

ST. THOMAS MORE NEWMAN CENTER
NEWMAN NEWS

Third Sunday of Advent | December 15, 2019 | www.comoneyman.org



MASS TIMES —

SUNDAY: 9 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 5 p.m.

SATURDAY: 5 p.m.

WEEKDAY: Noon

RECONCILIATION:

Tuesday & Saturday: 4-4:30 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday:

8 a.m.-Noon & 12:30-4:30 p.m.

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[.com/CoMoNewman](https://www.comoneyman.org)



**#COMONEWMAN
PHOTO OF THE WEEK**



@comoneyman

Thanks to everyone who donated, shopped, and volunteered at the Christmas Resale! Over \$1,000 was raised for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for our kids!



Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.

Matthew 11

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THE PERVERSIVE PRESENCE OF GOD'S PLAN



FR. RICH
Servant Leader

The words of the responsorial psalm should sound familiar to us:

Blessed the one whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD, his God, The maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, Who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, who gives bread to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free; the LORD gives sight to the blind. The LORD raises up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD protects the resident alien, comes to the aid of the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked. (Psalm 146:5-10)

The prophet Isaiah echoes them, as he too looks forward to the coming of the Messiah:

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God; to comfort all who mourn (Isaiah 61:1-2)

And we are the recipients of David and Isaiah's prophetic voices. We know that it was Jesus Christ they anticipated. It was He who has come to save His people, to save us. It is the strength of our liturgical year that we are reminded regularly of the pervasive presence of God's plan in human history.

The Jewish Testament recounts again and again the covenants that were entered into between Yahweh and the Chosen People. It also recounts the repeated breaking of those covenants through loss of faith and the heaviness of despair. The Chosen People may have lost their way, but their God persisted, again and again, offering the promise of redemption, the grace of his love, and his faith in their worthiness.

In our Gospels and Epistles, we are given the stories of God's victory, the success of the final covenant, the Lamb of God, and his very Son as the sacrifice offered:

"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." (Matthew 11:4-6)

Jesus, steeped in the prophecies of David and Isaiah, challenges John's followers, challenges us, to believe the evidence of our eyes, our ears, and our hearts. The moment of fulfillment of God's plan is imminent.

What do we see; what do we hear; what do we do? We remain challenged to stay hopeful, to remain grounded in our faith. Our Church sets this time aside for us to review our past and prepare for our future, grounded in the words of Christ himself, *Then Jesus told the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, 'I am the Messiah!'* (John 4:26) I find that statement particularly unambiguous. Always on point, Jesus shows us clearly the path. He knows it leads through the Garden, the Cross, and the empty tomb. And he invites us to follow Him the entire journey.

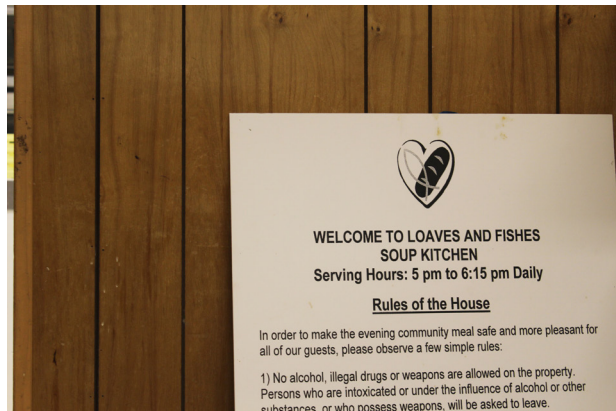
This season reminds us that Jesus came to save His people, us. We are invited to use this time to ready ourselves for our own journey with Christ. The best is yet to come.

Fr. Rich, O.P.

GIVING TUESDAY THANK YOU

With the generosity of parishioners, alumni, parents, and current students, you raised \$9,239 on Giving Tuesday! Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of our students and in our community!

With your gifts, we are able to fund 12 meals for Loaves and Fishes and offset the student's financial cost to go to the Student Leadership Summit (SLS). Thank you!



