

NEWMAN CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER CHRIST THE TEACHER UNIVERSITY PARISH

AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

January 3, 2010
The Epiphany of the Lord

Pastoral Contacts

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Parish/Newman Office

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during the school year.

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Web www.newmanniu.org

Rita Brown Book & Gift Shop

HoursMonday-Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm,
..... Saturday, before and after 4:30 Mass
..... Sunday, before and after 10:15 Mass

***A Faith Community
Called to Worship,
to Minister, to Educate,
to Promote
Justice and Peace***



January 2 and 3, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you have heard, our Diocese, in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Diocese of Joliet, is beginning a massive outreach campaign to invite members of the Catholic Church who have left us for whatever reason to come home.

CATHOLICS COME HOME is the name of this two-pronged outreach to fallen away Catholics. First, there will be the media campaign which runs through January. You may have already seen the commercials inviting people to come back home to the Catholic Church.

Second, our own parish will gear up to welcome people back right here in our own faith community. This hands on part of the campaign will require everybody's participation. The parish will offer a program to welcome people back, but we will need you to help invite your family, friends and neighbors who have been away for a while to try out the Catholic Church again.

I am very enthusiastic about this opportunity we have all been given to evangelize and proclaim how wonderful our faith truly is. The Church gets a bad rap these days and we forget how much the Church has benefitted civilization down through the years. Perhaps because of our mistakes in the past, we have become too defensive and apologetic about what we believe and stand for. Let's stand together and be proud of who and what we are, of what we have accomplished, and of what we can offer individuals in this world full of so much anxiety and chaos.

All of us are going to need to talk a lot more about our faith, act like the good Catholics we are, and not be afraid of inviting people back. So often I hear from people how their children do not go to Church anymore or of how their neighbors seem to be Catholic but just don't do anything about their faith. Now is the time for us to come together and tell them they are welcome in our midst. They will find a home here. We are the Catholic Church, blessed by God and ready to welcome the lost. Stand up and be proud! Stand up and be the voice of Christ to others.

Love in Christ,

Monsignor Nelson

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 3

8:00 am Larry Wheeler, II
10:15 am Pro Populo

Monday, January 4

12:05 pm Alvin and Geneva Schwickerath

Tuesday, January 5

12:05 pm Mass

Wednesday, January 6

12:05 pm Mass

Thursday, January 7

12:05 pm Mass

Friday, January 8

12:05 pm Mass

Saturday, January 9

8:00 am Mass
4:30 pm Michael Smith



Rosary High School Placement Exam Saturday, January 9th, 8:00 AM

All 8th grade girls interested in attending Rosary High School are encouraged to pre-register for the placement exam by January 4th. To register, please complete the Application for Admission and the Release of Records form and return to Rosary with the \$30 testing fee. All necessary documents can be printed from the website: www.rosaryhs.com

Rosary High School is an all-girls Catholic, college preparatory high school, sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Springfield. The school is located at 901 North Edgelawn Drive in Aurora.

**Please pray for parishioners,
relatives and friends of our community
who are suffering from illness, especially:**

Andrew Cassidy, Christine Chapman, Gloria Erickson, Mary Bellinger, Carol Bellinger, Vicki Boyd, Barbara Ogletree, Marie Howe, Jessica Gravel, Bobby Adams, Vicki Nelson, Rich Arthur, Paul Dunker, Jim Buffer, Rob Heard, A.J. Stewart, Rosemary Rollins, Zdenek Hurych, Anne Armstrong, Jasmine Harris, Robert Nelson, John Snarski, Fran O'Connor, Linda Snarski, Sandy Scott, Ung Tri Pfoong, Betty Vilano, Mark Waldschmidt, Tony Zumpano, Megan Gresholdt Eckardt, Scottie Schofield, Herman Matuszewski, Alvarez Family, Luke Rindella, Brittany Matthiesen, Dwayne Matthiesen, Kevin Ballantine, Victoria & Valerie Hill, Laura Bennet, Kathryn Redick, Thomas Boss, Linda Dawson, Dawn Yeloushan, A J Odoardi, Dana Joiner, Karen Martin, Pat Rush, Gloria Quick, Linda Bredehoff, Al Watkins, Terri Linehan

**Please pray for those
who protect and serve us and our country.**

To add or delete a name from the prayer list, please call the Newman office at 815-787-7770.

Aurora Central Catholic High School Placement Exam-Class of 2014 Saturday, January 9th, 8:00 AM

All 8th grade students interested in attending Aurora Central Catholic High School must take a placement exam prior to registration. The exam fee is \$30 and no pre-registration is needed, but students are asked to arrive at 7:45 AM.

Aurora Central Catholic High School, a college-preparatory high school with an enrollment of 530 students, offers students a spiritual and educational foundation for life-long learning. Aurora Central Catholic has been twice recognized as one of the "Top 50 Catholic High Schools" in the nation.

For more information, please call 630-907-0095, ext. 109.

