

Why is **Easter** Greater than Christmas?
 If Easter had not happened, Christmas would have no meaning.
 If the tomb is not empty, the cradle makes no difference. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then he really is just a misguided Jewish rabbi with delusions of grandeur. If Easter is not true, then Christmas is only the story of an obscure baby born in an out-of-the-way village in a forgotten land 2000 years ago.

It is **Easter** that gives Christmas its meaning.

~ Dr. Ray Pritchard

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Mario Raquepo
 [Cell] 808.228.3053

STAFF

Rev. Deacon Ronald Choo
 Sr. Marykuty Kottuppallil, MSMHC
 Tina Welch ~ Secretary

Sacristans

Celine Asato ~ Marisol L. Chang

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday~Friday: 9:00 AM to 12 Noon

❖ A Catholic Community ❖

Diocese of Honolulu



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."

MASS SCHEDULES

St. Catherine Chapel

Monday ~ Communion Service Only
 Tuesday ~ Saturday ~ 8:00 AM
 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 30 minutes before Mass



DEACON & FIRST MARTYR

2747 PALI HIGHWAY, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 ~ 808.595.3105

Email: ssccpali@rcchawaii.org Website: ssccpali.net



St. Stephen The First Martyr
Knights of Columbus Council 16267



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



CHURCH CHOIR
CHOIR PRACTICE
(Suspended until further notice.)



R.C.I.A.
SUNDAY, April 12, 2020
New Participants are always welcome!
(Suspended until further notice.)



CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE
(C.C.D.)
ST. STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR
CATHOLIC CHURCH
(Suspended until further notice.)

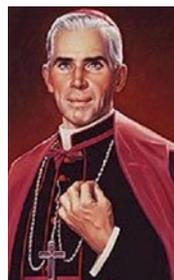
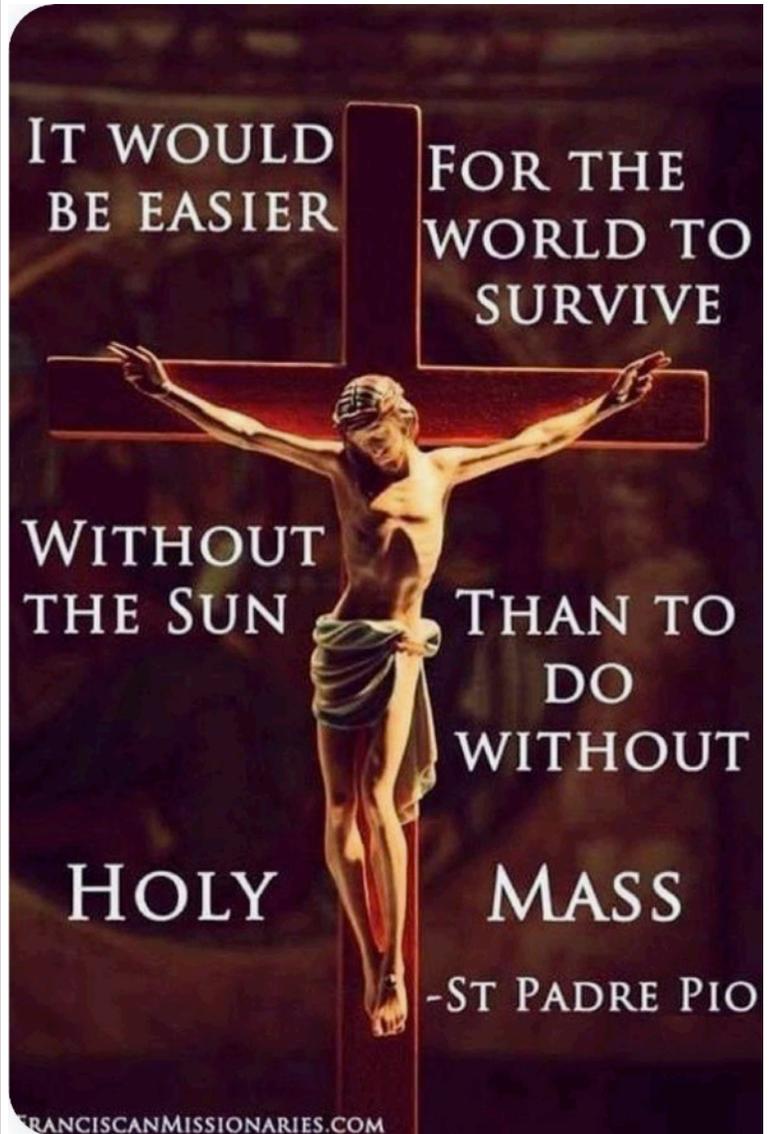
We are an
Easter
PEOPLE
and
hallelujah
is our song.
- ST. JOHN PAUL II
catholicALLYEAR.com



