

# St. Michael the Archangel Parish

#### We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.

Churches: + Immaculate Conception-Holualoa + Holy Rosary-Kalaoa + St. Paul's-Kawanui + St. Peter's by-the-Sea-Kahalu'u St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am-4:30pm WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am-4:45pm / Confessions: Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 1:30pm, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 11:30am Gift Shop Hours: Mon - Tue - Wed - Fri 9:30am - 1:30pm & Sun 6:30am - 2:30pm

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org January 14, 2024 | 14 de enero 2024

# Second Sunday in Ordinary

## WATCHING FOR THE MESSIAH

Today's Gospel story of John and his disciples seeing and following Jesus sounds so simple and casual, it's easy to miss the significant acts of faith that are made.

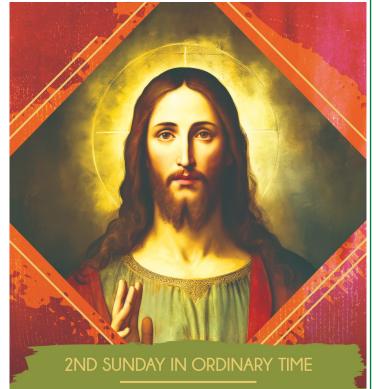
John points to Jesus: "Look," he says, "there is the Lamb of God." John's faith in Jesus is evident, so evident that John's disciples immediately leave his side to follow this Jesus.

The two disciples make their own act of faith. They follow Jesus, spend time with him, and are quick to spread the good news of their discovery: "We have found the Messiah."

It is easy to forget that the expectations of generations, the hopes of many ages of faithful people were being fulfilled in these simple acts of faith. The Lamb of God, the Messiah, foretold by the prophets, had finally come. Nearly everyone among the Jewish people was watching for the Messiah back then; who in our own society watches for signs of the presence of the Messiah today? © Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

Here am T. Lord: T come to do your will (Psalm 40).

Reading I - Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalm - 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13 | Reading II – Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6 | Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12 Primera Lectura - Isaías 60:1-6 | Salmo - 71:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13 | Segunda Lectura - Efesios 3:2-3,5-6 | Evangelio – Matias 2:1-12



John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. - Jn 1:35-36

Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings 1st Reading/Primera Lectura: 1 Samuel (1 Samuel) 3:3-10,19 Psalm/Salmo: 42:2,4,7-8,8-9,10/39:2,4ab,7-8a,8b-9,10 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Segunda Lectura: (1Corintios) 6:13-15,17-20 Gospel/Evangelio: John (Juan) 1:35-42

Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at saintmichaelparishkona.org. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.



## January 14, 2024 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 | 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 | Jn 1:35-42

#### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

When Samuel hears the Lord speak in today's first reading, he mistakes it as Eli calling out to him in the temple. The third time Samuel asks if he called, Eli is wise enough to realize what is going on and guides Samuel: "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel required guidance because he "was not familiar with the Lord, because the Lord had not revealed anything to him as yet." In a similar way does the Apostle Andrew come to the Lord. In today's Gospel, Andrew didn't know who Jesus was until John the Baptist told him: "Behold, the Lamb of God." Andrew then began to follow Jesus, and to bring others to him. There may be times when we, like both of these men, need someone else to help us hear the call of the Lord clearly, or see his presence among us. Those who serve the Lord in this way are a great gift to us, and enable us to be that gift for others. Pray for the grace to hear what we need to hear, to see what we need to see, and to say to others, "come, we have found the Messiah."

#### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Despite our best efforts, the time and attention we give to our lives of faith can ebb and flow. Sometimes we can feel so connected with God that we sense his presence everywhere. But there may also be times when God feels distant and we struggle to hear his voice. Notice in today's readings how Samuel "was not familiar with the Lord" but was sleeping in the temple, close to the ark; notice how Andrew was hanging around John the Baptist and immediately followed Christ when told who he was. We can see that, already before "knowing," is a "desire to know." The Lord created us, formed us into being, and calls us to a relationship with him. We are drawn to him even before we can see or know what he has revealed to us. He is our source, and our ultimate end. We seek eternal life with Christ and a path of holiness to help us on our way. The stories of Samuel and the disciple Andrew impress upon us that God is always near and calling to us - we simply must give him the opportunity to speak, sometimes when we least expect it.

