

Who WE ARE



Prayer



Hospitality



Formation



Service



St. Thomas More
Newman Center

Dear Newman family,

There are a lot of firsts for me here at Newman. First transition during a pandemic (hopefully my last!). First time having an associate pastor to live and work with (I could have done a lot worse!). And - besides my first assignment to Newman - now my first Season of Stewardship.

Our diocesan Director of Stewardship, Fr. Stephen Jones, told me that Newman has a great tradition of stewardship. What makes it great is the deeper understanding that stewardship is holistic! You understand that the first and most important tithe the Lord wants is your very person.

We have a jealous God, who doesn't want to be paid off. He wants to be brought in: brought into how we spend our time; brought into how we use our talents; brought into how we minister our money.

At every staff meeting at Newman, I get to hear stewardship reports of your volunteering, of your praying and catechizing, and of your financial gifts. The longer I'm here, the more I learn about what we already do, and even beginning to catch glimpses and insights of a vision of how we can grow our stewardship, of how we can grow this portion of the Lord's vineyard. A wise priest once told me that we must always be more mission than maintenance, because maintenance alone is care-taking the dying, but mission is inspiration for the living!

As we begin this year's Season of Stewardship, our theme is "Who We Are."



Who are we? We are **given**. Given by God; given for others. In 1 Corinthians 4:7, St. Paul reminds us, "What do you possess that you have not received?" In this spirit, we enter into the Season of Stewardship, mindful of what we have received and what we are called to share with others.

And so, I ask you and your family to spend time prayerfully discerning how God is calling you to steward your gifts. Reflect upon the blessings that God has given you this year. **How are you called to respond in gratitude?**

In God's providence, nothing is wasted. In the mission of our parish, your stewardship of Prayer, Formation, Hospitality, Service, and Treasure will not be wasted either. I'm delighted we're in this mission together. Come aboard, all!

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Dan Merz

Fr. Dan Merz, SLD | Pastor

P.S. - Visit comonewman.org/stewardship for more information. God bless!

Growing AS A STEWARD

A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts, cultivates them, and returns them with an increase back to God. At Newman, we respond to this call to stewardship through the four pillars of prayer, hospitality, formation, and service.

Prayer



- Sunday & Weekday Liturgies
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Parish Mission & Retreat Days
- Sacramental Preparation
- Korean Legion of Mary

Formation



- Small Group Bible Studies
- Children's Religious Education
- High School Youth Ministry
- Adult Faith Formation Classes
- RCIA

Hospitality



- Campus Ministry
- Worship Ministries
- Homebound & Hospital Ministry
- Funeral Meal Ministry
- Parish Picnic & Trivia Nights

Service



- Knights of Columbus
- Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen
- Food Bank & Food Pantry
- Giving Tree at Christmas
- Blood Drive

Your Offertory Giving Options

How, when, and how much you give should be a prayerful decision as you discern how to steward the gifts God has given you. Newman provides many options to make the actual process of making a gift easy for you. Select the option which is best for your household. Know that your gift is greatly appreciated and that our parish community could not serve without your “yes!”

EFT - ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

(MOST PREFERRED ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTION)

Using EFT allows you to set up an automatic transfer from your bank account to Newman on a monthly or bi-weekly basis. Neither you nor Newman incurs fees for this transaction so 100% of your gift goes to Newman. To utilize this option, fill out the back of your intention card and return with a voided check. Future changes must be submitted in writing (mail or email) and generally must be made with two weeks advance notice.

ENVELOPES

Upon registering with the parish, all households will begin to receive Sunday envelopes, unless you have signed up for a recurring giving method. Placing your envelope in the basket each week is a reminder of your sacrificial gift to the parish! Envelopes for “special collections” are sent quarterly, even if you have an automatic monthly/weekly gift established.

CHECK/CASH

In lieu of envelopes, you can also place cash or checks in the basket. Checks will still be credited to your giving account. Loose cash cannot be tracked in this way, though your gift is still appreciated!

VENMO

Through the Venmo app on your phone, you can give directly from your bank account to Newman and incur no fees. (Search for @comoneyman)

CREDIT/DEBIT CARD OR BANK ACCOUNT ONLINE

You can give online at <https://comoneyman.breezechms.com/give/online>. You can set up your gift at any time and can choose the day of the month your gift is withdrawn. With this option, Newman incurs 1%-3% in fees with each transaction.

NON-TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Many parishioners are finding ways to give which allow them to give more with reduced tax implications. Giving from your IRA (if you're over 70.5), gifting appreciated securities, or giving through your annuity are all potential ways to give either monthly or annually. Depending on your situation, the potential tax benefits may allow you to “stretch” your giving dollars farther!

If giving directly from your IRA, annuity, or a similar avenue, you will need Newman's FEIN (#43-0810514). Contact Newman or your financial advisor for more information.

COR AD COR CIRCLE



The Cor Ad Cor Circle recognizes those who have made an investment in the future of St. Thomas More Newman Center by including a gift to Newman in their will or trust, naming Newman as a beneficiary of retirement assets or life insurance, or some other type of planned gift.

If you are interested in or already have Newman in your will, please contact joann@comonewman.org by March 1. We will have a formal “kick-off” to this program in the spring and would like to include those who have made a bequest or other planned gift to Newman.

== *We're Open!* ==

Here's what we're doing to
keep you safe:

- Wearing masks at all times at Mass and while in the building.
- Groups sitting six feet apart.
- Offering hand sanitizer at entrances.
- Bringing the Eucharist to you instead of Communion lines.
- Disinfecting the Chapel between Masses and events.
- Live-streaming Masses and events for those who feel more comfortable participating from home.