

# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

PROUDLY SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
& TUCSON COMMUNITY SINCE 1926

1615 EAST 2ND STREET, TUCSON, AZ 85719  
PHONE: 520.327.4665 - FAX: 520.327.3963  
EMAIL: NEWMAN@UACATHOLIC.ORG

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



## March 29, 2025

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

### 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: **April 6th 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](mailto:FrNathan@UACatholic.org)

Fr Tom DeMan OP [tdemanop@gmail.com](mailto:tdemanop@gmail.com)

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Fourth Sunday of Lent

3/29 5:15PM **Joe Lopez**

3/30 9:00AM **Budaya-Kennedy Families**

11:00AM **Adriana Cuevas-Grijalva +**

5:00PM **Jim Close +**

Monday: Lenten Weekday

3/31 5:15PM **No Mass**

Tuesday: Lenten Weekday

4/1 5:15PM **Veronica Ruthnaswamy**

Wednesday: Lenten Weekday

4/2 5:15PM **Ward Cockrum**

Thursday: Lenten Weekday

4/3 5:15PM **Gianna Constand +**

Friday: Lenten Weekday

4/4 5:15PM **Jean George Doummar +**

*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's hard to believe that we have already arrived at the Fourth Sunday of Lent! How is your Lenten journey unfolding? Have you been able to carve out more space for prayer? Are you gaining ground in breaking unhealthy habits? Perhaps you're becoming more attuned to the needs of those around you.

Lent is a season of "spiritual spring cleaning"-a time to realign our hearts and minds, even amidst the ever-shifting tides of social, political, and ecclesiastical unrest. Wars still rage, including in Ukraine and Russia, and Pope Francis continues to call us to mirror Our Lady's fidelity-to truly listen for God's voice and respond with resounding *yes* to life and dignity in all its expressions and challenges.

In today's Gospel, we encounter a man born blind who seeks healing from Jesus. With a touch of divine grace, Jesus restores his sight-awakening not only his vision but also his faith. Those around him are astonished, while the religious leaders question and challenge the source of this miraculous transformation. But the true miracle is not just in the physical healing. The blind man, now seeing, has also received a *new vision*-a clarity of faith that empowers him to boldly testify to God's transformative power in his life. When confronted, he does not hesitate to proclaim the truth of his encounter with Jesus.

This is what happens when we allow ourselves to grow in the truth of God's love. When we open our hearts to divine grace, our spiritual eyes are *opened*, and we see with renewed clarity. This sight is more than physical-it is a vision that fills our whole being, illuminating the blind spots in our lives and calling us to love more deeply, see more justly, and respond more generously to the needs of others. As we cross the midpoint of our Lenten journey, it's worth asking:

- What have we learned?
- Has our vision sharpened or dimmed in any significant areas of our lives?
- How has our faith been challenged-perhaps to love our enemies, to give without expecting in return, or to embrace the uncomfortable work of reconciliation?
- Have we identified places in our relationships with God, others, and ourselves that need healing, honesty, or renewal?

Receiving *true* sight allows us to navigate our fears and doubts with greater hope. It gives us the courage to walk this road of life with a renewed sense of purpose. May we be strengthened in our faith commitment. May the vision *rising* from our Lenten practices bring us greater clarity, helping us to be of good and loving service to others. And may God's spirit of mercy and compassion stir within us, guiding our thoughts and actions toward deeper faith, true charity, and the healing grace that transforms lives.

Amen. Alleluia



## THIS WEEK AT NEWMAN

- ◆ **Anointing of the sick**, Saturday, March 29 at 5:15pm Mass & Sunday, March 30 at 5:00pm Mass
- ◆ **Young Adult Community**, Tuesday at 7:00pm
- ◆ **Taize Prayer**, Tuesday April 1 at 7:30pm
- ◆ **Newman Night**, Wednesday at 7:00pm.
- ◆ **Game Night**, Friday at 7:00pm.

## COMING EVENTS

- ◆ **University of Arizona Staff & Faculty Mixer**, Thursday, April 3 after 5:15pm Mass

View all of our events at [www.UACatholic.org/calendar](http://www.UACatholic.org/calendar)

## STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT

**Projected Revenue (6 Months) Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is \$387,622. Actual Revenue is \$352,255. Shortage of \$35,367**

### Weekend Offertory:

March 24th Envelopes: \$3,287.89  
March 17th Envelopes: \$2,652.00  
March 10th Envelopes: \$2,515.00  
Ash Wednesday Envelopes: \$1,505.58  
March 3rd. Envelopes: \$3,307.00

Total contributions from Venmo for the month of March as of March 28st is \$5,519.51

Total contributions from WeShare for the month of March as of March 28st is \$4,293.19

Total contributions from Breeze for the month of March as of March 28st is \$6,346.60

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



View all giving options at: [www.UACatholic.org/Donate](http://www.UACatholic.org/Donate)

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

for those struggling with illnesses of the body and the mind.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated

Saturday  
March 29th, 5:15 PM Mass

Sunday  
March 30th, 5:00 PM Mass

## 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

## Fr. John Paul's Letter

My Dear St. Thomas More Newman Center Community,

I hope this letter finds you well and that your Lenten season is off to a blessed start. On Ash Wednesday, our chapel was filled to capacity with students throughout the day. We held two Liturgy of the Word services and three Masses, each with the distribution of ashes. It was truly inspiring to witness so many students actively engaging in this sacred time of reflection and renewal.

