



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

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

2025-2026 Theme:
"May We Be One." John 17:21



February 22, 2026

First 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: March 5th at
7:30PM

Office Hours
Monday to Friday 10AM to
4:00PM

*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
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Dominicans In Residence
Fr Nathan Castle OP
FrNathan@UACatholic.org
Fr Tom DeMan OP
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MASS INTENTIONS

First Sunday of Lent
2/21 5:15PM Porfiria R. Gastelum +
2/22 9:00AM Our Newman Community
11:00AM Catechumens & Candidates
5:00PM Jerrold Swain

Monday: Lenten Weekday
2/23 5:15PM No Mass

**Tuesday: Bl. Constantius Servoli of
Fabriano, friar & priest**
2/24 5:15PM Byron Schimpp +

Wednesday: Lenten Weekday
2/25 5:15PM Reynaldo Tolentino +

Thursday: Lenten Weekday
2/26 5:15PM Ryan Schneck

Friday: Lenten Weekday
2/27 5:15PM Sophia Schmeck

*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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by that same Spirit into the desert for forty days to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over, he was hungry. Another Lenten season begins. We have received our ashes. We have struggled—honestly—to embrace practices that promise greater freedom in our lives. And we commit ourselves once again to growth through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: not as burdens, but as sacred pathways. These are all *good things*—disciplines meant to create space within us: space for listening, space for learning, space for living more freely and fully in God.

Prayer invites us, as it invited Jesus, into the desert. There we are confronted with who we truly are—the strong and the fragile, the grounded and the messy, the faithful and the unfinished. Prayer teaches us to listen... to attend... and, sometimes most importantly, to simply breathe. It reminds us that a deep relationship with Christ—through God and in the power of the Holy Spirit—is not something we earn, but a gift that is lasting and life-giving.

Fasting is so much more than giving up chocolate, alcohol, or social media. That can be a beginning—but not the goal. True fasting invites us to look honestly at the attachments that diminish us rather than help us flourish. What habit, attitude, or attachment is quietly stunting our spiritual, physical, intellectual, or relational growth? What needs to be released, reordered, or moved—so that we remain rooted in God? Healthy fasting clears our vision and restores balance to our lives. Almsgiving is the fruit of that newly created space. Jesus emerges from the desert not only hungry and tested, but grounded in the Father's love through prayer, cleansed of distractions through fasting, and filled with the Spirit. And because of that, he is free to be generous—free to offer the spiritual “alms” that allow others to rise. So how are *we* being called to rise during these precious days of Lent? As we continue to honor Black History Month, we remember a witness shaped by faith, sacrifice, and courageous charity—a history that reminds us that prayer must lead to justice, fasting must lead to freedom, and generosity must lead to oneness. Voices rooted in the Gospel have long taught us that love of God and love of neighbor cannot be separated. And as we journey through this centennial year, we do so aware that our legacy is not buildings or programs, but people—formed in faith, united in charity, and committed to walking together as one body in Christ.

May this Lent draw us closer—to God and to one another. May we guard oneness in charity, choosing compassion over division, and love over indifference. And may we do so courageously, faithfully, and with hope—remembering always: “May we be one!”

Amen! Alleluia! 

THIS WEEK AT NEWMAN

- ◆ **Young Adult Bible Study**, Monday at 7:00PM.
- ◆ **Young Adult Community**, Tuesday at 7:00PM.
- ◆ **Special Presentation by Bishop Emeritus Gerald Kicanas-Immigration and Pope Leo's APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION “I have Loved you”**, Thursday, February 26 at 7:30PM in the church
- ◆ **Game Night**, Friday at 7:00PM.

COMING EVENTS

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

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

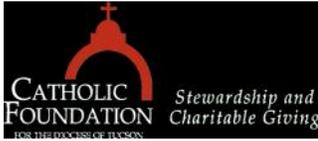
We can't end global hunger without your help. CRS Rice Bowl's 51th anniversary presents an opportunity to renew your commitment to helping families facing hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. When you pray, fast and give this Lent, you are making a lifesaving difference

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

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

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2026



In the spirit of stewardship (i.e., giving back a portion of our gifts to God), we

ask each family or individual to consider a contribution in one of the following ways.

Pledge: Make an initial payment today, then spread future payments over the remaining months of the current year. It is important that final payment is received no later than 12/31/2026.

Reflect: on the many gifts you have received from God, including your financial blessing.

Prayer: About how God wants you to use the gifts. He has given you.

Respond: By supporting the annual Catholic appeal at your parish.

HOW TO PRACTICE LENT

As Catholics, the spiritual pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving guide us in daily reflection on our own lives as we strive to deepen our relationship with God and neighbor-no matter where in the world that neighbor may live. Lent is a time of personal and spiritual growth, a time to look outward and inward. Especially during this time, the Church encourages us to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Through prayers, God invites us to slow down in the silence and look for him around us-in nature and in people who need us most. Our fasting is an act of penance and solidarity with people who are hungry-and it helps us feel a small part of what they are living day by day. It is in this spirit that our almsgiving is an act of love for God and neighbor.

