

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By: FATHER PATRICK MCCORMICK

John 4:5-42

Today, we read the subtle, solemn, and sacred dialogue between Jesus and the Woman at the Well; they are talking about water, but on very different levels. Jesus asks her for a drink of water from the well to slake his thirst from travel. She, who does not know with whom she is speaking, the Messiah and Savior of the World who has come to give living waters that well-up ever anew in the hearts of his followers, presumes that he does not know who she is. She has two identities, one that she is immensely ashamed of; namely, that she has had five husbands. But she also has a second identity that she is not yet aware of. She is a daughter of Israel with whom God wishes to share His own Divine Life. When Jesus subtly raises the conversation to the spiritual level by offering her 'living water', she is unable to comprehend the immensity of his gift and returns to the level of material water and says he has no bucket to get this water out of the well. However, Jesus persist and says that those who drink the water he is offering 'will never thirst again.' Still on the material level, she wants this water so she will not have to keep coming back to the well. Finally, she realizes that Jesus is speaking of the water of life, and in fact of divine life. Of course, she cannot believe that the God of Israel could ever be interested in giving her such divine life-giving water and so she changes the topic to Jesus' identity. But he immediately brings her back to the reality of her life that she is trying to avoid, her sinfulness that she judges as making her unable to be an subject of God's love and life.

This weekend we reflect on the gift of 'living water' given to each of us in and through the waters of Baptism through which God has implanted his own life in our hearts and minds. Lent is the season to get more deeply and fully in touch with this immeasurable gift often hidden in us by our sins and sense of shame. But it is there only needing to be rediscovered through prayer and penance, above all by having compassion on those who suffer and forgiving those who have offended us.

This week you are invited to our **Lenten Mission** which begins at the Masses this weekend and continues on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (Penance Service) evenings, starting at 7 p.m. with Fr. Charles Willingham, from St. Michael's Norbertine Abbey in Orange, CA, leading the Mission.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, & WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Mon - Sat): 8:00 AM

Sunday: (Sat. Vigil) 5 PM,
(Sun) 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 6 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
(or by appointment)

MISSION / VISION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic Christian Community, called to develop a deeper relationship with Christ. Such a relationship is fostered through active participation in: *Word, Sacrament, Renewal Programs, Ministry/Service,* and other ***Spirit-led*** activities. We dedicate our time, talent and treasure to install, in our parish community, the basic building blocks of Christian living, ***to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all through our words, deeds, and lives.***

Parish Rectory Hours

Monday: 12:00 PM-4:30 PM
Tues. - Fri.: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
Saturday/Sunday: Closed

Outreach Office Hours

Mon. - Wed.: 9 AM to 2 PM
Thurs. - Friday: 9 AM to 11 AM
Saturday/Sunday: Closed

FOOD PANTRY Hours

Mon. - Wed.: 9 AM to 12 PM
Thurs. - Friday: 9 AM to 11 AM

Religious Ed Office Hours

Monday: Closed
Tues. - Thurs.: 12 pm - 8:00 pm
Fri.: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 2:00—5:00 pm
Sun: 7:00 am - 1:00pm

PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

Pastor (ext. 111)

Msgr. John Mbinda

jmbinda@rcchawaii.org

Parochial Vicar (x 104)

Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

jayinpuusa@rcchawaii.org

Fr. Pat McCormick (x 108)

(In Residence)

Deacon Modesto Cordero

mcordero@rcchawaii.org

Deacon Romeo Ganibe

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Parish Office Administrator (x 103)

Jolly Guerrero-Tano

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Parish Secretary (x 100)

Dominique Kekiwi

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Director of Liturgy

Nicholas Calzada

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Grounds & Maintenance

Robert Garnsey

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Outreach Department (x 203)

Pearl Bates

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RCIA Coordinators

Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Dcn. Romeo Ganibe

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)

Julie Quiroz-Zamora

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Religious Ed. Secretary (x 204)

Dominique Kekiwi

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Preschool Director (744-9538)

Catherine Awong

cawong@rcchawaii.org

PASTOR'S CORNER

Prayer Can Transform your Life this Lent

Our Lenten journey of stewardship as a way of life is fueled by prayer, fasting and almsgiving - generosity to our brothers and sister in need. This article is about prayer. Prayer is transformative. During the Season of Advent last year, our homilies made use of Matthew Kelly's ideas in his book *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*. In Chapter 1, Matthew Kelly speaks of the entitled "Incredible Possibilities" God has for each of us to be transformed if we open our hearts. The chapter deals with the principle of transforming people one at a time. A second principle Matthew Kelly uses is "continuous improvement" that seeks to achieve small incremental changes in one's life.