Campus Ministry would like to thank our faithful and appreciated Resident Parishioners for their outpouring of food for Fall 2019 Finals Week. Our student parishioners are very thankful to the parish for your continued support of our many Campus Ministry projects and events!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



December 22 | Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24

Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

For full text and for daily readings for the week, visit:
www.usccb.org/bible/readings



**LIBRARY CLOSED THIS SEMESTER**

For the full catalog listing of the library, visit:
www.comonewman.org/dbd-ministries/kemper-library

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

6 p.m. Mass Planning Team Meeting/Aquinas
 7 p.m. Baptismal Preparation Class/Disciples

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 121/MPR
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 242/Lima
 7 p.m. Newman Needleworks/Romero

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (5pm Sat)/Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (9am)/Chapel
 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (11am)/Chapel

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21**

3:30 p.m. Music Rehearsal/Chapel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8 a.m. Music Rehearsal/Chapel
 10 a.m. Music Rehearsal/Chapel
 2 p.m. Christmas Children's Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
 3 p.m. Music Rehearsal/Chapel

Information for the bulletin is due by noon on the Friday before the weekend it is published. Dates may change with upcoming holidays. Please submit to Theresa Nguyen at theresa@comonewman.org.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**BAPTISM**

Parish registration required; contact the office to register for a catechetical session during the early months of pregnancy.

MARRIAGE

Register and worship with us for at least three months, then contact Deacon Frank (frank.ruggiero@comonewman.org) at least six months in advance of planned wedding.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

The priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist are available to bring Holy Communion to the home. Please call the office if a parishioner is in a nursing home.

**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE**

If you need low gluten communion hosts, please call the parish office.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Newman! If you frequently attend Mass with us, please consider registering here so we can better serve you. Registration forms are in the Gathering Space under the TV, in the parish office, or online on our website (www.comonewman.org). Thank you for being part of our faith community!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, Dec. 16	Noon	+ Martin Adam
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Noon	+ Fr. Antonio Alvis Maea
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Noon	+ Bob Luebbering
Thursday, Dec. 19	Noon	+ Richard Heimbarger
Friday, Dec. 20	Noon	+ Col. Richard Haag
Saturday, Dec. 21	5 p.m.	+ Anne Doug
Sunday, Dec. 22	9 a.m.	+ Fred & + Martha Otto
Sunday, Dec. 22	11 a.m.	+ Ron Frederick
Sunday, Dec. 22	5 p.m.	All Parishioners

PARISH FINANCES

The December 7/8 parish finance report will be published in next weekend's bulletin.

CONTACT INFORMATION

602 Turner Avenue | Columbia, MO 65201 | (573) 449-5424
www.comonewman.org | All emails end in: @comonewman.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor | Fr. Rich Litzau, O.P. | rlitzop
 Associate Pastor | Fr. Mike Ford, O.P. | mfordop
 Associate Pastor & Diocesan Vocations Director
 Fr. Christopher Aubuchon | vocations@diojeffcity.org
 Pastoral Associate | Sr. Karen Freund, O.P. | srkaren
 Deacon | Frank Ruggiero | frank.ruggiero
 Deacon | Gene Kazmierczak | deacon.gene

Campus Ministry

Director | Angelle Hall | angelle.hall
 Assistant Director | Yvonne Chamberlain | yvonne
 Development Director | JoAnn Shull | joann.shull
 Resident Campus Minister | Allison Stuesse | allison

Music & Liturgy

Director | Kelley Burns | kelley.burns
 Assistant Director | Joe Kouba | joe.kouba
 Assistant Director | Mary Mertes | mary.mertes

Faith Formation

Director of Religious Education | Emily Shull | emily.shull
 Director of Youth Ministry | Renee Molner | renee.molner
 RCIA Coordinator | Lisa Rose | lisa.rose

