



ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, January 13, 2019

The Baptism Of The Lord



The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."



❖ A Catholic Community ❖

Diocese of Honolulu
2747 Pali Highway ~ Honolulu HI 96817
808.595.3105
Email Address: ssccpali@rcchawaii.org
Website address: ssccpali.net

MISSION STATEMENT

"Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we the family of St. Stephen Catholic Church nurture and sustain our faith through Love, Service and Unity."

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Mario Raquepo
[Cell] 808.228.3053

STAFF

Rev. Deacon Ronald Choo
Sr. Marykutty Kottuppallil, MSMHC
Celine Asato
Tina Welch, Secretary
eMAIL: ssccpali@rcchawaii.org

WEBSITE: ssccpali.net

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday~Friday: 9:00 AM to 12 Noon

MASS SCHEDULES

St. Catherine Chapel

Monday ~ Saturday ~ 8:00 A. M.
Tuesday ~ Communion Service Only
Saturday (Main Church) ~ 4:00 PM
Sunday (Main Church) ~ 7:15 AM
Sunday (Main Church) ~ 9:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM

Or, by appointment.

DEVOTION

Holy Rosary before Mass

St. Stephen The First Martyr

Knights of Columbus Council 16267



2B1 ASK1



Contact Worthy Grand Knight Randy Tom
eMail Address: randy.tom0972@gmail.com

Car Magnets For Seminarian



Join the Knights in providing support for Mr. John Akau, who is attending St. Patrick's Seminary in California, by purchasing a "Keep Christ In Christmas" car magnet for a \$5 donation. Please see WGK Randy Tom for more info.

March For Life

Please join our council in the March For Life at the Hawaii State Capitol on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, from 3 to 8 PM. 50 participants are needed to represent St. Stephen during the march. Poster-signs will be provided to march with along the route.

Religious Education Congress

Please join the Knights in raising funds to send our youth to the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress (LA Congress) in March 2020. We are fundraising with M&M Candy Mini Tubes and are requesting that the tubes be filled with quarters and returned to the Knights. For more information please see WGK Randy Tom.



SUNDAY, January 20, 2019
Fellowship By:
KITCHEN CREW



9 DAYS FOR LIFE
JANUARY 14 - 22, 2019
9DAYSFORLIFE.COM

JOIN THOUSANDS AS WE PRAY FOR THE RESPECT OF HUMAN LIFE

4 WAYS:    

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual pro-life novena, 9 Days for Life, Monday, January 14 — Tuesday, January 22. Pray for the respect of all human life with daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Download a free mobile app, or sign up to receive the novena through daily email or text message. (A printable version is also available online. Sign up at www.9daysforlife.com!

Respect Life

Please make a commitment to attend the 2019 March for Life on January 22. The sign-up sheet is at the back of the Church. If you sign-up early, we can make arrangements for a bus



INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, 01.13.2019

7:15 A.M. Mass † Bridgett Dela Cruz
9:30 A.M. Mass † Nancy & Raymond Tom
† Fredrick & Stephanie Foo † Josephine Abcede
† Romana Gamata Fontanilla

MONDAY, 01.14.2019

8:00 A.M. Mass † Josephine Abcede

TUESDAY, 01.15.2019

8:00 A.M. Healing Prayers for the Sick of the Parish

WEDNESDAY, 01.16.2019

8:00 A.M. Mass † For All The Souls In Purgatory

THURSDAY, 01.17.2019

8:00 A.M. Mass Healing Prayers for Steve Aki

FRIDAY, 01.18.2019

8:00 A.M. Mass Birthday Blessings for Toni Farm
Birthday Blessings for Lori Ann Travis

SATURDAY, 01.19.2019

8:00 A.M. Mass † Healing Prayers for Nancy Contrades
4:00 P.M. Mass † Betty & Albert Chong
† Doreen & Francis Chia Healing Prayers for Mary Souza
† Senator Daniel Akaka † Steve Fuji
† Kenneth Asato

Prayer Requests



For The Sick & The Homebound

Margaret Robello, Carrie Talwar, Nancy Asato, Richard Wong, Benito Bautista, Ron Asato, Steve Aki, Mary Souza



For The Deceased Of The Parish

Eileen Green, Don Yee, Ron Kano, Gladys Wong, Kenneth Asato, Tomiko Asato, Doreen & Francis Chia, Betty & Albert Chong, Dr. Joseph Chang, Frederick Lum, Steve Fujii

Lectors Schedules

Please note: The Lector's schedules have been posted to the Church Website — www.scccpali.net



(Right Of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Sunday, January 13, 2019

The Sacraments

Baptism & Confirmation (Symbolon)

New participants are always welcome!

