

## A Time for Silence

Over the University's winter break I headed down to Texas for a week of silent retreat. I look forward each year to a time of retreat as it allows for extended prayer and reflection. Going into the retreat I wasn't sure where it would lead, but the Lord always has a plan. This retreat was simple, but beautiful. I sensed the Lord calling me into deeper friendship with Him through the verse of John's Gospel, "I call you friends." (John 15:15)

During my first five years of priestly ministry the Lord has called me to work in parishes, in high schools, and in college

ministry. I've had the chance to work in many different areas and learn MUCH! But, the Lord in this retreat reminded me of the initial call I felt as a college student, the call to friendship with Him. The Lord first wants us to get to know Him, to be His friend, and then He calls us to mission. We live in a hectic and busy world, but the Lord's call to friendship is as strong as ever. May we strive to make time and space in our lives to listen to the Lord's call to live deeply in His friendship.

Peace.

Fr. Dan

## Pictorial Directory Update

Thank you to all of you who had your picture taken for the directory; we had a very good turnout! We are still in the process of completing the directory and want to invite those of you who were not available for a photo session to submit one of your own photos so our directory is complete. Submitted photos will be included alphabetically along with the other photos. Please email your photo by **February 23** to Mary Richmond at [parishoffice@newmanec.com](mailto:parishoffice@newmanec.com). If you don't have a suitable photo to submit, contact Mary, and she will facilitate with you to have your photo taken, 715-834-3399 or [parishoffice@newmanec.com](mailto:parishoffice@newmanec.com).

## Winter Break Mission Trip to Guatemala



From January 2-9, eleven students along with Ken and Sue Ripp, Fr. Dan, and Savannah, traveled to San Lucas, Guatemala to serve at the San Lucas Mission. Their work included building houses, knocking down walls, building stoves, and sorting coffee beans. The time went by fast, but it had a positive impact on each of them.



## Come to the Pack-A-Pantry Mardi Gras Party!



Join the fun Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at the annual Pack a Pantry Mardi Gras Party. The party starts immediately after the 5 pm Mass. A light supper will be served downstairs in the dining area and also offered in the Fireside Lounge for those who wish to remain on the main floor. An opportunity to donate will be in both locations. Cash donations are preferred (checks should be written out to Newman Parish), and food is gladly accepted. Cash donations will go to the St. Francis, UWEC Campus Harvest, and CVTC food pantries. Food donations will be presented to Feed My People by the kindergarten and first grade students for their Works of Mercy, *Feed the Hungry* project. **Again this year, there will be Mardi Gras arts and craft projects for the kids.** Plan to join us for this fun and worthwhile evening!!

## Lent at Newman

**L**ent is the 40 days in which we intensify our spiritual self-discipline with an increased amount of prayer, fasting, and contemplation. We do this because Easter, which celebrates the resurrection of Christ, is the greatest holy day of the Christian year. Lent helps us to become more intimately connected to the peace, hope, and joy of the risen Lord.

Please take advantage of the various opportunities Newman is offering throughout Lent.

### Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14

Mass at 7 am  
Service of Ashes at  
12:00 noon, 5 pm,  
and 6 pm



Parking for Ash Wednesday is available in the UWEC HSS and Water Street Lots across the river from 11 am to 1:30 pm. Availability may be limited in these lots, however, due to UWEC programs taking place that day. **Please do not park in the "W" stalls or metered spaces.**

### Newman February Events

**Pack a Pantry Mardi Gras Party!**  
Saturday, Feb 10  
Follows the 5 pm Mass

**Free Student Dinner**  
Monday, Feb 12, 6:00 pm

**Ash Wednesday**  
Feb 14  
Mass at 7 am  
Service of Ashes at  
12:00 noon, 5 pm and 6 pm

**ERC Book Club**  
Thursday, Feb 22,  
7 pm, ERC Library

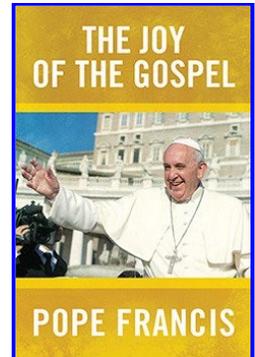
### Free Daily Devotional - Lenten Gospel Reflections

This daily devotional will be handed out the weekend of Feb 10-11 and on Ash Wednesday and will be available at the ERC throughout Lent. It provides the daily Gospel reading and a short reflection by Bishop Robert Barron.

### Free Book - *The Joy of the Gospel* by Pope Francis

Each household will receive this free book and is encouraged to take this opportunity to learn more about the 'Good News' of the Gospel as laid out by our Holy Father, and to grow in understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ.

*The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.* ~ Pope Francis



### Lenten Mission - "The Joy of the Gospel: Pray, Serve, Community"

Newman is hosting a mission that will be led by Fr. Frank Corradi and is influenced by Pope Francis's book *The Joy of the Gospel*. The mission will run for three consecutive nights: March 11, 12, and 13. Each session is from 7-8 pm at the ERC. There will be refreshments following the final session on Tuesday evening.

### Confession During Lent - "24 Hours For The Lord"

The sacrament of reconciliation will be available **starting at 3:00 pm on March 9<sup>th</sup> until 3 pm on March 10<sup>th</sup>**, at Immaculate Conception Church. All Eau Claire priests will be helping to hear confessions. Please note that these 24 hours of availability will take the place of the communal penance services.

Fr. Dan will also have confessions available in the ERC Library on Wednesdays from 11:00-11:30 am and Saturdays from 4:00-4:30 pm.

### Triduum Choir Rehearsals Start February 18th

Consider joining the Triduum Choir. **The first rehearsal is Sunday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the ERC.** The choir is open to all students and sustaining members. If interested in participating, please contact Adam Krajnikconde at [adam.krajnikconde@gmail.com](mailto:adam.krajnikconde@gmail.com).

## Community Connections

### Upcoming Events

#### The Community Table 25th Anniversary

This year The Community Table celebrates 25 years of service. They are planning a large community event in the Fall of 2018, and invite anyone interested to help plan the event. Planning sessions are Wed., Feb 21, at 8 am and at 5 pm at The Community Table. Email Max Soderberg at [thecommunitytableEC@gmail.com](mailto:thecommunitytableEC@gmail.com) if interested in attending one of the planning sessions.

The **ERC Book Club** will meet on Thursday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the ERC. The book to be discussed is *The Whole Town Is Talking* by Fannie Flagg. Come and enjoy a lively discussion, good camaraderie, and refreshments.

## National Marriage Encounter Weekend in Eau Claire

**A** two day National Marriage Encounter Weekend is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in Eau Claire. Marriage Encounter is designed for couples of all ages and denominations who

are interested in having a closer relationship in their marriage. The weekend will begin on Saturday morning with 7:30 registration and close on Sunday afternoon by 3:45 pm. For more

information contact Chippewa Valley Marriage Encounter, phone at 715-832-3296, e-mail at [rippsk@charter.net](mailto:rippsk@charter.net) or through their website at [www.marriage-encounter.org/Affiliates/chippewa.htm](http://www.marriage-encounter.org/Affiliates/chippewa.htm)