



DECEMBER 12 / 13, 2015
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Email: sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org • Website: www.stjohnmililani.org

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

Reconciliation: (Saturday) 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

NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

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

Director of Liturgy
Nicholas Calzada
(ncalzada@rcchawaii.org)

PARISH PROGRAMS

Outreach (x 203)
Pearl Bates

RCIA Coordinator
Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)
Julie Quiroz-Zamora

Preschool Director (x 208)
Catherine Awong

Youth & Young Adult Coordinators
Gwen & Dcn. Wally Mitsui
(gmitsui@rcchawaii.org)

PARISH MINISTRIES

*We welcome you to visit our
parish website for a listing and
more information on all our
ministries.*

PASTOR'S CORNER

Why One Community Center?

We recall that the first priority of our pastoral planning for the next five years is “Community, Building and Facilities”. The goal of our pastoral action is expressed as follows: “To upgrade the St. John Apostle & Evangelist campus to better facilitate the faith community’s need to evangelize, educate and socialize as its parishioners strive to embrace stewardship as a way of life.” That is the vision. Last week I offered an overview on the mission or the strategies for achieving our vision. The purpose of this reflection is to clarify once again why as a parish community we need the facility we now call “One Community Center.”

As a sacramental people, space on our campus speaks volumes! With the growth of parishioners, ministers, leadership and faith formation opportunities, we need new, functional space. We have referred to this space as One Community Center. As a stewardship parish community we are fueled by an outward mission to the world, rather than an internal focus on maintenance. Let me expand a little on this. We need to remain focused on our parish mission statement which ends by these words: “to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all through our words, deeds and lives.” Our One Community Center is necessary in furthering this mission.

The space will be utilized for four broad services all connected to evangelization. 1) In this space we will **connect** with people like never before; 2) **welcome** possible members into our community; 3) **engage** people with the purpose of leading them in direct and subtle ways to discover the best way to live; and 4) **equip** them to share with others the hope they have discovered in Jesus Christ. Each of these components of evangelization will be treated separately after Christmas. So stay tuned!

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Msgr. John S. Mbinda
Pastor

VISION / 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.**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT– YEAR C

The key to unlock the central message this Sunday is found in the second reading where Paul urges us to rejoice always in the Lord. In addition Paul tells us the reason for such joy. He argues that “there is no need to worry” because the Lord is near.

This Sunday we light the third candle of the Advent Wreath. Its desert rose color signifies joy because we are now halfway towards the birth of our Savior. That is why this Sunday is called *Gaudete* Sunday which means, “Rejoice!” I know some of you might say, “Well, Father, I don’t feel all that joyful.” But we rejoice because the one who is to come is already with us.

In the first reading, the prophet Zephaniah offers us the same message. “Shout for joy”; rejoice and exult because the Lord has removed judgment against us; he has driven our enemies

away. Zephaniah, like Paul, assures us not to worry because the Lord our God is our hope and source of joy.

In the Gospel from Luke, John the Baptist responds to a basic question his listeners are asking on how they are to prepare themselves to receive the gift of joy and peace in life. In John’s reply, the source of true joy and peace consists in a sharing of goods with those who are deprived; in honest stewardship of common goods; and in being content with what one possesses. This threefold demand is a fulfillment of Jesus’ call for more than just fairness, justice and equity. Jesus calls us to be the best version of ourselves. This is a message that many people need to hear today.

You and I ask the same questions asked at the time of John the Baptist: “What must we do?” How do we find true joy? John the Baptist challenges us to seek

ways of sharing the little God has given; ways of being honest and grateful for what God has given us. There is no better preparation for Christmas than letting go and letting God transform you and prepare you to be the best version of yourself this Christmas. We will then discover the Lord in our midst and he will fill us with joy and peace.

So what message do we take home this Sunday? 1) The best way to rejoice in the Lord, the way to true joy and peace, is found in genuine sharing with those who have nothing. 2) Genuine peace and joy are found in a just stewardship of common goods and being content with what God has given us. 3) Finally, we are called to walk along the way to perfection and holiness so that we will find true joy and peace this Christmas.

