



FEBURARY 20 / 21, 2016
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: 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

Transforming Power of Fasting

Fasting is the second Lenten discipline. It is more than a means of developing self-control because the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God. In the first reading on the Friday after Ash Wednesday, the prophet Isaiah shows that fasting is meant to transform our behaviors and attitudes in order to please God. "This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own" (Is 58:6-7). Fasting therefore is linked to the stewardship of caring for those forced to fast by their poverty, economic injustices and political structures. The savings that come from our fasting are meant to be given to the cause of our less fortunate brothers and sisters, otherwise it is of no use at all if we simply keep those savings! Furthermore, fasting is linked to living out our baptismal commitment as disciples and stewards. It helps us to be focused on the vision, mission and purpose of Jesus Christ. Fasting transforms us and supports efforts to alleviate the suffering of those in need.

Abstaining from meat was traditionally linked to the poor, who could seldom afford meat for their meals. It can do the same today if we remember the purpose of abstinence and embrace it as a spiritual link to those whose diets are sparse and simple. That should be the goal we set for ourselves—a sparse and simple meal. Abstaining from meat while eating lobster misses the whole point! While giving up food and drink or eating less in Lent is good, we may also decide to “fast” from our negative addictive behaviors and attitudes towards people and certain things during Lent. This may include giving up certain habits like self-seeking, the desire to be a control freak, gossiping, swearing and pornography. One parishioner is fasting completely from watching the TV for 40 days and 40 nights. During this age of electronic gadgets, we may also fast from the use of our cell phones and texting, so that we may use that time to “text to God”; to relate to God in prayer. Next week we will consider almsgiving. 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.**



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

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT—YEAR C

Today the gospel gives us an account of an event that some interpret as an anticipation of the heavenly experience for some disciples. Jesus begins to see the signs of failure in his ministry: the crowds, who at first were enthusiastic about him, now leave him; some take him as mad and others an extremist, and his enemies start planning his death. The transfiguration takes place while Jesus is in prayer with his closest disciples. This made him understand his Father's plan for salvation and accepted it as his own. His Father confirmed him as his "*Chosen One*", the faithful and beloved servant, to whom we must listen.

During this episode, we have the appearance of two important persons: Moses and Elijah. They represent the Law and the Prophets, i.e. the whole *Old Testament (OT)*. The OT is important in the understanding of Jesus and his mission. The OT is meaningless without Jesus, and Jesus himself without the OT would be a mystery.

On Easter day, in order to let his disciples understand the meaning of his death and resurrection, Jesus will explain the OT. The disciple's sleep during transfiguration

has a symbolic meaning: its significance is that they do not understand what is happening to Jesus.

Peter's response to this glorious event is surely quite shortsighted: he wants to pitch tents and stay put on the mountain. Only by the disciples going through life with Jesus, embracing his passing through suffering and death to risen life, can they open up new possibilities and embrace flowering growth. Only by choosing the longer vision of going to Jerusalem with Jesus can we hope to share in his glory. Only by *staying close* to Jesus can such a journey end in a share in his glory. Jesus' transfiguration cannot erase the stark reality of the self-giving that travelling to Jerusalem with him requires.

The glory only comes through *embracing the passion*. This is a mystery and paradox. Jesus' transfigured glory comes only through our embracing something as demanding as dying to self for the good of others. We are reminded that the only way to remain in that glory is to die to self. Anybody wanting to please God must listen and follow in Jesus' steps. We have to come down off the mountain and go our own journey through

death to glory.

Today we are invited to see our baptism in light of the transfiguration. Baptism isn't simply a ritual we perform, but initiates a *covenant with God* that we live out the rest of our lives. During Lent, as we walk with the *elect* through their final preparation for baptism, we too prepare to renew our covenant with God at Easter.

This Sunday we are given a glance of glory to help us ease away the discouragement of a lifetime of self-emptying. As disciples we must stay in the presence of Jesus, *listen to him*, and go to our own Jerusalem, to *pass over* from death to new Life.

Discipleship merges two seemingly different directions into one: we stay with Jesus as we go to our own Jerusalem to die to self. God emphasizes the primacy of listening to His beloved Son. These words, *listen to Him*, will eventually train our ears and hearts to sort and sift out what is important, to make room for the words of joy, peace, healing, and glory that Jesus whispers to us in the silence of listening hearts. *God Loves You.*

FR. BONIFACE WAEMA

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2016



First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

This passage is a story of Israel's continuing struggle with trust and faith in God, who leads them during their wandering in the wilderness. Moses comes into conflict with the Israelites because they have no water. The Israelites want to return to Egypt where water was plentiful. Following God's instructions, Moses makes water flow by striking a rock. The point of the story is that living faithfully is obedience to God. It is not about having material resources (water or food). With or without these resources we remain faithful.

