

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



PASTOR'S CORNER

The Altar

Walk into any Catholic church and you'll notice that the focal point of the church is the altar. The altar is a large table, usually made of wood or stone or a combination thereof, where the sacrifice of the Mass is offered. In the old covenant, animals were sacrificed on an altar. But in the New Covenant, the sacrifice of Christ is made present at every Mass on the altar.

In the early days of the Christian Church, altars were built over the final resting places of martyrs and saints. The Church wanted to keep a connection with those who had gone before in faith. Even today you'll still find many churches built over the tombs of martyrs and saints, including perhaps the most famous of all, St Peter's in Rome.

As the Church grew and spread, this practice became all but impossible. But the connection with heroes of the faith and the altar continues. In the Latin rite, every fixed altar very well may contain a relic. A relic is something physically connected with the martyr or saint – often a bone or bone fragment or personal object. The relic is contained within or under that altar, which is dedicated by a bishop. The altar is more than just a table. It is the table of the Lord!

(From Gus Lloyd's book "A Minute in the Church: The One Minute Explanations about the Catholic Mass.")

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2, in observance of New Year's Day.

Effective January 2, 2023, there will be Communion Service on Mondays in lieu of daily Mass.

The Fil-Am Catholic Group will be having a Christmas Party on Saturday, January 7, 2023 at 10am - 2pm in the One Community Center. Please bring a dish to share.

DEBT REDUCTION SECOND COLLECTION: We will have a second collection next weekend after communion, **January 7/8** for debt reduction. Your donation will help pay for the mortgage of the One Community Center. Envelopes are available at the back of the church, or you may donate through our parish website online giving. Your generosity is much appreciated.

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
 95-370 Kuahelani Ave. Mililani, Hawaii 96789 | (808) 623-3332
www.stjohnmililani.org

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.**

PASTOR Fr. Anthony Rapozo

In Residence Fr. John Gabriel

DEACON Dcn. Romeo Ganibe

FULL Parish Clergy & Staff Directory available on our website.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 8AM (Monday - Saturday)

Sunday: 5PM (Saturday Vigil), 7AM, 9AM, 11AM & 6PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30PM

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday 12PM - 4PM

Tuesday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:00PM

Saturday - Sunday Closed

Respect Life: “O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God’s love and compassion.”
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers”



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

DEC 24/25

Sunday Collection	\$ 22,775.40
Online Donation (WeShare)	*next week
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 134.75
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 4,185.00
Social Ministry	\$ 80.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 200.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 490.00
Candles	\$ 734.00
Christmas	\$ 2,104.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 395.00
Spiritual Bouquet	\$ 640.00
St Catherine – Adopt a Student	\$ 50.00
Retirement Fund Religious	\$ 225.00

WEEKEND TOTAL

\$ 32,013.15

Please call the office for all other inquiries:
 Anointing, Baptisms, Blessings, Food Pantry,
 Funeral, Homebound Communion &
 Marriage.

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION (LUKE 2:16 – 21)

BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS

The blessing included in the First Reading from the Book of Numbers is one with which most of us are familiar. “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you...” In the Jewish culture this has been known for centuries as the Aaronic blessing as it was dictated by God Himself to Aaron. It is important to note that it begins with “The Lord bless you.”



All blessings come from God. One error we make is to conclude that blessings always mean happiness or security or prosperity. God knows what blessings we need, even if we do not. The key for us is to be grateful for whatever blessings we may have. That mind set is at the hub of stewardship — knowing all blessings come from the Lord, and our need to be appreciative of them.

To be “kept” by the Lord is to turn our lives over to Him, to know that He is with us and that He loves us, blesses us, and does indeed “keep” us ever in His care. The truth is that to be blessed by God is one of the greatest gifts we can receive. It is available to all of us without exception.

