

# Newman News



University Catholic Community  
St. Paul's Newman Center  
Fall 2015

To connect and inform our Faith Community

## *Upcoming Events*

**Christmas Liturgies**  
December 24 & 25

**Stewardship of Talent Commitment**  
January 30-31

**Ash Wednesday**  
February 10

**Faculty/Staff/Student Liturgy and Lunch**  
February 15

**Winter Community Meeting**  
February 21

**Los Angeles Religious Ed Conference**  
February 26-28

**Spring Break**  
March 14-18

**Triduum**  
Holy Thursday—March 24  
Good Friday—March 25  
Easter Vigil—March 26  
Easter Sunday—March 27

**Youth Confirmation Celebration**  
May 2

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## *Advent Reflection*

by Fr. Rob Spaulding

It was as a student here at St. Paul's that I first discovered the gift of Advent. It has since become my favorite season of the church year. In contrast to the hustle and bustle that precede Christmas, the created world is preparing for rest. The days are shorter and the nights are growing longer. We are waiting for the day when the Light will shine forth through the darkness.



Slowing down is possibly one of the greatest challenges facing most of us. And yet, that is the great invitation of Advent. We are an impatient people—at least I am, and waiting in expectation is not high on my list of priorities. As we prepare to celebrate the great liturgies of the Christmas season, we have the chance to stop and ponder the question, “How will Christ be born in my life this year?”

John the Baptizer promises that the Lord will come with his winnowing fan to clear the chaff of our lives. How many hours of our days are spent engaging in meaningless activity? Advent is an opportunity to examine our lives and the way we choose to use our precious time. Will you consider using these days to have a conversation as a family about how you use your time? Is your family engaged in activities of the Kingdom of God or the kingdom of the world?

God has great plans for us in the year ahead...of this I am sure. Will we take time to ponder the quiet invitation of the Lord? As we prepare for Christmas, are we ready for the Lord to come into our lives in new exciting ways? Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!

## Fully Conscious, Active Participation: Becoming One Body -Maggie Warner

*“God has bestowed upon his people the gift of song. God dwells within each human person, in the place where music takes its source. Indeed, God, the giver of song, is present whenever his people sing his praises” (STTL, 1).*

### What the Church Asks Us to Do

In 2007, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops promulgated a new document, *Sing to the Lord, Music in Divine Worship*, (abbreviated STTL). The authors state their purpose: *“to guide and oversee liturgical song in each particular Church. Liturgy is the source of the Church’s prayer and action, and the summit by which our lives and all our ministries ascend to the Father.”*

I am particularly fond of the words used describing liturgy as **source** and **summit**. Take a moment and consider how far the implications of those words reach: what we experience and participate in each weekend at liturgy is the *source* of all our actions, and the *summit* through which we reach for deeper communion with our God.

Not only are we asked to understand liturgy as source and summit, but we are also asked to engage in the liturgy with *“fully conscious and active participation.”* The importance of this call on the gathered liturgical assembly (St. Paul’s Newman Center, each weekend at each liturgy!) is an affirmation of our dignity as God’s chosen people, a royal priesthood.

### To Be Fully Active and Conscious at St. Paul’s Newman Center

What does it mean to be fully active and conscious? Have we taken time to look at the readings so that as the Word is proclaimed it becomes a living force in our

hearts? Are we seeking to understand the symbols and language used in our space? This can be as simple as attending a Slow Motion Mass once a semester with a few questions ready to go.

Another part of our consciousness is being ready in our hearts and minds to become one body. STTL states, “each of its members [the gathered assembly] must shun any appearance of individualism or division.” This unity is expressed in our posture and “singing as a holy people with one voice.” The framework of the liturgy is the Paschal Mystery; Christ’s birth, death and resurrection. This week while you are in liturgy, try to listen to the voice of our assembly. Listen to the beauty of each voice joining together in the ancient texts we have sung together as Church for centuries.

Listen to the sound of Christ being made present among us.



### The Consequences of Liturgical Celebration

Now revisit the initial call from *Sing to the Lord*: “Liturgy is the source of the Church’s prayer and action.” Prayer *and* action!

“Charity, justice, and evangelization are thus the normal consequences of liturgical celebration. Particularly inspired by sung participation, the body of the Word Incarnate goes forth to spread the Gospel with full force and compassion.”

What we engage in, through liturgy, is practice for our daily lives. We *become* the Body and Blood of Christ. This practice-our sung prayer, shunning our individualism as God’s chosen people and royal priesthood-is what fills and empowers us to live charity, justice and evangelization.

*“Go forth, proclaiming the Gospel by your life!”*

## Blessings Abound!

- Campus ministry received a \$60,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment, for work in exploration of theological and vocation initiatives. The funding will be focused on student leadership, training, and vocation activities that help students discern their place in Church leadership and outreach.

