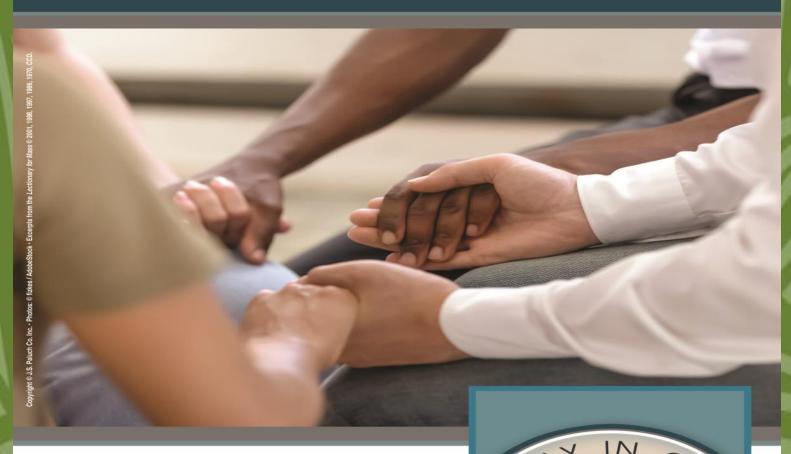
NEWMAN CENTER Holy Spirit Parish



1941 East-West Road, Honolulu HI 96822-2321 | PH: (808) 988-6222 | FX: (808) 988-1752 | Email: info@newmanhawaii.org Website: www.newmanhawaii.org | Facebook: www.facebook.com/NewmanHawaii | Instagram & Twitter: @newmanhawaii



"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Matthew 5:44



Aloha! Welcome!

We are the Catholic Center and Campus Ministry at the University of Hawai⁴i, and under the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu, serving parishioners, staff, faculty, and students alike that stimulates critical thinking and dialogue about issues that challenge Christian living and commits to a living faith that practices and promotes justice.

We are a spirit-filled and welcoming community that proclaims and celebrates the Good News through liturgy, the sacraments, faith sharing, outreach, and social action. As the Roman Catholic Community of the University of Hawai'i, we offer opportunities for life-long faith development to all who choose to join us. We invite the contribution of gifts in stewardship and evangelism, and challenge one another in the same manner that Jesus challenges us: to love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

Come journey with us!

Pastoral Team

Phone Ext 214 Pastor | Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Alfred Omar B. Guerrero pastor@newmanhawaii.org Administrative Assistant 219 Alofa Leasiolagi manager@newmanhawaii.org Campus Minister 211 Fay Pabo campusministry@newmanhawaii.org Communications & Pastoral Assistant 211 Brandon Akiona pastoralassistant@newmanhawaii.org

We welcome your call and are here to serve you! Contact the Parish Office to speak with us or make an appointment. We look forward to hearing from you!



Office Hours:

Monday - Friday:

9:00am to 5:00pm (except Diocesan Holidays)

Newman Center may remain open till evening programs conclude

Saturday and Sunday,

Open during Mass times and for activities as needed.

From the Desk of the Pastor

"Be holy, for I, the Lord, you God, am holy."

On my Instagram page, my bio is "just a parish priest striving to become a saint and helping others to do the same." The universal call to holiness is the theme for our readings this weekend. Through our baptism, we have been invited into God's very life and so, of course, we cannot continue to live the way we have been living. A comfortable life can become a static one and God's life is not static but dynamic. We are called to a dynamic, fulfilling, purposeful, and holy life in God. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, our Lord continues his sermon on the mount. He uses illustrations to show us how we should live as disciples. "When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles." And further, "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Jesus teaches that this is the kind of action and attitude that will make us "children of [our] Heavenly Father." This is the high bar of holiness to which our Lord is calling us. The whole sermon on the mount is the call to love more perfectly and to be perfected by God in love. As we enter into the penitential Season of Lent, may we resolve to strive to become holy in our daily lives.

