

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: DEACON ROMEO GANIBE

The Lord Jesus has shown us the way up the mountain.

He has invited us into a new way of living in Him through living within the communion of the Church. We are invited to go into the world and invite all men and women through the waters of the womb of Baptism into the new communion of love, where they can begin the process of conversion and transfiguration.

We are all invited to join with Peter, James and John and cry out today: *"It is good for us to be here."*

Today and in the days to come, we reflect on the Transfiguration of Jesus and enter more deeply into the mystery it reveals by living that change now. *It truly is good for us to be here.*

Let us be encouraged, inspired and respond to the invitations of grace in our daily lives. Let us grow more fully into the Image and likeness of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord revealing His Transfigured glory to a world waiting to be born anew.



We are called into an ongoing transformation in Jesus Christ, beginning right **NOW**.

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 Rectory Hours**Monday:** 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM**Tues. - Fri.:** 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**Outreach Office Hours****Monday - Wednesday:** 9 AM to 2 PM**Thursday - Friday:** 9 AM to 11 AM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**FOOD PANTRY Hours****Monday - Wednesday:** 9 AM to 12 PM**Thursday - Friday:** 9 AM to 11 AM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**Religious Education Offices Hours****Tuesday - Thursday:** 12 pm - 8:30 pm**Fri.:** 10am - 6pm ~ **Sun:** 7am - 3:30pm**Saturday & Monday:** Closed**PARISH CLERGY & STAFF****Pastor (ext. 111)**

Msgr. John Mbinda

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Parochial Vicar (x 100)

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Preschool Director (744-9538)

Catherine Awong

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE**Grateful Giving of Treasure**

"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12). This catechesis focuses on being grateful for the treasures God gives to each of us. It may come as a surprise to learn that while the Bible has about 500 verses on prayer and fewer than 500 verses on faith, there over 2,300 biblical verses dealing money and possessions. Without apology, Jesus says more about money and possessions than he does on any other subjects, including heaven and hell. Jesus knew the human heart so well. He knew the way money gets hold on our hearts and the way at times we forget the giver of all we possess.

We give to God, because He first gave us all we possess. "What do you possess that you have not received? But if you have received it, why are you boasting as if you did not receive it?" (1 Cor 4:7). We have been abundantly blessed by God. Each time we come to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we come intentionally to express gratitude to God. Shortly before the consecration, the presider and the congregation exchange a dialogue of thanksgiving. "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God", the presider prays, and we respond, "It is right and just." The presider continues to pray, "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord."

Just as the Father sacrifices His Son on the Cross for our salvation, our thanksgiving to God needs to be sacrificial. Unless our monetary gift is sacrificial, it is not really a thanksgiving but more like a tip to God. One of the tensions in our discipleship lies in whether we live our life and give to God the leftovers, or whether we give to God first, and then manage the rest. During the capital campaign, put down your pledge for our *One Community Center* prayerfully. Count your blessings first, then write down your pledge. May God bless you this Lenten season.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Saint Patrick (c. 389-461)

of the WEEK



Feast Day: March 17 — The patron saint of Ireland, Patrick was born in Roman Britain. He describes his life and ministry, including his work to convert the Irish people, in his short autobiography and testimony, *Confessions*. Kidnapped at age 16 by Irish raiders and sold into slavery in Ireland, his time spent in captivity transformed him spiritually. He was a lonely shepherd for six years before escaping and returning home.

After returning home, his dream of converting the Irish from pagan belief propelled him to priestly studies in Gaul (now France). In about 432, Pope Celestine I consecrated him as a bishop and sent him to Ireland. For nearly 30 years, he preached tirelessly, made countless converts, founded monasteries, and established the primatial see at Armagh in modern-day Northern Ireland.

Toward the end of his life, he made a 40-day retreat on Croagh Patrick mountain in present-day County Mayo. That gave rise to the pilgrimages that are made on the mountain to this day. Stories that Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity and drove snakes from the island are unconfirmed legend.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

This passage is a story of Israel's murmuring in the wilderness and the miracle of water from the rock. The point of the story is that God is still in their midst and meets their needs despite their rebellion.