MSGR. JOHN S. MBINDA
PASTOR

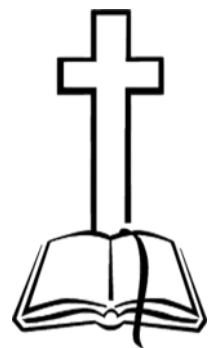
READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2015

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4

This prophecy from the prophet Micah contains several important theological themes: salvation will come from an insignificant village (Bethlehem Ephrathah) rather than from the royal city; the power of the ruler comes from God; a time of trial will be followed by a time of security and peace. The message sounds startling, but can be trusted because it comes from God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

Psalm 80 is a communal prayer of lament. There are several images of God: attentive shepherd and imperial ruler (v.2), military captain and cultivator of vines (vv 5-6). Therefore, God is addressed here as shepherd of Israel, responsible for the nation of Israel, the one who cares for the flock, leading it to verdant pasture and protecting it from danger. Similarly, God understood as a military ruler also cares for the subjects and protects them from enemies.



Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

This passage expresses a contrast between the Old Testament ritual sacrifice and the sacrifice of Christ. In the reading, the author places words in the mouth of Christ giving the words we find here a certain authority since they come from Christ. Actually Christ’s words are a commentary on Psalm 40:7-9 that mentions four different types of sacrifices that represent the entire sacrificial system. The author makes a contrast between adherence to the law and Christ’s obedience to God’s will. The author’s point is that we are sanctified through the sacrifice of Christ and not through any sacrifice required by the law.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Luke’s account of Mary’s encounter with Elizabeth can be divided into three parts: Mary’s journey into the hills in the south (vv.39-40); her greeting and its effects on Elizabeth and on her unborn child (vv. 40-41); Elizabeth’s jubilant response (vv. 42-45). There is a certain sequence of recognition that begins and ends with Mary. At the sound of Mary’s greeting, the child in Elizabeth leaped for joy, thus signaling to her the presence of the Lord in the womb of Mary. That leads Elizabeth to recognize the blessedness of Mary’s unborn child, and through him, Mary too is blessed. In a certain sense, the readings this Sunday anticipate Christmas in only two days. They give us a glimpse into the mystery we will soon celebrate.

Follow Msgr. John’s homilies! Blog (text): <http://www.sundayhomily.com>
Podcast (audio): <http://streaminghomilies.podbean.com> iTunes (audio): [Streaming Homilies](http://streaminghomilies.com)

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Dec. 14, 2015 (8 am)

Msgr. John Mbinda (Anniversary)
Celestina Dela Cruz (Memorial Anniv.)
Patrick Mayock (Birthday)

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2015 (8 am)

Erin & Sheila Gallogly (Birthday)
Rose McNorton (Birthday)
Fr. Salvador Bringas (Birthday)

Wed., Dec. 16, 2015 (8 am)

Jesse Pangelinan (Birthday Memorial)
Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)
Anabelle Cabebe (Birthday)

Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015 (8 am)

Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)
Belinda Luz (Birthday)
Rafael P. Ignacio (RIP)

Friday, Dec. 18, 2015 (8 am)

Noel Domanguera (Birthday)
Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)
Fidel D. Reyes (RIP)

Saturday, December 19, 2015

8AM: Mel Kawahara (Birthday)
Michael McEnerney
(Good Health/Stress Relief)
Paciencia "Pat" Nazareth (RIP)
5 PM: Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Sunday, December 20, 2015

7AM: Venzon Dindo (Birthday)
9AM: For the People
11AM: Anastacio Dalde
(Memorial Anniversary)
6PM: Santos "Sandy" Padilla (RIP)

Please pray for our Members & Friends

HEALING/BLESSINGS: Francis Calabrese, Fr. Edward Turner, Joyce Medeiros, Richard Butz, Lawrence Terry, Elaine Rillamas, Ramona DeCosta, Marsha Cha, Sue Mamiya, Sammie Chang, Annie Chang, Chang Family, Mike Culkin, Joyce Agsalda, Darlene Catekista, BJ Sagocio, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, Bob Knott, Baby Lily, Judy Amasol, Betty & Charles Deinhardt, Tom Harris and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Amy C.H. Jay, Leonora Bernardo, Juanita V. Miguel, Daniel A.M. Eli Sr., Berlina Mindoro, Jesus L. Lagueras, Ann Nita, Toni Kaleopaa, Tom English, Sammy Chang, Jan Chan, Antonio Amasol, Berlina Mindoro, Jesus L. Lagueras, and Vicente T. Reyes.