Have a blessed week.

Fr. Albred Omar (@fralfred808)





Important Notices

- Newman Center is CLOSED on Monday in observance of the President's Day Holiday
- Ash Wednesday Parking: Please use stalls behind the Newman Center or the St. Francis campus
- Ash Wednesday Mass at 12:10PM, 6:00PM, and 9:00PM
- Parish Lenten Series on Tuesday, February 28 and Wednesday, March 1 at 6:00PM

Liturgical Schedule

Daily Mass (Tuesday-Friday) 12:10PM

Sunday Mass

(Saturday Evening Anticipated) 5:00PM 9:00AM

9:00AM 11:00AM

(Student -led Mass) 5:00PM

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation By Appointment

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

Baptism By Request

Please contact Fr, Alfred Omar at least one month before the date desired for the Baptism.

Funerals At Need

Funerals and the Rite of Christian Burial are made in conjunction with the Mortuary of your choosing. Please contact the Parish Office prior to finalizing a date with the mortuary.

Holy Matrimony

By Request

Couples need to contact Fr. Alfred Omar at least eight months prior to your desired wedding date to begin the marriage preparation required by the Diocese of Honolulu.

Holy Orders—Religious Life

Is God calling you to the Priesthood, Diaconate, or Religious Life? God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called. Call us today to setup a discussion with our Pastor where you can continue discerning God's call.

Holy Communion

Ongoing

By Call

Programs are available for those who have not yet received their First Eucharist. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Confirmation Ongoing

Programs are available for those who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick

By Request

If you or someone you know are in need of receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call our parish office to schedule

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults Ongoing

If you or someone you know are have not yet been baptized and are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Faith, please call our parish office to learn more about the RCIA,



The Word of the Lord Weekly

Today's Readings

First Reading — Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself.

(Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).

Psalm — Our God shows mercy and graciousness (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

Gospel — Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29 Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28,

39-40; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;

2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25 Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

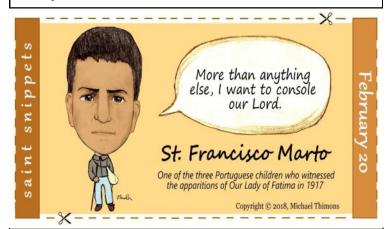
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: St. Peter Damian;

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence;

Thursday: St. Polycarp Friday: Abstinence



DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Nourishing Our Faith

Prayer On the Go

https://pray-as-you-go.org/ https://www.sacredspace.ie/

Daily Scripture and Reflections:

https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/

Weekly Essays on Ignatian Spirituality by Fr. Randy Roche, SJ:

https://mission.lmu.edu/cis/spiritualessays

Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom)

Monday Nights at 6:30 pm. 30 minutes of silence, followed by Scripture and Sharing. For more information, contact June Naughton (808) 524-2718.

Family Connection

Family life teaches us many things. It is often at home that we learn practical skills such as cooking, riding a bike, and making repairs. Talk about some of the things that the members of your family have learned to do at home. We also learn about caring at home. Talk about times when you have learned a lesson about sharing, forgiving, or loving through an experience that happened at home.

Talk about how love is the most important thing a family can share with one another. Explain that it is the same in God's family. Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 5:38–48. Talk about how Jesus tried to teach his disciples how to love others beyond those who are closest to them. Jesus tells them to love even their enemies. As members of God's family, we are called to do the same thing. Talk about some concrete ways you can "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"

Remind your children that Jesus does not expect us to be perfect. Jesus knows that we are human and will not always do everything correctly. Explain that what Jesus wants us to do is to love others as if they were Jesus himself. If we reach out in love to others, we are doing exactly what Jesus did. That is what perfection looks like. End this time together by praying the Act of Love.



Stewardship Moment

In another passage from his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus continues to turn his disciples' way of thinking upside- down. One of the lessons for the Christian steward in today's Gospel is that if we have a chance to help someone in need, we should be generous and give more than is expected of us. Jesus went "the extra mile" for us. Can we be more like Jesus and "go the extra mile" for others?

Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

Tithes and Offerings:

Collection 02/11/2023-02/1<mark>2/202</mark>3: \$1,977.00

Online Collection: 02/10/2<mark>023-0</mark>2/17/2023: \$1,910.00

2nd Collection Augustine Education Foundation: \$50,00 Maintenance: \$750,00

May we continue to receive God's gifts gratefully, manage them responsibly, and share them joyfully. Mahalo for your generosity!

<u>Upcoming Second Collections:</u>
Catholic Relief Services: 03/18/2023-03/19/2023

Giving Made Easy

Giving online is safe and easy using our secured online platform, by visiting WeShare at:

newmanhawaii.weshareonline.org

Thank you, for your continued support of our parish as we strive to meet the needs of our faith community!



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Generous and Loving Creator, you have called us to Malama i ka Makana (Cherish the Gift).

As disciples of your Son, we ask that your Spirit open our minds and hearts to more deeply appreciate your countless blessings. Increase your transforming spirit within us, so as to nurture our call to stewardship as a way of life marked always by faith-filled prayer,

service to others and generous giving.

With the kokua of St. Marianne and St. Damien, teach us to be good stewards so we may return a hundred-fold the makana entrusted to us.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Around the Parish

Newman Center Lenten Series 2023
Tuesday, February 28 and Wednesday, March 1 at 6PM

Learning to Listen to God

A TWO-PART SERIES ON THE DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS IN THE TRADITION OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA AND THE JESUITS

How do I discover God's plan for me? How do I know that I am listening to the Lord? (And not my projection of what I think God wants for me?)

How do I know what to do with my life? What career choices to make?

This two-part Lenten series explores the rules for the Discernment of Spirits from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, the Founder of the Jesuit Order. A 500-year tradition, this practical guide can be used as a tool to deepen one's relationship with Christ.

The first evening explores St. Ignatius's first set of rules which apply to spiritual beginners.

The second evening builds on the foundation from the first set and will explore additional rules and principles for those who are more experienced in discernment.

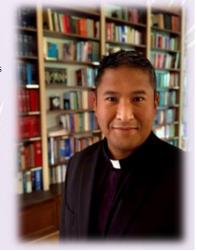
Both evenings will include ample time for prayer and discussion. 90 minutes each evening.

About the Presenter:

Born in Seattle and raised in Honolulu, Fr. Phillip Alcon Ganir, S.J. joined the US West Province of the Jesuits in 1999 after graduating from UH Mānoa in Political Science and Asian Studies. In addition to the spiritual, pastoral, and academic training required of Jesuits, he completed music degrees at the Manhattan School of Music and the

University of Notre Dame, and worked as an Associate Pastor at St. Ignatius Parish, Sacramento. Currently, a PhD Candidate in Catechetics at Washington DC's Catholic University of America, he is writing his dissertation on music and catechesis while assisting in campus ministry at Georgetown University, where he currently resides in the Jesuit community. He is proud to call O'ahu his home, especially the Newman Center where he worked as an undergraduate; Damien Memorial School where he graduated in 1994; and St. Elizabeth, 'Aiea, his parish

and former grade school.



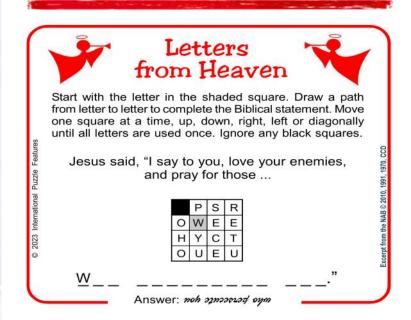
New to Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish?

Aloha! E Komo Mai!

We welcome you to your new spiritual home and are delighted to have you join our parish community!

At Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish, we know that we are all individual parts of the mystical Body of Christ. Working together, we find great joy in doing God's work here on earth. We invite and encourage you to join us as we pray, work and fellowship together.

