

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



Aubrey

Grade 2

Artwork by: Aubrey Madarang
Religious Education, Grade 2



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 (Mondays – Communion Service), (Tuesday - 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

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE DEC 31/ JAN 1

Sunday Collection	\$ 11,652.53
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 6,598.00
Online Donation (WeShare) Dec 24/25	\$ 4,435.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 602.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 6,165.00 \$ 3,000.00
Bessemer Giving Fund Grant	\$ 25,000.00
Social Ministry	\$ 5.00
Stewardship	\$ 20.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 2,187.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 230.00
Candles	\$ 560.00
Christmas	\$ 1,225.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 5.00
Misa de Gallo	\$ 40.00
Catholic University of America	\$ 20.00
Retirement Fund Religious	\$ 35.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 57,344.53

For the month of December 2022, We collected
89.8% (\$ 177,101 YTD) of our budget: \$ 197,145.





DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
TEACHING MASS - BULLETIN INSERT
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023



A CALL TO COME AND SEE THE LORD

On Epiphany Sunday, we celebrate the story of three wise men who, following a star, left the comfort of their homes and came together to follow an invitation from God to a humble stable in the town of Bethlehem. Inside, their eyes beheld a newborn child laying in a manger, a feeding trough, as though he were food for animals. And yet, these foreign men from afar knelt in worship because, with eyes of faith, they saw that this child was the King of kings.

These three men would be the first to approach the Lord and worship Him in this way, bringing Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, but they would not be the last. We continue this tradition every time we gather at Holy Mass. When we kneel during our Mass, we look up and see what appears to be food: bread and wine. And yet, with our eyes of faith, we know this is no bread at all, but is the body of Christ, and that the wine is His most precious blood. We see Jesus Christ in his body, blood, soul, and divinity as He sits enthroned on the Altar, and we bring Him the gifts of our time and attention, the things He desires from us most of all.



God calls us, just as He called those wise men, to come and see our Savior in person. He invites us to encounter Him in His house, gathering us together as a family, as brothers and sisters, to be with one another and with God at His table.

JESUS IS WITH US AT THE MASS

Most of us are familiar with Jesus' promise that He is always with us, wherever two or three are gathered in His name. This is truer at Mass than at any other gathering or worship space. He is present with us on multiple levels.



He is present in our communion with each other, mystically pouring out Himself through our common prayer. He is present in the priest, who acts in the person of Christ as he offers the body and blood of our blessed Lord on the altar to His Heavenly Father. He is present in the Word proclaimed from the scriptures by the lectors and by the deacon and priest, for He is the Word made flesh and is present whenever that Word is proclaimed. But above all else, He is most profoundly present in the Eucharist itself. Inside every host and every drop within the chalice is His body, blood, soul, and divinity. This is not a symbol or a metaphor, but His actual physical self. Yes, it looks like bread and tastes like it, but with our faith, we know that this is His body and blood. Within that body and blood, Jesus is alive and present. It is Jesus who we see on the altar, who we receive on our hands and on our tongue, and who we consume into our very bodies so that we can take Jesus with us as we depart from the walls of the church and go forth into the world. God is in no way distant from us when

we gather to worship at Mass. Rather, He is there with us and is so close to us that He allows us to take Him into our very selves so that we can be one with Him.

JESUS: PRIEST, PROPHET, KING

When the three wise men came before the Lord, they offered Him gold, frankincense and myrrh. These small and seemingly strange gifts hold a great symbol of what we know through faith of Jesus Christ. The three wise men knew that they were encountering a king, but also a priest and a prophet. Indeed, Jesus is all of these things and, when we come to Mass, we encounter Jesus as all three.

JESUS THE PRIEST

In the Old Testament, the Lord established a priesthood that would offer the sacrifices of animals to God on behalf of the Jewish people. In our New Testament, we now have a great high priest: Jesus Christ, who offers up Himself on the cross as a sacrifice so powerful that no other sacrifice needs to be offered. In the Mass, we have Christ continuing to offer that same sacrifice through the mystical realities of our liturgy. At Mass, it is as if we have been transported backward in time to both Good Friday and Easter Sunday, to the moment of the crucifixion and resurrection of the Lord. On Good Friday, our sacrifice was offered; on Easter Sunday, that same sacrifice, Jesus Christ, was raised up. Within our parish priest who celebrates the Mass, Christ is at work, changing our liturgy from a simple reenactment to a powerful reliving of that Great Event. It is Christ who offers up the Eucharist, His body and blood, to God our father.

JESUS THE PROPHET

In the gospel, Jesus calls Himself “the way, the truth, and the life.” His teachings are the fullness of truth and provide us not only with the way that we can live out a most fulfilling Christian life, but also the way to come to know God personally and perfectly. At every Mass, we proclaim the word of God. As the word made flesh, it is Jesus himself who speaks to us through the word. This is true not only of the gospel, but of all the readings. For all of scripture is inspired by God and Jesus is God. Jesus speaks to us as a church and as individuals through scripture.

