

SAINT GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 12, 2023 | 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.

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SUNDAY MASS READINGS

We are called to embrace the Christian way of life all year round. Today we are reminded that following the law is only the beginning of the Christian way of life. Our psalm urges us to look beyond the law to its beating heart. For the followers of Jesus, living according to the full spirit of the law is a matter of life or death.

1st Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

God wants us to be good and to do His will. It is refreshing to read in the Old Testament book of Sirach that, even then, God presented religion to the people in the form of a choice that had to be freely decided upon — a choice that not even God could impose upon a person.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Speaking of wisdom both human and divine, Paul tells us as he writes to the Corinthians that God's Spirit is not content with the mere outward appearance of things.

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

During Christ's time, the rabbis counted six-hundred and thirteen distinct precepts in the Ten Commandments: one precept for each letter of Hebrew script needed to write out all the commandments. Christ was well aware of, but repudiated, such excessive legalism which placed a person's salvation in the mere observance of precepts, regardless of where his heart was in the process.

STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Raymund Ellorin
Deacon: John Tolentino
Secretary: Kamalani Rodrigues
Director of Rel. Ed.: Vicky DeSilva

OFFICE HOURS

Tue—Fri, 9am—noon

MASS TIMES

Saturday, 6pm Sunday Liturgy
Sunday, 7am and 9:30am
Monday, 7am Communion Service
Tuesday thru Saturday, 7am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 5:15—5:45pm 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.

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—8:45am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K – 5, 8:15—9:15am
Grades 6 – 12, 10:30am—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 6pm

Rosary

Monday through Saturday at 6:30am

Divine Mercy Chaplet and Prayers

Second Sunday of the month at 11am

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Novena
Tuesday at 6:30am

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

Dear Parish Ohana,

Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with a three-part instruction by Jesus on the Way of Life in the kingdom of heaven. Today's reading is part one and deals with the Law. Part two deals with worship and religious practice and contains the Lord's Prayer. Part three deals with trusting God and deeds of loving service to our neighbor.

When Matthew speaks of "the Law and the prophets" he means the whole Scripture. When the Messiah brings the fullness of the kingdom, none of scripture will be done away with. Instead, it will be fulfilled. Matthew's Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses, nor does he set his followers free from the Law. He requires his followers to go beyond the Law by doing more than the Law requires.

The Law condemned murder. Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery. Jesus condemns even lustful looks. As Jewish Christians who had always been faithful to the Law, Matthew's community need a way to understand the difference Jesus and the kingdom he brings have made. They affirmed that God had always been at work in history through "the Law and the prophets." But God's work goes beyond that to be embodied by the Messiah who reveals the definitive will of God. The written scriptures and their interpretation in tradition are surpassed by Jesus whose life and teaching are the definitive revelation of the will of God.



Giving back to God

Offerings for February 5, 2023

- Sunday—\$3333
- First Offering—\$20
- Mass Intentions—\$50
- Family Promise—\$45
- Repair & Maintenance—\$5510
- Mary Lou Scholarship—\$50
- T-shirt Fundraiser—\$20
- Total—\$9028**



Question of the Week

When do the temptations of anger, lust, or deceit affect what I say or do? How can I build the habit of treating everyone else with honesty, mercy, and love?

Support Family Promise of Hawaii's

emergency sheltered families by providing them a hot meal this month. Donations are now being accepted for a meal service delivery on February 23rd. We would like to raise \$120.

How you can help:

- A monetary offering made to the church designated to Family Promise Hawaii
- Donate a Zippy's gift card to purchase food



St. George's FPH ministry coordinator is Vanessa Villareal. This month's meal will feed 6 adults and 4 children. Family Promise Hawaii is transforming the lives of housing insecure families because every child deserves a home.