Please contact the Parish Office to register. Welcome!







TEACHING MASS - BULLETIN INSERT THE MASS: FULL, CONSCIOUS, AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023



Over the past several weeks, these bulletins have focused on breaking down the different parts of the Mass and diving deep into the details. It is important for us to know the Mass along with its elements and its symbols so that we can understand and participate in the Mass in a deeper way. We are called to not simply spectate the Mass, but to take part in the worship in our mind, body, soul, and spirit.

With this in mind, our last bulletin will review the different parts of the Mass covered in previous sections and will focus on what we are called to do in order to participate in the Mass in a full, conscious, and active way,

This presence of Jesus within us, however, is not meant to be kept hidden away inside us. We are called to take Jesus with us out into the world! That is the center of what we might call our mission as Catholics.

PREPARING FOR MASS

Before we arrived at the Mass, our worship had already begun. We should enter a spirit of prayer before we even enter the church or even leave our homes. We should prepare ourselves by dressing our bodies in clothes fitting for worship, preparing our mind by meditating on the upcoming event of the Mass, our souls by prayer, and our hearts by recognizing God's love for us and responding with our love for Him. Coming to Mass is not a simple empty tradition or obligation. It is a deep expression of our relationship with God. Our Lord calls us to enter His house and be with Him. We come together as one Catholic family to be with God in the Eucharist.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Our Mass begins, rightly so, with the Sign of the Cross, which we make together as a sign of our unity of faith, our common baptism, and the means of our redemption. After we make the sign of the cross, the priest offers us words of greeting and blessing, which we return. This way, we know that even if we perform different tasks, in the liturgy, we are united in a single act of worship as a single body of believers.

Entering into our prayer, we then turn to God with a contrite heart and ask for mercy and forgiveness. We call to mind our sins during these first minutes of the Mass, recognizing that we are yet sinners in need of the help of God and prayers from all the saints. This prayer does not replace the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but it does offer absolution for small, venial sins.

After acknowledging our sins and receiving God's mercy, our hearts turn to God in joy as we sing the Gloria, an ancient song of praise which tells of God's glory, power, mercy, and His closeness to us. The Gloria is not sung at every Mass but is reserved for Sunday Masses as well as feasts throughout the year. After the Gloria, the priest exclaims, "Let us pray," prays silently with us, and prays aloud the prayer of the day. We unite ourselves to this same prayer so that, while it is spoken aloud by only one, it is prayed by all.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Our prayer continues through our proclaiming the Word of God. As Jesus is the Word made flesh, He is truly present in the word of God whenever it is read. As such, we sit to listen attentively to the readings from the Old Testament, the Psalms, the New Testament letters, and then finally the Gospel. The Gospel reading carries extra significance because not only is it the word of God, but it contains the words of Jesus spoken through His own mouth and his mighty works. Thus, while we sit for the other readings, we stand for the Gospel out of reverence for the words of Jesus.

After the Gospel is read, the priest or deacon will preach what is called a homily, which is a teaching specifically tied to our faith, drawing from the readings we have proclaimed. We are called to take these lessons to heart. As Catholics, we are called to live out our faith and pass it on to those we encounter in life. In order to

prepare ourselves for this great mission, we must come to know our great faith through the teachings of the Church, receiving them through the preaching of the clergy. This should not be the only way that we come to understand our faith, as there are many resources beyond a weekly homily from a priest or deacon, but that does not make it any less important. Indeed, receiving the teaching of the Church and listening attentively to the readings and homily are still an act of worship.

