

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 28 / 29, 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!

Please check the parish website, parish app, Facebook or call the office at 623-3332 for updates.

New Parish Office Hours- Monday thru Friday, 9 am —4 pm .

The Church is closed until further notice.

Masses will be live streamed on Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 11 am and First Friday, April 3, 8 am Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Food Pantry- If you or someone you know needs food assistance, we can help! Come see us on Tuesday, March 31 from 10 am—12 noon in the One Community Center.

Daily Mass and Sunday Mass **cancelled until March 31,2020.**

Bishop Larry Silva has dispensed all faithful in the Diocese of Honolulu from the obligation of attending Mass until March 31, inclusive.

No Saturday Confessions (by appointment only)

Stations of the Cross

Baptism

Funerals

Religious Education

500 years of Christianity in the Philippines Hawai'i Celebration

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

HEALING / BLESSINGS: baby Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Ben & Helen Guerrero, 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, James Tanoue & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

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

**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.***

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

www.ParishSolutionsCo.com/JohnHI



St. John Apostle & Evangelist Mililani



[saintjohnmililani](https://www.instagram.com/saintjohnmililani)

We look forward to connecting with you!

Pastor’s Corner

Parish Rectory Hours
Mon. - Fri.: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturday/Sunday: Closed

Outreach Office Hours
Tuesday: CLOSED
Friday: CLOSED
FOOD PANTRY Hours
Mon.- Fri.: 9 AM to 12PM

Religious Ed Office Hours
CLOSED
Please call the rectory office:
(808) 623-3332

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
Grounds & Maintenance
Tony Gonzalez
hgonzalez@rcchawaii.org
Acting Preschool Director
Amytes Quiason (744-9538)
aquiason@rcchawaii.org

Corona Virus Update on Parish Activities

Due to the recent Hawaii shutdown, our Diocesan HR office has directed all parishes effective March 25, 2020, at noon, to reduce staff to only the essential to keep the parish going. Some staff are temporarily laid off and other staff has reduced hours till April 30, 2020. Therefore, we will only have two part-time staff one in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

The RE office will be on shutdown status beginning Wednesday, March 25, thru Thursday, April 30, 2020. All activities, (meetings, retreats, etc.) are suspended during this period. As we get further information on reopening all parents concerned and catechists will be contacted by email and/or by phone.

The Church is closed until further notice.

Sunday Masses

During this time of the shutdown and social distancing, we have been forced to adopt Livestream Mass on our Facebook as you may have seen last Saturday for the 5 pm Mass. We will continue to live stream Mass every weekend at 5 pm on Saturday and at 11 am on Sunday.

Sunday Offertory

Since most parishioners have offertory envelopes, you may drop your envelope at the front office hours are Monday—Friday from 9 am—4 pm. You may also mail in your weekly offertory to St. John Apostle & Evangelist, 95-370 Kuahelani Ave, Mililani, HI 96789.

Please consider using our Online Offertory method WeShare on our parish website. I have personally used this method since 2014 for my offertory and it works well. The direct link is: <https://stjohnmililani.weshareonline.org/> It takes only a few minutes to open an account and it is very secure.

Update on Fr. Joseph

We had announced that Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa was going back to Ghana due to visa issues. After further consultation with the diocesan authorities, it was decided that he did not have to leave but wait since his visa is still valid. The diocese had already applied for the extension of his Religious visa. Let us pray that the process goes as expected

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

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

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

All three readings this Sunday lead us to meet Jesus who is not only the water of life and the light of the world but also the resurrection and the life. It is around this central theme of our faith in Jesus as the resurrection and life that the Church celebrates the third Scrutiny with those preparing for Baptism at Easter. The readings, therefore, provide a sharp contrast between life and death; hope and despair. The prophet Ezekiel in the first reading urges the devastated nation of Israel to look beyond the destruction of Jerusalem to a new future when God’s Spirit will restore Israel. If you are facing grief or conflict in the family, there is good news for you. The prophet Ezekiel offers hope for those who believe in the God of life.

