



St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church

March 28/29, 2026 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

95-370 Kuahelani Avenue

Mililani, HI 96789

Email: sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org

Phone: 808-623-3332 x100

Website: stjohnmililani.org

Pastor's Corner

Aloha my brothers and sisters,

In the Catholic Church, Palm Sunday, also called the "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion", marks the start of Holy Week by commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where crowds hailed Him with palm branches. Catholic services feature a blessing of palms, a procession symbolizing this entry, and a solemn reading of the Passion (Jesus' suffering and crucifixion), transitioning from joyful anticipation to somber reflection on His ultimate sacrifice for redemption, leading to Easter.

Key Catholic Traditions & Meanings

- **Commemoration:** Recalls Jesus' entry into Jerusalem days before His Passion, fulfilling prophecy.
- **The Palms:** Blessed palm fronds are distributed; they symbolize victory, peace, and Jesus as the Messiah.
- **The Procession:** A ritual procession with palms re-enacts the people's homage to Jesus, with shouts of "Hosanna!".
- **The Passion Reading:** The Mass includes the lengthy reading of the Passion narrative, highlighting the contrast between the initial joyful welcome and the coming suffering.
- **Dual Identity:** Known as both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday, it bridges the themes of Jesus' kingship and his sacrificial death.
- **Sacramental Reverence:** Blessed palms are treated with respect (not discarded in trash) and often burned for the following year's Ash Wednesday ashes.

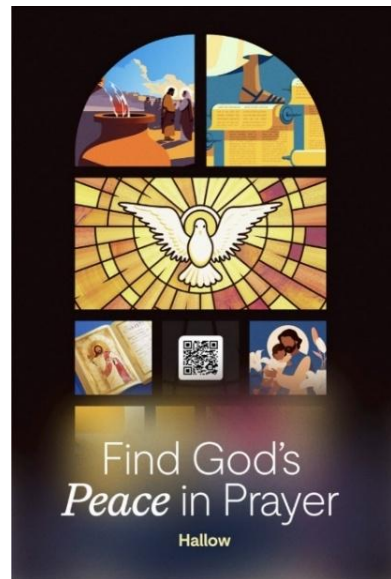
Purpose

Palm Sunday prepares the faithful for the sacred events of Holy Week (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) by reflecting on Christ's Passion, death, and impending Resurrection, understanding that true triumph comes through the Cross.

Next week we will discuss Easter.

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.*

<u>STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE</u>	<u>MAR 21/22</u>
Sunday Collection	\$11,716.00
Online Donation (Pushpay)	\$3,383.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$235.00
Debt Reduction	\$917.00
Preschool	\$75.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00
Candles	\$490.00
Easter	\$10.00
Easter Flowers	\$180.00
Holy Thursday	\$10.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$87.00
Hawaii Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal	\$312.00
<u>WEEKEND TOTAL</u>	<u>\$17,435.00</u>

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

Please call the office for inquiries: Anointing, Baptism,
Blessing, Funeral, Homebound Communion &
Marriage.

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday Closed
Tuesday – Friday 9AM – 1PM
2PM – 5PM
(Closed 1PM – 2PM
for lunch)
***NOW OPEN ON SUNDAYS* 8AM – 12:30PM**

The parish office will be closed on Friday, April 3,
and Sunday, April 5, in observance of Good Friday
and Easter.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Mar 30: (8am) †John Bates, †Kathy Lowe, †Phil Okubo, †Carmelo Pacpaco (Death Anniversary)
Mar 31: (8am) Victoria Baloran (Healing), †Frances Floria, †Wilfredo G. Pacleb **Apr 1: (8am)** Leah Esposito
(Birthday Blessing), †Murial Lee, †Ira & Josephina Ordillas **Apr 2: (8am)** †Florencia Torres, †Fidela Viernes,
†Abraham “Abe” Wilson **Apr 3: (8am)** †Feliciano Dona, Guerrero Family (Blessings/Thanksgiving), †Pacita
Redoble **Apr 4: (8am)** †Luther G. Fernandez, †Archie Brito, †Bernardo P. Benigno (Death Anniversary)
(7pm) OCIA **Apr 5: (7am)** †Stephanie & Wayne Rapozo **(9am)** For the people **(11am)** †Edwin Souza
(6pm) †Baltazar Mauleon (Death Anniversary) & those mentioned in the Parish Book of Prayers.

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, John Bates, Nathan Kotch, Thomas Ramos,
Clarita Martinez, Abraham “Abe” Wilson, Betty Jo Buescher, Stephanie Jamile, Matio Vellalos, Monique &
Ernest Gruber.

