



St. Benedict Catholic Church

March 6, 2022

First Sunday of Lent

It's All Gift



There is one word that could almost be erased from our religious vocabulary. That word is earn. So many of us take on a Lenten program of penance to earn God's forgiveness. Or we engage in prayer to earn indulgences that will lessen our time in purgatory. Somewhere along the line we missed the class in which the primacy of God's free gift of grace was taught. Consequently, we still might use language that emphasizes our own hard-won merit apart from God rather than freely given love as the basis of all that follows. Today's first reading refutes such thinking. The passage from Deuteronomy contains an important creedal statement, describing the heart of ancient Israel's faith. The people were instructed by Moses to commemorate the event of their founding as the special people of God. The creedal statement was probably recited during that commemoration. The statement itself describes how God called their ancestor; from that ancestor called forth a great people, delivered those people out of slavery, and then settled them in a land that became their own. Every event was God's work. The people did nothing to deserve it. **It was all gift.** Why did God choose these people, make them great, free them, settle them, and provide them with abundant harvests? Because they were good? No! Because God is good. They earned nothing, deserved nothing. It was all gift. Why is it so difficult for us to realize that we really do not give gifts to God? It's just the opposite. When it comes to God's grace, it's all gift.

© 2022 Liguori Publications • Liguori, MO 63057

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

© 2022 Liguori Publications • Liguori, MO 63057

PARISH:

ST. BENEDICT, Honaunau
84-5140 Painted Church Rd.
Captain Cook, HI 96704
Phone: 808-328-2227
Fax: 808-328-8482

email: st.benedict@rcchawaii.org

MISSION CHURCH:

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Kealakekua

WEEKEND MASSES

St. Benedict Hall, Honaunau

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

St. John the Baptist

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

St. Benedict Honaunau

7:00 a.m. Tuesday,

Thursday & Friday

St. John the Baptist

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.

PASTOR

Rev. Siegfred Dosdos

DEACON

Craig Camello

BUSINESS MANAGER

Susan Keen

OFFICE STAFF

Penny Burgess

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Edwina Fujimoto

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

Edwina Fujimoto

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ariel Hadap

FOOD PANTRY

Francisco and Debra Javar

For Reflection

© 2022 Liguori Publications • Liguori, MO 63057

☪ *Spend a moment thinking about all the free gifts God has given you.*

☪ *Let your Lenten practice be graciousness to others.*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: ...we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and he heard our cry... **Dt 26:4-10**

Psalm: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble. **Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15.**

Second Reading: "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."
Rom 10:8-13

Gospel: "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." **Lk 4:1-13**

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The office is closed on holidays and weekends.

BULLETIN: Articles and photos (with caption) for the bulletin must be *emailed* to st.benedict@rcchawaii.org Submission deadline: **TUESDAY at 5:00pm.**

WEBSITE: thepaintedchurchhawaii.org



ALOHA AND WELCOME HOME

In compliance with Bishop Silva’s directives, Masses are being held at St. Benedict Hall Chapel. Social distancing and masks are required. We welcome all to celebrate The Eucharist with us.

BISHOP SILVA ENDED THE DISPENSATION from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, which had been in effect since mid-March, 2020. However, anyone who is sick, may have been exposed* to anyone with **COVID-19**, or who has a health condition that would endanger themselves or others by being present in church, continues to be dispensed.

* Exposed (close contact) to COVID-19 is defined as being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (regardless of mask use).

SACRAMENTS

Funerals may now take place again in St. Benedict Hall Chapel according to the same guidelines as weekend Masses, i.e. following all health and safety precautions. Please contact the office for most current guidelines.

Baptisms may take place according to the same guidelines as weekend Masses. They will be done in such a way that the same water is not poured on more than one person or stored in the font after use.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

At this time Father Sieg is available for Confessions by appointment, observing all proper precautions. Call the office 328-2227.

