

St Benedict Parish

St. John the Baptist Church

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Isaiah 49:3, 5–6 / 1 Corinthians 1:1–3 / John 1:29–34

January 18, 2026

Behold the Lamb of God! ANN M. GARRIDO

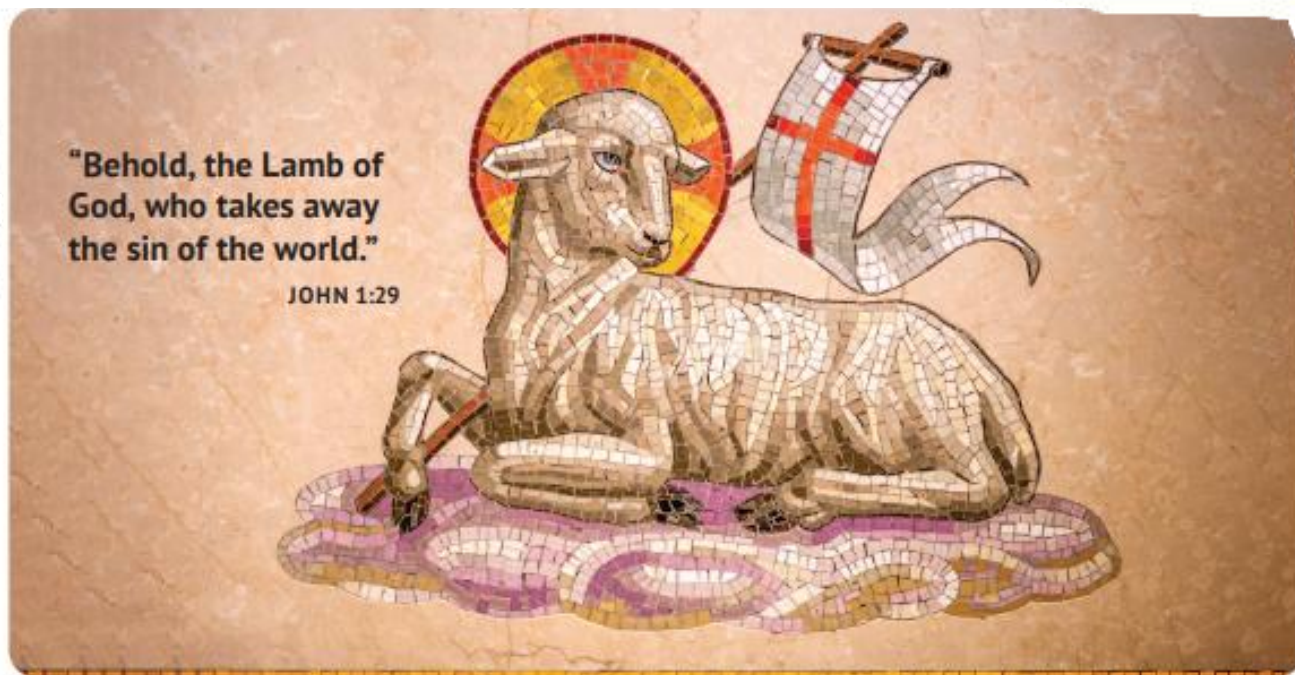
Of the many names

scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29). Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death. Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (Leviticus 20–28.)

Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world? Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—

Reflect

Which understanding of the "Lamb of God" resonates with me?



***ST. BENEDICT "The Painted Church"**
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Mass times: ST. BENEDICT

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

*ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 81-6410A Hawaii Belt Rd. Kealahakua Saturday 6:00 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Confession: Sat. 9-11

St. Benedict Church

email: st.benedict@rcchawaii.org

Pastor Administrator: Fr. William Quiamjot (Ke-yam-hoat)

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Silence Is Peace the World Cannot Give

Contemplative silence is the peace the world cannot give (John 14:27). That does not mean that there is not a place for explaining, not a place for understanding, but we first have to learn to say yes to the moment. Yes is where we have to begin. If we start with no, which is critiquing, judging, pigeonholing, analyzing, and dismissing, it is very hard to get back to yes. We must learn to start every single encounter with a foundational yes, before we ever dare to move to no. That is the heart of contemplation, and it takes a lifetime of practice. You have now begun and can live each day with a forever-returning beginner's mind. It will always be silent before it dares to speak.

—from the book [*Silent Compassion: Finding God in Contemplation*](#) by, Richard Rohr, OFM

Slow Down

Reflect

We so often go about our day without giving a thought to the habits we perform throughout them. We slurp our cup of coffee or tea while driving down the road or inhale a burger on the go without a thought. Our food is so often a lost opportunity for connection—with ourselves, those around us, and with the divine.

Pray

God who made our bodies to function so well, created the plants and animals we eat, and guided those who prepare our food or gather round our table, thank you. Thank you for the sustenance, the energy, and the opportunity to slow down and acknowledge your presence.

When we allow life to move too quickly—even though it's almost always an unconscious decision—we are missing out on the sacredness of the present. In the hurried moments, may we remember to take a deep breath, and call to mind that you are in our presence—yes, even in line at the grocery, as we eat lunch while working, as we recite a prayer from rote memory.

May this conscious interruption of the cycle of busyness enhance our spirits.

Amen.

Act

If you go through a drive-thru or to a coffee shop this week, take a moment to make eye contact with the server. Commit one morning to sipping an entire cup of coffee or tea in a chair in silence without any distractions. Today's *Pause+Pray* was written by Bond Strong.

