

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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



NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY: FR. JOHN MBINDA

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord". (Lk. 2:11)

More than two thousand years ago, while silence covered the little town of Bethlehem, something extraordinary happened. A child was born of the Virgin Mary. That is why at Christmas we joyfully celebrate the Good News announced by the Angel that night: *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord"*. We join Christians around the world in celebrating this joyful event of Christ in our midst, *the Son of God*, who assumes our human flesh, born of the Virgin Mary. When we receive a precious gift, we rejoice because it is a sign that someone loves us. God's gift of himself to us in the Incarnation, is therefore clear evidence of His tremendous love and goodness to us. During the last 4 weeks of Advent, we have prepared ourselves for Christmas, the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in the first reading of the midnight Mass. *"For there is a child born for us, a son is given to us"*. That is why at Christmas we rejoice because the salvation promised us is now fulfilled; our Savior is born; a Savior who brings light into the world. *"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone"*.

The readings lead us into great joy and gratitude before the mystery of the child who is born from Mary. On that first Christmas in Bethlehem, a great light was shone in the darkness. Christ our Savior was born of Mary and laid in a manger, *"because there was no room for them in the inn"*. The birth of Christ takes place in poor surroundings in order to attract the attention of the shepherds. Through Christ, God's grace is revealed to the poor who open their hearts to welcome Christ. Like the shepherds, let us open our hearts so that Christ may come to us with his blessings of peace and joy this Christmas. Like the shepherds, who went with haste and shared the good news, we are called to go with haste and share the good news of great joy.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Mon - Sat): 8:00 AM

Sunday: (Sat. Vigil) 5 PM,

(Sun) 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 6 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
(or by appointment)

MISSION / VISION 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.***

Parish Office Hours**Monday:** 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM**Tues. - Fri.:** 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**Outreach Office Hours****Monday-Wednesday:**

8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Thursday - Friday:

8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

Saturday/Sunday: Closed**PARISH CLERGY & STAFF*****Pastor* (x 111)**

Msgr. John Mbinda

jmbinda@rcchawaii.org

***Parochial Vicar* (x 104)**

Fr. Ramon Francisco,

rfrancisco@rcchawaii.org

Deacon Modesto Cordero

mcordero@rcchawaii.org

Deacon Romeo Ganibe

rganibe@rcchawaii.org

Parish Office Administrator (x 103)

Jolly Guerrero-Tano

jollygt@rcchawaii.org

Parish Office Secretary (x 100)

Lindsey Higa-Kohagura

lindseyhk@rcchawaii.org

Director of Liturgy

Nicholas Calzada

ncalzada@rcchawaii.org

Grounds & Maintenance

Robert Garnsey

rgarnsey@rcchawaii.org

Outreach Department (x 203)

Pearl Bates (pebates@rcchawaii.org)

RCIA Coordinator

Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)

Julie Quiroz-Zamora

jquiroz@rcchawaii.org

Religious Ed. Secretary (x 204)

Dominique Kekiwi

dkekiwi@rcchawaii.org

Preschool Director (744-9538)

Catherine Awong

cawong@rcchawaii.org

PASTOR'S MESSAGE***Christmas Message 2016***

*"Glory to God in highest,
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests."
- Luke. 2:14*

With these beautiful words sung by the angels announcing the birth of our Savior on that blessed night, I take the opportunity to warmly welcome all visitors, returning parishioners and new parishioners as well as all regular parishioners.

During the four weeks of Advent, we have all been preparing for an openness of heart and mind to let in God's favor into our hearts. Deacon Eddie Ensley and Deacon Robert Hermann led us in many ways to open up our hearts during the Advent Mission. The positive response by so many of you, particularly for the Advent Penance Service, will bring many blessings to your homes this Christmas. May we reap the fruits of our waiting in hope for the gift of peace that the birth of our Savior will bring to us this Christmas.