Do You Know What The Feast Of The Epiphany Really Means?

catholic.org

ROMAN TRADITIONS

The celebration of the visitation of the Magi - whom the Bible describes as learned wise men from the East - has developed its own distinct traditions throughout the Roman Church.

As part of the liturgy of the Epiphany, it is traditional to proclaim the date of Easter and other moveable feast days to the faithful - formally reminding the Church of the importance of Easter and the resurrection to both the liturgical year and to the faith.

Other cultural traditions have also arisen around the feast. Dr. Matthew Bunson, EWTN Senior Contributor, told CNA about the "rich cultural traditions" in Spain, France, Ireland and elsewhere that form an integral part of the Christmas season for those cultures.

In Italy, La Befana brings sweets and presents to children not on Christmas, but on Epiphany. Children in many parts of Latin America, the Philippines, Portugal, and Spain also receive their presents on "Three Kings Day."

Meanwhile, in Ireland, Catholics celebrate "Women's Christmas" - where women rest from housework and cleaning and celebrate together with a special meal. Epiphany in Poland is marked by taking chalk - along with gold, incense and amber - to be blessed at Mass. Back at home, families will inscribe the first part of the year, followed by the letters, "K+M+B+" and then the last numbers of the year on top of every door in the house.

The letters, Bunson explained, stand for the names traditionally given to the wise men - Casper, Melchior and Balthazar - as well as for the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat," or, "Christ, bless this house."

In nearly every part of the world, Catholics celebrate Epiphany with a Kings Cake: a sweet cake that sometimes contains an object like a figurine or a lone nut. In some locations lucky recipient of this prize either gets special treatment for the day, or they must then hold a party at the close of the traditional Epiphany season on Feb. 2.

These celebrations, Bunson said, point to the family-centered nature of the feast day and of its original celebration with the Holy Family. The traditions also point to what is known - and what is still mysterious - about the Magi, who were the first gentiles to encounter Christ. While the Bible remains silent about the wise men's actual names, as well as how many of them there were, we do know that they were clever, wealthy, and most importantly, brave.

"They were willing to take the risk in order to go searching for the truth, in what they discerned was a monumental event," he said, adding that the Magi can still be a powerful example.

Lastly, Bunson pointed to the gifts the wise men brought - frankincense, myrrh and gold - as gifts that point not only to Christ's divinity and his revelation to the Magi as the King of Kings, but also to his crucifixion. In giving herbs traditionally used for burial, these gifts, he said, bring a theological "shadow, a sense of anticipation of what is to come."

FINAL WEEK: *The Revelation of God*

† *Always humble yourself lovingly before God and man, because God speaks to those who are truly humble of heart, and enriches them with His gifts.*
~St. Padre Pio

Why Was Jesus Baptized and What Does that Baptism REALLY Mean?

We can live the deeper meaning of the Christian vocation.

Deacon Keith Fournier, catholic.org

This deeper significance is the reason for the Baptism of Jesus and its baptismal connection for us is why, in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches, the clergy often lead the faithful to rivers and entire rivers are blessed on this day! One of the first elements of creation - water - created by the Father through the Word - is now re-created through the Incarnate Word, and becomes the matter of the Sacrament of New Life for all men and women. The Word Incarnate stands in the waters of the earth which was created through Him, and begins the re-creation of everything. Into these waters, through which the people of Israel were once delivered, the entire human race is now invited to follow Jesus. What was once the means of God's judgment and purification at the time of Noah, now fills the Baptismal font where men and women are delivered from sin and made new!

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (Catholic Online) - In the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church we remember the Lord's Baptism in the Jordan today. Some of the most beautiful readings found in the Office of Readings come on the days between the Feast of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. That compilation is a part of the **Liturgy of the Hours**.

During the years when some conferences of Bishops move the Feast of the Epiphany to Sunday, such as this year (2017) in the United States, many of those readings are left undiscovered, because we celebrate the Baptism on the following day, an ordinary weekday and not a Sunday.

The Liturgy of the Hours is also called the Breviary. It is the formal baseline prayer of all Clergy, Bishops, Priests and deacons, as well as those in the religious or consecrated life. However, since the last great Church Council, Vatican II, this official Prayer of the Church is recommended for all Christians. Once someone discovers the Office of Readings in the daily Liturgy of the Hours it becomes the first place, after the Sacred Scripture, to go for inspiration and food for life's journey!