Responsorial Psalm: 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. This is perhaps the most unusual event of all those reported in the New Testament. John used 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. 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 not only becomes aware of her own identity and her need for the living water, she becomes a disciple of Jesus Christ.



Masses For The Week

† = Rest in Peace

Monday, March 13, 2017 (8 am)

† Donna Rupp
† Alice Mirafior
† Marciana Eugenio

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 (8 am)

† Alice Mirafior
† Gerardo Paet
† John Bredy

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 (8 am)

Fr. Norlito Concepcion (Birthday)
† Hilario & Prima Aquino
Everett Bates (Birthday)

Thursday, March 16, 2017 (8 am)

Lindsey Higa-Kohagura (Birthday)
† Alice Mirafior
† Juan Vicente Jamora

Friday, March 17, 2017 (8 am)

† Pat Perry (Birthday Memorial)
McNally & MacAsey Families (Blessings/
Thanksgiving)
† Mike Culkin

Saturday, March 18, 2017

8 AM: Anson K. Cabello (Birthday)
5 PM: † All Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, March 19, 2017

7 AM: † M/M Charley Jones
9 AM: For the People
11 AM: † Jarrett B. Bolosan
6 PM: † Josefino B. Solano, Sr.

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies!

Blog (text):

www.sundayhomily.com

Podcast (audio):

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

iTunes (audio):

Streaming Homilies

24-hr Adoration of the Blessed



Sacrament

Friday, April 7, after the
8 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am
on Saturday, April 8.

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fulvia Perry (RIP)

Thursday, March 16 ~ St. John A&E
Visit.: 10:00 am ~ Mass: 11:30 am
Burial: 2:00 pm ~ Hawaii State
Veteran's Cemetery

Santiago "Sonny" Aquino (RIP)

Wed., March 29 ~ Mililani Memorial
Wake Service: 6:30 pm (Makai)
Thursday, March 30 ~ St. John A&E
Visit.: 9:30 am ~ Mass: 10:00 am
Burial: 1:00 pm ~ Hawaii State
Veteran's Cemetery



Prayer Requests

HEALING / BLESSINGS: Darryn & Ron Bunda, Matt Farris, Mona DeCosta, John Bates, James & Elaine Kahala, Ken Enomoto, Ellen Cleghorn, baby Mairenuvi Tauotaha-Amo, Ron Thames, Gregory Castillo, Elaine Utu, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, John Basug, Alfred & Carmen Fajota, Santiago Tumpap, Bella Rillamas, Norma & Ethan Belamide, Jane Alukonis, Rosalie Tadda, and all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: John E. Szlosek, Ethel G. Rodrigues, Cripsin Bergantinos, Jr., Reggie Cabacungan, Sheila M. Gutierrez, Fr. Paul Minchak, Fr. Joseph Carroll, Demetria Manandic, Juan Vicente Jamora, Fernando Acierto, Alice Mirafior, Santiago Q. Aquino, Kathy Beaver, Marciana Eugenio, Fulvia Perry.

***Upcoming Baptism Ceremony Dates (Infants to Age 6):**

March 26, April 23 & 30.

***Baptism Preparation Classes:** April 2, May 14, June 9...

**** Please contact the Parish Office to make all arrangements in advance and for more information. ****

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.

ENCOUNTER NUTRITION!

We encounter Evelina in Zambia as she and other mothers in her community learn new ways to provide nutritious meals for their growing children and families. How do we ensure that those who are hungry have not only food but true nourishment? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - MARCH 4 / 5**

Sunday Collection	\$17,586.12
- Children's Collection	\$28.80
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$3,614.75
Building, Equipment, & Maintenance (BEM)	\$1,721.50
New Building Fund - OCC (non-assessed)	\$395.75
Candle Sales	\$761.80
OCC Capital Campaign	\$20,000.00
Catholic Relief Services - Frugal Meal	\$94.10
Donation - Charity	\$59.00
Donation - Augustine Educational Fund	\$1.00
Donation - Social Ministry	\$168.00
Donation - YYA	\$30.00
Mass Intentions	\$150.00
Offering - Flowers	\$10.00
Stewardship Development	9.50

Weekend Total: \$44,630.32

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

Planned Giving - Your gifts to your church are a testimony to your faith and the confidence you have in your church. Both lifetime gifts and testamentary (those that are given through your will) express your feelings in a meaningful way. Please remember **St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church** in planning your will.

