



MARCH 21 / 22, 2015
THE FIFTH 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

Deacon 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

Deacon 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

Stewardship is more than rolling the stone away

Stewardship is more than rolling the stone away from the tomb. It involves waking up those still asleep in the tombs to listen to the voice of Jesus calling them; it also involves going and untying them by sharing with them the best way to live in freedom.

Stewardship is rolling the stone away

One basic aspect of stewardship is the grace of initiative to respond to God's grace. At times when we are spiritually dead, we need someone to roll away the stone that blocks the *door of faith* and trust so that we can begin to be alive again and breathe the fresh air of God's grace. Indeed we are our sister's and brother's keepers; we are stewards of our brothers and sisters. It is a sin of omission to see your brother or sister spiritually dead (in a state of sin) and choose to do nothing. Rolling away the stone that keeps such persons in the tomb is evangelization – the fourth sign of a dynamic Catholic.

Stewardship is listening to the call "Lazarus come out"

The second basic aspect is listening to God calling us and inviting us to come out of the tomb. Some people just prefer to remain in their sleep. We need to wake up. "Spirituality means waking up. Most people, even though they don't know it, are asleep. They're born asleep, they live asleep, they marry in their sleep, they breed children in their sleep, they die in their sleep without ever waking up!" (Anthony DeMelo) Responding to the voice of Jesus calling us to come out of our tombs leads us to be the best version of ourselves and become God's instruments of transforming others by waking them up from their slumber of sloth to life again. "Transforming people one at a time is at the heart of God's plan for the world." (Matthew Kelly)

Stewardship is helping to "untie him and let him go"

The third aspect is the imperative of "untying and letting others go!" This is a powerful image of stewardship. Being raised from the dead; from our spiritual slumber is not enough. Imagine if someone had not challenged you to wake up. You would still be lying there with the burial clothes around your body unable to untie yourself. We need stewards, who care about us; we need good Samaritans to clean our wounds, bandage them and care for us until we recover from the shock of being robbed of God's grace, beaten up and left on the roadside to die! This week, roll the stone away for someone; lead someone to hear the voice of Jesus calling; help to untie someone and set them free by sharing with them the best way to live. That is evangelization, the fourth sign of a dynamic Catholic. Be bold, be Catholic, be a dynamic Catholic!

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.**

"EVERYONE WHO LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE." JOHN 11:26

In this Fifth Sunday of Lent, the readings talk about three different meanings of death. For the prophet Ezekiel, death means to be in exile. Ezekiel is not talking about physical death. He speaks of spiritual death, a death many of us might suffer from without even realizing it. To Paul, death is to live in sin. In his letter to the Romans, he says that those of us who look at life on strictly human terms cannot please God. He is concerned about what motivates us, suggesting that only a person with God at the center truly lives. Paul calls us to trust in the Lord. Without that center and trust, we are just dry bones. Putting our trust in the Lord is important for good stewardship. Paul invites us to look at our lives from the perspective of Christ.

In the Gospel, we heard of the physical death of Lazarus. First of all, Lazarus'

death and being brought back to life previews for us Jesus' own death and resurrection and our journey from death to life. As amazing as the raising of Lazarus is, the full extent of Jesus' power over death would be revealed only in his resurrection and in ours. Secondly, the life that Jesus gives us is a life in which we never die at all. Resurrection is not returning to live more of this life. The raising of Lazarus from physical death to life is a demonstration of the power Jesus has to raise the dead to eternal life.

Jesus told Martha, "*I am the resurrection and the life.*" He promises "*everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die.*" From each of these views of death (Ezekiel, Paul and the Gospel), God wants to bring us from death to life. We are invited to believe that death is truly a gift of God. As good

stewards, we believe all that we are and all that we have, including our lives, are true gifts from God. So, death is the door, the way to our salvation. We see the dying in our everyday lives through pain, sickness, suffering, death, sinfulness, self-emptying, discipline, and giving up our wills.

The gospel challenges us to see and believe, equally, the signs of the grace of new life — glory, joy, peace, forgiveness, mercy, trust, and kindness. Living the paschal mystery draws us to see these dying and risings as two aspects of the same mystery. The "now" of eternal life is God's grace already working in our lives. This is why the dying is not what is important. It is the rising to a new life what we need to focus on...and that is the gift!