In the Gospel of Luke for the midnight Mass, try to focus on one short familiar phrase: "there was no room for them in the inn." Christmas is about making room in the inn of our hearts. It is about making room for all people in our lives, especially the less fortunate; the ones who find no room in the inn; the homeless and the rejected. As we try to welcome Christ "in the stranger" into our hearts, may Christ bring us true peace, joy and happiness this Christmas.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2017!

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

***Saint* John Apostle & Evangelist (AD 6-100)**

of the WEEK



Feast Day: December 27 - St. John the Apostle, the son of Zebedee and Salome, was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus. John was called to be an Apostle by our Lord in the first year of His public ministry. He is considered the same person as *John the Evangelist, John of Patmos and the Beloved Disciple*. John is believed to be the longest living apostle and the only not to die a martyr's death.

John was the only one, of the Twelve Apostles, who did not forsake the Savior in the hour of His Passion. He stood faithfully at the cross when the Savior made him the guardian of His Mother. St. John is called the Apostle of Charity, a virtue he had learned from his Divine Master, and which he constantly inculcated by word and example. The "beloved disciple" died in Ephesus after AD 98, where a stately church was erected over his tomb. It was afterwards converted into a Mohammedan mosque.

St. John is the patron saint of love, loyalty, friendships, and authors. He is often depicted in art as the author of the Gospel with an eagle, symbolizing *"the height he rose to in his gospel."* In other icons, he is shown looking up into heaven and dictating his Gospel to his disciple.



***Upcoming Baptism Ceremony Dates** (Infants to Age 6): January 22 & 29, 2017 & February 12 & 16, 2017

***Baptism Preparation Classes:** January 8, 2017, February 5, 2017, March 5, 2017

**** Please contact the Parish Office to make all arrangements in advance. ****

Marriages are scheduled by meeting with a clergy, at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

Blessings (home, auto, religious items, etc.), **Anointing of the Sick, Homebound Communion,**

Funeral Services/Notices: Please call the parish office for further coordination.

Living CATHOLIC in the 80s:

Why is it impossible to take the Christ out of Christmas?

By: Kristina M. DeNeve, Adult Faith Formation
(Dio. Of Honolulu)

Ok, I get what people mean when they say, "Keep Christ in Christmas." I understand the call to not get caught up with Christmas preparations - the parties, cards, presents etc... that we forget the meaning of Jesus' birth. I do understand this, but in all honesty, I dislike this saying because it just isn't true. There is no way Christ can ever be missing from Christmas time.

Our faith teaches us that God broke into our world in the most remarkable of ways. God "stooped down" from being *I AM WHO AM* to become one of us. Humanity is forever changed with the Incarnation. Whether we like it or not. Whether we actively think about it or not.

It is great to remember the spiritual origins of a Christmas tree, but even if we don't, God is still there as we decorate. When we send that once-a-year card, Christ is with us as we tell our friend that we still care. The presents given to strangers and to loved ones alike are our way of sharing (God's) love.

Since God is love, we cannot do any act kindness and goodness without Christ's presence. Whether we have "religious" thoughts or not, Christ is still with us this Christmas.



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27 (18ABC)

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

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies!

Blog (text): <http://www.sundayhomily.com>

Podcast (audio):

<https://soundcloud.com/john-mbinda>

Tunes (audio): [Streaming Homilies](#)

24-hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Friday, January 6, 2017, immediately after the 8:00 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am on **Saturday, January 7, 2017.**



Masses For The Week

Mon., December 26, 2016 (8 am)

† Harold Jones, Sr. & Jr.
† Leandra Dela Cruz
† Paul S. Thames

Tues., December 27, 2016 (8 am)

Primo & Joey Pablo
(Wedding Anniversary)
† Stanley Kong
† Richard C. Dela Cruz
(Birthday Memorial)

Wed., December 28, 2016 (8 am)

† Ken & Lucille Perske
† Paul S. Thames
† Antonio A. Bayona

Thurs., December 29, 2016 (8 am)

† Hilarion C. Savet (Anniversary)
Nick T & Erin G.
(Blessings/Thanksgiving)
Dela Cruz-Cabauatan Family
(Blessings/Thanksgiving)