Mass intentions

January 1-17/18, 2026

SATURDAY

4:00 PM Jilla Tucker, healing

6:00 PM Ben Smith (health)

SUNDAY

8:00 +Colby Alan Watson

10:00 +Analiza Gregorio

WEEKDAYS January 20-23, 2026

Tues. 7:00 AM +Antonia Sebastian

Wed. 7:00 AM Aleena Landingen, 13th birthday

Thurs. 7:00 AM Missa Pro Populo

Friday 7:00 AM +Jim Heusdex

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for your generosity!

Jan. 10-11, 2026

Collection	\$ 2500.00
Maintenance	610.00
Food Pantry	145.00
Total	3255.00

Attendance January 2026

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

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Let's Pray 🙏

Dear Lord,
Let me begin this day with a thankful heart. Keep me from complaining. Help me to notice the blessings You've placed all around me. Amen.

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

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

Dear Padre,

I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought lay people couldn't because our hands are not consecrated. You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully. Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ● Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org Printed with

This week and beyond:

Thank you to our Pohnpei members for rehearsing and sharing their music with us at St. John.

+Funeral: **St. John Church Marciana O. Estencion 1-23-26 .**

St. Benedict Chapel: **Freeman David, 1-24-26** Hawaiian Mass.

I need help: 1. Someone willing to volunteer to design and prepare the weekly bulletin. Except for printing, This could be done from home and could take 1 day or less. I am wondering if a High School Student would be interested and add it to their resume of volunteer work 2. I need someone to stock the gift shop twice a week. 3. Next year, January, to prepare on our system and mail tax letters to donors by month end). **Carolyne Craven, Secretary**

January 18 is the Feast Day of Sto Nino and all are invited to meet outside at St. Michael's by 3:30 for the procession and 4pm Holy Eucharist. After the Mass there will be a program with presentations from each parish. St. John & St. Benedict members with Fr. William, have been practicing their presentation!

MONDAY January 19
Weekday 1 Sm 15:16–23
Mk 2:18–22
TUESDAY January 20
Weekday 1 Sm 16:1–13 Mk
2:23–28
WEDNESDAY January 21
St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
1 Sm 17:32–33, 37, 40–51
Mk 3:1–6
THURSDAY January 22
Day of Prayer for the Legal
Protection of Unborn
Children 1 Sm 18:6–9;
19:1–7 Mk 3:7–12
FRIDAY January 23
Weekday 1 Sm 24:3–21 Mk
3:13–19
SATURDAY January 24 St.
Francis de Sales, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church 2
Sm 1:1–4, 11–12, 19, 23–27
Mk 3:20–21
SUNDAY January 25 Third
Sunday in Ordinary Time Is
8:23—9:3 1 Cor 1:10–13, 17
Mt 4:12–23

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV Ours is a time marked by a growing search for spirituality, particularly evident in young people, who are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life. Hence, it is important that the Christian community be farsighted in discerning the challenges of today's world and in nurturing the desire for faith present in the heart of every man and woman. MESSAGE TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS, ROME, MAY 28, 2025

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Treasure Hunt

[John 1:29-34, Isaiah 49: 3 and 5-6 & 1Corinthians 1:1-3]

1. What **title** does John the Baptist use to describe **He** who “takes away the sins of the world”?
2. Even though John was born before Jesus, **WHY** does he say, “A man is coming **after** me who ranks ahead of me because **he existed before me**.”?
3. **T/F**: When Jesus came to be baptized, John already knew him.
4. **What** was John’s **urgent** purpose in baptizing people with WATER?
5. John baptized with water; Jesus baptized with the **H** _____ **S** _____.
6. According to the Prophet Isaiah, it is not enough for the Lord to make His people servants. **What** must they become to “restore the survivors of Israel”?
7. What **two** (2) **things** do Paul and Sosthenes bring to the people of Corinth?

Answers to Last Week’s Treasure Hunt

The Baptism of the Lord

-1- True; -2- fulfill, righteousness; -3- the heavens opened up and the Spirit of God descended on Him like a dove; -4- “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” -5- not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice known in the streets; -6- partiality, fear, uprightly.

It’s Not Me, It’s Him

All four gospels give an account of Jesus’ baptism by John the Baptist. This story by the author of John’s John 1:29-34 • John’s testimony to Jesus Q gospel (who was not the same person as John the Baptist) is perhaps the most puzzling of the four. John speaks in somewhat odd and cryptic language, beginning with “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” As Catholics today, we recognize that phrase from mass when the priest holds up the consecrated host. However, readers and hearers of John’s Gospel would have understood it as a reference to their Jewish heritage. In Jesus’ day, Jews would take a lamb to the Temple in Jerusalem to be sacrificed as an atonement for their sins. When John stated that Jesus was the Lamb of God, he was making quite a claim—that Jesus was taking the place of a sacrificial lamb and that he was taking on the sins of the entire world! There are suggestions in several of the gospels that some people were beginning to think John the Baptist was the long-awaited Messiah. In this Gospel, John says everything he can to convince people that it isn’t him, but Jesus, who deserves that recognition. Clearly, he had a profound experience after baptizing Jesus.



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“In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight.”

Sheepish Question:

What living offering will I make for Jesus’ purposes this week?

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.