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Advent
WEEK 2

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MATTHEW 11:2-10

...For this is he of whom it is written: Behold I send my Angel before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way before Thee.

DECEMBER 4, 2022

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



FIRST WEDNESDAY After Mass until 6:00 p.m.
All other Wednesdays: After Mass until 9:00 a.m.



PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Mario Raquipo
[Cell] 808.228.3053

STAFF

Sr. Marykutty Kottuppallil, MSMHC
Tina Welch ~ Secretary

SACRISTAN

Marisol L. Chang

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

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 prayed 30 minutes before Mass.

MASS SCHEDULES

[In the St. Catherine Chapel]

Monday ~ Thursday ~ 8:00 AM

Friday

[Communion Service Only, 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



SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON & FIRST MARTYR

2747 PALI HIGHWAY, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 ~ 808.595.3105

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

LINK TO SUNDAY'S 10:00 A.M. MASS STREAMING:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Stephens-Catholic-Church-Nuuanu-100906711581421/>



SAINTS OF THE WEEK

For Saints of the Week please view the Mass Intentions on the last page.

Mahalo!

REFLECTIONS OF THE DAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022

Public Repentance

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.”

Matthew 3:7–8

This was both a very intense and yet very holy encounter. It was intense in that Saint John the Baptist, who had become quite popular and respected and was considered a great prophet, spoke harshly toward the Pharisees and Sadducees. “You brood of vipers!” he says. This was not the way the Pharisees and Sadducees were normally spoken to.

John speaks this way because it was the truth. These religious leaders were not leading anyone closer to God. One only needs to ponder all that Jesus would eventually say to the Pharisees and Sadducees to understand what kind of people these religious leaders had become.

So this passage is certainly intense. But it is also very holy. It is holy because this “brood of vipers” needed to be chastised. They needed to be condemned and challenged. They needed to be humbled. And there is nothing more humbling than sincerely repenting of one’s sins in a public way.

Notice that John does not dismiss the leaders outright. Rather, he requires of them “evidence” of their repentance. Why? Because of the spiritual damage these men did to the people of Israel on account of their pride, self-righteousness, hypocrisy, love of public honors, condemnation of others, etc. They had so distorted the faith that the good of their souls required public repentance. It

REFLECTIONS OF THE DAY

(Continued)

required that everyone see sincere good fruits flowing from their lives as a sign that they had changed. Though this is a tall order for the Pharisees and Sadducees, it’s the way to holiness for them.

The same is true for us. If you have allowed yourself to fall into some of the same traps as the Pharisees and Sadducees, then you, too, will greatly benefit from clear and humble public change. If you have struggled with self-righteousness, a critical tongue, a “holier than thou” attitude or a judgmental attitude toward others, then you might have great need for a humble and public repentance.

Reflect, today, upon the Pharisees and Sadducees. Try to understand their sin and the reason John called them a “brood of vipers.” If you see any of their pride and self-righteousness within your own soul, then listen to this exhortation from John the Baptist as if it were spoken to you directly. “Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.” Do this, and God will free you through the gift of true humility.

My humble Lord, You call all people to repentance with great humility and sincerity. Please help me to see my sin and to never shy away from facing it, so that You can free me from that filth and set me more firmly on the path to holiness. Jesus, I trust in You.

(Content source: mycatholic.life)

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

MAGNIFICAT

DECEMBER 4, 2022, Vol. 24, No. 10

The Baptist’s Witness

I once asked our blessed father, Francis de Sales, for some subjects of consideration on Saint John the Baptist. He told me that nothing was sweeter to his mind than to think that this great saint had known our Lord from his mother’s womb, and that by leaping with joy at his

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

(Continued)

coming, he had procured for his mother, Saint Elizabeth, the happiness of sharing in that knowledge and that joy, when she felt the sweet movements that the presence of the Savior caused in the dear son of her womb. What is still more admirable, continued our blessed father, is that after such a favor, Saint John should have voluntarily deprived himself of the sight and hearing of his dear Master. John spent twenty-five years in the desert, [which] merited for him the grace of enjoying Jesus spiritually. Can more perfect renunciation be found than to be near his sovereign and only Love, and for the love of that same Love to abstain from seeing him and hearing him?

In the presence of the most Holy Sacrament, we know that Jesus Christ resides. Being unable to see him, we must **adore** him by faith and glorify him in our destitution.

The girdle of camel’s hair about John’s loins signified his austere penance, his eating only locusts showed that, though he was on earth, he raised himself with ceasing towards heaven. The wild honey with which he seasoned his food marked the suavity of his love which sweetened all his rigors. We, continued our holy father, may learn this same love from the consideration of heavenly truths, from the example of [each other] and of all creatures. Listen how they cry in the ear of our heart: Love, love. “O holy love” he added, “come then and possess our hearts. ~ Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal (1641) co-founded the Order of the Visitation with Saint Francis de Sales. / From the Jewels of Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, translated by Monsignor William J. Doherty, C.S.C., 1980. All rights reserved.

MISA DE GALLO

The Misa de Gallo Mass begins on December 16, 2022, at 5:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Rosary will be prayed at 5:00 a.m.



St. Stephen The First Martyr

Knights of Columbus



~ Council 16267 ~



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Contact Worthy Grand Knight
George Abcede



eMail Address: sggabcede@gmail.com ~ (808) 221-7205

BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY PRAY FOR US



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ALOYSIUS FOOD BANK**

Thank you to the many who have been supporting the parish food pantry. With your support, we recently donated 200 pounds of cans and other non-perishable items to IHS. Thank you to Ian who is the young man doing all the heavy lifting and coordinating.

