Here’s the link to Mass on Saturday, May 9:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LS2bPBZ_pAk  
YouTube Channel UONewmanLive

Newman Center  
Mass Attendance Request Line  
541-357-9098

Phase one:  
Limited and Restricted,  
Public Masses are Now Open!  

You have no doubt seen or heard the news that the churches are slowly opening back up. We must still use caution, and be in compliance with the State of Oregon and the Archdiocese.  

There are two things we want to stress:  

• If you are ill, or have been exposed, or are in a higher risk category, PLEASE stay home. We are continuing to stream the Mass, and the dispensation from the Archbishop is still in place.  

• You may not show up at the door and enter Mass unless you are preauthorized. We must have 25 OR LESS people in the church; and we must have contact info for everyone in attendance. When you leave a message on the number posted above, Kathy will return your call.  

More information on how we are handling this at Newman Center can be found on our website:  
https://www.uonewman.org/mass-reopening.html  

Read all the requirements directly from The Archdiocese here:  
Archdiocese of Oregon in Portland

New Pastor Announced!  

Fr. Emmanuel Taylor, O.P., will be our new Pastor, taking over the reins from Fr. Peter. You may recognize Fr. Emmanuel, as he was assigned to our Newman Center when a Brother. Fr. Emmanuel comes to us from St Thomas More Newman Center at the University of Arizona in Tucson. He will be “officially” here in Eugene as of July 1. Welcome, Fr. Emmanuel!

Mass This Weekend!  

This week’s streaming Mass will be celebrating both the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, and the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis’ encyclical on "Care for our Common Home." Newman’s Laudato Si’, Fr. Peter and musician Liam Maher have worked together to make this a very special Mass. Our Laudato Si’ group are providing the offertory gifts as well.
The Mysteries of the Rosary

In this month of May, I will write a short, weekly reflection on the mysteries of the Rosary, so that at the end of the month there will be here a reflection on all four sets of mysteries. I hope they might be helpful aids for some, in praying the rosary. Br. Paul Maria

First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

A young woman is at home in the town of Nazareth. We don’t really know what she was doing, but it probably began as just another day for her. She was minding her own business, maybe fretting over the upcoming wedding, or just worrying what to eat that day. Mary was most likely not expecting anything extraordinary that day.

And yet, suddenly Gabriel the Archangel stands before her. This is how it is through out the Bible. God is found in unexpected places, at unexpected times. Moses was tending to sheep, when a burning bush caught his attention. Samuel was trying to sleep, and someone was calling him. It is never our initiative that initiates an encounter with God.

And God acts in unexpected ways. Who would think of a burning bush, or who would think that a shepherd boy would become king of Israel. And who would think that a young virgin would bear the son of God.

This shows us, again and again, God does not hold back in his blessings. He surpasses all expectations. Israel expected a human messiah, God gave himself.

So, the archangel stands before her, and he calls her “highly favored.” Mary’s response is rather interesting. In the Old Testament and normally also in the New Testament, when God reveals himself, in some way, there is an initial fearful response. For example, Peter’s initial response to Jesus is: “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” (Lk 5:8)

How very different Mary’s response is: “she pondered what sort of greeting this might be” (Lk 1:29). Her natural response to God’s action is to ponder it. And indeed in our own lives we can only grasp how God is guiding us when we ponder and remember the times we have encountered God.

How has God shown himself to you?

If you’re having a rough time, please email or phone the priests or other members of staff. Fr. Garry is taking appointments one on one meetings; please contact him directly via: FrGarryOP@gmail.com or the ‘Contact Fr. Garry’ link on our website https://www.uonewman.org/contact-fr-garry.html

Coffee Talk with Fr. Peter

On Wednesdays at 8:30am, Fr. Peter will be on Zoom and invites you to join him in his chat room. Here is the link to join in, and it is also on the website.

