



APRIL 23 / 24, 2016
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

Religious Ed. Secretary (x 204)

Dominique Kekiwi

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

Clothe the Naked

The imperative to *Clothe the Naked* is spoken of in both the Old and New Testament. The prophet Isaiah exhorts us: "When you see the naked, clothe them" (Is 58:7). In the Letter of St. James we read: "What good is it if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,' but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (James 2:14-16).

One of the saints most emblematic of Christian charity is St. Martin of Tours, the Roman soldier who saw a poor man shivering in the cold and cut his cloak in two to share it with the beggar. Clothing provides for two basic human needs: *protection* and *dignity*. We probably do not see people very often who are literally shivering in the cold, but many poor and homeless people rely on charitable organizations for their clothing. One very direct way to carry out this work of mercy is to go through our own closets a couple of times a year and donate some of the clothing crammed into our closets. Better yet, perhaps we could develop the habit when shopping to buy some new clothing to give away – if you were in the position of someone who had to go to a thrift shop, wouldn't it be a treat to find something new there?

There is a social dimension to this work, too: often our "bargains" are paid for by the sweat of people laboring in inhuman conditions here and abroad. We have a moral responsibility to take a peek behind the stylish logo of popular clothing and shoes, and if we find that the item has been produced at the cost of the human dignity of those who made it, we should boycott that product and let the manufacturer know why.

Clothing is not only necessary for protection; we need it to maintain our human dignity. Contrast two scenes in the Gospel: when the prodigal son returns home, the father gives him his best robe, shoes on his feet, and a ring. These items symbolize the young man's dignity as the father's son, and show that his position has been restored to him. By contrast, in the Stations of the Cross we meditate on the stripping of Jesus; this act of humiliation was inflicted on him several times during his Passion. To take away his clothing was to steal from him any standing in the human community and to humiliate him profoundly.

This work of mercy also challenges us to confront the crime of sexual exploitation in our society and in particular the plague of pornography. This multi-billion dollar industry is founded on the heinous act of stripping men, women, and even children of their basic human dignity. If it is a virtue to *clothe the naked*, it is a sin to strip the clothed.

In the first book of the Bible, God made garments to clothe Adam and Eve (Gen 3:21). In the last book of the Bible we are given a vision of the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (cf. Rev 21:2). When the moment of glory comes, may we be among those who saw the Lord in our sisters and brothers, and clothed him (cf. Matt 25:38).

Next week we will consider "Welcome the Stranger". 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.**

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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

In the First Reading, Luke presents Paul and Barnabas as having success and resistance. As in the Gospel, Luke pictures the gestures of healing as invitations to be received by some and rejected by others.

Paul and Barnabas have been preaching and recently raised a man who had been crippled from birth. Some responded by believing they were gods, Zeus and Hermes. Others wanted to stone them. What we hear in today's reading is an account of their fidelity to their ministry no matter what the responses. They begin forming the church's structure by commissioning a group of elders to continue gathering or calling the community together. The travelers continue their preaching from town to town and return eventually to announce that the grace of God through their preaching has reached even to the Gentiles. For Luke, the Holy Spirit has

been poured out upon the Apostles from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. God's embrace has no geographical or tribal boundaries.

Today's Gospel is from the first chapter of Jesus' Last Discourse. This chapter also begins the second part of John's Gospel, which is known as The Book of Glory. It comprises the five chapters of Jesus' last address to his disciples, the two chapters of his Passion and the two chapters narrating his resurrection.

The message from Jesus is short and sweet, said while they were all at table, but we can hear them also as the desperate desire of a dying person. "I have only one thing to sum it all up so listen carefully." Love is perhaps the easiest yet most difficult human experience about which to write. No greater love is there than the laying down of one's life for even one other

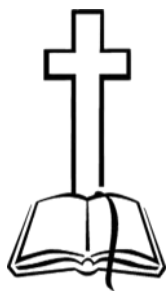
person. During this Easter time it might be well to respond to Jesus' commandment by reflecting upon how love involves dying even in the littlest ways. Love and Justice go together well, but loving is not a just experience. If we expect to get back what we give, that is business not a love relationship.

What Jesus is asking of us is impossible if we expect to love others as much and as faithfully as he loved us. Loving takes time, takes chances, takes opportunities, takes rejection, takes awareness, but does not take, grab, demand, measure but receives.

