

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 29 / MARCH 1, 2020



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: **Msgr. John S. Mbinda**

Adam and Eve, our first parents. God had created them for happiness. We are told that when the woman was confronted by the devil and deceived, she chose to eat the fruit God had forbidden. After eating the fruit and finding it was good to eat, she brought it to her husband who also ate it. By eating the forbidden fruit, the tempter succeeded in deceiving them. They thought they would be their own masters. Instead, they alienated themselves from God and became strangers and fearful of God. The tragedy of the human fall from grace had taken place. They had a choice to say yes to their Creator, but they said no, thus breaking their relationship with their Creator. Both were liable. Their action plunged the entire human race into the original sin. From our first parents, we, therefore, carry the seeds of deceit, unfaithfulness, disobedience, and selfishness, thus rebelling against God. Yet, because God is compassionate, our human condition of weakness is not hopeless. God does not abandon us but seeks to reconcile us with Himself.

Paul in the Second reading speaks about Christ reversing the situation of human disobedience. Just as in Adam, all have sinned through disobedience, so in Christ, all are justified through Christ's obedience and faithfulness to the Father. In Christ, the old Adam has lost his power of rebellion that leads to death. In his death and resurrection, Christ becomes the New Adam and destroys the isolation of humanity from God. Christ puts humanity back into a proper relationship of grace with God. The Gospel focuses our attention on the faithfulness of Jesus. Three times Jesus is tempted by the devil in the desert, and three times he resists, because he not only knows the Scriptures, but he also remains faithful to it: "Be off Satan! For Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone". It is not enough for us to know God's Word or his Commandments. The temptations of Jesus have all the trimmings of bodily desires, illusions of power, a shortcut to success or any other seductions and addictions that haunt the human mind today.

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**

www.ParishSolutionsCo.com/JohnHI



St. John Apostle & Evangelist Mililani



saintjohnmililani

We look forward to connecting with you!

Pastor’s Corner

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 4PM
Religious Ed Office Hours Monday/ Friday: Closed Tues. & Thurs. 12 PM - 6:30pm Wednesday: 2 pm - 8:30 pm Sunday: 7 am - 2 pm
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

A Very Acceptable Time

Last Wednesday, we celebrated Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent. Lent is a season of preparation for Easter. It is a time of purification; a time to "turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel" (Mk 1:15) “Transforming people one at a time is at the heart of God’s plan for the world.” Ash Wednesday is the first of forty days of the Lenten Season that precedes Easter. Through the ashes we received, symbolic of penance, we are reminded that all we are and all we have to belong to God. We own nothing, not even our own selves. What we think we own actually belongs to God: God has given us so much in trust: time, talents and treasure. Therefore, all of them belong to God. That is the meaning of the ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday. “Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.” (Gen. 3:19)

This Lenten Season, God has an incredible possibility for you to encounter Jesus Christ in a way you never imagined. That is why Saint Paul tells us, “Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Cor. 6:2) It is a very acceptable time because you and I are going to be deeply touched by God as we encounter His Son Jesus Christ who will transform our lives with grace and prepare us to celebrate the Easter mysteries in a more meaningful way. Gear up for the battle that we all face in Lent. On Ash Wednesday we prayed that “we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.” May we have a blessed and fruitful Lenten Season.



“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 8, 2020

Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

In this reading, we hear about the call of Abram, whose change of name to Abraham is significant. He was originally from Ur in the Chaldean land, present-day Iraq. It was then an extremely fertile area and had one of the most advanced cultures of the day. Abram, the Father of the Israelite people, was called to be the founder of a people faithful to the One True God. God’s call and acceptance to leave his own familiar land and go to the unknown would later be seen as Abram's obedience to God's covenant with Israel. This obedience would be rewarded with blessings for Abraham and his greater family, the communities of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

Psalm 33 is the loving and trusting prayer response of one who has heard and answered God’s call. Response: "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you."

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Paul in this reading sees God’s call in terms appropriate to second-generation Christians, living a settled life in the community. This call echoes the call to Abram, not to a new land or a new people, but to a new life in Christ. This new life is made possible because Jesus has conquered death and holds out saving grace to all people.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain described in this passage is meant to reveal to the disciples the true identity of Jesus and the nature of his mission. The purpose of his mission is not to be an earthly hero-messiah, but to be the source of final and eternal salvation to those who believe in him. In this passage, Jesus is portrayed as the new Moses. Matthew wanted to convince the Jewish Christians that the law of Moses had been completed by the law of Christ. The voice from the cloud and the command of the Father recall the giving of the law to Moses on the mountain. Following upon the disciples’ awareness of the true meaning and mission of Christ, there is only one obligation for them and for us: "Listen to him!"

