



# *St. Benedict Catholic Church*

## *Sunday December 6, 2020*

### *Second Sunday of Advent*

#### Prepare the Way of the Lord

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God's and the people's entry, the way is made clear: "Every valley shall be lifted up...The rugged land shall be a plain" (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public ministry. Despite their differences, both passages in the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! ISAIAH 40:3 speak of the "way of the Lord," which is the way of salvation. The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence "in which righteousness dwells." Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on "the day of the Lord," the day when God's promises will be fulfilled and "all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9-10). The events described in all three readings unfold because of God's merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God's words?

*-Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

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**MISSION CHURCH:**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
 Kealahakua

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**St. Benedict Hall, Honaunau**  
**Saturday 4:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday 8:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**St. Benedict, Honaunau**  
**7:00 a.m. Tues., Thurs. & Friday**  
**St. John the Baptist**  
**Kealahakua**  
**7:00 a.m. Wednesday**

PASTOR

**Rev. Siegfried Dossdos**

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***

☪ To move in a new life direction, we must leave what we have come to know. Are you ready?

☪ What might you have to leave behind?



**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading:** A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!  
[IS 40:1-5, 9-11](#)

**Psalm:** Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.  
[PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14](#)

**Second Reading:** ...he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. [2 PT 3:8-14](#)

**Gospel:** "One mightier than I is coming after me." [LK 3:4, 6](#)

**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)

# HOSPITALITY



## ALOHA AND WELCOME HOME

In compliance with Bishop Silva’s directives, our Masses are being held at St. Benedict Hall Chapel. Social distancing and masks are required. Due to limited space it would be best to arrive early. No one has been turned away yet, however more are attending each week. Thank you for your understanding.

## SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION

Bishop Larry Silva has issued the following directive, **“I am hereby extending the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation through December 31, 2020. As I do so, however, I urge everyone who is able to return to Mass, without undue risks to their health or the health of others, to do so.”**

## 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. Funerals at this time may not include visitation times, only the Vigil for the Deceased, a Funeral Mass and Committal may be held.

**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.

## CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT

There will be no communal penance service this Advent. Father Sieg will hear confessions on Saturdays from 3:30—3:50 p.m., Sundays 7:30—7:50 a.m. and 9:30—9:50 a.m. or by appointment.

## LIVE STREAMING ONLINE MASSES

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace—Oahu  
Sunday: 10am (Bishop Silva) Mon—Sat: 12pm  
<https://www.facebook.com/HonoluluCathedralBasilica/live>  
St. Michael 9am English and 11am Spanish:  
[www.facebook.com/onecatholicohana/live](http://www.facebook.com/onecatholicohana/live) or  
YouTube channel: [bit.ly/stmichaelkonayoutube](http://bit.ly/stmichaelkonayoutube)

### \*\*\*VERY IMPORTANT CHRISTMAS INFO\*\*\*

In order to accommodate as many parishioners and visitors at Christmas as possible, we need **every family, couple or individual to reserve your seating.** You can call or email the office. Also there will be a sheet at the hall entrance for your convenience. Ask the greeter. If any Mass fills up, some will be asked to change their choice—the earlier you reserve the better.

## OUR PRAYERS AND CONDOLENCES...

...for family and friends of Alfred Medeiros, Jr. who passed away on November 11, 2020. A graveside service and committal were held on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at Kona Memorial Park.



## PRAYER FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of peace that is found in Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Our Church and our families need peace. Our nation and our world need peace.



Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” John 14:27

## A NEW SEASON, A CONTINUING PANDEMIC

We want to take a moment to express how much we miss celebrating the Eucharist together as an entire parish family during this time of battling the coronavirus. We are strikingly reminded that “church” is not a building, but the people who make up the body of Christ. There’s little doubt in all our minds that this is not the way any of us imagined what our passing liturgical seasons would be like going forward. It’s been said “you don’t know what you have until it’s gone.” The thing that keeps us going is the realization that this will not last forever. We are deeply grateful for your presence at Mass, for your continuing stewardship, for your understanding and especially for your prayers. Stay safe, and God bless!



PRAYER

**ADVENT PRAYER FOR MARY'S INTERCESSION**

May the Virgin Mary help us to open the doors of our hearts to Christ, Redeemer of man and of history; may she teach us to be humble, because God looks upon the lowly; may she enable us to grow in understanding the value of prayer, of inner silence, of listening to God's Word; may she spur us to seek God's will deeply and sincerely, even when this upsets our plans; may she encourage us while we wait for the Lord, sharing our time and energies with those in need. Mother of God, Virgin of expectation, grant that the God-who-comes will find us ready to receive the abundance of his mercy. May Mary Most Holy, "Woman of the Eucharist" and Virgin of Advent, prepare us all to joyfully welcome Christ's coming and to celebrate worthily his sacramental presence in the mystery of the Eucharist.

