Beautiful scriptures to remind you what Easter is all about

John 14:6-7  "Jesus said: I am the Way; I am Truth and Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him."

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He is the way to eternity with our Heavenly Father.

John 19:30  "After Jesus had taken the wine he said, 'It is fulfilled'; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit."

The words "It is finished" have since become amazing words that ripple through the Christian community. With Christ's death, everything was changed forever. Jesus died for the sins we are all guilty of and allowed us to find redemption, though none of us are truly worthy.

Luke 23:45  "The veil of the Sanctuary was torn right down the middle."

The veil of the temple was an enormous curtain representing the divide between man and God. When Christ gave his life for us, the veil was torn and now nothing separates us from the Lord!

Luke 24:6  "He is not here; he has risen..."

Jesus is alive! God is, and never will be, dead. No one can ever kill Jesus Christ, our Lord God, or the Holy Spirit. They will always live on to encourage us, commune with us, help us and stay by our sides for the rest of our days.

John 11:25  "Jesus said: I am the resurrection. Anyone who believes in me, even though that person dies, will live."

The Easter celebration is much more than a memorial to Christ, who died for our sins. It's a celebration of thanks for the greatest gift ever bestowed upon mankind. We have the gift of eternal life with our Heavenly Father and benefit from a loving God who doesn't just tell us about his love - he shows us.
**Operation: New Roof Moving Along!**

Things are still proceeding with the roof project. To read an update from Andy, and to **vote for your choice of shingle color**, follow this link: [https://www.uonewman.org/roof-repair-project.html](https://www.uonewman.org/roof-repair-project.html)

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**Sunday Offering**

Thank you to everyone who has been mailing in or going online to give their Sunday offering. The overall Sunday collection is down by 30% since the beginning of this crisis.

We are receiving your Easter offerings in the mail this week and feel that this number will improve. Your support is so critical at this time. We understand and respect that this is a difficult time for many, if you are financially able to support St. Thomas More at this time we are deeply appreciative.

**Ways to Support:**

Mail: St. Thomas More, 1850 Emerald St.
Eugene, OR 97405

Online: [uonewman.org/support-newman](https://www.uonewman.org/support-newman.html)

Call Andy: 458-215-4211

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Peter Do, O.P

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**Please pray for** parishioner Sharon Wendell, whose husband Stephen died this week after a lengthy illness (not COVID related).

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**All Mass intentions are prayed for as scheduled, as our Priests continue to say a private daily Mass in their Chapel. There are many openings; if you would like to request a Mass Intention, please go to our website: [https://www.uonewman.org/mass-intentions-calendar.html](https://www.uonewman.org/mass-intentions-calendar.html)**

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**MASS INTENTIONS THROUGH APRIL**

**April 4**  Paul Hawkins (d)

**April 5**  Walter and Irene (d) Dick Stokes (d) Pro Populo

**April 7**  Dick and Vicki Craig (d)

**April 8**  AC Vi Van

**April 12**  Dick Stokes (d)

**April 14**  Mark Burford (d)

**April 15**  Barbara A. Braak (d)

**April 16**  Walter and Irene (d)

**April 18**  Kathleen Beskit (d)

**April 19**  Dick Stokes

**April 21**  Kevin Lynn Callahan

**April 25**  Kathleen Beskit (d)

**April 26**  Tony Moran (d) Dick Stokes (d) Pro Populo

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**Spring has Sprung at Newman!**

We offer thanks to our anonymous donor, who once again hired a landscaping crew to spruce up the Newman Center grounds for Easter. Fr. Garry has been hard at work tending to his flowering works of art as well! Click this link to see updated pictures: [https://www.uonewman.org/frgarrysgarden.html](https://www.uonewman.org/frgarrysgarden.html)
Wondering how our students are faring?
Our students have formed strong bonds, and quarantine and being back home in different cities and states isn’t keeping them from staying connected. They frequently have Zoom (video conferencing) gatherings. They have weekly bible studies, and are continuing to have their “Newman Nights” by using video conferencing to watch a movie together, with discussion afterwards. Focus Missionary Kevin Ward and UO Senior Robert Sawai have stayed in town, and have been helping with the readings at our streaming Masses.