Office

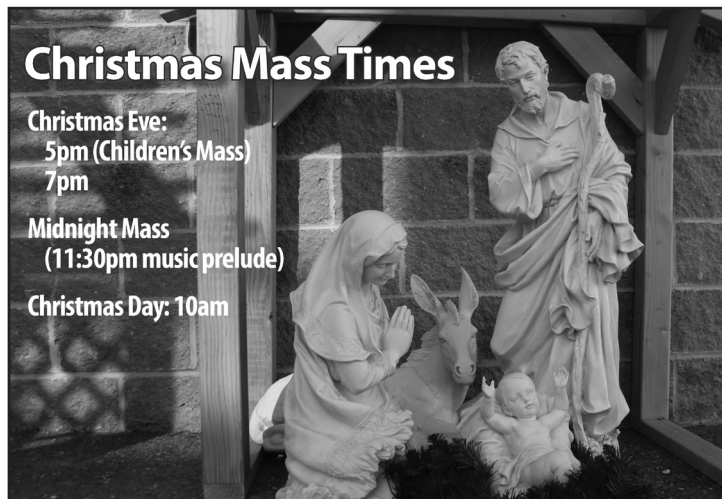
Receptionist | Janet Kelly | reception
 Accounts Manager | Angie Claas | angie
 Communications Coordinator | Theresa Nguyen | theresa

➤ All registrations/RSVPs are found on the website under *Parish Sign Ups*:
www.comonewman.org/parish/parish-sign-ups

CHRISTMAS RESALE THANK YOU

Thanks to all who donated and shopped at the Christmas Resale. We made \$1,100 at the sale, which will be used to purchase additional resources for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. All unsold items were donated to The Wardrobe where they will find good homes!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:
 5pm (Children's Mass)
 7pm
Midnight Mass
 (11:30pm music prelude)
Christmas Day: 10am

Christmas Mass Times are: Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24) at 5 p.m. for the Children's Mass and 7 p.m.; Midnight Mass with a music prelude beginning at 11:30 p.m.; and Christmas Day Mass (Wednesday, December 25) at 10 a.m. The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25.

YEAR-END GIVING & CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

To be credited as a 2019 financial contribution, your donation must be received by St. Thomas More Newman Center by Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Anything received after 12/31/19, regardless of the date on the check, must legally be listed as a 2020 contribution.

Annual contribution statements will again be sent by email. Our system sends these to the email address of the person listed as "Head of Household." You can check/edit the email address your statement will be sent to by logging into your account or if you haven't set one up, visit <https://comonewman.breezechms.com/login/create>. Here you will be able to view your giving history as well as make sure your contact information is up to date. Statements will be printed and placed in the Gathering Space for those who don't have an email registered with us.

If you have questions on how to give through your IRA, annuity, or other non-cash assets, please contact JoAnn Shull at joann@comonewman.org or by calling the office. These gifts often take longer to process, so please begin these options now if you're interested in giving in this tax year.

2020 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

2020 Calendars from Catholic Extension are available for pick up in the Gathering Space. Calendars are free, courtesy of Central Missouri Auto Body.

CABINET FOR SALE

The cabinet located in the second floor study area of the library is for sale. You must be able to haul it away. Contact Fr. Rich at rlitzop@comonewman.org if interested or with questions.

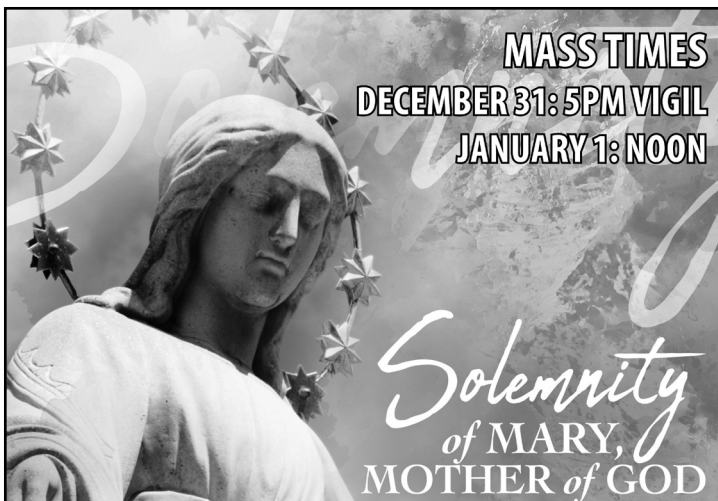


CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

All children in second grade or older are invited to sing or play an instrument in our Children's Choir for the Family Christmas Eve Mass (5 p.m. on December 24)! Any child who plays an instrument must have been playing for at least one year. Rehearsals are the first four Sundays in December from 2-3 p.m. in the Chapel. Parents should RSVP to Kelley at kelley.burns@comonewman.org if their kids are interested.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS TIMES

January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation, celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Mass Times are 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31 and Noon on Wednesday, January 1.



