

**SAINT STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**  
**APRIL 10, 2022**



**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

*FIRST Wednesday: After Mass until 6:00 PM*  
*All other Wednesdays: After Mass until 9:00 AM*



**PASTOR**  
*Rev. Fr. Mario Raquepo*  
 [Cell] 808.228.3053

**STAFF**  
*Sr. Marykuty Kottuppallil, MSMHC*  
*Tina Welch ~ Secretary*

**SACRISTAN**  
*Marisol L. Chang*

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Monday~Friday: 9:00 AM to 12 Noon

**A Catholic Community**  
 Diocese of Honolulu

**OUR 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."*

**DEVOTION**  
*The Holy Rosary, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is said 35 minutes before Mass.*

**MASS SCHEDULES**

**MONDAY**  
*[In the St. Catherine Chapel ~ Communion Service]*  
 Tuesday ~ Saturday ~ 8:00 AM  
 Saturday (Main Church) ~ 4:00 PM  
 Sunday (Main Church) ~ 7:30 AM  
 Sunday (Main Church) ~ 10:00 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
*Saturday 3:00 to 3:30 PM*  
*or by appointment*



**DEACON & FIRST MARTYR**  
 2747 PALI HIGHWAY, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 ~ 808.595.3105  
 Email: [ssccpali@rcchawaii.org](mailto:ssccpali@rcchawaii.org) Website: [ssccpali.net](http://ssccpali.net)



**LINK TO SUNDAY'S 10:00 A.M. MASS STREAMING:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Stephens-Catholic-Church-Nuuanu-100906711581421/>

MAGNIFICAT

April 2022, Vol. 24, No. 2 ~ Sunday, April 10, 2022

**WHY CONFESSION?**

**Why do we have confession? If God knows everything, why can't we just tell him that we're sorry when we do something wrong?**

**A**nswer: Confession may be one of the most difficult parts of our faith for some. But for others, Confession is something they deeply look forward to. Your question is a good one. Let me offer some thoughts.

First of all, it's very true that "God knows everything." We call that omniscience. So, yes, He knows everything you've done and He knows whether you are sorry for that or not. But there is a big difference between God "knowing" what you did and His act of forgiveness.

For example, if you sinned against a friend with whom you were very close and then you felt sorry for that it's possible that your friend would realize, just by knowing you, that you were truly sorry. But that doesn't mean that you can just presume on your friend's goodness and forgiveness. The best thing to do, in this situation, is to actually sit down and tell your friend you are sorry and to have your friend tell you that you are forgiven. This very human exchange brings about reconciliation.

So it is with God. God is all merciful and wants to forgive us all our sins. But for true reconciliation to take place God wants you to actually say those words and then to hear the words, spoken by the priest, that you are forgiven. So Confession is not only about God forgiving us, it is also about reconciliation with God on a human level.

What's important to understand is that God offers us forgiveness in His way. He forgives us through a human being. Who is that human being? It's the Father's Son who became one of us. Jesus is the one who offers the forgiveness of God and Jesus is both fully God and human. But how does Jesus do that now that He has ascended back into Heaven? Well, before He ascended He gave His divine power of forgiveness to His first priests, the apostles. They, in turn, passed that power onto others who passed it on to others down through the ages all the way to our present age. Priests, despite the fact that they are imperfect themselves, have the spiritual power of Jesus to actually speak His words of forgiveness to others. Therefore, when a priest says, "I absolve you" we must hear Jesus Himself, as the human face of God, saying to us those same words.

Why did God choose to use priests to dispense His forgiveness? Honestly, we really don't have a perfect answer to that question. Sure there have been wonderful writings and reflections and teachings on this subject throughout the history of the Church. But, in the end, we will only fully understand this mystery of how God gives us His forgiveness when we are in Heaven. For now, we must simply follow what Jesus taught and receive His forgiveness in the way we know He offers it.