Sunday Readings
April 19, 2020 Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)
Acts 2:42-47 1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

If you’re having a rough time, please email or phone either the priests or other members of staff. We’re here for you!

I asked our parishioners the question: How are you spending your time during quarantine?

I take a daily stroll up the hill to see the neighbors alpacas and llamas, a real delight! I participate in a variety of Masses; most frequently the one from my beloved Newman Center Saturday night and ones on EWTN. I call family and friends frequently to check in and catch up. I spend much of the morning doing household chores, and for recreation listen to music and create art, both drawing and taking photographs of Nature to share.

During the week, working remotely; reading the Lenten book in the am; riding my indoor bike trainer when the weather’s been rainy, but eager to start getting outdoors. Teaching a fitness class remotely for faculty/staff @ OSU, and staying connected to friends and family. So appreciate mass on Sunday!!

Hope you and everyone at Newman are well. Ginny and I are well and have been taking walks every morning along the river to relieve the boredom of staying at home all day. Just hoping that this will all be over soon.

We have a nice routine: coffee with the paper, praying with Daily Mass from Bishop Barron’s chapel, walking, and reading. We’ve had social contact with friends and family through video, face time and zoom. Stay well!

A little bird told me” that Parishioner and former Newman bookkeeper Linda Brochard, and her friend Bonne Bandolas, are sewing masks for the staff and residents at Spring Valley Assisted Living— Linda is sewing 75 masks! Linda is not one to bring attention to herself, but I felt this needed an acknowledgement. Well done, Linda and Bonne!

Some of Linda’s beautiful masks she’s making for...
We love to hear news of our beloved Newman Center community. Though I especially experience anxiety during these uncertain and scary times, I turn to prayer, either read the gospels or pray through my hallow.com app on my phone (where I also do a daily Lenten series), and place my worries at the feet of Jesus, for His yoke is easy and His burden light. And, it is remarkable; whenever I turn it over to God, I immediately feel a sweeping away of the fear and anxiety and am filled with God's peace that surpasses all understanding and once again feel grounded in my faith and calm.

Our MOMS (ministry of moms sharing) is meeting remotely weekly on Fridays for fellowship, opening up the scriptures and praying. I also belong to a book club that has a few Newman parishioners in it and we are planning to discuss our latest book remotely via Zoom tomorrow!

Our son Paul, who has been in the Peace Corps in Peru for the past 2 years, was evacuated in mid March (Peace Corps worldwide shut down). He was in quarantine for 2 weeks in the downstairs of our house and last Sunday, Palm Sunday, was re-integrated into the family upstairs. We LOVE having him home, though it was a hard and abrupt end to his service; he was supposed to be there in Peru until June of this year. Still, we are grateful to be able to support each other and be able to lean on family. He is a bright, sweet soul to have in the home.

Mostly wondering what retirement will be like (I’m 4 years away) - mostly trying to manage some routine, exercise 3-4 times a week, cooking, doing some work from home and trying not to annoy or be annoyed by my hubby!

I have been using my long neglected sewing machine. Finishing some unforgotten projects. Donating excess clothing and dishes. Doing yoga and meditating regularly.

Can’t meet in a restaurant so our monthly Lunch Bunch met in our parking lot for lunch today. All brought their own lunch (and chairs!)
I am working part time as an essential worker. Other than that, calling and talking to friends and family a lot. Cleaning, organizing, car rides.

I retired from PeaceHealth on March 29. The luxury of additional unscheduled time is absolutely delightful. I've been doing a fair amount of yard work and reading Catholic literature. I have just completed a book I found to be brilliant and remarkable! It is "Into the Deep: An Unlikely Catholic Conversion." The author is Abigail Fine Favale. She is a Professor at George Fox University and wrote her Faith journey in what has go be one of the wildest and most inspiring and educational conversion stories I have ever heard.