JESUS THE KING

On the day of His crucifixion, Jesus Christ was crowned with thorns and mounted upon the throne that is the cross. As we celebrate the Mass and recall these events, we exchange these painful images for glorious symbols of our Lord's kingship. Sometimes we ask, “why do we use a golden chalice when Jesus surely used a cup of wood or clay at the Last Supper?” The answer is that we are not simply reenacting the Last Supper. We are giving our Lord a splendid and worthy throne. We enthrone the presence of Jesus Christ on the altar, arrayed in gold because that is the way we should treat our triumphant king. Even as the Lord appears to us in so humble a form as bread and wine, we give to Him a worthy reception. We bow before our mighty king made known to us in bread and wine.



A NOTE FROM OUR SEMINARIAN

Aloha St. John's 'Ohana,

It has been so wonderful seeing so many of you while I am home from seminary on break. I have had the chance to talk to a lot of you but there is never enough time to catch up as much as I would like to. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain where I am in the formation process as well as express my sincere thanks for all the support you provide to me.

It has been five years since I left for the Seminary, and some days it feels like 10 years and other days it feels like 10 minutes. When I come home it feels like I never left, but then you tell me that your children who I had in youth ministry are graduating college soon, and I realize how much time has passed. When I left the parish, I went to a seminary in Oregon. I graduated with my BA from Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary in 2021. While at Mount Angel I pursued a double major in philosophy and literature. I served as the representative (and for some time sole member) of the Pacific Islander Community at Mount Angel and was honored to serve as President of the College Student Body my final year.

After graduating from Mount Angel, I was sent to study at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, where I have been for the past year and a half. A graduate seminary student studying Theology is referred to as a Theologian, and he wears the clerical attire, which explains why sometimes you see me wearing all black instead of my usual bright aloha shirts. Saint Patrick's is where most of our diocesan priests have gone for their formation. I am really enjoying the program of studies I am in currently. We study various aspects of theology and scripture. We also take practical classes, where we learn how to preach, or how to manage a parish budget. In addition to our classwork, we're in chapel several times a day for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours. Each week we go out into the community to do field education and pastoral ministry, and I have been blessed to spend last semester working with the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's order) in San Francisco at their soup kitchen.

This fall I will begin my pastoral year, where I will spend a year in the parish, living in the community. It is a sort of internship to introduce the seminarian to pastoral



life. I don't know where I will be assigned yet, but I am excited to be back in the Diocese!

Several people have asked if I will be assigned to St. John's, either for my pastoral year or as a priest. The short answer is "I don't know" and the long answer is "Whatever God and the Bishop want!" It is very common for seminarians to spend time at parishes other than their home parish, so they have varied experiences of the whole diocese. I would love to spend as much time as possible at St. John's, both as a seminarian and, God willing, as a priest, but I am happy to go wherever I am sent. That's part of the deal! But I want to make something clear – The further I journey in formation and the more time I spend away from our parish, the deeper my love grows for St. John's. I did not grow up in the parish but now I have come to realize that the years I spent with you all have helped me to form my idea of what pastoral ministry looks like here in Hawaii. St. Johns has truly become *ku'u home kulāiwi*, my homeland. I will always cherish the formative time I spend at the parish, and it has had such an important effect in my understanding of what parish life really needs and what a parish needs from its pastor.

Your continued support, even as I have been away for so long, continues to overwhelm me, and your generosity is unmatched. I want to thank you particularly for the great kindness you show to me and to the other seminarians every year in the Seminarian Collection Fund as well as the Angel Tree gifts. These kindnesses, along with the kindness and compassion you have shown me personally, make me so grateful to be a part of this parish.

Please continue to pray for me and be assured of my prayers for you. Know that I pray in particular for your children who I was blessed enough to work with in RE/Youth Ministry/Altar serving, etc. as well as all those who I had the pleasure to work with who have since passed on. May we all be reunited together in heaven one day!

Until then, see you at the Eucharist, and see you in person in May!

Aloha,



Taylor K. Mitchell

St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA
tmitchell@rcchawaii.org



New St. Joseph Statue for SJAE

In addition to being the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the foster-father of Jesus, St. Joseph was a carpenter and a hard worker. He served his community through his trade skills. He taught Jesus the value of hard work. Through his work of manual labor, St. Joseph provided for the Holy Family and shared in the divine plan of salvation.

St. Joseph the Worker is the patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people, among others.

St. John Apostle & Evangelist parish will be purchasing a St. Joseph the Worker statue made from olivewood from the Little Bethlehem Christians. The statue will be placed in the chapel.

If you would like to donate towards the purchase of the statue, please make the check payable to St. John (Note in memo: St. Joseph statue). You may also donate on the parish website online giving.

God our Father, Creator and Ruler of the universe, in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others. With St. Joseph as our guide, help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. It is important that as Catholics we show our respect for all human life and our opposition to the culture of death that is so prevalent in society. It is hoped that there will be a large gathering of defenders of life on this momentous occasion. Since bus arrangements are not firm, participants should plan on carpooling to the Capitol. Details on parking will be provided later. 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. Please consider attending one or both of these events.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.catholichawaii.org/DIOCESAN-OFFICES/RESPECT-LIFE>.