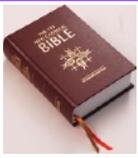
These readings touch upon the deeper meaning of both of these feasts by touching the mystery of what actually occurred and what it really means. Here are a few sentences from an ancient homily given by the Bishop of Constantinople, St. Proclus, as an example:

"At Christmas we saw a weak baby, giving proof of our weakness. In today's feast, we see a perfect man, hinting at the perfect Son who proceeds from the all-perfect Father. At Christmas the King puts on the royal robe of his body; at Epiphany the very source enfolds, and, as it were, clothes the river. Come then and see new and astounding miracles: the Sun of righteousness washing in the Jordan, fire immersed in water, God sanctified by the ministry of man."

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of what is called the public ministry of Jesus. He was thirty years old when it happened. He died His redemptive death at Golgotha when He was only thirty three years old. However, He also spent thirty redemptive years of life in what writers have sometimes called His hidden years in Nazareth's school, "growing in wisdom and stature". (Luke 2:52)

Those years were not hidden, in the sense of being unimportant. It simply means that we do not find much about them in the Gospel

(Continued below "Parish Advisory Council")



Daily Readings



Monday, January 14

1st John 3:

St. R



Tuesday, January 15

1st John 4:



Wednesday, January 16

1st John 4:



Thursday, January 17

1st John 4:

St. Anthony, The Abbott



Friday, January 18

1st John 5:



Saturday, January 19

1st John 5:1



Sunday, January 20

2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5 (66C)

[Page 62, Breaking Bread]

Responsorial Psalm

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.

[Page 62, Breaking Bread]

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

[Page 63, Breaking Bread]

Gospel

John 2:1-11

[Page 63, Breaking Bread]

Saint Of The Day

*St. Fabian & St. Sebastian
Martyrs*



Time, Talent, Treasure, Stewardship *St. Stephen Catholic Church*

Profit & Loss Statement:

(JANUARY 5 & 6, 2019)

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Debt Reduction	\$252.00
Building Fund	\$50.00
Elevator Fund	\$555.00
Sunday Offerings	\$2,572.00
Votive Candles Fund	\$45.00
Total Income	<u>\$3,474.00</u>
Gross Profit	<u>\$3,474.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>\$3,474.00</u>
Net Income	<u>\$3,474.00</u>

Last Week: \$4,225.00

Mahalo

We are grateful to all who generously contribute their time, talent and treasure to our Parish Community.



CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE
(C.C.D.)
ST. STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR
CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, *January 20, 2019* ~ Class

WEDNESDAY, *January 23, 2019* ~ Memorial of
Saint Marianne Cope

SUNDAY, *January 27, 2019* ~ Class

"The Interview"

Written by Sarah Abcede with Rose Paraz

Sarah: How long have you been a parishioner at St. Stephen's?

Rose Paraz: 48 years

Sarah: Why did you decide to attend St Stephen's Church?

Rose Paraz: I live close by.

Sarah: Are you involved with any special groups in the church?

Rose Paraz: I am a church cleaner.

Sarah: Do you have a special story that happened at St Stephen's?

Rose Paraz: I have so many stories and can't choose one.

Sarah: What is your favorite celebration with the church?



Parish Scripture Group

The 9:30 A.M. Wednesday

Parish Scripture Group meets again in the SPAM Conference Room..



Parish Advisory Council

The Council meets on the *Third Thursday of the month*, at 6:00 P.M. in the SPAM Conference Room.

Why Was Jesus Baptized and What Does that Baptism REALLY Mean?

accounts. However, they are rich with meaning, revealing the deeper truths of our faith and the invitation to each one of us who bear the name Christian to live our lives now in a new way, by living them in Jesus Christ. Christianity is not just about being freed *from* - sin and its consequences, which it certainly is. But it is also about being freed *for* - a new way of living our real lives beginning right now and stretching into eternity.

Jesus, Perfect God and Perfect Man, the Incarnate Word, the Son of God and Son of Mary, gave the same glory to the Father when he was working with wood in the workshop of Nazareth as he would years later when he raised his friend named Lazarus from the dead. From the moment of His conception, the Son of God *recapitulated* (to borrow a favored word of the great Church father, Bishop Irenaeus of Lyons) the entire human experience, He re-created and began humanity anew, by assuming our humanity.

During those years, in the hearth of a real, human family, the Son of God sanctified and transformed every aspect of ordinary human life. His redemptive and transforming work began in the first home of the whole human race, His mother's womb. Jesus was a Redeemer in the Womb, beginning His Incarnation as an Embryonic Person, to use the phrase from the Instruction from the Holy See entitled "On the Dignity of every Human Person". From within the Living tabernacle of the Womb of the All Holy Virgin, He began His redemptive mission.

(To be continued.)

"The Interview" Continued

Rose Paraz: My favorite celebration is the Filipino Fiesta.

Sarah: Anything else you would like to share with me and the other parishioners?

Rose Paraz: All of you here are very nice and Fr. Mario is the best.

Many thanks to Sarah for the interview and a task well done!