After the homily, and almost as a response to it, we stand and together recite the Creed, the summary of the teachings of the Church articulated in this way since the fourth century. All Catholics believe every word of the Creed, and it is important to know it, for it is what we believe. Having been taught the faith, we now profess it as one body of faith. United in our faith, we follow the creed by bringing the petitions of our community to God. We announce them and exclaim in one voice, "Lord, hear our prayer," after each petition. These petitions close the Liturgy of the Word.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Faith. It is both the greatest gift we receive and the greatest thing we can offer to God. This is because the Eucharist is the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ, even if it has the appearance of bread and wine. Since Jesus is God and God alone is perfect, it is the perfect offering and a perfect gift. Because of this, it is right for us to see the Liturgy of the Eucharist as true worship of the God who is not far away and distant from us, but present with us in every place where Mass is offered.

In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, bread and wine are brought to the altar where they are transformed into the Body of Christ through the Eucharistic Prayer. During this prayer, we worship and adore the Lord as He comes down to us from heaven. It is here that the church is no longer simply a house of prayer, but a heavenly dwelling. God is with us here, not only in spirit, but physically as well. As members of the faithful, we are called to enter the deepest sense of worship, recognizing Christ in the Eucharist and responding with reverence, respect, and a prolific sense of awe. This is God who is before us! He is right there, held up by the priest for all of us to see!

Our God present with us, we pray aloud in one voice the Our Father, the prayer Christ Himself taught us, and exchange a sign of peace; a peace which comes from God and is for us to share with our brothers and sisters. In the sharing of peace, we are actively participating in the sign of our communion with one another, and rightly, because communion is the next part of the rite.

The first to take communion is the priest, but before he does so, he first breaks it as a sign that Christ's body is to be shared with all the faithful, just as the sign of peace. After the priest takes communion for himself, he then gives communion, first to the deacon, and then all the faithful who are rightly disposed. It is right that we receive communion, as it is a gift from God. This gift of communion is the very body and blood of Christ, a true reality, hidden beneath bread and wine.

For us, we come forward to receive communion with a prayerful heart, dwelling on who it is that we are about to receive. We reverence our Lord with a bow as the priest or minister presents us with the Eucharist, and as he or she proclaims, "The body of Christ," we respond, "Amen," for indeed we truly believe.

CONCLUDING RITES

Communion does not end the Mass. Before we leave, we are given our mission to love and serve the Lord in the world. We are disciples of Christ, called to fill the world with His presence, taking Him with us from the church and into the world. We bear Christ in spirit and in our bodies, carrying Him with us into our daily lives. With the final blessing and the call to go forth, we depart from the church building, but we who are the Church carry Christ with us wherever we go.





Memorandum

TO: All Clergy, Religious Orders, Catholic Schools & Parishes FROM: Rev. Alfred Omar Guerrero, Director of the Office of Worship

DATE: January 31, 2023

RE: Diocese of Honolulu 2023 Lenten Regulations

FASTING

❖ In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on both Ash Wednesday (February 22, 2023 and Good Friday (April 7, 2023).

To *fast* means to consume one full meal a day at most, although taking of other, smaller quantities of food at the other customary mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink between meals (excepting water and medicine) is not permitted on days of fasting.

ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT

- Catholics aged 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.
- To abstain means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork, or poultry at least, although eggs and milk products are acceptable. The consumption of fish and shellfish is permitted, though the penitential character of the abstinence should be kept in mind.

EASTER DUTY

All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept is to be fulfilled during the Easter Season unless it is fulfilled, for a just cause, at some other time during the year. This period is extended to include all the weeks of Lent and the Easter Season up to Trinity Sunday (June 4, 2023).

LENTEN PRACTICES

- The faithful are encouraged during Lent to attend daily Mass, receive Holy Communion, participate in penance services, and receive sacramental absolution; to take part in public and private exercises of piety, give generously to works of religion and charity, perform acts of kindness toward the sick, aged, and the poor; to practice voluntary self-denial, especially regarding food, drink, and worldly amusements; and to pray more fervently, particularly for the intentions of the Holy Father.
- Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls this year on **February 22nd.** Ashes are to be blessed as a sign of our entry into a season of conversion, repentance, and reconciliation. Ashes are to be blessed by a bishop, priest, or deacon. Others may be associated with the clergy in the distribution of ashes.
- Funeral Masses may not be celebrated on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday, nor on the Sundays of Lent. When pastoral reasons require that a funeral be celebrated on these days, only a Funeral Outside of Mass may be held.
- To afford the faithful opportunities to participate in Lenten prayer services, pastors are encouraged to have such prayer services at least twice a week, including the Way of the Cross on Fridays, Exposition and Benediction, Evening Prayer, and evening Masses. A homily or instruction should be included.