And on a psychological level, I, as a priest, have seen so many people benefit from actually hearing those words spoken from my mouth. So many times I have seen people come into the confessional scared and ashamed and walk out freed and at peace. So it really works. Make sure you give it a try soon. **Source: mycatholic.life**

**LENTEN REMINDER:**



Thursday, April 14: *The Lord's Supper*, 7:00 pm

*Washing Of Feet*

Friday, April 15: *Good Friday*; 2:00 pm

Saturday, April 16: *Easter Vigil*, 7:00 pm

**Abandoning Ourselves to the Crucified King**

**G**od's will is adorable in all ways and under all its aspects. It is we who in homage and thanksgiving, and by an act of faith that can sometimes rend our hearts, proclaim that everything our Father in heaven wills, whatever he may will to decree and whatever he may permit, it is good because it is he who has willed it. In saying *thy will be done*, we rejoice that there is nothing evil in the will of God even if he deals sternly with us.

To ask that the will of God be done is therefore sometimes a gift and abandonment of ourselves made in full agony. Perhaps it will be necessary to go so far even as to the sweating of blood. Jesus gave us the example. After having first said: *My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass away from me*, he added: *Yet not as I will, but as you will*.

This prayer of Jesus is at the heart of all human sorrow and of all human hope. He had to die because he had taken upon himself all the sins and all the sufferings of the world—in consummation of his obedience and of the work he had come to do. It was before the definitive will of him he loved more than his life that he bowed his own human will and made abandon of it. Our God is a crucified God. Christ's beatitude, of which he cannot be deprived, did not prevent him from fearing or mourning, or from sweating blood in unimaginable agony, or from passing through the throes of death on the cross. It is by a suffering God that we have been redeemed.

This kind of glory of suffering—perhaps it is to this that correspond on earth the suffering of the innocent, the tears of children, certain excesses of humiliation and misery it is almost impossible for the heart to accept without being scandalized, and which, when the face of the enigmatic world has passed away, will appear at the summit of the Beatitudes.

May one and witness be rendered to God's holiness. May his reign come to all men, and that kingdom where his very divinity is participated in. May the superabounding Love which is one with his Being, may the desire of heart, may his will find accomplishment.

~ Raissa Maritain

Raissa Maritain (†1960) was born in Russia. She was a convert to Catholicism and the wife of philosopher Jacques Maritain. / From *Prayer and Intelligence & Selected Essays*, Jacques and Raissa Maritain. ©2016, The Thomistic Institute, Chumy Media, P.O. Box 1664, Providence, RI 02901. [www.lunymedia.com](http://www.lunymedia.com). Used with permission. All rights reserved.

**THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES**

**The Second Glorious Mystery:**

**THE ASCENSION**



**Scripture:** So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

(Acts 1:6-11)

Source: [mycatholic.life](http://mycatholic.life)

St. Stephen The First Martyr  
Knights of Columbus Council 16267



Contact Worthy Grand Knight  
George Abcede  
eMail Address: [sggabcede@gmail.com](mailto:sggabcede@gmail.com) ~  
(808) 221-7205

BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY  
PRAY FOR US!



MAIL-INS: \$55.00  
WEEKEND: \$3,834.00  
ONLINE: \$2,104.00  
TOTAL: \$5,993.00  
LAST WEEK: \$4,102.00

**MAHALO!**

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

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

RICE BOWL ~ HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 14  
HOLY LAND ~ GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15

**Living Faith**  
Daily Catholic Devotions

Sunday, April 10, 2022

**Nothingness Before God**

Christ Jesus...emptied himself, taking the form  
of a slave...Philippians 2:6, 7

Prayer might seem like something fairly  
easy. The person sits in the presence of  
God and communes with the Almighty. Perhaps,  
in the beginning, it is just that easy.

However, the soul will eventually face the  
Infinite Greatness that is God and the soul's  
own nothing-ness. As God revealed to St.  
Catherine in her *Dialogues*, "You are she who is  
not, I am He who is."

Are we willing to experience our nothingness  
in the face of God? We will either run from it in  
terror or we will, of necessity, abandon our  
emptied selves in complete trust.

This is the prayer of Jesus, stripped of  
everything, on Calvary. All prayer eventually  
winds up nailed to the Cross.

~ Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti

**ALOYSIUS FOOD BANK**

THE St. Stephen First Martyr Knights of  
Columbus continue to request donations of  
canned or non-perishable items for our less  
fortunate brothers and sisters.

Please leave your donations next to the door  
opposite the left side of the stage in the Church  
Hall. Your participation in this effort is appreciated.

