



St. Benedict Catholic Church

Sunday December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent- Gaudete Sunday

Who Are You?

So far the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be? The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John's Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, "Who are you?" (John 1:19) Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as "perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23). We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn't know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting.

-Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

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MISSION CHURCH:

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Kealahou

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
Kealahou
7:00 a.m. Wednesday

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

- ☪ How might you envision this long-awaited one? What do you think the nation needs in a leader?
- ☪ What kind of revolutionary transformation do you think we need today?

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: ...my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation... [IS 61:1-2A, 10-11](#)

Psalm: My soul rejoices in my God. [LK 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54](#)

Second Reading: Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. [1 THES 5:16-24](#)

Gospel: A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light... [JN 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

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

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 - NEW -

Bishop Larry Silva has issued the following directive, **“I am extending the [Sunday Mass] dispensation through Tuesday, February 16, 2021, the day before Ash Wednesday ... I would urge all our parishioners who can safely do so to return to worship at Sunday Mass.”**

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 or
YouTube channel: 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.

PRAYER FOR THE 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We humbly beg you, O Lord, to listen to our prayers and, by the grace of your coming, bring light into our darkened minds. Through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Pope Francis released an Apostolic Letter about St. Joseph, *“Patris Corde”* (“a father’s heart”) and has declared a “Year of St. Joseph” to be observed from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021. The diocese will be sending resources to help celebrate this important year. It is the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pius IX declaring him Patron of the Catholic Church.

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...

Caroline Smith, Liam Jones (age two), Hilda Sebastian, Stephen Texeira, 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, Keiki San Filippo, Michael Suber, Eddie Navas, 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 14 Advent Weekday Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday DECEMBER 15 Advent Weekday Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday DECEMBER 16 Advent Weekday Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday DECEMBER 17 Advent Weekday Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17

Friday DECEMBER 18 Advent Weekday Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Saturday DECEMBER 19 Advent Weekday Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25

Sunday DECEMBER 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1



**God's Creatures
Bear Witness
to Jesus' Birth**

1. I am sturdy, stubborn and symbolized peace in ancient warfare. I transported Mary across rocky terrain from Galilee to Bethlehem. Thirty-three years later, I brought her Son into Jerusalem to cheers of "Hosanna."
2. I am known for my endurance and ability to travel long distances across arid land. I am a symbol of the *Good News* being carried into far and distant regions.
3. I am at the Nativity as a symbol of innocence and purity. Christians associate me with Jesus being the ultimate sacrificial offering for our sins.
4. I am the *French* word for the Nativity Scene. My name means "*crib*". **Six** letters make up my name.

The Nativity Scene depicts the humble birth of Jesus. Surrounding the manger are God's creatures. Three of them are described above. Identify them AND this week's 'mystery word'. Bring your answers to Mass, or email them to us. (Include your Name.)

**SAINT OF THE WEEK
VIRGINIA CENTURIONE BRACELLI**



1587-1651

Feast Day December 15

Unable to persuade her parents that she had a religious vocation, Virginia was married at age 15 to the son of another notable Italian family. But he gambled, lived dissolutely and died after only five years. Virginia, despite her unhappiness in the marriage, nursed him at the end. She vowed to live celibately thereafter, bringing up her two daughters and caring for abandoned children, especially girls. She founded several schools and the Sisters of Our Lady of the Refuge on Mount Calvary. She was canonized in her hometown, Genoa, in 2003.



Dear Padre,

Who was John the Baptist?

What we know about John the Baptist comes from a combination of Scripture and Church traditions that evolved during and after the writing of the Scriptures of the New Testament. John's parents were Zechariah, who was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Elizabeth, who was related to Mary. The angel Gabriel told Zechariah that his wife would bear a son, even though she was quite old. It is believed that John was born in the region of Ain Karim, southwest of Jerusalem. When he was in his early twenties, he was a member of the Qumran community, and later was a hermit in the desert. John began his public ministry in his late twenties in the Jordan River Valley. His preaching followed the long line of Jewish prophets who preached against the evils of the day and demanded inner repentance and outer baptism as a sign of that repentance. John continued his preaching in the Jordan Valley even after encountering Jesus. Eventually John was arrested by Herod Antipas and imprisoned at Machaerus Fortress by the Dead Sea. He was beheaded at the request of Salome, the daughter of Herodias, and buried at Sebaste, in Samaria. After John's death, many of his disciples followed Jesus, including Andrew and John. John, whose name means "God is gracious," is usually represented in pictures holding a long slender cross with a small lamb partially hidden behind him.

- Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR

— Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

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: Food Pantry will resume opening on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month in January 2021.

"You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results."

-Mahatma Gandhi