



SPIRIT-LED NEWS

My Dear Parishioners and Friends in Christ,

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, 2026, we do so with hearts full of gratitude for God's unfailing compassion and mercy, which are *"new every morning"*. We look back at the past year, acknowledging its challenges and triumphs, and we trust in the Lord's providence, knowing that He has plans to give us *"a future filled with hope"* (Jeremiah 29:11).

Each new year is not just about turning a calendar page, but an invitation to embrace what God desires to do next in our lives and in our world. For the 59th World Peace Day 2026, Pope Leo XIV has given us a profound theme to guide our journey: **"Peace Be With You All: Towards an Unarmed and Disarming Peace"** focusing on inner peace, reconciliation, and building trust to counter violence, drawing inspiration from figures like the martyred French monk Charles-Marie Christian de Chergé and calling for a global shift away from weapons and conflict towards empathy and dialogue.

This is a powerful call to action in a world often marked by conflict and division. Our faith reminds us that true peace is not merely the absence of war, but the presence of justice, love, and reconciliation. In the coming year, let us commit to being instruments of this peace in both our public and private lives. Let us all commit to:

- **Embrace Forgiveness and Reconciliation:** The new year offers an opportunity to let go of old frustrations and bitterness. We are called to forgive freely and unconditionally, just as Christ has forgiven us. Let us seek reconciliation in our families, workplaces, and communities.
- **Cultivate Inner Peace through Prayer:** Peace in the world begins with peace in our hearts. I urge you to make planning a regular part of your spiritual life, dedicating time each week for prayer and Scripture study. This foundation will equip us with the wisdom and strength to navigate life's journey with divine support.
- **Live as Peacemakers:** An *"unarmed and disarming peace"* means actively working against division and conflict through acts of kindness and love. Let your actions and words be a source of calm and understanding, reflecting Christ's light to a world in need of His presence.
- **Strengthen Community Bonds:** Let us commit to building up one another in love and good works, fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment within our parish family. Shared spiritual journeys and mutual support will fortify our collective strength.

May the Holy Spirit guide us as we embark on this journey. Let us walk in confidence, knowing the Lord is with us, and may we be a beacon of hope for others, shining brightly in the new year.

If you wish to read Pope Leo XIV entire message use this link: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/peace/documents/20251208-messaggio-pace.html>

I wish you and your loved ones a blessed, happy, peaceful, and healthy New Year 2026!

In His abundant grace,

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 20/21

Sunday Collection	\$ 12,509.38
Online Donation (WeShare)	N/A
Online Donation (Pushpay)	N/A
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 694.20
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 250.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 200.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 230.00
Candles	\$ 994.00
Funeral	\$ 400.00
Misa de Gallo (Dec 20-22)	\$1,230.70
Retirement Fund for the Religious	\$ 175.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 585.00
Christmas	\$ 250.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 5.00

WEEKEND TOTAL \$ 17,543.28

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

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS

As we continue our celebration of the Christmas season, today's feast of the Holy Family invites us to reflect on the gift and calling of family life. The Church calls the family the "domestic church," the place where our faith takes root — and where the stewardship virtue of hospitality begins.

Why is hospitality vital to family life? Because our homes should be a place of love, welcome, and restoration. We can't expect to grow in prayer, service, or faith if our home atmosphere is disconnected or tense. Though no family is perfect, we must intentionally create homes where everyone feels loved and valued.



Our readings offer practical wisdom. In the Book of Sirach, we hear about the blessings that come when children respect their parents — and when adult children lovingly care for their aging parents. Respect and tenderness build a home filled with unity and peace.

St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians offers even more insight. He reminds us that each family member is "God's chosen one," and urges us to "put on" compassion, kindness, humility, and patience — even when we may not feel like it. These small, daily acts of love foster true hospitality at home, which then extends to the wider community.

The Holy Family, too, knew hardship. As today's Gospel reminds us, they faced danger, displacement, and uncertainty. Yet Mary and Joseph remained faithful, trusting in God's plan. They are powerful intercessors for our own families today.

On this feast, may we recommit to making our homes places of love and welcome. Let's honor God through the way we treat each other at home — with patience, forgiveness, and care.

