

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

St. Matthew presents us this weekend with the beginning of Jesus' public ministry by proclaiming "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus then starts to call the disciples to follow Him. He chooses simple ordinary people to be His first disciples. This is important because He wants to show that all are welcome and called to follow Him. One does not need to be rich, popular, or famous; rather, just to be willing to follow.

The same is true for each one of us. Jesus invites us to follow Him because He loves us and wants us to be in His family. We enter His family through Baptism; however, he wants more from us than to be simply members. He wants us to be His modern-day disciples and to lead others to Him by living our call to holiness. We lead others to Him by how we live our lives; what we say and what we do in the world that we live in.

We are also celebrating the Word of God Sunday; it is a special time for us to reflect on God's sacred scriptures which human beings wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. What we all need to remember is that the Proclamation of Scriptures at Mass is Christ speaking to us, his people. Our Lectionary (the sacred book containing the readings from the Sacred Torah and the New Testament Letters contains scripture readings on a three-year cycle (Sundays) and a two-year cycle (weekdays). Year A, Matthew; Year B, Mark (and John 6); Year C, Luke. John is read during Christmas and Easter seasons and a few other times during the year.

Our Scriptures are not just inspiring writings, but writings inspired by the Holy Spirit. And Jesus our Lord and Savior is the Word made flesh (John 1).

Fr. Anthony Rapon

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: Mass

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 JAN 14/15

Sunday Collection	\$ 10,809.59
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 3,363.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,011.70
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 165.00
Social Ministry	\$ 105.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 1,365.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 340.00
Candles	\$ 575.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 50.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$ 10.00
Flowers	\$ 7.00
St Joseph Statue	\$ 470.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Seminarist ED	\$ 100.00
St Catherine – Adopt a Student	\$ 20.00
Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund	\$ 100.00
Stewardship	\$ 25.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 18,536.29





**TEACHING MASS - BULLETIN INSERT
LITURGY OF THE WORD: GOD SPEAKING TO US
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023**



CHRIST PRESENT IN HIS WORD



At the beginning of Mass on Sunday, as the priest processes in, someone, either a Deacon or a lector, is carrying in a large book. This book, often bound in red leather or even in silver and gold is the book of the gospels. We carry this book in, and place it prominently in the center of the altar, drawing our eyes towards it as the focal point during the first half of the Mass. This first half is called the Liturgy of the Word, and it centers around the contents within that book.

We should ask ourselves: why do we treat a book with such reverence? Why is this book placed on the altar and made the center of attention of our worship? The answer is that within that book are the words of Jesus Christ.

In the beginning of the gospel of John, the apostle begins by telling us, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." God's presence is there in the words of scripture. This is made all the more real when later on in that first chapter of John's gospel, he tells us that that Word, "was made flesh," referring to Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Word of God made flesh. And so, our faith tells us that Jesus Christ is present to us in the proclaiming of scripture, and most especially the four gospels, which are the recorded words of Jesus Christ himself: his teachings, his parables, his miracles, and ultimately the historical events of his life, passion, death, and resurrection. We enshrine the Gospels because within those words are Jesus Christ.

But it is not only the gospels in which God's word is made known to us. Yes, the gospels have pride of place because they are the words of God spoken by the very mouth of God, Jesus Christ. However, all of scripture, Old Testament and New Testament, are inspired by the Holy Spirit. There is no word in all of scripture that is not from God himself. When the Church compiled the Bible over 1700 years ago, it did so under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit so that the whole world had the same inspired word of God to help shape their lives. These words of holy scripture are what we proclaim at Mass. Jesus Christ speaks to us at every Mass through His Word.

A GIFT OFFERED AND RECEIVED

It is no accident that even as God speaks to us through his Word, it is through the voices of people that his Word is proclaimed. Like many other gifts, God first gives us something, and then we use what He gave us to make something for Him in return. Even the bread we offer at Mass first came from grain that God gave us. So too God gives us His word in scripture, but he desires to hear us proclaim it aloud. Those who read the word of God are in a sense making an offering of their own voice to God, while those listening are offering up their hearing to God. In this sense, both proclaiming the Word of God and listening to it are themselves acts of worship.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

HOW READINGS ARE CHOSEN

Unlike other venues, the readings used for Mass are not chosen at random. In fact, as a general rule, they are not chosen by any one person, but rather are chosen for the whole Church. By this, we mean that the readings you hear each Sunday are being read in the church in the next town, the next state, and even Catholic churches on the other side of the world.

The word “Catholic,” comes from the Greek word meaning, “universal,” and one of our greatest expressions of that universal aspect of our Church is how no matter where you go, the liturgy will still be the same. Whether here in Hawaii, Washington DC, London, Rome, or even Antarctica, the prayers, the structure, and even the readings will be the same. The only difference would be the language that they use. Our readings, and indeed all the prayers at Mass, are chosen for the entire Church, and follow a perfect and inspired formula.

