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## Knights of Columbus Council Celebrating 10 Years of Service, Fraternity and Faith in Our Parish

All the good works done by the Knights of Columbus are based upon their four core principles — Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. And to be sure, charity and service are hallmarks of the Knights. In the past decade worldwide, the Knights have donated \$1.475 billion to charity and given almost 700 million hours in support of the Church and charitable works. At a recent audience, Pope Francis commended and thanked the Knights: “On this occasion, I wish to express my gratitude for the unfailing support the Knights of Columbus have always provided to the Church, to the Holy See, and to me personally. This support is both financial and spiritual. It can be seen in the daily prayers, sacrifices, and the apostolic works of so many Knights in their local councils, in their parishes, and in their communities.”

Thanks to the efforts of Fr. (Venerable) Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Conn., the first Knights of Columbus Council was chartered by the Connecticut State Legislature in 1882. From that one Council, the Knights have grown from a few members to more than 15,000 Councils and almost two million members in the United States and 16 other countries.

Our Council is under the leadership of Grand Knight Clyde Higa. Other major officers are Gary Cabato, Financial Secretary; Cary Sparks, Deputy Grand Knight; and John Loughlin, Chancellor.

“Our St. John Apostle & Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council was chartered in November 2008, so we will be celebrating 10 years as part of the parish later this year,” John says. “With more than 130 members, we are the second largest Council in the State of



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# St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church Statement of Activities vs. Budget

7/1/2017 - 12/31/2017

	Actual	Budget	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)	
<b>Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
40000	OFFERTORY COLLECTION	471,706	495,500	(23,794)	-5%
42000	OTHER REGULAR INCOME	49,883	32,850	17,033	52%
45000	REVENUE SUBJECT TO GET	5,062	3,450	1,612	47%
47000	UNUSUAL (NON-SCHEDULED) INCOME	1,790	2,580	(790)	-31%
49100	NET ASSETS RELEASED- OPERATIONS				0%
49170	LAND & BUILDING VALUATIONS				0%
49200	NET ASSETS RELEASED-CAPITAL PRJ				0%
	<i>Unauthorized Income</i>				0%
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>528,441</b>	<b>534,380</b>	<b>(5,939)</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
50000	EMPLOYMENT COSTS	171,906	178,315	(6,409)	-4%
51000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	55,688	51,807	3,881	7%
51500	INSURANCE	20,483	20,500	(17)	0%
51700	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	10,775	22,960	(12,185)	-53%
52000	SUPPLIES AND OTHER SERVICES	93,644	109,362	(15,718)	-14%
52900	FUNDRAISING EXPENSES				0%
53000	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	41,570	33,815	7,755	23%
54000	UTILITIES	21,120	17,459	3,661	21%
55000	CONTRIBUTIONS AND ASSESSMENTS	85,653	87,666	(2,014)	-2%
56000	INTEREST EXPENSE				0%
57000	TAXES	150	350	(200)	-57%
58000	DEPRECIATION				0%
	<i>Unauthorized Expense</i>				0%
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>500,989</b>	<b>522,234</b>	<b>(21,245)</b>	<b>-4%</b>
	<b>Total Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>27,453</b>	<b>12,146</b>	<b>15,307</b>	<b>126%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>					
<b>Other Income</b>					
70000	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED ASSETS	234,555		234,555	0%
	<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>234,555</b>		<b>234,555</b>	<b>10%</b>
	<b>Total Other Income/Expense</b>	<b>234,555</b>		<b>234,555</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>Total Changes in Net Assets</b>	<b>262,008</b>	<b>12,146</b>	<b>249,862</b>	<b>2057%</b>

In fulfillment of our stewardship virtues of accountability and transparency, the Parish Finance Council presents this financial statement. All questions may be addressed to the Finance Council.

# March — A Time to Take a Close Look at the Examples We Follow

Dear Parishioners,

This month of March is a significant time for us as Catholics. We are in the midst of Lent, and then we celebrate Holy Week, with Easter occurring just after the end of the month, on April 1. In addition, many may point to the month of March as a time we celebrate the Irish on March 17, the Feast of St. Patrick.

However, two days after that is the Feast of St. Joseph on March 19 — and for many in the world, that is more important. St. Joseph was, of course, the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ.

