

St Benedict Parish

St. John the Baptist Church

The Baptism of the Lord (A) Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7 / Acts 10:34–38 / Matthew 3:13–17

January 11, 2026

Today marks the close of the Christmas season, but before we return to Ordinary Time, we have one more great feast to celebrate — The Baptism of the Lord. And, as we are still in New Year's resolution season, today's feast is a perfect opportunity to consider the privileges and responsibilities we all share as Christian stewards by virtue of our own Baptism, and how we might live them out more fully in the year ahead.

At the moment of our Baptism, whether in infancy or later in life, we became adopted sons and daughters of God, members of his holy, Catholic Church. Though we may not have realized it, the moment of our Baptism is also the moment we become Christian stewards, disciples of Jesus Christ, tasked with the work of following in His footsteps day by day and sharing the Gospel message with all those around us.

Our first reading from the Book of Isaiah describes some of the infinitely wonderful characteristics of Christ that we, as his disciples, are called to imitate. Through the prophet, the Father calls His Son "my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased." Christ's actions are powerful in effect — "He shall bring forth justice to the nations" — yet humbly and gently carried out — "not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street, a bruised reed he shall not break..." This is a description of the way of life we must go about in our work as disciples of Christ: humbly and lovingly, without calling attention to ourselves and yet without backing down when the going gets tough.



In our second reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Peter reminds us that God has no favorites; Jesus is "Lord of all" and all are equally wanted and cherished by the Father. Peter gives us yet another glimpse of the person of Jesus we should imitate. "He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." Again, by virtue of our Baptism, God is with us, too. We, therefore, must live our lives like Jesus, seeking to do good to everyone we encounter; not just those in our inner circle of family and friends, but everyone in our community since the Father loves us all and Jesus sought out everyone with His saving message.

Finally, in the Gospel passage from Matthew, we see yet another aspect of Jesus in action, this time as he humbly stands before John to be baptized by him. Imagine the Son of God waiting his turn in line with sinners seeking baptism. What humility and what willingness to unite Himself to us our Lord demonstrates by this act. We can do no less as we live out our daily lives as his disciples. And when we do strive with all our might to live out our Baptismal call to Christian stewardship, we will experience the deep honor of knowing that our we, too, are God's "beloved" sons and daughters "with whom He is well-pleased." 2026 Catholic Stewardship Consultants

GOOD NEWS

By IGUEL DULICK

John, miracle son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, cousin of Jesus and known as “the Baptist,” offers a “baptism of repentance.” Then Jesus shows up. The eternal Son of God a penitent? John is shocked and resists, saying it is Jesus who should baptize him. But Jesus insists, “to fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15). At the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus is humbling himself, much as he did toward the end, when he washed the feet of his disciples. Then it was Peter who would resist what seemed inappropriate by the standards of this world. Jesus is giving us an example, the way of the servant leader, as described in today’s beautiful passage from Isaiah. Jesus is the servant leader, the Father’s Son, over whom the Holy Spirit danced like a dove, and the Father, with his booming voice from the heavens, said of him, “This is my beloved Son!” (Matthew 3:17). Jesus allowing himself to be baptized may seem like a contradiction, but given all that follows, we know he is offering his followers a consistent model of what he expects from those who choose to be his disciples. As St. Paul would later write to the Church in Philippi, “Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. (Philippians 2:5–6).

● 2026 Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Mass intentions
January 10-16, 2026
SATURDAY
4:00 PM Debra Brown, comfort & renewed health
6:00 PM Marcus, Dee Fraticelli & expected Baby for good health of all
SUNDAY
8:00 AM +Rigoberto Marrero
10:00 AM Concepcion Ruiz Coronado
WEEKDAYS January 13-16
Tues. 7:00 AM Missa Pro Populo
Wed. 7:00 PM +Shane Sutton
Thurs. 7:00 AM Rosalie Loewenbaum, Birthday
Friday 7:00 AM + Steve Peyton

Stewardship of Treasure
Thank you for your generosity!
Dec. 31 Collection \$215.00

Jan. 3-4, 2026

Collection	\$ 2517.00
Maintenance	45.00
Food Pantry	365.00
New Years	602.00
Total	\$3529.00

Attendance January 3-4, 2026

St. Benedict	70	6
St. John	76	7
TOTAL	146	13

Thepaintedchurchhawaii.org

DEAR VISITOR TO ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALOHA! THANK YOU FOR VISITING US TODAY! WE WISH YOU A BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE AND THAT YOU LEAVE ST. BENEDICT’S, TODAY, REFRESHED IN SPIRIT AND WITH PEACE IN YOUR HEART! SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH, IT HAS BEEN A CATHOLIC TRADITION TO OFFER A “MASS INTENTION”. THIS IS A WAY OF REMEMBERING A PERSON AND LIFTING THEM UP IN PRAYER. YOU MAY ASK THE GREETER FOR A FORM AND ENVELOPE.

