

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By: MONSIGNOR JOHN MBINDA

The readings this Sunday touch on a very central theme for the Lenten season: trust and self-surrender. This theme is beautifully portrayed in the first reading in the drama of Abraham trusting and accepting to sacrifice his only son Isaac, which show great trust and faith in God. Because Abraham is ready to let go, God fulfills his promise of showering abundant blessings upon Abraham.

The Gospel is about the dramatic episode of the transfiguration on the mountain before the three disciples, Peter, James and John. The event is a clear manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God; an anticipation of his glory, beyond his death on the cross in the resurrection. The transfiguration therefore sets the stage for Jesus' prediction of his suffering, death and resurrection. That prediction in Mark is the beginning of the intensifying enmity between Jesus and the religious leaders eventually leading to his trial, death and resurrection. The central message of the episode therefore is that God offers us his only Son Jesus, in order to save us through the Cross. There is a certain parallel here between Abraham's readiness to offer his only son Isaac to God, and the fulfilment of that story in God offering his only Son to die for our salvation. The transfiguration was one way of convincing the disciples that Jesus was truly the Son of God. They actually saw his glory. The voice coming from a cloud was perhaps the most convincing. "This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him". The Gospel not only leads us to the mystery of Christ, but also invites us to listen as he calls us to trust and surrender ourselves completely to him so that he may save us. It is only in self-surrender that God blesses us abundantly.

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-4:30 PM**Tues. - Fri.:** 8:00 AM-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**Religious Ed Office Hours****Monday:** Closed**Tues. - Thurs.:** 12 pm - 8:00 pm**Fri.:** 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**Saturday:** 2:00—5:00 pm**Sun:** 7:00 am - 1:00pm**PARISH CLERGY & STAFF****Pastor** (ext. 111)

Msgr. John Mbinda

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Almsgiving can Transform you this Lent

Almsgiving has the power to transform you this Lent. In the Gospel reading of Ash Wednesday, Jesus highlights the three Lenten disciplines of almsgiving, prayer and fasting. However, almsgiving is really the key to understanding and practicing the other two. Let me offer a few thoughts on this point. "When you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, to win praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Mt 6:2-3). Jesus here does not say IF you give alms, but WHEN you give alms. Like fasting and prayer, almsgiving is non-negotiable.

The first Christians knew the importance of almsgiving. "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 4:34-35). That was the living embodiment of a basic principle of Catholic social teaching, what tradition calls "the universal destination of goods." The Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it succinctly: "The goods of creation are destined for the entire human race" (# 2452).

We often think of almsgiving in terms of financial contribution and giving to the less fortunate. But we can also give our time, our talents as well as our treasure both in the parish and in our neighborhood. The gifts that God has given us are meant to be shared. Here is a concluding thought on almsgiving from St. Basil the Great (330-379 AD): *"The bread which you do not use is bread for the hungry; the garment hanging in your wardrobe is garment of him who is naked; the money you keep locked away is money of the poor; the acts of charity that you do not perform are so many injustices that you commit."*




Encounter Cesia

We encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities?

Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services Lenten faith-in-action program for parishes, schools and families. Cardboard CRS Rice Bowls are at the main entrance of the church. Please take one and use as part of your almsgiving this Lent. When your box is full please turn it in to the office or to an usher at Sunday Mass. **Mahalo.**

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

The Decalogue in this passage is a brief, easily memorized summary of the entire law of God. The passage has been traditionally used as such in religious education. The first commandment sets the rest of the commandments within the context of the covenant. The law is seen as the means of faithfulness to the covenant God has made with his people. Although the commandments are in accord with what we may perceive as natural law and with any reasonable ethical system, they also rise above nature. They are expressions of the personal will of God as the way to live in union with God. In the commandments, we have an example of God elevating nature to be an expression of God's love and wisdom. Keeping the commandments is therefore the foundation upon which a life of Christian love, which goes beyond mere laws, is to be built.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11

In Psalm 19, the psalmist sees the harmony of the universe, expressed in God's law, as a powerful sign of his love. Response: "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

In this passage, Paul briefly explores the problem of divisions among Corinthians as caused by a search for worldly wisdom — using reason to argue one's own way as more "perfect" than that of others. Paul's solution is to disregard both the arguments of the Jews who rely more on signs (miracles) and the Greeks who rely more on wisdom. Rather, Paul calls for a patterning of one's life on the Cross which is self-giving in terms of self emptiness to the point of death. This is viewed as foolishness to the Greeks and a scandal to the Jews.

