

St Benedict Parish St. John the Baptist Church

March 8, 2026 Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Exodus 17:3–7 / Romans 5:1–2, 5–8 / John 4:5–42 or 4:5–15, 19b–26,
39a, 40–42

Are You Listening?

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR



“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” (See Psalm 95.) Our psalm prayer invites us to respond to the Word of God. A positive response should be assumed as ordinary: very few among us would deliberately ignore God’s voice. The challenge is not in responding “yes” to the invitation of the Lord but rather in “hearing” his voice. There are so many voices that daily compete for attention. We seem to be bombarded every waking moment with some kind

of noise that demands attention and action. At one time, Neil Diamond might have been able to celebrate the “Beautiful Noise” of the city, but it is far more difficult for us today. Frankly, the noise around us is deafening, and most people long for true silence, a break in the pattern, a vacation from the frantic anxiety that seems to be present. A wonderful Lenten practice—indeed, a spiritual practice that goes well beyond Lent—is to freely choose to disconnect from distraction. Resist the temptation to plug in the earbuds. Refrain from the distraction of social media content. Leave your cell phone in the living room, go sit in the backyard, and pay attention to nothing. “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:11), the psalmist reminds us. Listen for God’s voice, hear his call, and respond to the invitation. ●



***ST. BENEDICT “The Painted Church” 84-5140 Painted Church Rd.
Captain Cook, HI 96704 Phone 808-328-2227
Fax: 808-328-8482**

Mass times: ST. BENEDICT Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 a.m.

***ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 81-6410A Hawaii Belt Rd. Kealahou**
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) wquiamjot@rcchawaii.org

IMPORTANT: Volunteer Chaplains Needed !

St. Benedict's, St. John the Baptist and St. Michael's have all participated in taking communion to Catholic patients at Kona Community Hospital for many years! The hospital calls it their Hospital Chaplain Program. We are currently in need of several volunteers to visit our Catholic patients and offer them communion and/or prayer once or twice a month. The nice part of this ministry is that you pick the date(s) you are available and go anytime during visiting hours. To volunteer, your parish must qualify you as a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion. Kona Hospital would ask that you complete their volunteer paperwork and orientation. Volunteers go at times that are convenient for them, and the visits to the hospital generally require an hour or less of your time. If you are able to volunteer, **please call Frances Vasquez at 505-328-1727. Thank you!**

Although St. Benedict's Rule was written for monks, his wisdom can radically change our Lenten approach from a miserable season to a joyful time of prayer and works of mercy. Besides challenging his monks to a life of prayer and self-denial, St. Benedict's following words are a Lenten paradigm shift: "Let each one deny himself some food, drink, sleep, needless talking and idle jesting, and look forward to holy Easter with joy and spiritual longing." Yes, joy is our Lenten challenge.

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.

NEW & only ON LINE GIVING HUB
<https://www.osvhub.com/the-painted-church-hawaii/giving/funds>



the-painted-church-hawaii.org to find the **website ONLINE** , or **you can go to the site by pointing your camera to the image above, touch the address on the phone screen to go to the site for Online Giving and you may make your donation.** Please call the office 808-328-2227, Tuesday-Friday with any questions.

Mass intentions

March 8 -9, 2026
SATURDAY
4:00 PM Missa Pro Populo
6:00 PM +Sharon Gayle Sweet
 Helen Burnett, Healing-
SUNDAY
8:00 Maggie Lavender, comfort and healing
10:00 For those struggling and Hungry
WEEKDAYS March 10,11,13
Tues. For a unified family
Wed. Pottoff & Belton Families, sp. intention
Thurs. NO MASS TODAY
Friday + Irene Osifchin, Keri Zinger, Joan Moran

Stewardship of Treasure Mahalo for your generosity!

Feb 21-22, 2026

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Collection | \$ 2536.00 |
| Maintenance | 115.00 |
| Food Pantry | 240.00 |
| Total | \$ 2891.00 |

Attendance

| | | |
|--------------|-----|----|
| St. John | 86 | 19 |
| St. Benedict | 58 | 3 |
| | 144 | 22 |

Website for QR Code for On-Line Giving (See page 2)
the-painted-church-hawaii.org

A Brave Questioner

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

*Jan Neumann
*Hazel Burnett
*Linda Alcain
*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
Friends
*Johnny Koene

This Week's Readings at Mass
Exodus 17:3-7 • Water from the rock
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 • Faith, hope, and love
John 4:5-42 • The Samaritan woman at the well

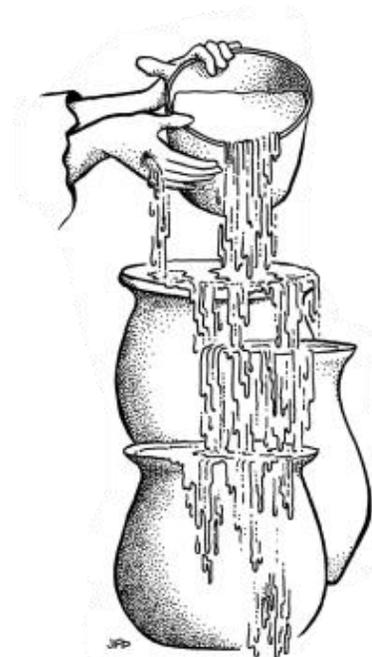
So many biblical scenes take place in the desert and revolve around the question of where people will find the water and food they need to survive. Faith lived in a region where finding their survive. It makes sense, given that our ancestors daily bread and water was literally a matter of life or death. The first reading today tells the famous story of God making the impossible possible, providing Moses and the Israelites with water from a rock just when they thought they might die in the wilderness.