The Gospel opens with the announcement that Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, is ill. Jesus’ immediate response is that this illness will not result in the death of Lazarus but that it will be an occasion for God’s glory to be revealed to all and that the Son may also be glorified. The dramatic episode of raising Lazarus to life is a reminder that Jesus is the source of life; he is the resurrection and the life. Just as in any funeral we have attended, there are tears in the eyes of Mary and Martha as they tell Jesus, that if he had been there, their brother would not have died. On meeting, Jesus Martha says: “If you had been here, Lord, my brother would not have died.” “Your brother will rise to life,” says Jesus. “Yes, I know that he will rise again on the last day,” replies Martha, reflecting on the Jewish belief of life after death. Jesus uses the occasion to lead the two women through a gradual revelation of who he is: "I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die". The passage is a powerful revelation of who Jesus is from his absolute control over life and death. In other words, Jesus has the power to transform death into life; to bring hope in the midst of despair, and joy out of sadness.

Monsignor John S. Mbinda

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

This brief passage expresses firm confidence in God in the face of great suffering. Here the “Suffering Servant” represents the whole nation of Israel, a sole individual representing the community. The Servant speaks of his ability to endure pain and insults in his mission because of his trust in God’s help and protection..

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Psalm 22 is a prayer of an oppressed person who feels abandoned by everyone. Here the prayer anticipates the words of Jesus in his final moments before death. The second part of the psalm expresses confidence and praise that God does hear those who call upon him. Response: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Paul quotes a hymn professing faith in the lordship of Jesus that was probably already familiar to his readers. He gives the passion of Jesus as the pattern for Christians to follow. Jesus emptied himself, but God raised him up, and enthroned him as Lord. In other words, we look at the sufferings of Christ in the light of the resurrection. Thus the reading gives meaning to Passion Sunday and Good Friday. The passion makes sense only as a passage to new life.

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

In this long passion narrative of Jesus’ suffering and death on the Cross, Matthew has two characteristics peculiar to his Gospel to watch out for: (1) he is more attentive to details than the other Gospels, and (2) the details are presented specifically as fulfilling the Hebrew Scripture. Writing for Jewish Christians, Matthew is always careful to present Jesus as the fulfillment of God’s revelation in Jewish history. That is why the passion is read in the light of the resurrection, prefigured in the triumphal entry into Jerusalem (the procession with palms.)

MARCH 28/ 29, 2020

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



Monday, March 30, 2020 (8 am) †Paulina Wong †Jesus Caspillo †Angela Lopez

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 (8 am) †Angela Lopez †Alejandro Aquino Jr. (Death Anniversary)

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 (8 am) †Angela Lopez †Stanley Miranda

Thursday, April 2, 2020 (8 am) †Dieter Pfister

Friday, April 3, 2020 (8 am) Guerrero Family (Blessings/Thanksgiving) †Feliciano Dona

†Baltazar Mauleon (Death Anniversary) Saturday, April 4, 2020 (8 am) Josiah Borromeo Jr. (Birthday Blessing)

†Luther Garces Fernandez †All Souls in Purgatory 5 pm †Teodoro Melegrito (2nd Death Anniversary)

Sunday, April 5, 2020 †Irene Quinones Morales For the People

†Maricel Mauleon (Birthday Memorial) †Perla Alonzo

TRIP

Stewardship of Treasure March 21/22

Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 2,116.60
Building, Equipment, & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 9.50
OCC Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 3,733.17
Donation– Funeral	\$ 300.00
Donation– Stewardship	\$ 95.00
Donation– Charity	\$ 4.00
Donation– Flowers	\$ 20.00
Donation– CRS	\$ 25.00
Candle Sales	\$ 85.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 20.00

Weekend Total: \$ 6,408.27

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

Sacrifice of Praise

Fifth Sunday of Lent: Ezekiel 27:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11 / John 11:1-45

Finding the Light of the World, in the World

In this week's Gospel, Jesus learns Lazarus is gravely ill. Out of great love for his friend, he chooses to travel back to Bethany. Those traveling with Jesus worry about his safety. Jesus tells the disciples they will travel during the light of day because anyone who walks in the light will not stumble — speaking here both figuratively and spiritually. Jesus is the “light of this world” (John 11:9), and we are called to walk in his teachings and his promises; if we walk by the light of Jesus, we will not risk stumbling into temptation nor falling away from faith.

