

SPIRIT-LED NEWS



HOW TO FIND TIME IN THE DAY FOR LENT

From Loyola Press

The fast pace of your life may seem to leave little time and energy for the traditional Lenten practices. But you can weave moments of spiritual awareness and service into even the busiest of schedules. The trick is to see Lenten practice as part of, rather than in addition to, each activity of your ordinary hectic day.



The three foundational practices of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Here's how to think about them in a new way:

Praying Daily - *If you make a habit of saying a little prayer whenever someone irritates you, cuts you off in traffic, or makes life difficult; when someone does you a favor, you experience great and friendly service, or when something joyful happens to you—you will soon find yourself praying your way through the day. Try this simple practice and you will be observing the Catholic Church's call for greater prayer during the Lenten season. You will also find that this habit makes your life flow smoother, yourself more centered, and your Spirit more aware of God's presence*

A Different Type of Fasting - *There are many ways to fast. Why not fast from criticism, gossip, judging others, or passing on rumors? Why not abstain from unwarranted fear and anxiety? You can also tell that inner voice inside your head that criticizes you to abstain from eroding your ability to be the confident, blessed person God calls you to be. These are beautiful ways to observe the Lenten call to fasting and abstinence. In the book, *Praying Lent*, the authors offer suggestions on different ways to fast during Lent.*

Give of Yourself - *Daily life also offers countless opportunities to give of yourself to others (alms), and most don't involve dipping into your wallet. Give encouragement to the doubting, give a word of praise to the insecure, show kindness to someone who could use a friend, and offer a word of thanks to those whose service of others often goes unappreciated. Give the gift of your attention to someone who simply wants to be noticed. Tell your children stories about people whose values you admire when you gather at mealtime. Don't be stingy with your smiles—give them freely to everyone you meet. And most important, give your love to those close to you. Hug them, hold them, and tell them what they mean to you. In this way you open your heart to God and others.*



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

DEACONS Dcn. Romeo Ganibe

Dcn. Mike Browning

*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 FEB 24/25

Sunday Collection	\$ 11,106.55
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 3,935.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 181.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 55.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 2,835.00
Stewardship	\$ 100.00
Flowers	\$ 15.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 5.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 392.00
Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$ 100.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 50.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$ 5.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$ 1.00
WEEKEND TOTAL	\$ 18,790.55

Third Sunday of Lent Year B

MASS READINGS

Exodus 20:1–17

Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 1

Corinthians 1:22–25

John 2:13–25



SUMMARY

In this week's First Reading from Exodus, we hear how the Lord gave the Israelites Ten Commandments. It would be tempting to just hear this reading, which we are quite familiar with, and allow that familiarity to lead us to see the Ten Commandments simply as a checklist of rules.

Yet these commandments emerge out of Israel's fundamental covenantal relationship with God. For the Israelites, a covenant was far more than an alliance or legal agreement. Entering a covenant means formalizing a deep and intimate relationship which becomes an exchange of persons.

In his covenants with the Jewish people, the Lord binds himself to Israel, and the Israelites bind themselves to the Lord. This is the essential meaning of the word religion, which we get from the Latin word *ligere*, which means "to bind." In this covenant, the Israelites are literally "bound again" to the Lord in relationship. Thus, the first commandment is rooted in relationship with the Lord: "I, the LORD am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me" (Ex 20:2–3).

Following the Ten Commandments, then, is a loving response to the God who led the Israelites out of an experience of slavery into life and freedom. Why is this important for us, who encounter this reading thousands of years after it was written? The Gospel reading helps us answer that question.

All of the covenants which we see in the Old Testament prepare the world for the definitive and eternal covenant in Jesus Christ. The Gospel reading depicts Jesus cleansing the temple. As he turns over the moneychanger's tables, Jesus is reprioritizing relationship with God over exclusively external obedience to rules that has become merely transactional.

The sacrifices required by Mosaic law in the Old Testament were also ways in which Israel signaled their fidelity to their covenantal relationship with God. In Jesus' time, the moneychangers and vendors in the temple were making it more difficult for the Jews to express this fidelity by profiteering and taking advantage of those who did not have access to their own animals.

In addition, we must recognize that, for the Jewish people, the Temple sat at the center of culture, religion, and society. In many ways, it was one of the foundations of their identity as a people. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple disrupts that essential worship happening within the





temple, and he makes a startling declaration. “‘Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews said, ‘This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking about the temple of his body” (Jn 2:19–21).

Jesus is signaling that he is going to fulfill the Mosaic Covenant. In his actions in today’s Gospel, Jesus is demonstrating that, in the new and eternal covenant, authentic worship of the Father will not occur in the context of a place but from within his Person, from within an intimate and personal relationship with Jesus in the midst of his Mystical Body, the Church.

