



FEBRUARY 28 / MARCH 1, 2015

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

95-370 Kuahelani Avenue, Mililani, Hawaii 96789 • Office: (808) 623-3332 • Fax: (808) 623-3286

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

Daily Mass (M-SAT): 8:00 AM • **Sunday Masses:** (SAT Vigil) 5:00 PM, (SUN) 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM

Reconciliation: (SAT) 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM (or by appointment)

Parish Office Hours: Monday 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM • Tuesday thru Friday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

PARISH CLERGY

Pastor

Msgr. John Mbinda (x 111)

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Boniface Waema (x 104)

Deacon Modesto Cordero

(mcordero@rcchawaii.org)

Deacon Wally Mitsui

(wmitsui@rcchawaii.org)

Deacon Romeo Ganibe

(rganibe@rcchawaii.org)

PARISH OFFICE

Office Administrator (x 103)

Jolly Guerrero-Tano

Parish Secretary (x 100)

Lindsey Higa-Kohagura

Bookkeeper (x 101)

Stephanie Jamile

PARISH PROGRAMS

Outreach (x 203)

Pearl Bates

RCIA Coordinator

Dcn Modesto Cordero

Religious Ed. Director (x 205)

Julie Quiroz-Zamora

Religious Ed. Assistant (x 204)

Terry Silva

Preschool Director (x 208)

Catherine Awong

Youth & Young Adult Coordinators

Dcn. Wally & Gwen Mitsui

(gmitsui@gmail.com)

PARISH MINISTRIES

We welcome you to visit our

parish website at

www.stjohnmililani.org for a

listing and more information on
all our ministries.

NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Prayer Can Transform your Life

Our Lenten journey of stewardship as a way of life is fueled by prayer, fasting and almsgiving - generosity to our brothers and sisters in need. This article is about prayer. Prayer is transformative. During the Season of Advent last year, our homilies made use of Matthew Kelly's ideas in his book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*. In Chapter 1, Matthew Kelly speaks of the "Incredible Possibilities" God has for each of us to be transformed if we open our hearts. The chapter deals with the principle of transforming people one at a time. A second principle Matthew Kelly uses is "continuous improvement" that seeks to achieve small incremental changes in one's life. During this Season of Lent we all want to take prayer more intensively, but where do I begin?

If prayer is going to be a way of life, one needs a daily routine of prayer. In *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, Kelly discovered that only 7% of Catholics have a daily commitment to prayer. The other 93% of Catholics don't pray? Their prayer tends to be spontaneous but inconsistent. A routine of daily prayer can transform our lives. In other words we need a purpose driven plan for our prayer life. Let's admit we are all busy people. However, using the principle of continuous improvement, baby steps are possible. The first step is to set aside one minute each day for prayer. Prayer no matter how brief, will start our day off right. It keeps us focused on what is really important. If you don't know how to start, just sit down in silence in your living room. The more time we spend in silence the clearer we will hear the voice of God. Or we can simply thank God for the many blessings and close with the "Our Father". One simple prayer that I find useful is, "Lord, thank you for this new day. Help me to be the best version of myself today." Say this prayer first thing in the morning before getting onto the highway. Your attitude will be marked by that prayer during the day. If you consistently say that prayer, you will gradually experience some change in your life. Prayer leads to peace of mind and fulfillment. So try 1 minute each day. Then move to 2 minutes and so on, until you reach 10 minutes each day. It will change or enhance your life in ways you can't imagine. God has incredible possibilities for each of us, only if we open our hearts to his invitation. Next Sunday we will consider fasting. Stay tuned.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Pastor

MISSION 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.*

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Today's readings asks us to remain faithful (like Abraham), to have courage (don't be afraid) and to listen (listen to God's Son). God's command to listen to His beloved Son is also a command to change. Listening requires that we encounter Jesus, come to know who he is, and allow ourselves to be changed. Throughout our lives we have experienced change in many different ways. When we heard the words "I love you" for the first time, when we heard our first son or daughter calling us "Mama" or "Dada" for the first time, when we heard an inspiring musical piece for the first time... all those moments changed us! How we miss these moments if we do not stop long enough to really listen! What we hear can change us; but we need to change in order to hear. Are we ready to change? Are we ready to be transfigured? Lent is meant to be our time of transfiguration. We are transfigured – we are changed – when we take the time