Fri., December 30, 2016 (8 am)

All of St John's Families
(Good Health/Blessing)
† Paul S. Thames
William Brilhante
(Healing/Blessing)

Sat., December 31, 2016

8 AM: Guerrero Family
(Thanksgiving/Blessing)
† Cristina C. Falke
† Paul S. Thames
5 PM: Social Ministry
(Thanksgiving/Blessing)

Sunday, January 1, 2017

7 AM: † Richard C. Dela Cruz
9 AM: For the People
11 AM: † Lily Perry
(Birthday Memorial)

† = Rest in Peace



HEALING / BLESSINGS: Julie Smith, Kim Noveloso, Modesta Yadao, Chelsea Anne Ramiro, Darrlyn & Ron Bunda, Matt Farris, Mona DeCosta, John Bates, James Kahala, Ken Enomoto, Ellen Cleghorn, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, Ron Thames, Gregory Castillo, Elaine Utu, Kathy Beaver, Fr. Paul Minchak, baby Liberty Seminara-Marrone, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, and all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Lily Freitas, Peter Marling, Antonio A. Bayona, Paul S. Thames, Wanya Mercadante, and Sandra T. Woodward, Hilaria Santos, Kathy Beaver, John E. Szlosek, Ethel G. Rodrigues, and Cripsin Bergantinos, Jr..

Message from the Religious Education Office:

NO RE Classes and Lifeteen on *December 25, 2016* and *January 1, 2017*.

Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8 on "A" Schedule.

All of our Youth RE programs will be receiving offering envelopes for Sunday Offertory beginning January 2017. The children will have the opportunity to be a part of our parish Stewardship Program. Parents, please keep a lookout for the RE Newsletter for more upcoming dates and events. It will be distributed to your child when he/she returns to class in January



SAFE ENVIRONMENT Training will begin in February 2017 through March 2017.

Please contact the RE Office if you have any further questions or inquiries at 808-623-3332, ext. 204 / 206 or sjaeRE@rcchawaii.org

New Year's Schedule

Tuesday, December 27 - Mass: 8 AM
Feast Day of St. John Apostle & Evangelist

Sat., December 31 - New Year's Eve

Mass: 8:00 AM & 5:00 PM
*NO 3:30 pm Confession

Sun., January 1, 2017 - New Year's Day

Mass Schedule - 7:00 am, 9:00 am,
11:00 am (*NO 6 PM MASS)



St. John Catholic Preschool

is still accepting applications for the current school year. Scholarships are available for the current and next school year. Based on qualifications, a portion of your child's tuition can be covered by our scholarship program. For more information, please call the Preschool Office at 808-744-9702.

Job Opening: Teacher's Aide! Seeking a competent, hard-working individual who loves working with children. This is a *Full-Time* position.

To apply for this position, visit
www.catholichawaii.org/about-us/careers.



Stewardship of Treasure - December 17/18

Sunday Collection	\$25,796.06
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$1,387.00
Candle Sales	\$449.00
Mass Intentions	\$30.00
Offering - Baptism	\$200.00
Offering - Funeral	\$100.00
Donation - YYA	\$30.00
Donation - Charity	\$21.82
Donation - Social Ministry	\$35.00
St. John Catholic Preschool	\$28.50
Building Fund (non-assessed)	\$196.25
B.E.M.	\$886.30
Augustine Ed. Fund	\$47.50
Collection - Religious Ret.	\$120.00
Offering - Christmas Flowers	\$300.00
Offering - All Souls	\$1.00
Offering - Misa de Gallo (Dec. 16 -> Dec. 22)	\$1,705.60
Offering - Christmas	\$225.00
Weekend Total:	\$31,558.43

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



January 17, 2017, 9:00 am
at the Cathedral Basilica of
Our Lady of Peace

Bishop Robert Baron, founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries and auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, is keynote speaker for annual Red Mass. His topic is "*The Noble Project: Law, Politics, and the Gospel.*"

Bishop Robert will also be offering a lecture open and free to everyone on **Monday, January 16**, 7:00 pm at the *Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa Parish*. Honor Martin Luther King Day by joining us to dig more into your faith!