(Join Zoom Meeting ID: 880 9638 6186 )

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88096386186

Students “Newman Night” via Zoom.

Chit Chat with Corinne & Kathy

Monday Mornings at 10:30

Grab your beverage of choice and join others for some gab time! We will be using Zoom video conferencing.

Here is the link to join the meeting; it will also be posted on the website:

(Join Zoom Meeting ID: 810 2824 4980)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81028244980
Financial Update during COVID-19  
Andy Roybal, Development Director

It has been almost two months since we last had Mass at Newman and much has changed. The way we worship, communicate, maintain physical distance, and even how we support our parish has all changed in the past several weeks.

I have been calling parishioners to check in on them to see how they are doing. Informing them of what St. Thomas More is doing to keep them connected with the Mass and our parish. One of the main questions that I get is “How is the church doing financially?” That answer for me has changed over the weeks from despair to hope.

During the first few weeks of the “Stay at Home, Stay Safe” orders were in place, and we had to stop all Masses and gatherings, Sunday giving dropped as much as 60 to 70% of normal while electronic recurring gifts remained steady. I wanted to see if this trend was going to be the new norm but I knew to do that I would have to wait and collect data for that answer. Now that we have almost two full months of data to review, I see some very interesting trends that I would like to share with you.

“I am hopeful” were my words to Fr. Peter as I reviewed that data with him. Over the last few months, I have seen parishioners change the way that they traditionally support. I have seen one-time gifts everywhere from $25 to $1000 to help St. Thomas More specifically during the pandemic. I have seen parishioners increase their monthly giving and set up new recurring electronic giving. I have seen people sending in larger checks that are for a certain “windows of time.” I have seen alumni give gifts to support the center. You have mailed in, walked in, gone online, and have called me to give your donations to St. Thomas More. Thank you so very much!

The biggest change during the pandemic has been in electronic giving. One time gifts and recurring giving has increased by 44%. While Sunday giving has improved since the start of the pandemic, check donations are still down by 21% of normal compared to last year. Over the last few years, we have made a big push toward electronic giving. It has made a huge difference during these unprecedented times. For those that normally come to Mass and give to the collection, and are able to do so at this time, would you consider shifting your giving online? It is easy to give to the collection each week this way or to set up a recurring gift that happens automatically.

The other major impact to our budget is the cancelation of the Webfoot Gala. We were just starting to sell tickets when the virus hit and everything came to a sudden stop. Currently, we have received $17,000 of our $100,000 goal that supports Newman and the programs we provide. Although we plan to reschedule it this summer, we might be restricted in doing so due to the size of our event and the number of people in attendance. I will keep you posted in the upcoming bulletins. If you are able to do so, and wish to support the Gala, you can still give a onetime gift via our website at UONewman.org/gala. 100% of all donations stay at Newman and support our church, center, and programs.

We have been doing all we can to reduce expenses at the church. On day one of the closure, I turned off the heat in the church and the center, and our bill has dropped by over $400 in this last month. I am delighted but for some odd reason, Fr. Peter and Fr. Garry seem not to want to talk to me as they shiver in their offices. 😏 We are also in the process of working with our cable, phone, and internet provider to lower our bill. A new contract will help us to save over $2000 a year for the next three years. Overall, our expenses are down to just the essentials at this time. Every penny we save counts and we are doing all we can to be good stewards of your gifts.

Lastly, I am please to say that our newly installed fence-gate to our parking lot will be partially covered under the Archdiocese Safety Grant. The Safety Grant Program was suddenly closed by the Archdiocese due to the
Continued from previous page...

virus, but we had received special permission to begin the work early in time for the Olympic Trials. Sadly, the trials have been canceled but the Archdiocese will honor our application and completed work, and will provide 50% of the funding for our new addition to the property.

Your support to St. Thomas More is so important, as non-profits are solely funded by your generosity. Now more than ever we truly value your support. With the deepest of gratitude, thank you for those who have stepped up to help Newman as we all go through these uncertain times. We are SO GRATEFUL for your support!