During this continued Christmas season, it is well to remember and repeat the classic statement by the character Tiny Tim in Charles Dickens’ immortal A Christmas Carol: “God bless us, everyone,” for certainly He does.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SJAE Seniors – come out and enjoy Physical Therapy Bingo in the OCC on Saturday, Jan 21, 2023, from 10:00 -11:30 a.m. Mary Lau-Miki will lead an interactive, fun, bingo while helping us learn about physical therapy. There will be fun, prizes, and refreshments. Space is limited so sign up before January 10 by calling Gary & Diane Nishijima at 808-294-8013.

The 2023 Hawaii March for Life will be held on Friday, January 20th at the Hawaii State Capitol from 3 to 6 pm. This marks the 50th anniversary of Hawaii legalizing the intentional termination of a pre-born child’s life. On January 19, 2023, in preparation for the March, Bishop Larry Silva will celebrate a March for Life Mass at St. Theresa Co-Cathedral at 6 pm followed by a Holy Hour of Adoration. For more information, please visit: <https://www.catholicahawaii.org/DIOCESAN-OFFICES/RESPECT-LIFE>.

THIS WEEK ON FORMED: God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love! **How to Pray** Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year! **Mary of Nazareth-** What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life. Our parish has a subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



“In trial or difficulty, I have recourse to Mother Mary, whose glance alone is enough to dissipate every fear.”
~ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday January 2, 2023

8AM Communion Service

Tuesday January 3, 2023

8AM Raymond Lesser (RIP)
Jane Tacderan (RIP)
Racini Marie Aranda
(Birthday Blessing)

Wednesday January 4, 2023

8AM Paragoso/Desuacido
(Thanksgiving)
Dan English (Birthday Blessing)
Ignacia V. Benitez (RIP)

Thursday January 5, 2023

8AM Alberto Dela Cruz (RIP)
Benjamin Pagaduan (RIP)
Florante Dela Cruz (RIP)

Friday January 6, 2023

8AM Guerrero Family
(Blessing/Thanksgiving)

Saturday

8AM

5PM

Sunday

7AM

9 AM

11 AM

6 PM

Feliciano Dona (RIP)

James, Mildred Mizoguchi &
Eric Umetsu (RIP)

January 7, 2023

Conchita Uson (RIP)

Samuel S. Aguirre (Blessing)

Modesta Yadao

(Blessing/Thanksgiving)

Joe Godbout (Birthday Blessing)

January 8, 2023

Stephanie Rapozo (Healing)

For the People

Maria Guerrero Sablan
(Birthday Memorial)

Benitez & Browning Families
and to All
(Blessings/Thanksgiving)

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELICIANO GALZOTE CARRANZA (RIP)- Thursday, January 26, 2023, Mililani Memorial Park – Makai Chapel – Family arrives: 8:30 am, Visitation: 9:00 am, Prayer Service: 10:00 am, Burial: 1:00 pm ~ Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery.

CONCHITA DE LEON USON (RIP)- Tuesday, January 31, 2023, Mililani Memorial Park – Mauka Chapel – Family arrives: 4:30 pm; Visitation: 5:30 pm; Wake Service: 6:30 pm. Wednesday, February 1, 2023 - Burial: 11:00 am – Schofield Cemetery.

HEALING / BLESSINGS

Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Helen Guerrero, Stephanie Rapozo, Thomas Ramos, Christy Esposito, Víctor Apilado, Trevor Townsend, Gene Lumantas, Rachel Sullivan, Romeo Donato, Alfredo Alcausin, Teri Velasco, Jennifer Domingo & Wayne, Char Matsumoto, Aida Antalan, Salve Galman, Ray & Jane Beauchemin, Letty Baguion, Delrene Marrotte & Lucas Rapozo.

DECEASED

James E. Smith, Mely Akau, Ester Aguirre, Florie Hintze, Marcelina A. Hewe, Rosita Vidmar, Florence Fukumoto, Juancho Achaval, Jr., Loretta Domingo, Conchita Uson, Patricia Li, Lamberto "Brett" Galman, Avery S. Curet, Demetrio Galicianao, Yvonne McIntire & Lita Marial.