Jesus shares seven “I Am” statements in the Scriptures. In this Gospel passage, he describes himself as light of the world, also “the resurrection and the life” (v. 25). Our hope for eternal life rests in Jesus Christ as Messiah, Savior. Could you answer Jesus with the affirmation of the belief that Martha did when he said to her: “Whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (vv. 25-26).

She answered, “Yes, Lord, I ... believe.” Can you make this proclamation in your own life? Do you see the generosity of God in your life, that you can trust in his



FOR REFLECTION

- How would you categorize your ability to trust God?
- Which prayers fortify or comfort you when you feel your faith wavering?
- Does Jesus' generosity toward his friends provide consolation or hope as you present your supplications to the Lord?

power whatever the circumstances? Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Sometimes we are dead in our faith — whether in our prayer life, in lackluster participation in the sacraments, or in lack of time spent reading the Scriptures. We may have allowed it to wither and maybe even develop, dare we say, a stench.

Lazarus' sisters, Mary and Martha, are offered as

examples of contemplative and active prayers. When Jesus first visits them in Bethany, we find Martha anxious and busy, upset with her sister's contemplative stance at Jesus' feet. Jesus challenges her to find a balance in her life between work and prayer; she was missing that one thing needed — dedicated time with the Lord amidst all the other things to do. In John 11, with her proc-

lamation of faith in Jesus as Messiah, we witness the fruit of following Jesus' gentle admonition.

Lent is an opportunity for us to answer this same gentle exhortation from Jesus in our own lives. Beloved, you are anxious about a great many things, but only one thing is needed. Do you read those words and begin to make a list of the things for which you are worried? Can you recount the last time you sat at the Master's feet to learn from him? Do you believe you can come to Jesus with your supplications, no matter how dire or how many? Do you trust him with your life?



An Act of Trust

The word **supplication** comes from the Latin verb *supplicare*, which means to plead humbly, or to beseech. A prayer of supplication calls for one to humble themselves before the Lord and ask (petition) for a favor only he can give. It is an act of trust in the angel Gabriel's words, "for nothing will be impossible for God" (Lk 1:37).

PRAYER TIP

Prayer bears fruit in our lives when offered in:

DEVOTION

with earnest belief

HUMILITY

with reverent awe

CONFIDENCE

with expectant hope

PERSEVERANCE

with unwavering patience

TRUST

with abandon to the will of God

CATECHISM CONNECTION



"Jesus also prays for us — in our place and on our behalf. All our petitions were gathered up, once for all, in his cry on the Cross and, in his Resurrection, heard by the Father. This is why he never ceases to intercede for us with the Father. If our prayer is resolutely united with that of Jesus, in trust and boldness as children, we obtain all that we ask in his name, even more than any particular thing: the Holy Spirit himself, who contains all gifts."

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2741

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you told your disciples to ask and it will be answered. In your mercy, what we receive always aligns with the will of your Father. If we, broken and sinful, strive to give good gifts to our children, how much more will our heavenly Father provide. I bring my supplications to you, trusting in your love and mercy.

Remaining Steadfast in Prayer



pleased, but not so much that I had been cured as that Jesus had chosen me for his child."

St. Gemma Galgani preferred to engage in informal prayer in the form of continually conversing with God throughout the day and night. This way, she believed, was the way to assure she remained in the presence of God at all times. Gemma spent a year suffering from spinal tuberculosis. After two failed attempts at reciting a novena to the Sacred Heart, she persevered and tried once more. This time, not only did she complete the nine days of prayer, but she also received a miraculous and complete cure of her illness upon its completion. Grateful to be cured, her focus remained on Jesus: "I too was

"V. We adore you, Christ, and we praise you.

R. Because by your holy cross, You have redeemed the world."

— TRADITIONAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

