

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY: FR. MICHAEL SUH NIBA

Taking the Initiative in Reconciliation

Initiative, understood as taking the first step for something good, is arguably the most important skill in practically every dimension of interpersonal living. Jesus brings it to bear on perhaps the core value of Christianity: reconciliation, forgiveness. But we instinctively cringe at the thought of approaching someone who hurt us with a view to reconciliation first. Understandably so, as we can build a very solid moral case against such a move. "I am the victim, the wronged party here; it is the responsibility of the guilty to make amends, to come, apologize and ask for pardon;" "if I make such move I show I am weak;" "what guarantee is there that the other person is repentant?..."

The huge question is: If such initiative is unfair, what is the alternative? From honest experience the alternative is we brood, feel sorry for ourselves and so wallow in self-pitying misery; we magnify the victimization. These then slowly turn to rage, hate and revenge for we start to love to hate our offender. With time they take over our lives. The offender and the hurt they perpetrated against us become the thought, the memory, the antiphon that open, guide and close our day, drawing up a new, dark agenda for our lives. Bitterness like poison, slowly builds and then spreads its deadening clamp over our souls. We have run this gauntlet; we know and have met people who hurt. They spill the hurt all around them; even at God. Such hurt wrecks our relationships, even with God. Very often we cannot pray.

So if we ask the further question: Why take the initiative? Common sense seems to tell us it might be first and foremost to save ourselves from ourselves than from our real or imagined hurt who may or may not even be aware of what they did! It is good to take the initiative because it is good, healthy, sane and salutary first and foremost for us, the victims.

Secondly, to take the initiative is the way of the gospel. Jesus corrects the Old Testament: "But I say to you," "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:43-45). He becomes the defense attorney of his crucifiers, pleading pardon for them on the very strong legal ground of ignorance: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." We remember were offenders, when God in Christ took the initiative to reconcile us with himself. (Romans 5:8). That is why the forgiveness of Mehmet Ali Ağca is perhaps one of the most memorable examples of gospel witnessing by Pope St. John Paul II.

(cont. next page)

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

Msgr. John Mbinda

jmbinda@rcchawaii.org

Parochial Vicar (x 104)

Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

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Deacon Romeo Ganibe

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Director of Liturgy

Nicholas Calzada

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Grounds & Maintenance

Robert Garnsey

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RCIA Coordinators

Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Dcn. Romeo Ganibe

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)

Julie Quiroz-Zamora

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Religious Ed. Secretary (x 204)

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Preschool Director (744-9538)

Catherine Awong

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Why godparents?

Godparents are an important part of the sacrament of baptism. They are there journey henceforth with the newly baptized and support the parents in bringing up their child in the Catholic faith. During the actual rite of baptism, the godparents take an active role 'standing up for' the person being baptized. This involves promising to guide the person in the faith.

The primary responsibility for forming a child after baptism resides with the parents. Sponsors however promise to help them in serving as guides, role models sources of encouragement and support. For an adult baptism, the godparent accompanies the new believer on their journey to baptism (RCIA) and participate actively in the rite of initiation and thereafter through life's journey of faith.

Who can be a godparent?

The question of who can be a sponsor is important. Often time we have parents who have no knowledge of the criteria for choosing a godparent for their child. Once in a while we have parents who choose a godparent because he or she is a relative or close friend. The following are the criteria:

- ❖ A Catholic who is in good standing, which means, one who is a practicing Catholic. Baptism and confirmation needs authentication from their parish with a letter from the pastor of the parish showing the dates when these sacraments were received.
- ❖ If married, he or she must have married in the Catholic Church and a proof of their Church marriage is required.
- ❖ A practicing Catholic who actually goes to Church and receives the sacraments. This is important because if a godparent is not practicing, how will he or she help your child as role model?
- ❖ A Catholic who is 16 years and above.
- ❖ A godparent must be prepared to attend a preparation session for the sacrament with the parents. This commitment is important.



Sunday Gospel Reflection— continued from page 1

Lastly, we should take the initiative then for the sake of the other. But we also know that the weight of guilt; of fear of retaliation can make the offender miserable. Guilt and fear can numb into inactivity. We do unto others, what we would want done to us. What is good for us is good for others. We have been in that zone before.