Responsorial Psalm: 95:1-2,6-7,8-9

Psalm 95 is a call to praise God in joyful fidelity, aware that we must be tested before God. We are not the ones who test God. That is why the concluding verses and the response look back to the unfortunate incident in the desert of Israel's past as an example of how not to respond to God. Response: "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Perhaps in all of Paul's letters there is no other passage which carries such a powerful message than this one in Romans 5. Faith in Christ has established our new relationship with God. We now receive many additional blessings - endurance in suffering, hope of standing the test of our faith and reconciliation with God. These come to us because of God's love, which has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. All of this has been brought about through the death and resurrection of Jesus, who died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

The Gospel is the account of Jesus' conversation with a Samaritan woman at the well. This is perhaps the most unusual event of all those reported in the New Testament. John uses this event to reinforce the theme of his gospel: Faith in Jesus as the source of living in relationship with God now and in the life beyond death. Here again as in Exodus 17 and Psalm 95, water has a symbolic meaning. Water is life. It represents the life of the Spirit which comes through faith. In this instance it may also symbolize the water of baptism which initiates our faith relationship with God. The passage is also a gradual self-revelation event of Jesus to the Samaritan woman, who gradually becomes aware of who Jesus is. She becomes aware of her own identity as well as her need for the living water, Jesus Christ, the source of eternal life.

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

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

Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Mon., February 22, 2016 (8 am)

Daniel A. Fernandez

(Memorial Anniversary)

George Perry (Birthday Memorial)

David Twelker (RIP)

Tues., February 23, 2016 (8 am)

Robert Garnsey (Birthday Blessing)

Jerome E. LeDonne

(Memorial Anniversary)

Wed., February 24, 2016 (8 am)

Dr. Zorbella Guillermo

(Birthday Blessing)

Antonio Gerardo (Memorial Blessing)

Thurs. Feb. 25, 2016 (8 am)

Jim Walsh (Birthday Blessing)

Aiden Phillips (Healing)

Fri., February 26, 2016 (8 am)

Rodolfo S. Gasmen (Birthday Blessing)

Nohea & Cameron Phillips (Blessing)

Saturday, February 27, 2016

5 PM: Ruth Eckel (RIP)

Sunday, February 28, 2016

7AM: Monica Hayes (Healing)

9AM: For the People

11AM: Joseph C. Domanguera (RIP)

6 PM: Gen. Hondo Campbell (RIP)

*Please pray for our
Members & Friends*

HEALING / BLESSINGS: Sue



Mamiya, Sammie Chang,

Annie Chang, Chang

Family, Mike Culin, 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: 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, Catherine

Phillips, and David Twelker.

Hungering to Give Back - This week, CRS Rice Bowl takes us to Laos, where Hongkham is using her love of cooking to provide for her family—and feed an entire school. How do we use our passions and gifts for the betterment of those we meet? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Mahalo for showing your support of the Augustine Educational Foundation (AEF). You have made a difference! For more info on our program visit www.augustinefoundation.org.

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: 2/24, 2/29, 3/10, & 3/14. Sign-up at the back of the church. The group will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 am & return before noon. For more info, contact Mary Smart at 741-2358.

Our Lenten Parish Mission - *The Jubilee Year of Mercy: Receiving & Sharing God's Mercy* featuring Fr. Felix Just, S.J. will be held on March 7-9. Please see insert for additional information.

Our Parish Lenten Penance Service will take place on March 9th at 7:00 pm in the Church.

FREE Caregiver Workshop on Saturday, March 12, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at St. John A&E Church. Workshop has 3 topics: *Talk Story with retired MG Tony Taguba*, *Prepare to Care*, and *Improving Quality of Life for Caregivers & Loved Ones at Home*. Free bento lunch will be provided. To register for this workshop, please call Connie Murphy 625-7773, Deb Zedalis 348-2973 or visit <http://aarp.cvent.com/care3-12>.

Catholics Reaffirming Life Symposium on "Building a Culture of Life - Be Not Afraid" will take place on Saturday, February 27 from 8 am - 4 pm at the Kroc Center in Kapolei with internationally known speakers Fr. Shenan J. Boquet and Dr. Brian Clowes. For more info and online registration visit www.catholicahawaii.org/lifesymposium or call 808-203-6722. Deadline to register is Mon., February 22.