One Simple way to enhance your Lenten experience is to participate in the CRS Rice Bowl program. During Lent, Catholic families across the United States use a rice bowl-a small cardboard box-to collect alms. We make room for God to act in our lives in new ways, and we have the opportunity to give the money we save to our sisters and brothers in need.

How to Fast for Lent

The Catechism invites Catholics ages 18 to 59 to abstain from meat and to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and Catholics 14 years and older to abstain from meat on the Fridays during Lent.

STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT

Projected revenues 1st Quarter 2025 are \$183,330.00. The actual revenues are \$166,744.08. **Shortage of \$16,585.92.** Projected expenses 1st Quarter 2025 are \$161,943.32. The actual expenses are \$170,812.52, due to the increase in utilities & insurance expenses.

Weekend Offertory:

February 16th. Envelopes: \$3,567.14
February 9th. Envelopes: \$3,338.75
February 2nd. Envelopes: \$3,725.00
January 27th. Envelopes: \$2,333.00

Total contributions from Venmo for the month of February as of February 19th is \$4,480.00

Total contributions from WeShare for the month of February as of February 19th is \$3,155.05

Total contributions from Breeze for the month of February as of February 19th is \$4,770.07

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

CATHOLIC APPROACH TO IMMIGRATION

A PRESENTATION ON CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING INCLUDING THE LATEST APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION "DILEXI TE" / "I HAVE LOVED YOU" BY THE HOLY FATHER POPE LEO XIV

PRESENTATION BY BISHOP EMERITUS GERALD KICANAS

FEBRUARY 26TH
7:30-8:30 PM

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER
— CELEBRATING 100 YEARS —
1615 E. 2nd St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

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SUSTAINING BOARD SCHOLARSHIP

2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

APPLY TODAY

WWW.UACATHOLIC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline to apply is Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 6:00PM

QUESTIONS?

Abby Sheppard



Dasdesert@gmail.com

February is Black History Month

February 22 **Audre Lorde** (1934-1992)

NYC public school librarian/ feminist writer/ civil rights activist



"Life is short and we must do what has to be done in the now." Watch Audre Lorde: the Theory of Difference by Hailey Kemp: Audre Lorde

February 23 **Spike Lee** (1957-)

Actor/ film director/ screenwriter/ professor



"I don't think my films are going to get rid of racism or prejudice. I think the best thing my films can do is provoke discussion." Watch Trevor Noah's interview with Spike Lee or the movie Malcolm X

February 24 **James Baldwin** (1924-1987)

Writer, poet, activist, from NYC, passionate on the subject of racism



"The power of the white world is threatened whenever a black man refuses to accept the white world's definitions." Read <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/1962/11/17/letterfrom-a-region-in-my-mind> or watch video of James Baldwin on Racism

February 25 **Alexa Canady** (1950-)

First African American woman neurosurgeon "retired" to be chief of pediatric neurosurgery Sacred Heart, Pensacola



"If you want to be something, you have to perceive that something is possible."

Read Dr. Canady's story in her own words: What It Meant to Me, Leaders & Best Impact

February 26 **Odetta Holmes** (1930-2008)

American singer, lyricist, classical training, Civil Rights activist



"You're walking down life's road, society's foot is on your throat, every which way you turn you can't get from under that foot. And you reach a fork in the road and you can either lie down and die or insist upon your life."

Watch her interview archived in the Library of Congress

February 27 **Alvin Ailey** (1931-1989)

Dancer, choreographer, director, founder of the American Dance Theatre, activist.



"...it was a birthday present for Alvin's mother. You see, she was coming from Texas to see her son's company and Alvin knew she'd be celebrating a birthday in New York. In those days, none of us could shop at Tiffany or Bloomingdales, so Alvin decided the nicest present he could give his mother was a ballet."

Watch Cry created by Ailey for his mother

February 28 **Thea Bowman, FSPA** (1937-1990)

Granddaughter of slaves, only child of Methodist parents, her father a physician, her mother a teacher. At 12 she became a Catholic, inspired by the Catholic sisters who taught in her town in Mississippi. PhD, lecturer, teacher, singer.



"I think the difference between me and some people is that I'm content to do my little bit. Sometimes people think they have to do big things in order to make change. But if each one would light a candle we'd have a tremendous light."

Watch: Going Home Like a Shooting Star: the Thea Bowman Story or her address to the USCCB (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)- she had the bishops locking arms and singing



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“As a UA student, I immediately felt connected at the Newman Center, from attending weekly mass and connecting with likeminded students. Some of the people that I have met have turned into lifelong friends.

I look back on my time and remember the positive impact that the Newman Center had on my growth and allowed me to stay connected to my faith as a student.”

CONGRATS TO PALOMA B,
our December Newman Center survey winner!

SCAN FOR SURVEY AND CHANCE TO
WIN \$100 AMAZON GIFT CARD!



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.