If prayer is going to be a way of life, one needs a daily routine of prayer. In *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, Kelly discovered that only 7% of Catholics have a daily commitment to prayer. The other 93% of Catholics don't pray? Their prayer tends to be spontaneous but inconsistent. A routine of daily prayer can transform our lives this Lent. To do that we need a purpose driven plan for our prayer life. Let's admit we are all busy people. However, using the principle of continuous improvement, baby steps are possible. The first step is to set aside 1 minute a day for prayer. Prayer no matter how brief, will start our day off right. It keeps us more focused, and our attitude will be marked by that prayer during the day. To cultivate a habit of prayer, try 1 minute each day. Then move to 2 minutes and so on, until you reach 10 minutes each day. Believe me, 10 minutes a day will change or enhance your life in ways you can't imagine. God has incredible possibilities for each of us, only if we open our hearts to his invitation.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda



Encounter Safiata

In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, a grandmother & farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers & artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are faced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities?

Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

"Be generous and you will be prosperous; help others and you will be helped." (Good News Translation) - Prov 11:25

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018**Fourth Sunday of Lent****First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-17, 19-23**

This reading recounts the destruction of Jerusalem, and the exile in Babylon (537 B.C.). The writer gives the reason for it, as well as the beginning of the restoration after the exile by the king Cyrus of Persia. The author explains the exile as a divine punishment because of the unfaithfulness of the civil leaders, priests as well as the people for not listening to the prophets of the time before the exile.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

Psalm 137 was composed after the return from the Babylonian exile. It recalls the sadness of that time. It also demonstrates the human inclination for vengeance (vv 8-9). Response: "Let my tongue be silenced if I ever forget you!"

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Paul in this passage gives a post baptismal catechesis for the neophytes. God in his rich mercy and the love he had for us, when we were dead because of our sins, "brought us to life with Christ." In other words, it is not by any efforts of our own that we earn salvation or the grace of Baptism, but only through God's free gift of sanctifying grace. We cannot earn God's gift, but we can and must respond to it by living in accord with it.

Gospel: John 3:14-21

Nicodemus was a very proper Jewish gentleman and leader. However, because of the beginning opposition to Jesus among Nicodemus' associates, he decided to approach Jesus secretly only by night. But this whole event signifies far more than a nocturnal lesson in doctrine — it is an experience of the birth of faith. Nicodemus, who represents all that is best in Judaism, comes to Jesus out of a darkness that even the past revelation of God in the Jewish Scriptures could not dispel. He is a teacher, and he comes to Jesus, the Teacher *par excellence*, for enlightenment. But actually he encounters the Light of the World, who alone can dispel spiritual darkness. He knows the Scriptures, he has seen Jesus performed miracles, and now he hears his words. But that is not enough. The idea of rebirth that so puzzles Nicodemus, is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Faith is not merely accepting a doctrine or the understanding of a certain teaching. It is the intimate contact with Jesus Christ, who "must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies! Blog
(text): www.sundayhomily.com

Podcast (audio): <https://soundcloud.com/john-mbinda>

iTunes (audio): [Streaming Homilies](#)

Mass Intentions  *for the Week*

Monday, March 5, 2018

(8 am) Caroline Naumu

(Birthday Blessing/ Thanksgiving)

Gonsalves Family

†Eustaquio Baguio

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

(8 am) Dias Family

†Phillip D. Meek, Sr.

†Ronald Dablang

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

(8 am) †Thomas & Claudia Borowitz

†Phillip D. Meek, Sr.