**Mabalo!**

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES  
The Third Glorious Mystery:  
*The Descent of the Holy Spirit*



**Scripture:** When the day of Pentecost had  
come, they were all together in one place. And  
suddenly a sound came from heaven like the  
rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house  
where they were sitting. And there appeared to  
them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting  
on each one of them. And they were all filled  
with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other  
tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

(Acts 2:1-4).

Source: [mycatholic.life](http://mycatholic.life)

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES  
The Fourth Glorious Mystery:  
*The Assumption*



**Dogma of the**

**Assumption:** For which  
reason, after we have  
poured forth prayers of  
supplication again and  
again to God, and have  
invoked the light of the

Spirit of Truth, for the glory of Almighty God  
who has lavished his special affection upon the  
Virgin Mary, for the honor of her Son, the  
immortal King of the Ages and the Victor over  
sin and death, for the increase of the glory of  
that same august Mother; and for the joy and  
exultation of the entire Church; by the  
authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the  
Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our  
own authority, we pronounce, declare, and  
define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that  
the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin  
Mary, having completed the course of her  
earthly life, was assumed body and soul into  
heavenly glory (**MUNIFICENTISSIMUS DEUS**  
#44).

Source: [mycatholic.life](http://mycatholic.life)



The Pieta

Consider how, after our  
Lord had died, He was  
taken down from the  
cross by two of His  
disciples, Joseph and  
Nicodemus, and placed  
in the arms of His  
afflicted Mother. She  
received Him with  
unutterable tenderness  
and pressed Him close to her bosom.

Our Blessed Mother was no longer standing  
before the foot of the Cross, gazing at her Son.  
Instead, Jesus' body was laid in her arms and  
she held Him close to her Immaculate Heart.

Though this was a moment of profound  
sorrow at the death of Jesus, it was also a  
moment of profound intimacy. As our Blessed  
Mother held the body of her Son, she knew it  
was not the end. Though her heart was pierced  
deeply, she knew that her pain would turn into  
joy. She was relieved that His earthly suffering  
was over, but her relief began to turn into hope  
and anticipation as she pondered His death and  
future Resurrection.

As our Blessed Mother held her Son close,  
she would have reflected upon Jesus' words  
spoken so often in His public ministry: "The  
Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and  
they will kill him, and he will be raised on the  
third day" (Matthew 17:22-23). She was  
witnessing His words come true. She knew that  
just as His prophecy regarding His death came  
true, so also His prophecy regarding His  
Resurrection would come true. "On the third  
day," He said. Our Blessed Mother knew that  
her pain would soon be turned into joy as she  
began her vigil in anticipation of her Son's  
Resurrection.

In most of our lives, we will face events that  
tempt us to despair. These events may be small  
encounters in our relationships with others that  
leave us feeling hopeless, discouraged and  
disappointed. At other times, we may encounter  
grave and tragic events that seem to leave us in  
utter desperation. The meaning of the Pieta,  
our Blessed Mother cradling the dead body of  
her Son, can never be exhausted. It's an image  
of hope in the midst of seeming hopelessness.  
It's an image of love that conquers all fear. It's  
an image of faith in the perfect plan of God no  
matter what comes.

There is much we can learn from our Blessed  
Mother. Her heart, in particular, was one that  
shone brightly with the perfection of every  
virtue. She is a pillar of grace and strength  
surrounded by suffering. She is an example for  
all.

Source: [mycatholic.life](http://mycatholic.life)



**Sunday, April 10, 2022**

**7:30 AM Mass**

Holy Rosary Prayed at 6:55 AM



*Solemnity of Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion*

**For the Repose of the Soul of:**

- ✦ *Celine & Kenneth Asato*
- ✦ *Josefina & Honorio Bautista*
- ✦ *Catherine Choo*
- ✦ *Tony & Sarah Louis*
- ✦ *Francis Nagasawa*
- ✦ *Al Tagab*
- ✦ *Kumudini DeSilva*

