

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This week, I want to share with you this article I found online by Fr. Rev. Michael A. Van Sloun, called ***"Give me five good reasons why going to Mass every Sunday is absolutely necessary."***

Sunday Mass fulfills God's law. The Third Commandment is, "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day" (Ex 20:8; see also Dt 5:12). The Christian Sabbath is Sunday, and Catholics keep the Sabbath holy by fulfilling the obligation to attend Mass (Canons 1246-1248; Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2174-2178). The Commandment is not a suggestion or a request; it is a command or an order. The law makes compulsory what we should want to do on our own.

Weekly Worship Follows Jesus' Example. Jesus was in the habit of going to the synagogue on the Sabbath day (Lk 4:16b). His mother Mary was "full of grace" (Lk 1:28) and his stepfather Joseph was "a righteous man" (Mt 1:19) and they both carefully "fulfilled all of the prescriptions of the law" (Lk 2:39) which means that they went to the synagogue every Sabbath. Not only did they observe this law themselves, they took their son with them, and when Jesus was old enough, he went on his own. If Jesus went to the synagogue to observe the Sabbath every week, we should go to Mass every week.

Sunday is a Day of Thanksgiving. Eucharist means thanks. It is right and just to give thanks to the Lord our God, and the Mass is the best prayer to offer thanks. God graciously blesses us with everything that we have: life and health, food and shelter, family and friends, intellect and talents, opportunity, and resources – and faith. These gifts are so awesome that we ought to be overflowing with gratitude and eager to give our thanks and praise. The ideal is to give thanks every day. Weekly thanksgiving is a bare minimum. If we give thanks only intermittently or rarely, we fail to adequately honor the Giver of the gifts.

Community Prayer is Essential. From the beginning of the Church the community "devoted themselves ... to the breaking of the bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Christians pray together by nature, and the Mass is the premier form of communal prayer. Some make the unfortunate claim: "I can pray by myself, and I do not need to go to church." Usually, the more negligent a person becomes with their Mass attendance, the more negligent the person becomes with their private prayer. There are two pillars to a well-rounded prayer life, communal and private, and to do one or the other exclusively is to be imbalanced. The more a person prays privately, the more the person should want to worship with the community, and the more a person worships with the community, the more a person should want to pray privately.

Weekly Eucharist is Solid Spiritual Food. Most people are health-food conscious. It is important to eat properly every day to avoid hunger pains, weakness, malnutrition, and disease. It is the same with our spiritual life. We need to be spiritual-food conscious if we wish to avoid emptiness, spiritual weakness, vulnerability to temptation, and sickness due to sin. The Mass begins with the Liturgy of the Word.

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: 3:30 - 4:30PM

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday Closed

Tuesday - Friday 8:30AM – 12PM,
1PM - 4PM
Closed 12PM – 1PM
for lunch

Closed Saturday, Sunday, Holidays

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE OCT 14/ 15

Sunday Collection	\$ 9,908.06
Healing Mass (9/11/2023)	\$ 354.00
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 3,764.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,232.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 1,170.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 625.00
Social Ministry	\$ 5.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 250.00
Candles	\$ 425.00
Stewardship	\$ 25.00
Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$ 10.00
All Souls' Day	\$ 575.00
World Mission Day	\$ 125.00
Senior Ministry	\$78.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 18,546.06



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY. We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call – to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports the work and witness of the Mission Church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity! Envelopes are available at the back of the church. For more information, please visit www.onefamilyinmission.org. Mahalo!



Mark your calendar for the **SJAE GARAGE SALE** on **Saturday, October 28th, 9 a.m.-noon at SJAE!** Over 30 tables of sale items such as plants, food, baked goods, clothing, toys, tools, and household items will be available from SJAE ministries. All proceeds will go to OCC reduction. So come out, browse for treasures, and support a good cause!

ST JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CHURCH

3RD ANNUAL HALLOWEEN

ALL SAINTS DAY and

DRESS UP LIKE YOUR FAVORITE SAINT

October 29, 2023

CHILDREN'S MASS at 9:00 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!



ST. JOHN will be holding a special **TOY DRIVE**, next weekend, Oct 28-29, for the Students of Maria Lanakila Parish School, and Sacred Hearts, who are still recovering from the Lahaina Fire. They currently have 204 students from grades pre-school to high school. Let's come together to help these students have a nice gift to open on Christmas Morning this year. Donations can be dropped off at the Office this week or you can drop them off next weekend at the entrance of our Church. As St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Ephesians 4:32, *"Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others"* Mahalo for your support!!

