

PARISH CALENDAR

Seventh Sunday in
Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020

**O Lord, I trust
in your merciful love!**

Saturday, Feb 22	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, Feb 23	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:45 a.m.	Religious Education Class
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, Feb 24	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, Feb 25	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Finance Council Meeting - Kamiano Trailer
Wednesday, Feb 26	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - Ash Wednesday
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Mass - Ash Wednesday
Thursday, Feb 27	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 5:30 p.m.	Feeding Menu - Corn Chowder & Sandwiches
Friday, Feb 28	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross - R. E. - Youth Ministry
Saturday, Feb 29	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
	..... 6:30-9:30 p.m.	R. E. Youth Night

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Gen:2:7-9, 3:1-7: Sin is introduced into the world.

Rom:5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19: Through the obedience of One, all will be made holy.

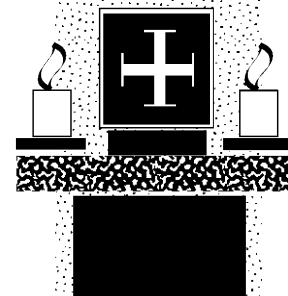
Matt:4:1-11: Jesus fasted and was tempted in the desert.



We can no longer blithely summarize the Old Testament as a testament of justice and the New Testament as a testament of love, for the first reading tells us otherwise. Leviticus, the third book of the Old Testament, mainly consists of regulations for the priestly tribe of Levi. Here we are reminded of the obligation to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. This reading only gives us the introduction to a series of commands that closely resemble the ten commandments but exceed them in extraordinary ways—in ways, as a matter of fact, that are closer to the words of Jesus than to the original Ten Commandments. Which brings us to the Gospel. Jesus surely was a student of the Scriptures, and he most certainly carried forth the generous, socially aware spirit we find in Leviticus 19. Interestingly, the Gospel of Matthew has Jesus quoting the more primitive laws that once guided Israel. Perhaps these more primitive laws were revived by those who wished to taunt the Jewish converts of whom Matthew's Gospel is so aware. Jesus' words today continue to contrast the Jewish Law and practice and the practice of the followers of Jesus. Today's Gospel continues with slight variations the formulation: "You have heard ..." and "What I say to you is ..." The old laws of retaliation were once created to soften the severe and vengeful retaliations common among the peoples that surrounded the struggling people of God. The would-be followers of Jesus again feel surrounded by people bent on retaliation. So Matthew presents Jesus, who asks his followers not only not to retaliate at all but to "turn the other cheek." He asks that his listeners give the one who asks more than he or she seeks. Jesus asks us to love and pray for those of our home country and the alien, for the one who loves us and the one who hates us.

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The LORD
is truly
present
with us



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Please help to save lives by praying for an end to abortion during 40 days for life from February 26-April 5. You are invited to join others in prayer at the Planned Parenthood location in Honolulu or join in prayer from wherever you are. For more information, please visit [//www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu](http://www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu)

OPERATION RICE BOWL: We Are Called: Join our faith community – and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s CRS Rice from the back of the church today. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the challenge of global hunger and how it affects our human family.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: Listed are the dates for Leeward Vicariate Lenten Penance Services:

Tuesday, March 3rd - St. Rita
Tuesday, March 10th - Immaculate Conception - Ewa
Thursday, March 12th - St. Joseph - Waipahu (6:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, March 17th - Sacred Heart - Waianae
Monday, March 23rd - St. Jude - Kapolei
Tuesday, March 23rd - Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Ewa Beach

All services begin at 7 p. m., except St. Joseph

PEARSON PLACE is the only Catholic pregnancy resource center in Hawaii. Located in their new office at 1145 Bishop Street in Honolulu (directly upstairs of the Daughters of St. Paul bookstore, and across Bishop street from the Cathedral) they are a Christ centered counseling and assistance center here to assist anyone with unplanned pregnancy issues. They are staffed by volunteers, and welcome anyone who would care to assist as volunteers and/or for donations. The phone number is 942-0328. We can also be contacted on our website www.pearsonplace.org

WORD OF LIFE: “The essence of our identity is that we are created in God’s image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is **cherished**.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
t Life Reflection

WEEKLY READINGS

Feb 23 Sun: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lev:19:1-2, 17-18; Ps:103; 1Cor:3:16-23; Mt:5:38-48

Feb 24 Mon: Ordinary Weekday
Jam:3:13-18; Ps:19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk:9:14-29

Feb 25 Tue: Ordinary Weekday
Jam:4:1-10; Ps:55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23; Mk:9:30-37

Feb 26 Wed: Ash Wednesday
Jl:2:12-18; Ps:51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 & 17; 2 Cor:5:20-6:2; Mt:6:1-6, 16-18

Feb 27 Thur: After Ash Wednesday
Deu:30:15-20; Ps: 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk:9:22-25

Feb 28 Fri: After Ash Wednesday
Isa:58:1-9a; Ps:51: 3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mk 9:14-15

Feb 29 Sat: After Ash Wednesday
Isa: 58:9b-14; Ps:86: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk:5:27-32

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In another passage from his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus continues to turn his disciples’ way of thinking upside down. One of the lessons for the Christian steward in today’s Gospel is that if we have a chance to help someone in need, we should be generous and give more than is expected of us. Jesus went “the extra mile” for us. Can we be more like Jesus and “go the extra mile” for others?(International Catholic Stewardship Council)

Telling a Christian

During some homily or in some class or discussion group, we have all probably been asked the rhetorical question, “If you were on trial for being Christian, would they find enough evidence to convict you?” It’s a good question worth asking ourselves every now and then.

Reflection

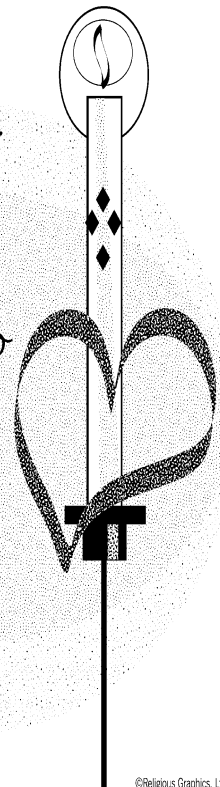
Jesus does not ask us to be heroic; he just asks us to be true children of God, who bestows the blessings of sun and rain on everyone without judgment. This is a reading we find difficult to take literally.

*Well, then, let’s consider its opposite: Let’s consider a world in which we get mad and get even. Let’s consider a world in which the ones with shirts and tunics in abundance leave the others shivering in the cold. Let’s consider a world in which we ask “How much do the poor need, anyway?” rather than, “How much do the rich need?” or, “How much is enough?” Let us consider a world in which no one walks any road with any one, unless there is something in it for them. Let us consider a world of precise measurement and strict justice. What then?
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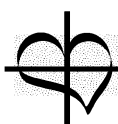
*You have heard
that it was said,
You shall love your
neighbor as yourself
and hate your enemy.*

*But I say to you
love your enemies,
pray for those who
persecute you,
that you may be
children of your
heavenly Father.*

*So be perfect
just as
your heavenly Father
is perfect.*



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The Lord is kind and merciful

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