Gospel: John 2:13-25

John places the incident of cleansing the temple at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, while the other Gospels show it as part of the events immediately preceding the passion. The cleansing of the temple, explicitly connected to the Passover, gives the theme of God's salvation in Christ. The Passover event in Egypt involving the destruction of the bonds of slavery pointed to passage to a new life as God's people in the Promised Land. Similarly, the destruction of material physical temple of Jerusalem points to the passage from the old to new life of God's true temple, Jesus Christ beyond the resurrection.

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, February 26, 2018

(8 am) †Renato & Jojo Galve

†Theresa M. Robles

†David Ray Gussman

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

(8 am) †Santiago & Tessie Aquino

†Castora Soriano

†Beatrice Braganza

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

(8 am) †Joseph C. Domanguera

†Robert A. Hunter

†Nestor D'Souza

Thursday, March 1, 2018

(8 am) †Blaine Saler

(Death Anniversary)

†Tessie D'Souza

†William Brilhante

Friday, March 2, 2018

(8 am) Feliciano Dona

†Maureen Hart

†Nestor D'Souza

Saturday, March 3, 2018

8 am †Rosalinda Dungca

†Braganza Family

†Maureen Hart

5 pm †Janet Amigo

Sunday, March 4, 2018

7am †Vera Okuna

9 am For the People

11 am James & Mildred Mizoguchi

6 pm †Bella Rillamas

†Rest in Peace †

HEALING / BLESSINGS: Rowena, Eric, & Ryan Asuncion, Warren Chalmers, Carrie Becky, Deacon Modesto Cordero, Cheryl Solomon, Clyde Sauget, Felisa Rapisura, Linda Osdieck, David Hall, Evelyn Quinata, Shirley Del Rosario, Carol Towne, Darrlyn & Ron Bunda, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, David Torres, Jack & Ellen Cleghorn, Ernesta Tolentino, Lester Wilson, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Jim Vangrinsven, Dollie McGarry, Buena Harding, Suzanne Foster & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Orly B. Ceon, James M. Hunkele, Larry Butcher, Teresita Aquino, Rosalina V. Bayona, Agreda Acebo, Maureen Hart, Francisco V. Soliven, Ernesto D. Dumlaio, Teodora Caliboso, Praxedes Salmorin, Milagros Gueco, Bella Rillamas, Phillip D. Meek, Sr., William Brilhante, Barbara Silva, Theresa M. Robles, Alveria Maldonado & Teresa Yamamoto.

† **FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT** †**Castora V. Soriano (RIP)***Monday, March 5, 2018 ~ SJAE**Visitation: 9:30 am**Mass: 10:30 am**Burial: 1:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park***Please contact the parish office to set up an appointment & coordination for the following :****Anointing of the Sick****Baptisms** (Upcoming ceremony dates)**March 11 & 18, April 15 & 22, May 13 & 27.****Baptism Preparation Classes : March 4, April 8, May 6, and June 3.****Blessings** (home, auto, religious items, etc...)**Funerals****Homebound Communion****Marriages** (at least 6 months before wedding date)**The next 24-hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**will be held on *Friday, March 2*, immediately after the 8 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am on *Saturday, March 3.***Lenten Penance Service:**

Tuesday, February 27- 7 pm

St. Elizabeth

Wednesday, March 7- 7 pm

St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church

Wednesday, March 14- 7 pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Tuesday, March 20- 7 pm

Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesday, March 21- 7 pm

St. Michael

**LIFE TEEN REMINDER:**Sunday, March 4: **SUPER SUNDAY!**All confirmation candidates MUST ATTEND. **SEE YOU THERE!****RE ANNOUNCEMENTS: RESTORED ORDER NEWS**

Grades 2-5, Edge & Life Teen

Parents may download the One Ohana Videos on Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist in preparation for our students classes schedule for the months of February & March.