BLESSING OF THE OILS AND CONSECRATION OF THE CHRISM

- ❖ In order to allow participation of Catholics throughout the islands, the Sacred Oils will be blessed during the Chrism Mass to be celebrated in several locations. All are encouraged to join in one of the following celebrations:
 - a. Kauai: Tuesday, March 14th at 7 p.m., St. Theresa Church, Kekaha.
 - b. Maui-Lanai: Thursday, March 23rd at 7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, Makawao.
 - c. Big Island: Thursday, March 30th at 6:00 p.m., St. Michael the Archangel Church, Kailua-Kona.
 - d. Oahu-Molokai: Tuesday, April 4th at 7 p.m., Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa, Honolulu.

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

"Since Christ accomplished his work of human redemption and of the perfect glorification of God principally through his Paschal Mystery, in which by dying he has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life, the sacred Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord shines forth as the high point of the entire liturgical year" (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, #18). Three major liturgical principles may be of help here:

- a. The Triduum may be viewed a single liturgical action that occurs over a period of three days.
- b. The Triduum is not part of Lent, but in its entirety, celebrates the Easter event.
- c. The entire focus of the Triduum is on the Triumph of the Cross and the Resurrection.

REFLECTION FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

"I eat ashes like bread, mingle my drink with tears." PSALM 102:10

What sorrows baunt you, bringing you ashes and tears? Make an effort to stay attuned to the pain in your life and the woundedness of our world. Only then can compassion grow in you.

"Therefore I... repent in dust and ashes." JOB 42:6

In being publically marked with ashes, we acknowledge the damage we do to others and ourselves. What repentance will you take on this Lent so as to rise out of the dust and ashes of regret and despair?

"The Spirit of the LORD GOD is upon me... to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes. To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit." ISAIAH 61:1;3

The movement from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday is one of ashes to oil, symbol of healing and gladness. This Lent, how will you assume the healing vocation of all humans, in concert with the Holy Spirit, in order to bring restoration to our wounded world?

Four-Petals Peace Service and Affirmations

This will be the 35th of a series of quarterly Peace Services, rotating between the sponsoring organizations. It is a multi-faith service for peace, of mindfulness and an expression that particularly resonates among our faiths, blossoming from our common humanity.

For more information on this Catholic-led Peace Service, contact June Naughton at 808-383-8954.

- We affirm that all people should have the opportunity to enjoy lives of harmony and peace.
- We affirm that while we may follow different faith traditions, our traditions and beliefs all include a strong desire for peace.
- We affirm that each faith tradition will offer its expression of contemplative reflection providing an experience of peaceful attentiveness with the common goal of peace and aloha.

