

PARISH CALENDAR

Third Sunday
of Advent

December 11, 2016

Lord, come and save us!

Saturday, December 10	..... 5:00 p. m.	Mass
Sunday, December 11	..... 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, December 12	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, December 13	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
Wednesday, December 14	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, December 15	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 7:30 p. m.	Prayer Meeting - Church
Friday, December 16	..... 5:30 a.m.	Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, December 17	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck
	..... 4:00-4:45 pm	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Isaiah:7:10-14: God promises a sign, if asked.
Romans: 1: 1-7: Paul preaches Jesus, the Son of God.
Matt:1:18-24: A sign is given to Joseph.

Living Catholic in the 808! **Mary as Evangelizer: Her Passion**

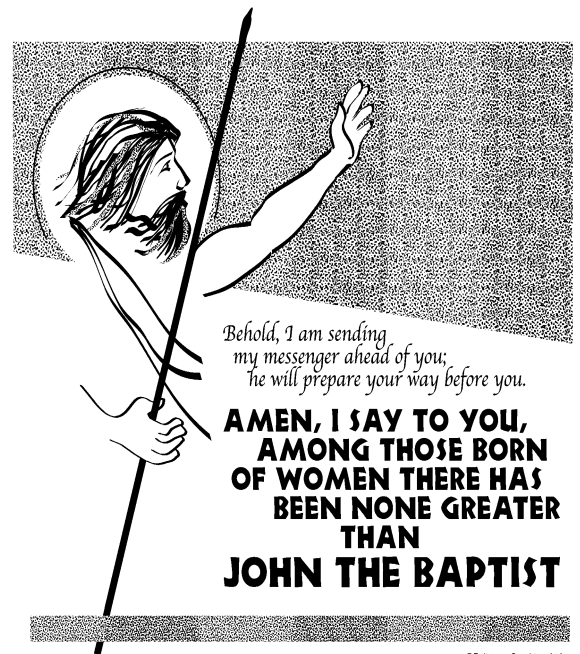
As with all aspects of her life, Mary's suffering, her passion, can help us as disciples and as evangelizers to deal with our and others' pain.

For me, the key to Mary's suffering was that she did not run from it. Mary accompanied Jesus to the cross. Mary stayed with him while he died. No doubt Mary was present when the stone enclosed Jesus' tomb.

When we are hurting, we will do anything to make it stop. And, for most of us, the only thing worse than our own pain is the pain of our loved ones. How many of us wish we could endure the pain so our child, parent, or spouse would not have to! How excruciating it is to not be able to do anything, to just sit idly by.

Mary shows us that the best thing we can do with our own suffering is to go through it, preferably staying close to Jesus while doing so. With our loved ones (with strangers too!), Mary models accompaniment, being present to others who suffer. And Gaudete Sunday reminds us that suffering is not the end, that we will see (Christ's) light. God-is-with-us, today, in our suffering, in other's suffering, in our death and in the world to come.

Kristina M DeNeve
 Adult Faith Formation Coordinator
 Diocese of Honolulu



*Behold, I am sending
my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way before you.*

**AMEN, I SAY TO YOU,
AMONG THOSE BORN
OF WOMEN THERE HAS
BEEN NONE GREATER
THAN
JOHN THE BAPTIST**

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**Rejoice for
the Lord
is near.**



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEEWARD VICARIATE ADVENT PENCE SERVICES:

Listed are the dates for Leeward Parishes Advent Pence Services:
Monday, December 12th - St. Jude - Kapolei
Tuesday, December 13th - Sacred Hearts - Waianae
All Services begin at 7 p. m.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Aging Religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have offered their life in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's special collection. Envelopes are attached and in your envelope boxes.

RESPECT LIFE: The deliberate decision to deprive an innocent human being of his life is always morally evil and can never be licit either as an end in itself or as a means to a good end. It is in fact a grave act of disobedience to the moral law, and indeed to God himself, the author and guarantor of that law. (*Evangelium Vitae*)
Pope John Paul II

WORD OF LIFE: "A child is loved because he is one's child: not because he is beautiful, or because he is like this or like that. . . Not because he thinks as I do, or embodies my dreams. A child is a child: a life generated by us but intended for him, for his good, for the good of the family, of society, of mankind as a whole." —**Pope Francis, General Audience, February 11, 2015.** ©
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WEEKLY READINGS

Dec 11 Sun: 2ND Sunday of Advent

Isa:35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas:5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Dec 12 Mon: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Rev: 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith; 13: 18abcde, 19; Lk 1:39-47

Dec 13 Tue: Memorial of, Lucy, religious and martyr

Zep: 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-17, 17-18, 19 & 23; Mt 21:28-32

Dec 14 Wed: Memorial of John of the Cross, priest, doctor of the church

Is:46:6c-8, 18, 21c-25-25; Ps 85:9ab 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18-23

Dec 15 Thur: Advent Weekday

Is:54:1-10; Ps 30: 2 & 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b; Lk 7:24-30

Dec 16 Fri: Advent Weekday

Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps:67: 2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36

Dec 17 Sat: Advent Weekday

Gn:49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

GOD'S FAVOR

Jesus was deep into his work when John the Baptist was imprisoned for speaking truth to power. John's disciples were immersed in their own lives when his imprisonment was visited upon them. They didn't have the luxury of hindsight, and they were visibly shaken by John's imprisonment and certain fate. They came to Jesus to ask John's question and their own, "Are you the one?"

As evidence of his identity, Jesus recites the signs of God's favor. The words he uses echo those of Isaiah. These are the very words from the first reading, and they are fresh in our minds. Jesus does not give us abstractions or high-sounding ideas. He does not speak of a God who reigns in highest heaven. He speaks of a God who acts on our behalf. John's disciples can see that God's power plays itself out in compassion. We are invited to see this, too. Not only that, we are invited to be the instrument of God's compassion, just as Jesus was.

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

From the loneliness of his prison cell John the Baptist ask of Jesus: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" The weeks before Christmas offer much to be joyous about, celebrating with family and friends, the glitter of seasonal decorations, the excitement of gift giving and receiving. But in our midst there are the lonely and neglected, the poor, the hospitalized, the wayward, the shut-ins. There are those seemingly without hope. To whom should they look? Discipleship in the Lord includes being good stewards of others. Are there those in our family, our neighborhood, our community to whom we can reach out to show them a sign of Christ's presence in their midst? (**International Catholic Stewardship Council e-Bulletin**)

GOD'S WORK

Jesus also takes time to sing the praises of John, this principled man who does not change with the wind. Jesus reiterates that there is no greater person born of woman than John the Baptist. His was the privilege of heralding the coming of the Savior. But greater than this, Jesus pointedly adds, is John's participation in the reign of God.

Our role is not to announce the coming of the Lord, but to receive the Lord whom John heralded. If the earth is to bud forth a Savior in our time, it will have to be through our healing mission that is his work. For John, this work cost him his life. We have the vocation of continuing this costly work. Especially during this season, we are asked to recall our commitment to healing, reconciliation, and peacemaking. This is a rejoicing Sunday because we can see and taste Christmas. This is a season of joyful anticipation as we consciously look for ways to be active, effective members of the reign of God.



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