And it is in the Holy Eucharist, where we receive Jesus, Body and Blood, Soul, and Divinity, that our union with Jesus grows deeper and more profound.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. The very first and foundational commandment is one of relationship, removing all of the idols in our lives so that God is central. What are some of the idols that you see in your life that get in the way of making your relationship with God the primary relationship in your life?
2. What do you think Scripture means when it says that Jesus did not need anyone to testify about human nature because he knew it well? Does Jesus’ knowledge of human nature change the way you relate to him?

Readings for next Sunday, March 10, 2024



Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14–16, 19–23

Psalms 137:1–2, 3, 4–5, 6

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4–10

Gospel: John 3:14–21

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

~ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:25

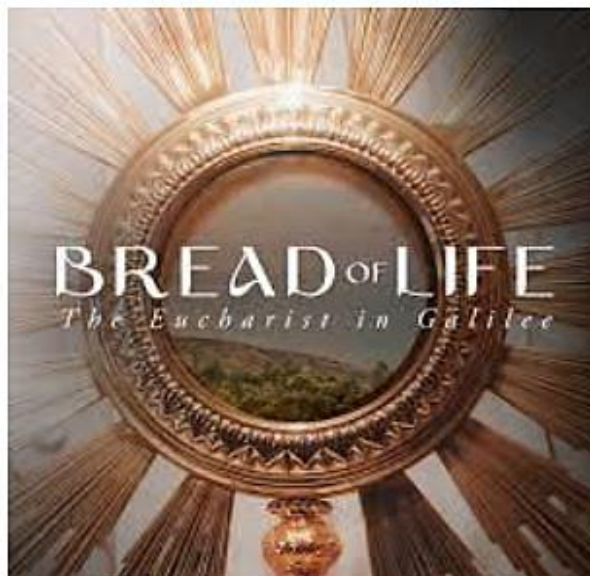
JOIN FR. ANTHONY
FOR OUR LENT RETREAT!
MARCH 11 & 12 | 7:00PM
ONE COMMUNITY CENTER

*We will be utilizing the FORMED Faith Series
"Bread of Life: The Eucharist in Galilee".
Christ's teaching about the Eucharist was not
reserved solely for the Last Supper. Rather,
this profound mystery is the crescendo of
Jesus' entire ministry: all his work in Galilee
prepared for and pointed to the Eucharist.*

All are welcome!

**Come and ignite your love for the Real Presence
of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.**

Come and be filled. Come, Holy Spirit!



ST. JOHN MOVIE NIGHT
MONDAY, MARCH 18
7:00PM
ONE COMMUNITY CENTER

Tickets available on the parish website.

Popcorn provided by the
Knights of Columbus!

FORTY-SEVEN DAYS WITH JESUS is a heartwarming Easter tale centered on the Burdon family, led by Joseph and Juliana (Yoshi Barrigas and Catherine Lidstone from THE CHOSEN). When the Burdons attend a reunion at Poppa and Nonna's ranch, they realize just how disconnected their family has become. Facing marital hiccups, teenaged angst and Poppa's health hurdles, the adults decide to share Poppa's enchanting 'Forty-Seven Days' story with the kids, transporting us back in time to see the miracles of Jesus' final 47 days on Earth. When an unexpected business opportunity places Joseph at a crossroads, his commitment to his family is tested. Can the Burdons pull together in the face of uncertainty? With Poppa's tale as their guide, they embark on a journey towards unity and rediscover the true essence of walking in faith. Featuring an unforgettable original soundtrack, FORTY-SEVEN DAYS WITH JESUS contains a powerful portrayal of Jesus' life that reminds us all of The Gospel's enduring impact.

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL

Busy Bees Newsletter

March 2024

Spring is upon us!



Aloha!

During the month of February, we enjoyed our study of volcanoes, the Hawaiian Islands, and the symbols that represent the State of Hawai'i. We also talked about the scientific explanation on how the Hawaiian Islands came to be.

For the month of March, we will be studying the plant kingdom. This study includes various parts and functions of plants.

We will start to redo our garden; getting the soil ready for new seeds and watching as the seeds develop into new plants. We will identify the different parts of the plants that we consume as well.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 4 Girls Day Tea Time
 March 17 St. Patrick's Day
 March 25 - April 1 Spring Break
 Class resumes on
 Tuesday, April 2

BIRTHDAY SALUTATIONS

March 4 Jaxen
 March 6 Beatriz
 March 7 Leia

SAVE THE DAY

Friday, April 26 - Easter Egg Hunt
 Please save your plastic eggs and fillers. We are seeking these donations for our class event no later than Friday, April 12.