THE FIRST READING

The first reading is taken either from the Old Testament or, during the Easter Season, the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. The first reading lays the foundation for the whole Liturgy of the Word, often connecting to the Gospel to be proclaimed at that Mass by means of foreshadowing either the event of that day’s Gospel or the message behind it. It is often either the telling of a historical event or a prophecy.

THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Taken from the book of Psalms, this acts as a kind of praise in which the people take part. It is a reading from scripture, but it is also a dialogue between psalmist and congregation which focuses on praising God. The psalms would have been something Jesus and the Apostles prayed, and so taking part in the response, either sung or recited, connects us to them and to 2000 years of worshippers praising God in the same way.



THE SECOND READING

Sometimes called the Epistle, the second reading is taken from one of the letters the New Testament written by the Apostles. This reading, addressed by the Apostles, often St. Paul, speaks to us as it did the early Church to whom those letters were first addressed. Our reading from them relates to the fact that the early Church and our Catholic Church today are the same Church, and that the message of these letters is as relevant to us today as it was to those early Christians.

THE GOSPEL

Once we have announced the Gospel with the Alleluia, the deacon, or in his absence, the priest, proclaims the Gospel, the very words and actions of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ. We revere the Gospel so much that we stand during its proclamation, like a soldier at attention in the presence of their Commander-in-Chief. As these are the very words of God spoken by His own lips, we bring all our focus to these words, for they are the peak and height of the Liturgy of the Word. It is the climax of our proclamation.



THE HOMILY

If the Gospel is the peak of the Liturgy of the Word, then the homily is the descending from the mountain. The homily is the priest taking the established word of God and expressing to us how it continues to speak to us today, even with the cultural differences and lifetimes of history that have taken place.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Creed, which the lay faithful recite with the priest, is our symbolic response to having heard the Word of God. In response to the teaching of God found in scripture, we acclaim: “I believe!”

THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER OR PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The Word of God always focusses us on our mission, and so we conclude the Liturgy of the Word by offering prayers and petitions for the Church, the world, and all the needs of our community.

ENTHrone THE BIBLE IN YOUR HOME

Throughout our Catholic tradition, the book of sacred Scripture has been the honored symbol of God's living word present among us. Processions, bowing, candles, and incense express our church's reverence for the inspired word as it is enthroned, opened, and proclaimed in Catholic worship. This prayer service brings the ancient practice of Bible enthronement to Catholic homes, so that it may be a continual reminder to seek and live God's word each day.

"I would like so much for all Christians to be able to comprehend 'the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ,' through diligent reading of the Word of God, for the sacred text is nourishment of the soul and the pure and perennial source of spiritual life for all of us."

– POPE FRANCIS

Reverently place the open Bible on a mantle, table, shelf, or bookstand. You may adorn the space with a candle, crucifix, icon, or flowers. It will serve as a spot for regular Bible reading and prayer. As you pray this enthronement service together, different family members may volunteer for different reader parts.

READER: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We gather together to enthrone the Holy Bible, the sacred book of our church. Since ancient times, the open book of Scripture has been enthroned at church councils and in cathedrals and parish churches. Since every Catholic home is a "domestic church," we continue this tradition in the place of our ordinary lives, asking that this enthroned Bible remind us that God teaches, encourages, and challenges us through its open pages.

READER: Let us pray:

Ever-living God, send your Holy Spirit so that this Bible may be for us a source of strength, comfort, inspiration, and guidance. Give us a deeper love for sacred Scripture, a desire to read and reflect upon it, and a longing to follow more faithfully the way of Jesus.

READER: Let us listen to Jesus as he offers us truth and freedom through his Word. A Reading from the Gospel according to John:

Jesus then said to those who believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31–32)

Pause for a moment of silent reflection.

READER: Let us all respond: "O God, teach us your word."

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The psalmist prays to God: "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" (Psalm 119:105). Show us how to travel through the dark places of life with the light of your word.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: In his parable of the sower, Jesus explains, "The sower sows the word" and "the ones that hear the word and accept it" are like rich soil that bears fruit (Mark 4:14, 20). Show us how to let the seed of your word take root within us and bear a rich harvest.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The prophet Isaiah proclaims, "The grass withers, the flower wilts, but the word of our God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8). Show us how to trust your word as our eternal source of life.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: In his parable of the sower, Jesus explains, “The sower sows the word” and “the ones that hear the word and accept it” are like rich soil that bears fruit (Mark 4:14, 20). Show us how to let the seed of your word take root within us and bear a rich harvest.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The Letter of James urges us: “Be doers of the word and not hearers only” (James 1:22). Show us how to listen to your word and then put it into action.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: Let us each approach the Bible, one by one, place our hands on its open pages, and pray a silent prayer of personal commitment.