The Gospel reading tells a story of a woman who was thirsty, but in a different way. She has access to H₂O at Jacob's well, but until she meets Jesus, she doesn't realize she is thirsting for more. She knows her religious and theological tradition well. She understands Jews and Samaritans don't share physical items in common. She knows the history of Jacob's well. She knows about the prophets in her religion. She knows her people's historical place of worship. She knows about the Messiah they are awaiting. She seems proud of her religious heritage and isn't easily pushed over. She values I

t and won't let it go without good reason. On the other hand, she is open to new understandings and isn't so prideful that she remains inflexible when presented with someone new. In that way, she was unlike some others Jesus met during his ministry who refused to consider new interpretations of their scripture or religious teachings. When Jesus answered her questions to her satisfaction and addressed her doubts about who he was, she was swift to accept him as her savior.

Notice Jesus' willingness to engage her hard questions. Notice his patience in letting her gradually come to a new understanding. Notice the respect and freedom he gives her to have her own thoughts and opinions. Notice how he gets fed by his conversation with her. Notice his joy when she spreads the good news about him (just like he was asking his apostles to do!).

Rather than focusing on the woman's marital history, what changes if we focus on how Jesus relates to her, and what happens as a result? "Many more began to believe in him." All because she bravely asked the questions she had and listened well to Jesus' answers.



Questions of the Week ?

- 1) Who has challenged you on your religious beliefs and helped you come to a new understanding of them?
- 2) What do you think of Jesus and how he relates to the woman in this passage?

Is this a Jesus you would want to meet?

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MON. MARCH 9

Lenten Weekday

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab Lk 4:24-30

TUES MARCH 10

Lenten Weekday Dn

3:25, 34-43 Mt 18:21-35

WED. MARCH 11

Lenten Weekday Dt 4:1,

5-9 Mt 5:17-19

THURS. MARCH 12

Lenten Weekday Jer

7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23

FRIDAY MARCH 13

Lenten Weekday

Hos 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34

SAT. MARCH 14

Lenten Weekday

Hos 6:1-6 Lk 18:9-14

SUNDAY MARCH 15

Fourth Sunday of Lent 1

Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41 or

9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Third Sunday of Lent Treasure Hunt



[John 4:5-42, Exodus 17: 3-7, and Romans 5:1-2 & 5-8]

1. **Why** was the Samaritan woman surprised when Jesus said, “Give me a drink.”
2. **What** is Jesus’ promise to those who ‘drink of the living water’?
3. **What** did Jesus reveal to the Samaritan woman about herself that convinced her to tell the people in the town about Him?
4. **T/F:** Based **only** upon the testimony of the Samaritan woman, most Samaritans came to believe that Jesus was the savior of the world.
5. What happened when Moses followed The Lord’s instruction and struck his staff upon the rock of Horeb?
6. In *the Second Reading*, St. Paul tells the Romans that God proved His love for us by letting Jesus be crucified even though we were still **s_____**.

Answers to Last Week’s Treasure Hunt

Second Sunday of Lent

-**1**- to be witnesses of His Transfiguration; -**2**- Moses represented the LAW and Elijah represented the PROPHETS; -**3**- a bright cloud cast a shadow over them and God said that Jesus was His Beloved Son; -**4**- after He had been raised from the dead; -**6**- to leave the land of his kinsfolk and to go to the land shown to him by God.” -**7**- destroyed death and brought life and immortality.

5th
Of



Sunday
Lent

Dear Padre, When I was young, my

parish covered all the statues during part of Lent. What did it mean exactly? Do any churches still do this? In 2001, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the practice of veiling statues and crosses during the last two weeks of the season of Lent, beginning on the fifth Sunday of Lent. This practice is optional, at the discretion of the local pastor. According to the Roman Missal, “Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.” Covering crosses and statues in violet cloth in the final weeks of Lent indicates a shift in the Church’s focus from Jesus in the desert (gospel for the first Sunday of Lent) to Christ during his Passion. Similar to other Lenten disciplines of penance and fasting that align us in solidarity with Christ, the veiling custom is meant to deepen our appreciation for Christ’s ultimate sacrifice. It represents our “fasting” from sacred depictions of the cross on which hung our salvation and from images of the saints, who glorify Christ and in whom he is glorified. This concealment creates an absence to make our hearts grow fonder for the Lord, who “bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so

† **Stations of the Cross - St. Benedict Every Friday of Lent, This Friday at 12 Noon.** Stations of the Cross **Outside, Good Friday 3 PM** or if it rains, inside the church. Any groups or families are welcome to come any day between **6AM & 6PM** when the **St. Benedict gate will be open.**
Penance Svc. March 23, 6 PM St.