Saturday, February 4th Church Cleaners

- Leoncia Belen
- Virginia Bringas
- Betty Cadiente
- Adelina Dela Penia
- Michelle Inovejas
- Joseph Ka'akua
- Louanna Kaio-Almony
- Carlotta Kidder
- Tina Ramos
- Atavise Williams

Stewardship of God's Word: Reading the Bible

What better time than February, before Lent and the advent of spring, to settle in for some reading and praying with sacred scripture? February can be a quiet time of patient reflection for the Christian steward. The psalms, like so many biblical passages, remind us of the benefits of reading God's word: "Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps 119:105).

Our liturgical year offers us a wonderful pathway to the Bible by providing Lectionary readings for each day. Our Sunday Gospel readings this year come to us mainly from Saint Matthew. In the month of February we have an opportunity to reflect on Christ's teachings in his Sermon on the Mount with its hope-filled Beatitudes. This Gospel is ideal for spending time with the Lord in quiet meditation.

In the Gospel of Saint Matthew Jesus gives us a guide to Christian living. If you choose to read this great book of the Bible, consider just one episode in the Gospel each time you read it. Put yourself into the scene. See what words strike a chord in you. Ask the Lord to help you know him through the Gospel reading.

One of the hallmarks of Saint Matthew's Gospel is his emphasis on discipleship and what it means to follow Jesus. Christian stewards look to this Gospel to gain new insights into their journey of faith; and much like the desires of gardeners, long for the seeds of the Gospel, especially the Beatitudes, to be planted in their own hearts. Find some quiet time. Pick up your Bible. And use God's gift of these quiet February days to deepen your knowledge of Christ through sacred scripture.

I love to read 
the Scriptures

Readings for Sunday, February 19, 2023

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48



Upcoming Events

Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12

Second Collection for Augustine Educational Foundation

Sunday, February 12

11am Divine Mercy Chaplet and Prayers in the Church

Monday, February 13

12pm Our Lady of Fatima Devotional Prayer in the Meditation Garden

Sunday, February 19

12pm St. Joseph Novena in the Meditation Garden

4pm Marianist Lecture "A Life Worth Loving"
Mystical Rose Oratory, Chaminade University

Wednesday, February 22 (Fast and Abstain)

7am Ash Wednesday Mass

7pm Ash Wednesday Mass

Thursday, February 23

Hot meal service to Family Promise Hawaii

Friday, February 24 (Abstain)

7pm Stations of the Cross (all Fridays during Lent)

Sunday, February 26

First Sunday of Lent

Tuesday, February 28

6pm 40 Days for Life Guest Speaker and Opening Mass at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

Wednesday, March 1

7pm Taize Prayer (all Wednesdays during Lent)



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World Marriage Day

A Day to Celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage



A sage once wrote that a good marriage is like a fire around which others come to warm themselves. So, as we celebrate World Marriage Day on February 12, we realize that no matter our station in life – married, single or religious – we have benefited from this sacred covenant relationship whether through the example of our parents, grandparents, and other role models, or through our own stewardship of the marriage covenant.

For the Catholic steward, marriage goes far beyond the legal or societal agreement that our culture might define. For the Catholic steward, marriage is a sacrament that fosters a sacred covenant; establishing family and nurturing the domestic church which we understand is fundamental to our spiritual development.

Marriage brings us countless blessings, but is met with many obstacles. Busy schedules, the challenges of parenthood, the strains of finances, mortgages, issues of health and aging – all of these test the bonds of even the finest unions.

World Marriage Day, observed on the second Sunday of each February, is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, associated with Catholic Marriage Encounter. Many Catholics have participated in a Marriage Encounter weekend, but no matter how we have endeavored to grow in and to support our marriages, or the marriages of those close to us, we know that marriage does take effort, continuing commitment, deep prayer, great communication, a good sense of humor and faithful love.

This year, the observances of National Marriage Week, February 7 to 14, and World Marriage Day, are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family.

Take time this February to celebrate marriage, whether by setting aside a special time to devote to your own spouse, or by honoring the marriages that have warmed you and nurtured you throughout your life.



