



SPIRIT-LED NEWS

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FATHER

My Dear Parishioners and Friends in Christ,

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5). This powerful message from St. John's Gospel is the heart of our Christmas celebration. In a world that often feels overwhelmed by conflict, suffering, and uncertainty, the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ reminds us that God has broken into our history to bring us light, hope, and salvation.

Christmas is a time of profound joy because we celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation: God becomes one of us. He enters into the messiness of our lives—our grief and our joy, our struggles and our successes—to walk with us on our journey. In the humble circumstances of a manger, poor in everything yet rich in love, God shows us that true nourishment in life comes from letting ourselves be loved by Him and loving others in turn.

As we gather with family and friends, and as one large parish family, I encourage everyone to embrace the profound peace that the Christ Child offers. May we open our hearts to the "Prince of Peace" and become instruments of that peace in our homes and communities. Let us be people of faith and joy, reflecting the light of Christ to a world that desperately needs it.

I also want to extend my sincere gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our parish this past year. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are the lifeblood of this community, enabling us to continue our mission and ministries. A special thank you to all the volunteers and staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make our parish a welcoming home for all.

On behalf of Fr. JoJo Alnas, Deacons Mike Browning and Romeo Ganibe, and our entire parish staff, I wish you and your families a truly blessed and Merry Christmas and a grace-filled New Year!

May the blessings of the Holy Family be with you always,

Fr. Anthony Rapozo

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
PAROCHIAL VICAR Fr. Cipriano “Jojo” Alnas
DEACONS Dcn. Romeo Ganibe
 Dcn. Mike Browning

*FULL Parish Clergy & Staff Directory
 available on our website.*

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 8AM Monday – Saturday
Sunday: 5PM (Anticipated Mass), 7AM,
 9AM, 11AM & 6PM

ADORATION TIMES:

Monday – Saturday 7AM – 8AM
 Friday after 8 AM Mass - 9:30 AM
 Wednesday 7 PM - 8 PM (Encounter Night)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30PM

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday Closed
Tuesday - Friday 9AM – 1PM,
 2PM - 5PM
 Closed 1PM – 2PM
 for lunch
Closed Saturday, Sunday,
 Holy Days & Holidays

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE DEC 13/14

Sunday Collection	\$ 17,086.97
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 472.00
Online Donation (Pushpay)	\$ 3,905.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 480.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 50.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 370.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 1,542.00
Candles	\$ 654.00
Preschool	\$ 100.00
Catholic Communication Campaign for Human Development	\$ 5.00
Retirement Fund for the Religious	\$ 1,595.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass (Dec 12)	\$ 368.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 165.00
Christmas	\$ 260.00
Immaculate Conception Mass (Dec 8)	\$ 2,372.00
Statue	\$ 25.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 29,449.97

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

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS



As our Advent preparations end and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day.

In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give?

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call to him through the message of an angel.

We never hear St. Joseph speak, but the Scriptures tell us he was always listening, attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit for his family. It was Joseph who found the stable where the baby Jesus would be born. No doubt it was Joseph who cleaned it up and prepared it for Mary and Jesus since we know that Mary was about to give birth. Joseph protected the family, guarded them, and tended to their safety, their comfort, and their well-being at the expense of his own plans and preferences. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection, and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God, who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love."

~ MOTHER TERESA



FATHER ANTHONY'S STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Aloha!

Our parish vision of stewardship is one that sees Stewardship as a Way of Life, that begins with Love, It is not about collecting money though; it is about sharing the gifts that God has given each of us. The financial needs of the parish have very little to do with our individual practice of living out a Stewardship Way of Life.

NUMBER 12 – A STEWARD'S VOCATION

The call to be a Disciple of Jesus is the Christian vocation that we all share. Stewardship is a part of that. We are called to be good stewards of the personal vocations that we have received as gifts. Each of us must discern, accept and live out joyfully and generously the commitments, responsibilities and roles to which God calls him or her.

Every human life, every personal vocation, is unique. We are called to Discipleship not as a faceless crowd but as unique individuals. Yet, there is a common element to the call. To follow Christ and to try to live his life as our own is the common vocation.

Vocations are communicated, discerned, accepted and lived out within a community of faithful disciples. We help each other hear the Lord's voice and respond.



A Lifesaving Home for Virginia

How significant is a safe, sturdy home? For Carlos, it saved his daughter's life.

"Without this home, my miracle child wouldn't be alive today."

Carlos and his wife Leslie lived in rural Guatemala, in a rickety wooden dwelling with constant illnesses. When Cross Catholic Outreach supporters provided a new concrete-block home, everything changed.

"It was a gift from God," Carlos recalled.

Their daughter Virginia was born with dangerous health issues requiring surgeries. The family credits her survival to the safe, clean home where she recovered.

Today, Carlos is thriving and growing his family's bakery. He recently hired two teenage boys to work part time at the bakery on the condition that they stay in school.

More success stories are waiting. All we need are faithful friends like you to make safe housing a reality. Scan the QR code or visit CrossCatholic.org/Advent to give.



Carlos, Leslie and their children outside their new home.