Island Leadership Retreat 2016: Mercy like the Father. A single day retreat, held at the Mystical Rose Oratory (Waialae) on March 12, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. If you are a high school or RCIA catechist, a youth/young adult ministry member (18-39 yrs. old), a marriage or baptismal prep teacher, or if you interact with youth and/or young adults through your ministry, this is for you! Visit www.oahu-ilr2016.eventbrite.com for more information.

Catholics Returning Home - If you are a non-practicing Catholic or know of someone that left the Church and/or is not practicing his or her faith, we invite you and ask you to encourage others to join us for an informal listening session and update of the Catholic faith facilitated by former non-practicing Catholics. No matter how long you've been away, or for whatever reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with Christ and the Catholic Church. All sessions will be conducted in a support-group format. The first session will be held on **March 2** at 7:30-9:00 pm in the SJAE Preschool. For more information, please contact the *Catholics Returning Home Team* at home@stjohnmililani.org.

Lenten Book Fair - *The Daughters of Saint Paul* from Pauline Books & Media Center, will hold a book fair after all Sunday Masses the weekend of March 5/6. There will be a selection of religious books, music CD's, DVD's, and religious articles for purchase. If you have special requests, please call Pauline Books & Media Center at 521-2731.

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

Planned Giving

Preparing an estate plan is good Christian stewardship, saying thanks to God, expressing your love for your family, and showing charity towards others. Please remember **St. John Apostle and Evangelist Church** in your will.

Stewardship of Treasure - February 13 / 14

Sunday Collection	
- 5:00 PM (Saturday Vigil)	\$2,603.27
- 7:00 AM	\$2,732.57
- 9:00 AM	\$3,662.10
- 11:00 AM	\$2,247.00
- 6:00 PM	\$2,211.00
- Front Office	\$689.00
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$1,619.75
Candle Sales	\$703.00
Offerings - Marriage	\$200.00
Donation - Outreach	\$99.00
Donation - YYA	\$110.00
Mass Intentions	\$360.00
Stewardship Development	\$33.25
BEMO	\$1,236.25
Hui O Laulima	\$134.00
Building Fund (non-assessed)	\$148.25
Preschool	\$20.00
World Mission Sunday	\$7.00
Frugal Meal	\$72.00
Weekend Total:	\$18,887.44

"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

Consumption

Our Lenten practice this week is to reconsider our relationship to "stuff."

Buying Less, Wasting Less

Everything that lives must consume. But currently humans are consuming at an unsustainable pace—with damaging consequences for our society and our planet.

"Over a few short generations, we in the affluent fifth of humanity have become car drivers, television watchers, mall shoppers, and throwaway buyers." —Alan Durning, Sightline Institute

Too often we fail to consider the damaging consequences of our lifestyle on the planet and the impact this will have on our children. Many people are now becoming concerned about the greed, selfishness, and conspicuous consumption that have taken over our society. It crowds out meaningful time for family, community, and spiritual fulfillment.

The Bible has plenty to say about consumption. The tenth commandment is blunt: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods." Jesus was unwavering: "Do not store up treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal" (Matt 6:19).

In the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis finds kinship with the teaching of Patriarch Bartholomew, leader of the Eastern Orthodox Church. "He asks us to replace consumption with sacrifice, greed with generosity, wastefulness with a spirit of sharing, an asceticism which 'entails learning to give, and not simply to give up. It is a way of loving, of moving gradually away from what I want to what God's world needs.'"

For Christians, simplicity is not frugality or penny-pinching. Rather, it is a faith-inspired way of living that wants to be more responsible. The Gospel value of Christian simplicity motivates us to make consumer choices that respect the limitations of our planet's resources and make a good life possible for everyone. The hallmark of this lifestyle is outer compassion and inner contentment.

"If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven."

—Matthew 19:21

What the Church Is Saying

1. Dangers of Excessive Consumption

"We all know that it is not possible to sustain the present level of consumption in developed countries and wealthier sectors of society. . . . The exploitation of the planet has already exceeded acceptable limits."

—Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

2. The Morality of Shopping

"It is good for people to realize that purchasing is always a moral—and not simply economic—act. Hence *the consumer has a specific social responsibility*."

—Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*

3. Becoming Environmentally Responsible

"Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings."

—Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

4. Beware of Selfishness

"Human beings let themselves be mastered by selfishness; they misunderstood the meaning of God's command and exploited creation out of a desire to exercise absolute domination over it. But the true meaning of God's original command, as the Book of Genesis clearly shows, was not a simple conferral of authority, but rather a summons to responsibility."

—Pope Benedict XVI

5. Care for the Common Good

"It is manifestly unjust that a privileged few should continue to accumulate excess goods, squandering available resources, while masses of people are living in conditions of misery at the very lowest level of subsistence. Today, the dramatic threat of ecological breakdown is teaching us the extent to which greed and selfishness—both individual and collective—are contrary to the order of creation, an order which is characterized by mutual interdependence."