Go to: www.catholichawaii.org/confirmationvideo for Confirmation: One 'Ohanawww.catholichawaii.org/eucharistvideo for Eucharist: One 'Ohana Catechists have the joyful mission of assisting parents with recognizing Christ's presence in the every day activities of the "domestic Church". Christ is already at work in us and we, the Body of Christ, help to nurture the seeds of faith. We must look to finding God in every day family life.**RE & CYM Upcoming Events:****ALL FRCE CLASSES (2-3 A&B, 4-5A & 6-11A) Parent Meeting** is scheduled for March 4th at 2:30 PM, in the Church.**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE****FEB 17/18****Sunday Collection****\$ 15,638.25**

Children's Collection

\$ 8.00

Online Donation (WeShare)

\$ 508.25**Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)****\$ 998.15****One Community Center****Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)****\$ 2,456.28****Candle Sales****\$ 636.00****Donation- Ash Wednesday/ Thanksgiving****\$ 85.00****Donation- Frugal Meal- Operation Rice Bowl****\$ 63.60****Donation- Social Ministry****\$ 10.00****Donation- Charity****\$ 253.00****Donation- Mass Intentions****\$ 334.00****Weekend Total: \$ 20,990.53***"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce."- Proverbs***Respect Life:** The spring 40 Days for Life Campaign of prayer, fasting and outreach to protect all innocent life extends from Feb 14 through March 25. Community outreach includes group prayers and physical presence at the facility, located 1350 S. King St., appealing to God to end anti-life procedures in Hawaii and our nation. You may sign up online at: www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu or you are invited to join a group *St. John the Apostle & Evangelist* that will leave our parish parking lot at 9 am on Mondays and arrive back at Church at approx. 11:30 am. Each parish ministry is encouraged to select one day and time for the ministry members to participate together as a group. Sign up at the back of church or contact Mary Smart, cell: 741-2358 for more information.



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

Stations of the Cross will be held on the following **Fridays: March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 7pm.**

Frugal Meals will be held Fridays during Lent after Stations of the Cross (except on Good Friday, Mar. 30). Mahalo to the following for hosting: Feb. 16 - Knights of Columbus; Feb. 23 - Women's Guild; Mar. 2 - Religious Ed; Mar. 9 - Fil-Am; Mar. 16 - Marriage and Family; Mar. 23 - Knights of Columbus.

Food Pantry— If you or someone you know needs food assistance, we can help! Come see us on **Tuesday, February 27, 2018 from 10am—12 noon** at St. John's parking lot.

Lent and Easter Schedule

Stations of the Cross: 7pm (Fridays)
March 2, 9, 16 and 23.

Frugal Meal sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other parish ministries after Stations of the Cross.

Parish Lenten Retreat: March 5-7, 7 pm.
Retreat Speaker: **Fr. Charles Willingham**
(Fr. Charles will preach at all Masses the weekend of March 3 and 4)

Lenten Penance Service, March 7, 7pm.

Palm Sunday, March 25
(Regular Mass Schedule)

Holy Thursday, March 29 (No Daily Mass)
*Morning Prayers in lieu of daily mass.
*Mass at 7pm

Good Friday, March 30 (No Daily Mass)
Parish Office Closed

*Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.
***Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
3pm

***Stations of the Cross,** 7pm

Holy Saturday, March 31 (No Daily Mass)
* Morning Prayers in lieu of daily Mass.

* No 3:30 pm Confession

* **Easter Vigil:** 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 1
* Masses at 7am, 9am & 11am
** No 6 pm Mass **

Easter Monday, April 2

Church Offices Closed

Diocese of Honolulu 2018 Lenten Regulations

FASTING

❖ In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on **Good Friday (March 30th).**

❖ To *fast* means to consume one full meal a day at most, although taking of other, smaller quantities of food at the other customary mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink between meals (excepting water and medicine) is not permitted on fast days.

ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT

❖ Catholics aged 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

❖ To abstain means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork, or poultry at least, although eggs and milk products are acceptable. The consumption of fish and shellfish is permitted, though the penitential character of the abstinence should be kept in mind.

THIS WEEK: February 26— March 4

Monday — 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
4 pm— Girl Scouts (Troop 611) (Rm 6)
6 pm - Cub Scouts (Rms 4-5)
7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)
7 pm— Boy Scouts (Rm 4)

Tuesday -7:30 am- Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am—Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am—Church Cleaning—Environment (CH).
9 am— Women's Bible Study (Rm 6)
10 am— Food Pantry— (Parking Lot)
3 pm - Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
4:30 pm— Children's Choir Practice (CCH)
7 pm— Combined Choir Practice (CH)
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (Rm 6)

Wednesday— 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm— RCIA (Rms 4-5)
7 pm— MC Meeting (CH or Conf rm)
7:30 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday -7:30 am— Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm— Lector Faith Formation

Friday — 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:30 am-Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (CH)
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am— Church Cleaning (Environment)
6 pm— Girl Scouts (Troop 104) (Rm 5)
7 pm— Stations of the Cross (CH)

