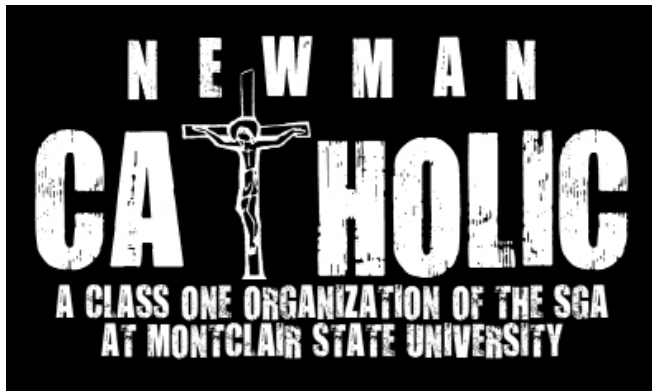


.....  
The Newman Center is located at 894 Valley Road, Montclair, NJ 07043. You can reach the center by walking down the 82 steps right behind Moore-head Hall on the South-East end of Campus.



“  
When we speak about wisdom, we are speaking of Christ. When we speak about virtue, we are speaking of Christ. When we speak about justice, we are speaking of Christ. When we speak about peace, we are speaking of Christ. When we speak about truth and life and redemption, we are speaking of Christ. - St. Ambrose of Milan  
”



## Expectations vs. Reality

**By Sean Greely**  
Campus Minister

Another year, another start to the holiday season, where stores have been lining the aisles with red and green for about a month (or longer) already. It's easy to get caught up in the early rush, especially because of the general sense of joy and peace that Christmastime brings to the world. And joyfulness and peace should not be disregarded by any means; it makes it even more clear that the world is hungering for them, and is willing to celebrate an entire season months earlier just to prolong them.

But as Catholics, we know that before Christmas comes, we have to consider Advent. It's a season that doesn't get as much

attention as the other preparatory season of the liturgical calendar (i.e. Lent). But it has just as much power and importance, if we approach it with the proper mindset.

The word Advent comes from the Latin words “ad” and “venire,” which together mean “to come into.” You can guess that it signifies Christ's coming into the material world at the Incarnation, when He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and existed as a human baby. But outside of the historical Incarnation, there are other times that Christ “comes into” the world, or put another way, other times that we experience Christ.

First of all, the most popular may be

You worked so hard and they did not appreciate it. Once again, maybe you feel hurt or disappointment. It's the literal worst.

..... Greely, page 4

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MEET

### Tuesday Newman Night

**7:00 PM** – NEWMAN NIGHT -Our weekly meeting of Newman Catholic. All are welcome for a free dinner and to join us for a different weekly topic. - this week Fr. Jim will talk on "How to Keep Christ in Christmas."

## PRAY

### Friday Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Saturday, is a Holy Day of Obligation, recalling how God had prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary from the moment of her conception to be Jesus' Mother, keeping her free from original sin. We are having a special Mass on **FRIDAY NIGHT at 5:30 PM prior to the Christmas Party at the Newman Center Chapel**

## DAILY CALENDAR

### Sunday, Dec. 2 - 1st Sunday of Advent

**7:30 PM** - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Do you want to experience Jesus' forgiveness of your sins - Fr. Jim is available to hear confessions till **8:15 PM** - Student Center Café B & C

**7:30 PM** - SING? PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? Join our musicians with Mr. Bruce Mauro, our Music Director as they rehearse for this evening's Mass. - Student Center Café B & C

**8:30 PM** - SUNDAY MASS - Student Center Café B & C

### Monday, Dec. 3

**5:30 PM** - DAILY MASS - Newman Center Chapel

**6:15 PM** - Eboard Meeting - Newman II

**7:30 PM** - FOCUS Mens Bible Study - contact Darin

**8:00 PM** - FOCUS Women's Bible Study - contact Megan

### Tuesday, Dec. 4

**5:30 PM** - DAILY MASS - Newman Center Chapel

**7:00 PM** - NEWMAN NIGHT - Join us for dinner and our weekly meeting! This week's topic: Keeping Christ in Christmas - Newman Center

### Wednesday, Dec. 5

**3:30 PM** - FOCUS Women's Bible Study - contact Sophie

**4:00 PM** - Advent Small Group - Join for a small group setting to discuss the meaning of Advent and how to help integrate it into your life. - Center for Faith and Spirituality

**5:30 PM** - DAILY MASS - Newman Center Chapel

### Thursday, December 6

**8:30 PM** - LATE NIGHT MASS - Newman Center Chapel

**9:00 PM** - Holy Hour - Come pray before the Eucharist for an hour of adoration with praise and worship music - Newman Center Chapel