*TO BE THE BEST PERSON YOU CAN BE,
AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, YOU ALSO
SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER.*

**EASTER BLESSINGS,
DCN. WALLY MITSUI**

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016



First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29

This passage gives us a glimpse into the issue that almost led into earliest divisions among Christians. The first followers of Jesus were all Jews, the first Jewish converts who also continued to observe the Jewish religious practices. Most Jewish Christians expected all Gentiles to keep these practices. When Paul allowed his Gentile Christians to refrain from Jewish observance, because they were increasing in number, the Jewish Christians objected. Paul had to take the matter to Jerusalem for decision on future pastoral practice. The gathering of the apostles and the decisions that were crafted into a letter began the early church structure we now call a "Council" - an official gathering of the whole Church with authority to make pastoral decisions and implement them.

Responsorial Psalm: 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

The past tense used in this psalm classifies it as a prayer of thanksgiving for blessings already received. It can also be seen as a prayer of blessing. The prayer asks that God look favourably upon the people, that He be benevolent towards them. The psalm ends with a prayer for continued universal blessing.

Second Reading: Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23

The vision of the Holy City Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God is based on several prophecies of ancient Israel. One of those prophecies is from *Ezekiel 40:2, 48:30-33*. But then John in this text presents the already constructed city as a fulfilment of what was prophesied. Two features of this city are given: the gates in the city's high walls and the foundation stones.

Gospel Reading: John 14:23-29

The gospel passage contains several major theological themes. It emphasizes the link between love and obedience, and speaks of the presence of God with the one who loves. The passage also provides us with a partial view of the internal relationship within the Holy Trinity. The Advocate, the principle of love is promised. He will teach us everything. Love is the fundamental message of Jesus in this passage. However, Jesus here calls for a demanding kind of love, one that is self-sacrificing, as the love of Jesus himself. This kind of love is more than emotional love. It is a state of being, a disposition within which one lives. In that kind of state, Jesus and his Father make their dwelling. They live in the one who loves as he loves and obeys as he obeyed.

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, April 25, 2016 (8 am)
 Wellie Yadao (RIP)

Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)
 Marina Guerrero (Healing/Blessings)
Tuesday, April 26, 2016 (8 am)
 Wellie Yadao (RIP)

Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)
 Andreietta Cabanting (RIP)
Wed., April 27, 2016 (8 am)
 Grant Kohagura (Special Intentions)
 Wellie Yadao (RIP)

Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)
Thursday, April 28, 2016 (8 am)
 Jayten Rivera (Birthday Blessing)
 Wellie Yadao (RIP)

Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)
Friday, April 29, 2016 (8 am)
 Wellie Yadao (RIP)

Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)
 Saturnina Calbero (RIP)

Saturday, April 30, 2016

8AM: Bienvenido M. Eligio (RIP)

5 PM: Isidoro B. Barayuga (RIP)

Sunday, May 1, 2016

7AM: Maluhia, Michela, & Joseph

Hayes (Blessings/Thanksgiving)

9AM: For the People

11AM: Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr. (RIP)

6PM: All Souls in Purgatory (RIP)



HEALING/BLESSINGS: Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, Bob & Mel Knott, Baby Lily, Judy Amasol, Betty 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, Aiden Phillips & Family, Tony Gabriel, Debi Tulang DeSilva, Mike Culkin, Marcie Sagon, & everyone mentioned in our Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Jarrett B. Bolosan, Walter S. Rabacal, John Gibson, Catherine Phillips, David Twelker, Mr. & Mrs. Hilburn T. Miller, Robert Atiburico, Greg Cain, Stanley T. Patinio, Isidro J. Loquere, Charles W. Deinhardt, Joe Ormasa, Wellie V. Yadao, Darlene Catekista, Bienvenido M. Eligio, Sr., and Andreietta Cabanting.

Usher Training for new and current members will be held this *Wednesday, April 27* at 7 pm in the Church. Contact Nick Calzada ncalzada@rcchawaii.org for more info.

Altar Server Training for new and current members will be held on *Sun., May 1* at 12:30 pm in the Church. Contact Margaret Higa sjaserver@hawaii.rr.com for more info.