Happy Feast of the Holy Family to all who live the stewardship way of life!

"This day He Who Is, is born; and He Who is becomes what He was not."

~ ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



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 13 – FREE WILL

The possibility of salvation is the greatest gift that has been given to us. The gift of free will is also a great gift. God's love and mercy, coupled with the gift of free will, makes salvation achievable.

In order to be a good candidate for salvation one needs to say "yes" to the call to discipleship. In order to say yes the option to say "no" must exist. The gift of free will gives us that option. It makes our discipleship, and our stewardship, authentic.

The gift of free will makes it possible to be a Christian steward and to give back to God. This is because we make a conscious decision, and a commitment, to follow Jesus.

We have the option to worship wealth, power, physical pleasure and/or a deviant lifestyle. By doing this we would be saying that we put ourselves before God. We would be buying into secular philosophies like materialism, individualism and hedonism.

The Christian Meaning of the Lyrics of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'

12 Days of Christmas Catholic Style

A Partridge in a Pear Tree

This partridge represents Jesus Christ. A partridge is willing to risk its life to protect its babies by faking injury or illness to distract predators. This bird is willing to sacrifice itself for the sake of others, much like our Savior was willing to sacrifice his life to redeem and restore his people.

Two Turtle Doves

The turtle doves represent the Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments that tell the story of God rescuing his people for their sins.

Three French Hens

The hens represent faith, hope and love, referring to the Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

Four Calling Birds

The calling birds represent the four Gospels — Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five Golden Rings

The golden rings represent the five books of the Pentateuch — Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy — which is the Old Testament law. The law reveals the human race's need for a Savior by revealing our sin.

Six Geese A-Laying

The geese represent the six days when God actively created as he rested on the seventh day.

Seven Swans A-Swimming

These are meant to represent the gifts of the Holy Spirit

Eight Maids A-Milking

The maids represent the beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12

Nine Ladies Dancing

The ladies dancing represents the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit that is present in the lives of Christians. The Apostle Paul named these nine characteristics in Galatians 5:22-23, "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Ten Lords A-Leaping

The lords a-leaping is the Ten Commandments, laid out in Exodus 20

11 Pipers Piping

The pipers represented the 11 faithful disciples, who carried the Gospel to the world after Jesus' ascension into heaven.

12 Drummers Drumming

The drummers represent the 12 points of belief in the Apostles' Creed, as outlined here.



Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Thriving Parishes. Engaged Disciples. Abundant Stewardship.

December 15, 2025

2025 Stewardship Renewal Report

In Romans chapter 5, St. Paul proclaims: "And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). This passage reveals the very foundation of Christian stewardship—that our generous response flows not from obligation, but from the divine love that fills our hearts and kindles unshakeable hope within us. When we embrace stewardship as a way of life, we become living witnesses to this hope, allowing God's love to overflow through our time, talent, and treasure into the world around us.

It is fitting that during this Jubilee Year of Hope, as we journey together as "Pilgrims of Hope," the Holy Spirit continues to animate our stewardship efforts at St. John.

We are excited to share the encouraging results from this year's Stewardship Renewal. This year, 242 families returned commitment cards. These families made **2,295 prayer commitments, 610 commitments to parish ministries** — including **164 new commitments to ministries** — a **total pledged offertory Contribution of over \$422,000**, and 26 families previously not involved in ministry have signed up to participate in parish life. These remarkable results demonstrate how the Spirit's outpouring of divine love continues to inspire hope-filled stewardship throughout your parish community.

It is important to remember that these numbers are just a glimpse of how God's love, poured out through the Holy Spirit, is working in the hearts of your parishioners. As members of your parish continue their faith journey during this Jubilee Year, each commitment represents a soul responding to the invitation of divine love. These results offer encouraging signs of growth at St. John—seeds that can bear lasting fruit as parishioners discover deeper meaning in their stewardship calling and experience the joy that comes with placing our trust in Christ.

In Christ,

Brian Morand

Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc.

St. John's Legion of Mary's Praesidium "Mary Mother of the Beloved Church"



**will be holding its first official meeting
on Thursday January 8, 2026, at 5:00 PM
in the One Community Center.**

**Anyone interested in becoming an active or
auxiliary member is invited to attend this meeting.**

What is the Legion of Mary?