to listen to what God is saying to us through Jesus. In this second Sunday of Lent we are challenged to be transfigured like Christ. As we transfigure ourselves we need to remember that each of us shares in the divine life of Jesus. We are made in the image of God. No matter how rough, how unpolished, or how ordinary we may be... we, like Jesus, have divinity within us. So, we are called to act like Jesus did: when we reach out to others who are in need; when we forgive; visit a lonely, elderly person; or listen to a troubled teenager; or when we bite our tongue instead of saying sharp words. When we do these things, we ourselves experience a kind of transfiguration. We need to remember that our journey of faith involves struggle. During times of hardship, rather than despair, we are called as good Christian stewards to keep our faith and hope in the Lord and to give thanks for His blessings. Jesus speaks to us in

our encounters and struggles with each other, in the ordinary events of every day, in our quiet times of prayer and reflection. But we cannot hear what he is saying to us if our lives are so frantic, so noisy, and so distracted that we never encounter him. In today's Gospel, Peter, James, and John have a "mountain top" experience at Jesus' transfiguration. God asks them to "*Listen to Him.*" As Christian stewards we are also called to listen to Jesus and His teachings. Finally, Richard Rohr has said, "*Suffering is ...the most efficient means of transformation, and God makes full use of it whenever God can.*" The way of the cross does involve suffering, and as we transform to be like Christ, we will experience some of that suffering. We need to accept it and pray that our suffering here will earn us rewards later in heaven.

LENTEN BLESSINGS,
DCN. MODESTO CORDERO

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

The story of the sacrifice of Isaac displays many levels of meaning as a part of the Jewish scriptural tradition. It consecrates the mount of the temple (Moriah) as a place fitting for sacrifice. The story is meant to condemn the practice of infant sacrifice, which was prevalent in the eighth and seventh centuries. God provides a substitute sacrifice to redeem the first-born, who belongs to God. Moreover, it emphasizes that true sacrifice lies in faith and obedience rather than in actual slaughter. This voluntary surrender was understood as atonement, and the sacrifice of Isaac was further connected to the Passover lamb.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

Psalm 116 is a prayer of thanksgiving of one who is faithful to God even in the midst of darkness and affliction. Response: "I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living" (v 9).

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34

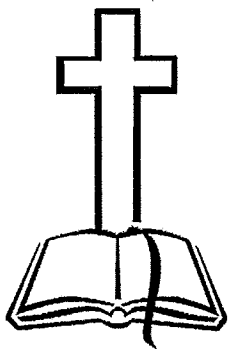
At the heart of our faith is the confidence that, if God wills to save us, he does not will to accuse and condemn us. His saving will is shown in his raising Jesus up to be our savior, not merely by his death, but by his continued presence with the Father, commending us to his love and mercy.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

The transfiguration account in the Gospel passage marks the beginning of the disciples' awareness of the true nature of Jesus' mission. It is presented in very close connection with his teaching about his passion, death and resurrection. Elijah features in the narrative because the suffering and death of John the Baptist (the new Elijah) foreshadowed that of Jesus. Moses, in leading the chosen people out of slavery, through the Red sea, into freedom prefigured the suffering-death-resurrection passage of Jesus, which his followers must also eventually share. In his transfiguration, Jesus proclaims that he is the awaited Messiah, but that his glory would eventually be fulfilled through suffering, death and the resurrection, hence the reference to rising from the dead.

Follow Msgr. John's homilies! Blog (text): <http://www.sundayhomily.com>

Podcast (audio): <http://streaminghomilies.podbean.com> iTunes (audio): [Streaming Homilies](#)



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 2, 2015

8AM: Cyril & Molly Pereira (RIP)

Bob Tumey (RIP)

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

8AM: Bob Tumey (RIP)

Andrea Perlas & Vanlenzuela
Family (Thanksgiving/Blessing)

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

8AM: Rosaurd M. DeLeon (RIP)

Gerald Pereira (Blessings)

Thursday, March 5, 2015

8AM: Myrtle Dalde Reponte (RIP)

Mr & Mrs. Gregory Castillo
(Wedding Anniversary)

Friday, March 6, 2015

8AM: Feliciano Dona (RIP)