—Pope St. John Paul II



"Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

—Luke 12:15

4.2

Imagine Earth divided equally among all of us. Each person would receive 4.2 acres. Now imagine that everything you need—food, energy, home, clothing, appliances, gadgets—must come from those 4.2 acres. But it takes 17.2 acres per person to maintain the average American lifestyle. Inspired by Pope Francis, Lent 4.2 is a new way of observing Lent that helps us care for God's creation by taking steps toward using only our fair share of its resources. Moving in the direction of 4.2 is essential for anyone walking in the footsteps of Jesus today. Information online at www.lent42.org.

Action Steps

Everyday life is sustained by materials from Earth: food, clothes, cell phones, appliances, and even toilet paper. The United States has 5 percent of the world's population but consumes about 30 percent of the world's resources and creates almost 30 percent of the world's waste. But there's only so much timber for paper, steel for cars, silica for computers, and other materials to go around. The more we consume, the less is available for others. In the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us to be "more conscious of the negative effects of certain lifestyles and models of production and consumption."

Christian simplicity doesn't mean giving up everything good. It does mean cutting back, reducing harm, choosing wisely, and acting on the Gospel value of simplicity whenever purchasing or disposing of anything.

From the suggestions, check the box of the steps you can take this week.

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

Stop unwanted junk mail. The average American adult receives sixteen pieces of junk mail a week. That's forty-one pounds each year, requiring 100 million trees and 28 billion gallons of water annually to produce and recycle. Forty-four percent goes into landfills unopened. Visit www.catalogchoice.org to stop unwanted junk mail. Less mailbox clutter means saving natural resources, less pollution, and less waste.

Avoid Unnecessary Consumption

- ☐ Shop less. Resist the urge to shop as entertainment. Replace recreational shopping with Sabbath time.
- ☐ Ask when shopping, "Do I really need you?" Then wait twenty-four hours to eliminate impulse buying. Craving drives much of our consumption, depleting God's creation.
- ☐ Reuse stuff. Our disposable culture encourages tossing out what could be easily fixed or reused.
- ☐ Use paper responsibly. Conserve, print on both sides, set default margins narrower, and use recycled paper.

Prayer

*O Giver of Life,
you are the source of all creation.
Through the healing power of Jesus
you brought sight to the blind.
Open our eyes to the pervasive
consumerism in this country.
Free us from its grip
so we might enjoy spiritual freedom.
Teach us to use your compassion
with moderation and compassion
for those who do not have enough.
You are our hope. Amen.*

The Average American

- Consumes twice as much as they did fifty years ago.
- Sees more advertisements in one year than people fifty years ago saw in a lifetime.
- Spends three to four times as many hours shopping as Europeans do.
- House size has doubled since the 1970s.
- If everybody consumed at US rates, we would need four or five planets.

- ☐ Clean closets. Discover what's forgotten. Donate anything not used for two years.

Buying: What Comes Into Your Home

- ☐ Buy conscientiously. Understand the environmental and social impacts of products you purchase with *The Better World Shopping Guide*.
- ☐ Buy in bulk. Reduce packaging waste that fills the planet with trash.
- ☐ Buy products from environmentally and socially responsible companies. Is the company a polluter or a good steward of God's creation?
- ☐ Buy fair-trade products to ensure a just wage for workers and artisans around the world.

Trash: What Goes Out of Your Home

- ☐ Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. First, reduce your consumption. Second, use reusables, forgo disposable paper napkins, towels, and cups. Third, recycle by returning waste naturally to Earth. Overall, only 34 percent of waste is recycled in the United States. We throw away approximately 161 million tons of material each year, which amounts to about 3 lb. of garbage per person per day. We can do better at recycling.
- ☐ Pay bills online. This minimizes paper consumption, saves trees, and reduces fuel consumed by vehicles that transport paper checks.
- ☐ Join the Zero Waste movement, an anti-garbage strategy.

Steps Continued

1. Visit the website of the Center for a New American Dream. Learn to consume responsibly in order to protect Earth and live justly.
2. Learn about Caritas International and its mission to serve the poor and to promote charity and justice throughout the world.
3. Watch a twenty-minute online video, *The Story of Stuff*.
4. Raise humans, not consumers. Visit the Campaign for Commercial-Free Childhood and learn to prevent the manipulation of our children's values by advertising.
5. Study garbology. On average, each person in the United States generates 1,600 pounds of trash each year. Find out what happens to your garbage.

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