

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, September 23	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, September 24	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:45 a. m.	Religious Education Classes (Gr. 1-8)
		Confirmation & Youth Ministry
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, September 25	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, September 26	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, September 27	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, September 28	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 5:30 p. m.	Feeding Menu: - Corn Chowder/Any type of Sandwich
Friday, September 29	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, September 30	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

**Twenty-fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

September 24, 2017

I am the salvation of the people,
says the Lord

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Ezek:18:25-28: Those who transform their lives shall live.
Phil:2:1-11: Christ's self-emptying is a model for the Philippians
Mt:21:28-32: A parable about the truly righteous

LIVING CATHOLIC IN THE 808

For the Apostles, didn't Confirmation Come AFTER 1ST Communion?

Last week I began answering a question from one of our parishioners: didn't Confirmation come third in order for the Apostles, since they experienced Pentecost/Confirmation AFTER the Last Supper, aka, First Communion?

*What a question! In terms of biblical events, when you look at Jesus' baptism in the Jordan by St. John the Baptist, you see it connected not just to Baptism but also to Confirmation. Jesus is baptized in water and then when he comes out of the water, the Holy Spirit comes down upon him like a dove and the voice of God the Father is heard (God the Father **confirms** Jesus' baptism by the gift of the Spirit and his words.) Here you see the intimate connection between Baptism and Confirmation.*

*You are correct to associate Confirmation with Pentecost as well. But here the connection is between the death and resurrection of Jesus (which we **experience** in Baptism and which we **celebrate** at Easter) and the coming of the Spirit of Pentecost (which we **experience** in Confirmation and which we **celebrate** on the 50th and the last day of the Easter season). Baptism begins the Easter season, and Confirmation concludes the Easter season. Again the intimate connection between Baptism and Confirmation seen.*

I'll continue expanding on this issue in one final way next week.

By: Fr. Mark Gantley
Judicial Vicar
Diocese of Honolulu



**We
are
stewards
of God's
earth**



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Conduct yourselves in a manner
worthy of the gospel

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HURRICANE HARVEY & IRMA RELIEF SPECIAL

COLLECTION: Funds collected in this one-time special appeal for Hurricane Harvey & Irma Relief will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA, the official domestic relief agency of the U. S. Catholic Church, as they and their member agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for necessities such as water, food, shelter, and medical care as well as to the long term needs to rebuild and recover after widespread destruction, and of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction aid to the church. **Envelopes are attached to the bulletin.** Please be generous!

Fatima 100th Anniversary Rosary: Please join the 2017 Public Rosary Campaign by joining us in praying the Holy Rosary at **noon on Saturday, October 14 here at St. Rita.** Our nation is in great need of public prayer, repentance and conversion. Nearly 20,000 Rosaries will be prayed at noon throughout Hawaii and the entire USA. The Miracle of the Sun was public: On October 13, 1917, Our Lady performed a miracle witnessed by 70,000 people, including atheists, communists and anti-Catholics. Some of them converted. The 2017 Public Square Rosary Rallies will remind the person on the street that conversion is possible. We invite you to bring your favorite dish to share for fellowship after the Rosary. Contact Rosa Lefu'a at 861-3747 or Bob McCulloch 672-5718, for more information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: As we strive to live faithfully to the Lord's commands in a world that is voraciously snatching away moral values, enslaving humanity to a culture of death, we are reminded that Christ is the transforming light that heals and restores the human heart back to its creator. It is with this vision that the diocesan Respect Life Office launches into the 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign – **Sep. 27 – Nov 5** – and invites all parishioners us to be beacons of hope to save mothers and their unborn children from abortion and voices in defense of the vulnerable. Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins.

WORD OF LIFE: *“Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential good of society, such as democracy and peace.” Pope John II, Evangelium vitae, “ © 1995 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission <https://goo.gl/8NoQ8N>.*

WEEKLY READINGS

Sep 24 Sun: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa:55:6-9; Ps 145; Phil:1:20c-24, 27a; Mt: 20:1-16a

Sep 25 Mon: Ordinary Weekday

Ez:1:1-6; Ps:126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk:8:16-18

Sep 26 Tue: Ordinary Weekday

Ez:6:7-8; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk:8:19:21

Sep 27 Wed: Vincent de Paul, priest

Ez: 9:5-9; Tobit: 13: 2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8; Lk:9:1-6

Sep 28 Thur: Ordinary

Hg:1:1-8; Ps 149: 1b-2 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Lk: 9:7-9

Sep 29 Fri: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels

Dn:7:9-10, 13-14 or Rev 12:7-12ab; Ps:138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5; Jn: 1:47-51

Sep 30 Sat: Jerome, priest, doctor of the church

Zec: 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer: 31: 10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk: 9:43b-45



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NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

From and early age, we tend to distort the concept of “fairness”: “I am good. I deserve good things. I am not receiving good things. Something must be wrong. Who’s going to fix I?” We also know the age-old expression: “Who ever said life was fair?” Jesus knew this expression when he offered his parable in today’s Gospel reading. Christian stewards acknowledge, with humility, that they receive good things from the Lord in abundance; even if these gifts are not the ones they think they need when they need them. Consider which servants you identify with most in the most in the Gospel reading, the ones who demand “fairness”, or that final servant who, seemingly, deserves the least.

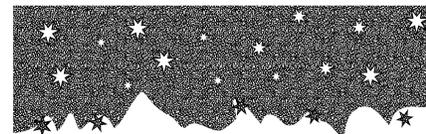
(International Catholic Stewardship Council e-Bulletin)

STANDING IDLE

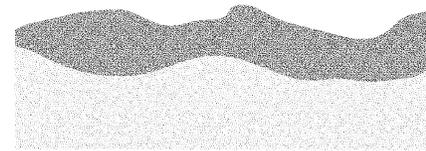
Today’s Gospel probably leaves those of us with a strong business sense scratching our heads in confusion. What would possess any boss to pay the same wages to a person who worked only a few minutes as someone who worked a full day? This parable calls us to dig deeper into the reality to which the story points. Consider the actions of the landowner. He goes out in search of laborers a total of five times during the day: at dawn, at nine, at twelve, at three, and at five. In this parable, Jesus summons us to consider the landowner’s actions as the kind of actions our God performs. In our lives we each have moments of standing idle, like the people in today’s parable. God is always on the prowl for us, inviting us into the vineyard. God’s persistence is immeasurable. Whether we respond at the dawn of life or at the “five o’clock” of our lives, God’s love and mercy are still showered upon us.

ARE YOU SAVED?

When I was in high school my best friend became “born again.” He carried a small blue card in his wallet. On that card was written the exact date that he was “saved.” Knowing that I had been raised in the Roman Catholic Church, he asked me, “What day were you saved?” I told him that I was saved the day I was baptized and that I honestly expected to keep getting saved, I hoped, many more times for the rest of my life. A spiritual mentor once told me to expect to be born again, and again, and again, and again. Today’s Gospel reminds us that even when we stray, when we become complacent about God’s tremendous action in our lives, God still calls us back into a loving relationship. Perhaps it is at those times when we stand idle that God hounds us all the more, summoning us into the vineyard of new life, new possibilities, and renewed hope.



As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways
and my thoughts above your thoughts.



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