Eucharist to Homebound and Hospitalized

Call the office to arrange for a visit from a priest or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

A WORD FROM Pope Francis



Fasting makes us share the situation of many people who face the torment of hunger and makes us more attentive to others; almsgiving is a blessed opportunity to collaborate with God’s providence for the benefit of his children. And I invite you to make almsgiving a way of life and to persevere in concrete help to those in need. ADDRESS TO PRO PETRI SEDE ASSOCIATION, FEBRUARY 16, 2018

Begin New Patterns

Something all of us can do is commit ourselves to being more reflective during Lent. To accomplish this we need to make a point of being more observant, more aware of what we’re experiencing - paying more attention to what is usually "automatic" behavior. Then start paying attention to our desires. We have all kinds of desires. During Lent, we can reflect upon our current desires deciding which of them we need to purify, which we may need to abandon, and which are wonderful, wholesome desires that we have, but have not acted upon. Spending time in prayer, recalling our deepest desires will guide the choices we make to establish new patterns for Lent.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK -FEAST DAY MARCH

ST. FELICITY AND ST. PERPETUA, MARTYRS

Vivia Perpetua, twenty-two years old, was married, a noblewoman, and a new mother whose baby was still nursing. Her pagan father begged his favorite daughter to renounce her Christian faith, but to no avail.



Felicity was a slave and pregnant when jailed. She gave birth a few days before her martyrdom. When they were first thrown into the arena, Perpetua and Felicity were attacked by a rabid heifer, which was chosen because it shared the same sex as its victims. The young women were grievously injured by the mad cow and then momentarily removed from the arena until gladiators were brought in to conclude the day’s spectacle by sticking a sword in their necks. They died quickly, however Perpetua had to guide the gladiator’s sword as he hit bone the first time. The two saints are patrons of expectant mothers, widows and butchers.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*



PRAYER

PRAYER

DEVOTION TO OUR LADY

Pray the Rosary Daily

“May **Mary**, our guide on the *Lenten* journey, lead us to ever deeper knowledge of the dead and Risen Christ, help us in the spiritual combat *against sin*, and sustain us as we pray with conviction: “*Converte nos, Deus salutaris noster*” — “Convert us to you, O God, our salvation”. Amen!”



PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Think, O' God, of our loved ones who are ill, whom we now commend to Your compassionate regard. Comfort them upon their sickbed, and ease their suffering. We plead for deliverance, and we know that no healing is too hard if it be Your will. We therefore pray that You bless all of them with Your loving care, renew their strength, and heal their afflictions in Your loving name.

FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH, KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Finnan Sambursky, Gwen McKinney, Rafael Ramirez, Tamo Wong, Jeffrey Crusat, Robin Crusat, Cheryl Ono, Michelle Paopao-Skillern, William Anderson, Lionel Gaspar, Gloria Grapa, Tamayo Hanato, Mary Bunao, Linda Laskow, Caroline Smith, Hilda Sebastian, Dorothy Kelepolo, Elizabeth Awa, Ruby Ann Kaho'onei, Johnny Koene, Charles & DeeDee Tripoli, Linda Adkins, Guy Miranda, Keiki San Filippo, Dottie Combs. * Call the office to add your loved one or yourself to the list of those needing prayer.

