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"Seek to See the Face of Christ in One Another" *The Aloha Hospitality Commission*

A true stewardship parish is built upon the foundation of the Four Pillars of Stewardship – Hospitality, Prayer, Formation, and Service. And so, as our St. John Apostle and Evangelist community continually strives to be a stewardship parish, we are also making efforts to develop each of those Four Pillars. With this focus in mind – particularly on the Pillar of Hospitality – a wonderful new ministry has been established in our parish.

"At our initial meeting, we decided to actually name the ministry the Aloha Hospitality Commission, in keeping with our traditions and the natural hospitality which results," says Cesceli Nakamura, who agreed to head up the ministry. "The Lord reminded us in Matthew 25:35, 'When I was a stranger, you welcomed me.' Jesus teaches that whenever we welcome one of the least of our sisters and brothers, we welcome Christ Himself. Parishioners of a stewardship parish seek to see the face of Christ in one



Aloha Hospitality Commission Ministry Leaders/Initial Members:
 Bottom left to right: Lita Padilla, Rita Galicinao, Evelyn Quinata, Melissa Pry
 Top left to right: Cesceli Nakamura, Brett Galman, Salve Regina Galman, Mary Lohman, Msgr. John Mbinda, Rob Pry
 Missing from photo: Liz Perry, Jeff Esposito, Connie Amigo, and Eloise Aldueso

"The new Aloha Hospitality Commission wants to help everyone attending St. John Apostle and Evangelist feel loved and welcomed, with the hope of reaching out into the community to share God's love and aloha. I know that for me, being involved in this ministry has helped me meet other parishioners, who in turn encourage me to deepen my faith knowledge and to learn about and practice Jesus' teachings."

— Cesceli Nakamura

Setting an Example of Stewardship for Our Children

As we strive to live as grateful stewards, we must remember that each of us has a responsibility to help our youngest parishioners learn what it means to live as a disciple of Christ. Jesus Himself told the disciples, “Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Mt 19:14). Christ wants children to grow closer to Him and to become His disciples, and parents are responsible for helping to lead their children to this end. The Rite of Baptism reminds us that parents are “the first teachers of their child in the ways of faith.”

An important part of faith involves living a life of stewardship, as the proper response of a Christian disciple. So, it follows that parents bear a great responsibility that comes from Christ Himself to raise their children as grateful stewards. However, it may already be difficult for adults to grasp the concept of stewardship and put it into practice in their own lives. How can parents teach their children to do the same?

First and foremost, parents can teach stewardship by setting a good

example. Indeed, the example of our lives is so powerful that it can and should be a witness to the Gospel. As parents live the life of stewardship, their children will see the beauty in the stewardship way of life, and they are bound to follow suit. If parents live in thanksgiving to God for all He has given them, their children will grow to see that all we have is a gift from God. And when parents offer gratitude to God, it will surely impact their children.

Eight-year-old Suzie has watched her dad serve Communion at Sunday Masses throughout her young life. When asked why she thinks he does this, she responds, “We need to help the priest.”

Meanwhile, her older sister, Jane, responds to the same question by explaining, “We need to serve God. He does so much for us. We should appreciate it and give back to Him.”

It is clear that by witnessing their dad’s example, the girls are beginning to understand – each in her own way – that the life of a Christian disciple involves selfless service in gratitude to God. However, it is not just their father’s example that has helped them

develop this understanding. Both their father and their mother emphasize stewardship as a family practice. They spend time in family prayer, serve at the soup kitchen together, bring up the offertory as a family, and participate in other acts of service. Such involved participation in the faithful life allows the girls to bear witness to the power of serving others in thanksgiving, even at their young ages.

“We need to help other people,” Suzie says. “Jesus wants us to put other people first, and if we want to listen to Him, we need to serve others.”

As Suzie’s statement demonstrates, the stewardship way of life is not only understood or lived out by adults – Jesus wants children to be His disciples, as well. So, it is essential that parents help their children develop a true understanding of stewardship, and encourage its practice through the example of an active faith life.

May all Christian parents be not only the first, but also the best teachers of faith to their children, in what they say *and* in what they do.

A Letter From Our Pastor

September: An Ongoing Opportunity to Change the World

Dear Parishioners,

In his letters, St. Paul often began by greeting his “brothers and sisters.” Every time I read one of these letters, it reminds me that you and I truly are sisters and brothers in the Body of Christ, the Church, but especially here in our own parish. We need to understand that we are indeed a family, and the way we see and treat one another is fundamental to the health and happiness of this family.