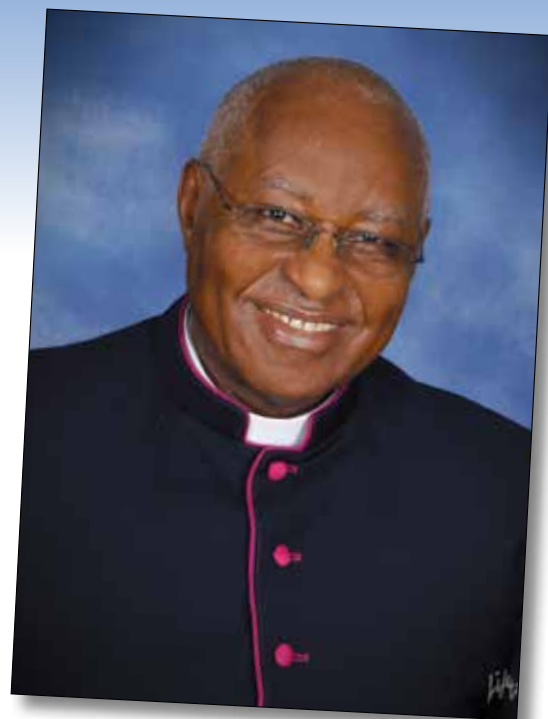
Everything we know about Joseph comes to us from Holy Scripture. It might be said that, in order to understand him completely, we must read between the lines. The Catholic Church has designated the month of March as the month of St. Joseph. Yet, there is not a single example of Joseph saying something that can be quoted in the Bible. We can assume he was a man of few words — in turn, we may consider that he speaks to us through his actions. It is also clear that he was a

humble man. Many point to him as an example of what a good father is and should be.

St. Joseph provides an example to all of us. Think of some of his strengths — he was obedient; he put his own needs aside to assure that Jesus and Mary were cared for; he surely trusted in God, even when God's will may not have made complete sense to him.

Those traits give each of us some idea of what we need to do in life. Do we only embrace those parts of our faith that make sense to us or that we find agreeable? Do we put the needs of others before our own? Our lives are filled with crosses and challenges, but do we trust in the Lord as Joseph did? Do our actions show us to be good Catholics and Christians? What kinds of examples are we setting?

Lent and Easter are times for us to look closely at the answers to these questions. Joseph was a carpenter, a worker — and he obviously was not a man of wealth or prestige. By the time Jesus' public ministry begins, Joseph seems to disappear. Nevertheless, he



was a man of royal origins. When St. Luke introduces him to us in Luke 1, he calls him “Joseph, of the house of David.”

All of this leads us to know and believe that Joseph was someone we would classify as a “good steward.” Who do we look up to? Do we seek to emulate people like Joseph, or are our models more worldly and more successful in the eyes of others? St. Joseph is a wonderful example for us. We all need to be like him in many, many ways.

God bless you during this holy time.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. John S. Mbinda  
Pastor

*Lent and Easter are times for us to look closely at the answers to these questions. Joseph was a carpenter, a worker — and he obviously was not a man of wealth or prestige. By the time Jesus' public ministry begins, Joseph seems to disappear. Nevertheless, he was a man of royal origins.*

# Parishioners Put Faith and Good W



As Catholics, it is important for us to build bridges with those who need our help. Through the ALEA Bridge Ministry, St. John Apostle & Evangelist parishioners are able to help make a difference in our own community.

“ALEA Bridge was founded in January 2016,” says Executive Director Phil Acosta. “My brother is a former police officer, and in his last duty with the police department he was patrolling the area we serve now. He got to know the issues in the community, and he built relationships with some of the people he dealt with as a police officer in uniform. He saw a need for an organization like this in the community, and realized he was limited in what he could do as a police officer.”

The ministry started out as an unfunded, all-volunteer family project, with a focus on homeless outreach in Wahiawa. As ALEA Bridge gained experience and funding, the ministry evolved into a respected and reliable community resource, expanding into Waipahu, Mililani and the North Shore.

ALEA Bridge’s name comes from a Hebrew word that means “to ascend and uplift” — which fits this ministry’s goal to lift up the clients they serve. “ALEA” also stands for the initials of their founder’s children: Alyssa, Leila, Emmalani and Austin. The use of the word “Bridge” in the name represents the ministry’s role in connecting people to resources in the community.

“Our mission is to empower people in need to achieve self-sufficiency through genuine compassion and innovative, community-based solutions,” Phil says. “We have a vision of reducing homelessness on Oahu through the delivery of quality, comprehensive services and effective partnerships; continually striving to Break the Cycle, and Reverse the Trend of homelessness. With values of compassion, commitment, respect and integrity, we serve as the bridge that connects those in need to the resources and assistance necessary to rebuild a life of hope, purpose and success.”

