



# St. Benedict Catholic Church

April 3, 2022

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

### “Do Not Sin Any More.”



At first reading of today’s Gospel, one might think that those who brought the adulterous woman to Jesus were concerned about observance of the law. Halfway through the story, this error is corrected: “They said this to test him” (John 8:6). They thought that any answer he would provide would anger his audience. If he directed them to

stone her, his teaching about mercy and forgiveness would sound hollow, and people would turn away from him. If he spoke against stoning, he would appear to be setting himself above the law, which required that particular punishment for adultery. They must have thought they had Jesus cornered. Not to be undone by them, Jesus traced his finger on the ground. Was he listing the sins of the woman’s accusers? Was he using silence to make them feel uncomfortable? Was he choosing his words carefully? Was he simply doodling? We don’t know. But his words cut to the core: “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her” (John 8:7). Who would dare step forward to execute the sentence? They left, beginning with the elders because the custom was to throw the stones according to age—eldest first. Had Jesus undermined his teaching about mercy and forgiveness? No. Had he denigrated the law? No. Did he leave the woman with the impression that her sin was not serious? No. He left her with this admonition: I will not condemn you to death, but you have to change your life.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

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### *For Reflection*

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☪ *How quick are you to point out the failings of others? What good comes from it?*

☪ *What in your life do you know you have to change? Why can’t you do it?*

### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading:** Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; Is 43:16-21

**Psalm:** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

**Second Reading:** So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. Phil 3:8-14

**Gospel:** “Go, and from now on do not sin any more.” Jn 8:1-11

**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](mailto:st.benedict@rcchawaii.org) Submission deadline: TUESDAY at 5:00pm.

**WEBSITE:** [thepaintedchurchhawaii.org](http://thepaintedchurchhawaii.org)

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#### 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

ALOHA AND WELCOME HOME



*We welcome all to celebrate The Eucharist with us.*

**UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

**\*IF YOU ARE FEELING ILL OR HAVE OUTWARD SYMPTOMS PLEASE STAY HOME! \***

Masks are now optional.

Safe distance is no longer required in Church or in meeting places. Food can be shared only if served by designated persons wearing masks or if individually pre-packaged.

\* 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***

Going to confess is not like going to the dry cleaner's to have a stain removed ....If there is no love in the sacrament, it is not as Jesus wishes it to be. If it is functional, it is not how Jesus wants it to be. Love....toward the brother and the sister who are forgiven sinners. This is the fundamental relationship.



• ADDRESS TO APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, MARCH 12, 2021 GENERAL AUDIENCE, MAY 19, 2021

**Practicing Generosity**

*Almsgiving is always such an important part of Lent. For most of us it should involve being more generous to the poor, and for some of us, it will mean giving money to the poor for the first time. Some may prepare food for a meal program for the homeless. We could also choose to simplify our own food patterns and impulsive spending, and give that amount of money we save each week to the poor. We should try to “de-selfish” ourselves, so that we will be more likely to accept the graces of gratitude and generosity that God grants to all who open their hearts to it. Pray on it!*

**SAINT OF THE WEEK -FEAST DAY APRIL 4  
ST. ISIDORE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH  
Born in Spain, 560. Died in Seville, Spain, April 4, 636**



As a boy he despaired of his lack of success in learning and ran away from school. On his journey he stopped at a roadside spring where he saw a stone which was completely hollowed out by the dripping water. Inspired by this, he went back to his master and resolved to succeed where he had failed.

With the help of God he became, even as a youth, one of the most learned men of the time. He assisted in converting Prince Recared, the leader of the **Arian party; and with his aid, though at the constant risk of his own life**, he expelled the Arian heresy -that Jesus Christ was not both Man and God- from Spain. Isidore became Archbishop of Seville and in his last days wore sack cloth and ashes, confessing his faults to his people and asking their forgiveness. He is the patron saint of the internet, computer users and students.

***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.*



# Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

## PRAYER

*Pray the Rosary Daily*

### DEVOTION TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER



**If you are praying the rosary for Lent...**

Pray the first decade for the intentions of your prayer life during Lent.

Pray the second decade for the intentions of your life of penance during Lent.

Pray the third decade for the intentions of your works of mercy during Lent.

Pray the fourth decade for the souls of the faithful departed. **(Mary loves souls who offer up the satisfactory value of their good works and prayers for the dead.)**

Pray the last decade for the grace to persevere in your resolutions to the end of Lent, and beyond?

**That's the secret of Lent, when we allow ourselves to prepare each day with the help of our Blessed Mother.**

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Watch, O Lord,  
with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,  
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.  
Rest your weary ones.  
Bless your dying ones.  
Soothe your suffering ones.  
Pity your afflicted ones.  
Shield your joyous ones.  
And for all your love's sake. Amen.