"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

-Maria Montessori

ST JOHN PRESCHOOL – OPEN ENROLLMENT SY 2024-2025, for ages 2.8 years – 6 years old. For more information, call (808) 744-9538 or email: stjohns_preschool@rcchawaii.org.

Job Opening:

Preschool Teacher (Full-Time) Description: Provides instructional programming including lesson implementation, classroom preparation, and supervision of students and must maintain an environment of safety and security. For more information, contact the preschool office at (808) 744-3538. To apply: <https://www.hrsymphony.com/hrs/route/position/8041/M8SA>

Mahalo for your continued support of St. John's Catholic Preschool

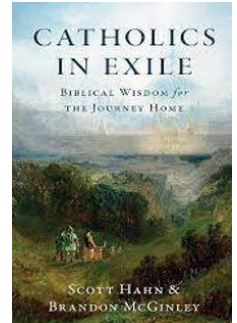
PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEBT REDUCTION SECOND COLLECTION: We will have a second collection, this weekend **March 2/3**, 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, you may donate on our parish website, online giving. Your generosity is much appreciated.

SJAE LIBRARY: Need some reading materials for Holy Week? If so, check out your SJAE Lending Library Tables after all Masses next weekend!

If you have **overdue books**, please return them – thank you!

NEW Books. Recent monetary donations allowed your SJAE library to purchase new books! These beautiful books will be available after all masses on March 9-10! THANK you for your support of the SJAE Library.



Join us for **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** on Fridays: Mar 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 6:30 pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and spend time with Jesus!

CRS RICE BOWLS: Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and climate change, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all. You may make a donation at offertory or on the parish website online giving.

Our **Lenten Penance Service** is on Wednesday, March 13 at 7 pm. We will have 5 priests to hear confessions.

CENTRAL VICARIATE LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES at 7 PM
St Michael, Waialua - March 5 (6:30 pm)
Resurrection of the Lord, Waipio - March 12
St John Apostle & Evangelist Church, Mililani - March 13
Our Lady of Sorrows, Wahiawa – March 14
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pearl City – March 20
St Elizabeth, Aiea - March 21 (6:30 pm)

Jubilate
Catholic Faith, Music & Art



My Soul Magnifies the Lord (Lk. 1:46)
A Pilgrimage to the Marian Shrines Including
Portugal, Spain, France, & Rome 13 Days / 10 Nights
December 1-13, 2024.
Fr Anthony Rapozo, Spiritual Director
Deacon Mike Browning, Pilgrimage Host
To register: www.stjohnmililani.org

AN EVENING WITH SARAH HART IN CONCERT: FRIDAY, APRIL 12 at 7PM, OCC. To purchase tickets, visit the parish website, www.stjohnmililani.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday March 4, 2024

8AM Daniel Sr. & Felicidad Quintas (RIP)
Teresitas Quintas (RIP)

Tuesday March 5, 2024

8AM Alex & Corpus Noveloso
(Birthday Blessing)

Wednesday March 6, 2024

8AM M/M Alfredo & Felicitas Cordial
(RIP)

Thursday March 7, 2024

8AM Ernest Santiago (Healing)

Friday March 8, 2024

Edward & Gloria Lamug (Healing)

Erlinda Juan (RIP)

Saturday March 8, 2024

8AM Sylvia Dizol

5PM Eugene Quiddaoen (RIP)

Sunday March 9, 2024

7AM Kepa Pascual (Birthday Blessing)

9 AM For the People

11 AM Suzanna Foster (RIP)

6 PM Leticia Ancog (RIP)

Respect Life: The Gospel of Life is “meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!”

(The Gospel of Life 5)



FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

ESTELA VILLANUEVA AGPALZA (RIP) – Wednesday, March 6, 2024 – St John, Mililani; Visitation: 9:30 am; Mass: 11:00 am; Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

HEALING / BLESSINGS

Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Helen Guerrero, Stephanie Rapozo, Thomas Ramos, John Bates, Cindy Abernathy, Richard Guillory, Vanessa Liu, Michael Donlin, Patrice Wilson, Gene Lumantas, Clarita Martinez, Jim Walsh, Lita Guerrero, Florida Badua, Allene Ishikawa, Dominador Rulloda, Sam Rombaoa, Cherissalyn & Tuputasi Gaopoa, Nicole Guerrero, Lourdes Amasol & Dr. Luis Raguton.

DECEASED

Gavina Tamonte, Gloria U. Munson, Aida Govico, Catalina Sagocio, Margaret Nakamura, Wendell Perry, Gary Garcia, Daniel Ariola, Maxima Looney, Suzanna Foster, Ruth Hartzel, Angela Topinio, Diane Kotch, Florence P. Albano, Julian Rillamas Jr., Vivencia Mamaril, Salvador Ganzon Jr & Sr & Philip Chircop Sr.