Time: The service begins at 6:30pm

please arrive early to sit and settle down

Date: Monday, February 20, 2023

Place: Online via Zoom

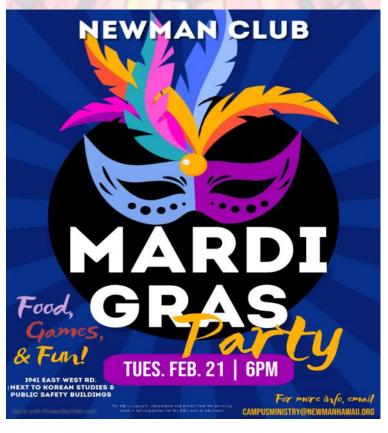
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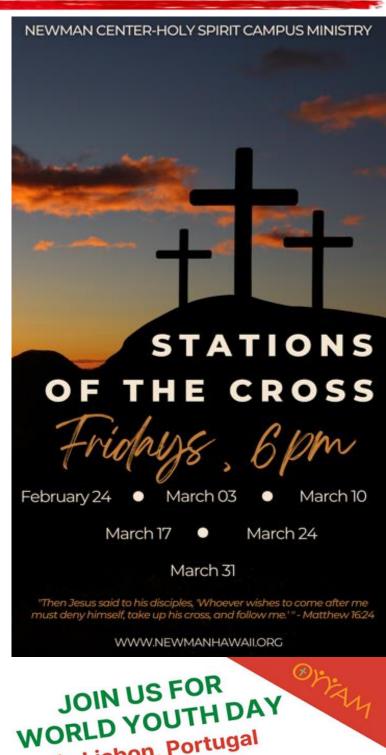
Meeting ID: 838 9778 2134 Passcode: 559329

Sponsors:

Church of the Crossroads Hongwanji Shin Buddhists Newman Center Holy Spirit Parish

Quaker Center









SCAN FOR MORE INFO



2 PILGRIMAGE **OPTIONS TO** CHOOSE FROM!





Pray

When you have difficulty loving your enemies, pray this prayer Philip Kosloski - published on 06/15/20

God can help soften your heart, especially when your feelings don't allow much room for charity.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). For many this is a difficult teaching, one that is not easy to incorporate into our lives, especially when our feelings are intense.

Yet as Christians we are called to imitate the example of Jesus, who even forgave those who killed him.

Here is an adapted prayer from the 19th-century book The key of Heaven that can help soften our heart a bit, praying for our "enemies," asking God to bless them and show them his mercy.

O God, the lover of peace, and preserver of charity, give peace and true charity to all our enemies.

Infuse into our hearts an inviolable love of your charity: that such desires as we conceive by your holy inspiration, may by no temptation be ever changed.

In particular, look graciously upon (here name those you pray for), for whom we implore your mercy, and grant them health of mind and body, that they may love you with all their strength.

Amen.

Resource: https://aleteia.org/2020/06/15/when-you-have-difficulty-loving-your-enemies-pray-this-prayer/



Grow

10 Catholic studies and devotionals worth your time this Lent Theresa Civantos Barber - published on 02/10/23

Looking for a really wonderful way to dive deeper into your faith and reconnect with Christ this Lent? Look no further than these Bible studies and devotionals!

Holy Is His Name, with Dr. Scott Hahn

In this new online Bible study made for Lent 2023, Scott Hahn traces the meaning of holiness from its origins in Scripture to its appearance in our own lives today. It's a powerful way to experience the transformative power of God's holiness.

With 12 beautifully produced video lessons and a colorful and comprehensive study guide, Holy Is His Name is a real gem. Best of all, it's totally free!

Grow

No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides viewers through the last hours of Christ's life, walking step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

Presented in five 30-minute videos, No Greater Love also features Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri.

Aquinas's Lenten Meditations: 40 days with the Angelic Doctor

Unrivaled spiritual master St. Thomas Aquinas guides readers in encountering Our Lord and experiencing a fruitful Lent in this magnificent treasury of 63 of Aquinas's Scripture-based sermons specially selected for the holy season.

Restore: A Guided Lent Journal for Prayer and Meditation

Take a healing journey with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, as she helps you turn away from what wounds you and toward God who heals you and makes you whole.

In this beautiful guided journal for prayer and meditation, Sr. Miriam invites you to meet the tenderness of God's mercy, the power of his love, and the restoration of your heart and life as you practice prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

The Ascension Lenten Companion: A Personal Encounter with the Power of the Gospel

This daily prayer resource helps readers discover what God is offering them this Lent. Each day includes a word, a scripture passage, a short meditation, and a prayer prompt. These can guide readers to rediscover a lived personal relationship with God as they journey through Lent.