I am the Registrar at a local high school. Fortunately, I am able to do most of my job from home so that keeps me busy during the day. Being able to take a mid-day walk with my dog or find a online yoga/exercise session has been a nice perk while working from home.

Well. I am working part time as an essential worker. Other than that, calling and talking to friends and family a lot. Cleaning, organizing, car rides.

Julie and I have been enjoying the quiet of our home atop the ridge during these troubling times of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first thing every morning we walk three loops on a trail system on our 4 acres of woodland that gains about 400 feet total and covers roughly two miles. We pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and include the intentions of family, friends, fellow Secular Franciscans, and local Catholics. Gardening, processing wood for our woodstove, reaching out by phone and email to others, and viewing services from the Vatican fill our days. We are unable to stream the Newman Masses because of the data limitations of our satellite Internet feed, and look forward to rejoining our parishioners and priests once it is safe to do so. God bless us all!

I'm overseeing a massive redo of my website and upgrading my email marketing program. I'm also creating a self-paced personal audio retreat called The Eight Words of Easter. I am staying nourished spiritually with the Liturgy of the Hours and unrushed sittings with the four Passion accounts. Both help me to "pray" the world's anguish. I miss my Newman peeps, and send my love. I hope you are staying well!

Thank you for all you do! My friend Lorna and I watched Palm Sunday Mass on Youtube. A big thank you to Fr. Garry and Fr. Peter for making this possible. I have been getting a little done around the house, wearing a mask when I go to the store. Making my own hand sanitizer to trade for homemade masks that a friend makes. The sun is out today so will try to get some yard chores done. I miss you all. I pray for all the health care workers also, having been a nurse myself I understand some of what they are going through but never had to deal with anything like this. And the people who have been sick with the virus and their families. I can't imagine the pain of not being able to be with a loved one in the hospital.

I sure wish I had something newsy and chatty to tell you. Let's see. I dared....finally...to go out to Dutch Bros. They are being VERY careful. Coffee cup is touched only by the maker, then put on a paper tray and handed to window person. Credit card machine handed out for you to scrape. (Then wipe off with wipes). So much for my news! But I do have wonderful friends who have done my grocery shopping. Bottom line: So far my family in NYC and Seattle are healthy as am I. I am warm in my little house and I have a good cat. I am truly thankful.

Julie and I have been enjoying the quiet of our home atop the ridge during these troubling times of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first thing every morning we walk three loops on a trail system on our 4 acres of woodland that gains about 400 feet total and covers roughly two miles. We pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and include the intentions of family, friends, fellow Secular Franciscans, and local Catholics. Gardening, processing wood for our woodstove, reaching out by phone and email to others, and viewing services from the Vatican fill our days. We are unable to stream the Newman Masses because of the data limitations of our satellite Internet feed, and look forward to rejoining our parishioners and priests once it is safe to do so. God bless us all!
I Miss you all!!
I’m feeling much better after being sick for 3 weeks. Trying to regain my strength!!
Our St Francis of Assisi Seculare Franciscan Order has been separated & we miss each other. Charley managed to arrange a ZOOM app. so we can join together to say the Franciscan Crown Rosary, & Pray the Liturgy of the Hours on Wednesday evenings.
It’s been nice to Pray as a Group.
Personally... I have finally reached a goal of 395 in YAHTZEE online. & I beat the man from Pakistan in Backgammon. He was not happy that I won.. so he locked me out.. (after 23 games.. I beat him). & I have finished 2 books. Thank you for the prayers. I am in a continual prayer... praying for a peaceful healing for the whole world!!! Peace & All Good!! & Happy Easter to all. Stay safe.. Stay home!!
Wash your hands!!

Good morning, hope you all are doing ok and staying healthy. I am not too sure if this email was intended for me or for students or other parishioners, but here’s an update anyway!

Here in Phoenix, we are in a social lock-down, but Catholic Charities is deemed an 'essential business' so I have a letter to go to and from work on my bike. Since this whole thing has happened, I have reduced hours at work to just provide the opportunity for residents to talk to me if they need any help or resources. I also use this time at work to tend the community garden and allow kids to help since the space is more spread out.

