

4th Sunday in Lent



Laetare Sunday

March 30, 2025

PASTOR

Rev. Adondee Arellano, MS

STAFF

Sr. Marykuty Kottuppallil, MSMHC
Tina Welch, Secretary
Lucy Pascual, Accountant

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays 8am-11am
Thursdays 1:15pm-4:15pm
Fridays 11am-1pm

Link to Sunday's 10:00am Mass Live Stream:

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

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."*

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon and First Martyr

2747 Pali Hwy.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: (808)595-3105
ssccpali@rcchawaii.org
www.ssccpali.com

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament

- Sunday after 7:30am Mass
& before 10am Mass
- First Wednesdays after
8:00am Mass until 6pm
- All other Wednesdays
after 8am Mass until 9am

DEVOTION

The Holy Rosary of the
Blessed Virgin Mary is 35
minutes before Mass.

MASS SCHEDULE

St. Catherine's Chapel

Daily Mass 8:00am
Monday-Saturday

Main Church

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm
Sunday 7:30am
Sunday 10:00am

Healing Blessing

First Saturdays/Sundays
following the weekend Masses

Confession

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3-3:30pm
or by appointment.





March 23 Offertory

Sunday Offerings	\$3,900.00
Mass Intentions	\$120.00
Easter Fund	\$120.00
Elevator Fund	\$130.00
Sr. Marykuty Fund	\$240.00
Candles	\$50.00

Total Weekend Masses \$4,560.00

Online Giving \$765.00

WEEK'S TOTAL \$5,325.00

Last Week's Total \$2,023.00



CCD



Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

Velma Guieb-Mamuad & Brian Laroya,
CCD & Youth Coordinators

Classes on Sundays after the 7:30am Mass in the SPAM Building.

Join us! Lenten Community Service

Brunch after the 10am Mass in the hall.

Courtesy of our CCD Youth, all are invited.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

Council 16267 & Food Pantry

George Abcede, Worthy Grand Knight

Place food donations in the basket at the main church entrance. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.



Choir Rehearsal Thursdays

Kahaunani Gum, Coordinator

5:30pm in the Church

Come sing with us!

Hospitality Ministry

David Tom, Coordinator (808) 754-2116



Debbie Fujiyama, Coordinator

Holy Orders:

The Second Sacrament of Service

Why do we call priests "Father"? Why is it important that this sacrament comes in an unbroken line from the Apostles? Why do priests ask for our prayers? *Come join us after 7:30 am Mass in the Vickie Solidum Gallery.*



St. Stephen Church

**Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30pm*

Saturdays at 3-3:30pm or by appointment

Blessed Sacrament Church

**Tuesday, April 1 at 7pm*

Wednesdays 5:30-6pm, Saturdays 4-4:30pm,
Sundays 9:15-9:45am

Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

Wednesdays at 6pm

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10am

**Penance Service*



Bring flowering potted plants and cut flowers to adorn our church this Easter. We welcome all colors of spring, with yellows, whites and pastels. Deadline is 9am Saturday, April 19. Father will bless them at the Easter Vigil. *Mark your plants with your name. Labels will be provided. Take them home after the 10am Easter Sunday Mass and gift it to someone in the hospital or a friend, coworker, family member, loved one's grave, etc.*



Fourth Sunday of Lent (C)

Joshua 5:9a, 10–12 / 2 Corinthians 5:17–21 / Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

Reflections by our Pastor, Fr. Adondee Arellano MS

The Fourth Sunday of Lent, often referred to as Laetare Sunday, serves as a moment of joyful anticipation within the penitential season, signaling the approaching celebration of Easter. The liturgical readings for this Sunday, center around profound themes of reconciliation, forgiveness, and the transformative power of God's mercy.

The First Reading recounts the Israelites' arrival in the Promised Land after their long journey through the desert. Here, they celebrate the Passover and partake of the produce of the land, marking the end of manna. This moment signifies not just a physical entry into a new land but a profound transition from their past hardships to a renewed relationship with God, free from the 'reproach of Egypt.'

In the Second Reading, Paul emphasizes the concept of becoming a 'new creation' in Christ. He highlights that through Christ's reconciling work, believers are entrusted with the 'ministry of reconciliation.' This passage underscores the transformative power of God's forgiveness, urging us to embody and extend this reconciliation in our own lives.

The Gospel presents the Parable of the Prodigal Son, a narrative that epitomizes divine mercy and forgiveness. It tells of a father's unconditional love and readiness to forgive his repentant son, illustrating the boundless compassion God offers to all who seek reconciliation.

Collectively, these readings invite us to reflect deeply on our personal journeys of faith. They challenge us to recognize areas in our lives where we may be estranged from God or others and encourage us to embrace the grace of forgiveness. As we meditate on these scriptures, we are called to open our hearts to God's transformative mercy, allowing it to renew us and guide us toward a more profound communion with Him and our community.

These scripture readings on this Laetare Sunday beckon us toward a sincere conversion of heart and a renewed commitment to living out the reconciling love that God so generously extends to us.