Pray in your heart for each person as they approach the Bible.

READER: Let us pray:

Come Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the living word of Scripture. May it always be the center of our home and our lives. As you have inspired that word with power and truth, now give us confidence to read the Bible in ways that form us into disciples. Fill our hearts and kindle in them the fire of your love, so that you may renew the face of the earth.

READER: Let us pray together as Jesus taught us.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

READER: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

(This enthronement service may be easily adapted to a classroom, community room, or whatever space you wish to dedicate to the sacred Scriptures.)

A PLACE FOR LISTENING AND PRAYER

Now that the Bible is enthroned in your home, this spot is a place to come regularly to read the Bible, individually and as a family. Choose a book of the Bible to read over a period of time, the Sunday Mass readings, or a Bible study book. Then follow the five stages of the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina* to guide you.

1. READING: Read the verses aloud, slowly, and carefully, realizing that God is speaking through the sacred text. Imagine the scene, notice the feelings evoked by the text, and consider the type of writing used by the author. If done in a group, members share with the others what they have discovered in the text.

2. MEDITATION: Considering what particular phrases or images have caught your attention, ask yourself what the text is saying personally to you. What insight, comfort, or challenge is God offering you? If in a group, feel free to share your thoughts with the others.

3. PRAYER: Respond to God who has spoken to you in the text. In words of thanks, praise, repentance, or petition, speak to God from the heart. In a group, this could be prayed aloud or in silence.

4. CONTEMPLATION: Simply rest in God’s presence. Trust God to work within you and form you in the divine image. Stay in silence and savor the Holy Spirit.

5. ACTION: Determine how you can turn your prayerful reflection into practical experience. Let the power of God’s word have an effect in your life, making you a more committed disciple of Jesus.

Written by Stephen J. Binz, Catholic biblical scholar and author of numerous Bible studies. See Bridge-B.com. Permission is granted to duplicate these pages for non-commercial use.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion Service on Mondays, January 23rd and Daily Mass from Tuesday, January 24th through Friday, January 27th will be in the One Community Center.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA AND BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION: This 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.

SJAE Women’s Guild Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 28 at 8:45 am in the OCC. All members are encouraged to attend along with any interested parishioner.

Do you have a child, ages 4-12, who likes to sing? **SJAE Children’s Choir** is looking for more members! Practice is on Wednesdays, 4:00 – 5:00 pm in the church.

Do you love music? Do you already play an instrument but would like to join a group and play with others? Do you feel called to join an SJAE ministry? If yes – we have a place just for you in the SJAE Children’s Choir! The Children’s Choir would like to add an instrument section of children and adults. **Practice will begin on Wednesday, February 22, from 4-5 p.m. in the church.** For more information, call/text Deb Zedalis 808-348-2973 or email: dzedalis@hawaii.rr.com.

St. John Catholic Preschool needs full-time and part-time preschool teachers. Please consider joining our Preschool staff or recommending us an employer to those you may know who are looking for employment. We have a good team, comparable pay, good benefits, and darling children. Information and application is at:
<https://www.hrsymphony.com/hrs/route/position/4711/Q54N>

Bible Study : Catholic Women who wish to grow and persevere in their spiritual life and increase their knowledge of the Catholic faith are invited to join the **Miles Christi Catholic Women’s Bible Study** group meeting on Saturdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in classroom #1. If you are interested, contact Barbara Ursal, email: bursal@twc.com or (808)671-4750.

New St Joseph Statue: 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 the memo: St Joseph Statue). You may also donate on the parish website, online giving. 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.

Respect Life: “There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled, or desperate that life may seem. In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is always and radically incompatible with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops “Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB.

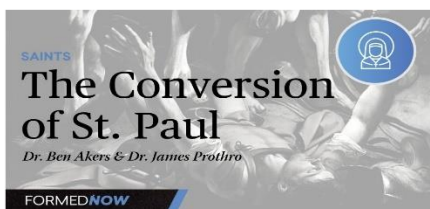
THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 22, 2023



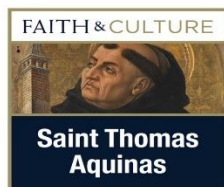
Saint Francis de Sales: Pastor of Souls

St. Francis de Sales became a hero during the Catholic Reformation for his pastoral care and spiritual writings. Join Dr. Chris Blum as he walks through the life of this great saint, who is celebrated on January 24th!



The Conversion of Saint Paul

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. James Prothro, Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, to discuss the conversion of one of the largest figures in Christianity, Saint Paul.