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

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week

- Monday, March 2, 2020**
(8 am) †Paulina Wong
†Antonio C. Aguon
†Dieter M. Pfister
- Tuesday, March 3, 2020**
(8 am) †Cirila Lobusta
†Dieter M. Pfister
SJAE Volunteers
- Wednesday, March 4, 2020**
(8 am) †Vera Okuna
Annabel Wilson
(Birthday Blessing)
†Benjamin B. Bae
- Thursday, March 5, 2020**
(8 am) †Robert Holmes
†Dieter M. Pfister
†Dave Kruzeloek
- Friday, March 6, 2020**
(8 am) †Feliciano Dona
†Dieter M. Pfister
Guerrero Family
(Blessings/Thanksgiving)
- Saturday, March 7, 2020**
(8 am) †All Souls in Purgatory
†Alfredo Cordial Sr.
(Death Anniversary)
†Teodulo Z. Villareal
5 pm †Lorraine F. Gomes
- Sunday, March 8, 2020**
7am †Dieter M. Pfister
9 am *For the People*
11 am †Irene Quinores Morales
6 pm †Benjamin B. Bae
- †RIP**

HEALING / BLESSINGS: baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Rosalie Tadda, Randy Arrojo-Manuwa & Family, Rachel Sullivan, Duane Gonzales, Keahi Paaluhi, Lillian Chalmers, John Durham, Maggie Bae, Suzanna Foster, Shirley Pichon, Mary Anne Q. Llacuna, Caridad Ramiscal, RileyAnn Wills, Rebecca Wills, Laralyn Corthran, Dan Wills, Elaine Kahala, Sandra Gose, Ellen Cleghorn, Hildegard Borowitz, Linda Ward, Jean Tanoue, Kathy & Joe Ball & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Patricia J. Merideth, Shirley Leong, Leslie Fountain, Irene Moyles, Brian Ching, Marcelino Esdícúl Sr., Gloria Tolentino, Dorothea Suan Agustín, Benjamin B. Bae Sr, Charles Lam, Hipólito J. Agustín, Leonora C. Cabbab, Karen Ann Roark, Anthony Calistro, Andres S. de Leon Jr., Marie Coleman, Florence Lindsey, Antonio C. Aguon & Dieter M. Pfister.

Please contact the parish office to set up an appointment & coordination for the following:
Anointing of the Sick
Baptisms: March 22 & 29, Apr 19 & 26, May 17 & 24)
Baptism Preparation Classes: Mar 8 (No April Class) & May 3
Blessings (home, auto, religious items, etc...)
Funerals
Homebound Communion
Marriages (at least 6 months before wedding date)



ATTENTION WOMEN OF ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH!

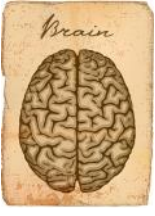
The Women’s ACTS retreat is coming to the St. Anthony Retreat Center, Kalihi Valley. This exceptional retreat includes Catholic services, relevant spiritual talks, prayer & interaction with like-minded fellow Christian women. This retreat can positively impact your personal, spiritual journey! The retreat, conducted by the Hawaii ACTS Ministry, begins after work on Thursday, May the 14th and concludes on Sunday morning, May 17th. The retreat includes 3 night’s lodging, and transportation to and from the retreat center. Please contact Marie Aldover (808) 222-6851 or Judy Brasel (808) 381-2063 for additional information.

Let us serve one another in love! The One Community Center (OCC) will help in many practical ways to welcome and to serve those who come to our church to encounter Christ. Please remember to contribute toward the completion of your pledge. Mahalo.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE	FEB. 22 - FEB. 23
Sunday Collection	\$ 14,266.75
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 3,235.70
Building, Equipment, & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 988.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 3,272.01
Donation- Children’s Collection	\$ 7.00
Donation- Stewardship	\$ 118.75
Donation- Social Ministry	\$ 49.00
Donation- Augustine Education Fund	\$ 26.00
Donation- Church in Latin America	\$ 5.00
Candle Sales	\$ 659.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 80.00
Weekend Total:	\$ 22,707.21
“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce.” - Proverbs 3:9	