WEEKLY OFFERINGS:
(Suspended until further notice.)

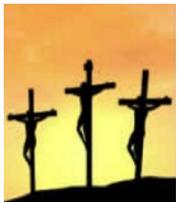
MAHALO!

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



“Tell me your enemy, and I will tell you what you are. Tell me your hatred, and I will tell you your character. Do you hate religion? Then your conscience bothers you. Do you hate the wealthy? Then you are avaricious, and you want to be wealthy. Do you hate sin? Then you love God.

Do you hate your hate, your selfishness, your quick temper, your wickedness? Then you are a
~Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen



"Living Faith"
Daily Catholic Devotions
 Friday, April 10 ~ Good Friday
www.livingfaith.com

Why Is this Day Called "Good"?

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth. Isaiah 53:7

Why do we call this day *Good*? After all, this was the day Jesus was brutally tortured and executed as a criminal. Despite this reality, Christians have called this day Good Friday for centuries. There are several theories. Some believe Good Friday was originally called *God's Friday*, which simply meant it was a very sacred day. Others maintain that it is called Good because Jesus' terrible death led to the resurrection and the salvation of the world. What is "more good" than that? One Scripture professor said, "When we look at Jesus hanging on the cross, we should say not only 'Look how much he *suffered*,' but, more importantly, 'Look how much he *loved*.'"

Good Friday, then, is good because it attests to Jesus' incredible sacrificial love. The question for each of us today is this. How can I make this day—and every day—good by my Christ-like love for others?
Jesus, help me to love as you love.

~ Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D.



"Living Faith"
Daily Catholic Devotions
 Saturday, April 11
www.livingfaith.com

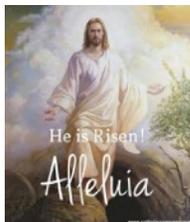
Right Next to us

Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified." Matthew 28:5
 The followers of Jesus certainly were afraid following his crucifixion. They had lost their friend and leader. They feared for their own lives and wondered what could possibly be coming next. And yet, still they sought him, for he had promised something that sounded impossible—his own resurrection from the dead and eternal life for them and a new generation of believers.

We are not much different today. We live in fear of unknown, imagined and very real evil. We fear the negative influences in our lives, forgetting all the time that we have the risen Christ as a living antidote to this fear. He is "hiding in plain sight," standing nearby and always waiting for us to seek him out and find him, to turn our heads and discover him right next to us, bringing peace.

Jesus, be the ever-present bearer of love and courage in my life.

~ Steve Givens



"Living Faith"
Daily Catholic Devotions
 April 12 ~ Easter Sunday ~ The Resurrection
www.livingfaith.com

Goodness Triumphs

...he saw and believed. John 20:8

MASS Intentions

Sunday, April 12

7:15 A.M. Mass

✦ Jack Wong

9:30 A.M. Mass

✦ Vera Asbitomi

✦ Karen Lee

✦ Salvador Solidum

✦ Sam Chun

✦ Steve Aki

Monday, April 13

8:00 AM Communion Service

For The Deceased

Of The Parish

Tuesday, April 14

8:00 A.M. Mass

Healing Prayers For:

Mary Souza

✦ Clement Yee

Wednesday, April 15

8:00 A.M. Mass

Birthday Blessings For:

✦ Joseph Chang

Thursday, April 16

8:00 A.M. Mass

✦ Frederick Ruis

✦ Regina Ruis

Friday, April 17

8:00 A.M. Mass

For The Homebound

Of The Parish

Saturday, April 18

8:00 A.M. Mass

✦ Don Yee

4:00 P.M. Mass

✦ Doreen & Francis Chia

✦ Nancy & Raymond Tom

✦ Betty Lowe



For The Sick & The Homebound

Nancy Asato, Margaret Robello, Mary Souza, Carrie Talwar, Richard Wong

✦ For The Deceased Of The Parish ✦

Steve Aki, Kenneth Asato, Ron & Tomiko Asato, Vera Asbitomi, Benito & Rosario Bautista, Rosalie G. Cadiz, Dr. Joseph & Priscilla Chang, Doreen & Francis Chia, Betty & Albert Chong, Sam Chun, Steve Fujii, Eileen Green, Ron Kano, Betty Lowe, Karen Lee, Frederick Lum, Salvador Solidum, Beatrice Tom, Gladys Wong, Jack Wong, Clement Yee, Don Yee

"LIVING FAITH" EASTER SUNDAY (Continued)

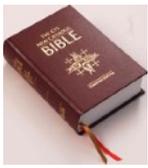
When I call my mother, I typically start the conversation with, "What are you doing, Mom?" She often responds in a droll tone, "Watching the *bad news* on TV."

Indeed, we are daily saturated with news of wars, riots, famines and natural disasters, not to mention dire predictions about the environment and the rising number of terrorist attacks. Death, destruction and evil seem to have the upper hand.

But because of today, Easter Sunday, we know otherwise. Jesus is risen. He has smashed the forces of evil and Satan forever. Suffering, evil and death will *not* have the last word, either in our world or in our own lives.

Whatever suffering or trial may be afflicting you, know that it is not the final word. Jesus is risen! This is the real news, and it is Good

News!
 ~ Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti



DAILY READINGS



Monday, April 13

ACTS 2:14, 22-33

St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr



Tuesday, April 14

ACTS 2:36-41

St. Damien of Molokai



Wednesday, April 15

ACTS 3:1-10



Thursday, April 16

ACTS 3:11-26



Friday, April 17

ACTS 4:1-12



Saturday, April 18

ACTS 4:13-21

ewtn.com



SUNDAY

April 19, 2020

Sunday of
Divine
Mercy



BREAKING BREAD

FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

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RESPONSORIAL

PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

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SECOND READING

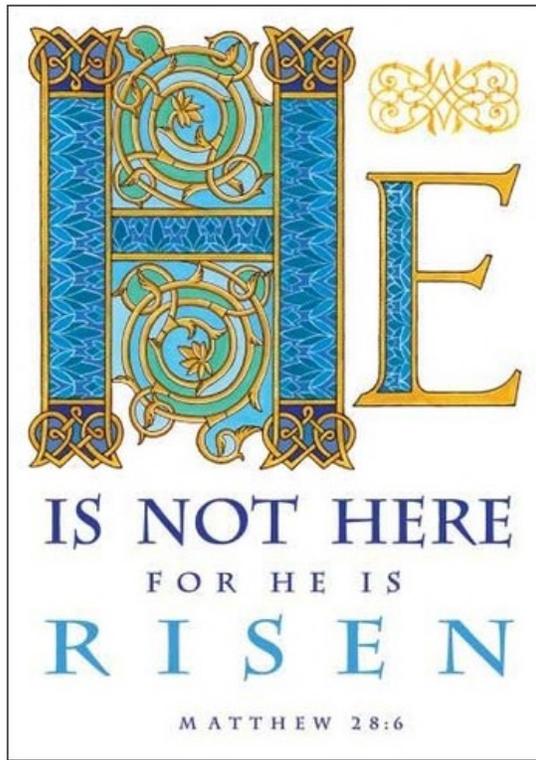
1 Peter 1:3-9

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GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Page 149-150



