

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By: Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

Spread the light to others

The word 'epiphany' means to make known or to reveal or to manifest. John describes Jesus who was born in the darkness of night as "the light (that) shines in the darkness... the true light, which enlightens everyone... (John 1:5, 9)" Today's Feast of the Epiphany tells us that this light that has come into the world now reveals himself to the human race. The angels made known to the shepherds the joy of the birth of Jesus. In the same way, the star led these strangers, the magi, from the East and revealed the same Jesus to them.

Through the birth of Jesus and today's wonderful feast, we are the people on whom a great light has shone. And like the shepherds of Jerusalem and the magi from the East we have come from various corners of the world to adore him. Our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah calls us to 'Arise, shine out because our light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising in us...'

These Magi were "wise men" who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore Christ. He used a star. So, the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers (pagans) could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Thirdly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way, by giving him the best of ourselves.

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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.***

SJAE MOBILE APP

Download our **FREE** app with these easy steps through *Apple App Store* or *Google Play Store*:

• Search keywords: **ST. JOHN MILILANI**

• Click "GET" or "Download"

• Open the App and Enjoy!

You can also find our app from the website below or use the QR Code

www.ParishSolutionsCo.com/JohnHl

Parish Rectory Hours

Monday: 12:00 PM-4:30 PM
Tues. - Fri.: 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
Saturday/Sunday: Closed

Outreach Office Hours

Tuesday: 9 AM to 12 PM

Friday: 9 AM to 11 AM

FOOD PANTRY Hours

Tues.—Fri.: 9 AM to 11 AM

Religious Ed Office Hours

Monday: Closed

Tues.—Fri.: 12 pm - 6:30 pm

Saturday: Closed

Sun: 7:00 am - 1:00pm

**PARISH CLERGY &
STAFF**

Pastor (ext. 111)

Msgr. John Mbinda

jmbinda@rcchawaii.org

Parochial Vicar (x 104)

Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

jayinpuusa@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 Secretary (x 100)

Dominique Kekiwi

dkekiwi@rcchawaii.org

Outreach Department (x 203)

Pearl Bates

pebates@rcchawaii.org

RCIA Coordinators

Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Dcn. Romeo Ganibe

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)

Julie Quiroz-Zamora

jquiroz@rcchawaii.org

Acting Preschool Director

Amytes Quiason (744-9538)

aquiason@rcchawaii.org

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019**The Baptism of the Lord****First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11**

The passage is a prophetic commissioning of God's messengers to his people. The verbs 'speak' and 'proclaim' are most likely addressed to those called to comfort God's people, speaking to their hearts. Then we hear the prophecy of liberation, directing the people to be ready by removing all the obstacles on the way: "make straight ...a highway for our God!" Zion is even exhorted to go out on a high mountain and announce that good news of salvation.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104:1-2,3-4,24-25,27-28,29-30

Psalm 104 is a remarkable song of praise, depicting God as creator and sustainer of all life. The psalm is a masterpiece of poetry using vivid imagery - "You have spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth...You make the clouds your chariot...You make winds your messengers." Before such a God we cry out in the response: "O bless the Lord, my soul."

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7

This reading is from one of the Pastoral Epistles of St. Paul. The passage contains: 1) a confession of faith in the saving grace of God, and 2) the testimony to the divine revelation of that saving grace. The grace Paul speaks about is God's salvation for all from the spiritual dangers that humanity faces. Therefore that salvation involves training in the necessary combat strategy needed to face the forces of evil. The second part is an affirmation that God's saving grace is revealed to us through "the kindness and generous love of God." God's saving grace is completely gratuitous and "not because of righteous deeds we have done." Consequently, we are justified by God's grace.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22

The Gospel passage contains two related parts. 1) We have John the Baptist denying that he is the Christ. 2) Then we have a report of extraordinary circumstances that followed after Jesus is baptized by John. The two parts are connected by the significance of the Holy Spirit. The passage begins by saying that the people were filled with expectation regarding the appearance of the Messiah and wondering whether John might be the one. John is quick to contrast himself with the one who is to come and therefore his not the one. The one to come is mightier and far superior. The second part then is an account of what happened while Jesus was praying after his baptism by John. We are only told that something happened to Jesus. "The heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove." What happened here confirms of Jesus' anointing and an affirmation of both his humanity and divinity.

Continued from Sunday Gospel Reflection, page 1....