- This fall, St. Paul’s Newman Center was selected as the recipient of an annual donation from the “Wyoming Association of County Officers for Charity”. This \$1,850 donation will help fund our Charity and Outreach

Ministry and provide assistance to those in the Laramie Community who need help with groceries, rent and utility assistance, and much more.

- Maggie Warner, Director of Pastoral Music and Liturgy, is pursuing certification as an Intermediate Cantor through the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Being proficient on a national level, Maggie will be able to better assist and form our music ministers in continuing to study the function of the psalm and how to best serve our community through sung proclamation.

## *Fruit of the Vine and Work of Human Hands* -Myra Belser

Our church teaches, “The bread for celebrating the Eucharist must be made only from wheat, must be recently baked, and... must be unleavened. The meaning of the sign demands that the material for the Eucharistic celebration truly have the appearance of food.” At St. Paul’s Newman Center, substantial bread is used for celebrating Sunday Liturgies of the Eucharist. Substantial bread is unleavened bread that is made by hand with wheat flour and water. This bread, through the prayers of our faith community, is transformed into the Body of Christ which is broken and fed to our assembly of believers. Not only does this give fuller meaning of the sign, but it also symbolizes the life of our faith community. We are fortunate to have a number of parishioners who are willing to share their talent to bake altar bread every week.

“As I work with the simple ingredients that are used to make the bread for use in the Liturgy, I think back to the women who lived along the Sea of Galilee when Jesus was living on earth,” explains Bernie Horst. “With the



simplicity of their tools, I wonder if they worried and worked, as I do, to make the perfect piece of bread which would be held in the hands of

Jesus. No blisters, no irregular shapes. Just round, beige and beautiful.”

Part of Anna Maria Heard’s ministry is to demonstrate the “secrets” of kneading and baking bread for

Eucharist. “Seeing loaves made from dough I have kneaded with my own hands transformed into the Body of Christ is an incredible experience. I feel a real connection to that Seder meal two thousand years ago and it’s like touching the divine. I love to bake and baking is my way of showing my love for my family and friends. In this same way, the loaves I bake are my way of sharing my love with the Newman Center community.”



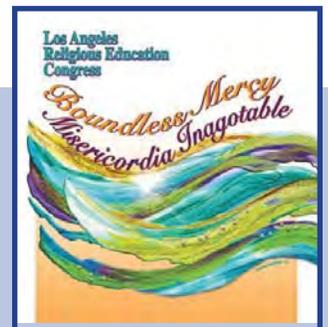
Anyone interested in this incredible ministry may sign-up for Eucharistic Bread Baking during our Stewardship of Talent weekend in January.

Through the generosity and expertise of Dan and Maureen Boddicker, our community is being provided wine for our Eucharistic celebrations. Dan and Maureen have a vineyard in Iowa. Dan follows closely the instructions of the church for making wine used as altar wine. The wine for the celebration of the Eucharist must be from the fruit of the vine, natural, and unadulterated, that is, without admixture of extraneous substances.

Throughout the winemaking process, Dan questions his worthiness. “Really, I’m making wine that will become the blood of Christ! No matter how imperfect I am or imperfect the wine may turn out, once consecrated into Christ’s blood, it is perfect.”

### *The Best Conference, Ever!*

Each year, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles’ Office of Religious Education, sponsors a 3-day conference. It is the nation’s largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics, with 40,000 attendees. It is an awesome experience to gather with others from across the world to grow in faith. There are over 300 workshops, 17 different Eucharistic Liturgies, free exhibits, free concerts, an Art Exhibit, a Film Showcase, and a Sacred Space which features a labyrinth and adoration area. The 2016 Congress is February 26-28 and registration is \$70 (or \$80 after January 8). If you do anything in the way of spiritual formation and education this year, this is the event you need to consider. Talk to any of the staff for details or go to <http://www.recongress.org/congress.htm> to register or download a schedule.





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## *Christmas Liturgies*

### **Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

Thursday,	December 24	4:30, 6:30 p.m.
Friday,	December 25	Midnight, 10:00 a.m.

### **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

Saturday,	December 26	5:00 p.m.
Sunday,	December 27	8:30, 11:00 a.m.

### **The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord**

#### **Solemnity of the Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

Thursday,	December 31	5:00 p.m.
Friday,	January 1	10:00 a.m.

### **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

Saturday,	January 2	5:00 p.m.
Sunday,	January 3	8:30, 11:00 a.m.

### **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

Saturday,	January 9	5:00 p.m.
Sunday,	January 10	8:30, 11:00 a.m.