

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By: Deacon Modesto Cordero

Be a 'keyhole!'

On this Second Sunday of Lent, we are revisiting the story of the transfiguration of the Lord Jesus. The readings are calling us to be like Christ. We too must become transfigured because it is from our own transformation that we will help to inspire others to think seriously about becoming Christians. We are called to become an icon of Christ, an attractive 'keyhole' through which people will see the love of God.

Today, we are challenged not to dwell on Jesus' transfiguration, rather, to continue or perhaps to begin working on our own. When we look at our own transfiguration we need to consider three things: first, the transfiguration gives us perspective. We are made in the image of God and no matter how rough, how unpolished, or how ordinary we may be we, like Jesus, have divinity within us. So, we are called to act like Jesus did so we can inspire others with our actions. Second, our journey of faith involves struggle. The way of the cross does involve suffering, and as we transform to be like Christ, we will experience some of that suffering. We need to accept it and pray that our suffering here will earn us rewards later in heaven. Lastly, the transfiguration of Christ keeps us centered. St. Paul invites us to center on the goal, but to also remember that to reach that goal involves some sacrifice from our side. However for us the sacrifice ends at the Eucharistic table. When we come to the Eucharistic table, we bring all of our sufferings and joys and in turn, we receive Christ transfigured.

In this holy season of Lent my prayer is that as we prepare to be fed by the Body and Blood of Christ we be open to listen and accept that it is only through our own transformation that we are going to be able to become 'keyholes' - true icons of Jesus. God wants us to become the 'keyhole' through which others will see His glory.

Lenten blessings!

Dcn. Modesto Cordero

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**

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www.ParishSolutionsCo.com/JohnHl



Pastor's Corner

The Hidden Power of Confession

"If we say we are without sin we deceive ourselves" (1 John 1:8)

The Sacrament of Penance, also called Sacrament of Confession, instituted by Jesus Christ after his resurrection, is a hidden treasure that many have yet to discover. When you do discover that hidden power, your joy will be boundless.



A story is told about three penniless knights who were lost on their return from their pilgrimage to the Holy Land. They were caught in a violent rainstorm that lasted several days. As they crossed a creek on the first day, in the darkness of the storm, they heard a voice telling them: "Pick up some pebbles and you will be glad and sad." The first weary knight thought that the idea was just ridiculous, and so he did not pick up any pebble. The second knight picked up several pebbles and put them in his pack. The third knight stuffed his saddle bag with pebbles.

After six days of travel, the storm eased and they got a moment to rest. On opening his bag, the third knight discovered that it was filled with pure gold. His joy was boundless. The second knight found out that he had just a few pieces of gold and his pack and was sad that he had not fill his pack with the pebbles. The first knight was very sad because he was still penniless.

The Sacrament of Confession is like a hidden treasure when we have lost our way and find ourselves in the midst of the storms of life. If we listen to the whisper of the Holy Spirit and fill our bag pack with the pebbles of this sacrament we will be surprised by joy. It is amazing when we emerge from the Sacrament of Confession feeling so light after Jesus takes the burden of sin off our backs. This Lent the Holy Spirit is whispering to you and if you respond positively, you will be so transformed by the Sacrament of Confession.

Your joy will be boundless!

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

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
jainpuusa@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

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 17:3—7

This passage is a story of Israel's continuing struggle with trust and faith in God, who leads them during their wandering in the wilderness. Moses comes into conflict with the Israelites because they have no water. The Israelites want to return to Egypt where water was plentiful. Following God's instructions, Moses makes water flow by striking a rock. The point of the story is that living faithfully is obedience to God. It is not about having material resources (water or food). With or without these resources we remain faithful.

Responsorial 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 at the well. This is perhaps the most unusual event of all those reported in the New Testament. John uses 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. Water is life. 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 whom Jesus is. She becomes aware of her own identity as well as her need for the living water, Jesus Christ, the source of eternal life.

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies! Blog
(text): www.sundayhomily.com

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 18, 2019

(8 am) †Dolly McGarry

†Janice Pfersich

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

(8 am) †M/M Charley Jones

†Josefino B. Solano

†Howard L. Beck

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

(8 am) †Byron Schubert

Thursday, March 21, 2019

(8 am) Modesta Yadao

(Thanksgiving/Blessing)

Friday, March 22, 2019

(8 am) †William Ahuna

Saturday, March 23, 2019

(8 am) Yolanda Morreira

(Birthday Blessing)

Dominic Leeson Cortel

(Birthday Blessing)

Dr. Earl Sauget

(Birthday Blessing)

(5 pm) †Benjamin Cockett, Jr.

