

PRAYER REQUESTS

Anne Fields—Nancy Huber—Renee Miller—Waletzko's grandson, Isaac—Kathy Williams—Penny Zook—Kevin & Melissa Kruger's brother, Mark—Sharon Schmiesing's brother, Mike—Jill Schultz's brother, Jay Baune—Dave & Caroline Williams's son, Jeff—Courtney Vorell's father, Paul Snyder—Betsy Reese's friend, Sallie & her child Grace Bellicot—†Katie Waletzko—†Don Prom—Amy Laumeyer & Katie Hagen's father, †Al Hoffarth—Vickie & Kevin Strobel's son, †Brett Wise, Bill Schroeder

Weekly Readings

for the Week of December 22, 2019

Sunday: IS 7:10-14 / ROM 1:1-7 /
MT 1:18-24

Monday: MAL 3:1-4, 23-24 / LK 1:57-66

Tuesday: 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16 /
LK 1:67-79

Wednesday: IS 62:1-5 / MT 1:1-25
ACTS 13:16-17, 22-25

Thursday: ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59/
MT 10:17-22

Friday: 1 JN 1:1-4 / JN 20:1A AND 2-8

Saturday: 1 JN 1:5—2:2 / MT 2:13-18

Sunday: SIR 3:2-6, 12-14 / COL 3:12-21
COL 3:12-17 / MT 2:13-15, 19-23

Join Newman Center!

Do you enjoy being part of this wonderful community?

Students: fill out the cards located in the pews

Community members:

- fill out your information on the sign up sheets in the lobby
- Visit our website
- Or contact the office

Contact the Parish Office if you are interested in

- Sacrament of Baptism
- Sacrament of Marriage
- Reconciliation
- Funeral Arrangements
- Mass and Prayer Requests
- Pastoral Ministry to the Sick & Homebound
- Ministry to those in Need
- Vocations to the Priesthood
- Learning about the Catholic Church or re-

Parish Office

396 1st Ave S | St Cloud, MN 56301

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Friday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm

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

Follow us!    @SCSUNewman

Business Manager, Ken Bettin
Music Coordinator, Stacy Ellens
Pastor, Fr. Joe Herzing

Assoc. Director of Campus Ministry & Parish Life, Molly Johns
REP Coordinator, Sherry Johnson
Director of Grounds & Maintenance, Tony Johnson
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christ church newman center

opening hearts,
changing lives

DECEMBER 22, 2019

4th Sunday
OF ADVENT

Love

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth."
John 1:14

Masses

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:15 am, 8:00 pm
Tuesday 12 pm in the Prayer Room
Wednesday 12 pm in Atwood Center's
Columbine Room
Thursday 8:00 pm in the Chapel
Friday 12 pm in the Prayer Room

Confessions

Sunday 7:30 pm & Friday 12:30 pm

This Week

Sunday, December 22
Coffee and Rolls following 9 am Mass
No REP
Monday, December 23
2:00 Christmas Decorating

Friday, December 27

6:00-8:00 Staff Open House in Wil's Place

Sunday, December 29

No Coffee & Rolls

Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Mass
Carols begin at 4:30 pm

Christmas Day

9:30 am Mass

New Year's Eve

5:00 pm Mass

New Year's Day

9:30 am Mass

True Origin of Christmas

Christmas

The word Christmas derives from the combination of Christ and Mass; it is the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Second in the liturgical calendar only to Easter, Christmas is celebrated by many as if it were the most important of Christian feasts.

Why Do Christians Celebrate Christmas?

People are often surprised to find that Christmas was not celebrated by the earliest Christians. The custom was to celebrate a saint's birth into eternal life—in other words, his death. Thus Good Friday (Christ's death) and Easter Sunday (His Resurrection) took center stage. To this day, the Church celebrates only three birthdays: Christmas; the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and the Birth of John the Baptist. The common thread in the celebrations is that all three were born without Original Sin: Christ, because He was the Son of God; Mary, because she was sanctified by God in the Immaculate Conception; and John the Baptist, because his leap in the womb of his mother, Elizabeth, at the Visitation is seen as a type of Baptism (and thus, even though John was conceived with Original Sin, he was cleansed of that sin before birth).

