



St. Michael Catholic Parish
Prayer . Service . Generosity



St. Michael Church
Est. 1853

St. Michael School
Est. 1944



Sts. Peter and Paul Mission
Est. 1953

DECEMBER 15, 2019
THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

MISSION STATEMENT: *To live our baptismal promises by living our faith through prayer, service and generosity.*

Mass Schedule

St. Michael Church

Monday - 7:00am
(Communion Service Only)
Tuesday - Saturday - 7:00am
Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00pm
Sunday - 7:00am & 11:00am

Sts. Peter and Paul Mission

Sunday - 9:00am

Reconciliation at St. Michael

Saturdays - 4:00pm - 4:30pm
Or call for appointment

Morning Prayers (St. Michael)

Sunday Rosary - 6:15am
Monday—Friday
(Lauds – Morning Prayer) – 6:35am

Parish Office

Monday—Friday - 9:00am - 3:00pm
Closed on Holidays
67-390 Goodale Avenue
Waiialua, HI 96791
Phone: (808) 637-4040
Fax: (808) 637-4287

E-mail:

stsmichaelpeter_paul@hawaii.rr.com

Website:

www.stsmichaelpeterpaul.org

St. Michael School

Monday – Friday - 8:00am - 3:00pm
Closed on School Holidays
67-340 Haona St..
Waiialua, HI 96791
Phone: (808) 637-7772
Fax: (808) 637-7722

E-mail:

ecubi@stmichaelschoolhi.net

Website:

www.stmichaelschoolhi.com

APOSTOLIC LETTER
ADMIRABLE SIGNUM
OF THE HOLY FATHER **FRANCIS**
MEANING AND IMPORTANCE
OF THE NATIVITY SCENE
(Continuation from
last week's article)

3. With the simplicity of that sign, Saint Francis carried out a great work of evangelization. His teaching touched the hearts of Christians and continues today to offer a simple yet authentic means of portraying the beauty of our faith. Indeed, the place where this first nativity scene was enacted expresses and evokes these sentiments. Greccio has become a refuge for the soul, a mountain fastness wrapped in silence.

Why does the Christmas crèche arouse such wonder and move us so deeply? First, because it shows God's tender love: the Creator of the universe lowered himself to take up our littleness. The gift of life, in all its mystery, becomes all the more wondrous as we realize that the Son of Mary is the source and sustenance of all life. In Jesus, the Father has given us a brother who comes to seek us out whenever we are confused or lost, a loyal friend ever at our side. He gave us his Son who forgives us and frees us from our sins.

Setting up the Christmas crèche in our homes helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. Naturally, the Gospels remain our source for understanding and reflecting on that event. At

the same time, its portrayal in the crèche helps us to imagine the scene. It touches our hearts and makes us enter into salvation history as contemporaries of an event that is living and real in a broad gamut of historical and cultural contexts.

In a particular way, from the time of its Franciscan origins, the nativity scene has invited us to "feel" and "touch" the poverty that God's Son took upon himself in the Incarnation. Implicitly, it summons us to follow him along the path of humility, poverty and self-denial that leads from the manger of Bethlehem to the cross. It asks us to meet him and serve him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in greatest need (cf. *Mt* 25:31-46).

4. I would like now to reflect on the various elements of the nativity scene in order to appreciate their deeper meaning. First, there is the background of a starry sky wrapped in the darkness and silence of night. We represent this not only out of fidelity to the Gospel accounts, but also for its symbolic value. We can think of all those times in our lives when we have experienced the darkness of night. Yet even then,
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Peace on
Earth
to people
of good will

ADVENT MISSION

With Dallas Carter

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2019
and
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019
6:30 PM - ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
Light refreshments will be served.

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion of St. Michael and Sts. Peter & Paul are required to attend in order to be recommissioned.

All parishioners and friends are welcome to this Advent Mission.



Come and join us for nine days of early morning novena Mass to prepare for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sponsored by the Filipino Catholic Club ... Special novena envelopes will be accepted by the sponsors of the day and breakfast will be served in St. Damien Hall.

NOTE

There will be no Morning Prayers and 7:00AM Masses during this time period.

Parish Registration

If you are interested in registering or would like more information, please contact the parish office or visit our website.

Sacrament of Baptism

Preparation is required. Please call the parish office to attend a class.

Funerals

It is customary to contact the parish office before making arrangements with the mortuary.

Final arrangements are made with the cooperation of the mortuary and priest.

Marriage

Must contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Blessings & Anointing of the Sick

Call parish office for appointments.

Outreach (Food Pantry)

Mondays 8:30 am - 11:00 am
Holidays.....Closed

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Father Ernesto A. Juarez, Jr.