Support Elderly Religious by showing your appreciation for senior Catholic sisters, brothers, & religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to this weekend's Retirement Fund for the Religious collection. Envelopes are available at the entrance of the church, or you may also donate online from our parish website, clicking "Online Giving".

Youth & Young Adult Bake Sale!

Come and support YYA after all morning Masses this Sunday on the breezeway. There will be delicious baked goods, plants, and white elephant items for purchase. This fundraiser is to help with costs of Youth events & Young Adult travel expenses to the Religious Education Congress (Anaheim, CA) in February 2016.

The Religious Education's Annual Nativity Play

will be held in the church this **Friday, December 18 at 7:00 pm.** Please join us as the children celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This performance will feature our Children's Choir and students from our RE Program. Light refreshments will be served after the performance.

Give Yourself an Early Christmas Present!

Join Matthew Kelly and six other influential Catholic voices of our time on a life-changing journey through the **BEST Advent EVER** on www.BestAdventEver.com. Unwrap the gift of Advent. Let it transform your relationships, work, and ability to embrace & experience all of life.

The March For Life Rally & Luminary

Prayer Service will be held on **January 22, 2016, 3:00-7:00 pm** at the Hawaii State Capitol Building. The Respect Life Ministry will be on the lanai after all Masses this weekend & next weekend (Dec.19/20) for those who have questions and/or are interested in participating.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Thursday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
6:00 pm and 12:00 Midnight

Friday, December 25th - Christmas Day
7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am *No 6:00 PM Evening Mass*

NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE:

Thursday, December 31 - New Year's Eve
8:00 am and 10:00 pm Mass

Friday, January 1, 2016 - New Year's Day
8:00 am Mass

Christmas Flower Offering Envelopes are available at the main entrance of the church, or you may also make a donation online from our parish website, clicking "Online Giving".

MAHALO to all of our Christmas Angels!

May God bless each and every one of you for helping a child in need. You helped make Christmas enjoyable for them this year. Mahalo Nui Loa.



Misa de Gallo will begin on Wednesday, December 16 thru Thursday, December 24 at 5:00 am. The Mass celebrants are as follows:

Wed., December 16 ~ Msgr. John Mbinda
Thurs., December 17 ~ Most Rev. Larry Silva
Friday, December 18 ~ Fr. Edmund Barut
Sat., December 19 ~ Fr. Santiago "Bong" Agoo
Sunday, December 20 ~ Fr. Boniface Waema
Monday, December 21 ~ Msgr. Ted Mercado
Tuesday, December 22 ~ Fr. Arnold Ortiz
Wed., December 23 ~ Fr. Lusius Nimu
Thurs., December 24 ~ Msgr. John Mbinda

2015 Central Oahu Vicariate Advent Penance Services:

Monday, December 14 - 7:00 PM
St. John Apostle & Evangelist (Mililani)
Tuesday, December 15 - 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Sorrows (Wahiawa)
St. Michael (Waialua)
Monday, December 21 - 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Good Counsel (Pearl City)

Stewardship of Treasure - Dec. 5 / 6

Sunday Collection

- 5:00 PM (Saturday Vigil)	\$3,138.00
- 7:00 AM	\$3,025.00
- 9:00 AM	\$3,556.30
- 11:00 AM	\$2,595.33
- 6:00 PM	\$2,266.05
- Front Office	\$1,640.00
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$3,735.40

Candle Sales \$551.00

Holiday Fund \$253.00

Angel Network \$213.00

Stewardship Development \$33.50

Mass Intentions \$570.00

Donation - Young Adults \$50.00

Donation - Outreach \$142.50

Christmas Flowers \$34.00

Christmas \$23.75

Immaculate Conception \$338.00

Parish Hall Building Fund (non-assessed) \$224.50

BEMO \$1,259.00

Hui O Laulima \$358.68

Preschool \$19.00

Retirement for the Religious \$157.50

Weekend Total: \$27,022.51

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