**Lent Schedule:****Stations of the Cross:** 7:00 pm (Fridays)

March 17, 24, 31 & April 7

Lenten Mission/Retreat: "A Covenant of Mercy"with **Fr. David C. Robinson, S.J.****Retreat Nights:** March 27-29, 7:00 pm**Penance Service:** March 29, 7:00 pm.

Fr. David will preach at all Masses March 25/26 weekend.

Palm Sunday: April 9**Holy Triduum****Holy Thursday:** April 13, (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer

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

Good Friday: April 14 (No Daily Mass)****Parish Office Closed****

8:00 am Morning Prayer

3:00 pm - *Passion & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ***Holy Saturday:** April 15 (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer — No 3:30 pm Confessions

7:00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: April 16

7:00 am & 9:00 am

11:00 am at Kipapa Park w/ Bishop Larry.

**** No 6 pm Mass ****

Volunteer
 Opportunities

**WE ARE CALLING OUT TO YOU!**

Do you enjoy working with youth and teens? Can you play an instrument: guitar, drums, ukulele? Do you like to sing? Do you like to have fun? Are you tech savvy? Do you have a flexible work schedule ... free on weekends?

Would you like to volunteer with our Youth Programs?

Our Religious Education Department is seeking the "young at heart" and young adults who are interested in joining our parish **RE & Youth Ministry Teams**. In readiness for the Restored Order of the Sacraments and the Sacrament of Confirmation being given to students, grades 2-12, starting next RE year 2017-2018; we invite & encourage parishioners to become catechists, classroom aides, youth ministers, youth leaders, family supporters and Confirmation Sponsors. **ALL** candidates are required to complete a background check and training that will take place this summer: June & July. Online Catechist Certification courses are available.

If you are interested, please contact the RE Office:
 623-3332, ext. 204/206 or sjaeRE@rcchawaii.org



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

The Spring 2017 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil & Fasting Campaign continues. A group from our parish will physically participate in a prayer vigil at the *Planned Parenthood Facility* on *S. King Street* on: *3/13, 3/20, 3/27, & 4/3*. Those who are interested may sign-up at the back of the church. They will leave the church at 9am and return at approx. 11:30am. Participate online by visiting www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu. For more, contact Mary: 741-2358.

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be held on **Thurs., March 16**, 7:00-9:00 pm in classroom 6. The title of the discussion book is *The City of Joy* by *Dominique Lapierre*. Open to all! Call *Linda Ward* (277-1307) for more.

Abstinence from Meat Dispensation for St. Patrick's Day: Bishop Larry Silva grants dispensation from abstinence from meat on **Friday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day**, for anyone who wishes to take advantage of it. However, if one chooses to eat meat on that day, another day close to it should be chosen to abstain from meat in order to preserve the importance of Lenten penitential discipline.

Understanding Dementia: Normal vs Not Normal Workshop, presented by *Dorothy Colby*, will be held on **Saturday, March 18**, 9:30 am in the Church. Free & Open to the public for all caregivers and families! Learn more about memory loss, forgetfulness, Alzheimer's disease, and other forms of dementia. To register, contact *Connie Murphy* at 625-7773.

Environment Ministry - The Church is our sacred space that helps us to pray and focus on the sacrifice of Mass. If you are interested in joining our Environment Ministry, see *Nick Calzada* after Mass or contact him at ncalzada@rcchawaii.org or 623-3332, ext 100.

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**. Pilgrimage deposits are due now! For more, contact *Jolly*: 623-3332, ext. 103, jollygt@rcchawaii.org.

