

# St. Michael the Archangel Parish

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

<u>Churches</u>: † 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 February 4, 2024 | 4 de febrero 2024

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

 Reading I - Job 7:1-4,6-7
 Psalm - 147:1-2,3-4,5-6
 Reading II – 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23
 Gospel – Mark 1:29-39

 Primera Lectura - Job 7:1-4,6-7
 Salmo - 146:1-2,3-4,5-6
 Segunda Lectura - 1 Corintios 9:16-19,22-23
 Evangelio – Marcos 1:29-39



### 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

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Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings 1st Reading/Primera Lectura: Leviticus (Levitico) 13:1-2,44-46 Psalm/Salmo: 32(31):1-2,5,11 2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: 1 Corinthians (1Corintios) 10:31-11:1 Gospel/Evangelio: Mark (Marcos) 1:40-45

# **HEALING MINISTRY**

During Jesus' ministry "he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons." This is the case in today's Gospel. Jesus fulfills the vision of Psalm 147: "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

Jesus knew, however, that he couldn't possibly heal all the illness in the world. No matter how many people he cured or how many hours he ministered, there always would be more suffering people like Job who craved his healing touch. His primary mission was not to rid the world of all suffering. His "purpose" was to preach the coming of the reign of God that heals, yes, but ultimately transcends and transforms earthly suffering. With Paul, Jesus could have said, "Woe to me if I do not preach" that good news. © *Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.* 

Ash Wednesday, February 14 St. Michael the Archangel Mass Schedule 7am, 12noon, 5pm (English) 7pm (Spanish)

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.



## February 4, 2024 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 | 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 | Mk 1:29-39

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

[b 7:1-4, 6-7 | 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 | Mk 1:29-39

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

Why me? It could be a flat tire, a lost job or a serious illness. When inconvenient, unpleasant or even downright horrible things happen, it is understandable to wonder why God allows it. I know that is what goes through my head in extreme adversity. God can do all things, so why wouldn't he change "this thing" for me? In the Gospel, we see Jesus curing Simon Peter's mother-inlaw of her illness, but many of us don't have our prayers answered like that. Instead, we may relate more to Job in today's first reading when he says life is a "drudgery" and he "shall not see happiness again." The reality is that God's ways are not our ways, so we can't know why some people endure hardship while others receive miracles. But we can change how we respond to those hardships when they arrive. Just as this passage from Job is understood better within the context of the whole book, discrete events in our lives are part of something larger than ourselves. Praying with Scripture, including reading more of Job, can help us understand how God is molding, refining, and yes – always loving us.

#### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When we are tempted to feel like Job is a good time to embrace the ageold practice of "offering it [suffering] up." As a child, my parents explained that offering it up meant I was telling God I would happily suffer in exchange for it helping someone else. What does this really mean? Everything stems from our being united to Christ in our baptism and being participants in his priestly, prophetic and royal office. We offer ourselves, our whole being, including our worship, praise, joy, gratitude, bodies and even sufferings to God as sacrifice. So, to "offer it [suffering] up" is a powerful way of taking a bad situation and allowing it to be used for something good; to give our inconvenience, pain and grief to the Lord and ask him to unite it to Christ's suffering for the good of others. It is a redemptive act, a form of love-in-action. St. Paul is a great example of someone who suffered gladly, and in today's second reading he shares that "to the weak [he] became weak, to win over the weak."

**PRAY** Offering up our sufferings and difficulties is a way to participate in the redemptive work of Christ. It is a simple way to pray and can keep our focus on God throughout the day. There isn't any one specific prayer for doing this. Instead, when something unpleasant or painful happens, take a moment to acknowledge it and give it to the Lord. It can be as simple as saying, "Lord, I am happy to endure this for the benefit of others." You may want to insert a specific intention or offer it for the souls in purgatory. It's not always easy – especially when your suffering is great – but give it a try this week.

### Life of Stewardship

Our readings today remind us that Christ came to serve. Jesus' entire life was focused on others. He came to fulfill His Father's mission - the salvation of mankind. He labored for this mission by becoming the humblest of servants.