GIVE TODAY: CrossCatholic.org/Advent



Please annotate St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church on your envelope for accountability purposes. Mahalo!! Envelopes are located at the back of the church.

Advent Week Four Family Activity: Create a Snow Globe

Create a Family Snow globe. Snow globes often symbolize innocence, therefore, metaphorically representing the purity and redemption of the Advent Season.

Materials

- Clean glass jar with a lid
- Small figurines or decorations (e.g., bottle brush trees, plastic animals, houses)
- Water (distilled water is recommended for clarity)
- Glycerin or clear glue (to thicken the water)
- Glitter
- Waterproof glue (such as epoxy or hot glue)
- Sandpaper (optional, to help glue stick to the lid)



Respect for Life: *"O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid."*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Prayer for Radical Solidarity (www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity)

to be courageously pro-woman, promoting a choice that truly protects, accompanies, and supports women and their children

radical
solidarity



Models used for illustrative purposes only. ©Stock.com/500Pro Productions

Feast of St. John Apostle & Evangelist

NO 8AM Mass

Saturday – Dec 27th

IMMEDIATELY AFTER 9AM MASS- POTLUCK

SUGGESTED POTLUCK ENTRÉES

Your last name begins with:

A to L..... salads, pasta, fruits

M to Z..... main dish, desserts, pupus

A to Z.....your presence!

~ Parish to provide rice, mochiko chicken,

Hawaiian chopsteak and macaroni salad ~

Also, we will have special entertainment.

YOU ARE TO PROVIDE FUN, LAUGHTER, & JOY



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISA DE GALLO will be held on December 22 – 24 at 5 am.

CHRISTMAS IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:



ST JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST CHURCH

95-370 KUAHELANI AVENUE, MILILANI, HI 96789

Mass Schedule for Christmas and New Year's

Christmas Eve – 6pm

Christmas Day – 12am midnight, 7am, 9am, 11am,
(No 6pm Mass)

New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, the Holy
Mother of God – 8am



THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, in observance of Christmas Eve and Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day.



Remember a loved one by making a flower offering this Christmas. Envelopes are available at the back of the church, or you may also make a donation online by visiting our parish website, online giving. Mahalo!

STARTING JANUARY 1st, we will have new office hours. Monday – closed; Tuesday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm | Lunch closed 1:00pm – 2:00 pm; Saturday, Holy Days and Holidays - closed; Sunday – 8:00am – 12:30pm.

ADULT CONFIRMATION: Are you an adult parishioner who missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation? Preparation of Confirmation for parishioners who want to receive this Sacrament will be offered in January 2026. **First class:** Tuesday, Jan 20 | 6:30pm | OCC Conference Room. We are now accepting registration for these classes. To register, visit our website, stjohnmililani.org. **Registration will close on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.** For more information, please contact Fr Anthony, sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org or (808) 623-3332. Mahalo!

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Responsorial Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 22, 2025

8 AM Mike & Aggie Browning
(Wedding Anniversary Blessing)
Ben Pascual (Birthday Blessing)
Cipriano Dulay (RIP)
James & Minnie Amaral (RIP)

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

8 AM Richard Cross (Birthday Memorial)
Victoria M. Navarro (Death Anniversary)
Linda B. Caracol (RIP)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

8 AM Art Apilado (RIP)
6 PM Rose Marie Mesick (RIP)

Thursday, December 25, 2025

12AM Wilfredo Pacleb (RIP)
7AM Jacob Samson (Birthday Blessing)
9AM Christy Esposito (Birthday Memorial)
11AM The Benitez & Browning Family
(Thanksgiving/Blessing)

Friday, December 26, 2025

8 AM Harold Jones Sr & Jr (RIP)
Ana Maria/ Lani Escamilla (Birthday Blessing)
Mucio Aguirre (Birthday Memorial)

Saturday, December 27, 2025

8 AM Jesse Tano (Birthday Blessing)
Joey & Primo Pablo
(Wedding Anniversary Blessing)
Kim & Colin Rapozo (RIP)
5 PM Fr Anthony Rapozo (Special Intentions)

Sunday, December 28, 2025

7 AM Estela Agpalza (RIP)
9 AM *For the People*
11 AM Maria Aguirre (Blessings)
6 PM Robert Daguio (Healing)



HEALING / BLESSINGS

Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Helen Guerrero, Thomas Ramos, Cindy Abernathy, Barbara Ursal, Hildegard Borowitz, Roland Crisostomo, Margie Romasanta, Felicia Routon, Dolly Lapinad, Violet Mayock, Jim Murphy, Priscilla Sy, Maria & Sam Aguirre Sr., Dolores Roccia, Oscar Gatdula, Maluhia Yoho, Marigil Sabado, Gus Benitez, Ramona Bates, Ida Badua & those mentioned in the Parish Book of Prayers.

DECEASED

Stephanie Rapozo, Bunny Estera, Beth Simon, Ben Topinio, John L. Williams, Geraldo "Gerry" Uytingco, Dolores Villanueva, Wayne Rapozo, Alice Secor, Frank Thompson, Rose Garcia, Ricardo Bautista Sr., Sheena Marie Ciarlante-Villanueva, Jose L. Villanueva, Mark Ortogero, Dion Cortel & John Bates.