Little Bethlehem Christians will showcase religious articles made from olive wood for sale at St Joseph, Waipahu (Jan 7/8); Star of the Sea, Kahala (Jan 14/15); St Elizabeth, Aiea (Jan 21/22); St Peter & Paul, Honolulu (Jan 28/29); Resurrection of the Lord, Waipio (Feb 4/5).

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.

Rosary Making Ministry meeting has been cancelled for January. The next gathering is on Saturday, February 11th at 9 am - 11 am on the church lanai. Please contact Felicia Routon (808) 386-1486.

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”

This week on FORMED: A Bible Study on the Luminous Mysteries: The Baptism of Jesus (Part 1): Why was Jesus baptized by John the Baptist and what does this mean for the Sacrament of Baptism? Sit down with Taylor Kemp and Dr. Michael Barber as they unpack the first Luminous Mystery of the Rosary.

Reborn - Episode 1: A New Creation: This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!

The Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist | The Bible and Baptism | Episode 3: Dr. John Sehorn joins Fr. Isaac Morales, OP, a Dominican friar of the Province of Saint Joseph and Associate Professor of Theology at Providence College. This episode highlights the significance of Jesus' baptism at the hands of his cousin, John the Baptist.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



PASTOR'S CORNER

Inside the Church

Catholic Churches come in many different styles and sizes. Some are centuries old with soaring ceilings and lots of stained glass. Some have a much more modern look and don't resemble at all the churches of old. As architectural styles have changed, so have church buildings. But all Catholic churches share some common elements.

Many churches have a narthex. This is the entry area, like a foyer. Often the priest will greet parishioners after Mass in the narthex. From the narthex, you enter the main worship space, which consists of the nave and the sanctuary. The nave is the main body of the church. This is where people attending Mass sit, stand, and kneel. The word nave comes from the Latin word for ship. Early churches often resembled a ship, reminiscent of St Pete's boat, from which Christ sometimes taught.

The sanctuary is the other part of the church, where the altar is. This word itself means "holy place," and this is where most of the rites of the Mass take place.

Some people prefer one style of church over another. The important thing to remember is that, no matter what the building looks like, Jesus is present at every Mass.

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

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION (MATTHEW 2:1 – 12) BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS

As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word "epiphany" comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God's countless manifestations in our lives.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, has much to teach us about stewardship, through the actions of the magi.

As good stewards, the magi were watching for manifestations of God's presence in their lives. "We have seen the star at its rising," they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the "star" of God's presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others.

The magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God's presence in their lives, "were overjoyed." Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God's presence and gifts to them, simply can't help but be filled with joy. Not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy the world promises through wealth or power, but rather the deep, unalterable joy only God can give.

Finally, the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, they prostrated themselves before him and "opened their treasures and offered him gifts." This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagantly loving God.

Let us rejoice in God's manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.



"The Epiphany of Christ, therefore, is at the same time the epiphany of the Church, the manifestation of her universal vocation and mission."

– POPE BENEDICT XVI 9

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday January 9, 2023

8AM Communion Service

Tuesday January 10, 2023

8AM Stephanie Rapozo (Healing)
 Maricar Francisco
 (Birthday Blessing)
 Balthazar Mauleon
 (Birthday Memorial)
 Taylor Mitchell
 (Blessing/Safe Travels)

Wednesday January 11, 2023

8AM Lucas F. Rapozo (RIP)
 Virgilio Lopez (RIP)
 Bella Tolentino, Macaraeg &
 Family (Blessings)
 Lucas Rapozo (Healing)

Thursday January 12, 2023

8AM Minnie & James Amaral (RIP)
 Spencer Ngai (RIP)
 Joey Pablo (Birthday Blessing)

Friday January 13, 2023

8AM

Ben Guerrero (RIP)
 Kimberly & Colin Rapozo (RIP)
 Terry & Vernon Silva
 (Anniversary Blessing)

Saturday**January 14, 2023**

8AM

Edwin Souza Jr. (RIP)
 Carly Rose Ramos
 (Birthday Blessing)
 Felisa Dicsen
 (Birthday Memorial)
 Frederick Kahalelio
 (Birthday Blessing)

5PM

Sunday**January 15, 2023**

7AM

Demetrio Galicinao (RIP)

9 AM

For the People

11 AM

Adelaida Dumlaio
 (Death Anniversary)

6 PM

Pablo M. Benitez (RIP)

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, Gene Lumantas, Rachel Sullivan, Romeo Donato, Alfredo Alcausin, Teri Velasco, Jennifer Domingo & Wayne, Char Matsumoto, Aida Antalan, Salve Galman, Ray & Jane Beauchemin, Letty Baguinon, Delrene Marrotte, Lucas Rapozo & Marcie Wong.

DECEASED

James E. Smith, Marcelina A. Hewe, Florence Fukumoto, Juancho Achaval, Jr., Loretta Domingo, Conchita Uson, Patricia Li, Lamberto “Brett” Galman, Avery S. Curet, Demetrio Galicianao, Yvonne McIntire, Lita Marial, Feliciano Carranza, & Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

