SAINT GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH March 3, 2024 | The Third Sunday of Lent



Dear Parish Ohana,

At times we admire single-minded zeal, while at other times we don't. When zeal helps others, for example social workers who put in long hours out of compassion for the poor, we admire it. When the zeal hurts others, for example, when desire for promotion causes an employee to walk all over others, we disdain it. Jesus' zeal for his Father's house in today's gospel is certainly to be admired. As disciples, our driving force (zeal) must be as compelling as that of Jesus. The zeal that drove Jesus to purify the Temple in such a dramatic way ultimately consumed him: the temple of His body was destroyed only to be raised from the dead.

Today, we are the new 'temples.' Back in the early third century, the great Christian scholar Origen offered an interesting view on this Gospel: "Christ is especially jealous for the house of God in each of us, not wishing it to be a house of merchandise, or a den of thieves, since He is the son of a jealous God...nothing alien to His will must be mingled with the soul of anyone. " If we are God's temple, we cannot deny that, in the lives of each of us, our actions or lack of action have at times, sullied the purity, beauty and magnificence of God's dwelling place. Our weaknesses and sins have compromised the integrity of that Temple. Our "temples" need cleansing from time to time so that we may start over again.

The Lord's gentle power during this season of Lent, can accomplish all of that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where His mercy washes over us through the words of absolution spoken by His priests. As we look ahead to the coming Easter feasts, now is the best time for some "spiritual spring cleaning," to prepare the temple of our lives to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection with new joy and new hope, radiating to the world around us the peace He has given—the peace He alone can give.

OUR MISSION

St. George Parish in Waimanalo is a community of many diverse people joined together to proclaim God's Word in Holy Scripture by celebrating the Liturgy and building a faith community. Uniquely embraced by the majestic Koolau and rolling seas, we strive to be a welcoming parish and commit ourselves to serve the people of God through outreach, unity and renewal.

41-1323 Kalanianaole Highway Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795 Phone: (808) 259-7188 | Fax: (808) 259-0169 Email: StGeorge@rcchawaii.org Website: www.StGeorge96795.com

STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Raymund Ellorin Deacon: John Tolentino Secretary: Kamalani Rodrigues Director of Rel. Ed.: Vicky DeSilva Maintenance: Paul Burnett Music: Celia Wright

OFFICE HOURS

Tue—Fri, 9am—noon

MASS TIMES

Saturday at 6 p.m. Sunday Liturgy Sunday at 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Monday at 7 a.m. Communion Service Tuesday thru Saturday at 7 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 5:15–5:45 p.m. or by appointment

BAPTISM

Please call the office to register for classes which are required for parents and godparents.

MARRIAGE

Call for an appointment with the Pastor at least six months prior to wedding date.

ANOINTING THE SICK

Call the parish office to schedule. Communion may also be arranged for the homebound.

The pastor will do home visits on a regular basis on the 2nd Friday of every month. Call the parish office to schedule a visit.

FUNERAL

Please contact the parish office upon death and before making burial arrangements with the mortuary and cemetery.

BECOMING CATHOLIC Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Sunday, 8:15—9:30 a.m. Please register at the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K - 5, 8:15–9:15 a.m. Grades 6 -12, 10:30 a.m.—noon Please call the parish office for more info.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Registration forms are available in the church, on our website, or from the parish office.

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

Eucharistic Adoration First Friday at 6 p.m.

Rosary

11 a.m.

Monday—Saturday at 6:30 a.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet and Prayers Every Sunday at 3 p.m.

Second Sunday of the month at

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena

Tuesday at 6:30 a.m.

Respect Life Rosary First Wednesday of the month at noon in the Meditation Garden

Fatima Rosary 13th day of the month at noon in the Meditation Garden

Novena to St. Joseph 19th day of the month at noon in the Meditation Garden

A STORY OF HOPE FROM EL SALVADOR



In Sandra Amaya's home in Morazán, El Salvador, everyone helps with the chores. Early in the morning Sandra lights the firewood to cook, prepares coffee and sweeps the chicken coop. Oscar, her eldest son, helps make breakfast before walking nearly two hours to his high school. Nineyear-old Gamaliel grinds corn and, after having breakfast, goes to school accompanied by his father Santos and his little brother, Caleb.

Santos, Sandra's husband, is a farmer, but longer droughts and unpredictable rains have reduced his harvests and, therefore, his income. Seeking to earn extra money, Sandra began selling bread, tamales and empanadas. When she heard about a Catholic Relief Services project on raising chickens, Sandra didn't hesitate to join. She learned about preparing food for chickens and that they eat better if they are in a pen. She also learned how to vaccinate and take care of them if they get sick.

As soon as Sandra received some chickens from the project, she began to apply her knowledge. Now her family has access to their own eggs, which saves them money on food, especially now that prices are so high. In addition, her family eats healthier because they can eat a variety of foods, instead of just beans or tortillas with salt.