This in no way takes away the responsibility of the offender to do everything to seek reconciliation, for the condition for an acceptable offering in Matthew 5:23-24 is reconciliation. As J. Randall O'Brien puts it: *No Christian is ever in the position of privilege, wronged one or wrongdoer, where he or she is excused from the responsibility of working for reconciliation.*

The other may be the problem when there is conflict. The Christian is always the solution when there is reconciliation. That is why beyond excommunication of a sinner, we still owe them a debt – that of love: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." We only need remember the question and answer to the question: "And who is my neighbour?" here.

By: J. Randall O'Brien, "Forgiveness: Taking the Word to Heart" in <http://www.baylor.edu/ifl/christianreflection/ForgivenessarticleOBrien.pdf>.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Sirach 27:30—28:9

Those who seek God's mercy must be merciful toward others.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12

A song of praise to God who is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

We belong to the Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus teaches that we must forgive one another as God has forgiven us.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading directly follows last week's Gospel in which Jesus taught the disciples how to handle disputes and conflict within the Christian community. In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one ought to extend forgiveness to another. Peter proposes a reasonable number of times, perhaps seven. Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal by an enormous amount; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.

The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. We are told that one servant in particular owes the king an enormous sum of money. Despite the promise of the servant, it is unlikely that he would ever be able to repay the debt that he owes. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than displaying gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt—a pittance when compared with the amount that was owed to the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.

A few other servants tell the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant because he refused to show the kind of mercy he had himself received from the king. Jesus concludes by indicating that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard God's mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.

CHRIST OUR LIFE 2017

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/24th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-a-sunday-connection>

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies! Blog

(text): www.sundayhomily.com

Podcast (audio): <https://soundcloud.com/john-mbinda>

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 11, 2017 (8 am)

† Daniel Fernandez

(Birthday Memorial)

Manuel Quiroz– Zamora

(Birthday Blessing)

† Maria Crisostomo

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 (8 am)

Jordan Tano (Birthday Blessing)

† Maria Crisostomo

† William Powell

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 (8 am)

† Maria Crisostomo

Sharon Taylor (Birthday Blessing)

† William Powell

Thursday, September 14, 2017 (8 am)

Avery Nakagawa (Birthday Blessing)

† Marietta Kaeo

† William Powell

Friday, September 15, 2017 (8 am)

Monica Pangelinan (Birthday Blessing)

† Marcial Taglinao

(Memorial Anniversary)

† Michael Culkin

(1st Death Anniversary)

Saturday, September 16, 2017

8 am † Paul Lapa

† Marietta Kaeo

† Deo Agbayani

5 pm † Carol Marshall

Sunday, September 17, 2017

7am † Marietta Kaeo

9am For the People

11 am † James & Mildred Mizoguchi

6 pm † All Souls in Purgatory

† Rest in Peace †

HEALING / BLESSINGS: John Bates, James & Elaine Kahala, Ellen Cleghorn, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, Ron Thames, Elaine Utu, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Agnes DeJesus, John Basug, Santiago Tumpap, Bella Rillamas, Norma & Ethan Belamide, Jane Alukonis, Rosalie Tadda, Rowena, Eric, & Ryan Asuncion, Warren Chalmers, Carrie Becky, Deacon Modesto Cordero, Cheryl Solomon, Clyde Sauget, Felisa Rapisura, Linda Osdieck, David Hall, Evelyn Quinata and all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Gloria Olegario, Conklin Kaapana, Demenciano Macaibay, Julian Rilveria, Fermina Tumbagon, Marie Chan Hin, Maria Crisostomo, Encarnacion Agpalza, Denise Mirafuentes, Violet Porras, Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo, Marietta Kaeo, Rudolfo "Rudy" Rapisura, Mina Lee, Masashi Kamiya, Violet Y. Chun & Antonia Peralta Galicinao.

† **FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS** †**Encarnacion Villanueva Agpalza (RIP)**

Friday, October 6, 2017 ~ Mililani Memorial Park Mortuary (Makai)

Wake Service: 6:30 pm

Saturday, October 7, 2017 ~ SJAE

Visitation: 10 am; Mass: 11 am

Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Denise Catherine Mirafuentes (RIP)

Friday, September 29, 2017 ~ Mililani Memorial Park Mortuary (Mauka)

Visitation: 9 am; Funeral Service: 11:30 am

Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Masashi Kamiya (RIP)

Friday, September 22, 2017 ~ Mililani Memorial Park Mortuary (Makai)

Visitation: 9:30 am ~ Mass: 10 am

Burial: 10:30 am ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Ruldolfo Ronnie Rapisura (RIP)