**LENTEN BLESSINGS,
DEACON MODESTO CORDERO**

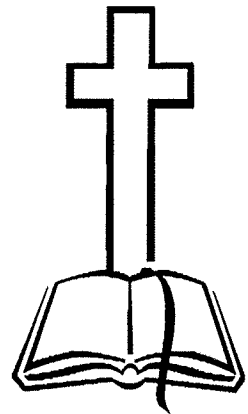
READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

This brief passage from the third of four "Servant Songs" in Isaiah 40-55 expresses firm confidence in God in the face of great suffering. Here the Servant represents the whole nation of Israel, a sole individual representing the community. The Suffering Servant speaks of his ability to endure pain and insults in his mission because of his trust in God's help and protection. The early Church regarded this as a prophecy about the Messiah fulfilled in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the whole of humanity.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Psalm 22 is a prayer of an oppressed person who feels abandoned by everyone. Here the prayer anticipates the words of Jesus in his final moments before death. Once again the details of the psalm reflect the plight of the suffering servant in the first reading, and strikingly prefigure the climax of Jesus' passion. The second part of the psalm (vv 23-32) expresses confidence and praise that God hears those who call upon him. Response: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"



Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Paul quotes a hymn professing faith in the lordship of Jesus that was probably already familiar to his readers. He gives the passion of Jesus as the pattern for Christians to follow. Jesus emptied himself, but God the Father raised him up, and enthroned him as Lord. In other words, we look at the sufferings of Christ in the light of the resurrection. Thus the reading gives a perspective to Passion Sunday and Good Friday whereby we do not only concentrate on death alone, but also on the mystery of life that overcomes death. The passion makes sense only as a passage to new life.

Gospel of the Mass: Mark 14:1-15:47

The passion narrative of Jesus according to Mark interprets the death of Jesus on the cross as an agonizing conflict between the powers of light and the powers of darkness. For Mark therefore the passion of Jesus is an apocalyptic interpretation. The loud cry of Jesus on the cross is an announcement of triumph of the power of light and the rending of the temple curtain is a symbolic expression of that victory. The narrative in fact recalls the hymn in Philippians 2:6-11 in the Second reading. Thus Jesus is the divine Redeemer who has emptied himself of his divine glory, in order to hide himself from the powers of darkness. These powers crucify the Lord of glory. The crucified Messiah, who allows himself to be handed over to a shameful death, is a mystery and a scandal which is presented in Mark without explanation, and simply demands acceptance and submission.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 23, 2015

8AM: Yolanda Morreira (Birthday)
Heather Galicinao & Kiana Serrao (Birthday)

Tuesday, March 24, 2015

8AM: Ramona DeCosta (Birthday)
Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

8AM: Ernesta Salvador (RIP)
Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Thursday, March 26, 2015

8AM: James & Mildred Mizoguchi (RIP)
Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Friday, March 27, 2015

8AM: Dolores Baptista (RIP)
Luz Abanes (RIP)
Fidel D. Reyes (RIP)

Saturday, March 28, 2015

8AM: Luz Abanes (RIP)
Melvin Medeiros (RIP)
5PM: Betty Deinhardt (Blessings)

Sunday, March 29, 2015

7AM: Clyde S. Higa (Birthday)
9AM: For the People
11AM: Engracia Pablo
(Birthday Memorial)
6PM: Barbara Jean F. Ferreira (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 Culkin, Maydell Britt-Mason, Bryan & Alexandria Hollon Family, Gloria Aquino, Ramon Ramos, Jeff Grundon, Mamerto Perez, Alicia Newson, Lance Yoshimura, Marcy Sagon, Gregory Castillo and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

Thank you for your generous support of the **Catholic Relief Services Collection**. Through your generosity families will be reunited, valuable skills will be taught to those seeking a better life, and vital humanitarian needs will be met. Please visit www.usccb.org (search "Catholic Relief Services Collection") to learn how your donations make a difference and help Jesus in disguise.

Hungering for a Healthy Harvest - CRS



Rice Bowl brings our Lenten journey back to Africa this week, to the Democratic Republic of Congo. We join our fasting in solidarity with people who go hungry, and we remember in prayer the importance of building a community that is willing to support those most in need. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl. You may drop your donation during offertory or you may donate online by visiting our parish website at www.stjohnmililani.org, clicking the "Online Giving" icon. Please give generously.

