

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



PASTOR'S CORNER

Holy Water

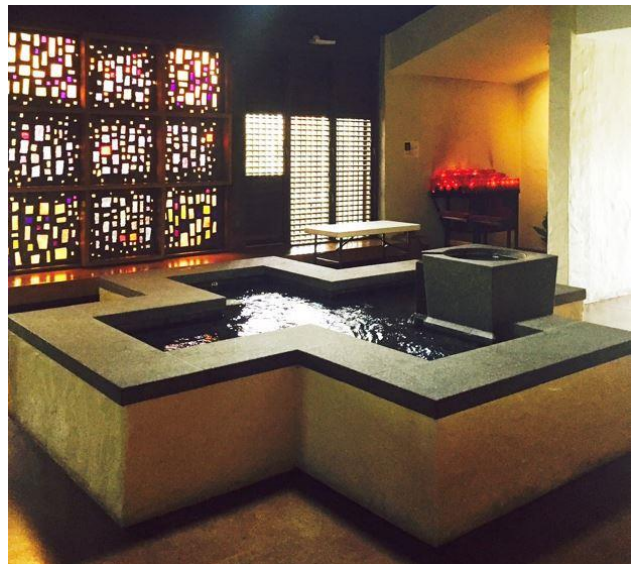
Walk into any Catholic church and one of the first things you'll notice are people dipping their fingers in water and making the sign of the cross, reminding them of their baptismal promises. Whether it comes from the holy water font found near the main entrance to the church or from a small receptacle beside the doors, this water is always holy water.

Holy water is water that has been blessed by a priest to be used for baptisms and blessings. The holy water font, sometimes called a stoup, is the place where baptisms are done in the church. Some holy water fonts are quite large, perhaps with steps that lead down into a small pool. This is for baptisms by immersion, which is more commonly done with adults than infants. Other fonts are more like large bowls.

Holy water is not only used for baptisms, but for other blessings, such as the Rite of Sprinkling, when the priest or deacon goes through the church sprinkling water on the faithful. Many Catholics take holy water home with them in small containers and use it to bless themselves, their children, their homes, or just about anything else that needs blessings!

Holy water has been used since the earliest days of Christianity. It reminds us of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan, our own baptism, and the cleansing power of water, which washes us clean.

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



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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE JAN 7/8

Sunday Collection	\$ 10,662.06
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 2,973.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 450.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 205.00
OCC - Misa de Gallo – Candles	\$ 10.00
Social Ministry	\$ 5.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 4,540.47
Mass Intentions	\$ 170.00
Candles	\$ 320.00
Christmas	\$ 70.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 19,405.53

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





TEACHING MASS - BULLETIN INSERT
INTRODUCTORY RITES:
“OUR ENTRANCE INTO MASS, OUR ENTRANCE INTO HEAVEN”
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023



GATHERING TOGETHER

Before we even begin the Mass, worship takes place from the moment we choose to come to Mass. We prepare ourselves by setting aside the business of our life and instead focus on God and the marvelous event about to take place. We dress in our Sunday best, just as the priest vests for Mass, and enter the Church in a spirit of prayer as we prepare ourselves to meet the Lord in His word and body. Just as the priest prepares for Mass, we prepare our hearts as well. For we are all part of the same celebration.



PROCESSION

At the beginning of Sunday Mass, before the priest begins the celebration, he makes a symbolic journey from the entrance of the church to the sanctuary, then kisses the Altar. This action is a sign of the priest's unity with us, who have traveled from home and entered the church from outside, a journey each of us makes. The priest does not enter into the church or the sanctuary alone, but is accompanied by those who assist him in his celebration of the Mass as the Mass is not a private affair. These ministers enter the church led by an image of Christ crucified, signifying how Christ leads His pilgrim people from the world into heaven, which is signified by the Altar.

As the priest processes through the church to the Altar, he walks past people in the pews, signifying that even as the priest is set apart for certain sacred functions, he too is part of the people of God. He is one of us, coming from among our own ranks before stepping up to the Altar as the Celebrant of the Mass. The priest kisses the Altar as he arrives, signifying not only reverence for this sacred table, but also how the words uttered by his lips are words of worship and praise.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

The Mass, like all prayers, begins with the Sign of the Cross. In this, we recall how Jesus used the cross as the tool of our salvation. As we sign ourselves, the priest says the words, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” When we invoke the Holy Trinity during the sign of the cross, we recall our baptism, in which the same words were said by the priest as he poured water over our heads, cleansing us from Original Sin and making us members of the family of God.

These words are rightly used to begin our sacred liturgy because of the power of the God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Since ancient times in royal courts, whenever important business was conducted or some proclamation read, the president of the assembly would say, “In the name of the King!” In the same way, we invoke the name of our God in His Divine Persons as a symbol of recognition that our worship is focused on Him and we are gathered in His name, for His sake.

