JANUARY 2 / 3, 2016
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

One Community Center: A Place to Welcome People

There is a banner on our campus that reads, "St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church, a place to feel at home." We see ourselves and therefore our entire campus as a space of Aloha and welcome. We have gone ahead and formed the Aloha Hospitality Ministry to extend hospitality from the parking lot to the pews. On Sundays you will see volunteers with yellow jackets in the parking lot waiting to welcome all newcomers, parishioners and visitors. Parishioners arriving in the rain are guaranteed a smile, and an escort with an umbrella. We are committed to welcoming parishioners and visitors with a smile everywhere on our campus.

Our One Community Center will be a space where we extend warm Aloha and hospitality to all who take part in our events. At every event, particular attention will be given to visitors and new parishioners. They will be warmly welcomed, and we will ensure that at the end of each event, volunteers from the Aloha Hospitality Ministry will be available with registration cards for those who wish to register for membership in our parish. Here we will host occasional receptions for newcomers and have the Aloha Hospitality Ministry follow up with them.

In order to be more effective in our Aloha and Hospitality Ministry, we will have to use more creative ways of showing that visitors and new parishioners are welcome. For example, we could provide welcome cards and ask newcomers to write their names and contact information and drop them in a basket or box as they go out of the community center. As people arrive for any event at our community center, Aloha and Hospitality Ministry will be out in the parking lot welcoming all who arrive and paying close attention to newcomers and visitors. Above all, the ministry will be attentive to anyone with a disability or is a senior, and will give them the extra care they need. We will also need to establish a welcome desk inside our community center.

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***.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Today's gospel is unique to Matthew who presents Jesus as both the One Who is to come and One who has come to all. The Magi represent the "beyond" or distant lands and peoples to whom the Christ will offer His universal wisdom.

These "Wise Men" also represent the former ways of thinking and wondering. They come in a sign of surrender to this new "epiphany" or display of the "One God" Who is for all and is now known as the God who does the seeking and the finding. The Magi are the figures of the world that did the seeking for and the finding of God. The Light is initiated by God and this Light is meant for the whole world.

As with the shepherds, these wise men continue in a liturgical manner. They arrive, having wandered in faith, have an offertory procession, a time of adoration and then a sending. Were they totally satisfied by the whole experience of stars, warnings, and findings? Yes, they were somehow missioned by the encounter to go farther and further and deeper. Like shepherds they were changed and yet returned to the desert way of life.

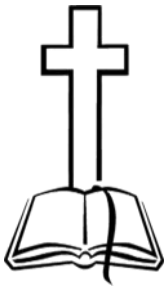
The gifts, which the Magi had presented, represented what had been valuable to these seekers who left them at the "house" and leave by "another way". They have not so much found as they have been found and leave that place to begin spreading the news of the One they found. This is all a grand ending and beginning. The Magi-story is the revelation that mere human wisdom searches for more that it can understand. The Wanderers, who have come from afar in distance and tine, arrive not with an idea or principle, but at the mystery of a Person.

It can be assumed that, as with the shepherds before them, the Magi went back by "another way," not merely geographically. They return to a new and different way of relating with life. Their hearts and spirits are comforted and their minds still turning these things over in wonder, not a bad way to journey.

We are invited to pray on this Day of Revelation to be women and men of "manifestation" ourselves. It is not so much what gifts do we have to present to Jesus, but what gifts has God given us to reveal to others, some particular feature of God's personality. We are the receivers and yet Christ has come to make us gifts offered back to the Giver. What of God do we reveal?

PEACE & BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR!
DEACON WALLY MITSUI

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2016



First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

The passage is a prophetic commissioning of God's messengers to his people. The verbs 'speak' and 'proclaim' are most likely addressed to those called to comfort God's people, speaking to their hearts. Then we hear the prophecy of liberation, directing the people to be ready by removing all the obstacles on the way: "make straight …a highway for our God!" Zion is even exhorted to go out on a high mountain and announce that good news of salvation.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104:1-2,3-4,24-25,27-28,29-30

Psalm 104 is a remarkable song of praise, depicting God as creator and sustainer of all life. The psalm is a masterpiece of poetry using vivid imagery – "You have spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth…You make the clouds your chariot… You make winds your messengers." Before such a God we cry out in the response: "O bless the Lord, my soul."

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7

This reading is from one of the Pastoral Epistles of St. Paul. The passage contains: 1) a confession of faith in the saving grace of God, and 2) the testimony to the divine revelation of that saving grace. The grace Paul speaks about is God's salvation for all from the spiritual dangers that humanity faces. Therefore, salvation involves training in the necessary combat strategy needed to face the forces of evil. The second part is an affirmation that God's saving grace is revealed to us through "the kindness and generous love of God." God's saving grace is completely gratuitous and "not because of righteous deeds we have done." Consequently, we are justified by God's grace.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22

The Gospel passage contains two related parts. 1) We have John the Baptist denying that he is the Christ. 2) Then we have a report of extraordinary circumstances that followed after Jesus is baptized by John. The two parts are connected by the significance of the Holy Spirit. The passage begins by saying that the people were filled with expectation regarding the appearance of the Messiah and wondering whether John might be the one. John is quick to contrast himself with the one who is to come and therefore his not the one. The one to come is mightier and far superior. The second part then is an account of what happened while Jesus was praying after his baptism by John. We are only told that something happened to Jesus. "The heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove." What happened here confirms Jesus' anointing and is an affirmation of both his humanity and divinity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., January 4, 2016 (8AM)
Ignacia Valdez Benitez (RIP)

Tues., Jan. 5, 2016 (8AM)
Ignacia Valdez Benitez (RIP)