Our spiritual family doesn’t stop at the walls of our church, but rather, extends to include every man and woman created in God’s image and likeness. You may be familiar with the term “Catholic Social Teaching,” which is built on a commitment to the poor. These are the beliefs that guide Catholics on how to apply the faith to all aspects of life, and they lay the framework for the Church’s teachings on the dignity and sacredness of human life. Once we make a commitment to be disciples of Jesus and pursue stewardship as a way of life, the principles of Catholic Social Teaching become very easy to incorporate into our lives.

Catholic Social Teaching has been around since those first followers of Jesus tried to balance their new faith with the realities of living in a world of Roman oppression. Jesus reminded His disciples then, just as He reminds us now, that caring for and administering to the poor should be at the core of all we do. Recall when the Lord said in Matthew, “For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me; I was naked and you gave me clothing; I was ill and you cared for me; I was in prison and you visited me.”

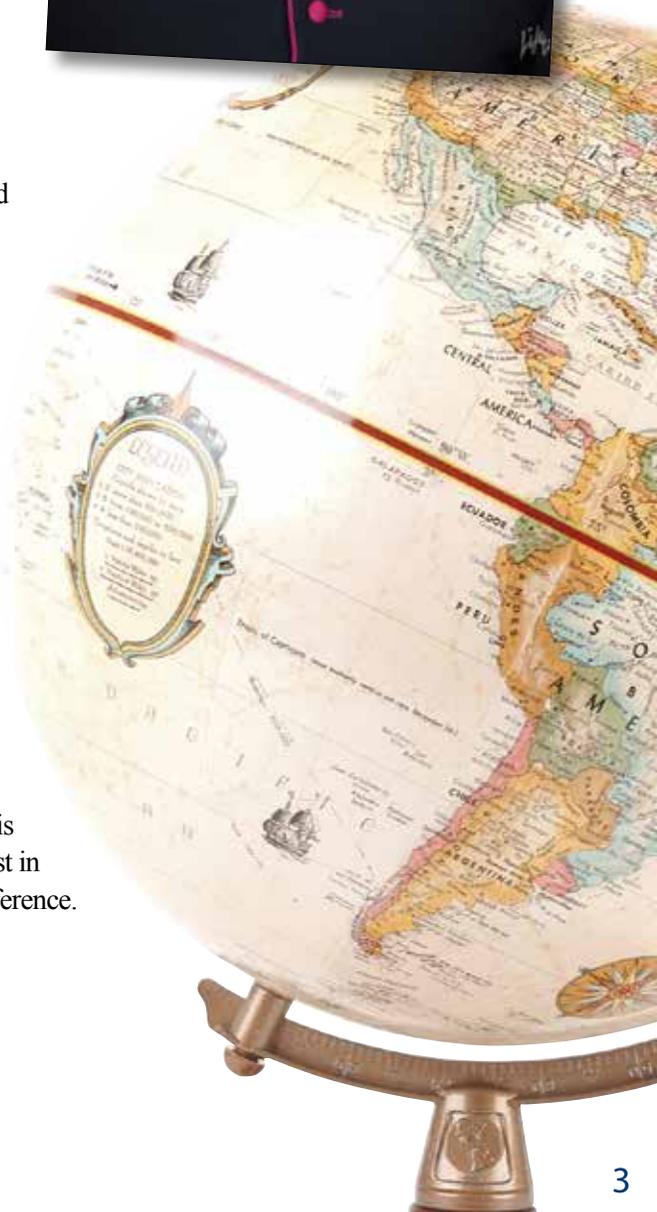
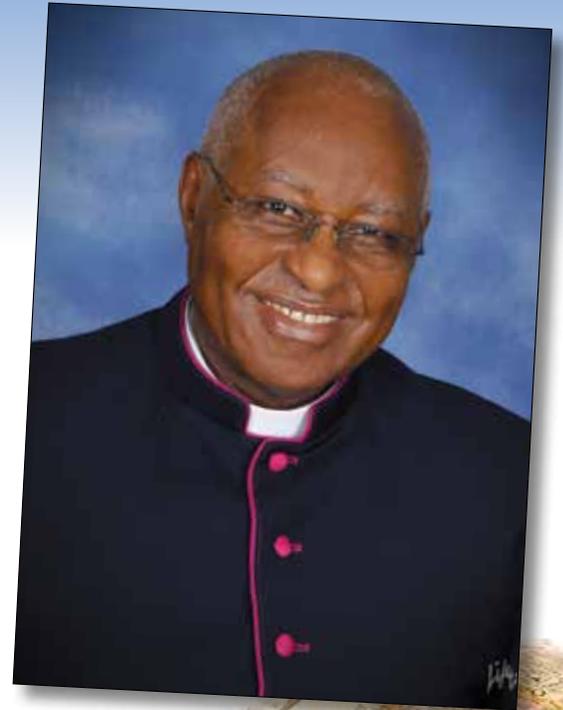
This is our foundation as we seek to embody mercy and justice to our fellow man, and should be one of our major goals as a faith community. Many of our parish ministries provide for us an opportunity to do just as Jesus asked; to serve those most in need. As we move into the fall season, with Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas soon to follow, now is a good time for us to recommit ourselves to addressing the needs we see around us — both as a parish society and as individuals.