WORDS OF GREETING

We all know the exchange, “The Lord be with you,” with the people responding, “and with your spirit.” We say this several times throughout the Mass. Even from the first greeting, whether it be these exact words or other forms of greeting, they are not merely poetic words of welcome. These words are a spiritual exchange, not between priest and people, but between Christ and His Church. From the moment the priest enters the church, his words and actions are not his own. The priest takes on the role of Christ in the assembly, acting as the Head of the Church while we are the body. This is why the people respond, “and with your spirit,” rather than, “and also

with you.” In mentioning the spirit, we acknowledge the dynamic that the priest is both his own person and the *in persona Christi*, the person of Christ within the priest as he celebrates the Mass. This idea of Christ being active in our liturgy through the priest is a repeated key point that we return to throughout the Mass.



PENITENTIAL ACT

Immediately after the priest and people exchange the sacred greeting, they turn together to the Lord in repentance. This is usually done by everyone while praying together the Confiteor (“I confess to Almighty God...”) and invoking the Kyrie (“Lord, have mercy”). There is an option, often used during the Easter season, to have the priest sprinkle holy water over the people in remembrance of our baptism and the cleansing power of God’s forgiveness.

In all of this, we are acknowledging our sins and our need for God’s mercy. This part of the Mass is a summary of the pursuit of our earthly life: coming to God like the prodigal son and receiving His mercy and love. Just as Christ tells us to make peace with our brother before entering the temple, we make peace with God. We should clarify that serious sins require the Sacrament of Confession for forgiveness, but small (venial) sins can be forgiven by these penitential acts, which we pray at every Mass. In the Old Testament, priests would ritually purify themselves before offering the Old Covenant sacrifices. In the New Covenant, it is right that we spiritually purify ourselves through prayer before offering our own sacrifice of praise.

THE GLORIA

Once we have received God’s mercy, we immediately respond with that ancient hymn of praise, the Gloria. This hymn, sung on most Sundays and other Solemnities (High Feasts), comes to us from the nativity of our Lord, when angels appeared to shepherds singing the glory of God. They sang to announce that Christ had come. In this same way, we sing the Gloria to recognize that Christ is present with us at Mass, through our gathering together, through the priest, through the Word, and most of all, through the Eucharist. We proclaim with great joy the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, made present again and again at the Mass.

It is worth clarifying that we do not always sing this hymn. We do not sing the Gloria during Advent and Lent because during those seasons there is a greater focus on penance and mercy. By contrast, Easter, Christmas, and other Sundays are most appropriate occasions to praise God for His glory. It is appropriate that the Gloria take place directly after the Penitential Acts, acting as a joyous response to the forgiveness from God that we have just received.

THE COLLECT: THE OPENING PRAYER

After the Gloria (or the Penitential Acts, if there is no Gloria), the priest invites the entire community to pray as one by the call, “Let Us Pray.” This call, used since the earliest days of the Church, calls the community to enter into the mysteries about to happen. The priest extends his hands outward, a sign that he is speaking to God on behalf of all of us, and he prays the Collect, the opening prayer that is proper to this day. He alone says the words, but we are called to bind our thoughts to those words and to be united in this prayer, our hearts being gathered (or *collected*, one might say) into the arms of the priest as he brings them to God.



The Collect gives us a kind of theme of this particular Mass, like a first look at the readings of this Mass, or the particular reason for this Mass. The Collect acts as the main point of the beginning phase of the Mass. The parts before this prayer were inviting us into the Mass. The Collect then brings us into the heavenly sanctuary where we offer ourselves, our presence, and our intentions to God. Entering into this liturgy, God invites us to listen to Him in the Liturgy of the Word.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 16th, in observance of Martin Luther King Holiday!

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has instituted the Sunday of the Word of God, to be celebrated annually on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Next weekend (January 21/22)**, we ask you to bring your personal Bible to Mass with you. We want to emphasize the importance of the Bible in Catholic life and encourage one another to read and study the Word of God as a regular part of our lives as disciples of Jesus. During the Mass we will have a commitment and blessing prayer as you hold your Bibles to your hearts.

SJAE Seniors – don't forget that next Saturday, January 21 from 10 – 11:30 am. We will be having Physical Therapy Bingo in the OCC! Come and join us for food, fun, fellowship, and prizes! If you have questions, please call Gary & Diane Nishijima at (808) 294-8013.