BIBLE AT CORE OF CATHOLIC BELIEFS

BY MONSIGNOR J. BRIAN BRANSFIELD (USCCB)

People ask if everything Catholics believe is found in the Bible. The answer? Both “yes” and “no.” The Church “does not derive her certainty about all revealed truths from the Holy Scriptures alone” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC] no. 82 *Dei Verbum* 9). Jesus is the ultimate Source of everything Catholics believe, for he reveals God’s plan to save the world from sin as he reveals the Father’s love. Jesus does this because he is the Son of God. He is always united with his Father and thus is the fullness of both Revelation.

The mission of Jesus continues through the ministry of the Church that he founded, and he has given the Church the inspiration of the Holy Spirit for guidance in everything. The Revelation of Jesus is thus extended to the Apostles and handed on through two means: Sacred Scripture and Tradition.

Sacred Scripture is the inspired word of God, the collection of sacred books that hand on the truth of Revelation in written form.

Tradition, as understood by the Church, is more than a collection of customs or time-honored habits. It encompasses the Church’s teaching, life and worship. The living apostolic Tradition highlights the fact that the Apostles received the words and deeds of Jesus who passed on the authority to teach in his name. “Tradition transmits, in its entirety, the Word of God which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit” (CCC no 81; *Dei Verbum* 9).

The Bible reveals that God fulfilled his saving plan of love to free us from sin. The culmination of the entire Bible are the words and deeds of Jesus, in

BIBLE AT CORE OF CATHOLIC BELIEFS (Cont.)

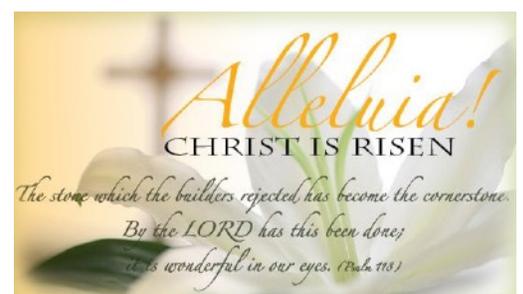
particular his Passion, death and glorious Resurrection.

The beliefs of Catholics are found in the Bible in two ways: explicit and implicit. Some teachings of the Catholic Church are easily found in the Bible. For example, that Jesus is the Son of God, that he called Twelve Apostles to follow him, that he healed, forgave sins, proclaimed the Kingdom of God present in his person, and that he suffered, died and rose again for our sins, are all very explicit in the Bible. The Holy Spirit makes known the full meaning of these events in and through the Church, and makes the power of these events effective throughout history and in our lives today.

Some beliefs are more hidden. Love loves to hide secrets, so that when we find them we are enraptured even more by their beauty. The mystery of Jesus is so profound that sometimes you have to look closely to see all the parts that he has made known. The Holy Spirit has hidden some dimensions of the mission of Jesus in the Bible. The truths of faith are clarified by the Tradition through the Magisterium, the Church’s authentic teaching office. These truths never contradict the Word of God in Scripture, but serve to articulate its truth more clearly.

The Holy Spirit helps us to find and to articulate these mysteries. The teaching on the Trinity, that is, that there are three Persons in one God, is found in the Bible in the many instances where Jesus speaks about his relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit. The terms that the Church needed to express this mystery were given to her over several hundred years by the same Holy Spirit that inspired the Gospel writers as they wrote of the words of Jesus that revealed the mystery in the first place. The Church’s teachings about the Blessed Mother, the saints, the role of virtue and holiness are found in the Bible implicitly in varying degrees.

Monsignor J. Brian Bransfield is General Secretary of the USCCB and previously served as Executive Director of the Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis.



This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. Psalm 118

My Resurrected Lord, I trust You with all my mind, heart, soul and strength. I believe that You are faithful to perfection and that Your fidelity will never fail. Give me hope when I need it the most and help me to keep my eyes on the glory that awaits. You have conquered all evil. May I always trust in You!