Saint Thomas Aquinas with Randall Smith

The Angelic Doctor is often associated with his Summa Theologica among his other great works. Join Drs Christopher Blum and Randall B. Smith as they explore some of the lesser known works of St. Thomas Aquinas.

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

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION (MATTHEW 4:12 -23)

BY DEACON ROMEO GANIBE

Pope Francis declared “the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time” to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God.... A day devoted to the Bible but let us make it a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures. The more we read the Bible, the easier and more naturally it is to allow Jesus make us “**fishers of men.**”

This simple phrase from Sacred Scripture from Matthew really grabs me nearly every time I hear it. It just sounds so important, so meaningful. Three little words. But are they just that --- words? Or are these words much more than that? And if so, what exactly do they mean for us in this time and place. What being a “**fisher of men**” might look like in this day and age.

First, fishermen often have to continually venture out to different areas in search of fish. They can't simply wait for the fish to come to them. They have to be on the move day after day, night after night, searching and pursuing. And so, as disciples, maybe we need to do the same. Maybe we need to not remain in our comfort zones, but rather continually reach out to those who are different from us. A true “fisher of men” is someone who looks for opportunities to share the Gospel with others, share what faith means and to share this great gift not with a few, but with many.

Secondly, fishermen often have to use just the right bait. And with the right bait, they can sometimes catch fish as fast as they can throw their line into the water. And so, as disciples, as spreaders of the Gospel, as “fishers of men”, what bait do we use? What do we use to draw people in, to attract them to the Lord? The bait that “works”, the bait that is the most faithful reflection of who we are as followers of Jesus is love and kindness, mercy, and generosity. Love works. And that's the only bait we'll ever need.

Thirdly, fishermen often catch their fish and bring them onto some sort of boat. For the Catholic Christian that boat is the Church, a kind of “ark” that keeps us safe as we journey on the stormy waters of life. The Church is a lifeline, a place of forgiveness and welcome and community and love. Do we describe our lives as Catholics as something we treasure, something we wouldn't and couldn't do without?

Lastly, when a fisherman catches a fish that usually means that is the end of the fish's life. And yet, as “fishers of men” nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the exact opposite is true. We spread the Gospel, we share our faith, we strive to bring people to Jesus and to the boat that is the Church precisely so they might have life. When we are “caught” by God, we are actually set “free” --- liberated from the shackles of despair and disappointment and sin. And so, to be “fishers of men” let's adopt a policy of “catch and release” philosophy, one in which we help God “catch” those who are struggling and then “release” them for a life of great joy, of great hope, of great meaning, of great love. In faith, we believe that is truly possible.



“And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

~MATTHEW 4:19

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday January 23, 2023

8AM Communion Service

Tuesday January 24, 2023

8AM Jerry Joseph Correa (RIP)
Florence Fukumoto (RIP)
Pacita Mauleon
(Birthday Memorial)

Wednesday January 25, 2023

8AM Thomas & Beatrice, James &
Irmagard Pickard (RIP)
Mary Elizabeth L. Pickard (RIP)
Julita Pangan (RIP)

Thursday January 26, 2023

8AM Harold Jones Sr. & Jr. (RIP)
Adrienne Gregory (RIP)
Gerry & Debbie Borgonia
(Anniversary Blessing)

Friday January 27, 2023

8AM Douglas Grimm (RIP)

Saturday

8AM

5PM

Sunday

7AM

9 AM

11 AM

6 PM

Fernando Dizol (Healing)
Rivas & Amador Family
(Thanksgiving)

January 28, 2023

Lorraine Fernandez (RIP)
Orlando Antolin
(Death Anniversary)
Gaudencio Villegas
(Death Anniversary)
Florence Fukumoto (RIP)

January 29, 2023

Larry Savet (RIP)

For the People

E. John García (RIP)

Hospica Rosacia (RIP)

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

DEMETRIO GALICINAO (RIP)- Monday, February 13, 2023, Mililani Memorial Park – Mauka Chapel – Family arrives: 4:30 pm; Visitation: 5:30 pm; Wake Service: 6:30 pm. Tuesday, February 14, 2023 ~ St John A&E, - Family arrives: 9:30 am; Visitation: 10:00 am; Funeral Mass: ~ 11:00 am - Burial: 1:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park.

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 & Henry Pilanca.

DECEASED

James E. Smith, Conchita Uson, Patricia Li, Lamberto “Brett” Galman, Avery S. Curet, Demetrio Galicianao, Yvonne McIntire, Lolita Miral, Feliciano Carranza, Pope Eméritas Benedict XVI, Bette, Leah Pronovost & Inocencio & Hermenegilda Casillano.