Parish Pastoral Assistant

Mr. Joshua Kapika

School Principal

Mr. Kainoa Fukumoto

Facilities Scheduling

Rental of St. Damien Hall must be scheduled through the Parish Office.

REMINDER

Mass intentions requests must be submitted to the church office by Thursday morning for Daily, Saturday or Sunday Prayer of the Faithful.

REMINDER: *Articles to be printed in the church bulletin must be submitted to the parish office by Monday afternoon.*

PARISH EVENTS

Sunday, December 15

7:00a Filipino Catholic Club Mass
9:00a Religious Education Classes SM
11:00a SM School Mass with Parish

Monday, December 16

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
8:30a Community Outreach
7:00p EPIC
6:30p ADVENT MISSION

Tuesday, December 17

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
6:30p ADVENT MISSION

Wednesday, December 18

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
8:00a SM School
10:00a Visitation **ALFRED GABRIEL, JR.** SM
11:00a Funeral Mass with luncheon to follow
7:00p **PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

Thursday, December 19

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
5:00p Hula Class
6:30p Scripture Reading/Sharing

Friday, December 20

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
10:00a Choir Practice (SPP)
6:30p Choir Practice (SM)
11:00a SM School Early Dismissal

Saturday, December 21

5:00a MISA DE GALLO

Sunday, December 22

5:00a MISA DE GALLO
8:00a Religious Education Classes SPP
9:00a Religious Education Classes SM

St. Michael School will be on
Christmas break
December 23, 2019, to January 3, 2020.

SEE SCHEDULE FOR MASS TIMES

AA MEETINGS @ SPP

Open Group: (Nooners)
Meets Mon.-Sat. Noon to 1pm
Open Group: (Imua Waimea)
Meets Mondays 8pm-9:30pm
Women Only: (Waimea Wahine)
Meets Thursdays 6:45pm-8pm
AA MEETINGS @ SM
Adult Children of AA: Meets Tuesdays 6:30pm
Open Group: Meets Wednesdays 6:30pm

(continued from front page)

God does not abandon us, but is there to answer our crucial questions about the meaning of life. Who am I? Where do I come from? Why was I born at this time in history? Why do I love? Why do I suffer? Why will I die? It was to answer these questions that God became man. His closeness brings light where there is darkness and shows the way to those dwelling in the shadow of suffering (cf. Lk 1:79).

The landscapes that are part of the nativity scene also deserve some mention. Frequently they include the ruins of ancient houses or buildings, which in some instances replace the cave of Bethlehem and become a home for the Holy Family. These ruins appear to be inspired by the thirteenth-century *Golden Legend* of the Dominican Jacobus de Varagine, which relates a pagan belief that the Temple of Peace in Rome would collapse when a Virgin gave birth. More than anything, the ruins are the visible sign of fallen humanity, of everything that inevitably falls into ruin, decays and disappoints. This scenic setting tells us that Jesus is newness in the midst of an aging world, that he has come to heal and rebuild, to restore the world and our lives to their original splendor.

5. With what emotion should we arrange the mountains, streams, sheep and shepherds in the nativity scene! As we do so, we are reminded that, as the prophets had foretold, all creation rejoices in the coming of the Messiah. The angels and the guiding star are a sign that we too are called to set out for the cave and to worship the Lord. "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us" (Lk 2:15). So the shepherds tell one another after the proclamation of the angels. A beautiful lesson emerges from these simple words. Unlike so many other people, busy about many things, the shepherds become the first to see the most essential thing of all: the gift of salvation. It is the humble and the poor who greet the event of the Incarnation. The shepherds respond to God who comes to meet us in the Infant Jesus by setting out to meet him with love,

gratitude and awe. Thanks to Jesus, this encounter between God and his children gives birth to our religion and accounts for its unique beauty, so wonderfully evident in the nativity scene.

6. It is customary to add many symbolic figures to our nativity scenes. First, there are the beggars and the others who know only the wealth of the heart. They too have every right to draw near to the Infant Jesus; no one can evict them or send them away from a crib so makeshift that the poor seem entirely at home. Indeed, the poor are a privileged part of this mystery; often they are the first to recognize God's presence in our midst.

The presence of the poor and the lowly in the nativity scene remind us that God became man for the sake of those who feel most in need of his love and who ask him to draw near to them. Jesus, "gentle and humble in heart" (Mt 11:29), was born in poverty and led a simple life in order to teach us to recognize what is essential and to act accordingly. The nativity scene clearly teaches that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness. We see Herod's palace in the background, closed and deaf to the tidings of joy. By being born in a manger, God himself launches the only true revolution that can give hope and dignity to the disinherited and the outcast: the revolution of love, the revolution of tenderness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalized.