St. John Catholic Preschool is now accepting applications for **2017-2018 school year**, as well as the current school year. *Scholarships are available!* Based on qualifications, your child's tuition can be covered through scholarship programs. For more, call the Preschool Office: 744-9702.

Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC): The weekend of **March 25/26**, our parish will be participating in the CRSC. Funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love

and respect to all people here at home and abroad. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please drop your donation during offertory, or donate online through our "Online Giving". Learn more: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief. Please prayerfully consider how you want support his collection.



THIS WEEK: March 13-19

Monday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
4 pm - Girl Scouts (Rm 5)
6:30 pm - Marriage & Family Commission Mtg (Rm 6)
7 pm - Boy Scouts (Rm 5)
7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)

Tuesday - Daily Mass (8AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am - Women's Bible Study (Rm 6)
3 pm - Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - Children's Choir Practice (CH)
6:30 pm - RE: Catechists Certification (Rm 4)
7 pm - Knights of Columbus (Rm 5)
7 pm - Combined Choir Practice (CH)
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (Rm 6)

Wednesday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm - Combined Choir Practice for Holy Triduum (CH)
7 pm - RCIA (Rm 4/5)
7 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am - Church Cleaning (Group 1)

Friday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - Girl Scouts (Rm 6)
7 pm - Stations of the Cross (Frugal Meal Sponsored by Religious ED)

Saturday - Daily Mass (CH)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9:30 am - Inter-faith Dementia/Alzheimer Workshop (CH)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm - Mass (Saturday Vigil)

Sunday - Religious Ed: "A" Schedule

7 am, 9 am, 11 am, & 6 pm - Mass
9 am - Catechumen Dismissal
4 pm - 6pm Choir Practice (CH)
6 pm - LifeTeen Night

FOR YOUR SECURITY PLEASE...

PARK SMART!

Take ALL your belongings with you.

Car thieves like to window shop!



... AND SECURE YOUR VEHICLE!

PROCLAIMING CHRIST

Meditations for the Season of Lent

*"Prayer is the encounter
with God, with God who never lets
us down; with God who is faithful
to his word; with God who does not
abandon his children."*

— POPE FRANCIS, JUNE 29, 2015

Encountering Christ

John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Both options for today's Gospel reveal personal encounters with Christ.

The story from John's Gospel unfolds when Nicodemus comes to ask Jesus questions. Jesus tells him that to enter into the kingdom of God one must be born again in water and the Spirit. "How can this be?" Nicodemus asks. Jesus says Nicodemus is thinking in earthly terms. This encounter challenges Nicodemus — and each of us — to rise above our earthly understanding so we can become more Christ-like.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus, James, Peter, and John go up the mountain to pray. While they are there, Jesus is transfigured in glory. After Jesus reassures the others, they do not want to leave the mountaintop. This encounter with a transfigured Christ challenges the disciples — and all of us — to embrace the divinity of Jesus, but then to go back down the

FOR REFLECTION

- › In what ways have you encountered Christ in your life?
- › How did your encounters with Christ change you?
- › What would you have to do in order to become more Christ-like?

mountain where we can become more Christ-like in service to others.

Maybe you started your Lenten journey on the mountaintop with Christ. Or maybe, like Nicodemus, you are struggling. Perhaps you know that your life has to change, but you are not sure how to accomplish that. Don't give up! It's only the Second Sunday of Lent. There is still plenty of time to encounter Christ and transform your life.

LENT TRIVIA ?

1. What color vestments does the priest wear during Lent?
2. What prayer of the Mass is omitted during Lent?
3. What word is never said or sung during Lent?

Answers on reverse.



The Stations of the Cross

Family
Focus



Lent is a great time to experiment as a family with new types of prayer. In the morning, give each family member a chance to pray for a special intention. At dinnertime, ask each family member to pray for one person who is in need of prayers. After dinner, turn off the television and spend some quality family reading Scripture or praying the Rosary together. Before bedtime, use holy water to bless each family member.

