

SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

PROUDLY SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
& TUCSON COMMUNITY SINCE 1926

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OUR MISSION: TO BE TRANSFORMED THROUGH AN
ENCOUNTER WITH THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH & THE LOVE OF GOD

2024-2025 Theme:

“Love your enemies, do good and expect nothing in return.” Luke 6:27



December 29, 2024

Feast of The Holy Family

SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Sunday 9AM, 11AM & 5PM
Saturday Vigil 5:15PM

Sunday Mass Online

11AM MST LiveStreamed
through [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 5:15PM

Liturgy of the Hours

Tuesday to Friday
Morning Prayer (Lauds) 8:30AM
Evening Prayer (Vespers) 5:00PM

Reconciliation: Saturdays at 4PM or
by appointment with a priest

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues-Fri 8:45AM Holy Hour
Next Monthly: **January 16th at
7:30PM**

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9AM to 4:45PM

*We are open for prayer, study &
community weekdays from 8AM-9PM*

NEWMAN CENTER STAFF



*Served by the Friars of the Western Dominican
Province, Dominican Sisters of Oakford and
Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill*

Fr John Paul Forté OP Pastor

FrJPForteOP@UACatholic.org

Fr Emmanuel Taylor OP Associate Pastor

FrEmmanuel@UACatholic.org

Sr Lynn Allvin OP Pastoral Associate

SrLynn@UACatholic.org

Tom Booth Pastoral Artist in Residence

Tom@UACatholic.org

Genevieve Gallardo Wedding Coordinator

Weddings@UACatholic.org

Sr Mary Elizabeth Lawrence SC Office Manager

SrMaryElizabeth@UACatholic.org

Tony Leon, Maintenance Tech

Tony@UACatholic.org

Nathan Payne, Music Director

NathanP@UACatholic.org

Yordy Purnomo, Business Manager

Yordy@UACatholic.org

Mitch Stephens, Newman FOCUS Team Leader

Mitch@UACatholic.org

Dominicans In Residence:

Fr Nathan Castle OP FrNathan@UACatholic.org

Fr Tom DeMan OP tdemanop@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

The Nativity of the Lord

Tuesday: Christmas Eve

12/28 5:15PM **Our Newman Community**

12/29 9:00AM **Irene Fimbres +**

11:00AM **Karen Bahill**

5:00PM **No Mass**

Monday: Christmas Weekday

12/30 5:15PM **No Mass**

Tuesday: Christmas Weekday

12/31 5:15PM **No Mass**

Wednesday: Christmas Weekday

1/1 9:00AM **No Mass**

Thursday: St. Basil the Great, bishop & doctor

1/2 5:15PM **No Mass**

Friday: Holy Name of Jesus

1/3 5:15PM **No Mass**

*Mass Intentions can be requested for Memorials,
Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing/Recovery or
Special Intentions by calling the office.
\$10 is the suggested donation*

[Link to the Readings at Mass](#)

[Guide to the responses during Mass](#)

Liturgy of the Hours via the [iBreviary App](#)

Fr. John Paul's Spiritual Brew

It is hard to believe that the Fourth Sunday of Advent is upon us, and once again we hear the great account of how Mary was found with child, and Joseph's struggle with this new situation that they found themselves in. What a dilemma to be in! Your beloved with whom you're planning a life with... is now with a child that is not yours... Here, we not only see Mary's great "yes" to God's request in enter her life, but also 'see' Joseph 'assent' to God's invitation into deeper hope and trust.

Advent echoes God's constant promise to be present to us in all seasons and moments of life. The witness of Mary and Joseph remind us of what God can do for those who "Bear Down" and believe. What needs a little more, or less attention in our lives this Season? The feast of Christmas celebrates God "bearing down" upon our humanity, and informing us that there is a way for human beings to 'rise above' all limitations, to shed all unhealthy aspects of our ego, and, to embrace 'authentic charity' both in word and deed.

Our Christmas readings celebrate the fact... that even in the darkness of human error and evil choices... God will not be 'denied' in bringing about the faith, hope, and love needed... to create both transformation, and new birth. Let us approach this final Sunday of Advent hopeful, and ready... to embrace whatever 'positive changes' that the Holy Spirit has stirred in our hearts this Advent! May our Christmas celebrations allow us to sing with the angels and the shepherds "Glory to God in the highest! And, peace to all people of good will!