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT †
Florence Zenobia Kauinohea Lindsey (RIP)
Saturday, March 7, 2020 ~ St. John’s A&E, Mililani
Visitation: 9:15 am ~ Mass: 11:00 am

Free workshop! Healthy Brain Aging and Dementia.
Presenter: Jody Mishan, Program Coordinator for Catholic Charities Hawaii Circle of Care for Dementia.
When: Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 10 am
Where: St John’s One Community Center
Please register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/healthy-brain-workshop-tickets-94504329995>
Hosted by Parish Health Ministry





The Catholic Charities Hawaii’s Counseling Center is a place for healing and growth.
Elizabeth Lyons, LMFT, along with St. John Church, provides a safe environment to discuss life’s challenges. We are committed to providing counseling services with compassion and dignity. Please call 527-4470 so we can get some information then Elizabeth will call you to schedule an appointment. If you’re looking for support, change or just someone to talk to, give us a call.



Hunger in Our World
When Jesus fed the 5,000, he said, “Give them some food yourselves.” Reflect on the challenge of global hunger. How can you contribute to support the hungry in your community? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Respect Life: The Spring 40 Days For Life Campaign of prayer, fasting, and outreach to protect all innocent life extends from February 26 to April 5, 2020. Community outreach includes group prayers and physical presence at 839 S. Beretania St., Hon., HI. There will be an opening rally at the site on Feb 29, 2020 from 9 am—noon. You may sign up to reserve a time online at: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu>. Contact Mary Smart’s cell: (808) 741-2358 for more information.
“(The Gospel of Life) is therefore meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!” *(The Gospel of Life 5)*



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR

Adult Faith Formation- WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE? WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR LENT THIS YEAR? Fr. Joseph and Deacon Romeo will be presenting two sessions focusing on **Scripture: The Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of Matthew**. It's on **THURSDAY, March 5th and 19th, at 7:00—8:30 P.M. IN THE ONE COMMUNITY CENTER.**

The next Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday, March 6, immediately after the 8am Mass to 6pm and will resume at 8pm (after the Stations of the Cross) to 7:30am on Saturday, March 7.

Rosary Making Ministry: Have you ever wanted to learn how to make the rosary or even make one that could be shared with other Catholics here at home or even around the world? If you do, come join the Rosary Making Ministry on **Saturday, March 21 at 10 am on the church lanai** and partake in this very special part of our Catholic faith . All supplies are provided and you just need to share your time and talent. If interested, please contact Ellen Dona at Donaf001@hawaii.rr.com.

2020 Lent and Easter Parish Events:
Stations of the Cross , March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 7pm Frugal Meal sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other parish ministries after Stations of the Cross.
Lenten Penance Service: Wednesday, March 25, 7pm
Holy Thursday , April 9—(No 8am Daily Mass) Morning Prayers—8am Mass of the Lord's Supper , 7pm Adoration after Mass until 12 midnight
Good Friday , April 10 (No 8am Daily Mass) Morning Prayers—8am Stations of the Cross , 3pm Passion of the Lord , 3:30pm
Holy Saturday , April 11 (No 8am Daily Mass) Morning Prayers—8am No Confession Easter Vigil , 7pm Easter Sunday , April 12—Masses at 7am, 9am, & 11am. No evening Mass
FASTING: In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on both Ash Wednesday (February 26, 2020) and Good Friday (April 10, 2020). 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.