Finally, the shepherds did not stay at the stable after seeing Jesus; they left glorifying and praising God. Just as the angels had proclaimed the good news to them, the shepherd in their turn shared their good news with others. In the same way, the visitors from the east, after they had given Jesus their gifts also left the stable. We can only assume, that they too told everyone what they had seen and heard in that small stable in Bethlehem. As we look upon the crib, we cannot stay there. Like the shepherds and the magi, we too are called to move away and take the light of Jesus with us. Through the quality of our daily lives and how we treat each other, we are called to make our families, homes, parish communities and the wider world a better and brighter place for all people, especially the poor and the marginalized.

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

PASTOR'S CORNER



The Epiphany of the Lord

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek language "epiphaneia" which means 'appearance', 'showing forth' or

'manifestation'. So, we could say that we celebrate the manifestation of the Lord.

The feast of the Epiphany originated in the third century to commemorate the first appearance of Christ (the infant King) to the entire world as Savior, symbolized by the visit of the three wise kings (Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar).

It is interesting to note that in the early Church, Christians, particularly those in the East, celebrated the coming of Christ on Jan. 6 by commemorating the Nativity, the Visitation of the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the Wedding of Cana all in one feast of the Epiphany. By the fourth century, both Christmas and Epiphany had been set as separate feasts in some dioceses. At the Council of Tours in 567 A.D., the Church set both Christmas day and Epiphany as separate feast days on the December 25 and January 6, respectively, and named the twelve days between the feasts as the Christmas season. The solemnity of the Epiphany marked the twelfth day of Christmas and the end of the Christmas season.

Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated (by having the Gospel account on the Wedding of Cana) on the Sunday after the Baptism of the Lord. Both these commemorations are omitted this year.

May God shower abundant blessings upon you throughout the entire year 2019.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies! Blog
(text): www.sundayhomily.com
Podcast (audio):
<https://soundcloud.com/john-mbinda>

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 7, 2018

(8 am) Suzanne Foster
(Healing/Blessing)

Paz, Jerry Fonacier & Family

Tuesday, January 8, 2018

(8 am) †Maria Guerrero Sablan
(Birthday Memorial)

†Asako Ono Diana

†Fr. Edward Turner

Wednesday, January 9, 2018

(8 am) †Mary Lou Driscoll
Suzanne Foster
(Healing/Blessing)

Thursday, January 10, 2018

(8 am) Women's Guild

†Vergelio C. Topinio

†David D. Cabato

Friday, January 11, 2018

(8 am) Daniel Cortel
(Birthday Blessing)

†James & Mildred
Mizoguchi

†Eric Umetsu

Saturday, January 12, 2018

(8 am) †Federico N. Soliven

†Clara D. White

†David D. Cabato

(5 pm) †Vergelio C. Topinio

Sunday, January 13, 2018

(7 am) †Clara D. White

9 am **For the People**

11 am †David D. Cabato

6 pm †Federico N. Soliven

†Rest in Peace†

HEALING / BLESSINGS: Shirley Del Rosario, Carol Towne, Darrlyn & Ron Bunda, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, Jack & Ellen Cleghorn, Ernesta Tolentino, Lester Wilson, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Jim Vangrinsven, Dollie McGarry, Suzanne Foster, Linda Eguchi, Mario Pichon, Leora Hernandez, Alan Cadiux, Rose McNorton, Rosalie Tadda, Bienvenido Roter, Randy Arrojo-Manuwa & Family, Rachel Sullivan, Duane Gonzales, Keahi Paaluhī & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Victor C. Librizzi, Santiago Tumpap, Jeremy M.H. Kunishige, Joseph Terry, Sr., Pablo Santos, Kyung Soon Choe, Alvin Yasui, Wayne Ural, Hak Hoon Kim, Leo Keli, Cherie F. Castillo, Deacon Kin Borja, Asako Ono Diana, Trixie Kato, Claro P. Bumanglag, Jodie J. Mendes, Vergelio C. Topinio, Clara Diane White, Lydia S. Agbayani, Fredrico Soliven & Annette Mitchell.

Please contact the parish office to set up an appointment & coordination for the following:

Anointing of the Sick

Baptisms (Upcoming ceremony date) **Jan 13 & 20, Feb 10 & 17, Mar 10 & 17, April (No Baptism).**

Baptism Preparation Class: Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3.

Blessings (home, auto, religious items, etc...)