Holy Land Collection - Once a year on Good Friday, our parish is called on to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy land. You may drop your donation during offertory or you may donate online by visiting our parish website at www.stjohnmililani.org, clicking the "Online Giving" icon.

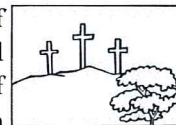
St. John Prison Ministry Easter Drive - Outreach office will be collecting items for the Prison Ministry's Easter Collection. Donations will be given to the Central Office of Prisons and will be distributed to our brothers & sisters in penitentiary. Please refer to the poster on the bulletin board for the list of donation items. All items must be new. Collection days start from now through April 1, and may be dropped off at the Outreach Office during regular office hours. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

Easter Flower Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church or you may also make a donation online by visiting our parish website, www.stjohnmililani.org, and click the "Online Giving" icon.



Senior Bingo! Hui O Laulima will sponsor a senior bingo afternoon on Sunday, March 29, from 1:00-3:00 pm on the church lanai. There will be games, great prizes, refreshments and many friends to laugh and enjoy with. You must be 60 years old or older to participate. Come and join the fun. See you there!

A Special Presentation of the Stations of the Cross will be re-enacted by members of our Confirmation program on



Friday, March 27th, at 7:00 PM. Please be advised that this will *not* be the traditional Stations of the Cross, but will be a dramatization of the Passion of Christ. Everyone is invited to come and walk with Jesus and Mary on the road to Calvary. A frugal meal will follow the presentation that is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.



The next 24 hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday, May 1, immediately after the 8 am Mass and ending at 7:30 am on Saturday, May 2. This beautiful devotion allows us to spend time in quiet adoration of our Lord and feel the infinite love present in His heart. Jesus waits for us in the Blessed Sacrament. Come and adore Him.

Collection for March 14 / 15, 2015

Sunday Collection

- 5:00 PM	\$2,393.00
- 7:00 AM	\$2,952.00
- 9:00 AM	\$2,6525.80
- 11:00 AM	\$2,452.00
- 6:00 PM	\$2,022.74
- Front Office	\$1,520.00
- Online Donation	\$1,876.25

Candle Sales \$508.00

Offerings - Blessing \$50.00

Donation - Outreach \$84.00

Frugal Meal (Op. Rice Bowl) \$100.00

Easter Flowers \$65.00

Mass Intentions \$180.00

Stewardship Development \$68.50

BEMO \$1,540.25

Hui O Laulima \$22.50

Catholic Relief Services \$2,158.28

Operation Rice Bowl \$100.00

Seminarian Fund \$7.50

Weekend Total: \$20,762.82

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce."

Proverbs 3:9

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.

