



FEBRUARY 13 / 14, 2016
THE FIRST 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: 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 Wally Mitsui

(wmitsui@rcchawaii.org)

Deacon Modesto Cordero

(mcordero@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

Prayer Can Transform your Life

Our Lenten journey that began on Ash Wednesday is fueled by three disciplines: *prayer, fasting and almsgiving* - generosity to our brothers and sister in need. In Chapter 1 of *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, 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 because it transforms us.

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. While the other 93% of Catholics do pray, their prayer tends to be spontaneous and 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 1 minute each day for prayer. The more time we spend in silence the clearly we will hear the voice of God. We can simply thank God for the many blessings and close with the "Our Father". One simple prayer that I find useful is, "Lord help me to be the best version of myself today." Say this prayer first thing in the morning before getting onto the highway or before starting your morning activities. 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.

May God bless our Lenten journey and make our stewardship of time, talent and treasure more fruitful.

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.**



Jubilee Year of Mercy: December 8, 2015 - November 20, 2016
"Merciful like the Father"

LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

This weekend we are celebrating Valentine's Day and World Marriage Day, two events that celebrate the importance of LOVE in our lives, in the world. This weekend we are celebrating the first Sunday of Lent, too. We may ask, who decided to put Valentine's Day on the first Sunday of Lent? It just happened this year, maybe providentially. Some may see it as a contradiction. The coincidence of this Sunday with Valentine's Day, I believe is a happy event. Both are about who we are, how we want to be in relation to others, and the importance of personal encounter (with the Lord) for our very well-being.

The Lenten Season began a few days ago on Ash Wednesday and it is the time of the liturgical year in which we remember how much God loves us. He loves us so much that he sent his **ONLY** Son, to be sacrificed, to die for our salvation, so we can restore our relationship with the Father and to experience an encounter with His mercy and love.

On his letter to the Romans, St. Paul speaks to us about mouth and heart. We confess verbally that Jesus is Lord. We believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead. Lips and heart are also involved with valentines.

God led the people of Israel into the desert, to forge them into a new people. The Spirit led Jesus into the desert to clarify the meaning of his Messiahship. The Spirit leads us into the desert of Lent to reflect on how we have not always resisted temptation and have failed in love. In the desert we seek mercy and forgiveness.

In this Holy Year of Mercy, we are called to seek God's mercy and forgiveness, especially during the season of Lent. Pope Francis, in his message for Lent, reiterates the importance of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and condemns the attitude of those who refuse to open the doors of their hearts to God.

A good Confession during Lent can open

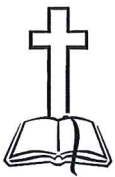
our hearts to God's merciful forgiveness. Confession comes out of the mouth. It requires honesty and humility. We need to put our sinfulness into words. Our repentance must come from the heart. It must be a sign of our love for God, who loves us very much, and whose love we often take for granted or reject.

Lent gives us the opportunity to face our failures – to resist the daily temptations that cross our path and seek to destroy our communion with God. We are called to repent of past sins, to be sanctified in Christ, to perform spiritual works through the power of the Holy Spirit, to resist all glory and authority that may separate us from the LOVE of God Who greatly desires to see us united to Him. May the grace of God be with you all as you search your hearts with great sincerity and allow yourselves to be transformed by the Love of God this Lent.

LENTEN BLESSINGS!

DEACON MODESTO CORDERO

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2016



First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12,17-18

The passage consists of three related parts. It opens with God's two promises to Abraham that he will have a multitude of descendants. Abraham puts his faith in God's promise. This is followed by how Abraham is to celebrate the covenant. The last part is a brief account of the actual ceremony and a further promise of land. The Lord considered Abraham righteous because of his faith.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 27:1,7-8,8-9,13-14

Psalm 27 is a prayer of profound confidence in God. "*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*" The prayer begins with an expression of confidence that God will indeed hear the cry for help and that God will grant the request.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:4

In this passage, Paul, in offering an exhortation to the Philippian community, draws a sharp contrast between the true believers and the opponents of the Gospel. He begins by admonishing his hearers to follow his own example as a teacher. For example, Paul compares the enemies of the cross of Christ with the faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ; the opponents will end in destruction while the faithful await the coming of the Savior. The reading ends up with Paul exhorting his hearers to be firm in their faith.

Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

There are two parts of this account of the transfiguration from Luke. The first is the actual transfiguration and the conversation between Jesus and the two holy people from heaven. This was a private experience of Jesus that the three disciples did not see as "they had been overcome by sleep." It is only when they wake up that they see the glory of Jesus. While the transfiguration was meant to reveal the divinity of Christ, Peter misunderstands this manifestation as showing Jesus to be equal to Moses and Elijah. "Let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." Luke immediately tells us that Peter did not know what he was saying. The symbolism of the cloud shows that this is a divine theophany (revelation) of who Jesus is. The voice from heaven confirms Jesus as the Son of God. "This is my chosen Son: listen to him." The Lenten Season exhorts us to be attentive to the many moments when Jesus reveals himself to the people he encounters.

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

Mon., February 15, 2016 (8 am)

Bienvenida & Dolores Baptista (RIP)

Aiden Phillips (Healing)

Tues., February 16, 2016 (8 am)

James & Mildred Mizoguchi (RIP)

Conchita Uson (Birthday Blessing)

Wed., February 17, 2016 (8 am)

Dolores Rivera (RIP)

John F. Galicinao (Guidance / Wisdom)

Thurs. Feb. 18, 2016 (8 am)

Simeon Lamanilao (Birthday Blessing)

Hak Soon Mercado (RIP)

Fri., February 19, 2016 (8 am)

Terry Silva (Birthday Blessing)

Gavina & Emma Tamonte

(Birthday Blessing)

John Gibson (RIP)

Saturday, February 20, 2016

8AM: Recibe & Cagurangan Families

(Thanksgiving / Blessing)

Pacita Mauleon (RIP)

5 PM: Aiden Phillips (Healing)

Sunday, February 21, 2016

7AM: Rosalinda Aglanao (RIP)

9AM: For the People

11AM: Josephine Ponce (Healing)

6 PM: John P. Smith (RIP)

Please pray for our Members & Friends

HEALING / BLESSINGS:



Sue Mamiya, Sammie Chang, Annie Chang, Chang Family, Mike Culkin, Joyce Agsalda, Darlene Catekista, BJ Sagocio, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, Bob & Mel Knott, Baby Lily, Judy Amasol, Betty & Charles Deinhardt, Tom Harris, John F. Gora, Darrlyn Bunda, Ellen Cleghorn, Hilaria Santos, Fr. Edward Turner, Maureen Hart, Monica Pangelinan, Diane Kotch, Mona DeCosta, Josephine Ponce, and everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Vicente T. Reyes, Marshall Sunajo, Rebekah Gomes, Selbistre "Stan" Narito, Cheryl Calvin, Ignacia V. Benitez, Jaime Maldonado, Sr., Thomas E. Silva, Sr., Mary G. Cordero, Jarrett B. Bolosan, Walter S. Rabacal, John Gibson, and Catherine Phillips.



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of the Presidents' Day Holiday.

The Spring 2016 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil & Fasting Campaign continues thru March 20. A group from our parish will participate in a prayerful vigil at the Planned Parenthood abortion facility located at 1350 S. King Street on the following dates: 2/15, 2/24, 2/29, 3/10, & 3/14. Sign-up at the back of the church. The group will leave the church parking lot at 9 am & return before noon. For more info, contact Mary Smart at 741-2358.

CORRECTION!! The next Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday, March 4, immediately after the 8:00 am Mass and will end at 12:00 pm.

Our Lenten Prayers of the Faithful

"...after the Gospel and the homily, "the common prayer" or "the prayer of the faithful." [We pray] for holy Church, for the civil authorities, for those oppressed by various needs, for all mankind, and for the salvation of the entire world." (Constitution on Sacred Liturgy (CSL): #53)

As One Ohana in Christ we strive to be inclusive to all within our prayers during the mass. This Lent, during this Year of Mercy, we ask our Lord to be merciful to us and on the whole world. We are called as a parish family to pray for and love our enemies. Let us follow the example of our Heavenly Father to be merciful to others. We start with the simple yet powerful opportunity to pray for them.

As we continue to pray for our military and their families in our personal intentions, they will not be heard during the Prayers of the Faithful.

For these 40 days of Lent:

We pray for those effected by violence, anger, hatred, & war. For those who are victims and those who are perpetrators, that your loving mercy O Lord will flood all hearts with an overwhelming desire to show mercy & compassion.