For more information email kdeneve@rcchawaii.org.



Notary Public Service available by appointment only. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



Planned Giving - You can share your faith beyond your life-time by careful estate planning that includes your church in your will. During your lifetime, you will have the joy of knowing that whatever you do not use in this life will continue in ministry through your church after your passing. Please remember **St. John A & E Church** in planning your will.

PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas and on Monday, January 2, 2017, in observance of the New Year.

The Hui O Laulima Food Trolley will be out next weekend. There is a need for *non-perishable, single-size serving* foods: *cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, jam, and fruit*, ramen, rice (5lb bags), canned goods (*meats, soups, pasta, vegetables, beans, fruit*), mac & cheese, spaghetti sauce, etc. Please kokua.

St. John Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner Fundraiser! Mahalo to all who supported the Knights' fundraiser. Please don't forget to pick up your chicken plate on **January 14th, 2017, 11:30-4 pm** in the *Church Parking Lot*.

Christian Author and Pro-Life Speaker, Pastor Romel Moore will be here in Hawaii for the 2017 March for Life Rally and to minister to the less fortunate. He believes that every life is precious and dedicates his time to preaching the Gospel to the homeless, prisoners, elderly, juvenile facilities, and wherever God sends him. Pastor Romel will be selling his books on the lanai on **Saturday, January 14th** (after the 5 pm Mass) and on **Sunday, January 15th** (after the 9 am & 11 am Masses).

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be held on **Thurs., Jan. 19, 2017**, 7-9 pm in classroom 6. The title of the discussion book is ***The Rhythm of Life*** by **Matthew Kelly**. Open to all! Call **Linda Ward (277-1307)** for more.

The March for Life Rally & Luminary Prayer Service will be held on **Friday, January 20, 2017, 3:00-8:00 pm** at the *Hawaii State Capitol Building*. The march rally reminds our elected leaders and community of the unrestrained destruction of life 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. 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. Registration will begin on *Monday, December 26*. Space is limited. Contact Melissa: alohamc@yahoo.com for more.

In the Footsteps of Sts. John & Paul! Journey on a **12-day Pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey** with *Msgr. John Mbinda*, Spiritual Advisor, & *Dr. Timothy Mullner*, Pilgrimage Host, from **October 5-16, 2017**. For more, contact Jolly at 623-3332, ext. 103 or jollygt@rcchawaii.org.

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card! We're still in the midst of our annual Stewardship Renewal. If you haven't returned your Commitment Card, you still can mail it to the parish or drop it in the box provided near the church entrance. Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of St. John Apostle & Evangelist. Please take this opportunity to express your support for our parish with you *time, talent, and treasure!*

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



THIS WEEK: Dec.26 - Jan.1

Monday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

****Parish Office Closed****

8:45 am - Rosary PG (CH)

6:30 pm - Boy Scouts (Rm 5)

7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)

Tuesday - St. John A & E Feast Day

8 am - Daily Mass

8:45 am - Rosary PG (CH)

9 am - Women's Bible Study (Rm 6)

3 pm - Cenacle PG (CH)

7:30 pm - AA Mtg. (Rm 6)

Wednesday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

NO RCIA Class

8 am - Daily Mass

8:45 am - Rosary PG (CH)

6 pm - OLPH PG (CH)

7 pm - NA Mtg (Rm 6)

Thursday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary PG (CH)

9 am - Church Cleaning (Group 5)

7 pm - Stewardship Council Mtg.
(Rectory)

Friday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary PG (CH)

Saturday - New Year's Eve

**NO 3:30 pm Confession **

8 am - Daily Mass (CH)

8:45 am - Rosary PG (Church)

5 pm - Mass (Saturday Vigil)

Sunday - New Year's Day

Religious Ed & Lifeteen: No Classes

7 am, 9 am, & 11 am - Mass

NO 6:00 pm Mass

