanie Solland—melanie@allcalledtochrist.com

Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry: Andy Tolman
andy@allcalledtochrist.com

Peace & Social Justice Coordinator: Kevin LaNave—klanave@scsucatholic.org

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Bishop Neary: Seek to promote and practice civility

I remember a song from 1970 by the group Brotherhood of Man, titled “United We Stand,” whose refrain spoke deeply to me, even as a 7-year-old boy: “For united we stand, divided we fall, and if our backs should ever be against the wall, we’ll be together, together, you and I.” This refrain is embodied in the Pledge of Allegiance that many of us recited every day at school: “One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Like you, I worry that we Americans are increasingly divided, polarized and segregated by our political leanings. It is weakening our social bonds and we are losing a sense of the common good. How often I hear that family members and friends no longer communicate because of heated arguments over politics. People, including professed Christians, freely speak of presidential candidates and other politicians with words full of vitriol.

As Catholics, we are invited by the Gospel and our Catholic social and moral teaching to see others and to see issues not primarily through the lens of a political party but through the eyes of faith. No political party will ever fully embody the demands of the Gospel. The kingdom of God, after all, is not of this world. Still, we Christians must be leaven in society to bring about a more just social order and to fortify the common good.

The first guiding principle for a Christian in any arena is to love our neighbor as ourselves, and that includes everyone, including loving our enemies. This quote from Catherine Doherty, captures this best: “Let us be done with being anti-anybody. Let us become pro-Christ and pro-love! Let us stop talking against this person and that, this nation and that. Let us begin to live Christianity!” As Christians, one way that we love our neighbor is by participating in public life to promote the common good.

It is important that we take the necessary steps to have a well-formed conscience before casting our votes. We may vote as followers of a specific party but we must remember that first and foremost we are disciples of Jesus Christ, and that our faith and the wisdom that flows from it must guide us.

To that end, we should meditate and act upon these principles from Catholic social teaching: to protect life and uphold the dignity of every human being, to advance the common good and to make a preferential option for the poor. It calls us to live by the principle of solidarity, which means to recognize others as our brothers and sisters and to actively work for their good. It also calls us to be better stewards of planet earth.

I also strongly encourage you to read “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” published by the U.S. bishops. To quote from this inspired document, “As Catholics, we are led to raise questions for political life other than those that concentrate on individual, material well-being. Our focus is not on party affiliation, ideology, economics or even competence and capacity to perform duties, as important as such issues are. Rather, we focus on what protects or threatens the dignity of every human life.”

For our part, we should always seek to promote and practice civility. It is important to stay informed on important public policy issues but also to practice charity whenever discussing or debating our views with others. This is essential to the witness we offer as Catholic citizens: How we dialogue and debate should be a model for others to follow.

Our parishes and ACCs, along with other Church organizations, should avoid partisan political activities or endorsing particular political candidates or parties, and should only use election-related and “faithful citizenship” materials approved by the diocese, the Minnesota Catholic Conference or the USCCB.

Despite the worrisome and unpredictable political landscape, let us be propelled and guided by our faith to work together with people of goodwill for the common good of our land and her people. We should not hesitate to get out and vote, to communicate our concerns to elected officials and, for some, to run for office or to work within our existing political parties. After all, our work as faithful citizens doesn’t end on Election Day. Every day we must do our part to promote unity, goodwill, solidarity, and liberty and justice for all.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Patrick M. Neary, C.S.C.