I am proud of our collective efforts in assisting and serving the poor, but I also know that we can do more. Many of us personally need to get involved in these efforts. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has a great love and regard for the poor and, like Jesus, he reminds us often of what we need to do. In a recent homily, Pope Francis said, “The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty.” Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Msgr. John S. Mbinda
Pastor



Healing Mass Offering Ho

We're used to hearing stories of the ways in which Jesus healed the sick and suffering during His time here on earth, but how many of us seek Him first when we're not well? Whether we're suffering from an obvious physical illness or dealing with deep psychological pain, it's easy in our busy world to forget that our Lord can still move within us and heal our bodies and minds.

For this reason and many others, St. John Apostle & Evangelist offers a monthly Healing Mass with the aim of asking God to heal the deepest of our needs in Jesus' Name.

"The Healing Mass is like a traditional Mass, only that the setting of this celebration is focused on healing, from the celebrant to the musicians to the participants to the prayer teams," explains Inday Ramos, a Servant Leader of St. John A&E Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group. "People come for various reasons. It could be an illness, a personal struggle, hurts and unforgiveness, brokenness, an intercession for someone sick or troubled, doubts and fears – all with the hope to receive healing physically, emotionally, and spiritually."

As Inday explains, one of the important elements of the Healing Mass is Praise and Worship. Specially selected music helps set the tone for the celebration, encouraging participants to let go, embrace this special time before the Lord's presence and surrender to God's holy will.

"It's a 30-minute time for us to place ourselves before the Lord, singing songs of praise, thanksgiving and worship, to acknowledge Him for His greatness and holiness and give Him thanks for His wondrous deeds," she says.

Handled by the presiding priest, healing elements included within the Mass are an intercessory healing prayer, the laying-on of hands – praying over the faithful individually – and blessing the holy oil. Each person is then anointed with the holy oil with priority given to the sick and those with special needs. Inday says that during the laying-on of hands or the anointing of the faithful, some participants may experience the so called "resting in the Holy Spirit" (overwhelmed by the love and presence of the Holy Spirit, one falls down as if "fainting" and stays in that state for a moment to experience God's love, mercy, and/or compassion during that opportune time of blessed and delightful solitude with God).

"I truly believe that in every Healing Mass, there are many who get healed," Inday says. "Divine healing and forgiveness only come from our loving and merciful God. And through His Holy Spirit, a person is led to conversion of heart and is able to experience the joy and peace only Jesus, our Lord and Savior, can give."

In participating in both the Healing Mass and the Charismatic Prayer Group, which sponsors the Healing Mass, Inday says she has had the opportunity to witness lives around her being changed in powerful ways.

"A parishioner I personally know has one beautiful story on this," Inday says. "She had a very troubled life, and one night she happened to attend a Healing Mass here at St. John's. Healing did not happen right away, for God had a different plan for her."

As Inday goes on to explain, the parishioner encountered a member of the Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group at the Healing Mass and felt God leading her to attend a prayer group meeting.



Members of the Catholic Charismatic Prayer Team pray over two fellow parishioners, a brother and a sister in Christ



A parishioner is anointed with Holy Oil during the monthly Healing Mass. After this special oil has been blessed by a priest, it is used to confer a special blessing onto each person attending Mass.

Peace in God's Perfect Timing

Upon seeing the same group member at the meeting, she says she felt a genuine presence of love and encouragement.

“Slowly, by God’s grace, she received the emotional and spiritual healing she needed badly that night she attended the Healing Mass,” Inday says. “With the Holy Spirit working in her life, she was being transformed, and after more than 20 years away from the Sacraments, she finally went to receive God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and nourishment for her soul in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

“The healing from God may be something different from what we’re asking,” Inday further explains. “Our wellness of

body, mind and spirit are in God’s hands, and we just have to leave it up to Him what, how and when He sees fit for us to be healed. Regardless of when it happens, that healing is not in our time, but will always be in God’s perfect time.”