Funerals

Homebound Communion

Marriages (at least 6 months before wedding date)

The next Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



will be held on Friday, February 1, immediately after the 8 am Mass to 7:30am on Saturday, February 2.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

**12/24—25
12/29**

Sunday Collection	\$ 19,230.48
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 1,736.60
Children's Collection	\$ 4.00
Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 876.50
One Community Center	
Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 9,582.14
OCC Capital Campaign—Anonymous	
Donor Donation #2 (Non Assessed)	\$250,000.00
Donation— Christmas Eve (6 pm)	\$ 5,970.00
Donation— Christmas Eve (12 am)	\$ 2,948.92
Donation— Christmas (7 am)	\$ 3,508.00
Donation— Christmas (9 am)	\$ 3,142.75
Donation— Christmas (11 am)	\$3,114.98
Donation— Retirement for Religious	\$ 522.50
Donation - Charity	\$ 54.00
Donations- Christmas Flowers	\$ 160.00
Donation— Christmas	\$2,378.10
Donation— Social Ministry	\$110.00
Donations- Immaculate Conception	\$ 5.00
Donation— Youth & Young Adult	\$ 30.00
Candle Sales	\$ 798.00

Weekend Total: \$ 304,171.97

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

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS †

Vergelio C. Topinio (RIP)

Sunday, January 6, 2019 ~ Mililani Memorial Park- Makai Chapel

Visitation: 5:30pm — Prayer Service: 6:30pm

Monday, January 7, 2019 ~ St. John's A&E

Visitation: 10:30am — Mass: 11:00am

Burial: 12:30pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

Federico N. Soliven (RIP)

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 ~ Mililani Memorial Park- Makai Chapel

Visitation: 10:00am- Prayer Service: 11:30am

Burial: 12:30pm- Mililani Memorial Park

Clara Diane White (RIP)

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 ~ Mililani Memorial Park- Mauka Chapel

Visitation: 9:00am

Funeral Prayer Service: 10:30am

Burial: 12:30pm- Mililani Memorial Park



Rosary Making Ministry: The next gathering is on Saturday, January 19th at 10 am on the church lanai. Everyone is welcome.


MALAMA I KA MAKANA
Cherish The Gift | A Call to Stewardship
in the Catholic Church in Hawaii

Announcing.... Stewardship Day 2019

Saturday, February 9 at Our Lady of Good Counsel,
Pearl City

8:00 am— 2:00 pm

Opening Mass & Address— Most Reverend Larry
Silva, Bishop of Honolulu

Followed by: Continental Breakfast, Networking &
Featured Speakers/Workshop

Register today by emailing your name and parish
to: mclark@rcchawaii.org or
phone (808) 203-6723

No charge, lunch included

Lead event sponsor: Our Sunday Visitor



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR



Effective Wednesday, January 2, 2019, the Kipapa Dr. entrance to the church parking lot will be closed. Please use the Kuahelani Ave. side to enter and exit the church parking lot. Mahalo!

Next weekend, the *Parish Health Ministry* will be on the lanai after the 5 pm Mass on Saturday and all morning Masses on Sunday to provide free blood pressure screening.

Want to volunteer as a chairperson for Kūpuna Kōkua Ministry? Must be 55 years of age. Please contact Yolanda at (808) 220-8997.

Second Collection: The Diocese of Chalan Kanoa (Saipan, Tinian). They have suffered much devastation due to Category 5 typhoon (hurricane) Yutu. Bishop Ryan Jimenez has requested help to rebuild a church that was destroyed, part of the Chancery Office, and to provide aid to many who have lost their homes. St. John's will be taking up a second collection after communion on the weekend of January 19 & 20. Please be generous. Mahalo for your kokua!

Black & Indian Mission and Church in Latin America - The weekend of January 26/27, our parish will be participating in two separate collections; the Black & Indian Mission and Church in Latin America. Your generosity is invaluable to the future of the faith in the African American, Native American, Alaskan Native, and Latin American communities. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. You may drop your donation during offertory or make a donation online by visiting our parish website, clicking "Online Giving". Please be generous.

St John A&E Marriage Validation

- Are you a Catholic who exchanged marriage vows in the presence of an authorized civic official or a minister from another religious tradition?
- Are you seeking to have your marriage officially recognized and blessed by the Church known as *Convalidation of a Marriage*?

SAVE THE DATES:

- Marriage Validation Retreat: Sat. Feb. 2, 2019 at 9am—3 pm.
 - Rehearsal: Thurs. Feb. 7, 2019 at 7 pm.
- Marriage Validation Ceremony: Sat. Feb. 9, 2019 at 5 pm in the Church. For more information, contact Deacon Modesto at mcodero@rcchawaii.org or Deacon Romeo rganibe@rcchawaii.org.



Planting Seeds for the Future: 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 Church* in planning your will.

