



# St. Benedict Catholic Church

December 4, 2022

## Second Sunday of Advent

### Pretend the Dream

By Fr. Joseph Juknialis



When I was in college, we had a professor who would often say that if, instead of acting the way we feel, we would act the way we would like to feel, then we would soon begin to feel the way we hoped. Over the years, I've found a fair amount of wisdom in that advice, although I don't always remember to tap into it. I know it's all a kind of pretending, but somehow the pretending does seem to make a difference. Each year, we make our journey into Christmas with a year's baggage. We come with good memories of moments of lazy fun, sun-drenched summers, and dappled autumns, vacations, and birthday parties. But we also make our way into this red and green season with a generous share of hurts and pains, failures and even sins, just because most years are lived that way. And so, during this last month of each year we play at being happy and pretend that all is good. We sing carols and toast friendships and wish each other blessings and goodness. And we do it all with an unspoken honesty, knowing full well that life is not always so, but maybe by pretending, and by some freakish twist of godliness, we can find for some short time the harmony once prophesied by Isaiah. Maybe the wolf and the lamb will be kind, and the calf and lion will forget their history, and for at least one brief shining moment we will live in harmony with one another.

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### *For Reflection*

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*\* This Advent, once a week, try to skip doing something that stresses you. Once a week, act the way you would like to feel. Fake it if you must.*

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading:** ...but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted **Is 11:1-10**

**Psalm:** Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. **Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17**

**Second Reading:** For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness... **Rom 15:4-9**

**Gospel:** "Prepare the way of the Lord..." **Mt 3:1-12**

**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.

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#### **MISSION CHURCH:**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
Kealakekua

#### **WEEKEND MASSES**

##### **St. Benedict**

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:15 a.m.

##### **HAWAIIAN MASS**

Every Second Sunday  
7:15 a.m.

##### **St. John the Baptist**

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.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 Dodos

#### **BUSINESS MANAGER**

Susan Keen

#### **OFFICE STAFF**

Penny Burgess

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION &  
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT**

Edwina Fujimoto

#### **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Ariel Hadap

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

Francisco and Debra Javar



## ALOHA AND WELCOME HOME!

### Updated Covid-19 Liturgical Directives and Cold & Flu Guidelines

All remaining Covid-19 liturgical restrictions are lifted except for the suspension of the distribution of the Precious Blood to the congregation.

As always, you are reminded to use common sense for your health and safety during the annual cold and flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from coming to Mass. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace. A smile and a heartfelt "Peace be with you" should suffice. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matter in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from a physical expression of the sign of peace out of care of our well-being and not out of unkindness or lack of piety.

### SACRAMENTS

**Funerals** Please contact the office for information about available dates *before* making arrangements with the mortuary or cemetery.

**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**

Many people today are constantly using social media, but are not themselves very social: they are caught up in themselves, prisoners of the cell phone in their hand. What appears on the screen is not the reality of other persons: their eyes, their breath and their hands.

ADDRESS IN A MEETING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021



### Prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent

*Heavenly Father,  
You are the God  
who gives peace.*

*This second week of Advent,  
causes us to remember that,  
because of Jesus,  
we can experience a Christmas  
free from turmoil and chaos.  
Regardless of our  
circumstances or our situations,  
you offer us peace that passes  
understanding. Amen.*



### **Definition:**

"The Most Holy Virgin Mary was, in the first moment of her conception, by a unique gift of grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of mankind, preserved free from all stain of original sin." (Pope Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, 1854)

# STEWARDSHIP

MAXIMIZING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR HIS GLORY

"O Mary,  
Conceived  
without sin,  
pray for us  
who have  
recourse  
to thee."



Holy Day  
of  
Obligation

December  
8, 2022

## SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

### MASS TIMES:

St. Benedict 7:00 a.m.

St. John the Baptist Mission 7:00 p.m.

### 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...

Patsy Sabarre, Bernard Labasan, Azarias Dodos, John Herman, Janet Katakura, Merton Ogata, Carol Crusat, Henry Borges, Jim Shrewsbury, Emily Griego, John Sanchis, Rafael Ramirez, Jeffrey Crusat, Robin Crusat, William Anderson, Linda Adkins, Gloria Grapa, Tamayo Hanato, Caroline Smith, Hilda Sebastian, Elizabeth Awa, Ruby Ann Kaho'onei, Johnny Koene, Keiki San Filippo.