ST JOHN CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL FALL FEST 2023

Friday, October 27 9:30am – 11:00am

St John's Parking Lot

- **HPD Solo Bike Officers & K-9 Unit**
- **Trunk or Treat and Games**

Participation is encouraged to decorate your trunks.

Theme: Four Seasons



All Souls Day commemorating all those who have gone before us is on Thursday, November 2nd. Masses are at 8:00 am & Rosary Service at 6:00 pm for All Souls in Purgatory followed by Mass at 6:30 pm. We hope to see you as we gather in prayer for our Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

If you would like to honor a deceased loved one with a dedicated luminary, you can pick up your free luminary bag and candle this weekend 10/21- 10/22 after all Masses.

All Souls Offering envelopes are available at the main entrance of the church. **Please submit your offering no later than Sunday, October 31.**



ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL T SHIRTS

HOW TO ORDER:

1. Order online at
<https://www.storessimple.com/808logo/stjohn>
Store code: sjae (all lower case)
2. St. John Website: <https://www.stjohnmililani.org>

ORDER NOW!

DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 31, 2023



JOB OPENING:

Maintenance & Groundskeeper (Part-Time) Description: Responsible for the maintenance, cleanliness, and repair of parish facilities. Performs a variety of facility and equipment maintenance and preventative maintenance duties. Oversees any maintenance activities provided by contractors as assigned by the Pastor. To apply:

<https://www.hrsymphony.com/hrs/route/position/5971/G5QE>

THIS WEEK ON FORMED:

Pope John Paul II

Starring Jon Voight and Cary Elwes, this epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Peter.

Slaves and Kings: The Story of St. Anthony Mary Claret (English Audio)

Following the life of St. Anthony Mary Clare—Archbishop, writer, publisher, social reformer, and confessor to the Queen of Spain—this film tells the compelling story of one of Spain's most popular preachers and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism

This powerful documentary captures how spiritual power can triumph over violence and oppression. Get a new glimpse of history through this film as you learn about John Paul II's intricate role in the collapse of communism.

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

THE LINEN MINISTRY serves to keep altar linens fresh and clean. If you are interested and want to volunteer, please contact Geri Olivares at (808) 824-0186



99.9% of Catholics Do Not Know These Facts about the Mass Part 1

By: <https://catholicbooks.net/99-9-of-catholics-do-not-know-these-facts-about-the-mass/>

There are two blocks of fascinating information that very, very few Catholics are aware of. The first is some seldom explained theological information regarding the benefits of Masses offered for deceased persons. The second block of information includes some rarely explained benefits that the living can obtain for themselves by devout attendance at Mass.

As you read this, don't be surprised to find yourself surprised...

But first—not too surprising is the fact that through the centuries there have been literally thousands of earthly apparitions of souls in purgatory; their most common and urgent plea is for prayer for them, but especially to arrange to have Masses offered for them to diminish the duration and intensity of their suffering—which is an extremely intense but frustrated mystical love-hunger for the vision of God—an incandescent love-hunger ignited at the moment of death and described biblically in the Song of Songs, 8:6. This consoling appraisal of Mass for the dead is supported, not just by private revelations, but also by sacred tradition, by pristine Church teaching, and is alluded to, even in ancient catacomb inscriptions.

Any prayer, but especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, when offered for any or all souls in purgatory, is appreciated far, far more than a starving person appreciates a banquet of delicious food. It exceeds our imagining!

But here's the rub: In spite of countless private revelations to visionaries, and even many apparitions of souls in purgatory about the value of Masses for the dead —

supported by centuries of Church teaching—some further revelations and Church teachings are even more significant—namely, **Masses offered for still-living persons (including yourself) are more beneficial than Masses offered for deceased persons.**

Masses for the dead will provide for them a God-assigned “indulgence” (a curtailing of the duration and/ or intensity of purgatorial suffering). **But if Mass is offered as intercession for persons while still alive and in the state of grace—i.e., no unrepented serious sin** (1 John 5:16), these living persons receive three added benefits not available to the dead, namely:

- 1) *Increase of merit (assigned heavenly joy and glory) forever—CCC 2010).*
- 2) *Added sanctifying grace (a deeper sharing in the life of God—2 Pet. 1:4).*
- 3) *Actual graces (conscience-nudges to do good and avoid evil—CCC 2000),*

The dead cannot “grow spiritually” Their level of holiness and resultant reward can be increased only before death: “Wherever the tree falls, there it will lie,” as Solomon proverbialized. The state of one’s soul at death “decides its ultimate destiny, as the Catechism (1013) reminds us, for that’s when individual judgment occurs (Heb. 9:27), to be reaffirmed publicly at the Last global Judgment (Matt. 25:46).