Sandra wants to keep learning and Santos supports her. "I made the decision to be a promoter because I wanted to have new knowledge; no one can take knowledge away from you," she says. "I discussed it with my husband and he agreed." When she travels far to attend a training, Santos takes care of the children. Upon her return, Sandra enjoys supporting other families by teaching them everything she learned.

Our Catholic faith teaches us how important it is to live in community for our growth and fulfillment. We believe that all people should participate in society, seeking the well-being of all, especially

that of our sisters and brothers in need, just as Sandra does. **CRS RICE BOWL**





Readings for next Sunday, March 10, 2024 First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10 Gospel: John 3:14-21

A Stewardship Moment

This weekend at the 6 p.m. Mass, our parish will observe the First Scrutiny for catechumens preparing for Baptism at the Easter vigil. You will hear the Gospel story of Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman at the well; someone who supposedly is of the wrong gender, wrong religion, and has lived the wrong life. The woman is overwhelmed by guilt and shame. And yet Jesus speaks to her and offers her "living waters" to quench her spiritual thirst. The living water that Jesus gives is new life through the Holy Spirit; a life that is accepted, forgiven, loved and eternal. Good stewards of their life in Christ remain mindful of their own spiritual thirst. They listen to Jesus who speaks to them just as he spoke with the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus has living water for us today. He encourages us to come and drink. Are you thirsty? Are you ready to listen to him?

At the 7 and 9:30 a.m. Masses this weekend, you will hear the Gospel story of Jesus' cleansing of the Temple, a familiar story. The prophets Jeremiah, Zechariah and Malachi prophesied that when the Kingdom of God was at hand, the Temple would be cleansed of all activities unworthy of an encounter with God. Christians are often referred to as "Temples of the Lord." As stewards of a "Holy Temple" God has entrusted to each one of us, what are we doing to be cleansed of activities unworthy of an encounter with the Lord? This week, reflect on one thing you can do to cleanse the Temple God has given you so that it becomes a more inviting home for Christ Jesus.



Question of the Week



Who can I invite to reconcile with? How can I view my relationships based more on love than on reciprocation? How does that affect how I act?



YEAR OF PARISH REVIVAL | June 11, 2023 - July 17, 2024

The Liturgy of the Word continued . . .

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: The Gospel Acclamation is a song of praise! We prepare to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ by singing praise to Him! During most of the year we sing "Alleluia" (Praise to God!). During Lent, another acclamation is substituted, as the Alleluia is seen as too joyful to be sung during the season of Lent. Our participation in the singing of the Gospel Acclamation is very important. In fact, the instructions for the Mass say that it should be omitted if it is not going to be sung!

THE GOSPEL: At last, we have reached the highpoint of the Liturgy of the Word, the Gospel reading. The word Gospel means "good news." What we hear proclaimed at Mass truly is good news – the best news we can hear: Jesus speaks to us! It is important to remember that when the Gospel is proclaimed, it is no longer the priest or deacon speaking, but Christ himself. We should pay especially close attention to the words of the Gospel as they are proclaimed. To help us focus on this very important reading, the Church gives us some additional postures and symbols of respect. First, we stand out of respect for the Gospel reading. Second the Gospel is often carried in a special book, the Book of Gospels, that is placed in a place of honor during the Mass. Incense and candles are used on solemn feasts to indicate that Christ is present, speaking to us, through the Gospel we hear.

It has become a custom for one to make a small sign of the cross on the forehead, lips, and heart before the proclamation of the Gospel. Originally this gesture belonged only to the deacon or priest proclaiming the Gospel, and only then if the mass was celebrated by the Bishop. Over time, priests and deacons began to use this gesture at all the Masses they celebrated, and the laity adopted the same gesture. When you make this gesture, ask God to bless your mind, that you may ponder his Word; your lips, that you may speak his praise; and your heart, that you may love the Word of God!



70th Anniversary Calendar

The theme of the Parish's 70th Anniversary Celebration is "We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe" and the theme song is "We Remember" from Marty Haugen.

Every Sunday 3 p.m. Divine Mercy prayers in church Every Wednesday in Lent 7 p.m. Taize Prayer in the church Every Friday in Lent 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the church Saturday, March 2 6 p.m. Mass—First Scrutiny for the Elect Sunday, March 3 11 a.m. Outreach Ministry Meeting

Windward Vicariate Communal Penance Services

Thursday, March 7 7 p.m. at St. Ann, Kaneohe Wednesday, March 13 7 p.m. at St. John Vianney, Kailua Thursday, March 14 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Kailua

LENT

A time for Christians to repent and turn away from sin.

Mahalo mui loa

Offerings for February 25, 2024 Sunday Offertory—\$3611 Aloha Ministry—\$25 Ash Wednesday—\$50 Filipino Catholic Ministry—\$40 Mary Lou Scholarship Fund—\$50 Outreach—\$120 Repair & Maintenance—\$90 Total—\$3986



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