And so during our lenten journey we embrace the opportunity to reflect God's mercy within our own lives, for our families, friends, strangers, enemies, the entire world. To "Be merciful just as our Heavenly Father is Merciful".

EMHC Workshop: "Come to the Feast!" on Wednesday, February 17 at 7 pm. Renew your spirit and celebrate the Eucharist with stewardship, care, and compassion. ALL EMHC's are required to attend. Respond by email to Sue Osborn or Nick Calzada.

SAVE THE DATES!

Confessions during Lent: 5:30 pm (Fridays)

February 19, 26, March 4, 11, & 18

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm (Fridays)

February 19, 26, March 4, 11 (Teens), & 18

Parish Lenten Retreat w/ Fr. Felix Just

March 7-8, 7:00 pm

*Homilist at all March 5/6 Masses: Fr. Felix

Lenten Penance Service: March 9, 7:00 pm

Fr. Felix Just (Homilist)

Palm Sunday: March 20

HOLY TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday: March 24, (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 pm

Good Friday: March 25 (No Daily Mass)

Parish Office Closed

8:00 am - Morning Prayer

3:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

3:30 pm - The Passion & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ

Holy Saturday: March 26 (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer

No 3:30 pm Confessions

7:00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: March 27 (No 6 pm Mass)

7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Easter Monday: March 28

Parish Office Closed

Stewardship of Treasure - February 6 / 7

Sunday Collection

- 5:00 PM (Saturday Vigil)	\$3,204.01
- 7:00 AM	\$2,554.91
- 9:00 AM	\$3,997.75
- 11:00 AM	\$2,339.75
- 6:00 PM	\$1,534.25
- Front Office	\$545.00
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$2,684.70

Candle Sales

\$553.00

Donation - Outreach

\$250.00

Donation - YYA

\$105.00

Mass Intentions

\$690.00

Stewardship Development

\$28.50

BEMO

\$2,019.75

Hui O Laulima

\$104.00

Parish Hall Building Fund (non-assessed)

\$272.00

Preschool

\$85.50

Augustine Education Fund

\$560.00

Weekend Total:

\$21,528.12

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

Protecting God's Creation • Embracing Gospel Justice • Nurturing Spiritual Fulfillment

Food

Our Lenten practice this week is buying and eating our food responsibly.

Eating is a moral act.

"Give us today our daily bread." All the food we eat comes directly from Earth. The act of eating unites us to the soil, water, and animals of this planet like nothing else. All these gifts of God's creation are included in our food.

Every purchase of food and every act of eating becomes a moral decision. When making food choices, we need to consider the manner in which crops were planted and fertilized, the method used to raise animals for eating, and the distance food must be shipped.

While our agricultural system produces a lot of food, it also has a downside. Chemical fertilizers and pesticides from large industrial farms contaminate our soil. Animal waste from factory-farmed meat spoils our streams and rivers. Transporting food over long distances pollutes our air. Food choices are having a huge impact on the whole of creation.

Food is not only central to survival, it is a sacramental gift of God's grace and providence. Our Lenten fast this week aims to develop greater sensitivity to how our food choices can honor, rather than exploit, the sacredness of creation.

Laudato Si, Pope Francis's encyclical on ecology and caring for the environment, flows from a deep tradition of Catholic social teaching based on our interconnectedness. Pope Francis writes: "Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature."

Think about the implications of your food choices before you buy.



"From the moment you put a piece of bread in your mouth you are part of the world. Who grew the wheat? Who made the bread? Where did it come from? You are in relationship with all who brought it to the table. We are least separate and most in common when we eat and drink."

—Thomas Merton

"Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished." —Matthew 4:1-2

What the Church Is Saying

1. Listen to Earth

"We can no longer simply do what we like . . . with this earth of ours, with the reality entrusted to us. On the contrary, we must respect the inner laws of creation, of this earth, we must learn these laws and obey these laws if we want to survive. Consequently, this obedience to the voice of the earth . . . is more important for our future happiness than . . . the desires of the moment. . . . Being itself, our earth, speaks to us and we must listen if we want to survive."

—Pope Benedict XVI

2. Don't Waste Food

"Whenever food is thrown out it is as if it were stolen from the table of the poor, from the hungry! I ask everyone to reflect on the problem of the loss and waste of food, to identify ways and approaches which, by seriously dealing with this problem, convey solidarity and sharing with the underprivileged."