Wed., Jan. 6, 2016 (8AM)
Ignacia Valdez Benitez (RIP)

Thurs., Jan. 7, 2016 (8AM)
Ignacia Valdez Benitez (RIP)

Saturday, January 9, 2016
8AM: Emerson Masa
(Memorial Blessing)
Mr. & Mrs. R. Roberson & Brenda (RIP)
Maria Guerrero Sablan (RIP)
5 PM: Clyde & Elizabeth Higa
(Blessings / Thanksgiving)

Sunday, January 10, 2016
7AM: Fredlander S. Duldulao
(Memorial Anniversary)
9AM: For the People
11AM: Luz V. Vargas (RIP)
6PM: Cayetano Family
(Blessings / Thanksgiving)

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, John F. Gora, Darrlyn Bunda, and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: 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, Vicente T. Reyes, Marshall Sunajo, Rebekah Gomes, Selbistre "Stan" Narito, Cheryl Calvin, and Ignacia V. Benitez.

Priests' Retreat - Msgr. John and Fr. Boniface will be attending a Priests' Retreat at St. Stephen Diocesan Center from *January 4-8, 2016*. While they are away, Fr. Chris Arockiaraj will preside at the 8 am Daily Mass from January 4-7. There will be a Communion Service on January 8th in lieu of Daily Mass.

Theology of the Body Seminar - Join us on ***Friday, January 8*** at ***7:00 pm*** in the *Church* for a special presentation with speaker and educator *Bill Donaghy* as he features ***Everything's Amazing, but Nobody's Happy***: *Rekindling our Sense of Wonder through Theology of the Body*. For more information, please email Maile Domingo at mailedomingo@gmail.com.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is searching for the longest married man & woman couple in the State of Hawaii. Send your nominations to Dave & Sue Shanahan at shanahan.wwme@gmail.com by *January 8, 2016*. All married couples are eligible!

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be held on January 21, 2016, 7-9 pm in classroom 6. The discussion book will be on the Treasure *in Clay* by *Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*. Borrow or buy the book, read it, and join our book discussion. For more information, contact Melissa Crisostomo at *626-2469* or alohamc@yahoo.com.

The March for Life Rally & Luminary Prayer Service will be held on Friday, *January 22, 2016*, 4-8 pm at the Hawaii State Capitol Building. The March reminds our elected leaders and community that the unrestrained destruction of life, of pre-born babies, is not only a tragedy of moral indifference, but a legacy of shame for future generations. The luminary prayer vigil supports two pregnancy care centers in our community. Your donations will assist in keeping their doors open. Join pastors, religious leaders, youth, friends, and neighbors who choose to cherish life. There will be free bus transportation. For more info, contact Mary Smart at *741-2358*, mghsmart@yahoo.com or Melissa Crisostomo at *626-2469*, alohamc@yahoo.com.

3rd Annual St. Marianne Cope Charity Walk - Sat., Jan. 30, 2016, 7 am at Kewalo Basin Park. The walk will be one mile around the harbor and back. Early registration is $30/person; $40/person after *January 15th*. Proceeds from the walk will help support the St. Francis Healthcare System Charity Care Fund that provides financial assistance to seriously ill patients who need care but are unable to afford it. For more info and registration, please contact the St. Francis Healthcare Foundation at *547-8031* or gkaahanui@stfrancishawaii.org.

REMINDER FOR ALL PARISHIONERS!

Please be mindful of others as you park your car in the church parking lot. There have been complaints of double parking and damage to vehicles. When you double park, you prevent other drivers from leaving their space and stall the flow of traffic. We request that you ***DO NOT*** double park your vehicle. Mahalo!

Online Giving – Stewardship is made easier than ever with our online giving system, WeShare. Make a one-time or recurring donation using your debit card, credit card, checking, or savings account in 3 easy steps. 1.) Visit our parish website, click "*Online Giving*". 2.) Set up your account. 3.) Choose a payment option and customize your donation.

The next 24-Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on *Fri., February 5*, immediately after the 8:00 am Mass and ending at 7:30 am on *Sat., February 6*.

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ignacia Valdez Benitez (RIP)
Monday, Jan. 4, 2016 ~ St. John A&E
Visitation: 10:00 am ~ Mass: 11:00 pm
Burial: 2:30 pm ~ Valley of the Temples Memorial Park (Kaneohe)

Marshall S. Sunajo (RIP)
Friday, Jan. 8, 2016 ~ Diamond Head Mortuary
Visitation: 6:00 pm ~ Prayer Service: 7:00 pm
Saturday, January 9, 2016 ~ Burial: 11:30 am
Valley of the Temples Memorial Park

Stewardship of Treasure - Dec. 26 / 27	
Sunday Collection	
- *5:00 PM (Saturday Vigil)*	**$2,305.00**
- *7:00 AM*	**$2,568.10**
- *9:00 AM*	**$2,237.68**
- *11:00 AM*	**$2,481.01**
- *6:00 PM*	**$2,108.35**
- *Front Office*	**$720.00**
- *Online Donation (WeShare)*	**$1,951.30**
Candle Sales	**$752.00**
Misa de Gallo *(Dec. 21-24)*	**$1,384.11**
Stewardship Development	**$33.25**
Mass Intentions	**$90.00**
Donation - Young Adults	**$70.00**
Donation - Outreach	**$1,109.00**
Immaculate Conception	**$20.00**
Christmas Flowers	**$70.00**
Christmas Offering	**$29,493.41**
Parish Hall Building Fund (non-assessed)	**$514.50**
BEMO	**$1,130.50**
Hui O Laulima	**$1,056.00**
Retirement for the Religious	**$325.00**
Weekend Total:	**$50,419.21**

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