The Healing Mass is held once a month every second Monday of the month. Prayer teams are available to those who would like to be prayed over with special intentions following the Mass.

Inday says all parishioners are encouraged to attend. Those who are interested in the Charismatic Prayer Group or have questions about the Healing Mass can contact her directly at 808-789-0746 or at indayramos40@gmail.com.

“I truly believe that in every Healing Mass, there are many who get healed. Divine healing and forgiveness only come from our loving and merciful God. And through His Holy Spirit, a person is led to conversion of heart and is able to experience the joy and peace only Jesus, our Lord and Savior, can give.” – Inday Ramos

The Aloha Hospitality Commission continued from front cover

another. We must seek out and welcome new members to the parish family. A stewardship parish is a welcoming parish.”

Cesceli says that the initial members of the Commission have mapped out a plan to be that welcoming parish, and it involves a number of elements.

“We intend to be the umbrella commission for several other ministries, including an **Aloha/Hospitality Station**, a booth and sign-up table available before and after each Mass where visitors can get information and new parishioners can register; a **Communications Ministry**, responsible for creating our ministry logo, church signs, and informing parishioners of different communication methods to learn about our Commission’s services; a **Hospitality Ministry**, which will greet and welcome parishioners and visitors before and after each Mass; and a **Parking Lot Ministry**, which will operate in the parking lot to help parishioners and others with drop off and pick up assistance,” she says.

As Cesceli notes, these are just initial goals – the commission hopes to expand once these ministries have been

established. To accomplish these goals, the commission needs the help of other parishioners.

“The new Aloha Hospitality Commission wants to help everyone attending St. John Apostle and Evangelist feel loved and welcomed, with the hope of reaching out into the community to share God’s love and aloha,” Cesceli says. “I know that for me, being involved in this ministry has helped me meet other parishioners, who in turn encourage me to deepen my faith knowledge and to learn about and practice Jesus’ teachings. I encourage others to join us. Together, we can learn so much about serving others.

“St. John Apostle and Evangelist is a wonderful parish,” she continues. “Already, everyone is friendly, welcoming and always looking for ways to help and to celebrate Jesus’ love for us. Stewardship calls us to share our talents and to be involved. We are a family. We must all work together to serve and celebrate God. We need people.”

*Interested in joining our Aloha Hospitality Commission or in learning about one of our specific ministries? Contact Cesceli Nakamura at sjae.hospitality@gmail.com.
Interested in living out the Hospitality Pillar of Stewardship by serving as a greeter at Mass?
Please contact Liz Perry at 808-462-0123.*

“Love Is Our Mission: T The United States We

Pope Francis has traveled to Israel, Brazil and Turkey, among other countries throughout the past 30 months of his papacy. This fall, the first pope of the Americas arrives in the United States to meet with world leaders and schoolchildren alike.

Pope Francis announced his intention to travel to the United States for the 2015 World Meeting of Families in an address to the Colloquium on the Complementarity of Man and Woman at the Vatican on Nov. 17, 2014.

In light of the pontiff’s sweeping international and interreligious appeal, this papal visit will be a historic event for the United States. Many expect Pope Francis to speak about immigration and our responsibility as stewards of creation, along with other current topics of interest.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 22, the pontiff will travel from Cuba to the United States. The following day, the leader of our Church and the leader of our country will convene at the White House. President Obama has called Pope Francis “transformative,” publicly thanking the pontiff for his moral example and his instrumental role in furthering relations between the United States and Cuba.

After midday prayer on Sept. 23 with bishops at St. Matthew’s Cathedral, Pope Francis will canonize Blessed



Junipero Serra, the Spanish Franciscan instrumental in establishing the California missions, at a Mass in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

In keeping with his reputation for the unprecedented, Pope Francis will then speak to a joint session of the United States Congress on the morning of Sept. 24, thus becoming the first pope to address Congress.

Afterwards, Pope Francis will visit St. Patrick in the City and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington before departing for New York City and arriving to participate in Vespers at St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

On Sept. 25 Pope Francis will become the fourth leader of the Catholic Church to visit the United Nations and speak to the United Nations General Assembly.

From the United Nations, Pope Francis will travel to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center site. There, he will lead an interfaith service for peace.

Despite his limited days on American soil, Pope Francis designated time to visit Our Lady Queen of Angels School in East Harlem. The pope will be received by a largely immigrant student population at this Partnership School, which is one of a six-school organization devoted

As we prepare for the Holy Year of Mercy, Pope Francis’ actions exemplify for us the Corporal Works of Mercy. Let us remember our call as Christians to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us pray for the fruits of the World Meeting of Families, for it is within the family that we first foster stewardship.