**INVITATION** We are all called to a life of holiness. But it's not always easy to grow in holiness and strengthen one's relationship with God on our own. Consider reaching out to your parish and asking about spiritual direction – a spiritual director will help you fine tune your ears to be more attentive to the Lord's voice.

## Life of Stewardship

"Speak, for your servant is listening." With those few words, Samuel humbles himself and declares his loyalty and obedience to God. There are perhaps for many of us challenges in those words. Initially, Samuel responds, "Here I am," but thinks it was Eli who called him. The idea of being a servant and the willingness to serve are what may be trials for us in terms of how we live.

Samuel does not recognize the voice of the Lord. That, too, might be a problem for us. First, we need to be listening. Are we, or are we merely going through the motions? Responding to God with "Here I am" is a magnificent way to react to God. It is not that God does not know where we are but saying that can serve as a reminder to us that we are stewards and servants to Him, and it implies we are prepared to hear what He wants us to do.

"Here I am" is said numerous times by those in the Old Testament including Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Isaiah, and by Ananias in the New Testament. When Jesus says, "Come follow me," as He does to us, do we hear Him, and even more importantly do we respond, and do we follow?

In order to do that properly we have to be prepared to serve Him and others. Thus, like Samuel, we need to listen, and then we need to serve. At a recent papal audience, Pope Francis said, "Love and charity are service, helping others, serving others. When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!" - *Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship* 

### **Parish News**

#### Annual Parish Retreat - Saturday, January 27

Our annual Parish Retreat will be held on **Saturday**, **January 27 beginning with our daily Mass at 7am**.

Our speaker will be Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB - a dynamic and engaging speaker that has led retreats across the country. This retreat offers a time for spiritual renewal. The focus will be on God's call to live as good stewards in Thanksgiving to Him who feeds us with His own Body and Blood. This is an invitation to reflect on God's unconditional love for us and our response to that love. **Breakfast and Lunch will be provided and there is no cost to attend. Please call the office at 808-326-7771 to RSVP.** 

#### "Radical Solidarity" - March for Life

In solidarity with the National March for Life, join our Respect Life Ministry as we pray and March in front of Saint Michael's on **Saturday January 20th** before the Vigil Mass. We'll start at **3pm with the Rosary, hold signs until we proceed to the 4pm Mass**. God bless all children.

#### Feast of Santo Niño - Sunday, January 21st

The feast day of Santo Niño de Cebú comes each year on the third Sunday in January. The country's oldest Catholic icon is the Santo Niño. In the words of Pope Francis, the Holy Child is the Protector of the Philippines thus his significance both in Filipino history and culture. This is a devotion that centers around the image of the Christ child, and celebrates the conversion of the Philippines to Christianity. The festival, known for street parties, parades, and dancing, is called Sinulog meaning "like water current movement"- based on the movement of the dance which tells the History of the conversion to Christianity. This year, we have two opportunities to celebrate this special feast. On Sunday, January 21st, our parish will celebrate Santo Niño during our 9am Mass. Bring your favorite Filipino dessert during our coffee service after Mass. We will also celebrate with other parishes islandwide at our 4pm Mass. There will be a reception after Mass featuring popular Filipino dishes and a cultural program in the Grace Parish Center.

#### **Blessed Palms for Ash Wednesday**

Please bring in your blessed palms from last year so we can prepare them for Ash Wednesday. Place them in the bins inside the front entrance. We will collect palms until Sunday, February 4th. **Ash Wednesday is on February 14th.** 

#### St. Michael's Spiritual Book Club

The Spiritual Book Club will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 4pm - 5:30pm in the Grace Parish Center. **The first meeting will be on January 25th**. Our first book is Richard Rohr's <u>Falling Upward:</u> <u>A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life</u>. There are two versions available and can be found on Amazon in hard– cover or kindle versions. An alternative source for the original version is Second Sale. We look forward to seeing everyone on January 25th and hearing your thoughts! For more info, contact Dennis Boyd through the office.