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

MASS INTENTIONS THROUGH MAY

May 10  Dick Stokes (d)
May 12  Devotees of St Jude
May 14  Raymond “Babe” Gerlomes (d)
May 15  Geni (d)
May 16  Fernando Mendoza
May 17  Dick Stokes (d)
May 20  Merle Maichrowicz (d)
May 21  Robert Wilken (d)
May 22  Carolyn Reid (d)
May 23  Tony Moran (d)
May 24  Dick Stokes (d)
May 27  Ruby Shelton
May 28  Alice Mendes
May 30  Sherry Zerbal (d)
May 31  Dick Stokes (d)

Sunday Readings
May 10, 2020  Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:1-7  1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Oregon State Treasurer of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Glenda Phillips, passed away on April 30 from Covid 19. Please keep her family in your prayers.
I asked our readers the question:
What have you learned or discovered during this time of quarantine/physical distancing?

What I have learned: to LISTEN to God, my son, who is now home after being evacuated from his post in the Peace Corps in Peru, my husband, my friend and clients while in conversation on the phone, remote media, in walks. For someone who likes to talk, this has been a shift, to cultivate the gift of listening. I think the extra time I have has allowed me to do this and I pray I continue it well beyond the end of this quarantine. Bless you all, as we especially yearn to hear God’s voice in the din of this pandemic. As he says, “Be still and know that I am God!”

I’ve been learning to be more persevering and more patient and that my desired outcome of an effort may yield to Someone Else’s—which I realize is better than mine! It’s increasingly easy to check my escape impulses—Out for a coffee? Out for Jerry’s?—and just stick with my at-home activity and actually get it done!

I learned that Kathy will not let me near her hair again with scissors.

Robert’s response to what he is learning is acceptance, patience and tolerance.
I have discovered daily playing the piano takes me away from thoughts of the pandemic to peace and tranquility.
I’ve discovered I miss the physical contact of hugging friends.

I have discovered the kindness of people who have insured that my needs are met. And I have also discovered how lucky I have been to be able to get body maintenance, something I won’t take for granted again!

I have learned to be more at peace.
That Jesus is in control thru prayer, scripture, and loving others.
And as Father Garry always says, “Praise God!”
He will always enlighten our hearts.

I have learned that the world is filled with qualified, compassionate and dedicated first responders and medical staff.
I have learned that teachers are essential staff and are responding to the needs of the students in every way possible.
I have learned that even while wearing masks, we can smile at each other and see it in our eyes.
I have learned that my family/friends are a cherished and essential part of my life.
I have learned that concentrating on my prayers brings peace to my soul.
I have learned that our government, at the highest level, has not planned ahead for catastrophes, responded in an appropriate manner, and is more concerned about the economy than the lives of people!

I am becoming aware of the difference between my protracted inconvenienced lifestyle and real human suffering in this world--through COVID -19, massive drought and famine, and intense economic suffering. Praising God for what I have seems small compared to what my obligations might be to relieve the suffering of others and to press for more just systems. I am really moved by the respect that strangers show one another, to me. I smile to show my appreciation, and then remember that no one can see my smile through my bandana-mask. I am rehearsing flashing the two-fingers-up “peace” sign. We're in this together!
I am quarantining with about 3000 folks on a base that is about 3 miles long and a half mile wide. The base has an international airport along the northern edge. My unit has the job of being the gatekeepers (controlling who leaves and who is allowed access). The last priest left about a week ago but he made sure the Tabernacle was full before he departed. I am diligent in the safe keeping of the Tabernacle and look forward to when the next priest is scheduled to arrive in July.

The situation here is challenging to say the least, but at the same time we are VERY BLESSED. We are social distancing and wearing masks when we can't keep 6 feet apart. We're washing hands all the time but it is super humid so my hands never get dry.