The school is located at 1255 North Edgelawn Drive in Aurora.

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22---4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19---5:4/Lk 4:14-22
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or 40:1-5, 9-11/
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Don't forget to add time for your marriage in your New year's Resolutions. Worldwide Marriage Encounter can energize your sacrament. The next scheduled dates are January 29-31 in Milwaukee, February 12-14 in Rockford, March 12-14 in Madison, April 16-18 in Milwaukee and April 30-May 2 in Rockford. For more information visit the website at alifetimeoflove.org or call 888-574-5653.

New on the Newman Website—a complete calendar with listings for Mass times, meetings and activities. Go to: <http://newmanniu.org> and click on "Church Calendar" at the top of the home page. *Check it out!!*

CATHOLICS COME HOME

The 20 million fallen away Catholics don't always fit a smooth profile. Most still regard themselves as Catholic and identify as such even though they don't practice the faith. Some have left because of anger, a bad experience with a priest or a parish staff person, or perhaps a disagreement with Church teaching. But many, if not most, have simply drifted. Church is just not a priority. They have no particular axe to grind, but it's simply not important to belong.

Surprisingly, there are at least another 9 million people who fit the fallen away Catholic profile but do not identify themselves as Catholic any longer. They are called NONES because they mark that box on census surveys for church affiliations. There's about 34 million Americans who classify themselves as such, a quarter of which are Catholic in origin. Here's what a new survey says about them: The 34 million American adults who don't identify with any particular religious group reflect the general population in terms of marital status, educational attainment, racial and ethnic makeup, and income, according to a new study by Trinity College researchers, **American Nones: The Profile of the No Religion Population.**

Report Highlights

The 1990s was the decade when the "Secular boom" occurred—each year 1.3 million more adult Americans joined the ranks of the Nones. Since 2001, the annual increase has halved to 660,000 a year.

Whereas Nones are presently 15% of the total adult population, 22% of Americans aged 18-29 years self-identify as Nones.

In terms of Belonging (self-identification) 1 in 6 Americans is presently of No Religion, while in terms of Belief and Behavior the ratio is higher, around 1 in 4.

Regarding belief in the divine, most Nones are neither atheists nor theists but rather agnostics and deists (59%) and perhaps best described as skeptics.

The most significant difference between the religious and non-religious populations is a gender gap.

Whereas 19% of American men are Nones, only 12% of American women are Nones.

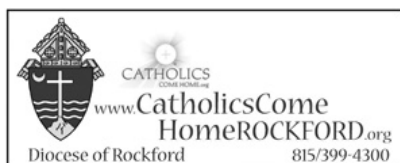
The gender ratio among Nones is 60 males for every 40 females.

Women are less likely to switch out of religion than men.

Women are also less likely to stay nonreligious when they are born and raised in a non-religious family.

Most Nones are 1st generation—only 32% of "current" Nones report they were None at age 12.

24% of current Nones (and 35% of 1st generation or "new" Nones) are former Catholics.



Peace be with you

Our Weekly Offering Week of December 20, 2009

Collections needed to meet budget.....	\$7,605.00
Actual Collections.....	\$6,656.49
Surplus (Shortage).....	(\$948.51)
Gifts from the children's envelopes.....	\$6.33
Christmas.....	\$755.00

Our 12/19-12/20 tithe percentage in the amount of \$665.65 will go to Misericordia Home to support individuals with developmental disabilities in maximizing their level of independence.

January 3, 2010

Mass Schedule

Weekend

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 & 10:15 am, 12:00* & 9:00 pm*
10:15 am Mass-Interpreted for the hearing impaired
Childcare available during 10:15 am Mass*

Weekday

Monday-Friday..... 12:05 pm
Saturday 8:00 am
Wednesday..... 9:00 pm*
*NIU Fall & Spring semesters;
Occasional holiday exceptions

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

First Wednesday of the month, following 9:00 pm Mass.*

Celebration of Sacraments

Baptisms

Please call the Newman Center for more information on baptismal preparation classes and baptism dates. Baptisms will be on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30-4:15 pm
Wednesday .. 11:30 am-12:00 pm, 8:30-9:00 pm*
Sunday..... 8:15-8:45 pm*
..... or by appointment.

*NIU Fall & Spring semesters;
Occasional holiday exceptions

Marriage

Please contact Msgr. Nelson at least six months in advance of wedding date.

Inquire about becoming Catholic (RCIA) or Adult Confirmation

Please contact Maria Alderson at mariaalderson@comcast.net

Religious Education/Sacramental Preparation

Please contact Cheryl Lehman, Director of Religious Education

Anointing of the Sick and/or Sick Calls

Please contact Msgr. Nelson if you would like to receive the sacrament of the sick. Also, if you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Newman Office.

Parish Membership

To register as a member of Christ the Teacher University Parish, contact the Parish Office at 815-787-7770. Please notify us of address or telephone number changes or if you will be leaving the parish.

www.newmanniu.org