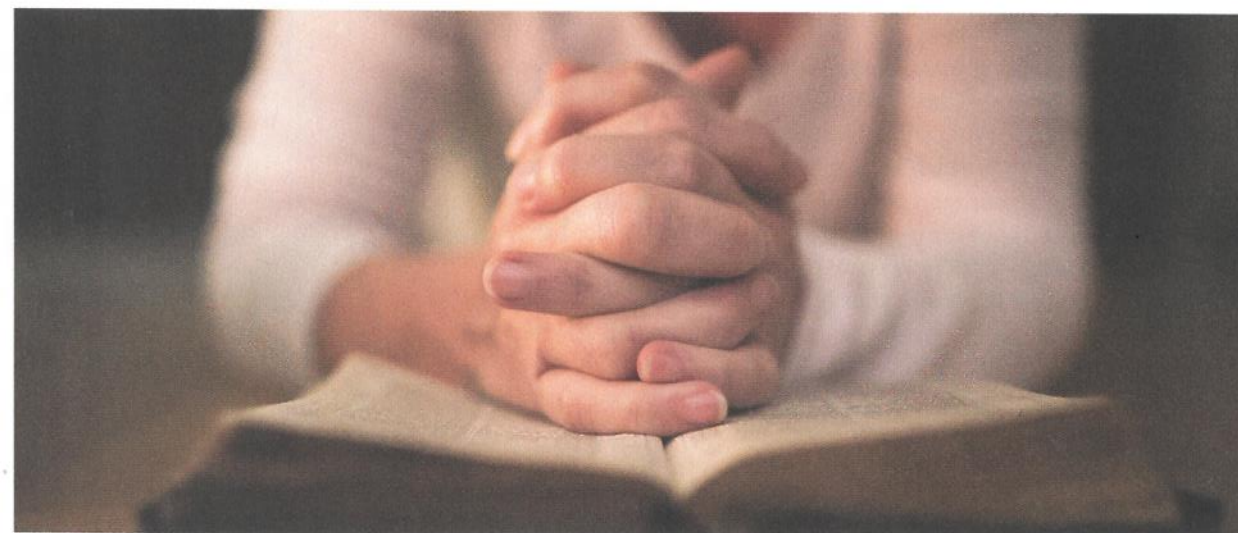
PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE: “At the death of a special friend or relative you might like to remember that person through a memorial gift to your church. This will show your appreciation for this treasured relationship and help others through the church. An acknowledgment card will be sent to the surviving family, letting them know of your gift, without disclosing the amount. Please remember **St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church** in planning your will.

THIS WEEK: MAR 2 – MAR 8

Monday— 7:30 am—Rosary
8 am- *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am— ALEA Bridge Financial Literacy (OCC Hall)
7 pm— Family Prayer Group (Rm 4)
7 pm— Troop 144 (Rm 5)
7 pm— Charismatic
7 pm— 4th Degree Knight (OCC)
Tuesday— 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am— Catholic Charities Hawaii (OCC Conf Rm)
8 am— *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am— ALEA Bridge Financial Literacy (OCC Hall)
9 am- Church Cleaning- Environment (CH)
9:30 am- Women's Bible Study (CH)
3 pm— Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
6:30 pm— Catholics Returning Home (Rm 4)
6:30 pm— PPC (OCC Conf Rm)
7 pm- 5 pm Choir practice (CH)
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (Rm 6)
Wednesday—7:30 am— Rosary
8 am— *Daily Mass*
9 am— ALEA Bridge Financial Literacy (OCC Hall)
9 am— HUI (OCC Conf Rm)
6 pm- OLPH (CH)
7 pm— RCIA: Session #25 “Reconciliation” (OCC Hall)
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— ALEA Bridge Bootcamp (Financial Literacy) (OCC Hall)
9 am— Church Cleaning (Group 1)
6 pm— 11 am Choir Practice (CH)
7 pm— Adult Faith Formation— Scripture Presentation (OCC Hall)
Friday— 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am— *Daily Mass*
8:30 am— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (CH)
9 am- Church Cleaning- Environment (CH)
4 pm - Two Hearts (Rm 3)
7 pm— Stations of the Cross (CH)
7:30 pm— Frugal Meal (OCC)
Saturday— 7:30 am— Rosary
8 am— *Daily Mass*
8:45 am— Rosary Prayer Group
9 am- Catholic Women's Bible Study
9:15 am— Liturgical Movement Ministry (Rm 4)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm- Mass (Saturday Vigil)
Sunday— Masses
7 am, 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm
Religious Education “A” Schedule
PHM- Free Blood Pressure Screening
RCIA Dismissal (OCC conf rm)
2pm- Baptism Prep Class (OCC Hall)
4 pm- 6 pm Choir Practice (CH)

Sacrifice of Praise

First Sunday of Lent: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Romans 5:12-19 / Matthew 4:1-11



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Jesus Offers Us an Example for Resisting Temptation

In Scripture, forty symbolizes a time of waiting and preparing. Jesus' response to the desert temptations presents three excellent examples of how we can fight temptation in our lives. In today's Gospel (Mt 4:1-11), we witness the faith-strengthening power of fasting, Scripture, and prayer. In the desert, Jesus empties himself physically with a forty-day fast and in turn is strengthened spiritually. He retreats to be alone with his Father, nourished only by communion with his Father, in preparation for his upcoming mission. Jesus roots his ministry — in fact, his entire existence — in prayer.

