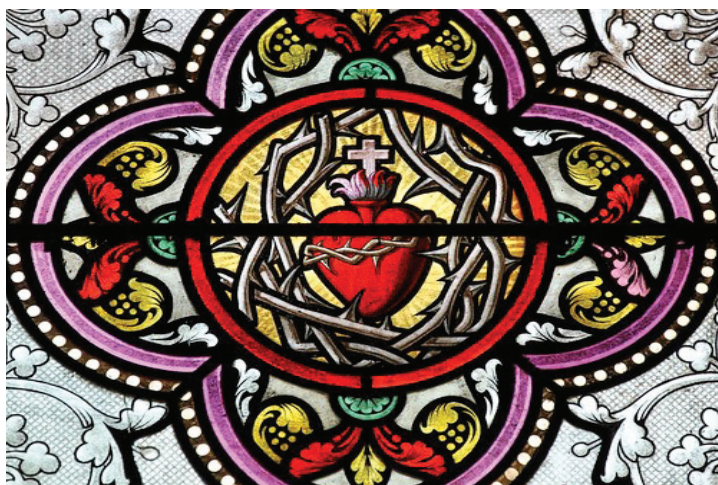


SAINT GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 10, 2024 | The Fourth Sunday of Lent



Dear Parish Ohana,

As Lent continues to unfold, I believe that there have been situations that are both exciting and unsettling, as they are disturbing and inspiring:

- Have you ever forgiven someone for something really serious, and done so freely and completely, as pure gift?
- Have you ever given yourself over to another's need so completely that thoughts about yourself vanished entirely?

If you answered yes to both or one of these, you begin to know something of the great mystery of the cross and why Jesus became human. He became one of us, as this Sunday's Gospel tells us, because 'God so loved the world.' Once again we are reminded that Jesus has come not to condemn the world, but to save it. The reality painted in the first two readings sets the stage for this revelation. The fact is that we do not deserve to be saved, we deserve to be condemned for our sins, but God loves us so much that we are given yet other chances to accept the grace of God's very life: that is grace; that is gift; that is God's doing. And that's what the Covenant Relationship is: God choosing to love us in spite of our sinfulness.

In joy, the perfect response we can give back for this continued favor is gratefulness. However, saying the words "thank you" is not enough, especially when some people's "thank you" is more automatic and insincere. Being "grateful" takes practice. The "thank you" God desires the most is a "grateful" life. Our actions should be proclamations that we have accepted the gift which God has given us. Let others be touched by and experience God's gracing through our behavior. If we can live "grateful" lives, people will come to better "know" the love which God has for them as well. May we always be grateful stewards of God's gift of mercy.

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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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

Monday—Saturday at 6:30 a.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet and Prayers

Every Sunday at 3 p.m.

Second Sunday of the month at
11 a.m.

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 INDONESIA



Located in Southeast Asia between the Pacific and Indian Oceans, Indonesia has beautiful beaches, diverse cultures and nearly 280 million people—the fourth highest population in the world!

Many of the country's more than 17,000 islands are in the Ring of Fire, a region around the rim of the Pacific Ocean where volcanic eruptions and earthquakes are common. Climate-related disasters such as cyclones also threaten the islands and are becoming more frequent and destructive.

Strong rains and wind from these storms—combined with long periods without rain, called drought—make it difficult for people like Evita Tiro Wada to grow food. Evita and her family live on Flores Island, where she keeps a home garden for food and income.

To help her family and community become more resilient against natural disasters and have more reliable access to food, Evita participated in a Catholic Relief Services' program, through which she joined a disaster preparedness group.

The group helps their community stay safe during emergencies like cyclones and earthquakes. They created a system to warn people to evacuate and identified evacuation routes, assembly points and resources they can use during a crisis.

The group also maintains a community garden. They grow vegetables like beans, eggplant and water spinach to provide healthy food for their families. They use a drip irrigation system that conserves water so the vegetables can grow even during a drought. Evita and her group members use the garden to teach people from other communities how to start their own.

To protect their garden from the wind and prevent erosion from the ocean waves, Evita and her group planted trees. They also cleaned up the river and other areas in their town by picking up trash, which helped prevent flooding. Evita says, "When I first joined the village disaster preparedness group, I thought, 'What will I do or give to help the community?' After I've been involved, I see the benefits of what the community and I did."

I love to read
the Scriptures



Readings for next Sunday, March 17, 2024

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-33

A Stewardship Moment

This weekend at the 7 a.m. Mass, our parish will observe the Second Scrutiny for catechumens preparing for Baptism at the Easter vigil. You will hear the Gospel story of how a man born blind came to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Jesus and his disciples are walking along when they encounter the man. The disciples ask a question that reflects a narrow understanding of God's mercy. They assume that if people suffer, then they must have done something bad to deserve it. In the case of a man born blind, it had to be something done by his parents. But Jesus says: "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him..." Good stewards know that God is working in their lives so that through their lives, God's goodness will be revealed. How is God working in you? Do you see God's goodness reflected in your life?

