



St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church

January 3/4, 2026 – The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

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Pastor's Corner

Aloha my Brothers and Sisters,

The Solemnity of the Epiphany celebrates the "manifestation" (epiphany) of Jesus as the Savior of all nations, not just the chosen people of Israel. For Catholics in 2025, this feast is an invitation to reflect on the universal call to holiness and the transformative power of encountering Christ.

The Magi (traditionally named Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar) were outsiders—foreign astrologers who followed a star to find the "King of the Jews". Their journey offers several spiritual lessons:

- **Active Seeking:** The Magi did not wait for the Messiah to come to them; they "stopped everything" to follow a sign from heaven. Epiphany asks us what "stars" God is placing in our lives to draw us closer to Him.
- **Vulnerability and Risk:** Traveling a great distance to a foreign land requires.
- **Immense Trust:** We are reminded that a life of faith is often a pilgrimage into the unknown.
- **Inclusion of All:** By revealing Himself to the Magi, Jesus signaled that His salvation is for every person, regardless of background.

The traditional gifts presented to the Christ Child symbolize the depth of His identity:

- **Gold:** Recognizes Jesus as King.
- **Frankincense:** An offering of worship for His Divinity.
- **Myrrh:** A burial ointment foreshadowing His Humanity and sacrificial death.

Today, we are called to offer "spiritual gold, frankincense, and myrrh" through our own acts of submission, prayer, and sacrifice.

One of the most poignant lines in the Epiphany Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12) is that the Magi departed for their country "by another way".

- **Spiritual Conversion:** This change of route is a metaphor for conversion. Once you have truly encountered the Lord, you cannot return to your "old ways" or familiar patterns of life.
- **Protection of Truth:** They chose to obey God's warning in a dream rather than Herod's murderous command, modeling a refusal to bend to power or violence.

As we begin this New Year, consider these questions:

1. **What am I seeking?** Am I watching for the "everyday epiphanies"—those moments where God's light shines through ordinary experiences?
2. **What can I give?** Even if I feel "empty" or "poor," the greatest gift I can offer is my humble self, in all my imperfections.
3. **How am I changing?** Am I willing to walk "another way" in 2026, leaving behind old habits to follow the light of Christ?

The feast of the Epiphany ultimately reminds us that the love of God is for all people, and our proper response is to seek Him diligently, worship Him completely, and allow that encounter to transform us so we may show forth His love to the world.

Gratefully yours in the heart of Jesus Christ,

Fr. Anthony Rapozo



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 Fr. Cipriano “Jojo” Alnas
VICAR
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 8AM Mass – 9:30 AM
Wednesday 7 PM – 8 PM (Encounter Night)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30PM – 4:30PM

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday Closed
Tuesday – Friday 9AM – 1PM
2PM – 5PM
(Closed 1PM – 2PM for lunch)
Sunday 8AM – 12:30PM

We are closed on Saturday, Holy Days, and Holidays

<u>ADDENDUM STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE</u>	<u>DEC 20/21</u>
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$577.00
Online Donation (Pushpay)	\$4097.00

<u>STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE</u>	<u>DEC 27/28</u>
Sunday Collection	\$11,981.25
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$402.00
Online Donation (Pushpay)	\$7,718.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$330.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$50.00
Mass Intentions	\$420.00
Debt Reduction	\$8,762.00
Candles	\$1,326.00
Preschool	\$75.00
Misa de Gallo (Dec 23-24)	\$1,154.66
Retirement Fund for the Religious	\$170.00
Church in Latin America	\$50.00
Catholic University of America	\$5.00
Christmas Flowers	\$180.00
Christmas Mass (Dec 24-25)	\$22,003.33
Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$50.00
All Souls’ Day	\$20.00
Unrestricted Donations	\$49,247.52
<u>WEEKEND TOTAL</u>	<u>\$103,944.76</u>

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

Please Note:

Funerals will not be confirmed without prior approval from Clergy and office staff and are not conducted on Sundays.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Fr. Anthony Rapozo (Special Intentions),
†Gerald Miller, †Presenta Soiter, †Rose Garcia, †John Bucuo Rabago Jr., †Julia Piano, Carly Rose Ramos (Birthday Blessing), †Kim & Colin Rapozo, †Garry Pack, Nimit & Jose Howcumfu (Blessings), † Magdalena Pascual (Death Anniversary), †Mike Kozelka, Dolly Schneider, Nicholas Howcumfu, & Mele Lokia (Healing).

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES:

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.

Sunday Gospel Reflection
By Catholic Stewardship Consultants

As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God’s countless manifestations in our lives.