Sunday, March 24, 2019

(7 am) Mona DeCosta

(Birthday Blessing)

9 am **For the People**

11 am †Wayne K. Ursal

6 pm †Violeta D. Solis

†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, 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 Paaluhi, Marcelino Esdicol, Sr., Lillian Chalmers & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Trixie Kato, Claro P. Bumanglag, Jodie J. Mendes, Vergelio C. Topinio, Clara Diane White, Lydia S. Agbayani, Fredrico Soliven, Annette Mitchell, Erwin A. Azada, Winston Kekina, Howard L. Beck, Delphine Brothers, Richard L. Unciano, Agnes DeJesus, William K.M. Ahuna, George Makio, Violeta D. Solis, & Byron Schubert.

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

Anointing of the Sick

Baptisms (Upcoming ceremony date) **April (No Baptism), May 12 & 19, June 9 & 16.**

Baptism Preparation Class: Apr 7, May 5 & June 2.

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, April 5*, immediately after the 8am Mass to 6pm and will resume at 8pm after the Stations of the Cross to 7:30am on *Saturday, April 6.*



Healing Mass

Monday, March 25, 2019

7:00 pm—9:00 pm

St. John A&E Parish

Praise and Worship begins at 7:00 pm

Mass starts at 7:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

Sponsored by St. John Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group

For information: Victoria Achaval 623-7423

Stephen / Helen Uyehara 623-7423

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

3/9-3/10

Sunday Collection	\$ 14,355.45
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 2,477.60
Building, Equipment, and Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 1,200.50
OCC Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 4,408.00
Donation— Children's Collection	\$ 5.00
Donation— Social Ministry	\$ 20.00
Donation— Charity	\$ 90.00
Donation— Catholic Relief Services	\$ 5.00
Donation— Oper. Rice Bowl/ Frugal Meal	\$148.86
Candle Sales	\$ 694.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 140.00

Weekend Total: \$ 23,544.41

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

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT †

Violeta D. Solis (RIP)

Thursday, April 18, 2019 ~ Mililani Memorial Park~ Mauka

Visitation: 9:00 am ~ Prayer Service: 11:00 am

Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial Park

2019 Lent and Easter Parish Events:

Stations of the Cross, March 22, 29, April 5 & 12, 7pm.

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

Parish Lenten Mission: *Seven Last Words of Jesus from His Cross*

April 1-3, 7pm

Speaker: Fr. Paul McDonnell, O.S.J

Lenten Penance Service:

Wednesday, April 3, 7pm

Palm Sunday, April 14

Regular Sunday Schedule

Good Friday, April 19 (No 8am Daily Mass)

Morning Prayers- 8am

Stations of the Cross, 3pm

Passion of the Lord, 3:30pm

Holy Saturday, April 20 (No 8am Daily Mass)

Morning Prayers- 8am

No Confession

Easter Vigil, 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 21

Masses at 7am, 9am, & 11am

No evening Mass

Diocese of Honolulu 2019 Lenten Regulations:

In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on both days Ash Wednesday (March 6th) and Good Friday (April 19th).

FASTING : 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.



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR



Encounter Annet: In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome stranger in our midst? How can you support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Food Pantry- If you or someone you know needs food assistance, we can help! Come see us on **Tuesday, March 26, from 10 am—12 noon** at St. John's parking lot.



The Music Ministry is looking for a volunteer guitarist to accompany the 11 am & 6 pm Mass. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 623-3332.

Respect Life: The Spring 40 Days for Life Campaign of prayer, fasting and outreach to protect all innocent life extends from March 6 through 14 April 2019. Community outreach includes group prayers and physical prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood abortion facility, now relocated to 839 S Beretania St Honolulu, HI 96813. All are invited to participate. You may sign-up on-line at: www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu/ There will be a closing Rally on Saturday, April 13 at the facility from 9 am - noon. Parish ministries are encouraged to select one day and time for its members to participate together as a group. Contact Mary Smart cell: 741-2358 for more information.

Attention Men of St John the Apostle and Evangelist:

The Men's ACTS retreat is currently planned for **August 22—25, 2019**, at the St Anthony Retreat Center in the beautiful Kalihi Valley. This retreat has enriched the lives of many people in at least 27 states in the U.S., and several countries throughout the world. This retreat will help your personal, spiritual growth! If you are seeking answers about your spiritual journey and/or wish to deepen your faith, please consider attending this wonderful retreat. Contact Armando Lopez at (808-799-4740) for additional information or to sign up today.



St. John Catholic Preschool has an immediate assistant teacher position open. If you are an early education teacher (Montessori is a plus.) Please visit the catholichawaii.org/careers and click on "search current job openings."

St. John Catholic Preschool has an immediate preschool opening for a child between the ages of 3-6 years old. If you have just moved to this area or know a family that is in need for a quality Montessori Preschool education, please contact (808) 744-9538.