### **Upcoming Special Collection**

**On January 21st:** *Church in Latin America.* For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and s shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. Envelopes are provided in today's bulletin. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit **www.usccb.org/latin-america**.

#### Immigration Ministry Seminar - February 11

Join us on February 11 at 12:30pm in the Grace Parish Center for an informational one-hour seminar on immigration by attorney Evita, who will discuss federal immigration laws. If you, or someone you know from any country in the world, are here in the USA without legal status and are not sure where to begin the process to be-come legal, this is a must attend. All immigration questions will be answered. Email Evita at <u>evitatolu@outlook.com</u> for more information, .

### **Faith Formation**

#### **Grades K-5** Due to the Martin Luther King holiday, no classes will be held on January 14th.

#### Faith Formation/Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

We will have a Youth Retreat for Grades 6-12 on Saturday, January 13 in the Grace Parish Center from 9am to 5pm.

## Stewardship of Treasure

Jan 1st - Jan 7th, 2024

ONLINE GIVING	\$	4,620.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFER	NGS \$	12,962.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$	27,428.00

#### **Parish Center Update**

We have collected **\$4,745,436.55** for the Parish Center Campaign, which includes pledge payments. *Mahalo* for your continued generosity.

Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or click on our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$10,831.00 MONTHLY 'OHANA IN CHRIST ASSESSMENT: \$1,724.18

The above amounts fund Diocesan ministries, as listed in 'Ohana in Christ to help support our parishes, pastors, schools, service agencies, and communities within the Diocese of Honolulu.

#### **Online Giving**

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St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit **saintmichaelparishkona.org** and click our **ONLINE GIVING tab.** Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

#### Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

OCIA classes for the year continues on January 22nd, February 5th, 19th, March 4th & 18th from 5:45 to 7:15pm in the Grace Parish Center.

#### **Charismatic Prayer Group**

The Charismatic Prayer Group **meets every Tuesday** from 6:30 - 8pm in the Grace Parish Center. Join us as we deepen our relationship with Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit with praise & worship, teachings & sharing in person and by video, discussion and prayers.

#### New Bible Study Class starts January 18

Our Bible Study class starts on January 18th. *Romans: The Gospel of Salvation* is an eight-week Bible study that will help make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. It will provide an authentically Catholic, comprehensive, and simple way to understand this challenging epistle. Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. Participants will meet **weekly on Thursdays from 10:30am – 12 Noon** to view an engaging video presentation followed by group discussion. Email Hin at hcheung@hawaii.rr.com to register.

#### Next Week is "Word of God Sunday"

As disciples of Jesus, we emphasize the importance of the Bible in Catholic life and encourage one another to read and study the **Word of God** as a regular part of our lives.

Pope Francis, has instituted the **Sunday of the Word of God** to be celebrated annually on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. **For all Masses next week,** we ask you to bring your personal Bibles to Mass. At Mass, we will have a commitment and blessing prayer as you hold your Bibles to your hearts.

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

As a priest, I'm amazed how happily married couples remember the tiniest details of their earliest encounters. They effortlessly report things like: "he wore a blue shirt," "we ordered brussels sprouts," "her hair was up in a bun," and "he spilled shrimp cocktail sauce at my family's open front door when it was ten degrees below zero," We delight in remembering and speaking of when our new life of love began. The little details are glorious reminders that it's all real.

It's similar for John the Apostle. He tells us of the two disciples who followed Jesus into his house, "... they stayed with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon." Why does that tiny detail matter? Because that's the time of day when they encountered the love of Jesus the Messiah in their lives. Our religion is not primarily about abstract truths about God, no matter how true or sublime. It is about God meeting and saving us in our human nature. It's about a human relationship.