—Pope Francis

3. We Have Responsibility for World Food Concerns

"Farm owners and farmworkers are the immediate stewards of the natural resources required to produce the food that is necessary to sustain life. These resources must be understood as gifts of a generous God. When they are seen in that light and when the human race is perceived as a single moral community, we gain a sense of the substantial responsibility we bear as a nation for the world food system."

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

4. Raising Animals for Food Has Ethical Implications

"Catholic teaching about the stewardship of creation leads us to question certain farming practices, such as the operation of massive confined animal feeding operations. We believe that these operations should be carefully regulated and monitored so that environmental risks are minimized and animals are treated as creatures of God."

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

"Lord, to those who are hungry, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice."

—Latin American Prayer

On average, food travels 1,500 to 2,500 miles to get from farm to plate.

Action Steps

Eating is a moral act. If you eat, you participate in our agriculture system, and the ethical dimensions of food production should be a concern. You "vote" three times a day. With every meal you can choose to bless or spoil God's creation. This week of Lent 4.2 offers suggestions on how grocery shopping and eating habits can make a difference.

What we eat is one of our most ingrained habits—and that makes it difficult to change. There are numerous ways to show respect for creation when eating. The most obvious is to begin with a prayer of gratitude and then take practical steps to reduce your negative impact. It boils down to eating less meat and more food that is grown organically and locally (so that it doesn't need to be shipped long distances). Realize that chemical fertilizers, transportation, and packaging of food have a huge impact on the planet. Consider which steps you can take.

✓ If There's Only One Thing You Can Do . . .

Abstain from meat this week . . . or make meat only a side dish.

Pound for pound, livestock requires more water, land, and energy than grains and vegetables. Waste disposal from factory farming of animals pollutes water supplies. Almost 800 million people suffer from hunger or malnutrition while much of the corn and soy grown in the world feeds cattle, pigs, and chickens for wealthy eaters. Consuming less meat is one of the most significant ways to lower your impact on God's creation.

What and Where to Buy

- ☐ Try purchasing sustainable and organic food. It's grown without pesticides, synthetic fertilizers, or harmful additives.
- ☐ If buying meat or dairy, choose animal products that have not been treated cruelly or grown in Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.
- ☐ Whenever possible, buy food grown and processed close to home. Transportation of food guzzles energy. Shop at a farmers' market.

Prayer

*Good and gracious God,
you provided manna in the desert
for your chosen people.
May we recognize that our food
comes from your bounty,
the generosity of our planet,
and the strenuous work
of many human hands.
Teach us to reverence your creation
which supplies our food.
Show us how to make room
at the table for everyone. Amen.*

- ☐ Eat real food. Hint: shop the perimeter of the store. Most foods in the middle aisles of supermarkets are preprocessed and packaged.
- ☐ Buy in bulk. To minimize landfill waste, support manufacturers who use minimal packaging.
- ☐ Like your caffeine? Drink only fair-trade coffee/tea. Commit to giving farmers a fair price for their product and work.

Cooking and Eating

- ☐ Do without fast food and highly processed food for the week. If that's not possible, before biting into the burger, choose food that is produced sustainably and ethically.
- ☐ Lent = Fish. Select seafood that's good for you and the oceans. Download a consumer's guide to sustainable seafood at www.seafood.edf.org.
- ☐ Purchase and set up a composting bin at home. Send food waste back to the soil instead of landfills.
- ☐ Pause in prayer before eating to be grateful for the bounty of creation and the many hands that helped bring food to your table.
- ☐ Check out the Slow Food movement. Bring balance to fast food and fast life.

Food Security

- ☐ Participate in food production to the extent you can. Connect with Earth and grow some of your own food. You will appreciate your food, having known it all its life.
- ☐ Support a just food system that provides adequate food for everyone. Learn more at the Bread for the World website: www.bread.org.

Steps Continued

1. Calculate your food footprint at www.eatlowcarbon.org.
2. Watch "The Meatrix," a four-minute video on the factory farming of animals.
3. Read about the dark side of food issues in our country—two extracts from the introduction to Eric Schlosser's *Fast Food Nation* are available online.
4. Eating is a moral act. Learn more at the Catholic Rural Life website.
5. Learn about "food deserts" in your community. Use USDA food desert locator.

All this and more available online at www.Lent42.org.