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 or death.

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

THIS WEEK: Mar 18– 24

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– Troop 144 (Rm 5)

Tuesday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– Daily Mass
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am– Women's Bible Study (CH)
9 am– Church Cleaning– Environmental
3 pm– Cenacle Prayer (CH)
6:30 pm– PPBC (Rm 5)
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 #25 "Triduum & Cross" (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 2)
6 pm– 11 am Choir Practice (CH)
7 pm– Catholicism 101 (Rms 1-2)

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)
7 pm–Stations of the Cross (CH)
7:30 am– Frugal Meal (CH Lanai)

Saturday– 7:30 am– Rosary
8 am– Daily Mass
8:45 am– Rosary Prayer Group
9 am– Catholic Women's Bible Study (Rm 1)
9:15 am– Liturgical Movement Ministry (Rm 4)
10 am– Parish Health Ministry (Rm 3)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm- Mass (Saturday Vigil)

Sunday– Masses
7 am, 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm
RE "B" Schedule
12:30 pm– Baptism Ceremony (CH)
4 pm - 6 pm Choir Practice (CH)

Conversion of Heart

Lenten Reflections on Mercy and Forgiveness

Week 2

READINGS: *Genesis 15: 5–12, 17–18; Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 9:28b–36*

“While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white” (Lk 9:29).



Renata Sedmakova / Shutterstock.com

Transfigure toward mercy by accepting it

In this week's reading, three of the apostles experience something they do not quite understand. As Jesus was transfigured before them with Moses and Elijah at his side, Peter thought it right to build tents for each, to contain this moment that he knew to be good.

But the voice of God interrupted him and said, “This is my chosen Son; listen to him” (Lk 9:35). It turned out that Peter's plans weren't God's plans at all.

All of sudden, it was over. Jesus was found alone, and the light that emitted from him was dimmed. The disciples, especially Peter, were left with more questions than answers. They “fell silent and

did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen” (v. 36).

We oftentimes don't understand God's mercy in our lives. We are limited in our understanding, and our perception of our motives and those of others can only go so far. We try to live lives of peace and order, but sometimes our own plans don't work out and we end up hurting others.

As Catholics, our job isn't to understand God's mercy; it is to accept it. When we do this well, we come to a deeper understanding of how God works in our lives. It is only through this acceptance that we can truly see as God sees,

which enables us to do as God does by offering that same mercy to those who are most in need of it, none needier than ourselves.

For Reflection

- › Is God's will for your life clear to you right now?
- › Have you seen God work through the unplanned events in your life?
- › Do you find it easy to accept God's mercy?

“How happy I am to see myself imperfect
and be in need of God’s mercy.”

- ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS



Become an instrument of peace

Francis of Assisi was a man lost in the darkness of sin. He was selfish and determined to gain honor as a soldier and popularity as a frequent partygoer. It wasn't long before he hit rock bottom as a constant consumer of worldly pleasures. He realized his life was not well-lived, and God told him in a dream to return from war and convert his life. He spent several months attempting to live a good, holy life, oftentimes spending nights in a nearby cave where he would weep for his sins.

It wasn't until he became completely detached from worldly desires that he found true peace and a reason for being — serving the poor. After years of service and founding many like-minded communities, he would become one of the greatest saints the Church has ever known.

As you continue your Lenten journey, take a page from St. Francis's book and accept the mercy from God that will transform you into something greater than your own desires for yourself. God is the potter, and we are the clay. May he make of you a beautiful instrument of his peace.



Faith Lesson

Attach yourself to GOD

Detachment has always been a means by which people have come closer to God. We witness Jesus' constant detachment from worldly things every time he climbs a mountain to pray, preaches about the Kingdom, and heals the poor and outcast. He is the model par excellence of detachment.

When it comes to accepting God's gift of mercy, our first step is to mimic the saints who followed Christ's call to detachment. The first reaction of every holy man or woman after they accept this reward reacts the same way — with a sense of unworthiness that is followed by acts of fasting to make up for the sins they committed. In other words, we

disassociate ourselves with our former life and detach from our old ways. We are then a “new creation” (2 Cor 5:17) and thus better equipped to complete our God-given mission.

What do you need to detach from so as to *attach* yourself to God more intimately?

Fasting TIPS

Consider making a fast from technology this week. Apart from abstaining from meat on Friday, try going off social media, streaming videos, or other forms of digital entertainment. If you really want to go all out, try fasting from all screens and take that time to pray and reflect.



Prayer

Lord, I am not worthy to be called your servant, but, nevertheless, I am. Allow me to accept your mercy with humility and purity of heart so that I may teach others to do the same. Strengthen me in my weakness and allow me to overcome my imperfections so that I might better imitate your Son to whom I am forever in debt.