NEWMAN VOLUNTEER CORPS

PERSONAL ITEMS COLLECTION

Newman Volunteer Corps is collecting items for Room at the Inn during December. Requested items include warm gloves & hats, crew length socks, over-the-counter medications, and travel-size toiletries. Please see the NVC bulletin boards for a complete list of requested items and contact information if you wish to volunteer. Donations may be placed in the large silver bin in the Turner Street entrance. Thank you for your generosity!



WINTER BLOOD DRIVE

As we finish our Christmas gift shopping, let us not forget our sisters and brothers in need of that most precious gift — the gift of life: blood. Mark your calendars for Newman's Winter Blood Drive on Sunday, January 26, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the MPR.



CENTRAL PANTRY COLLECTION

November Total: 117 pounds

Thank you for your donations! Donate at the bin in the Turner Street entrance.

COMO LIFE TEEN

LIFE NIGHTS RESUME JANUARY 19

Life Nights might be on Christmas break, but don't worry; we'll start back up on January 19. For our upcoming spring semester Life Night schedule, find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at [@comolifeteen](#). We meet for Life Nights on Sundays from 6:45-8:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Education building. Join us for dinner, friends, and games!

ENCOUNTER: EXPLORE YOUR FAITH FURTHER

Are you a teen looking to explore your faith further through scripture and conversation? Join us for Encounter, starting this spring! We'll be talking about how to incorporate our faith into our everyday lives, studying the Bible, and just having some relaxed time to talk about what's going on in your life. Encounter meets in the Aquinas Room at Newman from 7-8:30 p.m. every other Thursday starting January 30.

STAY IN TOUCH OVER BREAK

Want core members from CoMo Life Teen to come watch your game/concert/theatre show? Let Renee know when they are so we can come support you! Also, teens can email Renee at renee.molner@comonewman.org to join the CoMo Life Teen GroupMe to hear about any pop-up events over break!



WE PRAY

for our Newman Community

For those who are sick, especially Dennis Hensley and Jim Charlton. (Jim Charlton is now in hospice. He and Carol are grateful for the support of your prayers.)

For our beloved dead. Eternal rest grant unto them and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Pope Francis' December Prayer Intention: That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Bishop McKnight's December Prayer Intention: As we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Family, may our Churches and schools support parents in the raising of their children in the faith.

Call the Parish Office to request prayers or to have the Eucharist brought to the homebound. Names will be listed for two weeks.

A STEWARD'S WAY

STEWARDSHIP IN ADVENT

We are in the thick of the holiday season. It can seem like it's a non-stop celebration between Halloween and New Year's Day. We are also in the preparation period of Advent, which can sometimes seem like a stark contrast to the hustle and bustle of the "must do's" of this time of year.

What does your calendar look like these days? Office holiday parties, Christmas lights, Magic Tree visit, shopping, multiple family gatherings, decorating your home, baking Christmas cookies, white elephant exchanges, Elf on the Shelf, football, mailing and receiving Christmas cards — all of these are fun traditions for this time of year. In the midst of the festivities and fun, how are you living a steward's life?

When your calendar is full and time seems short, it can be easy in this season of gratitude to momentarily set aside our call as stewards. In our space, most of us live in abundance. But even if we are suffering from illness, financial worries, or relationship stresses, we are still called to give thanks.

Continuously giving thanks for those gifts which the Lord has given us opens our hearts to experience a shift in attitude and a rise in hope. These prayers of thanks are the fertile ground that root our lives as stewards and draw us into relationship and action.

In the Advent season, this may look like showing appreciation to your child's teacher. Or, saying 'hello' to the Salvation Army bell ringer. Or, purchasing coffee for the person behind you in line. Or, sacrificing the cup of coffee and purchasing some socks for the homeless person you pass downtown.