What was the time of day when you first recall encountering Christ and his Church? Who was there? What did you feel? How did things look and smell? What happened? Take some time to recall it in detail. For me, it was inside an old, rickety church on a hillside in Jerome, Arizona. It was about 9 p. m. on a Saturday evening. I was with my friends Jenny, Brad, and Laura. We were praying, singing, and laughing. When was it for you? Remembering the details isn't empty nostalgia. It reminds us now that God's love for us in our humanity is real.

- Father John Muir, ©LPi

#### **Treasures From Our Tradition**

Old customs fade slowly, and in 1560 the Council of Trent tried for significant change in pastoral care of the sick. People resisted, thinking that the last breath was the right time for the sacrament. Although physical improvement was often noted after anointing, it was seen as a kind of bonus, rather than an expected outcome of a prayer for good health, strength, patience, and even healing. More than four hundred years later, many people still do not ask for anointing until it is literally too late for the person to have reasonable hope of healing, or at least be aware enough to participate in the ritual. By then, it may even be too late for viaticum, the true "last rite."

We have a treasure in our tradition that we seem reluctant to use. We visit the sick, we anoint those who are in the first crisis of illness, we give Communion to those who are dying, and we keep vigil and pray for those close to death. When anointing is celebrated early enough, optimally when the sick person is still at Sunday Mass, it can be a source of courage, faith, and hope for a difficult road ahead. When we anoint our **Rev. Konelio Faletoi** Pastor and Vicar Forane of the West Hawaii Vicariate

> Rev. Royd Mweemba Parochial Vicar

Rev. Henry Guillen-Vega Parochial Vicar

#### DEACON SÁNDOR HERNÁNDEZ MORALES MEALI'INANI DUARTE-HERNÁNDEZ

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MARGARET ESSEX Children's Faith Formation K-5 messex@rcchawaii.org

CHERYL APPLEBY Baptism Ministry baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org

> SHIRLEY DAVID Pastoral Council Chair

Dave Bateman Finance Council Chair

SHARMAYNE NAONE Stewardship Committee Chair & Safe Environment

**ROBERT LEOPOLDINO / DON DAVID** Capital Campaign Committee Chairs

> TJ Moses Parish Life Coordinator

Walter Bacxa Music Ministry

Rene Lemus Music Ministry & Spanish Baptism Ministry

CAROLINE SMITH / LOUELLA BRANCO Funeral Ministry

> PAULETTE ADAMS Wedding Coordinator

MAYRA RAMIREZ Spanish Wedding Coordinator

BILL CULHANE Food Pantry Ministry

THELMA BACXA Community Outreach Ministry

> **CAROLYN LIVINGSTON** Gift Shop Manager

SUSAN KEEN Business Manager skeen@rcchawaii.org

JANICE LACRO Administrative Assistant stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org sick, we remind them that they belong to Christ and a com-munity of faith. We bring them into the pres-ence of Christ to reconcile, heal, and give strength and hope. We resist forces that iso-late and alienate the sick; the symbol of touch is a powerful act of acceptance. Why wait until the crisis of illness is dire before we apply such a rich remedy to body and soul?

- Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

#### Everyday Stewardship - Christ is Anything but Ordinary

We're about to dive headlong into week two of Ordinary Time, and we need to admit, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, things are indeed looking more ... ordinary, at least in our spiritual lives.

The transcendent highs of the Christmas season are flatlining a bit and the vivid imagery of the Nativity scene has faded. The solemn anticipation of the Advent season is by now a distant memory. Are you bored yet?

Here's a secret: I think that Ordinary Time can actually be quite extraordinary, if we're really living out our baptismal call. In today's Gospel, Jesus point blank asks Andrew, who is following him after hearing John the Baptist's testimony: "What are you looking for?" He's asking us the same question.