May Light of the Christmas Season... guide us through the dramas, jealousies and failures... in our and, in others behavior. May we not fall prey to "Herodian-Like" responses, thus, not receiving God's invitation to freedom... but, rather the "deep-listening" obedience... of Mary and Joseph. May their gift of authentic listening be a bright star that guides our paths into a New Year, and provides "Epiphanies" that allow our world to resound with Joy and Peace in 2025!

May God bless your Christmas Season, and fill you with countless opportunities to "repeat the endless joy" Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Amen. Alleluia



Dear St. Thomas More Newman Center Community,

On behalf of the Marin-Oropeza, Lugo Gold Star family and the Gallardo family, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generous sponsorship of veteran's wreaths for the Wreaths Across America Day event. Your participation in the raffle for the Virgen de Guadalupe tiles, supporting UAz game day parking lot at the Newman Center, and wreath sponsorships played a key role in making our event on December 14, 2024 a great success. We are truly grateful for your support and commitment to honoring our veterans. The matching 2 wreaths for \$17 event is currently happening and ends on January 17, 2025. St. Thomas More Peace and Social Justice Committee receives one third of the sales made from our sponsorship page. Please use this link-

<https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/pages/42855/Overview/?relatedId=15499>

Thank you once again for your generosity. We look forward to seeing you again next year! We pray that peace, love and joy reign in your hearts in 2025,

Sincerely,

Maria Marin Ed.D, Proud Gold Star Mother of Fallen U.S. Army Ranger, Sgt. Martin A. Lugo KIA 8/19/2010

Genevieve Gallardo, St. Thomas More Newman Center Sacristan and Co-coordinator of Wreaths Across America Day at Holy Hope Cemetery

THIS WEEK AT NEWMAN

- ◆ Newman Center is close, December 30-January 3, 2025.

View all of our events at www.UACatholic.org/calendar

STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT

First Quarter Projected Revenue Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is \$173,879. Actual Revenue is \$149,515. Shortage of \$24,364

Weekend Offertory:

December 23rd. Envelopes: \$25,645.10
December 16th. Envelopes: \$12,257.76
Holy Mass. Envelopes: \$261.00
Mariachi Mass. Envelopes: \$478.50
December 9th. Envelopes: \$6,135.32
December 2nd. Envelopes: \$4,697.00

Total contributions from Venmo for the month of December as of December 28th is \$8,120.32

Total contributions from WeShare for the month of December as of December 28th is \$4,136.65

Total contributions from Breeze for the month of December as of December 28th is \$13,506.81

Your contribution during the Offertory goes towards utilities, ministries, staff and residences for the Friars & Sisters so we can carry out our shared mission.

Parents of our university students, please consider supporting Newman as your son or daughter's parish-away-from-home. Recurring giving is available through our online platform Breeze



www.givingoptions.org/uaCatholic.org/breeze

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

1. Call 911 to make a police report
2. If the abuse happened in any other state, call the Police or Sheriffs Office in the specific area of that state
3. Call the Victim Assistance Program of the Diocese of Tucson 1.800.234.0344 and/or the Office of Child, Adolescent and Adult Protection at 520.838.2513

Greetings and Advent 2024 Blessings!

It's hard to believe that we are ending the semester and entering the Christmas Season and New Year! This term has been filled with energy, enthusiasm, and remarkable participation.

The semester began with great momentum as our forty student leaders in ministry, along with our Newman Focus Missionaries, joined Fr. Emmanuel and me for our annual Formation Retreat. This retreat set the tone for the year through prayer, reflection, and our chosen theme: *"Love your enemies, do good, expecting nothing in return."* Together, we explored what it means to be called, formed, and sent by Christ, deepening our knowledge of and participation in our Catholic faith.

At the Newman Center, we live out this mission through five key pillars: liturgical life, community life, faith formation, outreach, and social justice. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive to uplift one another—our hands in prayer, our minds in study, our hearts in connection and community, and our souls in openness to God's voice.

