



September 14, 1969, First Parish Mass • May 17, 1970 Ground-breaking • August 15, 1971, Dedication of the church

95-370 Kuahelani Ave. Mililani, Hawaii 96789

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Website: www.stjohnmililani.org • Email: info@stjohnmililani.org

DAILY MASS (Monday — Saturday): 8:00 a.m.
WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: (or by appointment)

Saturday: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 12:00pm-4:00pm

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-4:00pm

Saturday & Sunday – Closed

Msgr. John Mbinda, Pastor, Ext.111

Fr. Boniface Waema, Parochial Vicar. Ext. 104

Fr. Victor Lanuevo, In Residence

Dcn. Modesto Cordero: RCIA Coordinator

(mcordero@rcchawaii.org)

Dcn. Wally Mitsui (wmitsui@rcchawaii.org) and

Gwen Mitsui (gmitsui@gmail.com), Youth &

Young Adult Coordinators

Jolly Guerrero-Tano, Parish Ofc. Admin, Ext. 113

Lindsey Higa-Kohagura, Parish Secretary, Ext.100

Stephanie Jamile, Bookkeeper, Ext. 101

Julie Quiroz-Zamora, Religious Ed. DIR, Ext.205

Terry Silva, Religious Ed. Asst., Ext. 204

Catherine Awong, Preschool Director, Ext. 200

Pearl Bates, Outreach, Ext. 203

VISION STATEMENT

*We are called to **develop a deeper relationship with Christ.** Such a*

relationship is fostered through

active participation in: the

Sacraments, the Word,

Renewal Programs,

Ministry/Service,

Fellowship, and other

Spirit-led activities.

We will dedicate our time,

talent, and treasure

to install, in our

Parish community,

the basic building blocks of Christian

*living, **to live out the Lord's commands***

and to preach the Good News to all

through our words, deeds and lives.

Evangelization: the Fourth Sign

Last Sunday the homily highlighted the second and third signs of a dynamic Catholic: study and generosity. This Sunday the gospel in subtle ways underlines *evangelization*: the fourth sign of engaged Catholics. The Church exists precisely to transform people by proposing the best way to live as Jesus taught. It exists to evangelize. What exactly is evangelization? Evangelization is a process that leads people into a relationship with Jesus by sharing the good news Jesus taught on the best way to live. Matthew Kelly in Chapter Five of *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic* challenges us to be God's instruments of helping people become the best version of themselves. We can do this by taking one step at a time to change our own lives first. Once we commit ourselves to a routine of daily prayer, study, being generous with our lives, our faith will be so fired up with energy and joy that we cannot contain but share with others. The fourth sign of a dynamic Catholic is evangelization. Our parish exists to make disciples who make other disciples. That implies leading others to discover the best way to live as taught by Jesus Christ.

What is the best way to live? The Commandment of love of God and neighbor as Jesus teaches (cf. Mt. 22:37-39) is the foundation for the best way to live. 1) In the Sermon on the Mountain Jesus exhorts his disciples saying, "So be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Mt 5:48) In other words, we are all created to be the best version of ourselves. 2) Evangelization leads people to embrace a virtuous life rather than a life of vices. No marriage, family, state or nation would survive if people practiced vices: pride, greed, envy, anger, and gluttony. Aristotle the Greek philosopher said, "Virtue stands between the two extremes." 3) Evangelization leads people realize that it is better to live with self-control (self-discipline) than to live without it. A life, a marriage, a family a state or nation without self-discipline would be chaotic. In the Book of Proverbs we read: "A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls." (Prov 25:28). Evangelization therefore proclaims the good news that you were created to be the best version of yourself; that living a virtuous life is better than a life of vices; and that it is better to live with self-control than without it. That is what Matthew Kelly means when he says, "Transforming people one at a time is at the very heart of God's plan for the world." As followers of Jesus we are called to transform people, culture and thinking. This is subversive and dangerous. Be bold. Be Catholic. Be a dynamic Catholic and the best version of yourself. I wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Pastor

"...Give to the Most High as He has given to you, generously, according to your means." Sirach 35:7-10

Next Readings for Sunday, December 28, 2014

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Readings: Gen 15:1-3,21:1-3; Ps 105:1-2,3-4,6-7,8-9;
Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6;21:1-3

The reading consists of two short episodes. The first is about the promise of descendants, and the second reports the fulfillment of the promise. Both episodes are prophecies made during a night vision. Because of Abram's advanced age, he hesitates at first not knowing how the first promise is to be fulfilled. In the second episode, God assures Abram that all will come true because he will have many descendants. Abraham believes and trusts in God's promise.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 105:1-2,3-4, 6-7, 8-9

Psalm 105 is a call to thanksgiving and praise to God. It picks up the theme of God's promise from the first reading and uses that as a reason to thank and praise the Lord. "The Lord remembers his covenant forever."