**Healing Prayers for:**

*Sally Crowell*  
*Isaiah Ares Kim*  
*Preston P.*

**Prayers for Fast Recovery of:**

*Mark*

**10:00 AM Mass**

**For the Repose of the Soul of:**

Holy Rosary Prayed at 9:25 AM

- ✦ *Celine & Kenneth Asato*
- ✦ *Vera Ashitomi*
- ✦ *Catherine Choo*
- ✦ *Rosa Fernandez*
- ✦ *Stephanie & Frederick Foo*
- ✦ *Helena Kim*
- ✦ *Karen Lee*
- ✦ *Salvador Solidum*
- ✦ *Nancy & Raymond Tom*
- ✦ *Al Tagab*
- ✦ *Kumudini DeSilva*

**Healing Prayers for:**

*Nancy, Annette & Robert Contrades*  
*Sally Crowell*  
*Isaiah Ares Kim*  
*Mary Souza*

**Prayers for Fast Recovery of:**

*Mark*

# Mass Intentions



**Monday, April 11, 2022**  
**8:00 AM Communion Service**

Holy Rosary Prayed at 7:25 AM  
*Saint Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr*

**Healing Prayers for:**

*Isaiah Ares Kim*

**Birthday Blessings For:**

*Angela Nolasco*

**Prayers for Fast Recovery of:**

*Mark*



**Tuesday, April 12, 2022**  
**8:00 AM Mass**

Holy Rosary Prayed at 7:25 AM

**For the Repose of the Soul of:**

✦ *Kumudini de Silva*

**Healing Prayers for:**

*Isaiah Ares Kim*

**Prayers for Fast Recovery of:**

*Mark*



**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**  
**8:00 AM Mass**

Holy Rosary Prayed at 7:25 AM  
*Saint Martin I, Pope & Martyr*

**For the Repose of the Soul of:**

✦ *Steve Aki*

✦ *Maurice, Monica, & Patricia Contrades*

✦ *Deacon Thomas Contrades*

**Healing Prayers for:**

*Isaiah Ares Kim*

**Prayers for Fast Recovery of:**

*Mark*



**Thursday, April 14, 2022**  
**7:00 PM**

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
*Washing of Feet*



**For The Sick & The Homebound**

*Luz Abcede, Nancy Asato, Stephanie Baron, Paula Carrington, Nancy Contrades, Robert Gerard Contrades, Kay Fujii, Randy Fujii, Bernard Ho, Isaiah Ares Kim, Carol Lau, Margaret Robello, Juanita Ruis, Ken Ryan, Patti & Wayne Silva, Mary Souza, Carrie Talwar, Richard Wong*

**✦ For The Deceased Of The Parish ✦**

*Steve Aki, Celine & Kenneth Asato, Ron & Tomiko Asato, Vera Ashitomi, Ignacio Q. Babauta, Benito & Rosario Bautista, Rosalie G. Cadiz, Dr. Joseph & Priscilla Chang, Doreen & Francis Chia, Betty & Albert Chong, Sam Chun, Stephen Fujii, Eileen Green, Ron Kano, Betty Lowe, Karen Lee, Frederick Lum, Salvador Solidum, Vickie Solidum, Al Tagab, Beatrice Tom, Gladys Wong, Jack Wong, Shirley Wong, Clement Yee, Don Yee*



**Friday, April 15, 2022**

**2:00 PM**

**THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**[GOOD FRIDAY]**

**Stations of the Cross**



**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**FIRST PART:**

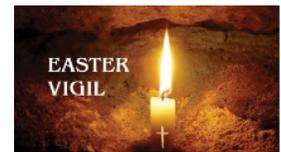
*The Liturgy Of the Word*  
*The Solemn Intercessions*

**SECOND PART:**

*The Adoration of the Holy Cross*

**THIRD PART:**

*Holy Communion*



**Saturday, April 16, 2022**

**7:00 PM**

**FIRST PART:**

*Blessing of the Fire*  
*Preparation of the Candle*  
*Procession*  
*The Easter Proclamation (Exsultet)*

**SECOND PART:**

*The Liturgy of the Word*

**THIRD PART:**

*Celebration of Baptism*  
*Blessing of Baptismal Water*  
*Presentation of Lighted Candle*  
*The Blessing of Water*  
*The Renewal of Baptismal Promises*  
*Celebration of Confirmation*

**FOURTH PART:**

*The Liturgy of the Eucharist*