In addition to providing financial and rental assistance to homeless people in the community, ALEA Bridge also organizes a variety of community

# Works Into Action With ALEA Bridge

engagement events. These include outreach events over Easter, the summer and Christmas; joint outreach projects on the weekends; and community clean-up and service projects. These are family-friendly activities, providing an opportunity for parishioners of all ages to play a part.

“In our most recent Christmas event, we had five- and 6-year-olds participating, getting involved and helping the community out,” Phil says. “We also have opportunities for adults to work directly with clients. Many volunteers have expressed that their direct contact through volunteering has helped them get a better understanding and increased empathy for the plight of the homeless. As an organization, we are continually looking to develop opportunities for the community to get involved in appropriate and meaningful ways.”

The ministry is also starting a Food Pantry and Resource Fair in Mililani, in partnership with the Hawaii Food Bank and Mililani Presbyterian Church. It will be hosted on the St. John parish campus.

“We welcome food or monetary donations, along with volunteers for distribution days,” Phil says.

ALEA Bridge looks forward to continuing its partnership with St. John Apostle & Evangelist and its parishioners in the years to come.

“We are excited to be partnered up with St. John, and I think there are a lot of great opportunities to have a stronger presence in the community and reach further out, beyond the church doors,” Phil says. “I think it is important that community members get involved in helping with social issues — especially homelessness, as it is so complex, widespread and affects so many people. Catholics in particular should take an active role in being part of the solution, as it is our moral obligation to help those less fortunate, spreading the word and love of God through our actions.”

*If you would like more information, or to get involved, please email ALEA Bridge at [info@aleabridge.org](mailto:info@aleabridge.org) or call 808-379-2532.*



**Hope ♦ Purpose ♦ Success**

**Break** *the cycle...*

*and* **Reverse** *the trend of homelessness*





# FAITH AND SCIENCE

*Can They Mix?*

**T**here have long been scientists who claimed that their work was “incompatible” with faith in God. But as our world has become increasingly polarized, more and more people seem to believe that there must be a disconnect between faith and reason. For many scientists — and secular scholars in other fields, as well — religion and academics are deemed mutually exclusive. If something cannot be proven empirically, they posit, it is foolhardy to stake one’s life on it. And yet, this is exactly what we as Catholic Christians do — every time we say the word “amen,” in fact, we are declaring that we believe Church teachings to be an absolute truth.

So is all this to say that the Church really is “anti-science,” as some of its detractors claim? Certainly not! In fact, most people — Catholics and non-Catholics alike — would probably be very surprised to know just how

many Catholic thinkers have played a major role in the development of modern scientific thought.

Most of us are familiar with some of the earliest scientific advances made by famous Catholic scholars like Copernicus, Galileo, Descartes, and Leonardo da Vinci. But fast-forward to the 19<sup>th</sup> century — when countless innovations in modern science began kicking into high gear — and the contributions made by Catholic scientists are astounding! For example, the Mercalli scale used to measure earthquakes was developed by an Italian Catholic volcanologist, Giuseppe Mercalli, at the turn of the last century. You may also remember some of the laws of Mendelian inheritance from your high school biology class — Augustinian friar and botanist Gregor Mendel first discovered these recessive and dominant “factors” (which would later come to be called genes) in the 1800s, becoming the founder of genetics.

Of course, these are just a few of the more widely known examples. Those who work in the specific fields of physics and cosmology have several priests to thank for the incredible advances made in this area of study over the last century. Fr. Georges Lemaître was a Catholic priest living in Belgium during the first half of the 20th century. A professor of astronomy and physics at the Catholic University of Leuven, Fr. Lemaître was the first scientist to propose the Big Bang theory — which he referred to as the “primeval atom” or the “Cosmic Egg” — and the theory of the expansion of the universe. Fr. Lemaître’s brilliant and meticulous research won over even the most skeptical scientists in his field — reportedly, upon hearing Fr. Lemaître present his theories at a conference in California, Albert Einstein declared, “This is the most beautiful and satisfactory explanation of creation to which I have ever listened.”

For Fr. Lemaître, who served as president of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences from 1960 until his death in 1966, balancing the worlds of priesthood and cosmology research was not always easy. Sometimes, Catholic believers misunderstood his quest to discover the origin of the universe as a desire to put limits on God. On the other side, secular scientists questioned his ability to formulate theories of the universe objectively, suspecting that he was seeking to manipulate his scientific finds to fit them within Church teaching. In reality, Fr. Lemaître always advocated for a strict separation between science and faith, claiming that the Bible was not intended to be read as a science textbook and that “God could not be reduced to a scientific hypothesis.” For this Catholic scientist, although faith and science may have each answered separate questions, they were certainly not incompatible.