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

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>.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA AND BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION: Next weekend (1/21 – 1/22), our parish will be participating in two special collections; Church in Latin America and the Black and Indian Missions. Your gift will go to help fund programs such as evangelization and catechesis for the missions. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. You may drop your donation during offertory or make a donation online by visiting our parish website, clicking "Online Giving." Please be generous.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY:

A sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Parishioners and Friends of St. John's Parish for responding to the requests made through the Angel Network Program 2022. The effects left by COVID-19 on many families were realized by the number of requests made. It was a challenge, however, your response this year helped many families who were again facing another uncertainty of a "Merry Christmas". You made a difference in the lives of others. The families, their children, seniors, seminarian, homeless and others who received gifts through this year's network extend their thanks and God's blessing to all who practice the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy by so generously helping others. Because of your caring hearts, 347 requests (plus many extras) were filled. Donations were made to HCAP and WIC to supplement their gift requests. Special thanks to Elmer Looney and Rodney Kekina for setting up the Christmas tree which allowed us to post request cards; to Francis Taglinao for posting the AV Announcement; to the wonderful volunteers who manned the tables for requests pick up and gift returns; to Dale Lipton, Carol Ventura and Belinda Nakata who organized all the gifts by request numbers and names for family pickup; and to Father Anthony, Jolly and Domi for their continued support. This is indeed a Spirit-Led Parish. May God continue to bless all of you with good health, for all you do to put a smile on the faces of those in need during the Christmas Season and year-round. *Ms. Pearl Bates*

Parish News: New St. Joseph Statue



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.

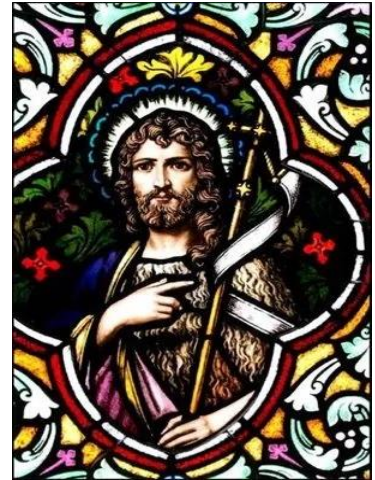
God our Father, Creator and Ruler of the universe, in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others. With St. Joseph as our guide, help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION (JOHN 1:29 – 34) BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS

Today's readings provide clear and inspiring reminders of the most fundamental aspect of our identity — that of servants of our most high and holy God, His modern-day disciples, and stewards.

John the Baptist recognized the holiness of Jesus and the response due to Him when he encountered Christ in person on the day they met at the Jordan River. His response, which we read in our Gospel passage from St. John was, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world... He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'"

What a powerful description of our Lord and the place He should rightfully have in each of our lives. He is truly our Savior, the only one who can free us from our sinfulness. We are utterly and completely dependent on His power, love, and mercy. Therefore, He truly does "rank ahead" of us; he deserves to be first, above all other priorities and plans in our lives. Let us examine our daily lives and encourage our children to do the same.



Does the way I spend my time reflect that God comes first? Do prayer and weekly Mass, regular confession, and time with my family "rank ahead" of everything else on my calendar? Do I use my talents, skills, and energy to serve my family, parish and community in thanksgiving and recognition that God's kingdom ranks ahead of any other goals or ambitions? Do I spend my money and use my material possessions to glorify God?

Challenge questions, to be sure. But questions worthy of our high calling as Christian stewards offered a glorious mission in service of our Lord and His kingdom. What will our response be?

Respect Life: "When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others' lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "How to Build a Culture of Life" (respectlife.org/culture-of-life)

This week on FORMED: Saint Anthony of Egypt: St. Anthony was a saint whose heroic life of humility and prayer inspired many other great Saints, including St. Athanasius and St. Augustine. Sit down with Taylor Kemp and Dr. Elizabeth Klein as they explore the life of this great saint.

Respect Life | The Augustine Institute Show: Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Lynn Grandon on to his show to discuss what it means to respect life. You will leave this conversation with great ideas for how you can get involved in the pro-life movement.

How Do We Live Pro-Life? The Catholic Church is committed to being pro-life. What does this mean and how are we called to live this out? Join Dr. Ben Akers and Lynn Grandon as they discuss what it means to live pro-life. Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



"The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

– JOHN 1:29

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday January 16, 2023

8AM Communion Service

Tuesday January 17, 2023

8AM Lydia & Sam Rodrigues (RIP)
Demetrio Galicinao (RIP)
Adeline Joie Aranda
(First Birthday Blessing)

Wednesday January 18, 2023

8AM Apolinar & Josefa Herrera (RIP)
Douglas Kunukau (RIP)
Fr. Cletus Mooya (RIP)
Gaudencio Villegas (RIP)

Thursday January 19, 2023

8AM Malcome Rodrigues (RIP)
Demetrio Galicinao (RIP)
Adelaida Dumlao (RIP)

Friday January 20, 2023

8AM Stephanie Rapozo (Healing)

Saturday

8AM

5PM

Sunday

7AM

9 AM

11 AM

6 PM

Demetrio Galicinao (RIP)
Yvonne Fukumoto (Healing)

January 21, 2023

Gregoria Taglinao
(Birthday Memorial)
Daniel Fernandez (RIP)
Juan M. Achaval Jr. (RIP)
Florence Fukumoto (RIP)

January 22, 2023

Demetrio Galicinao (RIP)

For the People

Leilani Shriver (Healing)

Ceferino Maduli (Healing)

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, Lolita Miral, Feliciano Carranza, Pope Eméritas Benedict XVI & Bette.