The gyms are closed as are the spaces designed for entertainment / socializing. At the moment of my typing this, the "Galley" is still open so we get to eat hot chow. I am under the impression that Africa is still young in the CV19 pandemic but hopefully somehow things get better rather than worse; if it get worse the Galley will be closed and we will have to eat MREs.

Currently I have an opportunity to keep my eyes on Jesus in this crazy complex storm, but it is a struggle, and so this blurb I am typing may seem gruff. I have every confidence though that regardless of the outcome we will be fine, so long as we respond with grace while in this refiners fire.

Oh, how I look forward to going to daily Mass at Newman again!

I have learned the painful process of slowing down reveals opportunity to grow closer and more grateful to the Lord for our many blessings. I have learned the pre-pandemic pace of modern life creates its own version of isolation. A slower pace of life has taught me to meaningfully connect with others, with our environment, with to our neighbors.

I have learned that the emotional ties that bind me to my family, friends, and faith community are resilient and can be affirmed by electronic communications. However, we are physical beings and the lack of direct interactions with others leaves a space in the heart that cannot be denied.

I also have leaned that in spite of my faith, I was thrown off kilter by the knowledge that, as an older man, I am at a higher risk for death from COVID-19. The experience of fear is unpleasant, but as Fr. Garry reminded us all in one of his recent sermons, even the Lord knew fear and anxiety, so we are not alone!

A Dios (to God)

I really miss the presence of others in my life. I’m somewhat shy and don’t often interact with the community around me at church but I miss you so much! Your warmth and compassion surrounds me- and encourages me.

(1) How God has blessed me and my family with His peace in moments of silence and stillness... a peace that only He can give.

(2) There is ALWAYS time to pray! My relationship with the Lord has strengthened as a result... PRAISE GOD!!

(3) Never take friends or family members for granted. Maintaining relationships takes effort even if it’s making a phone call, emailing or FaceTime-ing! Emotional support can be as meaningful as physical contact.

(4) So very grateful for access to live Mass via the Newman website to YouTube and I have been watching some great programs on EWTN!

God bless you,
I have learned many things during this time. That less driving makes life much less stressful. That slowing down helps me to notice many more details. The great joy of hearing a loved ones voice on the phone. The satisfaction of creating meals at home. 

I've learned to appreciate the people I encounter in my life that aren't necessarily a part of my family like the cashiers, the mailman, the gas attendant, and the hairdresser! I've also learned to appreciate the power of human touch. I'm a hugger and I miss hugging friends and our priests at church.

In the solitude of my garden I have discovered so many weeds that have flowers.

I have been thinking about this question since I read the bulletin. On an aside, thank you so much for the lengthy bulletin. It helps me so much feel "connected" and I really look forward to it.

We are all in this together during this time period of history. We have many voices and opinions on how to handle ourselves individually or community-wise in this pandemic situation. It is political. Our values are being shown. There is one voice and one place and one shepherd where I can get a fullness of peace and love. It is attending Mass online or virtual Adoration whether it be in Poland or elsewhere.

I am relearning to screen what I allow into my life virtually: social or news media. The two of us at home fit quite well into the Wall Street Journal article today: Stuck at Home, Americans Spent Cash on Food, Comfort or another article: Grocery Shopping in a Crisis becomes a Competitive Sport.

I learn that I still struggle with the same issues of taking time for myself to read my array of books, play my music, or exercise diligently - Priorities!

It will be Jesus’ love and mercy that pulls us through this with greater love, understanding and humor for ourselves and others. I am learning. We are all in this together. 

I have discovered the patience I been praying for over my lifetime. Praise God!

I have discovered the patience I been praying for over my lifetime. Praise God!

In the solitude of my garden I have discovered so many weeds that have flowers.

I've learned that I am more of an introvert and homebody than I would have believed, am more ready to retire than I thought, and miss attending mass with my STM peeps more than I thought possible!