The Legion of Mary is the largest Catholic lay organization, founded in Dublin in 1921 by Frank Duff, serving as a "school for saints" by engaging members (Legionaries) in prayer and apostolic works like visiting the sick, evangelizing, and bringing fallen-away Catholics back to the Church, all under Mary's guidance. Members meet weekly for spiritual formation and undertake spiritual tasks in pairs, focusing on conversion, conservation, and consolation, striving to spread devotion to Mary and the Catholic faith worldwide.

Purpose & Mission

- **Apostolic Service:** To evangelize and sanctify souls through Mary's intercession, bringing God's love to the world.
- **Spiritual Growth:** Acts as a "school for saints," developing holiness in members through prayer and service.
- **Evangelization:** Bringing people to Christ and back to the Church through visitation and outreach.

Membership & Structure

- **Who can join:** Practicing Catholics (18+ for senior, under 18 for junior).
- **Activities:** Weekly meetings for prayer and planning, plus a set amount of spiritual work (e.g., 2 hours) weekly.
- **Works:** Visiting hospitals/homes, bringing the Pilgrim Virgin statue, assisting priests, and promoting devotion to Mary.

Key Aspects

- **Founder:** Frank Duff, a layman from Dublin, Ireland.
- **Symbol:** The *Vexillum Legionis*, an adaptation of a Roman legion's standard with a dove (Holy Spirit) and "*Legio Mariae*".
- **Global Reach:** Millions of members in nearly every country, with strong presences in South Korea, Philippines, and Brazil.

How to Join/Get Involved

Contact your local parish church to see if they have a Legion of Mary praesidium (branch). Visit the official Legion of Mary website: <https://legionofmary.ie/> for more information and to find a local chapter.

Respect for Life: *"Dearest St Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life — especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things."*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life (www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

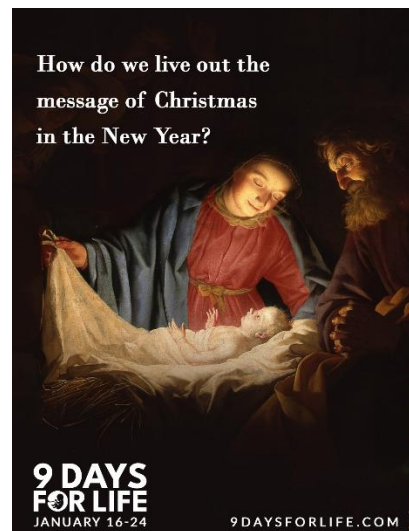
THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, December 31, in observance of New Year's Eve and Thursday, January 1, New Year's Day.

STARTING JANUARY 5th, 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.

DEBT REDUCTION SECOND COLLECTION: We will have a second collection, next weekend, January 3/4, 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, or you may donate on our parish website, give online. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Next weekend, January 3/4, **The PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY** is sponsoring Free Blood Pressure screenings after all Masses on the church lanai.

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!



formed
Forming Catholics for Life.

The Holy Family

We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season!

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 29, 2025

8 AM Suzanna Foster (RIP)
Than Lam (Death Anniversary)

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

8 AM Suzanna Foster (RIP)
Dominador & Emi Rulloda
(Wedding Anniversary Blessing)
Inola Cross (Birthday Blessing)
Fr Anthony Rapozo
(14th Yr Priesthood Ordination Anniversary)

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

8 AM Malcome Rodrigues (RIP)
Josephina & Ira Ordillas

Thursday, January 1, 2026

8AM SJAE Families & for the ones we have
lost and forgotten.

Friday, January 2, 2026

8 AM Feliciano Dona (RIP)
Guerrero Family (Blessings/Thanksgiving)

Saturday, January 3, 2026

8 AM All Soul's in Purgatory (RIP)
Jesusa Sao (RIP)

5 PM Nancy Burnett (Blessings)

Sunday, January 4, 2026

7 AM Stephanie & Wayne Rapozo (RIP)
9 AM *For the People*
11 AM Jerry & Paz Fonacier (Thanksgiving/Blessings)
6 PM Anthony Kuloloia (Birthday Blessing)



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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 & Nathan Kotch.