Hence, **while a Mass offered for a deceased person can provide great relief, a Mass offered for a living person can provide great growth.** Both ways of applying the Mass are high-level acts of the virtue of charity. Often the Lord lets me see the spiritual benefits in many of my friends who ask me to celebrate Mass for their loved ones, living and dead. (Furthermore, their stipend offering is used to help the poor of our missions overseas.)

A great Doctor of the Church, St. Anselm, conjectured that a single Mass offered for a person while alive may be worth more than a thousand offered for that person after death—although it is true that even one Mass for a deceased person is enormously helpful to that soul.

St. Leonard of Port Maurice supports this conjecture of St. Anselm, saying that one Mass offered for a living person is more profitable than many Masses offered for that same person postmortem.

Finally, a papal pronouncement formulates the opinion of these saints more definitively: Pope Benedict XV (not to be confused with Pope Benedict XVI) proclaimed, “The holy Mass is of greater profit if offered for a person during their lifetime, than when celebrated for that soul’s relief after death.”

Thurible



A thurible is a metal censer in which incense is burned during religious services. The thurible is suspended from chains and is gently swung by the priest, deacon, or thurifer in order to spread the fragrant smoke of the incense. A thurifer is an acolyte that carries the thurible.

Why do Catholics use a thurible?

The thurible is used in some of the key moments of the Eucharistic celebration: the beginning, before the reading of the Gospel, during the Offertory, and at the moment of consecration. During a funeral Mass, the priest spreads the smoke of the thurible on the coffin containing the corpse to bless and purify it.

What does Bible say about incense?

God gave Moses and Aaron detailed instructions for the times, places, and methods of burning incense. It was to be burned perpetually before the Lord, and it was a holy act of worship (Exodus 30). When the Tabernacle was replaced by the Temple, incense was offered there (1/3 Kings 9:25).

Why is incense important to Christianity?

In the Book of Revelation, incense symbolizes the prayers of the saints in heaven – the "golden bowl full of incense" are "the prayers of the saints" (Revelation 5:8, cf. Revelation 8:3) which infuse upwards towards the altar of God.

Why does God want incense?

The sweet smell of incense and its rising smoke gave it a kind of natural symbolism. It became the image of something pleasing to God. The rising smoke came to symbolize a person's or people's prayers rising up to God. So, in Psalm 141 we have the plea, "Let my prayer come like incense before you."



From FORMED.org

Week Two: The Role of the Parishioner

Summary

We Christians are here on earth as exiles. Many of us grow up in middle class Christianity. The danger with that is that we have everything we want and as a consequence we don't really long for heaven. Central to the Christian message is that we spend our lives here on earth *longing* for our true home which is in heaven.

"Parishioner" comes from the Greek *paroikos* which is also the root word for "pariah." It is the perennial reminder that we don't belong here; our home is heaven.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

Christ Jesus, high priest of the new and eternal covenant, taking human nature, introduced into this earthly exile that hymns which is sung throughout all ages in the halls of heaven. He joins the entire community of mankind to Himself, associating it with His own singing of this canticle of divine praise. (n°. 83)

In the earthly liturgy we take part in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, a minister of the holies and of the true tabernacle; we sing a hymn to the Lord's glory with all the warriors of the heavenly army; venerating the memory of the saints, we hope for some part and fellowship with them; we eagerly await the Savior, Our Lord Jesus Christ, until He, our life, shall appear and we too will appear with Him in glory. (n°. 8)

It is of the essence of the Church that she be both human and divine, visible and yet invisibly equipped, eager to act and yet intent on contemplation, present in this world and yet not at home in it; and she is all these things in] such wise that in her the human is directed and subordinated to the divine, the visible likewise to the invisible, action to contemplation, and this present world to that city yet to come, which we seek. (n°. 2)

In the Tradition

So, then you are no longer strangers (*zenoi*) and sojourners (*paroikoi*), but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION (MATTHEW 22:15-21) BY CATHOLIC CONSULTANTS STEWARDSHIP

Today's readings encourage us Christian stewards to always be mindful of who we are and Whose we are in every aspect of our lives.