Tuesday, October 4, 2017 ~ Mililani Memorial Park Mortuary (Mauka)

Visitation: 6:30 pm ~ Makai Chapel

Thursday, October 5, 2017 ~ SJAE

Visitation: n 9:30 am; Mass: 11 am

Burial: 12:30pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

St. John's participating in **Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program**. From September 1- 30, Customers are invited to make donations of up to \$249 (per person) at checkout. Donations are accepted by Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farm checkout. At checkout, present your Maika'i card (or provide number) and inform the cashier that you would like to make a donation to:

St. John Apostle & Evangelist Outreach, code #77455

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE SEPT 2/3

Sunday Collection	\$ 15,224.82
Children's Collection	\$ 14.50
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$5,324.75
Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,281.00
One Community Center	
Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 3,842.50
Candle Sales	\$ 610.00
Donation - Social Ministry	\$ 48.00
Donation- Charity	\$ 47.00
Donation - Funeral	\$ 200.00
Donation- Youth & Young Adult	\$ 30.00
Donation - Catholic Charities HI	\$ 3,133.50
Donation- Hurricane Relief	\$ 75.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 220.00

Weekend Total: \$ 30,051.07

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

LITURGICAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A new home for our Hymnals. As you entered the church today you may have noticed the two foyer tables missing in the vestibule. Not to worry they haven't been stolen. They have gone for some renovation flipping and will soon become shelves for our hymnals. Instead of placing the books in between our chairs, they can be better cared for by placing them on the soon-to-be shelves. In God's house, our sacred place of prayer and worship, let us better care for the hymnals for the entire liturgical year. Soon, within a few weeks, when the project is complete we ask for your kokua. The hymnals will be found on the new shelves: Please help yourself before mass, then after mass return the hymnal to its new home on your way out. Our wonderful Ushers will assist you. Thank you for your cooperation and help.

God bless you all, Ohana.

Nick Calzada

Director of Liturgy

Hurricane Harvey Emergency Second Collection:

Our hearts & prayers go out to the families that have lost loved ones & to all who have lost homes & businesses along with their sense of peace and normalcy. Our prayerful and financial support is urgently needed. There will be a second collection after Communion at all Masses on **Sept. 23 & 24**. This emergency collection will be used both to support the humanitarian & recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA & to provide pastoral & rebuilding support to impacted dioceses through the USCCB. You may also donate online through our parish website, "Online Giving". Please be generous.

Please make checks payable to **St. John**.

Note in memo "**Hurricane Harvey**."

The next 24-hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

will be held on **Fri., October 6**, immediately after the 8 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am on **Sat., October 7**.

**San Lorenzo Ruiz Novena**

The Fil-Am Catholic Group is hosting a novena to San Lorenzo Ruiz from **September 21st to September 30th**.

Thurs., Sept. 21	6:30 -7:30 pm	Chapel
Friday, Sept 22	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Preschool Lanai
Sat., Sept 23	3:00 - 4:00 pm	Church
Sunday, Sept 24	3:00 - 4:00 pm	Church
Mon., Sept 25	6:30 -7:30 pm	Preschool Lanai
Tues., Sept 26	6:30- 7:30 pm	Chapel
Wed., Sept 27	6:30-7:30 pm	Church
Thurs., Sept 28	6:30-7:30 pm	Church
Fri., Sept 29	6:30 -7:30 pm	Rms. 4 & 5
Sat., Sept 30	3:00- 4:00 pm	Church

On **Saturday, Sept. 30th**, everyone is invited for fellowship and a potluck following the 5:00 pm Mass.



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

One Community Center Capital Campaign: Completed Capital Campaign pledge card may be placed in the drop box at the back of the church. You may also drop them at the parish front office or into our locked mail box. If you have any questions please call the parish office.



Blood Drive, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held on **Sunday, September 10th** from **8am– 1pm** at the church parking lot. Please visit the Knight's table on the lanai for more information and to register after all morning Masses. For additional information, contact Steve Hurling at 808-927-2845.

Don't fall into fall! Play it safe and come to a free workshop, "Making life safer around the home: Fall Prevention and Physical Therapy," on **Saturday, September 16, 2017 from 9am—10:30am in the church**. Mary Lau-Miki, Director of Mililani Physical Therapy, will provide useful tips on making our homes safe. After the presentation, Parish Health Ministry, in coordination with Long's Drugs, **will be providing free flu shots from 10:30 until 12 noon**. Come on out— take some time to think about safety, enjoy door prizes and snacks, and get your free flu shot all in one Saturday morning! (Presentation sponsored by St. John's Disability Team, Senior Team & Parish Health Ministry.)

