

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

APRIL 18 / 19, 2020

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

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

Pastor's Corner

COVID-19 and Divine Mercy

From the Diary of St. Faustina, the message is nothing new, but a reminder of what the Church has always taught through scripture and tradition: that God is mercy, forgiving and that we too must show mercy and forgiveness. But in the Divine Mercy devotion, the message takes on a powerful new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God's mercy is unlimited and available to everyone — especially the greatest sinners. The message of mercy is that God loves us — all of us — no matter how great our sins when we repent. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins.

In the context of the coronavirus, the message is threefold: 1) Spend more time in prayer, asking for God's Mercy. God wants us to approach him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking him to pour his mercy out upon us and upon the whole world. 2) Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us. 3) Have completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive. In brief, God's name is Mercy!

With the impact of the COVID-19, the message is more urgent than ever.

- 1) Today we need to affirm our faith in the Risen Lord who channels the greatest gift: the grace of God's Divine Mercy won for us by the blood of Christ on the Cross and the resurrection.
- 2) In the present global COVID-19 crisis, we become aware that God's Mercy is not cheap. On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we are called to a conversion experience so that God may have mercy on us and the whole world.
- 3) Just as the Father sends Jesus to share the grace of Divine Mercy with all of us, we too are sent to be instruments of God's mercy and compassion.

Mazr. John S. Moinda

Join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet live streaming Sunday, April 19th, 3:00 PM.

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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St. John Apostle & Evangelist Mililani



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

PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

- Pastor (ext. 111)
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- RCIA Coordinators
Dcn. Modesto Cordero
Dcn. Romeo Ganibe
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- Acting Preschool Director
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Temporary Office Hours (During COVID-19 Pandemic): **Monday – Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM.**

The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays is dispensed through April 30, 2020.

Masses will be live streamed on Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 11 am.

Please go to the parish website: www.stjohnmililani.org and click on the Link: <https://www.facebook.com/saintjohnmililani/live/>

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Fr. Joseph Ayinpuusa

Divine Mercy Sunday

As we conclude the Easter Octave today, the Liturgy brings us back to the great theme that is at the center of our salvation: the mercy of God. So, this Second Sunday of Easter is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Divine Mercy is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity. The readings today are about God’s mercy, the necessity for trusting Faith and the need for the forgiveness of sins. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 118), we repeat three times, “His mercy endures forever!”

Our Gospel today helps us to grasp the full sense and value of this gift. At his very First apparition to his dispirited and terrified apostles, after His resurrection, Jesus begins by wishing them ‘Peace’: “Peace be with you.” By that, the risen Lord was reconciling his failed Apostles, who had either abandoned or denied knowing him, to himself and reaffirming his love and friendship with them. Thus, they came to recognize themselves as forgiven, and, so their hearts were filled with joy.

Having shown them his mercy and forgiveness, Jesus then empowers them by the gift of the Holy Spirit: “Receive the Holy Spirit;” and commissions them, not only to bring the message of his merciful love to others but to be instruments of imparting his mercy and forgiveness to people. “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (Jn 20: 22-23). Jesus entrusted them the gift of “forgiving sins”, a gift that flows from the wounds in his hands, his feet, and especially from his pierced side. Through the mystery of this wounded heart, a wave of God’s merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time.

What should be our response to Jesus’ offer of his unconditional love and mercy? 1) Our attitude should be one of total trust in Jesus’ Divine Mercy, as expressed in the prayer: “Jesus, I trust in you.” 2) Extend the mercy of God to others. The first reading (Acts 2:42-47), shows us how the early Church grew every day because of the acts of mercy and sharing, sacrificial love, practiced by the early Christians. We need to meet the challenge for a transparent Christian life — **“I will not believe unless I see.”** This “seeing” is what others demand of us. The integrity of our lives bears a fundamental witness to others who want to see the risen Lord alive and active, working in us through our selfless love, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service.