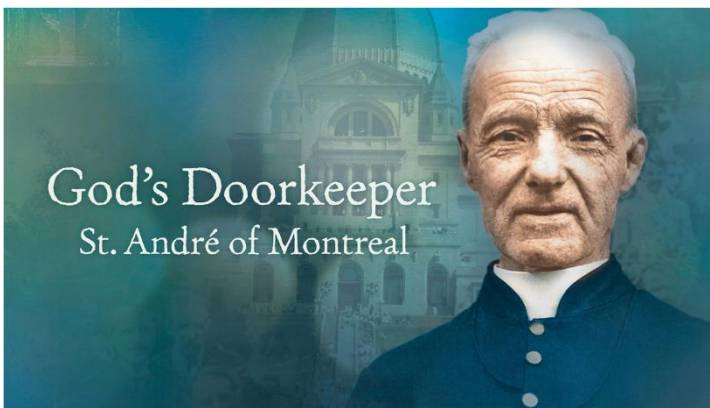
Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, has much to teach us about stewardship, through the actions of the magi.

As good stewards, the magi were watching for manifestations of God’s presence in their lives. “We have seen the star at its rising,” they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the “star” of God’s presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others.

The magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God’s presence in their lives, “were overjoyed.” Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God’s presence and gifts to them, simply can’t help but be filled with joy. Not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy the world promises through wealth or power, but rather the deep, unalterable joy only God can give.

Finally, the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, they prostrated themselves before him and “opened their treasures and offered him gifts.” This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagantly loving God.

Let us rejoice in God’s manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.



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Forming Catholics for *Life*.

God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!

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!



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 29:1-2,3-4, 3, 9-10
Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38 Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17



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 14 CHEAP GRACE

Dietrich Bonhoeffer in *The Cost of Discipleship* coined the term, “cheap grace”. It is not real grace but an illusion. It is what happens when people approach the following of Christ as a way to pleasant experiences and feeling good. He also used the term “costly grace”. It is costly because it calls us to follow no matter the cost. It requires that the disciple, for Jesus’ sake, put aside his craving for domination, possession, and control. It is costly because it condemns sin. It is grace because it confers true liberation and eternal life. It is grace because it justifies the sinner. Discipleship is not an easy way. “If you wish to come after me you must deny yourself and take up your cross daily and follow me. For if you wish to save your life you will lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you will save it” (Luke 9:23-24)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SJAE Library Team: Start 2026 with a spiritual bang! The Library Team will be on the lanai after all Masses next weekend (10-11 Jan 2026) to help you choose inspiring, uplifting, and hopeful Catholic resources. Stop by and see what SJAE Library has to offer!

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!

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL
Curious Monkeys Newsletter
January 2026



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We ended December with a wonderful celebration with our preschool families, friends, and loved ones. Many thanks to everyone for their special gifts this past Christmas! Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

We welcome 2026 with a prayer of hope for peace throughout the world, starting with our own families. May Jesus reign in our hearts as each of us strive to become His ambassadors of peace to all we meet in this blessed year!

As the children get back into the routine of their schedule, they will be reminded of both the classroom and outdoor rules. This month's focus will be on the study of the solar system. The children will learn what the earth comprises of, its parts and other important science facts about matter.

As always, we are grateful for your ongoing support of St. John's Catholic Preschool.



"The child who concentrates is immensely happy." - Maria Montessori

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 5...School Resumes
January 19...Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (No School)
January 25-31...Catholic Schools Week
January 30...Teacher Workday (No School)

LOOKING AHEAD

February 16...Presidents' Day Holiday (No School)

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Brixton...January 26
Kylah-Kae...January 26
Lennon...January 30

The Promise of the Infant of Prague:

“The more you honor me, the more I will bless you.”

Monday, January 5-8 at 8:45am Church Chapel
Friday, January 9 at 9:45am Church Chapel
Saturday, January 10 at 8:45am Church Chapel
Sunday, January 11 at 2:00pm Church Chapel
Monday, January 12 at 8:45am Church Chapel
Tuesday, January 13 at 8:45am Church Chapel
Wednesday, January 14 **FEAST DAY MASS** at 6:00pm
followed by fellowship in Room 1 at 7:00pm



Everyone is invited to attend



The Parish Clergy and Staff of St. John's would like to thank everyone for all the wonderful gifts given to us during this Christmas Season. Mahalo!

2025 EPIC Christmas Banquet honoring Bishop Larry Silva as this year's EPIC Award recipient and Dcn. Taylor Mitchell as the Young Adult of the Year Award winner.

2025 Feast of St. John Apostle & Evangelist -
Congratulations to our Grand Prize Winner,
Abbie!





This full CSC report supersedes prior
12/27/2025-12/28/2025 bulletin

Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Thriving Parishes. Engaged Disciples. Abundant Stewardship.

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.