REPENT

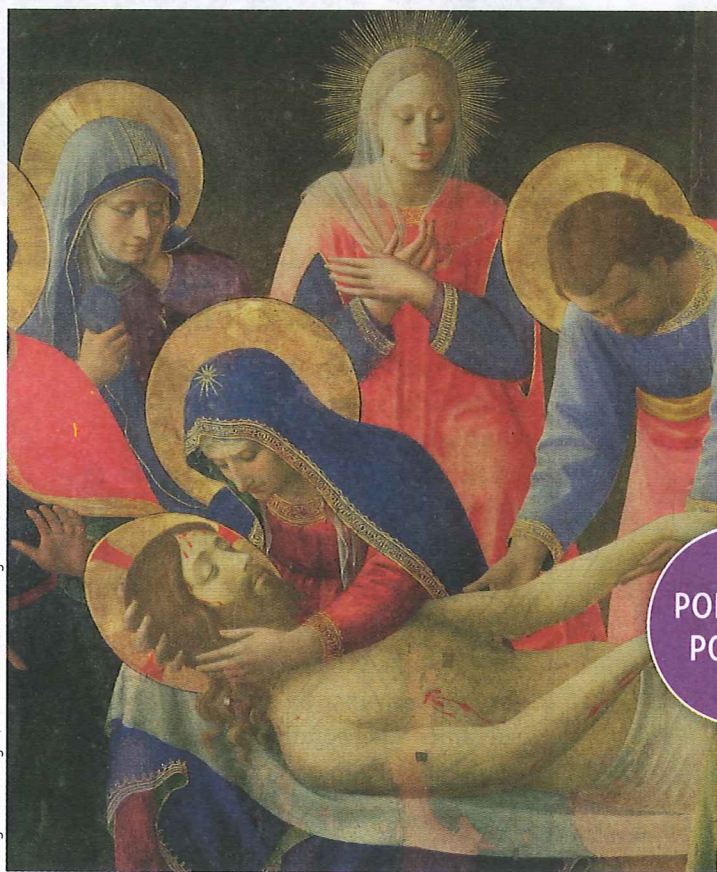
Meditations for the
Season of Lent

AND BELIEVE

Jesus Predicts His Own Death

John 12:20-33

As the Gospel opens, Jesus is well aware that his time on earth is coming to a close. In fact, he admits that he is “troubled,” but adds, “Yet what should I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Upset as he admits he is, he still puts the Father first.



In today's Gospel, a voice responds to Jesus' prayer by saying, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." Also, Jesus tries to explain to the crowds his true identity, the Son of Man, and the real meaning of the cross — the salvation of all the world.

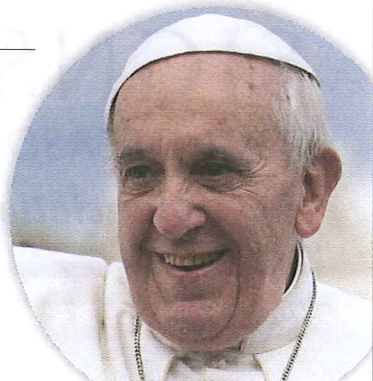
Through his obedience to the Father, Jesus reveals God's glory. He foreshadows his crucifixion and death through the language of service: "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will be my servant" (John 12:26). As we enter the final weeks of Lent, we are called to bring forth the glory of the Lord as we follow Christ in service to God and one another. Let us remember not just the pain of Christ's passion, but the reason for his death — to bring us the gift of reconciliation with God the Father.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Have you ever considered that Jesus might have been “troubled” about what was going to happen to him? How can the way he dealt with his anxiety help you deal with your own worries and fears?
- Is there someone in my life that I need to forgive? Do I keep in mind that it is as we forgive that we are forgiven?
- How am I doing on keeping my Lenten discipline?

“When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist, he did so not because he was in need of repentance, or conversion; he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the burden of our sins.”

— Pope Francis



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

According to Church law, all Catholics “having reached the age of discretion” are required to confess all “grave sins” at least once a year. It is also recommended that they confess venial sins. Lent is the ideal time to make a good confession. Most parishes offer extended confession times and even special penance services.

LENT PRAYER

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

“This is the promise that he made us: eternal life.” — 1 John 2:25

Thank you, my God, for your steadfast love, which guides me in this life and waits to welcome me home to the next.



FamilyActivity

Random Acts of Kindness

We are called to serve one another with joyful hearts! As a family, write out on slips of paper several random acts of kindness that can be carried out over the week. Include things like smiling at someone, picking up trash, making a phone call to a grandparent, and helping someone carry a package. Throughout the week, have each family member draw a slip and complete the action. When everyone has completed their random act, talk about what happened and how it felt.

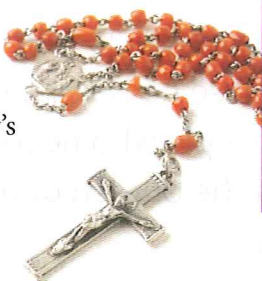


SIGNS
OF THE SEASON
The Annunciation

On March 25, we celebrate the Annunciation, the day that the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she had been chosen to be the mother of the Savior.

Read Luke 1:26-38 for the complete story.

Pray the Rosary in Mary's honor today.



Catechism CONNECTION

“It is called the **sacrament of confession**, since the disclosure or confession of sins to a priest is an essential element of this sacrament. In a profound sense it is also a ‘confession’ — acknowledgment and praise — of the holiness of God and of his mercy toward sinful man.

“It is called the **sacrament of forgiveness**, since by the priest's sacramental absolution God grants the penitent ‘pardon and peace.’¹

“It is called the **sacrament of Reconciliation**, because it imparts to the sinner the love of God who reconciles: ‘Be reconciled to God’ (2 Cor 5:20). He who lives by God's merciful love is ready to respond to the Lord's call: ‘Go; first be reconciled to your brother’ (Mt 5:24).”
— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1424

¹ OP 46: formula of absolution