Perfecto Domanguera (Birthday)
Christina Falke (RIP)

Saturday, March 7, 2015

8AM: Justin Fishel (Healing/Blessing)

Michael Morano (RIP)

5PM: Kazuo Tanaka (RIP)

Sunday, March 8, 2015

7AM: Manuel Visaya (RIP)

9AM: For the People

11AM: Cora A. Manayan, M. D. (RIP)

6PM: Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)



Please pray for
our Members &
Friends

HEALING/BLESSINGS: Jane & Ray Beauchemin, Richard Butz, Ashley Nawahine, Kamakoa Almasin, Ellen Cleghorn, Helen Uyehara, Linda Watson, Maya Higgins, BJ Sagocio, Teresita Milanio, Samuel Aguirre, Mike Culkun, Bryan & Alexandria Hollon Family, Gloria Aquino, Ramon Ramos, Jeff Grundon, Mamerto Perez, Alicia Newson, and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Emilia S. Taclan, Santos "Sandy" Padilla, Lillian M. Ramos, Carmen O. Austria, Ernesta L. Salvador, Christina Falke, Oscar Carias, Nancy S. H. Kealoha, Joy Ann K. Baker, Rogelio Ordinario, Lolita Camlin, Bernadette Yockman and Fidel Reyes.

Stations of the Cross will take place this Friday, March 6, followed by a frugal meal that is sponsored by the Religious Education Department.

A Healing Mass with Anointing will be held on Monday, March 9. Praise and worship begins at 7:30 pm, followed by Mass.

Catholic Relief Services Collection - The weekend of March 14/15, our parish will take up a collection for the Catholic Relief Services. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displace refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. You may drop your donation during offertory or you may make a donation online by visiting our parish website at www.stjohnmililani.org, by clicking the "Online Giving" icon. Please give generously.

Parish Lenten Retreat with Fr. Philip Chircop, SJ will take place in the church on Monday, March 16 to Wednesday, March 18, at 7:00 pm. Come and join us as Fr. Philip talks about "Opening Some Doors This Lent". Free admission! All interested parishioners, friends, and families are encouraged to attend.

The Office of Permanent Deacon Formation will be having two Deacon Formation Inquiry Weekends at St. Stephens Diocesan Center that will begin in January 2016. Attendance at either the March 13-15, or June 12-14, weekend is required to apply. For more information, please contact Dcn. John A. Coughlin at 808-203-6727 or email jcoughlin@rcchawaii.org.

Don't give up CHOCOLATE this LENT! Instead, join our parish and Matthew Kelly for the *Best Lent Ever* and sign up for a free Lenten program at www.BestLentEver.com. This program features daily reflections & videos to help you become the best version of yourself!



Hungering for a Bountiful Earth - This week CRS Rice Bowl takes us to the coffee highlands of Nicaragua, where we're called to protect both the goodness of creation and the livelihoods of struggling families. How will this week's fast remind us of the sacredness of God's creation and our duty to protect it?

St. John's Catholic Preschool, a Catholic, Montessori preschool for children ages 2.8 through 5 years of age, is currently accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. Children must be turning 3 by Dec. 31, 2015, and be completely potty-learned. Please call the preschool office at 623-3332, ext. 200, to set up an appointment for an observation/tour.

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be held on March 19, 7-9 pm, in the parish classroom 6. The discussion book will be *Be a Man!: Becoming the Man God Created you to be* by Fr. Larry Richards. Borrow or buy the book, read it and join us for our book discussion. For more information, contact Melissa Crisostomo at 626-2469 or alohamc@yahoo.com.

Collection for February 21/22, 2015

Sunday Collection	
- 5:00 PM	\$2,668.29
- 7:00 AM	\$2,865.00
- 9:00 AM	\$2,876.59
- 11:00 AM	\$2,157.25
- 6:00 PM	\$1,654.64
- Front Office	\$723.30
- Online Donation	\$1,703.35
Candle Sales	\$447.00
Mass Intentions	\$80.00
Donation - Outreach	\$74.00
Frugal Meal	\$135.00
Stewardship Development	\$4.75
BEMO	\$1,625.25
Hui O Laulima	\$26.00
Augustine Education Foundation	\$20.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$3.00
Peter's Pence	\$7.50
Weekend Total:	\$17,070.92

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

REPENT

Meditations for the
Season of Lent

AND BELIEVE

He Was Transformed Before Them

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him up the mountain where he was transfigured before them. When the experience was over, Jesus told them not to say anything about what they saw until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept silent, but the three of them couldn't help but talk to themselves about what rising from the dead could mean.