Telling the story of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus was an important part of the early Christian's experience. In the late fourth century, people made pilgrimages to Jerusalem to follow the path Jesus took to Calvary. During the Middle Ages, when wars made it difficult to reach the Holy Land, people created a "Sorrowful Way" with paintings or sculptures along a processional route or inside a church. By the middle of the eighteenth century the devotion became known as the Stations of the Cross. Most parishes offer communal celebrations of the Stations of the Cross, but you can also pick up a prayer booklet and pray the Stations on your own or with your family.

Images: Shutterstock.com

Prayer

Prayer begins with a desire to encounter Christ and evolves into a loving relationship with him. We give ourselves to Christ in prayer, and he responds by helping us to follow in his footsteps.

If you are finding it difficult to pray, you may be experiencing spiritual dryness. Feelings of spiritual dryness are often God's way of strengthening your faith. It's easy to love the Lord when you feel spiritually connected. When you don't feel anything, it doesn't mean that you don't love God, and it definitely doesn't mean that God stopped loving you!

Even if you don't feel like praying, promise yourself that you will set aside prayer time every day. Prayer provides you with the strength you need to continue your journey through Lent and through life.

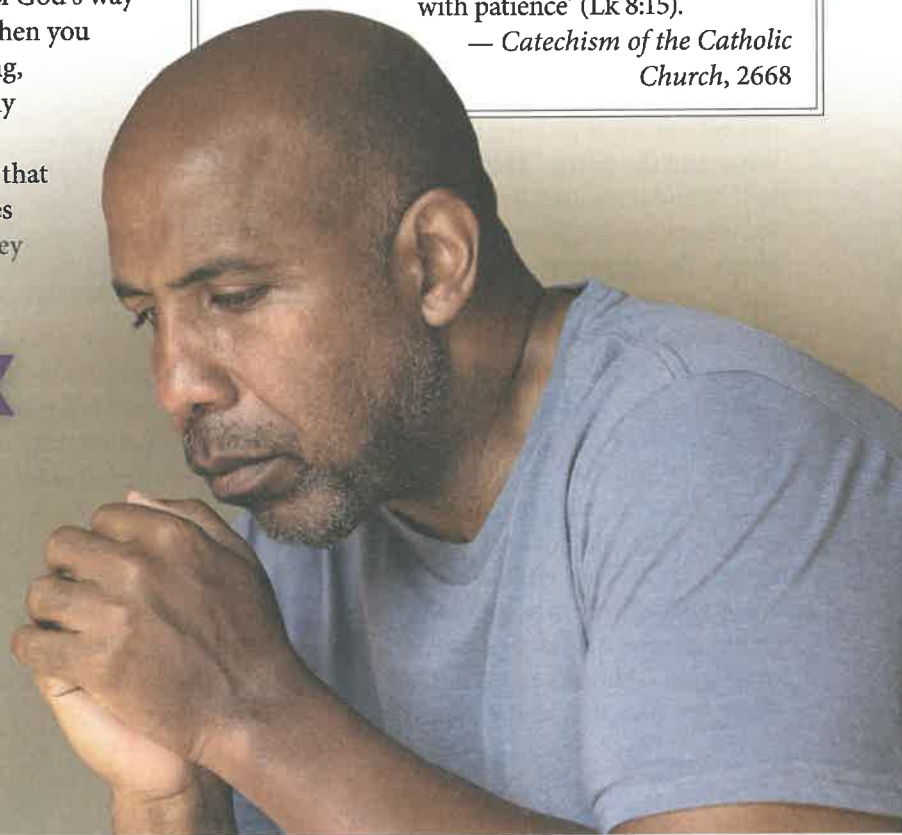
Lenten Prayer

One of the simplest, yet most profound ways to encounter Christ is through the Jesus Prayer. It is an ancient prayer that helps us to focus our hearts and minds as we repeat the words, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner."

Catechism CONNECTION

"The invocation of the holy name of Jesus is the simplest way of praying always. When the holy name is repeated often by a humbly attentive heart, the prayer is not lost by heaping up empty phrases, but holds fast to the word and 'brings forth fruit with patience' (Lk 8:15)."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2668



Answers: 1. Purple vestments. 2. The Gloria. 3. Alleluia.

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