So, as we thank God for the gift of his merciful love, let us pray to be touched by the Holy Spirit who heals the wounds of the heart and restores us to the joy of the Father’s love and friendship, and leads us to serve those we encounter with love.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-28

This passage is one of Peter's addresses given on the day of Pentecost. It is a preface to the central events of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Peter gives witness on four main points: 1) that Jesus was sent by God and gave evidence through the miracles he performed; 2) that Jesus was delivered up to die on the cross by God's foreknowledge and plan; 3) that all of Israel was responsible in handing over Jesus to be killed; and 4) that God raised him up, because "it was impossible for him to be held" by death. All these events about Jesus happened to fulfill the messianic hopes of God's people given to David.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

In the first reading of today, Peter quotes Psalm 16 to prove that King David had prophesied Christ's resurrection. Christ fulfills that prophesy because David spoke not about himself, but about the promised Messiah. The quote is fittingly placed in the mouth of Christ as well as his followers. Response: "Lord, you will show us the path of life."

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

This text may have been an exhortation to newly baptized adults. As Christians, we are not holy by our own effort or merit, but solely on account of Christ, in whom we have been reborn through baptism. The passage refers to the Passover ritual of the Jews, in which the blood of the lamb was the price of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt (sin) to the land of promise (new life in Christ).

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Luke's account of the appearance of the Risen Lord to the disciples on the road to Emmaus is one of the most moving and favorite resurrection stories. It traces the disciples' despair at the death of Jesus to the joy of knowing that he is alive and still with them as he had promised. The text reveals a lack of understanding of what Jesus had told the disciples about his rising from the dead. Luke also uses the idea that something prevents the two disciples from recognizing the Risen Lord until the Lord interpreted the Scriptures for them. But Luke also develops a context and a climax for the recognition of the Risen Lord in the breaking of bread (the Eucharist).

HEALING / BLESSINGS: baby Mairenuí Taútaha-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, Willie Rash & all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: 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., Florence Lindsey, Antonio C. Aguon & Dieter M. Pfister.

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.

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, April 20, 2020
(8 am) †Paulina Wong
†Dan Allan Sordillia
†Angelina & Elpidio Orallo
Tuesday, April 21, 2020
(8 am) †Joseph S. Zedalis
(Death Anniversary)
†Zamuel Pascual
†Carol Missik

Wednesday, April 22, 2020
(8 am) †Zamuel Pascual
(Birthday Memorial)
Thursday, April 23, 2020
(8 am) †Gladiola Kekino
(Birthday Memorial)
Stephanie Jamille
(Birthday Blessing)
†Zamuel Pascual

Friday, April 24, 2020
(8 am) †Zamuel Pascual
Belinda Nakata (Birthday Blessing)
Ronald Redoble (Birthday Blessing)

Saturday, April 25, 2020
(8 am) †Zamuel Pascual
(5 pm) †All Souls in Purgatory
Sunday, April 26, 2020
†All Souls in Purgatory
For the People
†Zamuel Pascual

†RIP

Stewardship of Treasure
April 11 / 12

Sunday Collection	\$ 6,000.00
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 2,270.50
Building, Equipment, & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 634.50
OCC Capital Campaign (Non Assessed)	\$ 4,526.00
Donation— Social Ministry	\$ 52.50
Donation— Youth & Young Adult	\$ 110.00
Donation— CRS	\$250.00
Donation— Rice Bowls	\$345.00
Donation— Good Friday	\$ 366.25
Donation— Easter	\$ 1,764.00
Donation— Children Collection	\$ 8.00
Candles	\$ 155.00

Weekend Total: \$ 16,481.75

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

Updated Guidelines Due to COVID-19

All parish Churches remain closed thru April 30, 2020 or until further notice.

The faithful are encouraged to keep the Lord's Day holy. Some ways to do this include: reading the Scriptures of the day, especially the Gospels, praying with your families, reading inspiring spiritual books, following the Mass via available media, and to joining yourself to the sacrifice of the Mass by making an act of spiritual communion.

All liturgical and sacramental celebrations from now thru April 30 are cancelled.

All funerals, weddings and baptism are postponed at this time until further notice.

Sacramental confessions will not be offered, for the safety of penitents and priests.

The celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion) for the Elect, normally celebrated at the Easter Vigil, are postponed to a future day after the COVID-19 crisis subsides.

Food Pantry- If you or someone you know needs food assistance, we can help! Come see us on Tuesday, April 28 from 10 am—12 noon in the One Community Center.

**PRAYING TOGETHER EVEN WHEN
WE ARE APART**

*On the day I called, you answered me;
You increased the strength of my soul.
You give me life though I walk amid affliction.*
—Ps 138:1,3,7

Free resources: **Give Us This Day**
<https://offers.giveusthisday.org/free-resource>