

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

95-370 Kuahelani Ave. Mililani, Hawaii 96789 • Office: (808) 623-3332 • Fax: (808) 623-3286

Email: sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org Website: www.stjohnmililani.org



NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By: DEACON MODESTO CORDERO

Jesus give us sight so we can see the hearts of His people.

This 4th Sunday of Lent we are using the readings from Cycle A as we are celebrating the 2nd Scrutiny for our Elect (Catechumens). As a community we are asked to pray for them as they continue their journey towards the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation this coming Easter Vigil. We pray that they will be freed from darkness and become “children of light,” as said in the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians. Last week we heard of the Samaritan woman at the well. This week we hear of the man born blind. We have all heard the phrase “Seeing is believing.” The idea comes from skeptical people who won’t believe anything is real or anything is true unless and until they see it for themselves. In today’s Gospel account the phrase “Seeing is believing” is paradoxically both proved and disproved. It is proved by the blind man eventually seeing Jesus and acknowledging that indeed Jesus is “from God.” The Pharisees, on the other hand, men who were sighted, did not or would not see Jesus for who He is. The blind man could see the sighted Pharisees were blind. Like the blind one this Sunday we ask Jesus for sight: to see those near us - their heart, not just their appearance - and above all to see the reality of who Jesus is. We ask Jesus to heal our blindness so we can see our own children, our family members, our fellow parishioners. As the first reading today says, we want to see not just the outward appearances, but their heart. Our modern world has a particular form of blindness. We have microscopes to see things very small and telescopes to see distant objects, but often we do not see what is closest to us. It is terrible to not see those close to us, but there is an even worse form of blindness: the failure to see Jesus. The man born blind has a lot to teach us. He sees Jesus first as a “man” - a fellow human, then prophet (one who speaks for God), then a judge and finally, Lord - the one true God. This weekend we are called to walk in the light of faith, the light of the Easter fire. It is a light that will warm us. This flame will also dispel the darkness in our lives. The question for us is, what will we see?

Lenten Blessings!

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*rganibe@rcchawaii.org***Parish Office Administrator** (x 103)*Jolly Guerrero-Tano**jollygt@rcchawaii.org***Parish Secretary** (x 100)*Dominique Kekiwi**dkekiwi@rcchawaii.org***Director of Liturgy***Nicholas Calzada**ncalzada@rcchawaii.org***Grounds & Maintenance***Robert Garnsey**rgarnsey@rcchawaii.org***Outreach Department** (x 203)*Pearl Bates**pebates@rcchawaii.org***RCIA Coordinators***Dcn. Modesto Cordero**Dcn. Romeo Ganibe***Religious Ed. Director** (x 206)*Julie Quiroz-Zamora**jquiroz@rcchawaii.org***Religious Ed. Secretary** (x 204)*Dominique Kekiwi**dkekiwi@rcchawaii.org***Preschool Director** (744-9538)*Catherine Awong**cawong@rcchawaii.org*

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Transforming Power of Fasting

Fasting is the third Lenten discipline. It is more than a means of developing self-control because the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God. In the first reading on the Friday after Ash Wednesday, the prophet Isaiah shows that fasting is meant to transform our behaviors and attitudes in order to please God. "This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own" (Is 58:6-7). Fasting therefore is linked to the stewardship of caring for those forced to fast by their poverty, economic injustices and political structures. The savings that come from our fasting is meant to be given to the cause of our less fortunate brothers and sisters otherwise it is of no use at all if we simply keep those savings! Furthermore, fasting is linked to living out our baptismal commitment as disciples and stewards. It helps us to be focused on the vision, mission and purpose of Jesus Christ. Fasting transforms us and supports efforts to alleviate the suffering of those in need.

Abstaining from meat was traditionally linked to the poor, who could seldom afford meat for their meals. It can do the same today if we remember the purpose of abstinence and embrace it as a spiritual link to those whose diets are sparse and simple. That should be the goal we set for ourselves—a sparse and simple meal. Abstaining from meat while eating lobster misses the whole point! While giving up food and drink or eating less in Lent is good, we may also decide to “fast” from our negative addictive behaviors and attitudes towards people and certain things during Lent. This may include giving up certain habits like self-seeking, the desire to be a control freak, gossiping, swearing and pornography. One can also fast completely from watching the TV for 40 days and 40 nights. During this age of electronic gadgets, we might also fast from the use our cell phones and texting, so that we may use that time to “text to God”; to relate to God in prayer.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Encounter Andrise



We encounter Andrise, a teacher in Haiti who knows the importance of forming young people who will give back to the community—and their country.