The History of Christmas

It took a while, though, for the Church to develop the feast of Christmas. While it may have been celebrated in Egypt as early as the third century, it did not spread throughout the Christian world until the middle of the fourth century. It was first celebrated along with Epiphany, on January 6th; but slowly Christmas was separated out into its own feast, on December 25th. Many of the early Church Fathers regarded this as the actual date of Christ's birth, though it does coincide with the Roman festival of Natalis Invicti (the winter solstice, which the Romans celebrated on December 25th), and the Catholic Encyclopedia does not reject the possibility that the date was chosen as "a deliberate and legitimate 'baptism' of a pagan feast." By the middle of the sixth century, Christians had begun to observe Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas, with fasting and abstinence; and the Twelve Days of Christmas, from Christmas Day to Epiphany, had become established.

Christmas Eve

The practice of celebrating Midnight Mass is traditional in the Roman Catholic Church, although many churches now hold their "midnight" Mass at an earlier hour. In previous years before the fasting laws were changed to one hour, you had to fast from Midnight until you received communion so when do we have mass at Midnight of course this also corresponds nicely to the shepherds in the fields keeping their night watch. Since 2009, the Pope has celebrated this Mass at 10:00 pm, and as a result the official liturgical designation of these texts has been Mass during the Night since 2009. However, when the Mass does occur at midnight, it is still commonly called "Midnight Mass".

Joyous Christmas to you all!

Fr. Joe

MEMBER NEWS

Coffee House

Resumes Jan 26th in Wil's Place.
All students are welcome!

Renewal 2020

A big thank you to all who have renewed over the past few weeks! In November we started our annual Renewal program and we are hoping to conclude this process by December 31st, 2019. For any questions, call the Newman Office.

Christmas Flower and Decoration Memorials

If you would like to make a donation towards the flower and decoration fund, you may drop it in the collection as "Flower/ Decoration Fund" or mail/bring it to the Newman office. If your donation is in memory of a loved one, please include their name(s) and your name as well.

Deck the Halls

Join us Monday, December 23rd at 2:00pm as we decorate the church for Christmas!

Church of the Week

The Church of the Week sheltering program is a ministry of hospitality. It is Place of Hope's mission to provide a site, volunteers, and a safe, clean, and comfortable place for people to spend the night when St. Cloud area shelters are full. The Church of the Week sheltering program began in December 2001. The Newman Center will be hosting Church of the Week January 20th-27th! Volunteer sign up sheets can be found in the Newman lobbies.

Holiday Office Hours

Dec 23rd: 8:30-3:00 pm Christmas Eve: 8:30-Noon
Christmas Day: Closed New Year's Eve: 8:30-Noon

OPEN TO ALL

Staff Holiday Open House

You're invited to join the Newman staff in Wil's Place from **6:00 pm-8:00 pm on Friday, December 27th** for lots of fun holiday festivities. Appetizers and beverages will be served. Prepare yourself for Art and Barb Grachek's famous Tom & Jerry's!

Yellow Zone Presentation

Join us in the Terrace **January 12th** during Coffee & Rolls as we discuss how to nurture the psychological, emotional, and social aspects of mental health. Presented by Brittany Pfannenstien & Dani Protivinsky, this is a follow-up to our previous A.C.E.'s talk led by Steve Vincent and Amie Schumacher.

NEXT DATE:
FRIDAY,
JANUARY 3

Anointing of the Sick

Monthly at first
Friday Noon Mass

A graphic for the Anointing of the Sick. It features a dark blue background with white and gold text. At the top, it says "NEXT DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 3". Below that, the title "Anointing of the Sick" is written in a large, elegant font. Underneath, it says "Monthly at first Friday Noon Mass". There are decorative elements of white and gold floral patterns and a small illustration of a golden oil bottle with a green leaf.

 JANUARY 20-27

CHURCH OF THE WEEK

volunteer to help
the homeless in
our community

A graphic for the Church of the Week. It has a white background with a dark blue house icon at the top. Below the icon, it says "JANUARY 20-27" in a bold, dark blue font. Underneath, the title "CHURCH OF THE WEEK" is written in a large, bold, dark blue font. At the bottom, it says "volunteer to help the homeless in our community" in a smaller, dark blue font. There is a small image of a person's face in the background on the right side.

JOIN US FOR
COFFEE & CONVERSATION
JANUARY 12TH!



YELLOW ZONE:

A place where you can
flourish

A graphic for the Yellow Zone presentation. It has a bright yellow background. At the top, it says "JOIN US FOR COFFEE & CONVERSATION JANUARY 12TH!" in a bold, black font. Below that, there is a large image of a white coffee cup filled with dark coffee. Underneath the cup, it says "YELLOW ZONE:" in a bold, black font. Below that, it says "A place where you can flourish" in a smaller, black font. The word "flourish" is written in a cursive, italicized font.