A Weekend of Discovery, a Lifetime of Love.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Attend a Marriage Encounter weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong. This is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together.

The emphasis of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other.

It's not a retreat, nor a marriage clinic, nor group sensitivity. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Christian Marriage.

Upcoming weekend dates on Oahu:
March 24-26 and September 1-3



A wedding is a day, a marriage is a lifetime.

Pope Francis said, "Marriage preparation should be a kind of 'initiation' to the sacrament of matrimony, providing couples with the help they need to receive the sacrament worthily and to make a solid beginning of life as a family."

We invite you to experience a Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend. Please contact the parish office to arrange for a Catholic wedding before registering. A marriage involving a baptized Catholic outside of the Catholic Church is invalid.

Upcoming weekend dates on Oahu:
March 17-19, May 26-28, July 28-30
September 15-17, November 17-19



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**TEACHING MASS - BULLETIN INSERT
POST COMMUNION AND CONCLUDING RITES
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023**



CONCLUDING THE MASS AND THE CALL TO MISSION

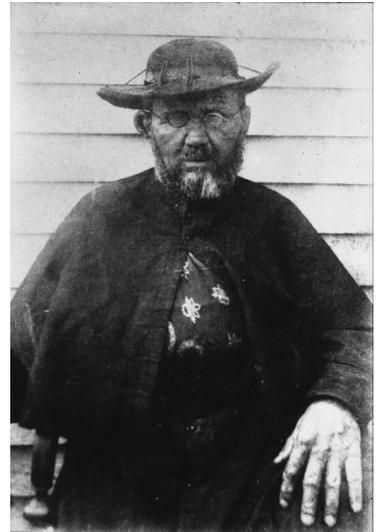
There is an ancient saying in the Church: “May God, who has begun this good work in you, bring it to completion.” This wonderful saying, based on St. Paul’s letter to the Philippians, and which has been said as a blessing or salutation in the Church since at least the fifth century, finds a powerful meaning within the context of our liturgy. The liturgy is a work of God, so to speak, but it is indeed the work of the people, which is where the word *Liturgy* comes from. This good work of God’s and of our own must be brought to completion.

The Holy Mass does not end the moment we receive communion. Yes, receiving communion is the most intimate moment of the Mass for us individually, but that does not mean that what comes after is unimportant. There is a purpose to continue our prayer after we have received communion, and thus we do not leave right after we receive our Blessed Lord in the Eucharist. Instead, we return to our places within the church while communion continues to be distributed, and then once the Eucharist is taken to the tabernacle, we sit and allow ourselves some time for quiet reflection. We dwell on the gift of the Eucharist and remind ourselves of the reality of what, or rather *who* we have just received. Jesus, at this moment, dwells in us, not only spiritually, but physically.

This presence of Jesus within us, however, is not meant to be kept hidden away inside us. We are called to take Jesus with us out into the world! That is the center of what we might call our mission as Catholics. This emphasis on ‘mission’ is what the concluding rites of the Mass are all about.

So, what are we meant to understand about this mission of ours? Well, when we were baptized, several things happened to us. We were cleansed of Original Sin, we were reborn in the Holy Spirit, we became priests, prophets, and kings in the New Covenant, and we were made sons and daughters of God. As children of God, we are called to be members of His family, the Catholic Church. As members of the Church, we are meant to live out our lives as faithful Christians every day. This is not always easy, especially in our modern age, but God helps us through giving us spiritual graces, especially through our participation at the Mass.