### Friday, December 7

**No 12 noon Mass today**

**5:30 PM** - SPECIAL MASS: Vigil of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation) - Newman Chapel

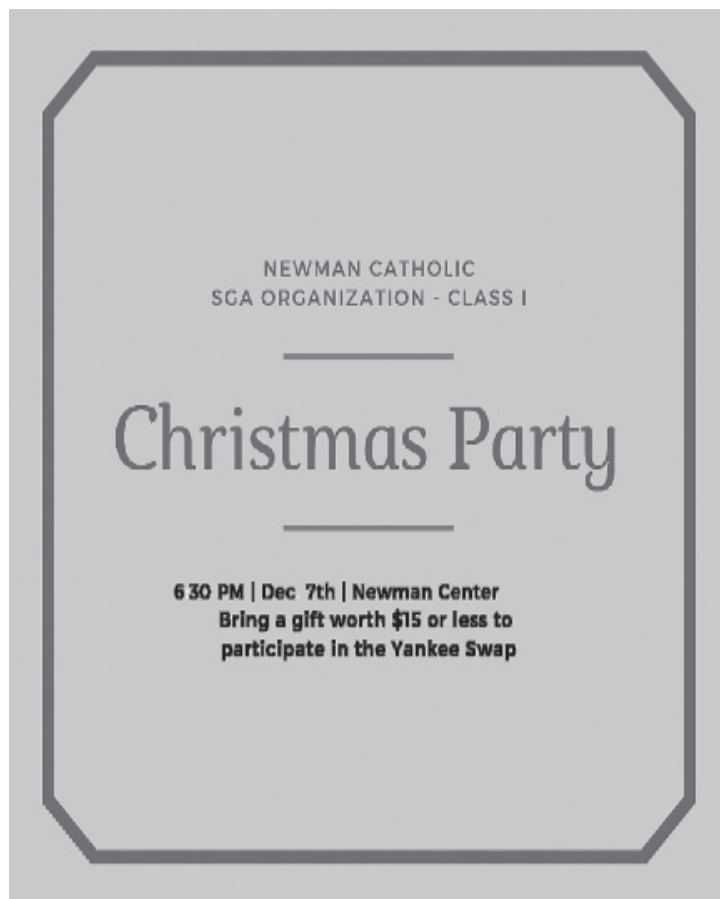
**6:30 PM** - Newman Christmas Party -Newman II

### Sunday, December 9

**7:30 PM** - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Do you want to experience Jesus' forgiveness of your sins - Fr. Jim is available to hear confessions till **8:15 PM** - Student Center Café B & C

**7:30 PM** - SING? PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? Join our musicians with Mr. Bruce Mauro, our Music Director as they rehearse for this evening's Mass. - Student Center Café B & C

**8:30 PM** - CATHOLIC SUNDAY MASS - Student Center Café B & C



## Recurring

Each Thursday from 12PM-8PM at the Newman Center, Sean Faulkner, a certified therapist, will be available for professional counseling services for all MSU students. Sean is employed by the Catholic-Psych Institute and offers psychological services from a Catholic perspective. Students are welcomed to meet him at the Newman Center. Walk-in or book a time to meet on our website at [www.MSUnewman.com/catholicpsych](http://www.MSUnewman.com/catholicpsych).

## ABOUT US

### WHO IS NEWMAN?



We are named after BLESSED JOHN HENRY CARDINAL NEWMAN. Over the last century on many secular colleges and universities around the world, centers have been founded to meet the spiritual needs of the Catholic people as well as to be a voice in the dialogue between the Church and the secular world on these campuses.

These centers are named after Blessed John Henry

Cardinal Newman. Newman lived in the 19th Century, was a professor, became a convert to the Catholic faith and is still remembered among many things as a holy priest. Among the many theological writings he did was "The Idea of the University" a series of essays where he observed that the University and the Church are driven by the same goal - the search for the universal truth.

### WHAT IS NEWMAN CATHOLIC?

The NEWMAN CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY has been an active organization at Montclair State University

for over 50 years. Our mission is to help students grow in their faith through spiritual, social and community outreach programs. We do this through helping each other deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church which he founded. We are sponsored, funded and operated by the ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK. We are chartered as a CLASS I ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION and are a recognized active partners with the University on many committees and initiatives.

## CONTACT US

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER is located in 2 houses adjacent to the campus of Montclair State University. You can access the 99-step staircase from campus going around Moorehead Hall...

You can also reach the Newman Center from the street. Our address is 894 Valley Road, Montclair NJ 07043.