THIS WEEK: **Jan 7– Jan 13**

Monday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm– Charismatic (CH)
7 pm– Family Prayer Group (Rm 4)
7 pm– 4th degree knight (Rm 3)
Tuesday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Church Cleaning– Environment
3 pm– Cenacle Prayer (CH)
7 pm– K of C (Rm 3)
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 (Rm 2)
6:30 pm– Young Adult Faith Night (Rm 4)
7 pm– Combined Choir Practice (CH)
7 pm– RCIA#16 Kingdom of God (Rm 3)
7:30 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Church Cleaning (Group 1)
6 pm– 11 am Choir Practice (CH)

Friday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Church Cleaning (Environment)
4 pm– 2 Hearts (CH)

Saturday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– *Daily Mass*
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group
9 am– Catholic Women's Bible Study (Rm 1)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm– Mass (Saturday Vigil)
5 pm– Free Blood Pressure– CH Lanai

Sunday– Masses

7 am, 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm
9 am– Rite of the anointing of the Catechumens (CH)
Parish Health Ministry– Free Blood Pressure – CH Lanai

RE Classes: "B" Schedule

4 pm - 6 pm Choir Practice (CH)

Homily of the Most Reverend Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu
Celebration of the 50th Presbyteral Ordination Anniversary
of the Reverend Monsignor John Mutiso Mbinda
and Patronal Feast Day of St. John the Apostle & Evangelist Church, Mililani
Thursday, December 27, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
[1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a,2-8]

“A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.” (John 1:6-8)

Thus wrote John the Apostle and Evangelist, whose feast we celebrate today in this parish named in his honor. He was writing not about himself, but about John the Baptist. But what he wrote could very easily apply to another John whom we honor today, Monsignor John Mbinda. For fifty years, as a priest of Jesus Christ, this John has also testified to the light. He is not himself the light, but reflects the light of the One who is the true light, and today we thank God with great joy for the faithful service Monsignor John has given in bringing the light of Christ Jesus into the world.

Who could have known 50 years ago that the celebration of the anniversary of priestly ordination on December 14 would be within two weeks of the celebration of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, where he now serves as pastor? But with God there are very few coincidences.

John the Apostle and Evangelist was inspired to write many revelations far away from home from the island of Patmos. Our local Monsignor John also left his home to be a missionary long ago, and blessed us by coming to these islands. John the Apostle and Evangelist wrote down the prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper: “I pray ... for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father are in me and I in you” (John 17:20-21) And our Monsignor John dedicated twenty years of his life to helping make that vision of Jesus a reality as he worked with the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in Rome.

The most challenging day in the life of John the Apostle and Evangelist was when he left his fishing nets and his family to respond to the invitation of Jesus to follow him. Our own John also accepted the challenge and left his native place and his family in order to follow the same Lord as he entered the seminary and began a journey that would culminate in his ordination to the priesthood.

The most horrible day of the life of John the Apostle and Evangelist was when he had the courage to stay beneath the foot of the cross, where his beloved friend and Lord Jesus was bleeding and dying such a horrible death. Perhaps he thought of fleeing away for fear as the other apostles had done, but his love for Jesus and his suffering mother overcame all fear. So our own Monsignor John has seen the violence of spouses, parents and children toward one another, but has stayed to bring healing. He has seen people waste away in sickness and in self-absorption, but has never abandoned Holy Mother Church, even when she suffers such scandals, persecutions, and infidelities. He has stayed to embrace her with the healing sacraments and the balm of his presence and prayers.

The most glorious day in the life of John the Apostle and Evangelist was when he ran to that empty tomb and saw evidence of what Jesus had often referred to, but which he simply could not grasp until that moment. He knew that Jesus had risen from the dead, and that testimony has resounded throughout the world ever since. Our own Monsignor John has not seen yet has believed with all his being that Jesus is not some long-ago, far-away personage of history but is alive to teach us still, to be the Word who longs to take flesh in every human heart, and to be the Bread of Life that feeds multitudes so that they can live forever. He has made that Word flesh by his preaching, and he consecrates us all by the eternal Word whose voice he was chosen to be. He takes the little morsels of bread and wine, and giving thanks, gives them to the Lord's beloved people so that they can be satisfied enough to know that Jesus is truly alive and that he sets them on fire so that they can go and wash the feet of their brothers and sisters.

"A man named John was sent by God." And today we give thanks for the John who wrote those words and the John who has more recently been sent to us here to open the Word for us. And we pray that grace will follow upon grace for Monsignor John and for all to whom he has been sent to testify to the light that is Christ Jesus the Lord.

Ad multos annos !
+ Larry Silva