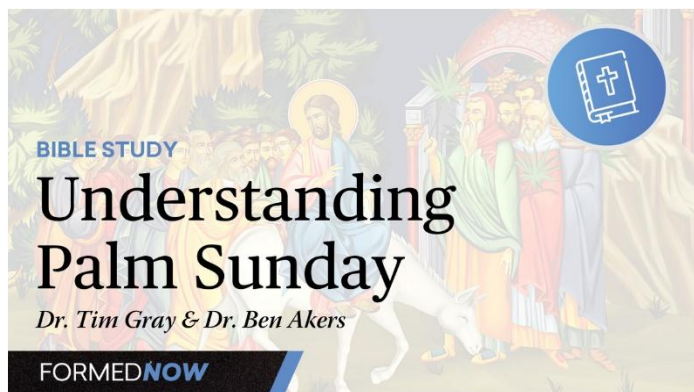
Palm Sunday of Lent Time Year A

**Procession Gospel Matthew 21:1-11 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Isaiah 50:4-7 I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.
Philippians 2:6-11 He humbles himself to become like us and God raised him on high.
Matthew 26:14-27:66 The Passion**

The events we celebrate this week are the very center of the good news we are given to share with the world. Today we remember Jesus' Passion. We recall how he went from acclamation by the crowds on Palm Sunday to betrayal and death on Good Friday. The gospel story touches on the extremes of human existence. God took on human life in all its moments from birth, yes, even to death. In doing so God shows the way to be human—not by escaping it or trying to deny our situation, but by embracing it.

Year after year we return to the events of this week to be renewed. How does this story touch our life this year? What does it say to our illness, to the discord in our family life, to the present life of the church? What death is God dying this year in our life, in our community, and in our church? How does God raise us up from that death? How is the story of Christ's Passion, death, and resurrection being retold in the details of our life today? If we can see how it is unfolding in our life and community, we can receive the gospel that God is giving us to proclaim to our time and culture. We retreat into Holy Week to discover the mysterious way in which God is touching our lives today, so that like the disciples at Easter we too may go forth renewed to proclaim the good news.

Taken from Evangelization Homily Hints, By Richard Chilsom, C.S.P.



BIBLE STUDY

Understanding Palm Sunday

Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Ben Akers

FORMEDNOW

formed™
Forming Catholics for *Life*.

Understanding Palm Sunday

Focusing on the Biblical account of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Ben Akers break open the meaning of why Jesus rode on a donkey, the significance of the palm branches and the singing of Hosanna, and how this event launched Holy Week and the redemption of the world.

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**

Divorce Support Group

If you or someone you know is seeking hope and encouragement in the midst of separation or divorce, you are not alone. Please join us for fellowship as we walk together on this journey.

Date: 2nd Saturdays of the month
(Next session: April 11)
Time: 9:00-10:00 am
Location: SJAE, OCC Conference Rm

POC: Elisa Hammer
E-mail: elisa.hammer@me.com



CRUX
Daily Lenten Meditations

Meets every Saturday during the Lenten season through April 4.
9:00-10:00 am in OCC Conference Rm.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9



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 26 – STEWARDS OF THE PARISH

Inherent in our mission to go and make disciples is a responsibility to be a good steward of our parish. As a member of the Body of Christ, we support the various ministries and we evangelize. How do we support the parish? There are numerous ways. Our parish needs the financial support to allow it to function. It takes resources to support its many ministries. We need to encourage parishioners who are making progress in their discipleship journey. We need to encourage them to serve in existing ministries and to form new ministries. We need to offer our God given talent in His service. This includes being parish leaders. The leadership that we provide includes management of ministries and planning for the future. We need to provide resources for formation of our youth. This includes adequate support of St. John's Preschool and Parish Youth Ministries. The youth of today are the Intentional Disciples of tomorrow. Where do you fit in as a steward of the parish?

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



PALM SUNDAY

Called to Share Bread for Life

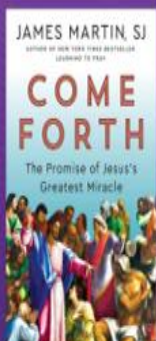
Holy Week, the heart of the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and resurrection to the world. Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more. You may donate via our parish website "Give Online" link as well.

RICE BOWLS WILL BE COLLECTED ON THURSDAY, APRIL 2. A box will be provided at the entrance to the Church.



Faith grows when it is shared. The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal supports evangelization and catechesis that invite children, youth, and adults into a deeper relationship with Christ. Join us in passing on the faith—your gift helps form disciples, strengthen our parishes, and share God's love across our community. Give today at CatholicHawaii.org/CMAA, or you may donate via our parish website "Give Online" link. Please see a recent update for our parish below. We're almost halfway there! Mahalo for your continued support.