As Catholics in a modern world, we can still empathize with the disciples' confusion. Like them, we don't have any scientific understanding of what occurred to Jesus and we discuss what resurrection will really mean for us.

The Transfiguration is a powerful reminder that death is not the end of life. If death meant complete annihilation, then Elijah and Moses would not have appeared with Jesus. In this way, the Transfiguration foreshadows the Resurrection. Although the apostles didn't understand what was happening at the time, later, when the Son of Man had risen from the dead, they were able to understand what the Transfiguration meant.

During this second week of Lent, we are asked to think about how we can be transformed through the power of the risen Lord, and we are reminded that one day, we, too, will be resurrected.

POINTS TO PONDER

- What would I like transformed in my life by Easter?
- As I look over my life, what are some areas where God has already transformed me? Give thanks for those transformations and for those yet to come.
- What is one sacrificial action I can perform this week?

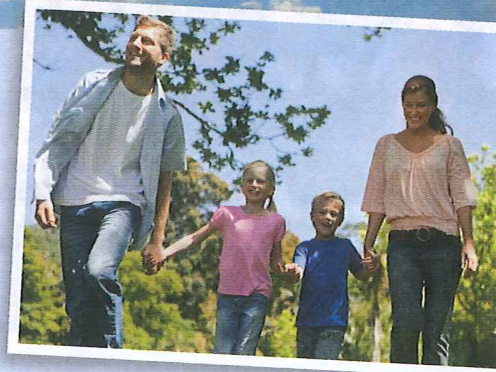
CATHOLIC INSIGHTS

The Last Four Things

St. Alphonsus Liguori recommended that we contemplate the “last four things” especially during Lent. These are: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. While talking about these with children can be difficult, parents can use the season of Lent as a way to gently introduce the topics. One aspect to emphasize is that heaven, as Pope St. John Paul II said, is not “an abstraction



nor a physical place in the clouds, but a living, personal relationship with the Holy Trinity.” Heaven, then, is living an eternity in the presence of and in relationship with our loving God. Likewise, the Church teaches that hell is not so much a physical place, but the choice to turn away from God and the deep pain of separation from our Lord (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1033).



FamilyActivity

Stations of the Cross

Did you know you can create your own Stations of the Cross? While many Stations in churches are elaborate and ornate, all that is required is to have 14 crosses, preferably wooden, located so that you can take a step or two between each one. As a family activity, create 14 crosses from small twigs or branches and place them in a line in your backyard or living room. Walk together as a family, remembering the events of the Passion. At each cross, bow or kneel and say, “Because of your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.”

CatechismCONNECTION

“Christ’s Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God’s servant; the cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. “The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud.”

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 555

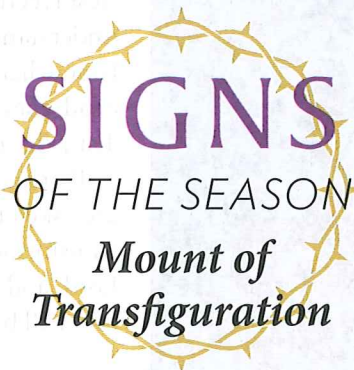
LENT PRAYER

*Unto to you,
I cry, my God!*

“Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

— 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Dear God, I don't know what lies ahead for me, but I trust that your love will be with me now and until the end of time.



The traditional location for the Mount of Transfiguration is Mount Tabor, about 11 miles west of the Sea of Galilee. Mount Tabor rises about 1,800 feet above the level plain below. It was identified as the site of the Transfiguration as early as the third century by the theologian Origen. The Church of the Transfiguration, a Franciscan church built on the ruins of a centuries-old Byzantine church, now stands at the summit of Mount Tabor.

“Once again Lent comes to make its prophetic appeal, to remind us that it is possible to create something new within ourselves and around us.”

— Pope Francis, Ash Wednesday Mass, March 5, 2014