**Main Phone:** (973) 746-2323. Campus Phone Ext 7240

**Website:** [www.MSUNEWMAN.com](http://www.MSUNEWMAN.com)

**On Facebook:** [facebook.com/NewmanCatholicMSU](https://facebook.com/NewmanCatholicMSU)

**On Twitter:** @MSU\_Newman

**Instagram:** Newman\_Catholic

**HAWK SYNC (MSU Org Sync portal):** at Newman Catholic

## OUR STAFF

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Darin Howell - [darin.howell@focus.org](mailto:darin.howell@focus.org)

## DAILY MASS READINGS

**Today's Mass:** Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10+14; 1 Thess 3:12-4:2; Ps 85:8; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

**Monday:** Isa 2:1-5 (or, in Year A, Isa 4:2-6); Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; See Ps 80:4; Matt 8:5-11;

**Tuesday:** Isa 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; [no bibl. ref.]; Luke 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Isa 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; [no bibl. ref.]; Matt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Isa 26:1-6; Ps 118:1+8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Isa 55:6; Matt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Isa 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; [no bibl. ref.]; Matt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** ; Isa 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Isa 33:22; Matt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

## Greely, from front

what's called the Final Judgement. It's what the final book of the Bible, Revelation, is all about; Christ returning triumphantly to the material world, finally confining the Devil and all evil forces to Hell, and leading the grace-filled members of humanity to Heaven to worship God perfectly for eternity. In short, it's when all of the holy people will go to Heaven, and those who chose against holiness will go to Hell. We don't know when it will happen - it could be tomorrow, or it could be in another 2000 years. But we continue to wait in hopeful expectation for it.

Secondly, there is the other kind of judgement: Particular Judgement. Like I said, we do not know when the Final Judgement is coming, and it's very possible that you and I will die before that day comes. If that were the case, we would come to meet Christ before His final domination over evil. This may be the one we are most familiar with, maintaining the imagery of meeting St. Peter at the pearly gates of Heaven and finding out whether we checked enough moral boxes to enter or not. While that imagery and grading system are likely flawed representations of reality, they do highlight the important part: we will find out if we get to go to Heaven immediately (we are saints), we spend some time in Purgatory waiting for Heaven

(we were good, but still need to recognize more of God's goodness), or we are separated from God entirely and spend eternity in Hell (we constantly reject grace and resist God's goodness throughout our lives). Only God knows where people end up, and in our hopeful waiting, we try to conform our lives to Christ's teaching and living so that we can join the saints in Heaven.

Thirdly, Christ enters into each of our lives on a daily basis, intervening here and there, trying to direct us toward Himself, and helping our souls orient themselves to face Him and turn away from evil. This may be harder to envision, and if it is, it's likely because it feels so ordinary. If Christ enters my life every day, how is He supposed to have an impact? Isn't He supposed to lead an assault on the evil and suffering I experience? Isn't He supposed to be the Divine Physician who will cure all disease, the Prince of Peace who will end all wars, the King of the Universe who rules with justice and peace, rather than discord and agony?

If you tend to have that expectation of Christ, you are not so different from a 1st century Jew. The Hebrews of the time expected the Messiah to be a war hero, a powerful politician, or someone else who would use His might to destroy their enemies and oppressors. But we

know the story: our expectation does not meet Christ's reality. He came as a baby, rather than a warlord. He preached love, rather than violence. He died on a cross, rather than crucify others. And He did all of that because it's what was necessary for us and our salvation.

The entirety of Christ is a mystery for us because He dodges our expectations at every turn, but His actions are really effective. That might be the best message Advent has to offer; it's a time of waiting for Christ, but also a time for conforming our beliefs and expectations to His reality rather than what we desire for Him to do. Christ ultimately wants us to become like Him, and to do that, we need to try to set ourselves in the mindset of Christ. Dropping the stone you were about to throw, turning the other cheek, and embracing the leper – these are the actions we're called to push ourselves toward every day of our lived existence. Advent is the time to focus on those qualities that are most like Christ and to turn away from those that are opposite to Him. If we can change ourselves in that way, we can do the greatest service of all. We can allow Christ to "come into" the world through us; if everyone could do it, we'd have a much better idea of what Heaven was like.



## MIDNIGHT RUN

Its on - Friday December 14th -

We are collecting - Clothing (Preferably Larger Mens); New Underwear or socks; Toiletries; shoes, boots, coats - to give to the Homeless in New York City. Please bring the items to Newman by **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12th**. (That night from 6:30 -9PM we will be sorting all the clothes and making sandwiches) - For more information contact Greg our Community Service Chair