2025 Stewardship Renewal Summary

Registered Households.....	700
Commitment Cards Received	242
Return Rate (<i>all households</i>).....	34.6%
Prayer Commitments (<i>Stewardship of Time</i>).....	2,295
Ministry Commitments (<i>Stewardship of Talent</i>)	610
<i>Re-commitments to ministries</i>	<i>446</i>
<i>New commitments to ministries</i>	<i>164</i>
Offertory Commitments (<i>Stewardship of Treasure</i>).....	171
<i>Average pledge.....</i>	<i>\$2,472</i>
<i>Total annual amount pledged</i>	<i>\$422,656</i>

2025 Stewardship Renewal Highlights

95% of participating households made **prayer commitments**. Each household made an average of 9.9 prayer commitments.

Parishioners are taking ownership of the parish by signing up for ministries in large numbers. Approximately **75%** of the participating households **made a commitment to ministry**.

164 of the 610 ministry commitments were **NEW commitments**, which is an indication that parishioners are continuing to step forward to get more involved in parish life.

Relatively inactive families are becoming involved at St. John. **26 families** who were not previously active in any ministry **signed up to get involved in ministries**.

71% of participating households made a **treasure commitment**, totaling \$422,656 from annual pledges.



Report of 2025 Stewardship Renewal Commitments

Stewardship of Time (Household)

Prayer Commitments 2,295

Commitment Cards with Prayer Commitments230

Average Number of Prayer Commitments per Family9.97

Attend Adoration at least once a month.....	97
Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days.....	222
Attend weekday Mass at least once a week.....	91
Create a dedicated “prayer space” in my home.....	87
Go to Reconciliation every other month.....	50
Invite a friend or acquaintance to Mass.....	63
Pray for an increase in vocations.....	100
Pray for greater respect for human life.....	120
Pray for inactive Catholics.....	120
Pray for my country.....	155
Pray for our clergy and religious.....	144
Pray for persecuted Christians.....	94
Pray for the sick of our parish.....	151
Pray for those serving in the military.....	135
Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily.....	56
Pray the Rosary weekly.....	148
Pray together with my loved ones.....	122
Read the Bible at least once a week.....	118
Schedule time for a spiritual retreat.....	36
Spend 15 minutes a day in personal prayer.....	186



Stewardship of Talent (Household)

Ministry commitments.....	610
<i>Already Involved</i>	<i>446</i>
<i>Interested In Joining</i>	<i>164</i>
Commitment Cards with talent commitments	182
Average Number of Ministry Sign-ups per family	3.35

	Already Involved	Interested In Joining	Total
Altar Server Ministry.....	18	5	23
Bereavement Ministry.....	10	5	15
Charismatic Prayer Group.....	13	4	17
Children and Youth Choir.....	4	6	10
Church Cleaning.....	29	10	39
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC).....	47	7	54
Fil-Am Catholic Group.....	29	4	33
Finance Council.....	2	3	5
Hospital and Homebound Ministry	18	4	22
Knights of Columbus Council (14663).....	26	6	32
Lector Ministry.....	28	14	42
Library Team Ministry.....	6	3	9
Linen Ministry	5	2	7
Liturgical Environment Ministry	3	2	5
Marriage and Family Life (MFL) Ministry.....	14	3	17
Miles Christi Women's Bible Study Group.....	3	2	5
Money Counters	7	2	9
Multimedia Ministry	5	2	7
Music Ministry	24	10	34
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)	12	2	14
Our Lady of Guadalupe	8	10	18
Our Lady Of Perpetual Help.....	11	3	14
Parish Health Ministry	9	4	13



	Already Involved	Interested In Joining	Total
Parish Planning and Building Team.....	4	2	6
Pastoral Council	5	3	8
Pilgrimage of the Two Hearts and Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group.....	14	5	19
Preschool Board.....	2	2	4
Religious Education (Grades K-5).....	6	2	8
Respect Life Ministry	6	2	8
Senior Adult Ministry	4	8	12
Stewardship Council	3	4	7
Ushers	21	11	32
Women's Guild	31	3	34
Young Adult Bible Study (YABS).....	6	3	9
Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)	7	2	9
Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)	6	4	10

Households with Treasure Commitments 171

Average Annual Pledge

\$2,472

Total Annual Amount Committed

\$422,656

Weekly Pledges 113

Between \$1 and 9.....8

Between \$10 and 19.....18

Between \$20 and 29.....29

Between \$30 and 39.....7

Between \$40 and 49.....5

Between \$50 and 59.....16

Between \$60 and 99.....15

Between \$100 and 999999915

Monthly Pledges.....45

Between \$1 and 49.....13

Between \$50 and 99.....7

Between \$100 and 199.....11

Between \$200 and 299.....3

Between \$300 and 399.....5

Between \$400 and 99999996

There were 13 households that made a pledge with an interval amount other than weekly or monthly.