FOR STRENGTH, PEACE
AND HEALING
MERCIFUL GOD, HEAR
OUR PRAYERS.

*Terrance Terada
*Hano Grace
*Craig Camello
*Pam Shultise
*Merla Kline
*Paul Ruskey
*Carla Vonderahe
*Mahina Kaupiko
*John Sanchis
*Kamala Galletes
*Hank Silva
*Miriam Janczak
*Joeelyn Delas Reyes
*Gwen Menchaca
*Deb Reed
*Gloria Grapa
*William Anderson
*Elizabeth Awa
*Johnny Koene
* Shy Friends

DEAR PADRE

Why do our bishops not marry? Scripture plainly says that they must be the husband of one wife and have faithful children. This is an excellent question and brings us face to face with an important truth: for Catholics, the sacred Scripture is not the singular source of our practice and discipline. We also look, with equal authority, to the living Tradition of the Church. The magisterium is entrusted with the authentic interpretation of both Scripture and Tradition. With this theological and historical context as a necessary background to your question, the answer to your query is this: the lived Tradition of the Church does not support a married clergy, including bishops. Although the Scripture allows for it, and provides some general guidelines, the lived Tradition of the Church does not. The Roman Catholic Church has a celibate clergy and will continue to have a celibate clergy unless and until the magisterium, in union with the pope, determines otherwise. There have been some discussions about changing this discipline, but now there is not much momentum that would suggest any imminent change. In the wider Orthodox Catholic Church, in union with Rome, there is a provision for a married clergy, but, even in these traditions, there is no exception made for married bishops. Bishops are and will continue to be celibate regardless of what Scripture may allow. ● Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY January 12
Weekday 1 Sm 1:1-8 Mk
1:14-20

TUESDAY January 13
Weekday 1 Sm 1:9-20
Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY January
14 Weekday 1 Sm 3:1-
10, 19-20 Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY January 15
Weekday 1 Sm 4:1-11
Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY January 16
Weekday 1 Sm 8:4-7,
10-22a Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY January 17
St. Anthony, Abbot 1 Sm
9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a Mk
2:13-17

SUNDAY January 8
Second Sunday in Ordinary
Time Is 49:3, 5-6 1 Cor
1:1-3 Jn 1:29-34

Looking Ahead- January 2026

*Hawaiian Mass: 8:00 Sunday, **January 11th**, St. Benedict

Pohnpei Mass: 10:00 AM Sunday **January 18**, St. John

*Meetings: St. Michael's Vicariate Meeting Jan. 13, 10-12, Lunch following *Pastoral Council Tuesday, Jan. 13 6:30 St. John Hall

+Funeral: St. John Church **Marciana O. Estencion 1-23-26** Vis. 8:30, Eulogy 9:45, Mass 10:00, Lunch at St. John following burial at Kona Memorial Gardens

+ Funeral: St. Benedict Chapel: **Freeman David, 1-24-26** Vis. 9-10:30, Sharing & Eulogy 10:30-11:00, Mass 11:00, Lunch 12-2:00. Hawaiian Mass.

There is no greater honor, no greater satisfaction than living well this stewardship way of life. Let's resolve in the year ahead to use our Time, Talents, and Treasure in ways that allow us to walk more closely in the footsteps of our incredible Lord and Savior.

The Baptism of the Lord



Treasure Hunt

[Matthew 3:13-17, Isaiah 42: 1-4 and 6-7, & Acts of the Apostles 10: 34-38]

T/F: John the Baptist tried to prevent Jesus from letting him (John) baptize Jesus.

Jesus told John that the baptism must take place to "f _____ all r _____."

When Jesus came up from the water after His baptism, what did He see?

At that same moment, what did the voice from heaven say?

In the *First Reading*, what are THREE (3) ways Jesus will not "bring forth justice to the nations"?

In *Acts 10: 34*, Peter tells those gathered that God shows no p _____ to those who f _____ Him and act u _____.

Answers to Last Week's Treasure Hunt

The Epiphany of the Lord

-1- Epiphany; -2-troubled; -3-the star in the sky; -4- gold = royalty, frankincense = divinity, myrrh – sacrifice/humanity; -5- a warning in a dream; -6- radiance and jubilance (other positive words are okay); -7- that the Gentiles are coheirs in the promise in Christ.



St. Benedict
Bracelet
In our Gift Shop!



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"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

Sheepish Question:

Although we are baptized in water—not birdseed—how does my baptism with Christ empower me to live in a way that pleases God?



The Rosary Has Something for Everyone

Think of the rosary as being like the ocean: There's something in it for everyone, whether you consider yourself a veteran mystic longing to go deeper in prayer with our Lord, a novice struggling to learn how to pray, or someone seeking the Lord's help, right now, with something going on in your life. The deep-sea explorer and the child making sand castles on the beach can fully enjoy the same ocean while playing at different levels. And this is true with the rosary.

—from the book Praying the Rosary Like Never Before: Encounter the Wonder of Heaven and Earth

by Edward Sri