Upcoming Religious Education Dates:

May 4, 6:30 - 8:30 pm (Church)

First Eucharist Rehearsal

(FRE 2-3 A & B, FRE 4-11B Students, & Parents)

May 7, 5:00 pm

First Eucharist Mass

Mililani High School Spring Chorus Concert will be held in the Church on *Thursday, May 5* from 7:00-8:00 pm. Come and join us for this free event!

Respect Life, Spiritual Adoption Birthday and Mother's Day Celebration - Your spiritually adopted babies were born! Thank you for all your prayers, participation and donations to the Spiritual Adoption program. They've received the best gift of all because you prayed for them, Life! Please join us after the 9:00 am Mass on *Sunday, May 8* to celebrate with cake! All donations will go to help mothers and their babies of the Pearl City Pregnancy Problem Center.

Catholic Parent Revival (CPR) -

Join us on *Saturday, May 14*, in the Church from **9 am to 12 pm** for a morning of CPR and inhale a breath of new life into your vocation as a parent. CPR travels across the country to support, motivate, and revive the faith of parents and grandparents through music & song, inspiring messages & uplifting stories, and deep & powerful prayer. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.cpr-hi.eventbrite.com.



Are you longing for more? Who isn't looking for something more? Do you want to experience your faith - and live your life - more deeply? Then don't miss the **REBOOT LIVE!** event on *Wednesday, June 29*, 7:00-9:00 pm at Resurrection of the Lord Parish in Waipio. Don't wait! Tickets are selling fast! Contact our **Parish Office**, 623-3332, x100, to purchase your tickets!

St. John Catholic Preschool, a Montessori preschool for children ages 2.8 to 5 years of age, is now accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Children must be turning 3 by *Dec. 31, 2016*, and be completely potty-learned. Call the preschool office, 623-3332, x200, to set up an appointment for an observation/tour.



The Hui O Laulima Food Trolley will be out next weekend. They are in need of food donations (non-perishables): single-size servings of cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, jam, and fruit, ramen, rice (5lb bags), canned goods (meats, soups, pasta, vegetables, beans, fruit), mac&cheese, spaghetti sauce, pasta, family-size cereal. Please kokua.

NEW! Choir Practice Time Change -

The Children's Choir will be practicing from **6:00 - 6:45 pm** on *Tuesdays*. The 5pm, 7am, and 9am Choirs will jointly practice on *Tuesdays* from **7:00 - 8:00 pm** in the Church.



Social Ministry - Do you like to shop and work with the elderly? Volunteers are **NEEDED** to assist our senior community with their shopping needs. If you are able to volunteer and help, please contact Connie Murphy, Senior Adult Ministry, at 625-7773 or connie96789@msn.com

The next 24-hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on *Friday, May 6*, immediately after the 8:00 am Mass

and ending at 7:30 am on *Saturday, May 7*.



† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andreietta Cabanting (RIP)

Wed., April 27 ~ Mililani Mem. Park (Mauka)

Visitation: 9:00 am ~ Program: 11:00 am

Prayer service: 11:45 am ~ Burial: 12:30 pm

Planned Giving

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

Stewardship of Treasure - April 16 / 17

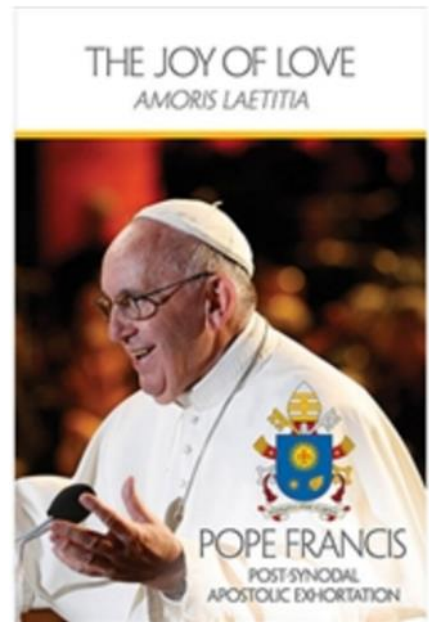
Stewardship of Treasure - April 16 / 17	
Sunday Collection	
- 5:00 PM (Saturday Vigil)	\$2,006.77
- 7:00 AM	3,765.00
- 9:00 AM	\$2,784.65
- 11:00 AM	\$2,769.31
- 6:00 PM	\$1,837.00
- Front Office	\$449.00
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$2,812.00
Candle Sales	\$414.00
Offerings - Funerals	\$200.00
Mass Intentions	\$50.00
Easter Offering	\$50.00
Donation - Outreach	\$324.00
Youth Donations	\$90.00
Mother's Day Offering	\$510.00
Stewardship Development	\$294.50
BEMO	\$2,780.75
Hui O Laulima	\$32.00
Building Fund (non-assessed)	\$192.00
Preschool	\$40.00
Holy Thursday (Rice Bowl)	\$40.00