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

The passage highlights the faith of Abraham by retelling the account of the ancient Abraham, starting with his call to the promise that God makes with him. The passage continues to show how in faith and obedience Abraham responds to God's promise even though he and Sarah were advanced beyond childbearing age. The passage further presents Abraham as an example of faith in moments of testing, when God asks Abraham to sacrifice his only son, and his willingness to do that with trust in God.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

The account of the presentation of Jesus in the temple is a celebration of piety by Mary and Joseph; by Simeon and Anna. Luke mentions several times that the parents of Jesus conformed to the ritual prescriptions of the law (vv. 22, 23, 24, 27, 39). Here they comply with the religious requirements of purification and redemption of the firstborn (cf. Ex 13:2, 12). The important part of the passage is the revelation of this child. Three times the author says that it was the Holy Spirit that directed Simeon in making the prophecy about the child and his mother. It is important to note that the religious insights of both Simeon and Anna come from their fidelity to God and not from any rank in the temple services. The presentation in the temple is just a prelude awaiting the revelation of Jesus in his public ministry.

*Msgr. John's Sunday homilies are available on the following updated links: Blog (text): <http://www.sundayhomily.com>
Podcast (audio): <http://streaminghomilies.podbean.com>
On iTunes, under Podcast search for: **streaming homilies**
subscribe free to get the homilies weekly.*

"If our prayer is resolutely united with that of Jesus, in trust and boldness as children, we obtain all that we ask in his name, even more than any particular thing: the Holy Spirit himself, who contains all gifts." (CCC 2742)

PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Healing/Blessings: Jane & Ray Beauchemin, Richard Butz, Ashley Nawahine, Kamakoa Almasin, Carmen Fajota, Ellen Cleghorn, Helen Uyehara, Linda Watson, Maya Higgins, BJ Sagocio, Teresita Milanio, Samuel Aguirre, and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

Deceased: Roman P. Perez, Consolacion Leonoras, Herschel Esperas, Bernard Fabrao, Marlene Izumigawa, Stanford W. Papas, Emilia S. Taclan, Santos "Sandy" Padilla and Carmen B. Callejo.

Mass Intentions:

Monday, December 22, 2014

8am Mass Sr. Alma Esmero (Birthday)
William & Helen Heagney (RIP)

Tuesday, December 23, 2014

8am Mass John & Francis Clarke (RIP)
Esperidion Domanguera (Birthday)

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

8am Mass Guerrero Family
(Thanksgiving/Blessings)
Agnas Lopes (RIP)
6pm Mass Higa-Kohagura Family (Blessings)
9pm Mass Brett & Salve Galman
(Blessings / Thanksgiving)
12 midnight Mass SJAE Parish Clergy & Staff
(Blessings/Thanksgiving)

Thursday, December 25, 2014

7am Mass Gora-Higa Family
(Blessings / Thanksgiving)
9am Mass Taglinao Family
(Blessings / Thanksgiving)
11am Mass Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Friday, December 26, 2014

8am Mass Harold Jones (RIP)
Michael Morano (RIP)
Fukuda Family
(Thanksgiving/Blessings)
Emilia S. Taclan (RIP)

Saturday, December 27, 2014

8am Mass Primo & Joey Pablo (Anniversary)
Alejandra Tano (RIP)
5pm Mass Linda J. Tom (RIP)

Sunday, December 28, 2014

7am Mass Mildred & Tadashi Furuta (RIP)
9am Mass For the People
11am Mass Guillermo Uyttingco (RIP)
6pm Mass Harry Hansen (RIP)

Parish News & Announcements

Thank you! "We can certainly call you friends because of the way you care for our retired members," writes a religious brother. Your gift to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious benefits some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity!