Brothers and Sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. - - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 30, 7:30am

Healing Prayers, Eun Jin Kim, Aria Kim, Larry Takao, April Nakai, Jasmine Yamauchi, Greg Reis

Birthday Blessings, Lake Furukawa

† Russell Reis

† Gonzalo, † Francisca, † Norberto, † Fernando, and † Mario Advencula

10:00am

† Villamor, Sr., † Villamor, Jr., † Rogie, Salvador, † Juanita, † Elizabeth, and † Carmelita Blanco

Birthday Blessings, Minda Blanco, Lake Furukawa

Monday, March 31, 8:00am

Birthday Blessings, Lake Furukawa

Tuesday, April 1, 8:00am

Wednesday, April 2, 8:00am

Thursday, April 3, 8:00am

† Celine Asato

Friday, April 4, 8:00am

Birthday Blessings, Anne Nolasco

Saturday, April 5, 8:00am

4:00pm

For The Sick & The Homebound

Luz Abcede, Millie Akaka, Stan Contrades, Bernard & Carolyn Ho, Patti & Wayne Silva, David Houle, Anne Yee, Sui & Elmer Kozuma, Blossom Meria, Preston Pacolba, Eun Jin Kim, Aria Kim, Juanita Ruis, Greg Reis

For The Recently Deceased

Mathew & Teresa Kottuppallil, Nancy Kaleinani Contrades



- **Stations of The Cross is Fridays at 7pm through Holy Week:** Please join us as the CCD Teachers, Money Counters and Finance Council lead this week's Stations. After Stations, we will show an episode of the series, The Chosen.
- **Today is the Catholic Relief Service second collection.**
- **Join our CCD Youth** in the church hall after the 10am Mass for a Lenten Community Service Brunch. All are invited.
- **Next weekend Father will give healing blessings** after each of three weekend Masses for anyone interested.
- **First Sunday Family Mass** will be celebrated at the 7:30am Mass. CCD Youth will participate in the Liturgy.
- **Holy Week starts April 13th** with Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord. Bring your own palms or pick up a palm at the Mass for the blessing.
- **The Chrism Mass** is on Tuesday, April 15th at 7pm at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa.
- **Holy Thursday** is at 7pm. All CCD Youth will have the opportunity to have their feet washed. Please sign up with Velma at CCD and be sure to show up as preparations will be made for your participation.
- **Good Friday** will start with Stations of The Cross by our CCD, and The Passion of The Lord service at 2:30pm. Adoration will continue until Midnight.
- **Holy Saturday**, Easter Vigil is at 6:30pm.
- **Easter Sunday**, Masses at 7:30am & 10:00am.



Juanita Ruis, Coordinator

Rosary at the Unborn Memorial Fridays at 6pm

The following is an excerpt from an email I received from **James Wallace, Honolulu leader of 40 Days for Life.**

“Happy Sunday everyone. Was another Blessing we had on Saturday week 3 of the 40 DFL Spring Vigil. No abortion doctor once again and Brother Kevin lighting up the day with some beautiful music. There were just few customers but one couple in particular stopped at the driveway and told Tyler they was going in for an ultra sound. Tyler handed them a blessing bag and told them of other places they could go with the resources in the packet. They went up the driveway and less than 7 minutes they drove back down and gave us the shaka. With constant praying and active sidewalk counseling God is making it happen. Mahalo to all who's there on the sidewalk relentlessly every week constantly dedicated being there and standing up for the Unborn. Keep it up, 3 more weeks to go, no more abortion doctor =no more abortion.”

PLEASE JOIN THEM! Go to 40daysforlife.com and to the Honolulu section for information on how to volunteer.

PRAY WITH US TO END ABORTION: At 6p.m. every Friday before the Stations of the Cross (7p.m.), we pray the Pro-life Rosary at the Memorial for the Unborn. Please join us!

THANK YOU!



Eucharistic Revival

Sally Morley, Coordinator

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Encounter the Divine gift in Jesus Christ**

Adoration schedule is posted on page one of the bulletin.

Walk With One

During this Lenten season let us reflect on one of St. Paul's letters to Timothy, in which he reminds Timothy “to stir up the gift of God that is within him and utilize the strength that comes from God.” (2 Tim 1:6-8; NCB). This Lent, share with one person, the truth of the gift of Salvation by God's grace and the hope that does not disappoint. Visit: <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one>

Catechism

On the one hand, the Church, united with her Lord and “in the Holy Spirit,” blesses the Father “for his inexpressible gift” in her adoration, praise, and thanksgiving. (CCC 1083).

Sacred Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:15

” Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift.” (NCB).

Excerpt from *What is Christianity?*

First, I would say that, if we really wanted to summarize as succinctly as possible the content of the faith established in the Bible, we could say: the Lord has started a love story with us and wants to sum up all creation in it. Ultimately, the antidote to the evil that threatens us and the whole world can only be that we abandon ourselves to this love. Now if we try to explain a little more fully this essential content of God's revelation, we could say: the first fundamental gift that faith offers us is the certainty that God exists. A world without God can be nothing but a world without meaning. Thus, the sentence “God is” finally becomes truly glad tidings, precisely because it is more than knowledge, because it generates love and is love. Making people aware of this again is the first fundamental task that the Lord assigns to us.” (*Pope Benedict XVI, What Is Christianity? The Last Writings*, 5: PG 188-190).

Quote: ...Our gifts also say, "this is the measure with which we dare to give ourselves to you."

— *Bishop Robert Barron*