This year, spend your Advent as a steward building relationships instead of credit card debt. Instead of stressing over the perfect Instagram Christmas, turn your attention to prayer and God's perfect love for you.



COME, FOLLOW ME



[.com/comolifeteen](https://www.facebook.com/comolifeteen)

CEP & EDGE

MANY THANKS TO CHRISTMAS RESALE SUPPORTERS

The Christmas Resale brought in over \$1,000 for our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) program. We are truly overwhelmed by the generous donations of time, decorations, and money! More news to come in the new year about how we plan to spend the proceeds.

DECEMBER KIDS MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

There will be no kids ministries (Nursery closed and no Children's Liturgy) on December 22 or December 29. All ministries will resume on January 5.

KIDS' CORNER

For Kids: We rejoice that Christmas is almost here! Tell the Good News!

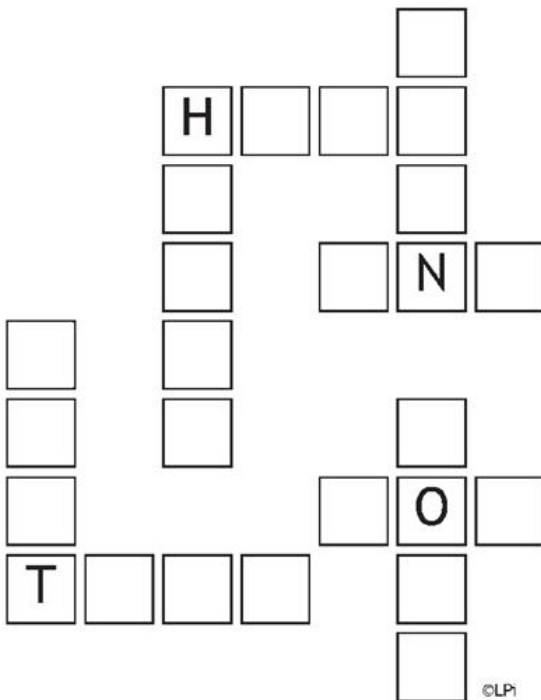
For Parents: At Christmas we share Christ with gifts, food, and time together, but this week we are asked to speak. Share what God has done for you and your family.



Puzzle

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Tell John what you have heard and seen.



AROUND TOWN

CURSILLO NEWS

Please welcome the following men who recently made their Cursillo Weekend in our parish! Congratulations and Des Colores to Alan Norris, David White, and Gary Winter!



TOLTON CATHOLIC 2020-2021 ADMISSIONS

The deadline for eighth graders to apply for the 2019-2020 school year is January 15! To apply to Tolton Catholic, complete the online application form (available at www.toltoncatholic.org/apply) and pay a non-refundable \$65 application fee. Next, submit the student's most recent grade card and any recent standardized test scores to the school office. Questions? Contact Laura Sasser at lsasser@toltoncatholic.org.

JOB OPENINGS AT TOLTON CATHOLIC

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is currently hiring for the following positions: Administrative Assistant (full-time), School Cafeteria Chef/Manager (full-time), School Cafeteria staff (2 part time positions). We are also hiring a full-time math teacher for the 2020-21 school year. Interested applications should contact Gwenn Roche at groche@toltoncatholic.org.

FAREWELL TO CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please join the Our Lady of Lourdes Contemporary Group for the 4th annual "Farewell to Christmas Concert" on Sunday, January 5 at 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes! The concert includes an (optional) singalong of Christmas carols and arrangements of "In the Bleak Midwinter," "The Angel Gabriel," and Mannheim Steamroller's "Silent Night." Our Lady of Lourdes youth will also perform. Admission is free, but a free-will offering will go toward scholarships for OLL youth to attend music ministry formation institutes.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY

St. Vincent dePaul Society volunteers serve the poor in Columbia by meeting their urgent needs for food, shelter, and utilities. Our help line is open weekdays for one hour a day: 573-424-1022. As we enter this Season of Giving, our funds are almost gone! Please help if you can by making a donation to SVDP and mail to Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 903 Bernadette. Ninety-nine percent of your donation goes directly to help the poor. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Contact Joanne Slama, president, with questions at joanne.slama@gmail.com.

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