In contrast to Lemaître’s careful separation of questions of science and faith, another famous physicist priest takes the opposite approach. Fr. Michal Heller, professor of philosophy at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Kraków, Poland, and member of

the Vatican Observatory staff, seeks to bring together the fields of science, philosophy, and theology. In an interview with *The New York Times* upon his receipt of the acclaimed Templeton Prize for science and religion in 2008, Heller explained: “I always wanted to do the most important things, and what can be more important than science and religion? Science gives us knowledge, and religion gives us meaning. Both are prerequisites of the decent existence.” Fr. Heller, whose current research focuses on general relativity and quantum mechanics, strives to study the known elements of science within the context of a universe that has an (empirically) unknowable God as its creator.

In a similar way, yet another scientist priest of the past century successfully reconciled science and faith in his life’s work. Fr. Stanley Jaki (1924-2009) was a Hungarian Benedictine priest who held doctorates in theology and physics, and authored over 40 books in these fields —and in the history of science — during his lifetime. Fr. Jaki is perhaps best known for his claim that modern science and cosmology were only made possible through the Christian understanding of creation that took root in medieval Europe. Fr. Jaki believed that faith and science must work together, and he warned against the tendency of modern society to seek omniscience through scientific study, thus letting science take the place of God.

Certainly, the list of Catholic scientists who have deservedly become renowned in their fields of study is longer than most people probably imagine. Still today, scientists like astronomer Fr. George Coyne, former director of the Vatican Observatory and current professor at Le Moyne College in New York, continue to make significant contributions to the study of modern science worldwide. Contrary to those who may try to claim that faith and science are incompatible, the Church has proven over the centuries that understanding the science behind how our world works absolutely can — and *should* — go hand in hand with the pursuit of fully knowing and serving our God.

*Are you interested in learning about the Church’s teachings on the relationship between faith and reason? The papal encyclicals *Humani Generis* and *Fides et Ratio* provide in-depth explorations of this important topic.*

## Knights of Columbus Council *continued from front cover*

Hawai'i. Our presence in the parish has been visible for all to see. We have done much and continue to do much in relation to our parish and our faith."

Beginning in February, during Lent, the Knights are organizing and sponsoring our Frugal Meal programs.

"This is our tenth year for that program, as we began during Lent in 2009," John says. "The Frugal Meal follows the Stations of the Cross at the church each Friday. It has made the Stations a strong family event. It is mostly a meatless soup and sandwich dinner, and true to its name, it is to be something less than a normal meal. Each year, our Council contacts various ministries and organizations in the parish to get their cooperation and a schedule is set up based upon that. We do the first and last meal each Lent. During the time we have sponsored this, almost 5,000 people have

attended — and that is just those who eat. We have given thousands of dollars to various Catholic charities. This is a great spiritual exercise for all of us."

Throughout the year, Council #14663 does much more, including in part Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives, church window cleaning, a Nativity scene inside and outside of the church, parish blood drives, collecting Christmas toys, and doing much charitable work in our community and for the Island of Molokai.

"We do much in terms of distributing food to those in need in our parish, in our community, and especially to the Island of Molokai," John says. "As a result we have been awarded the Knights of Columbus Food for Families award every year since 2009."

*The Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Parish Center at 7:30 p.m. If you're a male 18 years or older, and interested in helping those in need, serving your parish, growing in your faith or having exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for you and your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you! Anyone interested in joining should contact Clyde Higa at 808-623-9393.*

## Lent and Easter 2018

**Stations of the Cross – Fridays, 7 p.m.**

**Frugal Meal sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other parish ministries after Stations of the Cross:** March 2, 9, 16 and 23

**Parish Lenten Retreat – March 5-7, 7 p.m.**

Retreat Speaker: Fr. Charles Willingham  
(Fr. Charles will preach at all Masses the weekend of March 3-4)

**Lenten Penance Service – March 7, 7 p.m.**

**Palm Sunday, March 25** – Regular Mass Schedule

**Holy Thursday, March 29**

Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.  
Mass at 7 p.m.

**Good Friday, March 30**

Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.  
Passion of the Lord, 3 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.

**Holy Saturday, March 31**

Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.  
No 3:30 p.m. Confessions  
Easter Vigil, 7 p.m.

**Easter Sunday, April 1**

Masses at 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
No 6 p.m. Mass

**Easter Monday, April 2** – Church Offices closed.