I started swimming again since Phoenix is starting to heat up, and doing various workouts to just stay physically healthy. Additionally, I have been praying more, doing the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary daily. We also have a weekly online Faith Sharing Group with other volunteers in the West Coast to video chat on different readings and check-in with one another.

I have been attending different online masses and recently attended a Virtual Catholic Conference this past weekend where I watched 22 different Catholic speakers touch on various topics. Although it is difficult not being able to attend mass, adoration, and gather for social events all the resources and technology is making this time in isolation bearable; I also think it is a good time for everyone to stop and sit with God. I just continue to pray for this whole situation and try to be a source of hope and kindness to others.  
2018 UO Graduate

I have been cleaning and cooking more than I like to, but purging things we no longer need. We are missing our kids, grandkids and our great ones so I have been baking some home-made muffins and cookies for my family and a few neighbors and leaving them on their door steps! Very therapeutic to bake and pray and do something kind!

Now that I have time, I have been checking in with our friends in Germany, Vienna and Seoul Korea and it is nice to know they are all okay and wonderful to hear their voices.

Our daughter in Portland has had the virus and is now recovered from it, but oh so very scary.
I also get up in the morning and am so thankful for water and food and think about all the people that don’t have those luxuries and probably no roof over their heads as well.
Oh, our World will never be the same, but I do hope we can hug and love each other again and show more simple kindnesses to one another.
Stay Well and have a Blessed Easter. Prayers,

Dave and I are spending our quarantine days planning for the completion of our new home May 1! I run every day with my new Boston Marathon date pushed out to September 14. As a family we are happily anticipating the arrival of our first grandchild next month! We are grateful for our Newman community and love the ability to live stream Mass especially during the Easter season.

For last 3 weeks walk daily, minimum 15,000 steps & pray the Rosary for everyone daily. Also cooking for family and friends!
During quarantine, I have been doing my walks outside (due to allergies, I normally walk at the Mall) and finding many folks outside. People are courteous and friendly - we keep spaces between us and smile. I was concerned that wearing a mask would not allow to smile to other folks but have realized that we 'smile' with our eyes. I see parents enjoying their children. There is some good to this confinement at home with our families.

We live in South Eugene so we have easy access to the walking/biking trails so I am out as much as possible. I have been doing a lot of reading. I am also working on my craft - handmade greeting cards. This gives me peace. Another peaceful activity I enjoy is practicing Tai Chi. I am doing more of this because I have time for it. My husband and I have been doing more cooking at home and finding new recipes has been rewarding.

I am most thankful for the streaming of religious activities! It helps to keep my heart peaceful.

We are spending our time mastering graph plots for 6th grade math, learning 2nd grade mystery science lessons, teaching high school and college students on-line, playing badminton in the middle of the street, walking along the Willamette River, and exercising in the front yard for all the neighbors to see!

When I'm feeling sad and anxious, day or night, what usually gives me peace is focusing my attention on something at hand, some specific object or activity. It's picking up my rosary for a decade or two, reading or painting a while, cooking dinner, searching (again) for my lost phone, whatever. Mother Teresa used to say we find God in serving the poor, not in general, not in some faraway place, but in this suffering person right here before me. And did you read about the ER nurse in Georgia who says to herself every morning as she starts her twelve to sixteen-hour day, “Perhaps this is the moment for which you were created.” Every time we wash our hands, that’s loving our neighbor as ourselves, isn’t it? And isn’t it a prayer? St Teresa and Dr. Fauci—what a team.

I was going to write you - not with something newsy for the bulletin, but in response to Fr Garry's quest for something light-hearted. During last weekend’s 5:00 mass, as the camera was panning the chairs bearing parishioners' pictures, I think I saw my friend in "my chair". It amused me and I teased her about it.

Thanks for all your special efforts to keep us together - especially during Holy Week.

Well, not much! Reading a lot on Kindle. I go to the store only when I need to. I'm eating take out too. My daughter has been arranging video chats with the rest of the family; that has been nice. That sums it up!