As we enter this season of Lent, we are invited to deepen our faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—practices that cultivate a greater sense of hope, love, and devotion.

However, over the past several months, we have faced significant increases in our operational costs. Utility expenses have risen, retreat center fees have gone up, food prices have climbed due to greater student participation, and overall program costs have grown as we continue to serve more students.

Additionally, an unexpected and costly issue has arisen: the water pipes in my casita, which had been functioning without issue for nearly a century, began to fail. Persistent puddles on my kitchen floor led to the discovery of a spraying pipe that required immediate repair, along with another pipe that was on the brink of failure. These repairs cost us \$1,500, but we also uncovered mold and asbestos, which resulted in nearly \$22,000 in unplanned expenses. Thankfully, our diocesan property insurance covered \$10,000 of that amount.

As we work to manage these costs, we are also looking ahead to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Newman Center. To do this, we are focused on building an endowment that will support three key areas:

1. Student Ministry programs
2. Building and grounds maintenance
3. Ongoing operational expenses

Thanks to the generosity of Humberto Lopez, who has pledged a \$250,000 matching grant, we are making strides in this direction. I ask for your prayerful consideration in offering support at any level you are able.

In addition to grants, we are focusing on three strategies to stabilize our budget:

1. Securing larger donations to help build the endowment.
2. Increasing our weekly collection by \$3,000 to comfortably cover costs and prepare for unforeseen expenses.
3. Encouraging both students and non-students to contribute through Venmo, electronic giving, and weekly donations. Even \$3 to \$5 per student per week can make a significant impact when combined with the faithful contributions of our regular donors.

I recognize that the recent transition of Bishop Weisenburger to Detroit, the pause of the diocesan-wide capital campaign, and the anticipated appointment of a new bishop for Tucson may raise questions about the future of the Newman Center and our needs. The good news is that the Diocese remains committed to the Newman Center project during this time of transition, and management of this project has been entrusted to the Catholic Foundation. While I don't yet have the specifics, I anticipate that once Bishop Weisenburger is installed as Archbishop of Detroit on March 18, and an Apostolic Administrator is appointed for the interim period, a plan for moving forward on various projects, including ours, will be put in place.

I hope this brings some clarity during this time of change. Our pastoral staff, though small, is dedicated and capable. However, we cannot sustain our current level of activity without ensuring the necessary funds to support it.

Since my arrival at Newman in the fall of 2016, my vision has been to establish a substantial endowment for the Newman Center, separate from the generous support provided by the Newman Foundation, the Sustaining Board, occasional diocesan contributions, and weekly collections. This would allow us to reduce the need for constant appeals for financial support as costs rise or unexpected maintenance issues arise.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Newman Center next year, we must also begin planning for this significant milestone, which will require additional effort and resources.

If you are able and willing to support this mission, I would love to speak with you about how you can contribute. Your stewardship—however you are called to give—will help to further the mission of the St. Thomas More Newman Center and continue to transform the lives of our students.

Thank you for all that you do for our community.

Very respectfully yours in Christ,



Fr. John Paul Forté, O.P.  
Pastor

## NEWMAN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Newman Foundation at The University of Arizona plans to award several scholarships for the 2025-2026 Fall Semester to UofA students who are full-time students and active at the St. Thomas More Catholic Newman Center.

These scholarships are in addition to any that may be offered by the Newman Center, or by the Newman Sustaining Board.

**The application deadline is Friday April 4, 2025.** If you are interested in applying, send an email to the following address to request application information:  
[newman\\_foundation@yahoo.com](mailto:newman_foundation@yahoo.com)

## Taizé Prayer SERVICE

Tuesday April 1st, 2025  
7:30 p.m.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!



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.



ST. THOMAS MORE  
CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

SUSTAINING BOARD

SCHOLARSHIP

2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

APPLY TODAY

[WWW.UACATHOLIC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP](http://WWW.UACATHOLIC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP)



The deadline to apply is Friday, April 4, 2025 at 6:00PM

QUESTIONS?

Abby Sheppard



[Dasdesert@gmail.com](mailto:Dasdesert@gmail.com)

### The Mission of CRS Lenten Rice Bowl

CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Rooted in the history of the Eucharistic Congress, CRS Rice Bowl invites Catholics and faith communities in the United States to encounter God and our global family throughout Lent by practicing the [pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving](#). Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 120 different countries each year. Twenty five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised more than \$350 million.

#### Join Your Global Family in Prayer

We can't end global hunger without your help. CRS Rice Bowl's 50th anniversary presents an opportunity to renew your commitment to helping families facing hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. When you pray, fast and give this Lent, you are making a lifesaving difference.

Start your CRS Rice Bowl journey with us by picking up your rice bowl from the doors of our church.