What are you looking for? Why are you following me? Is it for the Christmas cookies and the Advent carols? Is it for the King's Cake on the Epiphany? Is it for the feeling we get on Christmas when we just know God has done a wondrous thing?

None of those things are bad, but they are not what Andrew was looking for, and they were not what Christ promised him when he said, "Come, and you will see." Andrew was looking for the Messiah—the One who makes even Ordinary Time extraordinary. The One who can sanctify the longest and dullest of to do lists, on the longest and dullest of days. The One whose peace can reign in our homes on January 25, not just December 25.

Remember what you are looking for. Come, and you will see.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI



## **Mass Intentions**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13TH

• 4pm - Marcelino Bacxa, Rest in Peace

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7am William & Alice Denten, Special Intentions
- 9am Janice Unger, Rest in Peace
- 1:30pm JP Urgino, May she rest in peace
- 4:00pm Gretta Bernabe, For Healing

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH

- 7am Pam Stanbrough, Special Intention
- 5pm Daniel Frank, Rest in Peace

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH

- 7am Christopher Fudolig, for Healing
- 5pm Janice Unger, Rest in Peace

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH

• 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 18TH

- 7am George Stouter, Rest in Peace
- 5pm Nancy Engle, for Healing

#### Friday, January 19th

- 7am Sissie Pitullo, Special Intention
- 5pm Monique Garcia, May she rest in peace

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH

• 7am - Unborn Baby, Ben & Miriam Kim, Special Intention

### **Requesting a Mass Intention**

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **326-7771**. If you'd like to request a specific day and Mass time, *please call well in advance of the date to secure it*. *Mass cards are available*.

"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..." —Matthew 25:35

The Food Pantry Ministry The Food Pantry is open the <u>2nd</u> <u>and 4th Saturdays of the month</u> from 9 - 9:45am at Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.

# Spend Time With Him First

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ► Samuel 3:3b-10, 19 Revelation to Samuel
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Against sexual immorality
- ► John 1:35-42 The first disciples

The stories of discipleship in John's gospel follow a pattern. People come to Jesus, are brought to him, or are introduced to him by someone they know. They spend time with him for a while. They talk with him, listen to his teachings, and watch how he lives his life. Once they have spent some time with him, they go and bring others to him so that they can meet him. The cycle continues.

We see this pattern in today's gospel when Andrew and another unnamed person spend time with Jesus

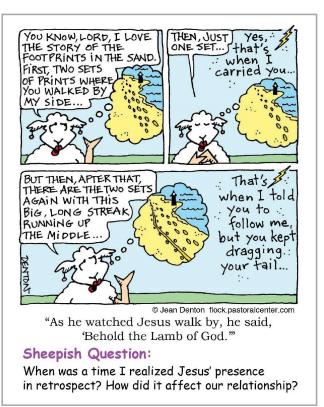
after John the Baptist introduced them. Andrew then found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus. The next day, Philip spends time with Jesus, and then finds Nathanael and invites

him to come meet Jesus. A couple of chapters later the woman at the well

talks with Jesus and goes away to tell her townspeople they should come to meet him as well.

Maybe there is a lesson in here for us. Maybe the way we are all called to evangelize—to spread the Good





News—isn't by preaching with a megaphone on a street corner, going door-to-door to talk about religion, or threatening that if people don't become believers they won't be saved. Maybe instead we can follow the two simple steps taken by the disciples: spend time with Jesus ourselves, and then invite other people to come and experience him for themselves.

## Questions of the Week

Have you ever thought of yourself as having a responsibility to share your faith with others? If so, what does that mean to you?

What is your reaction to this idea of a twostep process: spending time with Jesus and then inviting others to get to know him?

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# Parish Life Ph 🙆 tos

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Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

#### Betty Ross 808-319-5923 Bettydr40@yahoo.com

#### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls Amen.

Iscie

Lovette Llantos

Broker in Charge RB-21663

(808) 938-3910 Lovette@GonnaLove-lt.com

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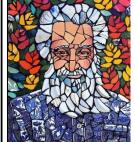




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