*-Pope St. John Paul II*



**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**

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.

*-St. Augustine*

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

Liam Jones (age two), Hilda Sebastian, Stephen Teixeira, Dorothy Kelepolo, Rudy Crusat, Elizabeth Awa, Ruby Ann Kaho'onei, Johnny Koene, Chickie and Tony Dias, Robin Crusat, Charles Tripoli, Danny Burgess Jr. , Helen Doria, Linda Adkins, DeeDee Tripoli, Guy Miranda, Venancio Mendoza, Alexi Veloso, Keiki San Filippo, Michael Suber, Eddie Navas, T.Kathy Flemming, Dottie Combs.

\*Call the office to add your loved one or yourself to the list of those needing prayer.



PRAYER

*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.*

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

CALENDAR

**Monday** DECEMBER 7  
St. Ambrose, Bishop and  
Doctor of the Church Is  
35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday** DECEMBER 8  
Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph  
1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday** DECEMBER  
9 Advent Weekday Is  
40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday** DECEMBER 10  
Advent Weekday Is  
41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15

**Friday** DECEMBER 11  
Advent Weekday Is  
48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday** DECEMBER 12  
Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Zec 2:14-17 or Rv  
11:19a; 12:1- 6a, 10ab

Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47  
**Sunday** DECEMBER 13  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes  
5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



*All Scripture is  
Inspired by God and  
profitable for  
teaching, for  
reproof, for  
correction, for  
training in  
righteousness;*

*2 Timothy 3:16*



*What  
Advent Symbol  
Am I?*

1. A favored son gifted with a precious coat, I fled from the jealous wrath of my brothers to a far-away land. My gift foretold of the “light of many colors” that is God in His heavenly glory.
2. Three times I was called by name while I slept to which I answered “Here I am.” A fair judge and ruler of my people, I was a herald of the future King of Kings.
3. Known as “the weeping Prophet,” I was the sad foreseer of the future destruction of Jerusalem.
4. My elderly father said to me, “You, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways.”
5. Of me the Prophet Isaiah said, “A shoot will come up from the stump of \_ \_ \_ \_; from his roots his branch will bear fruit.

**Important biblical prophets are represented on this week’s Advent Symbol. Name them AND the Advent symbol itself. Write your five answers on a piece of paper and bring them to Mass. Or, email your answers to the church. (Please include your name.)**

**SAINT OF THE WEEK FEAST DAY NOV. 4  
St. JOHN DAMASCENE 679—749**



The last of the Greek fathers, John was born in Damascus, Syria. He succeeded his father as chief representative of the Christian community to the caliph in Damascus, then under Islamic rule. However, after serving some years, he was forced to resign in 719 because of his faith. He

entered a monastery in the mountain wilderness between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea, and lived there until his death. As a priest, he devoted himself to prayer and writing, producing 150 works on theology, philosophy and religious education, as well as a defense of the veneration of icons and numerous hymns. His work was widely cited in the Middle Ages. Pope Leo XIII declared him a doctor of the church in 1890.

*Dear Padre,*

**Do we need to evangelize, or spread the gospel, to fellow Catholics?**

Yes! Evangelization is beneficial to Catholics who already practice the faith. As St. Paul VI pointed out, “The Church...seeks to deepen, consolidate, nourish and make ever more mature the faith of those who are already called the faithful or believers, in order that they may be so still more” (On Evangelization in the Modern World [Evangelii Nuntiandi], 54). What about nonpracticing Catholics? Yes, again! A particular focus of the evangelizing Catholic ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life. We already know that a large number of the baptized have not formally repudiated their baptism but do not live in accordance with it. They resist the idea of evangelization out of indifference or a hostility based on the belief that he or she is one of the family, but is “in the know” and no longer believes. Christ wishes God’s love to be proclaimed and reproclaimed to all Catholics—practicing and nonpracticing. This is the essential mission that Christ gives to his Church—to invite everyone to experience the full impact of God’s love in Jesus.

— Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org - Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

SERVICE

**ST. BENEDICT FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry is open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Next open for distribution on **Friday, December 18, 2020.**

**NOTE: In December the Food Pantry will be open only on the first and third Fridays—12/4 & 12/18.**

**Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...”**

Matthew 25:34-36

**MAHALO FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP!**

Thank you to all those who helped prepare the hall chapel for Advent—your hard work and contributions are always greatly appreciated.

And **let us not grow weary of doing good**, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9