†Alfredo & Felicitas Cordial

Thursday, March 8, 2018

(8 am) †D'Souza Family

†Purisina Agbanglo

†Phillip D. Meek, Sr.

Friday, March 9, 2018

(8 am) †Castora V. Soriano

†Teodora Caliboso

†Arielle Bhumitra

Saturday, March 10, 2018

8 am †Salamona Duldulao

†Rosalina M. Dungca

†Petra Villegas

5 pm Camryn Grace

(Birthday Blessing)

Sunday, March 11, 2018

7am †William Brilhante

9 am For the People

11 am †Bella Rillamas

6 pm Tommy Wright

† Rest in Peace †

HEALING / BLESSINGS: Warren Chalmers, Carrie Becky, Deacon Modesto Cordero, Cheryl Solomon, Clyde Sauget, Felisa Rapisura, Linda Osdieck, David Hall, Evelyn Quinata, Shirley Del Rosario, Carol Towne, Darrlyn & Ron Bunda, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, David Torres, Jack & Ellen Cleghorn, Ernesta Tolentino, Lester Wilson, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Jim Vangrinsven, Dollie McGarry, Buena Harding, Suzanne Foster, Linda Eguchi & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Orly B. Ceon, James M. Hunkele, Larry Butcher, Teresita Aquino, Rosalina V. Bayona, Agreda Acebo, Maureen Hart, Francisco V. Soliven, Ernesto D. Dumlao, Teodora Caliboso, Praxedes Salmorin, Milagros Gueco, Bella Rillamas, Phillip D. Meek, Sr., William Brilhante, Barbara Silva, Theresa M. Robles, Alveria Maldonado, Teresa Yamamoto & Jose R. Burgos.

† **FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT** †

Castora V. Soriano (RIP)
 Monday, March 5, 2018 ~ SJAE

Visitation: 9:00 am

Mass: 10:00 am

Burial: 1:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Central Vicariate Lenten Penance Service:

Wednesday, March 7- 7 pm

St. John A&E, Mililani

Wednesday, March 14- 7 pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pearl City

Tuesday, March 20- 7 pm

Our Lady of Sorrows, Wahiawa

Wednesday, March 21- 7 pm

St. Michael, Waialua

Please contact the parish office to set up an appointment & coordination for the following :

Anointing of the Sick

Baptisms (Upcoming ceremony dates)

March 11 & 18, April 15 & 22, May 13 & 27.

Baptism Preparation Classes : March 4, April 8, May 6, and June 3.

Blessings (home, auto, religious items, etc...)

Funerals

Homebound Communion

Marriages (at least 6 months before wedding date)



LIFE TEEN REMINDER:

Sunday, March 4: **SUPER SUNDAY!**

All confirmation candidates **MUST ATTEND.**

SEE YOU THERE!

RE ANNOUNCEMENTS: RESTORED ORDER NEWS

Grades 2-5, Edge & Life Teen

Parents may download the One Ohana Videos on Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist in preparation for our student's class schedules for March.

Go to: www.catholichawaii.org/confirmationvideo for Confirmation: One 'Ohana

www.catholichawaii.org/eucharistvideo for Eucharist: One 'Ohana Catechists have the joyful mission of assisting parents with recognizing Christ's presence in the every day activities of the "domestic Church". Christ is already at work in us and we, the Body of Christ, help to nurture the seeds of faith. We must look to finding God in every day family life.

RE & CYM Upcoming Events:

Parish Lenten Retreat will be held on March 5, 6 & 7 at 7:00 PM.

Our retreat speaker will be Fr. Charles Willingham.