Reflect on the role teachers have played in bringing you closer to God and your community. How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced 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 18, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The prophet Jeremiah in this passage prophesies to the Jews in exile in Babylon that the Lord will establish a new covenant. They are in exile because through their unfaithfulness they broke the previous covenant. That is why they are being punished in exile. But already the Lord paves the way to the new covenant because the Lord is ready to forgive and forget their sins, thereby establishing a binding relationship that ends the alienation of the people from the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

Psalm 51 is attributed to David who expresses repentance and confidence in God's forgiveness. That forgiveness should be ours too through Christ. Response: "Create a clean heart in me, O God."

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Jesus carried out the ideal of inner sacrifice — obedience — spoken of by the prophets. Christ is the perfect high priest because only he, as God-the-Son, can make God very present and active. Having assumed human flesh, Christ can fully respond in obedience to the Father. He is the only one who can perfectly represent God to us and us to God!

Gospel: John 12:20-33

In this Gospel passage, Jesus does not seem to grant the request of the Greeks to see him. But he more than fulfills it immediately after saying that when he is glorified, salvation will be available to all peoples. The true meaning of glory is not empty fame or even well-deserved praise. Glory is inner value. Suffering and death itself is the glory of Jesus because he thus manifests his true self in loving obedience to the Father, and this glory is shared with his followers in their joining in his sufferings. The resurrection is not merely a reward for undergoing suffering and death, it is the result of the gracious and loving acceptance of Jesus' self-gift by the Father. Like the grain of wheat dying in order to give much fruit, so too Christ yielding (dying) gives birth to new life in the resurrection.

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 12, 2018

(8 am) †Rufina Acantilado

†Phillip D. Meeks, Sr.

Proceso & Cristina Velasco

(Special Intentions)

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

(8 am) Leisha Aalona Wills

(Birthday Blessing)

†Gabriel Rabara (Birthday Memorial)

†Consolacion Rabara

(Death Anniversary)

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

(8 am) †Michelle Jarboe

†Denny Sojot

†Christopher Simolin

Thursday, March 15, 2018

(8 am) Ron Thames

(Special Intentions)

†Annie Choi

Everett Bates (Birthday Blessing)

Friday, March 16, 2018

(8 am) †Joshua Nakata

†Felix Francisco

Antonet Ramento Recinas & Family

Saturday, March 17, 2018

8 am †All Souls in Purgatory

†Honorato Galila

Antonet Ramento Recinas & Family

5 pm Pat Perry (Birthday Blessing)

Sunday, March 18, 2018

7am Antonet Ramento Recinas &

Family

9 am For the People

11 am †Amorita Magpantay

6 pm Suzanne Foster

† 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, Suzanne Foster, Linda Eguchi, Mario M. Pichon & 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 Brillhante, Barbara Silva, Theresa M. Robles, Alveria Maldonado, Teresa Yamamoto & Jose R. Burgos.

† **FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT** †

Barbara Silva (RIP)

Saturday, April 14, 2018 ~ SJAE

Visitation: 9:00 am

Mass: 10:30 am

Burial: 1:00 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Central Vicariate Lenten Penance Service:

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



LIFE TEEN REMINDER:

Sunday, March 11: **"EDIFIED"!**

"Taking care of the mind." at 7pm in Rms 4/5.

SEE YOU THERE!

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 : April 8, May 6, and June 3.

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

Funerals

Homebound Communion

Marriages (at least 6 months before wedding date)

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.

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.*



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:



Easter Egg Hunt!- Bring your Easter Egg Baskets & Join us on *Sunday, April 1, 10 am at Kipapa Neighborhood Park* for our Parish Egg Hunt, sponsored by Religious Education Department.

The next *Catholic Book Club* meeting will be on *Thursday, April 19, 7-9 pm in classroom 6.* The title of the discussion book is

"Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion" by Gregory Boyle.

Open to All! For more information, contact Erlyne 808-783-9550.

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.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE	MAR 3/4
Sunday Collection	\$ 17,214.40
Children's Collection	\$ 32.00
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 3,551.10
Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,275.50
One Community Center	
Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 5,512.00
Candle Sales	\$ 590.00
Donation- Marriage	\$ 100.00
Donation- Funeral	\$ 200.00
Donation- Catholic Relief Services	\$ 46.00
Donation- Frugal Meal- Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 142.00
Donation- Flowers- Easter	\$ 50.00
Donation- Social Ministry	\$ 10.00
Donation- Charity	\$ 64.00
Donation- Mass Intentions	\$ 120.00
Donation- Youth & Young Adults	\$ 30.00

Weekend Total: \$ 28,937.00

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



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

Easter Flower Envelopes are available at the back of the church or you may also donate online by visiting our parish website, clicking "**online giving.**"

Stations of the Cross will be held on the following **Fridays: March 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. 16 - Marriage and Family; Mar. 23 - Knights of Columbus.