We come to Mass to worship God, yes, but while we are offering Him our gift of worship, He is giving us gifts of His own. When we participate in the liturgy and receive communion reverently and worthily, God gives grace and strength to live out our Christian lives even when it becomes difficult. When we struggle to pray, God gives us the strength and desire to pray. When we struggle to do good works, God gives us the drive to do them. When we struggle with sin, God guides us to righteousness. When we feel discouraged, God gives us hope. When we feel anxious, God gives us peace. When we feel alone, God reveals Himself to us. All these things are gifts from God, and God pours forth these gifts to us as we encounter Him, especially in the Mass. What this means for us is that as we go to Mass, God is strengthening us spiritually, helping us live lives of faith in a complex world. Our mission is to stay true to the Gospel no matter what life throws our way. This is where our focus falls during the closing rites of the Mass.



CONCLUDING RITES

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

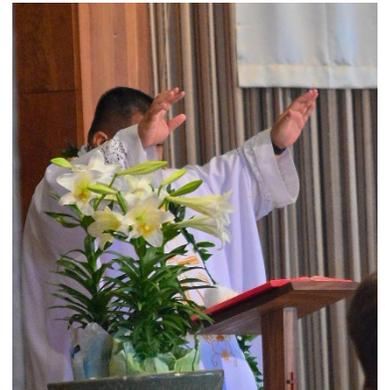
After communion, we are called to reflect on the reality of the Eucharist that we have received. This we do as individuals quietly right after receiving communion, but we also do so as a single community. Our quiet prayer is ended with the priest calling us together with the words, “Let us pray.” This parallels the Opening Prayer back at the beginning of Mass. Like that prayer, this prayer is unique to the day or week. This prayer is often related to the Opening Prayer in its wording, but also includes the themes of receiving strength and blessing from the Eucharist that we have received. This is not simply yet another reminder of how special it is for us to receive communion, it also tells us how receiving the Eucharist has done something to us, namely nourished our souls and given us strength. Like a good breakfast before a long day at work, the Eucharist is our spiritual nourishment for the work we are called to do after we go forth from the church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the closing prayer, it is permissible to have some brief announcements. This can seem like a break from the spiritual activities of the liturgy, but it is tied to our worship. These announcements are meant to be concerned with upcoming parish activities, all of which are great opportunities to practice our faith beyond our Sunday worship, something we are all called to do. Make no mistake. We are all called to live out our Christian lives every day, not just on Sunday. Our parishes are places where we can foster our Christian living, and they should never be without activities, whether adoration, praise and worship, service projects, or social engagements. Mass is the most important time for us, but it is not the only time we are called to worship God or be with our brothers and sisters in the faith.

FINAL BLESSING

We end the Mass as we began it: with the Sign of the Cross. What is different here is that it also takes the form of the priest blessing us. Blessings from a priest or a deacon are a powerful gesture, always connected with a duty or purpose. For example, the priest blesses the deacon before he proclaims the Gospel, the bread and wine is blessed before it becomes the body and blood of Christ. Water is blessed before it is used for baptisms, chalices are blessed before they are set aside for liturgy, and even food can be blessed before it is eaten. When we are blessed at the close of Mass, it is our mission in mind. The Mass concludes with the final blessing, but the mission continues.



DISMISSAL (SENDING FORTH)

The final words of the Mass, whether said by the priest or deacon, give us our commission. There are a few different options they use, but the message is always the same: The Mass is ended, go forth and proclaim the Gospel by your life. Indeed, with this, our liturgy is fully concluded, but our mission to go forth and live out the Gospel continues.



The last action of the liturgy is for the priest and his assistant ministers to lead us out of the church and into the world. This shows us what we are now called to do. Armed with the word of God on our lips and the Body of Christ inside us, we take what we have received out into the world. Our liturgy has ended, yes, but our mission, our worship, and our Christian lives continue. We go forth as carriers of Christ, taking Him and His message to the world. By our lives, we show the world the joy of following Christ in His Church. This is our mission. We live out our lives in accordance with the scriptures so that we proclaim the Gospel through our actions each day. The Mass has taught us, healed us, uplifted us, and fed us. Now we go forth to bring the Church to the world and the world to our Church.

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Sunday, March 5, 2023

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Theatre at 1:00 PM**



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