At the 6 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses, you will hear the Gospel story of Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, a Pharisee and leader of the Jews who comes to Jesus by night, recognizing Jesus as a teacher from God, but coming in secret for fear of being put out of the synagogue. Jesus rebukes him for his lack of understanding. Good stewards realize that for the sake of this world, God gives his most cherished beloved son. And so they are willing to confess Jesus as their Lord and savior in a public way. They do not keep their faith to themselves, in darkness. The Gospel reading challenges us to profess our faith in word and deed publicly, not to hide it away. Are we willing to accept the Gospel's challenge? Are we willing to get out of our personal "comfort zone" and confess our faith in Christ Jesus in an open, tangible way?



Question of the Week

Am I willing to live out my faith in the light of day, even when it makes me uncomfortable because I am ridiculed or rejected by much of society?



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

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

THE CREED (Profession of Faith)

After the homily on most Sundays and Holy Days, we stand and recite the Creed. The creed that we pray at Mass originated in Jerusalem as a profession of faith before baptism. This was formalized in 325 at the Council of Nicaea and further developed at the Council of Constantinople in 381. This creed is known as the Nicene-Constantinople Creed, or more commonly as the Nicene Creed. A creed is a statement of summary of belief. The Creed is a statement of truths which we hold as Catholics. We return to these familiar “words of faith” week after week to remind and refocus ourselves on the truth. The Creed is a very important prayer! When we pray the creed together, be sure to join in the prayer. The structure of the creed reinforces our belief in the Holy Trinity, first addressing the Father, then the Son, and then the Holy Spirit, stressing that the three persons are one God. At the heart of our faith is our belief that God became one of us at the birth of Christ. To highlight our belief in this truth, we are asked to bow at the words **“By the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”**

On Easter Sunday or on Sundays when we have baptisms, we are asked to renew our baptismal promises. We are asked about our belief, to which we respond “I do” to each statement of our faith. The renewal of our baptismal promises is also a creed, a statement of belief, based on the Apostle’s Creed.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The Prayer of the Faithful, also known as the General Intercessions, take place at the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word, and serve like a hinge connecting the Liturgy of the Word to the Liturgy of the Eucharist (the next part of the Mass). The structure of the prayers of the faithful is generally the same: a short introduction by the priest, followed by 5-7 intercessions proclaimed by the deacon or lector, with a short concluding prayer led by the priest. At the end of each petition, we respond, “Lord, hear our prayer.” The Prayer of the Faithful concludes the Liturgy of the Word.



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

7 p.m. Reconciliation in the church confessional

Sunday, March 10

7 a.m. Mass—Rite of Election for Jamie Robinson and Second Scrutiny for the Elect

11 a.m. 70th Anniversary Planning Committee meeting in the parish office

Wednesday, March 13

5:30 p.m. Aloha Ministry meeting in the parish office

Saturday, March 16

Funeral for Frances Hanawahine

9 a.m. Visitation

9:45 a.m. Eulogy

10 a.m. Funeral Mass



Windward Vicariate Communal Penance Services

Meet in the church for a short prayer service, communal examination of conscience, and act of contrition. Individual confessions follow.

Wednesday, March 13

7 p.m. at St. John Vianney, Kailua

Thursday, March 14

7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Kailua

Tuesday, March 19

6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Waikane

PRAY. FAST. GIVE ALMS.

Offerings for March 3, 2024

Sunday Offertory—\$4384.24

Mary Lou Scholarship Fund—\$50

Mass Intentions—\$30

Outreach—\$2040

Repair & Maintenance—\$2535

Total—\$9586.74



At the **February Couples Celebration**, we were able to bless 28 couples. It was truly an honor to witness their love and dedication for one another. Everyone enjoyed the celebration with entertainment by Pahonu Coleman, the grandson of Tony & Vanessa Dela Cruz, and several of our parishioners sharing their hula talent. Seven couples (William & Francine Fernandez, Clinio & Adelina Openano, Jeremy & Susana Kwock, Tony & Vanessa Dela Cruz, Diemar & April Patino, Ben & Lacey Bickford, Robert & Jennifer Neumann) were chosen in the drawing to receive a couples' portrait by parishioner artist, Joe Aragon. He created an original composition for the couple's portraits. We are truly blessed to have him share his time and talent with us. The couples also received a specially created cake favor by Gigi, owner of Bake A Cake Gigi. Malala & Vanessa McMoore, from the Outreach Ministry shared in the event by creating the heart shape backdrop for everyone to take their special family and couple's photos.

Father shared souvenir handkerchiefs with the image of St. George Church on it. Thank you also to Rhoda Balmori for emceeding the event. Maria & Paul Dumas concluded the event praying a special blessing over everyone, and everyone followed, singing our 70th anniversary church theme song "We Remember We Celebrate We Believe".

Lastly, we would like to thank the Aloha Ministry for their support and participation in preparing for our church events. It takes many hands to contribute in making each celebration event a blessing. We hope that you will know and feel Jesus' presence for all of us, here at St. George Church in Waimanalo.



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