

PARISH CALENDAR

Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

God is in his holy place!

Saturday, July 29	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, July 30	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, July 31	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, August 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p.m.	Finance Council - Kamiano Trailer
Wednesday, August 2	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, August 3	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, August 4	..... 10:30 a.m.	Funeral Mass - Clayton Wallace (+)
Saturday, August 5	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession - Church
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Dan:7:9-10, 13-14: Daniel had a vision of the Ancient One seated on a throne of fire and wearing snow-bright clothing.

2 Pt:1:16-19: Peter wrote that he witnessed the majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mt:17:1-9: On the high mountain Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John, and with him appeared Moses and Elijah.

Gospel Reflection

JOY AND JUDGEMENT

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.” Matthew 13:47-50

This parable is the third of three parables Jesus tells in a row. The first compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a “treasure buried in a field.” When a person finds it, they sell everything they have so as to buy that field. The second parable likens the Kingdom of Heaven to a merchant who is in search of fine pearls. “When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” In both of these parables, the discovery of the Kingdom of Heaven is a great joy. The person discovering the treasure or the pearl is so elated that he is willing to trade all that he has so as to obtain it.

The third of these three parables, however, is much different. In this case, the Kingdom of Heaven is likened to a net that gathers all people at the end of the age and separates them, the good from the bad. The parable then concludes with a frightening image. The wicked will be thrown “into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.” In the end, for those who enter the glories of Heaven, there will be unending joy. And this fact must be understood so as to draw us into those riches of grace. Anticipation of such a gift should motivate us to diligently seek out the many graces our Lord wishes to bestow upon us. But sometimes we need a bit more of a nudge. We can easily become complacent in our life of faith and our search for God’s will. For that reason, Jesus includes the third parable, outlining the consequences some will endure at the end of time. Though it might not be a happy thought, it is a holy thought because it reveals God’s definitive justice and judgment at the end of time.

Do you believe in the Justice of God? Do you believe that He will exact definitive judgment upon those who reject His holy will in this life? Do you believe that Hell is real and is a possibility for us all? If this thought is difficult to accept, then it might be worth further prayerfully pondering this third parable. Justice and judgment are real. If we are not fully motivated in life to diligently seek out the glory of the Kingdom of Heaven, then we should at least honestly face the reality of the consequences that await.

Reflect, today, upon the glory, beauty and splendor of God. Try to put your eyes of faith upon the Treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven. Allow this prayerful meditation to inspire you to make obtaining the Kingdom of Heaven your sole mission in life. But if you struggle with this joyous discovery, then do not hesitate to reflect upon the potential consequences. The Lord speaks of these consequences of God’s justice and judgment for our good so as to keep them from becoming our reality.

My just Judge, You see all things and know all things. You know my heart through and through. Please cleanse me of every sin and all complacency in life. Fill me with a holy zeal for Your Kingdom. May the joy of the discovery of You fully motivate me to remain diligent in my journey to Heaven. Jesus, I trust in You... (*My Catholic Life*)



Solomon prayed,
“LORD, give me
an understanding
heart.”

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We welcome **Anicia Hatzky**, into our parish family, **Anicia** was baptized into the Christian faith at the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Next weeks special collection will be for Catholic Charities Hawaii, envelopes are at the back of church, please be generous. Mahalo!

All young adults invited to the World Youth Day Stateside Celebration "An Evening with Christ & Community." The evening starts with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by food and fellowship.

Learn more at www.catholichawaii.org/ooyam/yam/wyd



WORD OF LIFE: "A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have many number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child. Following Mary's example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*

WEEKLY READINGS

Jul 30 Sun: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs:3:5-7, 7-12; Ps:119; Rom:8:28-30; Mt:13:44-46

Jul 31 Mon: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Ex:32:15-24, 30-34; Ps:106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Mt:13:31-35

Aug 1 Tue: Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor

Ex:33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28; Ps:103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Mt:13:36-43

Aug 2 Wed: Ordinary Weekday

Ex:34:29-35; Ps:99:5, 6, 7, 9; Mt:13:44-46

Aug 3 Thur: Ordinary Weekday

Ex:40:16-21, 34-38; Ps:84:3, 4, 5-6a & 8a, 11; Mt:13:47-53

Aug 4 Fri: Saint John Vianney, Priest

Lv:23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps:81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; Mt:13:154-58

Aug 5 Sat: Ordinary Weekday

Lv:25:1, 8-17; Ps:67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt:14:1-12



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

"A profound stewardship prayer is offered by the young King Solomon in today's first reading. He asks the Lord to give him an understanding heart, compassion towards God's people and the insight to distinguish right from wrong. An understanding heart, or wisdom, is a gift from God. It is a gift that enables us to make good decisions and prudent choices. Cultivating and sharing this gift is essential, especially when poor decisions and lack of compassion have consequences that affect the lives of others. During these disquieting times, are we asking God for an understanding heart? Are we exercising good stewardship over the gift of wisdom? Are we sharing our compassionate hearts with others? *International Catholic Stewardship Council*

KNOWING WHAT IS RIGHT

The beginning of wisdom is its absence. When we reach inside ourselves and realize what we do not have, we start the journey to attain what we need.

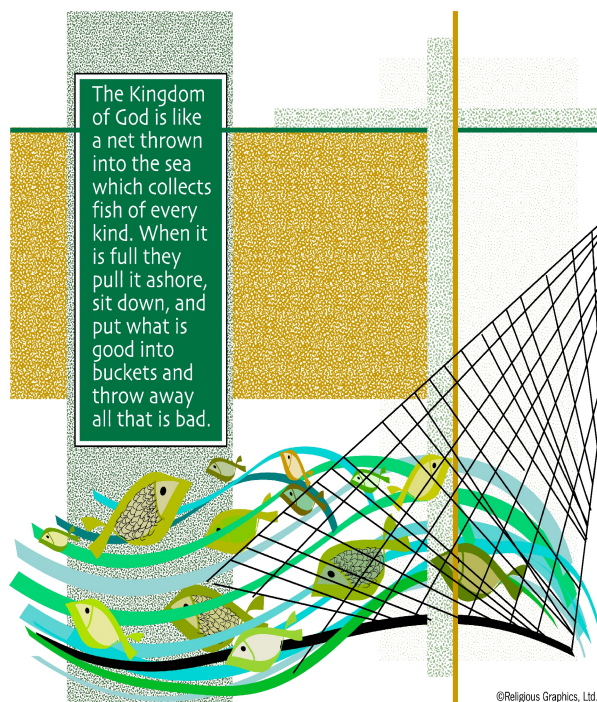
When we speak about someone having "the wisdom of Solomon," we mean he or she is wise beyond measure. Solomon won that wisdom by first acknowledging he was not smart enough to do the job God had given him to do.

Solomon's father was David, the greatest of the kings. Solomon followed him while still a youth. He was placed in charge of numerous people. Solomon, not wishing to disappoint God, feared that he lacked the skills necessary for the task. So he asked God for wisdom to tell right from wrong.

Another leader would have asked for a long life and personal gain, or for riches and personal pleasure, or for the death of enemies and the removal of fear. But Solomon realized he needed something much more practical for the people he was to lead: the wisdom to know right from wrong.

When we face a decision, the first step may be to acknowledge we do not know the answer. We ask God not for personal gain, but for the gift of knowing what is the right thing to do. That will bring peace.

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