Jesus reminds us of this truth in our Gospel passage today as He cleverly puts the Pharisees in their place during their attempt to verbally entrap Him. They ask Him whether it is lawful to pay the tax to Caesar. But the Pharisees were thinking small. Christ, on the other hand, thinks big.

We all know how the story goes. Christ asks to see the coin that pays the tax and has them state whose image is on it. They of course, reply, "Caesar." In response Christ tells them to "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

With that, He reminds us that while civil authorities should be obeyed, we answer to an infinitely higher Authority, God, Who is Lord of everything and everyone. All things and all people were created by God. In Baptism we have been claimed for Christ. Our lives are a gift from God, and we have the privilege and responsibility to use every aspect of our lives in grateful response to Him.

Let us joyfully give thanks to this wonderful God by the way we live our daily lives. We belong to Him and there is no other!

Respect Life: "I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed...But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope....The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation."

Pope Saint John Paul II, Evangelium vitae, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

It's Respect Life Month! Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month. Visit respectlife.org/celebrate.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26 (148A)

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Responsorial Psalm: 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

- "I am the LORD, there is no other."

-ISAIAH 45:6



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday October 23, 2023

8AM Gloria Garma Fiesta (RIP)
Primo Ungos (RIP)
Butch Corpuz (Healing)
Eugene Quiddaoen (Healing)

Tuesday October 24, 2023

8AM Gloria Garma Fiesta (RIP)
Beatriz Ebuén (Death Anniversary)
Reynaldo Santos (Birthday Memorial)
Lawrence Scott (Death Anniversary)
Primo Ungos (RIP)

Wednesday October 25, 2023

8AM Gloria Garma Fiesta (RIP)
Felicitas, Alfredo Cordial Jr & Sr (RIP)
All Souls in Purgatory (RIP)
Primo & Joey Pablo (Healing)

Thursday October 26, 2023

8AM John & Agatha Kim (RIP)
Panijo & Pedro (RIP)
Tsuneo & Masako Nishikawa (RIP)

Friday

8AM Michael Cobb (RIP)
Poor Souls in Purgatory (RIP)
Pacita Mauleon (Death Anniversary)
Suzanna Foster
(Blessing/Thanksgiving)
Gene Nishikawa (Thanksgiving)

Saturday

8AM **October 27, 2023**
Gloria Garma Fiesta (RIP)
Carmen Villa Delgado (RIP)
Marcelo & Carmen Callejo (RIP)
Bill Tadda (1st yr. Death Anniversary)
Fe Rodillas (Healing)
Maria Amaral (Thanksgiving)

Sunday

7AM **October 28, 2023**
Katy Pascual (Birthday Blessing)
9 AM For the People
11 AM Wayne Ursal (RIP)
6 PM Harold D. Browning (RIP)

October 29, 2023

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

JANE ANN BEAUCHEMIN (RIP) – Tuesday, October 24, 2023; St John – Family: 9:00 am, Visitation: 9:30 am, Mass: 11:00 am; Burial: 1:00 pm ~ HI State Veterans Cemetery.

ERLINDA DICHOSO JUAN (RIP) – Monday, October 30, 2023; Mililani Mortuary – Mauka Chapel – Family: 5:00 pm, Visitation: 5:30 pm, Wake Service: 6:30 pm.

Tuesday, October 31, 2023- St John: Family: 9:00 am; Visitation: 9:30 am; Eulogy: 10:00 am; Mass: 10:30 am; Burial- 12:30 pm~ Mililani Memorial Park.

HEALING / BLESSINGS

Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Helen Guerrero, Stephanie Rapozo, Thomas Ramos, John Bates, Cindy Abernathy, Lupita Arizpe, Marisol Aguirre, Richard Guillory, Nicole Guerrero, Mona DeCosta, Reyes Aguirre, Marisol Aguirre, Lana Daszek, Vanessah Liu, Michael Donlin, Patrice Wilson, Gene Lumantas, Clarita Martinez, Daniel Ariola, Julian Rillamas Jr. & Jim Walsh.

DECEASED

Mark Burnett, Chirsty Esposito, Michael Cobb, Shirley Del Rosario, Jane Beauchemin, Genevieve Rosa, Michelle Aubuchon, Monica Pangelinan, Jonathan Somaoang, Gavina Tamonte, Gloria U. Munson, Aida Govico, Catalina Sagocio, Margaret Nakamura, Wendell Perry, Patrick Mayock & Gary Garcia.