The Fast Life

**Fast from judging others;
Feast on Christ dwelling in them.**

**Fast from fear of illness;
Feast on the healing power of God.**

**Fast from words that pollute;
Feast on speech that purifies.**

**Fast from discontent;
Feast on gratitude.**

**Fast from anger;
Feast on patience.**

**Fast from pessimism;
Feast on hope.**

**Fast from negatives;
Feast on encouragement.**

**Fast from bitterness;
Feast on forgiveness.**

**Fast from self-concern;
Feast on compassion.**

**Fast from suspicion;
Feast on truth.**

**Fast from gossip;
Feast on purposeful silence.**

**Fast from problems that overwhelm;
Feast on prayer that sustains.**

**Fast from anxiety;
Feast on faith.**

*Thank God...
for the gift of Jesus
in the Eucharist!*

CALENDAR

Monday MARCH 7 Lenten Weekday Lv 19:1–2, 11–18 Mt 25:31–46

Tuesday MARCH 8 Lenten Weekday Is 55:10–11 Mt 6:7–15

Wednesday MARCH 9 Lenten Weekday Jon 3:1–10 Lk 11:29–32

Thursday MARCH 10 Lenten Weekday Est C:12, 14–16, 23–25 Mt 7:7–12

Friday MARCH 11 Lenten Weekday Ez 18:21–28 Mt 5:20–26

Saturday MARCH 12 Lenten Weekday Dt 26:16–19 Mt 5:43–48

Sunday MARCH 13 Second Sunday of Lent Gn 15:5–12, 17–18 Phil 3:17–4:1 or 3:20–4:1 Lk 9:28b–36



**Many books can inform you.
But there's only one that can transform you.**





**First Sunday
of Lent**

[March 6, 2022]

**A Self-Reflective
Treasure Hunt**

1. Just as the Holy Spirit leads Jesus to the _____ after His baptism, we too will be subjected to _____, a given part of our _____ journey.
2. In today's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates three (3) ways to **handle** the challenges placed in our way by evil. They are: p_____, S_____ and the guidance of the H____ S_____.
3. Beware of the ways that evil preys upon us as it did with Jesus. What are two (2) tricks the devil uses to tempt us?
4. What is the most important thing we stand to lose when we give in to material gratifications or to power and glory?
5. Today's Gospel ends with, "When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from Him for a time." What warning does Luke's words give us?

Answers to last week's Treasure Hunt

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time & Ash Wednesday

1- they will both fall into a pit; **2-** They have a wooden beam in their own eye to attend to before "seeing" the fault in others; **3-** figs, grapes; **4-** prayer, fasting; **5-** you are dust and to dust; **6-** F It means mourning & repentance.

SERVICE

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

We are very grateful to Food Pantry volunteers who are coming to weekend Masses twice a month and handing out bags of food to those who are food-challenged in our community.

Many thanks to Lorraine & Albert Medeiros for providing Gary Medeiros with herbicide to spray weeds—the cemetery has never been this clean.

We (especially Penny) are also very appreciative of Colette Borges and Michael Tom for helping to reduce some of the office backlog.

Mahalo & Thanks so much to **ALL** who helped change the environment from Ordinary Time to Lent.

We would be very grateful for your help too!

Dear Padre,

My fourteen-year-old daughter is very thin. She says giving up food during Lent is proof that she honors God. How can I convince her God doesn't want her to starve herself? Is there anything else she can do for Lent?

According to the Code of Canon Law, at age fourteen your daughter isn't required to fast (eating only one full meal a day, no snacks); the Church requires this only of people age eighteen through fifty-nine because people outside those age groups need more than one full meal a day to maintain good health (1252). She is, however, old enough to abstain from meat, as required of Catholics age fourteen and older. But she should replace that meat with another source of protein like cheese or fish. Please tell your daughter that the Lenten fast is about preparing our hearts to celebrate the joy of Easter. Fasting and abstinence are not about starving or losing weight. They're about making room for God and deepening our relationship with Christ. And the word abstain isn't limited to matters involving food. Your daughter can abstain from watching television, using her mobile phone except in emergencies, or using the computer for anything other than schoolwork. Prayer and almsgiving (donating money or time to charity) also are part of our Lenten practice. Anyone can safely do these things to achieve the same result: growing closer to God in preparation for Easter.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

SERVICE

ST. BENEDICT FOOD PANTRY

The regular St. Benedict Food Pantry schedule continues to be the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 9 am to 10 am. **Next open on Friday, March 11th.**

WANTED—ALL KINDS OF FRUIT

We try to keep a variety of fruit in the Painted Church gift shop. Our visitors enjoy sampling it and will usually leave a donation for it. Trying tropical fruit is part of the "aloha" experience. If you have an abundance, please share with us, whether it is common or exotic. Mahalo!

RICE BOWL—HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH

The Rice Bowls are here. Please make sure you take one home this week. Many people are homeless and starving due to so many natural and man-made catastrophes.