Misa de Gallo continues thru Wednesday, December 24th, at 5:00 am. The Mass celebrants are as follows:

Sunday, December 21	Rev. Paul Minchak
Monday, December 22	Rev. Paul Li
Tuesday, December 23	Rev. Rheo Ofalsa
Wednesday, December 24	Msgr. John Mbinda

Christmas Flower Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church or you may also make a donation online by visiting our parish website and clicking the "Online Giving" icon.

Wednesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Masses
6:00 PM (Children's Mass), 9:00 PM, 12:00 Midnight

Thursday, December 25th - Christmas Day Masses
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

REMINDER: NO 6:00 PM Evening Mass

Wednesday, December 31st - New Year's Eve
Masses of Thanksgiving: 8:00 AM and 10:00 PM

St. John Apostle & Evangelist Feast Day celebration will be held on Saturday, December 27. Mass will begin at 8:00 am with a breakfast potluck to follow. Come and join us. Please bring a dish to share.

There will be a Prayer Vigil & Luminary Display commemorating the tragic legalization of abortion in our nation on Thursday, January 22, 2015, 5:30 pm at the Hawaii State Capitol. You may sponsor a luminary to honor someone known or unknown to you for a donation of \$5. The donation will help support this event and pro-life efforts in our diocese. On Saturday, January 24, come and march in the 42nd Annual Rally for Life also to be held at the Hawaii State Capitol. Free transportation will be provided for both events; transportation sign-ups and donations can be made on the weekends of December 27/28, 2014, and January 3/4, 2015, on the church Lanai. For more information, contact Melissa Crisostomo at alohamc@yahoo.com, Mary Smart at mghsmart@yahoo.com.

In the Footsteps of Jesus! Journey on a 12-day Pilgrimage to The Holy Land with Msgr. John Mbinda, Spiritual Director, and Dr. Timothy Mullner, Pilgrimage Host, from **April 14 - 25, 2015**, designed especially for St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church. *Space is limited!* For more information, please contact Jolly Guerrero-Tano at 623-3332, ext. 113 or info@stjohnmililani.org.

Save the Date!

Please join us on

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2015, AT 6:30 PM

for a Memorial Mass in remembrance of

† *Fr. Cletus Mooya*

Fellowship and potluck will follow Mass.

Please bring a dish to share.

St. John A & E Rectory **HOLIDAY Office Hours**

Wednesday, December 24, 2014 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Thurs/Fri., December 25 - 26, 2014 **CLOSED**

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Thurs/Fri., January 1 - 2, 2015 **CLOSED**

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Sunday, December 28, 2014 ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Wake Service: 6:30 pm (Mauka Chapel)

Monday, December 29, 2014 ~ St. John A & E

Viewing: 9:30 am ~ Mass: 11:00 am

Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Lillian M. Ramos (RIP)

Monday, December 29, 2014 ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Wake Service: 6:30 pm (Mauka Chapel)

Tuesday, December 30, 2014 ~ St. John A & E

Viewing: 10:00 am ~ Mass: 11:00 am

Burial: 1:00 pm ~ Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery

Collection for December 13/14, 2014

Sunday Collection	\$16,745.31
Candle Sales	\$444.75
Holiday Fund	\$10.00
Stewardship Development	\$10.00
Mass Intentions	\$70.00
Donation - Outreach	\$609.00
Christmas Flower Offering	\$137.00
Christmas Offering	\$624.00
Immaculate Conception	\$3,744.98
Building Fund	\$1,207.95
Hui O Laulima	\$12.00
Retirement for the Religious	\$1,639.00

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce." Proverbs 3:9



HORIZON OF HOPE

The Fourth
Sunday

Son of the Most High

Luke 1:26-38

Mary said "yes" when Gabriel announced she had been chosen to be the mother of the Savior, even though she had no real idea of what lay ahead. She was willing to accept God's plan for her life.

We think of the coming of Jesus as the greatest and most joyful event of history, but in this week's Gospel, we are told that Mary was "greatly troubled" when she saw the angel. Despite her misgivings, however, Mary accepted her destiny, saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

When we hear God's call in our lives, we may feel a bit uneasy or unprepared. Mary's story reminds us that when we say our "yes" to God's plan, we too will be given the strength and the courage to follow through. In these final days before Christmas, let us renew our commitment to accepting God's plan for our lives. Let us remember Saint Paul's admonition, "in all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thes 5:18), and rest in the words of the angel Gabriel, "nothing will be impossible for God."