The next Catholic Book Club: meeting will be on **Thursday, September 21, 7-9 pm** in classroom 6. The title of the discussion book is "**Life of Christ**" by Bishop Fulton Sheen. Bring a snack to share. For more information, contact Melissa Crisostomo: (808) 626-2469 or alohamc@gmail.com.

Rosary Making Ministry: The next gathering is on **Saturday, September 23rd at 10 am** on the breezeway. Everyone is welcome.



JOIN Cub Scouts! Our Cub Scouts Pack 144 will be doing their annual popcorn fundraiser on **Sunday, September 25th & October 1st** after all morning masses.

2017 Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program: **The Hawaii Foodbank** will be distributing a limited number of Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program voucher booklets worth \$50 at partner locations around the island. Vouchers are redeemable with certified vendors at various Farmer's Market **until Sept. 30th**. For additional information, please contact the Outreach Office at (808) 623-3332 ext 203.

Damien & Marianne Catholic Conference: Register Today! **October 20-22**, at the Conference Center. Visit their website for a full schedule of their events. www.dmcchawaii.org

Healthy Heart Healthy Family (H ♥ HF)

Do you want to have a Healthy Lifestyle and Graceful Aging?
COME and Learn More About Your Heart and Healthy Living.

The Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii in collaboration with St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church is offering this 5— Saturday, 10-Module Program for St. John Parishioners. All Classes are on Saturdays, 9:00 am — 10:00am in Rm 6.

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|--------------|-----------|--|
| September 23 | Module 1 | Knowledge is Power: Know Your Risk for Health Disease |
| | Module 2 | Act in Time in Health Attack Signs |
| September 30 | Module 3 | Get Energized: Say YES to Physical Activity |
| | Module 4 | Help your Heart: Control Your High Blood Pressure |
| October 7 | Module 5 | Be Heart Smart: Keep Your Cholesterol in Check |
| | Module 6 | Keep the Beat: Aim for a Healthy Weight |
| October 14 | Module 7 | Protect your Heart: Prevent and Control Diabetes |
| | Module 8 | Welcome Heart Healthy Eating in Your Home |
| October 21 | Module 9 | Eat in a Heart Healthy Way— Even When Time or Money is Tight |
| | Module 10 | Take Control of Your Health: Enjoy Living |

It is strongly encouraged to attend the entire series for optimum learning.

To register for the classes, please call: Bonnie Delos Santos (808) 425-5529; (310) 293-3432 or email bdelossantos2@twc.com



THIS WEEK: September 11 -September 17

Monday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

- 8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
- 4 pm - Girl Scouts (Rm 6)
- 6:30 pm - Boy Scouts (Rm 5)
- 6:30 pm: Marriage & Family Life (Rm 6)
- 7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)
- 7 pm— Family Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
- 7:30 pm— Family Rosary— Fellowship (RM4)

Tuesday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

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

Wednesday - Daily Mass (8AM)

- 8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
- 6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
- 7pm— RCIA (Rms 4/5)
- 7 pm— Liturgical Commission Mtg. (Conf. Rm)
- 7:30 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

- 8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
- 6:30 pm— RE: YM Meeting (Rm 4)

Friday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

- 8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
- 5 pm— 2 Hearts (CH)
- 6:30 pm— Six Dates for Catholic People (CH)

Saturday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

- 8:30 am— Vicariate Youth Ministry (Rms 4/5)
- 9 am— Safety Around the Home (CH)
- 10 am— Flu Shots (CH Lanai)
- 3:30 pm - Confession
- 5 pm: Mass (Saturday Vigil)

Sunday - Masses

- 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, & 6 pm
- Catechetical Sunday: NO RE Classes**
- 4 pm 6 pm Choir Practice (CH)

St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church #77455



give aloha

Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

FOR YOUR SECURITY PLEASE...

PARK SMART!

Take ALL your belongings with you.



... AND SECURE YOUR VEHICLE!
Car thieves love to window

Planting Seeds for the Future: Who needs estate planning? Every adult who is legally competent, who owns anything and cares about who receives it at the time of his or her disability of death.

Please remember *St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church* in planning your will.