

May 7, 2020

Dear Newman community,

First of all, please know that you have been, and continue to be, in the prayers of the staff members here at Newman. We meet every day at [12:10 for prayer online via Zoom](#), and one of our petitions is always for the students, faculty, and staff at UCSD and for the local residents who are members of our community. Please consider joining us for the mid-day prayer.

We are all looking forward to being able to transition from virtual liturgical services to actual Masses and other activities at Newman. As you know, churches fall under phase three of the Governor's plan, so we are waiting for guidance from the Governor, the local health authorities, and from the Diocese about how and when to slowly open up.

We are also waiting to see what UCSD's plans are for the next school year. At this point, we don't even know if students will be back on campus in the fall. While we certainly hope that they will be, we will also continue to plan for virtual ministry. These last few weeks, we have been holding praise and worship/adoration, the speaker series, YAGS, and student minister meetings online. So, I think the immediate future will be a mix of in-person and virtual get togethers.

In the meantime, we will continue to broadcast Sunday Masses as long as necessary.

If and when the situation allows, we will slowly open up the church, working with Good Sam to put in place guidelines to keep everyone safe. When daily Masses resume, we will probably move them to the church to allow for appropriate distancing.

How and what we do with the Sunday services is still under consideration. We will update you once we know what the guidelines are. At the moment, we are looking for ways to spread people out in the church while planning for overflow, maybe in Roetter Hall.

Thank you for all your prayers. Let's keep praying for each other!

God bless,

Fr. Boom Martinez, SJ