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. When you contribute, you become an instrument of peace & join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. **Please be generous!** Envelopes are available at the back of the church and you may also donate online by visiting our parish website, clicking "**online giving.**"

This week, we are taking up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection** to respond to **Jesus in disguise.** This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support to struggling communities and to work toward peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how can support the collection. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief. **Please be generous!** Envelopes are available at the back of the church and you may also donate online by visiting our parish website, clicking "**online giving.**"

Lent and Easter Schedule

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

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

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 12 – March 18

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)
6:30 pm– Marriage & Family Life (Rm 6)
7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)
7 pm– Boy Scouts (Rm 4)

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)
3 pm - Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
4:30 pm– Children’s Choir Practice (CCH)
7 pm– Combined Chorus Practice (CH)
7 pm– Knights of Columbus (Rm 5)
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– Social Ministry Mtg. (Rm 4)
6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
7:30 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday -7:30 am– Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm– Liturgical Planning Mtg. (Conf Rm)

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*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
3 pm– RE “A” Schedule (Rm 1/3)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm- Mass (Saturday Vigil)

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

RE: “A” Schedule (Rms 1-6)

7 pm– Life Teen “Satisfied” (Rms 4/5)
“Taking care of the Soul.”

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: Preparing an estate plan is good Christian stewardship— saying thanks to God, expressing your love for family, and showing charity toward others.

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

Meditations for the Fourth Week of Lent

WE THIRST FOR YOU, O LORD

Proclaiming the Faith

John 3:14-21

The events that give rise to the teachings in today's Gospel begin a few verses before when the Pharisee Nicodemus comes to visit Jesus secretly in the night. Nicodemus has heard about Jesus and is curious, but he is also afraid. He wants to believe, but he isn't quite ready to make a public commitment.

The people of the Gospels aren't so very different from us. Nicodemus

is intrigued by Jesus but unwilling to be seen publicly with him. How often have you learned that someone you've known for a long time is or was raised as a Catholic? This is particularly true of famous people who are afraid that making their faith public will harm their careers. Sometimes we fall victim to this same temptation, hiding our faith out of fear. However, we should remember that while we fear that we may be mocked or made fun of for our faith, in some parts of the world today, people

actually are being killed for their Christian beliefs.

Truly the words of John 3:16 ("For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life") are at the heart of our Catholic faith. The season of Lent is the perfect reminder that we are called to let our faith show in our daily lives — with joy and fervor!

FOR REFLECTION

- › Do the people I work with, go to school with, and spend free time with know that I am Catholic?
- › Who encourages me most in my faith? Who can I encourage?
- › How can I come more closely to the light of Jesus this Lent?



OUR FAITH

A Good Pharisee



Illustration by [unreadable]

Although the word "Pharisee" has come to have a very negative connotation, not all Pharisees were wicked. Nicodemus, the curious Pharisee in today's Gospel, was one of those who eventually followed Jesus. Besides his secret visit to Jesus at night, he appears twice more in Scripture. A member of the Sanhedrin, he defends Jesus when the chief priests and other Pharisees are debating what to do with Jesus. And after the Crucifixion, along with Joseph of Arimathea, he brought about a hundred pounds of myrrh and aloes to anoint Jesus' body. Tradition says that he was martyred for the Faith.

Catechism CONNECTION

"By giving up his own Son for our sins, God manifests that his plan for us is one of benevolent love, prior to any merit on our part: 'In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.' God 'shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.'"

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 604

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Pretzel Prayers

Once considered the official Catholic food of Lent, pretzels date back at least 1,400 years. Because fat, eggs, and milk were part of the Lenten abstinence, these little bites of bread made only with flour, salt, and water were invented. They were wrapped in the shape of arms crossed in prayer and the three holes in the middle represented the Trinity. Traditionally, pretzels were the perfect food to share with people who were struggling for food or living on the streets because they didn't spoil easily. Make your own pretzels as a family (find a recipe on the Internet) and share them with someone in need in your neighborhood or community.



Photo by [unreadable]



Photo by [unreadable]

Lenten Prayer

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

"No one who lights a lamp hides it away or places it [under a bushel basket], but on a lampstand so that those who enter might see the light."

— Luke 11:33

Lord, give me the courage to be a brave and bold witness to you in all that I say and do.

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Color Purple

The liturgical color for Lent is purple, symbolizing pain, suffering, and mourning. But why purple? Purple was the most expensive color in biblical times. Extracted from a sea snail, it took as many as 12,000 shells to get enough dye to color a handkerchief. Because of the enormous cost, only the wealthiest (almost exclusively royalty) wore purple garments. When soldiers mocked Jesus for being the "King of the Jews," they put a purple robe on his shoulders to belittle his claim. Therefore, we use the color purple during Lent to remind us of the Passion and death of the Lord.