***(Final Article
To be
Continued
Next week)***

**SECOND COLLECTION
DECEMBER 14 & 15, 2019
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

!! NO MASS INTENTIONS !!
Saturday, December 14 —5:00PM
Sunday, December 22—7:00AM
Sunday, December 29—11:00AM
Saturday, January 4—5:00PM
Sunday, January 12—7:00AM
Sunday, January 19—11:00AM
**Please comply with mass intentions
request instructions printed earlier.
Thank you for your cooperation.**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

GENERAL OPERATING FUND	
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020	\$240,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$4,800.00
<u>COLLECTIONS for Dec. 7 & 8, 2019</u>	
Sunday Collection Envelopes	\$3,194.85
Sunday Collection Loose	\$1,571.00
Number of Envelopes Received	131

MANY BLESSINGS TO ALL WHO GIVE!

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS

In the spirit of Christmas the Outreach Ministry would like to present Christmas gift bags to the clients on Monday, December 23rd and is asking for your **KOKUA**.

If able to help, please gift wrap or gift bag small personal items like soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrush, lotions, small towels, brush/comb, Qtips, dental floss, razor, etc.

Please bring to the church office or drop off at the Outreach on Monday morning when we are open.

Mahalo and God Bless You!!!!

FREE GIFT WRAPPING OFFERED

The EPIC Ministry will be offering *FREE* gift wrapping on December 15th, 12:15PM in St. Damien Hall.

Bring your gifts, big and small, and have the loving hands of the Ministry take the holiday hassle off your hands.

For more information, call the parish office.



+ FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT +

+**Alfred Gabriel, Jr.**

December 18, St. Michael Church

10:00am Visitation

11:00am Funeral Mass

w/lucheon to follow in St. Damien Hall

Private Burial

+**Margie Leilani Eguchi**

January 7, Mililani Mauka

10:00am Visitation

11:30am Funeral Service

12:30pm Burial at Mililani Memorial Park



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHILDREN'S MASS

5:00pm at Mission of Sts. Peter & Paul

7:00pm at St. Michael Church

MIDNIGHT MASS

11:30pm Caroling at St. Michael Church

12:00pm Mass at St. Michael Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

Christmas Day Mass

7:00am St. Michael Church

9:00am Mission of Sts. Peter & Paul



FINAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

"Everlasting Light - The Promise of Christmas"

Friday & Saturday, December 20 & 21, 2019

7:30PM at Liliu'okalani Church, Haleiwa

Eileen Hirota, who has been conducting this popular Christmas Cantata for over 35 years, has announced her retirement.

Members of St. Michael and Mission of Sts. Peter & Paul have been participating every year and this year the children of St. Michael School will be joining us.

Come and enjoy this *final* cantata performance!

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

Sick: Helen Abanes, Alan & Georgia Ann Abear, Glenda Aggasid, Oscar Agtina, Francisca Cabico, Aaron & Kekoa & Robert Bolosan, Carey Ibrao Burke, Anthony Cadiz, Petra Casimero, Jackie & Ronald Claunan, Charmaine & Eva Cuelho, Norma Dela Pena, Francesca de Vera, Henry Devinent, Larry Dixon, Federico Dicion, Janice Eldredge, Marina Erice, J.B. Excelcious, Andrea Fiegel, Jocelyn Balmoja Fukushima, Felix Galicinao, Joe Grilho, Virginia Guerrero, Julia Redira Haehn, Raynette Hamamoto, Caroline Kahawaii, Daniel Kapika, Brandon Kikuchi, Catherine Kula, Rosanda Lani, Juanita Manuel, Priscilla Robello Meek, Perlito Mingming, Lily Mito, Consorcia Morales, Roxanne Sumile Munoz, Kloe Nakai, Dennis Nolan, Ethan & Lois Pacolba, Mary Gloria Palalay, Alton Pao, Douglas & Susan Parrish, Mary Pascual, Joe PeBenito, Bonifacio & Rosario Pedro, Michael Pond Sr., Joan Pujol, Severo Raymundo, Patricia Reynolds, Chris Rolluda, Liam Sagucio, Bonnie Sales, Richard Sarno, Apolenario & Derek Suan, Kathleen Smith, Sheri Sumida, James Jr. & Joe Sumile, Priscilla Tampon, Tracy Walker, Velma & Shannon Warfield, June Teixeira, Beatrice Vierra, Alyssa & Carrie Ann & Malia Yamanouchi

Death: Margie Leilani Eguchi, Alfred Gabriel Jr.