*-Saint Augustine-*

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

Gilbert Henriques, Jeanette Laris, 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.

## PRAYER

### CALENDAR

**Monday** APRIL 4 Lenten  
Weekday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 Jn 8:12-20

**Tuesday** APRIL 5 Lenten  
Weekday Nm 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday** APRIL 6 Lenten  
Weekday Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday** APRIL 7 Lenten  
Weekday Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59

**Friday** APRIL 8 Lenten  
Weekday Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday** APRIL 9 Lenten  
Weekday Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56

**Sunday** APRIL 10 Palm  
Sunday of the Lord's Passion Lk 19:28-40 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 C



*"The Word brings God's breath into the world, it infuses the heart with the warmth of the Lord."*

*-Pope Francis-*

### 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.**

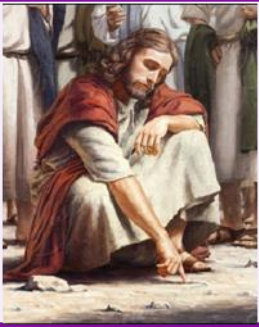
**Fast from suspicion;  
Feast on truth.**

**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!*



**Fifth Sunday  
of Lent**  
**Who Among You Is Without  
Sin?**  
*[John 8:1-11]*  
**A Self-Reflection**  
**Treasure Hunt**

1. In John 8:3, what did the scribes and Pharisees make the adulterous woman do when they brought her to Jesus in the temple?
2. What **unusual** and **mysterious** thing did Jesus do when the teachers and the Pharisees persisted in questioning Him about the law?
3. What is the **only statement** Jesus makes to them in this Gospel passage?
4. **Why** were the elders the first ones to walk away from the accused woman?
5. What were the **two (2) things** Jesus said to the woman before telling her to leave the temple?

Reflect upon how you reconcile your sins with God. Is reconciliation like a “free pass” to sin again? This week, let’s remind ourselves about Jesus’ challenge to “cast the first stone” **only after** examining ourselves and our sins.

**Answers to last week’s Treasure Hunt**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**1-** sinners, parable, compassion; **2-** as far away from God as one can get; **3-** come (to his) senses; **4-** when we sin, we sin against God who is all-forgiving when we repent; **5-** “always with Him (because) everything He has is ours.”

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION -  
ON ST. PAUL’S WORDS**

Strong words come from Saint Paul in today’s second reading. He reveals in no uncertain terms that life in Christ is our goal. Everything else, he maintains, is “rubbish.” Junk. Trash. Garbage. Is that true? Is everything else “rubbish” compared to deepening our relationship with the Lord? What about putting recreational activities ahead of attending Mass? Or preferring uninterrupted hours playing the latest video games or watching TV to spending time in a bible study group, choir practice or serving in a soup kitchen? Or keeping late hours at work over sharing the gospel with friends and neighbors? To what extent do we exercise stewardship over our relationship with Christ?

*Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

*Dear Padre,*

**If God is so forgiving, why can’t I just ask for his forgiveness directly? Why do I need to go to confession and ask a man, a priest, to have my sins forgiven?**

It’s ironic that some claim a man cannot forgive sins. That same accusation was leveled against Jesus himself when he forgave the paralyzed man (see Mark 2:5–7). But Jesus clearly told his apostles they were to be instruments of his forgiveness. When he appeared to them in the upper room after his resurrection he said: “Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained” (John 20:23). James the Apostle also endorses the concept of humans administering God’s forgiveness: “Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed” (James 5:16). Baptism, another sacrament administered by a person, starts our discipleship with Jesus. It cleanses us of all sin—including original sin. But even as Jesus’ disciples, we are sometimes unfaithful and need to ask forgiveness. It’s not surprising, then, that Jesus has given us another sacrament—again administered by a person—for the forgiveness of sins after baptism: the sacrament of reconciliation. God is forgiving—so forgiving that when people killed Jesus, his Son, he did not punish and destroy the world. Rather, he used the death of Jesus to demonstrate just how patient and forgiving he is. Our gravest sins—murder, adultery, a life lived apart from God—require the intervention of the sacrament of penance. But even confessing smaller sins is useful. If nothing else, it keeps us humble enough to remember that all of us need forgiveness because all of us sin.

**Gary Lauenstein, CSsR**  
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**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, April 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**MAHALO!**

Thank you to those who helped plan and who participated in our Lenten Penance Service and priest dinner. Also we want to thank everyone who attended.

**SHARE YOUR HARVEST WITH OUR VISITORS**

If your harvest is bountiful, please bring a portion to St. Benedict Gift Shop where we offer it to visitors as part of their “aloha experience” at the Painted Church.