◆ *Our Edge and Life Teen students are asked to attend as a requirement for class. Parents, please make every effort to attend along with your teen.*

The next 24-hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

will be held on *Friday, April 6*, immediately after the 8 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am on *Saturday, April 7.*



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE	FEB 24/25
Sunday Collection	\$ 13,871. 23
Children's Collection	\$ 14. 00
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 1,446. 85
Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,064. 50
One Community Center	
Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 2,055. 00
Candle Sales	\$ 523. 00
Donation- Baptism	\$ 50. 00
Donation- Stewardship	\$ 95. 00
Donation- Frugal Meal- Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 38. 00
Donation- Social Ministry	\$ 160. 00
Donation- Charity	\$ 36. 00
Donation- Mass Intentions	\$ 260. 00

Weekend Total: \$ 19,613. 58

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce."- Proverbs

Respect Life: The spring 40 Days for Life Campaign of prayer, fasting and outreach to protect all innocent life extends from Feb 14 through March 25. Community outreach includes group prayers and physical presence at the facility, located 1350 S. King St., appealing to God to end anti-life procedures in Hawaii and our nation. You may sign up online at: www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu or you are invited to join a group *St. John the Apostle & Evangelist* that will leave our parish parking lot at 9 am on Mondays and arrive back at Church at approx. 11:30 am. Each parish ministry is encouraged to select one day and time for the ministry members to participate together as a group. Sign up at the back of church or contact Mary Smart, cell: 741-2358 for more information.



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

Parish Lenten Retreat will be held on March 5, 6 & 7 at 7:00 PM.

Our retreat speaker will be Fr. Charles Willingham of the Norbertine Order from the Abbey of Saint Michaels in Orange, California. **The theme is "Trust."** Everyone needs to have trust, since it is the basis of our relationship with God. Many times we wonder: **Do I really love God or not? Am I in love with God in as much as I trust in God? We are able to answer yes to these questions in as much as we can say: I trust in God?**

Stations of the Cross will be held on the following **Fridays: March 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 7pm.**

Frugal Meals will be held Fridays during Lent after Stations of the Cross (except on Good Friday, Mar. 30). Mahalo to the following for hosting: Mar. 9 - Fil-Am; Mar. 16 - Marriage and Family; Mar. 23 - Knights of Columbus.

Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC): Our parish will be participate in the **annual CRS collection on March 10/11.** Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please drop your donation during offertory, or donate online through our "Online Giving." Learn more: <http://usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/catholic-relief-services-collection/>

Parish Health Ministry- Blood Pressure Screening will be held next weekend, **March 10 & 11 on the church lanai.**

Lent and Easter Schedule

Stations of the Cross: 7pm (Fridays)
March 9, 16 and 23.

Frugal Meal sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other parish ministries after Stations of the Cross.

Parish Lenten Retreat: March 5-7, 7 pm.
Retreat Speaker: **Fr. Charles Willingham**
(Fr. Charles will preach at all Masses the weekend of March 3 and 4)

Lenten Penance Service, March 7, 7pm.
Palm Sunday, March 25
(Regular Mass Schedule)

Holy Thursday, March 29 (No Daily Mass)
*Morning Prayers in lieu of daily mass.
*Mass at 7pm

Good Friday, March 30 (No Daily Mass)
Parish Office Closed

*Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.
***Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ,** 3pm
***Stations of the Cross,** 7pm

Holy Saturday, March 31 (No Daily Mass)
* Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.
* No 3:30 pm Confession

* **Easter Vigil:** 7pm
Easter Sunday, April 1

* Masses at 7am, 9am & 11am
** No 6 pm Mass **

Easter Monday, April 2
Church Offices Closed

Diocese of Honolulu

2018 Lenten Regulations

FASTING

- ❖ In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on **Good Friday (March 30th).**
- ❖ To *fast* means to consume one full meal a day at most, although taking of other, smaller quantities of food at the other customary mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink between meals (excepting water and medicine) is not permitted on fast days.

ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT

- ❖ Catholics aged 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.
- ❖ To abstain means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork, or poultry at least, although eggs and milk products are acceptable. The consumption of fish and shellfish is permitted, though the penitential character of the abstinence should be kept in mind.