Saturday- 7:30am— Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
3 pm— RE "A" Schedule (Rm 1/3)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm- Mass (Saturday Vigil)
6 pm—Family Rosary Prayer Group (CH & Lanai)

Sunday - Masses:
7 am, 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm

RE: "A" Schedule (Rms 1-6)
12:30 pm— RE: FRCE Parent Mtg. (CH)
1:30 pm— Life Teen "Super Sunday" #6
2:00 pm— Baptism Prep Class (Rm 3)
4pm — 6pm Choir Practice (CH)

FOR YOUR SECURITY PLEASE...
... AND SECURE YOUR VEHICLE!

PARK SMART!

Take ALL your belongings with you.



Car thieves love to window shop!

Be generous and you will be prosperous; help others and you will be helped." (Good News Translation) - Prov 11:25

Planting Seeds for the Future: At the death of a special friend or relative you might like to remember that person through a memorial gift to your church. This will show your appreciation for this treasured relationship and help others through the church. An acknowledgement card will be sent to the surviving family, letting them know of your gift, without disclosing the amount.

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

Meditations for the Second Week of Lent

WE THIRST FOR YOU, O LORD

Lenten Prayer

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

"Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

— 1 Corinthians 15:51–52

Dear God, I don't know what lies ahead for me, but I trust that your love will be with me now and until the end of time.



He Was Transformed Before Them

Mark 9:2–10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him up the mountain where he was transfigured before them. When the experience was over, Jesus told them not to say anything about what they saw until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept silent, but the three of them couldn't help but talk among themselves about what rising from the dead could mean.

The Transfiguration is a powerful reminder that death is not the end of life. If death meant complete annihilation, as some believe, then Elijah and Moses would not have appeared on either side of Jesus. In this way, the Transfiguration foreshadows the Resurrection. Although the apostles didn't understand what was happening at the time, later, when the

FOR REFLECTION

- › What would I like transformed in my life by Easter?
- › As I look over my life, what are some areas where God has already transformed me?
- › What is one sacrificial action I can perform this week?

Son of Man had risen from the dead, they were able to understand what the Transfiguration meant.

During this second week of Lent, we are asked to think about how we can be transformed through the power of the risen Lord, and we are reminded that one day we, too, will be resurrected.

Catechism CONNECTION

"For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to 'enter into his glory.'" — *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 555



FAMILY ACTIVITY

Stations of the Cross



If you cannot attend Stations of the Cross at your parish, create your own. While many Stations in churches are elaborate and ornate, all that is required is to have fourteen crosses, preferably wooden, located so that you can take a step or two between each one. As a family activity, create fourteen crosses from small twigs or branches and place them in a line in your backyard or living room. Walk together as a family, remembering the events of the Passion. At each cross, bow or kneel and say, "Because of your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world."

Traditional Stations of the Cross



- 1 Jesus Is Condemned to Death
- 2 Jesus Accepts His Cross
- 3 Jesus Falls the First Time
- 4 Jesus Meets His Mother
- 5 Simon Helps Jesus Carry His Cross
- 6 Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus
- 7 Jesus Falls the Second Time
- 8 Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem
- 9 Jesus Falls the Third Time
- 10 Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments
- 11 Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
- 12 Jesus Dies on the Cross
- 13 Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross
- 14 Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb

OUR FAITH

The Last Four Things

Saint Alphonsus Liguori recommended that we contemplate the "last four things" especially during Lent. These are: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. While talking about these with children can be difficult, parents can use the season of Lent as a way to gently introduce the topics. One aspect to emphasize is that heaven, as Pope Saint John Paul II said, is not "an abstraction nor a physical place in the clouds, but a living, personal relationship with the Holy Trinity." Heaven, then, is living an eternity in the presence of and in relationship with our loving God. Likewise, the Church teaches that hell is not so much a physical place, but the choice to turn away from God and the deep pain of separation from Our Lord (see CCC 1033).



SIGNS OF THE SEASON

Mount of Transfiguration

The traditional location for the Mount of Transfiguration is Mount Tabor, about eleven miles west of the Sea of Galilee. Mount Tabor rises about 1,800 feet above the level plain below. It was identified as the site of the Transfiguration as early as the third century by the theologian Origen. The Church of the Transfiguration, a Franciscan church built on the ruins of a centuries-old Byzantine church, now stands at the summit of Mount Tabor.