SJAE LENDING LIBRARY



Easter is almost here!

Need something to inspire you during the Easter season?

Lending Library resources will be available on the lanai after all Masses on 11-12 April!



Total Amount of Gifts Received

\$23,540

\$50,308 Goal 47% % of Goal

Gifts, received

118

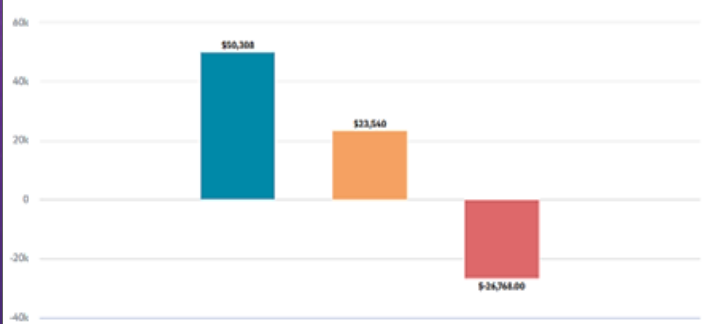
Donors

78

Gift amount received, average

\$199

Fund performance w/updates



Aloha my brothers and sisters,

Our wonderful preschool was established in 1979, which was 47 years ago. Our preschool has always been able to gain adequate enrollment for each school year. Unfortunately, this year the preschool is having a little struggle in getting the number of students needed to keep our school financially stable.

During normal enrollment, we would have registered over 15 students for our upcoming school year 2026 -2027. This year, as of Friday, March 27, 2026, we have 10 students enrolled for the upcoming school year.

To be transparent with you our parishioners, we would like to share what the preschool has done to help increase our enrollment. We have placed radio and streaming ads on 92.3 KSSK from April 1, 2026-May 25, 2026. Our preschool teachers attended this Saturday's Mililani Town Association Easter Egg Hunt event to promote our school. We also have our preschool registration flyer placed in the welcome packets for incoming military families assigned to Oahu.

We are cautiously optimistic about this upcoming school year; however, we still need your help to boost our enrollment figures. If you or someone you know is looking for a nurturing Montessori-based preschool, we would appreciate your consideration. Our preschool has alumni who have moved on to esteemed schools such as Hanalani Schools, Damien Memorial, Kamehameha Schools, St. Louis School, Sacred Hearts Academy, and others. If you would like to learn more about us, please see the attached flyer for our contact information. Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Fr. Anthony

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL

SY 2026-2027

OPEN ENROLLMENT

for children ages

2.8 years - 6 years old

Contact us for an application or to schedule a tour –

(808)744-9538

stjohns_preschool@rcchawaii.org



REMEMBER A LOVED ONE AT EASTER. Easter flower envelopes are available at the back of the church, or you may donate through online giving by visiting our parish website. Please note that if you choose to donate via our online giving, we kindly ask that you include the name of your loved one in the notes section so we can honor them accordingly. If you have already donated, please email or contact the front office so we can update your information. Mahalo!

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:

April 3 (Good Friday) – 5:00pm	April 8 – 5:00pm
April 4 (Holy Saturday) – 4:00pm	April 9 – 5:00pm
April 5 (Easter) – Pray at home with your family	April 10 – 5:00pm
April 6 – 5:00pm	April 11 – 4:00pm
April 7 – 5:00pm	April 12 – 3:00pm followed by Divine Sunday Mass at 3:30pm

Diocese of Honolulu 2026 Lenten Regulations

FASTING

- ❖ In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on both Ash Wednesday (February 18, 2026) and Good Friday (April 03, 2026).
- ❖ To *fast* means to consume one full meal a day at most, although taking of other, smaller quantities of food at the other customary mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink between meals (except for water and medicine) is not permitted on days of fasting.

ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT

- ❖ Catholics aged 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.
- ❖ To abstain means refraining from eating the flesh, marrow and blood products of beef, veal, pork, or poultry at least, although eggs and milk products are acceptable. The consumption of fish and shellfish is permitted, though the penitential character of the abstinence should be kept in mind.

2026 HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday March 29  Regular Sunday Schedule	Holy Thursday April 2  7:00PM Mass	Good Friday April 3  3:00PM & 6:00PM Service Stations of the Cross at 5:30 PM	Holy Saturday April 4  7:00PM Mass	Easter Sunday April 5  7:00AM, 9:00AM (Church & OCC), 11:00AM Masses NO 6:00 PM MASS
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