The Family Fully Alive™

Welcomes Pope Francis

to urban Catholic education in the communities of South Bronx and Harlem.

The celebration of Mass at Madison Square Garden concludes this last full day in New York City.

After arriving in Philadelphia on Sept. 26, Pope Francis will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, and then speak at Independence Hall on immigration and religious freedom.

In the evening, the pope will at last arrive at the World Meeting of Families 2015, the theme of which, chosen by Pope Francis, is “Love Is Our Mission: the Family Fully Alive.” That evening, he will be the guest of honor at the Festival of Families, a joyful and global celebration of family and community that will include performances from the Philadelphia Orchestra, Andrea Bocelli and the Colombian icon Juanes, among others.

On Sept. 27, the pope will convene with bishops at St. Martin’s Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

before visiting the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility, where he will meet with select prisoners and their families.

In the afternoon, Pope Francis returns to the World Meeting of Families to celebrate the concluding Mass at Benjamin Franklin Parkway before departing in the evening for Rome.

During his visit, Pope Francis will meet with renowned political figures, but he also will openly visit with the underrepresented and marginalized members of our communities, from the children in urban schools to the prisoners in state penitentiaries.

As we prepare for the Holy Year of Mercy, Pope Francis’ actions exemplify for us the Corporal Works of Mercy. Let us remember our call as Christians to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us pray for the fruits of the World Meeting of Families, for it is within the family that we first foster stewardship.





St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church

Financial Report for Period Ending June 30, 2015

	Previous Fiscal Year	PERIOD ENDING		Current Fiscal Year
	Actual 7/1/2013-6/30/2014	July 2014 - June 2015 Actual	Budget	Budget 7/1/2014-6/30/2015
RECEIPTS				
Sunday Collection	701,140	782,772	706,000	706,000
Immaculate Conception	1,365	3,837	1,500	1,500
Christmas	39,013	39,335	39,000	39,000
Easter	29,269	32,718	32,000	32,000
BEMO	76,346	75,040	90,000	90,000
Sacramental Offerings	8,673	12,730	15,500	15,500
Candle Sales	6,613	27,296	22,000	22,000
Book Sales	-	5,430	7,600	7,600
Religious Education Fees	5,510	6,845	6,850	6,850
Retreat & Workshop Fees Inc Youth Activities	-	7,204	5,250	5,250
Occasional/Other Donations	21,643	23,583	21,311	21,311
Fundraising Revenue Subject to GET		1,125	2,500	2,500
Interest Income	4,725	6,191	4,500	4,500
WGH Rebate	66,482	25,834	48,073	48,073
Grant Funds (Also See TR Donations Below)		4,000	35,000	35,000
Stewardship Development Donations		35,232	45,000	45,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	960,778	1,089,172	1,082,084	1,082,084
DISBURSEMENTS				
General Operations	351,261	443,865	431,376	431,375
Diocesan Assessment	49,368	124,932	119,177	119,177
Religious Contracts	24,829	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rectory	61,828	45,046	63,219	63,219
Parish Council	14,231	-	-	-
Property/Facilities	69,668	86,735	87,854	87,853
Liturgy	28,238	62,282	44,663	44,660
Religious Education (K - 8) Inc Prayer Groups	73,177	119,090	111,466	111,466
Confirmation	10,184	15,402	17,288	17,289
RCIA	3,266	1,797	1,774	1,774
Social Ministries Inc Hui	978	1,959	1,395	1,396
Outreach include Weinberg	38,928	45,390	54,574	54,574
Pro-Life Ministry	2,762	2,891	3,120	3,121
Youth Ministry	25,462	26,235	28,277	28,278
Faith Formation	30,034	22,511	56,946	56,946
Stewardship Development	2,806	67,993	60,955	60,956
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	787,021	1,066,129	1,082,084	1,082,084
NET OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	173,757	23,043	-	-
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED DONATIONS				
Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation: With Grateful Hearts Grant	21,750	4,000		
Stewardship Development	20,510	35,232		
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Grant Outreach	10,000			
Building Fund Collection (Future Construction)		35,309		
Subtotal of Current Year Donations		74,541		
Less: Expenses (Net Assets Released to Oper.)		(40,034)		
TEMP. RESTRICTED DONATIONS - NET	52,260	34,507		
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	226,017	57,550		

In fulfillment of our stewardship virtues of accountability and transparency, the Parish Finance Council presents the above Year to Date Report