This intentional approach has resulted in a vibrant and active semester filled with weekly and monthly events. We've seen incredible growth in student participation across daily Mass, confessions, small groups, Newman Nights, and more. The Newman library, student lounge, and my daily appointments have all been bustling, with an overall 28% increase in students spending time at the Newman Center. This growth is a tremendous blessing and beautifully aligns with our mission.

However, with this growth comes increased financial need. While students are generously contributing their time and talents, our budget has not kept pace with our rising expenses. Here's where we stand:

Four Months 10-31-24	Actual	Budget	Shortfall
Offertory	\$ 142,310	\$ 156,000	\$ (13,690)
Total Revenue	\$ 197,326	\$ 257,481	\$ (60,155)
Average per week (at 17 weeks)			
Offertory	\$ 8,371	\$ 9,176	\$ (805)
Total Revenue	\$ 11,607	\$ 15,146	\$ (3,539)

Through the first four months of our fiscal year (July–October), we are facing a significant revenue shortfall. To cover our operating expenses, we need an additional \$3,000 per week in our offertory collection. Ideally, we'd also raise an additional \$3,500 weekly to build a sustaining fund for unexpected costs, often stemming from deferred maintenance.

I am especially praying for a large Christmas collection to help offset our current \$60,000 revenue deficit. We need to not only close this gap but also find additional supporters, both locally and beyond, who feel called to partner with Newman's mission. If you know of others who may wish to contribute to this worthy cause, I ask for your help in reaching them.

Despite these challenges, our future remains bright! We are excited about plans for a future expansion of the Newman Center. Thank you to everyone who participated in interviews, focus groups, and the online survey. While I don't have major updates at this time, we expect to share more in late January.

Please know that I, along with our dedicated staff, remain fully committed to our Newman mission: *"To be transformed through an encounter with the Spirit of truth and the love of God."* Thank you for your continued support—spiritually, through volunteering, and in your financial stewardship. Your generosity sustains this ministry and ensures it can thrive for years to come.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Newman Center in 2026, my prayer is that this sacred place will continue to foster transformative encounters with God's love and truth for another hundred years and beyond.

With deepest respect and love,



Fr. John Paul Forté, OP
Pastor

A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone for helping decorating the church and to all Poinsettias Sponsors:

Diane Abbott, Jay & Tina Bell, Michel Brubaker, Rosemary & Tom Cashman, Lilia & Mark Corpuz, Delann & Cliff Debenedetti, Genevieve & Ernie Gallardo, Peggy & Mike Hazard, LuzElena & David Howard, Ana & Andy Kelley, Lydia Kennedy, Budaya-Gaughan-Kennedy Families, Allen & Michelle Kinnison, Margaret Kish, Eileen Laford, Suzanne Lavergne, Mary Ann Lavergne +, Bob Leko, Derek & Marisa Rowen, Alison Smith, Ray+ & Vera+ Smith Bruce & Char Steenson, Dave & Aggie Sunderman, Evelyn Walls, Bob & Mary Grace Wendel.

WINTER SCHEDULE

 UACATHOLIC.ORG



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	NO DAILY MASS	MASS 12:10PM	MASS 5:15PM	MASS 5:15PM	MASS 5:15PM	4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5:15PM VIGIL MASS
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9AM MASS 11AM MASS 5PM MASS	DECORATE THE CHURCH AT 10:00AM NO DAILY MASS	CHRISTMAS EVE 5PM MASS 7PM MASS	CHRISTMAS DAY 9AM MASS 11AM MASS	NO DAILY MASS	NO DAILY MASS	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 5:15PM VIGIL MASS
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 9AM MASS 11AM MASS	NO DAILY MASSES					EPIPHANY OF THE LORD NO 5:15PM MASS NO CONFESSION
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 9AM MASS 11AM MASS	NO DAILY MASSES					2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 5:15PM VIGIL MASS



O COME LET US ADORE HIM

We acknowledge the People of the Land who have dwelt here since time immemorial and continue to live in this place today: Tohono O'odham, Sobaipuri O'odham, Pascua Yaqui and other Native Americans. We give thanks for the original stewards of this land, our ancestors, our elders and all Indigenous People.