This companion is accompanied by supplemental videos that can be found online or as DVDs.

The Lent and Easter Wisdom series

If you haven't heard of this series before, prepare to become as obsessed as we are! The series features the writings of great saints and theologians, crafted into beautiful seasonal meditations.

We'd recommend any title in the series, but perhaps Lent and Easter Wisdom from Pope John Paul II or Lent and Easter Wisdom from St. Thérèse of Lisieux would be great ones with which to start.

In Conversation With God: Volume 2. Lent and Eastertide

The writings of great saints fill these focused and moving meditations on themes taken from the Mass readings for that day, the liturgical season, and more.



Grow

Rediscover Lent by Matthew Kelly

Fuel your Lenten spiritual journey with this little book of daily prayers and reflections designed to help you grow in your faith.

Blessed is She's New Wine

Every year, Blessed Is She releases a new Lenten devotional. This one is New Wine: "New Wine always involves a crushing. A death before the new thing. This Lent is all about entering into Our Lord's suffering, sacrifice, and crushing to become New Wine."

Would you like some general spiritual reading this Lent, perhaps focused on the life of Jesus Christ?

Here are a few more great books for spiritual reading this Lent!

- The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming by Henri Nouwen
- This Present Paradise A Spiritual Journey with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity by Claire Dwyer
- Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments by Bob Schuchts (follow along with this book at the Abiding Together podcast this Lent!)
- The Essential Lenten Handbook by the Redemptorists
- Meditations for Lent by Bishop Jacques-Benigne Bossuet
- Education in Virtue: Lenten Journal
- The Paschal Mystery of Christ by Sr. John Dominic Rasmussen, O.P.
- Reflections On The Passion by Charles Hugo Doyle
- Jesus of Nazareth by Pope Benedict XVI
- The Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis
- The School of Jesus Crucified by Fr. Ignatius of the Side of Jesus
- He Leadeth Me by Walter J. Ciszek

Resource: https://aleteia.org/2023/02/10/10-catholic-studies-and-devotionals-worth-your-time-this-lent/



Reflect

I attended a ministry workshop many, many moons ago that started off with an activity of the infamous scripture passage from 1 Corinthians 13:4 on LOVE. It starts with, "Love is patient, love is kind, love is not jealous, love is not pompous..." The presenter then asked us to turn the page and instructed us to replace the word "love" with our own names. To this day, that activity has been one of my most memorable life-changing experiences.

Are you loving? Patient? Kind? Supportive? Humble? The readings today focus on love and holiness. Jesus tells us that we must love everyone, even those who hurt and persecute us. He doesn't ask or suggest this at all - He tells us! When we feel hurt or wounded, our natural intuition is to seek revenge and find every way to hurt the other just as much as they hurt us. Yes, forgiveness is so much more difficult for us to fathom when we are in this mindset of anger and craze. Let's take a step back and breathe. This is where our faith comes in. God made us in His image and likeness, so we are good because God is good! The first step for us is to seek Our Father to heal this hurt, tell Him how we are feeling, and ask for healing of mind and spirit. We need to seek God more frequently for help to restore love and all that is good in our hearts again. We can't do it alone. I think this is where the phrase, "Let go, and let God" comes to play.

As we begin this Lenten season, let us take this time to step back and reflect on our lives — our family life, school life, faith life, and most especially your own life. Am I a person of love? How can I pray for my enemies and those who have hurt me? How can I be an example of love and mercy to my brothers and sisters in Christ? May we enter this season of Lent with His love and mercy in our hearts, minds, and in all that we do.

Mahalo to all, especially our parishioners and benefactors, for your continued love and support in sustaining the mission and

vision of campus ministry here at Newman Center. We are truly grateful for your generous heart and spirit. Let us continue in building the Kingdom of God together and to love like never before!

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us!

Blessings to you and your 'ohana! - Fay C. Pabo (@fa_jo_pabo0)