Weekend Total: **\$21,420.98**

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

Five Significant Points from Pope Francis: “Joy of Love”

“*THE JOY OF LOVE experienced by the family is also the joy of the Church.*” These are the opening words of the Exhortation of Pope Francis after two Synods of Bishops on the family in October 2014 and October 2015. This document released on April 8, 2016, has been making lots of news in the media and some of the media commentaries have been misleading. Therefore, I believe it is my pastoral duty to help capture the true message of the document. I am aware that some are smart enough not to be misled by the media, but with the document being 264 pages, most Catholics may not read it by the end of the year. This homily is meant to give you five significant points the Pope makes in the document. The document is a great encouragement to our Marriage & Family Commission, Catholics Returning Home Commission and anyone who has been alienated in the past from the Church. Pope Francis asks that we read the document *slowly* and *deliberately*.



1. **Complexity of situations.** Families and individuals live in a complexity of situations. People need to be met where they are. In addition, there is need to “avoid judgements which do not take into account the complexity of situations” (#296). In dealing with people, personal and pastoral discernment on each person has to be taken into account (#298). One size does not fit all.
2. The **role of conscience** is crucial in moral decisions. The Church is “called to form consciences, not to replace them” (#34). Pastors... need to help people not simply follow rules, but to practice “discernment”, a word that implies prayerful decision making (#304).
3. **Divorced and remarried** Catholics need to be more fully integrated into the Church. How is this going to be done? By looking at the reality of their situation that may explain why they are in such a situation; by private counselling and respecting that the final decision about the degree of participation in the Church is left to a person’s conscience (#305, 300). Divorced and remarried couples should be made to feel part of the church. “*They are not excommunicated and should not be treated as such, since they remain part*” of the Church (#243). This does not mean that they can participate in all the sacraments including Holy Communion. It means that Pastors find ways to integrate divorced and remarried Catholics fully into the sacraments.

4. The Pope encourages members of the family **live good Christian lives**. This has to do with the spirituality of the family. Hence the Pope reflects on the Gospels and church teaching on love, the family and children. He also offers lots of advice taken from church teaching. He reminds couples that a good marriage is a *“dynamic process”* and that each partner has to put up with imperfections. *“Love does not have to be perfect for us to value it”* (122, 113).
5. On Catholic attitudes and language, the document says that we should **no longer speak of people “living in sin”**. In one sentence the pope says clearly, *“It can no longer simply be said that all those living in any ‘irregular situation’ are living in a state of mortal sin”* (#301). Other people in ‘irregular situations’ like single mothers, need to be offered *“understanding, comfort and acceptance”* (#49).

Other Significant Points in the document are the following:

- Abortion #83
- Families with special needs children #47
- Gay men and women should be respected. The pope affirms that homosexual persons need to be respected in his or her dignity. Families with LGBT members need *“respectful pastoral guidance”* from the church and its pastors (#250).
- *“In order to avoid all misunderstanding, I would point out that in no way must the Church desist from proposing the full ideal of marriage, God’s plan in all its grandeur”* (#307).
- All are welcome. The Church must help families of every sort, and people of every state of life, know that they are loved by God and can help others experience that love. Pastors must work to make people feel welcome in the Church (#80).
- *“Without mothers, not only would there be no new faithful, but the faith itself would lose a good part of its simple and profound warmth... Dear mothers: thank you! Thank you for what you are in your family, what you give to the Church and the world”* (#174).
- The Joy of Love offers a vision of a pastoral and merciful church that encourages people to experience the joy of love in God’s mercy (#80).