Lent is our desert. It is our forty days of waiting and preparing and is much more than a test to see how long we can hold out from cho-

late. Lent is an opportunity to practice using the gifts of our faith to avoid the many temptations we face each day. The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving offer a foundation upon which we can build a solid faith. We, too, are called to empty ourselves physically through fasting to make room to be nourished by the loving, merciful presence of God in our lives. We also are being prepared for a mission. Strengthened by this Lenten

season, we are to go forth and share the Good News.

After forty days and nights of fasting, Jesus is hungry, but not just for food. Remember, the Spirit has led him into a period of preparation for ministry. Jesus will begin preaching in Galilee upon returning from the desert. He emerges hungry to share his message of love and mercy, the Good News of redemption and salvation.

Jesus' weapon against the lies and snares of the devil?

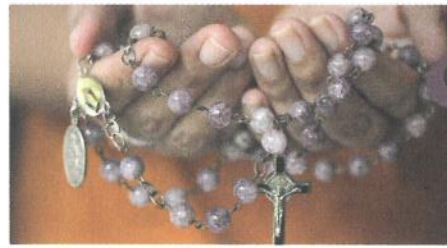
FOR REFLECTION

- Jesus retreated from the busyness of his daily life for prayer. Are you able to find time during this Lent to fast from some of your activities to give God your undivided attention?
- Do you include solitude, fasting, and Scripture in your prayer time?
- How can prayer help you with the temptations you most often succumb to?

The Word of God, sharper than any two-edged sword (see Heb 4:12). The exchange between Jesus and the devil illustrates not only strength the faithful can draw from for spiritual battle in the Word, but also the great importance of understanding the meaning of each Scripture.

The Prince of Lies twists Scripture for his own advantage, but Jesus, empowered through fasting and prayer, sees clearly through each temptation and orders Satan away. He emerges from the experience ready to begin spreading the Good News.

Where will the next forty days bring you? Will you, too, at the end of your period of waiting and preparation be strengthened by prayer, fasting, and the Scriptures, to avoid temptation?



There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary.

— SISTER LUCIA, FÁTIMA SEER

Don't Know How to Pray?

Prayer can be an intimidating word. Some people worry they don't pray enough; others feel they aren't saying their prayers correctly. The bad news: You probably are not praying enough. But this problem is easier to solve than you think. We can pray while commuting to work or school, folding the laundry, even during our recreation. St. Paul instructs us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thes 5:17), meaning, throughout the day, all day. The good news: The only wrong way to pray is not to pray at all. Prayer can be formal or informal, it should flow from your heart.

St. John Damascene wrote, "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God" (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2559). There is a Catholic tradition to help us remember the four types of prayers we can offer to God, through the acronym ACTS.

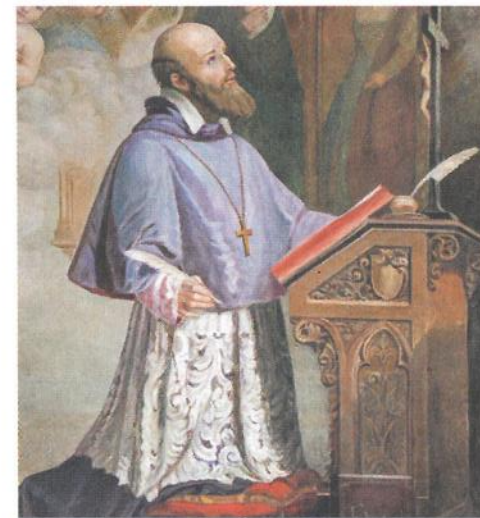
A	C	T	S
Adoration	Contrition	Thanksgiving	Supplication

We'll be looking at each one of these prayer offerings throughout the coming weeks of Lent.



Prayer

Lord Jesus, to prepare for your mission as Savior, you first retreated to fast and pray. Tempted by the devil, you did not fall for his distortion of the Word. Instead, you allowed the truth of the Word to cut through the lies and ward off all temptation. May I follow your remarkable example to be strengthened in faith through prayer, fasting, and the Scriptures throughout this Lent and for the rest of my life.



Ronald Seefelt / Shutterstock

Never Too Busy to Pray

St. Francis de Sales believed that every person has a call to holiness. He gave spiritual direction to many lay men and women through letters. His preaching, teaching, and priestly duties kept him incredibly busy. St. Francis, however, knew that, regardless of how busy he became, prayer needed to be at the center of his life. He taught, "Every one of us needs half an hour of prayer a day, except when we are busy — then we need an hour."

CATECHISM CONNECTION



"Where does prayer come from? Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays. But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or the spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times). According to Scripture, it is the heart that prays. If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain."