THIS WEEK: March 5 – March 11

Monday – 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
4 pm– Girl Scouts (Troop 611) (Rm 6)
6 pm - Cub Scouts (Rms 4-5)
7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)
7 pm– Boy Scouts (Rm 4)
7 pm– 4th Degree Knight (Rm 5)
7 pm– Parish Lenten Retreat– (CH)

Tuesday -7:30 am- Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am–Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am–Church Cleaning–Environment (CH).
9 am– Women’s Bible Study (Rm 6)
10 am– Food Pantry– (Parking Lot)
3 pm - Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
4:30 pm– Children’s Choir Practice (CCH)
7 pm– Parish Lenten Retreat– (CH)
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (Rm 6)

Wednesday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Hui (Rm 5)
6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm– Lenten Retreat & Penance Service CH)
7:30 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday -7:30 am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)

Friday – 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Church Cleaning (Environment)
6 pm– Girl Scouts (Troop 104) (Rm 5)
7 pm– Stations of the Cross (CH)

Saturday- 7:30am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:30 am– AV (CH)
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Liturgical Movement (Rm 4)
1 pm– Respect Life (CH Lanai)
3 pm– RE "B" Schedule (Rm 1/3)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm- Mass (Saturday Vigil)
5 pm– Blood Pressure Screening—(Lanai)

Sunday - Masses:
7 am, 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm

RE: "B" Schedule (Rms 1-6)
1:30 pm– Life Teen "EDIFIED" (Rms 4/5)
"Taking care of the Mind."
4pm — 6pm Choir Practice (CH)

**FOR YOUR SECURITY PLEASE...
... AND SECURE YOUR VEHICLE!**

PARK SMART!
Take ALL your belongings with you.



Car thieves love to window shop!

Planting Seeds for the Future: How long has it been since you updated your will? Does it still express your wishes? Does it leave a gift to your church to carry on its ministry after your death?

Please remember *St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church* in planning your will.

Meditations for the Third Week of Lent

WE THIRST FOR YOU, O LORD

Out of the Temple

John 2:13-25

When Jesus saw the money-changers, merchants, sheep, oxen, and doves at the Temple, he became angered, not because of what they were doing, but because of where they were doing it. Making the act of worship into a commercial, for-profit enterprise by selling those animals within the Temple made a mockery of a sacred duty.

The temptation to turn faith into profit is still with us. Today, as in Jesus' time, there is wealth to be made in religion and spirituality. At the same time, there is a pull to make Sunday

worship into just another thing we do every week, instead of a true act of reverence. When we come to Mass, we can be distracted by worldly affairs, more concerned with what we (or someone else) is wearing, even slipping out early so that we can get on with "real life." In today's Gospel, Jesus is showing us that the time we give to God needs to be given freely and fully — without being compromised by anything else. This Lent, let us make the time we spend at Mass a highlight of our week.

FOR REFLECTION

- › When I attend Mass, am I fully aware that I am in the presence of God during that time?
- › When was the last time I went to confession?
- › As we enter the third week of Lent, what progress have I made spiritually? Do I need to make a "course correction" for the remaining weeks?

Lenten Prayer

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

"As the deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, O God."
— Psalm 42:1

My Lord, as we enter into the third week of Lent, help me to put aside worldly concerns and focus more deeply and completely on you.



OUR FAITH

Works of Mercy

Along with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are encouraged to perform both corporal and spiritual acts of mercy during Lent. During the next few weeks, try to do at least one act of mercy.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Visit the imprisoned
Bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Admonish the sinner
Instruct the ignorant
Counsel the doubtful
Comfort the sorrowful
Comfort the sorrowful
Bear wrongs patiently
Forgive all injuries
Pray for the living and the dead

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Scrutinies

This week and two following weeks, we celebrate the Scrutinies. Their purpose is

"to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all." (*Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*, 141)

While specifically designed for those who are entering the Church, all of us can benefit from the Scrutinies by examining our hearts and consciences for both healing and strengthening.

Catechism CONNECTION

"In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path (cf. Ps 119:105), we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others, and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church."

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1785

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Crown of Thorns

To encourage children to perform good deeds and make small sacrifices during Lent, make a "crown of thorns." Twist a rope of tan modeling clay into a circle and then stud it with toothpicks. Each time someone in the family makes a sacrifice or does a good deed, pull one of the toothpick "thorns" out of the "crown." Try to remove all the "thorns" by Good Friday.