As Christmas approaches and we begin planning for Christ's coming and as we reflect on our blessings and how we can share our gifts, please consider helping the many brothers and sisters who are in need.

We can make a difference if we each bring a can or even better 2 or 3 cans for the Food Pantry at every.

Mahalo!



November 26-27, 2022

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| MAIL-INS: | \$0.00 |
| ONLINE: | \$1,390.00 |
| WEEKEND: | \$2,983.00 |
| TOTAL: | \$4,373.00 |
| LAST WEEK: | \$4,945.00 |

MAHALO!

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

SECOND COLLECTION

Retired Fund for Religious
December 10/11

LivingFaith
Daily Catholic Devotions

Take the First Step

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. [Matthew 3:2](#)

When we hear the word *repent*, very often what comes to mind is "being sorry." We are sorry for our sins. But that's only the first step. Repent comes from a Greek word meaning "to change our mind." Repentance is not an emotion, it's an action. We must be willing to retrace our steps to God and be changed.

When we repent, we are like the Prodigal Son, realizing that it's time to go back home to the Father. We stop and listen to an inner voice that tells us there must be a better way than the way we are living. We turn around and begin the long walk back into the arms of a forgiving God. There, we are transformed by perfect compassion into God's own image, full of mercy, healing

LivingFaith (Continued)
Daily Catholic Devotions

and love once again.

Today, take the first sep. Stop what you're doing. Turn around. Fall into the arms of God. Be changed. ~ Steve Givens

Respect Life

Juanita Ruis, Respect Life Coordinator

On December 8, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin. (This feast is also a holy day of obligation for dioceses in the United States.) On this feast, we celebrate Mary's conception free from the stain of Original Sin, and we recognize that Mary's life began the moment she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne. So, too, does every human life begin at the moment of fertilization, when it is lovingly knit together by God the Father.



uscgb.org



CHURCH EVENTS

DECEMBER 8 (Thursday): *Solemnity Of the Immaculate Conception* — 6:30 p.m. Mass only.

DECEMBER 12 (Monday): *Advent Reconciliation Service* — 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 16 to 24 (Friday to Saturday): *Dawn Mass* — (Misa de Gallo) 5:30 a.m. *Rosary at 5:00 a.m.*



Thank you Mary Kano and d. Otani Produce for donating the produce for our Thanksgiving Table of Plenty on this past Thanksgiving Day.



December 4, 2022

7:30 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

*Saint John Damascene, Priest &
Doctor of the Church*

Rest of the Soul

✦ *Tony & Sarah Louis*

✦ *Francis Nagasawa*

✦ *James Solidum*

✦ *Alfredo Tagab*

✦ *Roland B. Guieb*

✦ *Lee Myers*

Healing Prayers

Brittany Fujiyama

Eun Jin Kim

Isaiab Ares Kim

Preston Pacolba

Birthday Blessings

Hazel Sumile

10:00 A.M. Mass

Rest of the Soul

✦ *Imelda Dela Cruz*

✦ *Roland B. Guieb*

✦ *Pedro Laeno*

✦ *Julian Reyes*

✦ *Valentino Talosa*

Healing Prayers

Luz Abcede

Nancy Contrades

Mass Intentions



Monday, December 5, 2022

8:00 AM



Tuesday, December 6, 2022

8:00 AM

Saint Nicholas, Bishop

Wedding Anniversary Blessings

Jade & Greig Nakamura



Wednesday, December 7, 2022

8:00 AM

Saint Ambrose, Bishop &

Doctor of the Church

Rest of the Soul

✦ *Deacon Thomas Contrades*



Thursday, December 8, 2022

6:30 p.m. Only

Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary



Friday, December 9, 2022

8:00 AM

Saint Juan Diego, Hermit



Saturday, December 10, 2022

8:00 AM

Our Lady of Loreto



Saturday, December 10, 2022

4:00 PM

Third Sunday of Advent

Saint Damasus I, Pope

Rest of the Soul

✦ *Doreen & Francis Chia*

✦ *Al Ibarra*

✦ *James Solidum*

✦ *Alfredo Tagab*

Healing Prayers

Paula Carrington

Juanita Ruis

Ken Ryan

Patti & Wayne Silva

Source of Content (Vestment colors/Saints): Ordo 2022
Source of Content (Prayer Dates & Masses):
2022 Liturgical Desk Calendar



Prayer Requests

For The Sick & The Homebound

Luz Abcede, Nancy Asato, Paula Carrington, Nancy Contrades, Bernard Ho, Margaret Robello, Ken Ryan, Patti & Wayne Silva, Carrie Talwar

✦ For The Deceased Of The Parish ✦

Steve Aki, Celine & Kenneth Asato, Vera Asbitomi, Ignacio Q. Babauta, Stephanie Baron, Benito & Rosario Bautista, Rosalie G. Cadiz, Dr. Joseph & Priscilla Chang, Doreen & Francis Chia, Catherine Choo, Sam Chun, Stephen Fujii, Al Ibarra, Ron Kano, Betty Lowe, Martin Luke,, Salvador Solidum, Vickie & James Solidum, Al Tagab, Nancy & Raymond Tom, Jack Wong, Richard Wong, Shirley Wong, Clement Yee, Don Yee