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2562

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Parish Life Survey Results

MAHALO to the 826 people who responded to SJAE's Parish Life Survey! Below are a few of the results. The complete report is available on the SJAE Website at <https://www.stjohnmililani.org/>.

DEMOGRAPHICS:

Age: 11% are 16 to 35 years of age; 49% are 36 to 65; and 40% are 65 or older.

Sex: 65% of the respondents were female; 35% were male.

Family Status: 70% are married or remarried; 13% have never been married; 5% are divorced or separated; 12% are widowed. 27% have at least 1 child under 18 living with them.

Parish Status: 81% are registered in the parish; 31% have attended SJAE for 10 years or less; 25% have attended 11-20 years and 43% have attended for 21 years or more.

Mass Attendance: 25% attend 7 a.m.; 22% attend 9 a.m.; 19% attend Saturday, 5 p.m.; 18% attend 6 p.m., and 16% attend 11 a.m. 71% attend mass at least once a week; 24% attend almost every week. Those 65 and older are more likely to attend at least once a week (79%) followed by those 36 to 64 (66%) and those ages 16 to 35 (60%).

ASSESSMENT OF PARISH LIFE:

- 94% gave SJAE a positive evaluation ("good" or "excellent"); 47% rated it excellent.
- 87% rated "sense of community" as positive; 40% gave it an excellent rating.
- 88% agreed that they feel included in parish life; 49% agreed they strongly do.
- 90% agreed that their participation at SJAE has deepened their faith life; 56% agreed strongly that it has.
- Respondents were attracted "very much" to the parish by the "open and welcoming spirit" (57%) and the "sense of belonging" they feel (52%).

PARISH NEEDS:

- The **top programs** for which the parish should give the most priority are:
 1. Outreach to young adults (24%)
 2. Youth Ministry (22%)
 3. Outreach to those in financial need and the homeless (21%)
 4. Outreach to senior citizens (20%)
 5. Outreach to inactive Catholics (20%)
- Other needs (not programs) identified:
 - Parish should give "very much" priority to: parish missions (50%), more opportunities for rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration (39%); small group prayer or Bible Study (35%).
 - 49% felt the parish should give priority to fostering spiritual growth among parishioners.

LEADERSHIP:

- ✓ The Clergy received an 89% positive evaluation; 49% rated the clergy as excellent.
- ✓ 52% strongly agree they would feel comfortable talking to the pastor.
- ✓ 46% strongly agree that parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making in the parish.
- ✓ 42% strongly agree that they are informed about parish finances.

STEWARDSHIP:

- 91% agree they understand the concept of stewardship; 57% strongly agree they do.
- 50% strongly agree they feel invited to participate in parish ministries.
- 50% are not involved in any parish ministries; 24% are involved in one, 26% are involved in two or more. Reasons they don't volunteer: lack of time/busy schedules (49%) or already volunteering as much as they would like to (31%).

WORSHIP:

- ❖ 90% positively rated masses and liturgies; 47% rated them excellent
- ❖ 69% strongly agree that they leave masses at the parish feeling closer to God
- ❖ 68% strongly agree that they enjoy attending mass at the parish
- ❖ 53% rate the hospitality or sense of welcome at masses as excellent. 73% of those who have started attending the parish in the past 2 years (73%) and visitors to the parish on the weekend of the survey (67%) gave the parish an excellent rating.
- ❖ Excellent ratings: weekend mass schedule (67%); liturgical environment (65%); hospitality (53%); greeters (52%); ushers (52%); lectors (51%), music (49%), homilies (43%).

FORMATION:

- 90% positively rated the parish efforts to educate parishioners; 45% rated it excellent.
- 17% have attended Adult Faith Formation; 35% rated it excellent.
- Excellent Ratings: Children's Religious Education Programs (41%), St. John's Catholic Preschool (37%), and youth ministry (32%)

HIGHEST AND LOWEST RATED PARISH PROGRAMS:

- ✓ Upkeep of parish facilities (90% positive; 51% excellent)
- ✓ Respect Life (88% positive; 51% excellent)
- ✓ Outreach to the neighborhood around the church (66% positive; 27% excellent)
- ✓ Outreach to the divorced and separated (64% positive; 22% excellent)

NOTE:

In general, highest ratings are from those who are younger, attend 7 a.m. or 6 p.m. masses and have been at SJAE for less than 10 years. Lowest ratings are from those who are older, attend 5 p.m. mass and are long-term parishioners.