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

### Pray the Rosary Daily

## 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*

### PRAYER

### CALENDAR

**Monday** December 5 Advent  
Weekday Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday** December 6 Advent  
Weekday Is 40:1-11 Mt  
18:12-14

**Wednesday** December 7 St.  
Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church Is 40:25-31  
Mt 11:28-30

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

**Friday** December 9 Advent  
Weekday Is 48:17-19 Mt  
11:16-19

**Saturday** December 10 Ad-  
vent Weekday Sir 48:1-4, 9-  
11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday** December 11 Third  
Sunday of Advent Is 35:1-6a,  
10 Jas 5:7-c10 Mt 11:2-11





*Second Sunday of Advent*

[Matthew 3:1-12]  
[Isaiah 11:1-10]  
[Romans 15:4-9]

Treasure Hunt

1. This week's *Advent candle* is called the \_\_\_\_\_ **Candle**. It stands for \_\_\_\_\_'s journey to the place of Jesus' birth,
2. Matthew's Gospel is set on the **J**\_\_\_\_\_ River with **J**\_\_\_\_\_ preaching **r**\_\_\_\_\_, **not** in the sense of saying 'I'm sorry,' but so that we can bear **g**\_\_\_\_\_ **f**\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Isaiah speaks of the **shoot** that sprouts from the **J**\_\_\_\_\_ **T**\_\_\_\_\_. Both he and St. Paul connect this image to the "**j**\_\_\_\_\_ around Jesus' waist" and the **h**\_\_\_\_\_ it will produce among the animals and the Faithful.
4. In our time, **who** said, "May we be in this world a ray of that **light** which shone forth from **Bethlehem**, bringing joy and **peace** to the hearts of all men and women."

**BONUS:** [from the **Reconciliation video** on [www.catholichawaii.org](http://www.catholichawaii.org)]

- a) The word \_\_\_\_\_ translates as "to miss the mark."
- b) **The steps of reconciliation** highlighted in the video were: \_\_\_\_\_ (the prayerful self-reflection of our sins) and \_\_\_\_\_ (true and deep sorrow for our sins).

**Answers to last week's Treasure Hunt**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

-1- HOPE; -2- Isaiah; -3- prepared, awake; -4- light; -5- darkness, armor; **BONUS:** (a) gift; (b) healers

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE *plus* INSERT**

The Advent Reconciliation Service for our parish will be held on **Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 6:00 pm** at **St. John the Baptist Mission**. Several priests will be there. Inserted in today's bulletin is the entire four part handout about Reconciliation. The **QR** codes or **web address** will open a video about the sacrament. Everyone is strongly encouraged to prepare for, and attend, our Parish Penance Service.

Satan tempts us to deny responsibility for our sins. Our best weapon to defeat the Prince of Darkness is bringing our sins to light by confessing them to the priest.

*Dear Padre.*

**Many LGBTQ+ youth are homeless, suicidal, or even murdered because of who they are. How can we support them?**

Your desire to be compassionate is very much in keeping with the Church's teaching. In 1986, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now emeritus Pope Benedict XVI), issued a strongly worded call for civility and respect for homosexual persons. On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons emphasized, "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs." The Catechism of the Catholic Church stresses that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (ccc 2358). "The Church actively asserts and promotes the intrinsic dignity of every person. As human persons, persons with a homosexual inclination have the same basic rights as all people, including the right to be treated with dignity," wrote the US Bishops in "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination" (2006). In terms of offering support, this document reads, "As baptized members of the Catholic community, persons with a homosexual inclination continue to look to the Church for a place where they may live in authentic human integrity and holiness of life. Being welcomed into and participating in their local faith community is the foundation of spiritual support that the Church offers to them. Full and active participation is encouraged. Participation in a worshipping Catholic community is a support for living a life of chastity and integrity and an encouragement to an ongoing personal conversion."

• — The Redemptorists [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)

SERVICE

**ST. BENEDICT FOOD PANTRY**

The **regular** St. Benedict Food Pantry schedule continues to be the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 9 am to 10 am. **PLEASE NOTE –EXCEPTION: NEXT OPEN ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER DISTRIBUTION DATES will be ONLY on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.**