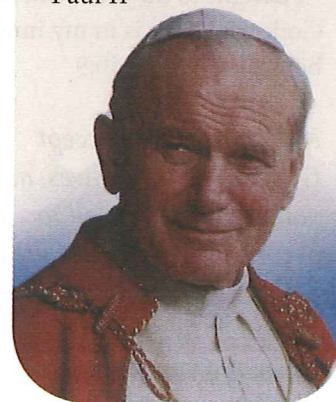
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POINTS TO PONDER

- Is there something in my life I am resisting? How can Mary's example help me become more accepting of God's plan?
- What can I do this last week of Advent to prepare myself for the mystery of Christmas?
- What habits or attitudes have I developed this Advent that I would like to take with me for the rest of the year?

"The liturgy of Advent ... helps us to understand the fullness of the value and meaning of the mystery of Christmas. It is not just about commemorating the historical event, which occurred some 2,000 years ago in a little village of Judea. Instead, we must understand that our whole life should be an 'advent,' in vigilant expectation of the Christ's final coming."

— Pope Saint John
Paul II



CNS Photo



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SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Angel Gabriel

The word “angel” means “messenger.” Angels figure prominently in the Christmas story, but only one of them is named: Gabriel. In fact, Gabriel, whose name means “God is my strength,” is one of only three angels named in the Bible (Michael and Raphael are the other two). Gabriel is present in both the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament he appears to the prophet Daniel, and in the New Testament he appears both to the Blessed Virgin and to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist.

ADVENT PRAYER *Come, O Lord!*

“I delight to do your will, my God; your Law is in my inner being.” — Psalm 40:9

Mary, help us to accept God’s will for our lives, as you accepted the call to become the mother of the Savior. Bless us this holy season to live and love by following your son, Jesus.

FAMILY FOCUS Christmas Tree

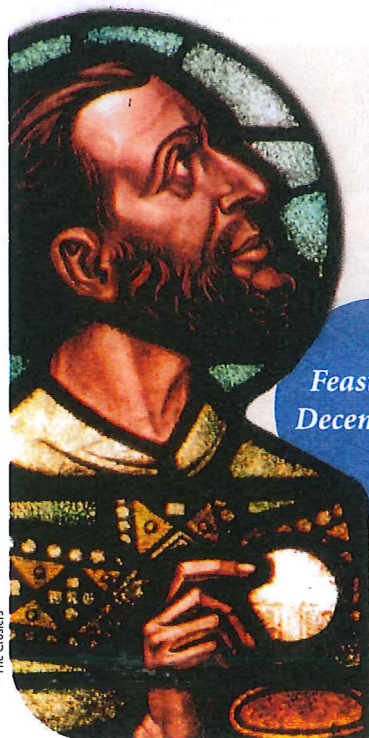
Decorating the Christmas tree used to be a Christmas Eve activity. While that isn’t always practical, putting up a tree can still be a major celebration. As you bring out the ornaments, tell the stories behind some of the family favorites. Let each member of the family choose a favorite and hang it in a special place. When the tree is completely decorated, bless it with holy water and give thanks for family and friends, and especially for the great gift of Jesus.



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Catechism CONNECTION

“But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons’ (Gal 4:4-5). This is ‘the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God’ (Mk 1:1): God has visited his people. He has fulfilled the promise he made to Abraham and his descendants. He acted far beyond all expectation — he has sent his own ‘beloved Son’ (Mk 1:1; cf. Lk 1:55,68).”
— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 422



The Crucifix

HEROES OF HOPE

SAINT PETER CANISIUS

Advent is an ideal time of year to talk about the Faith and invite those who do not believe to consider the mystery of God-made-man in Jesus Christ. It is fitting that we celebrate the feast of Saint Peter Canisius this week, because he was a great evangelist.

A Jesuit preacher during the time of the Protestant reformation, he became a major factor in the restoration of the Catholic Church in Germany. Like Pope Francis, he believed in treating those who disagree with the teaching of the Church with kindness and patience. His devotion to Mary was a hallmark of his ministry, and he is credited with adding the words “Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners” to the Hail Mary. *Saint Peter Canisius, pray for us!*

*Feast Day:
December 21*