In today's Gospel, Simon says to Jesus, "Everyone is looking for you." Jesus did not seek after the praise. Rather, He responded by saying, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also." Jesus was already looking to whom He could serve next.

As Christian stewards, we are also called to be humble servants who labor for our Father's mission. We should strive to imitate the Perfect Steward, who was constantly aware of the needs of those around Him and put His gifts to good use. For us, this begins right here in our home, parish, and community. We are called to live each moment in awareness of our Father's mission and in gratitude for all He has given us.

Jesus tells us that the way to be attentive is through prayer. Before Jesus made the decision to go to the nearby villages to preach, He first went off to pray. It is through prayer that Jesus could hear what His Father was asking of Him. We, too, are called to spend time in daily prayer - we will then become aware of the opportunities to serve the Lord.

Let us commit to finding some quiet time this week to pray. Let us ask the Lord - how can I serve You better throughout my days? And let us pray, 'Make me humble, Lord.'

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

### **Parish News**

#### **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. Masses will be at 7am, 12noon, and 5pm in English and 7pm in Spanish. All Masses will be celebrated at St. Michael's.

#### **Healing Mass**

Join us for a Healing Mass on Tuesday, February 6th at St. Michael's. Confession and Praise & Worship starts at 6pm followed by a Healing Mass at 6:30pm.

#### **Kupuna Ministry**

Join the Kupuna Ministry on Wednesday from 8:30-11am in the Grace Parish Center. Call the office for more information.

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

The Spiritual Book Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 4pm - 5:30pm in the Grace Parish Center. Our first book is Richard Rohr's **Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life**. Contact Dennis Boyd through the parish office for more information.

#### Men of Faith

Would you like to share a journey with others who are growing together personally and spiritually in Christ? You are invited to share this experience on Wednesdays at 5:30pm on St. Michael's South Lanai. If you have any questions, email Deacon Craig at ccamello@rcc hawaii.org or John Czajkowski at jbczajkowski@hotmail.com.

#### 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 become legal, this is a must attend. All immigration questions will be answered. For more information, email Evita at evitatolu@outlook.com.

#### Knights of Columbus Council 13227

This month's meeting will be held on **Monday, February 12th at 5:45pm in the Grace Parish Center.** All visiting Knights and prospective new members are welcome. The Knights will be serving coffee and donuts after the 7am and 9am Masses on Sunday, February 11th. Stop by to learn about the activities the Knights are doing to help our Parish community.

#### St. Michael's 14th Annual GolfTournament

St. Michael's 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday March 23rd at Kona Country Club. **There are several ways you can help**. Join as a member of our organizing committee, be a golfer, a volunteer, or a sponsor. For more information call Don David 808-756-6912. Come join us at our next meeting!

#### Faith Formation Grades K-5

The students who are in their second year of sacrament preparation have begun their lessons on the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue on this important journey as children of God.

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

Faith Formation for Grades 6-12 will meet on February 4th from 5 - 7:15pm in the Grace Parish Center. We will have a Youth Lock In on February 18 & 19. Permission form required to attend.

#### **Consecration to God the Father Ministry**

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, Sunday, February 4th following the 1:30pm Mass at St. Michael's South Lanai. We will pray Consecration Prayers to God Our Father and Divine Mercy.

#### Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

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

#### 40 Days For Life

The Respect Life Committee begins a **40 Days For Life campaign from Wednesday, February 14th to Sunday, March 24th** on the sidewalk in front of St. Michael's Church. The 40 Days For Life is an international event that aims to end abortion through 40days of peaceful vigil, fasting, and community outreach. To sign up for the vigil,

### Stewardship of Treasure

Jan 22nd - Jan 28th, 2024

2.105.00

I	OnLine Giving	\$ 2,105.00
	Sunday Offerings / Mailed-In Offerings	\$ 13,044.00
	Grace Parish Center Campaign	\$ 57,364.00

#### **Parish Center Update**

We have collected **\$4,829,971.55** 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 FEBRUARY 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**

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.

visit website www.40daysforlife.com/kona. Sign up table and materials will be available on the weekend of February 10-11. For more info. contact the Respect Life Committee through the office. Please keep those experiencing a crisis pregnancy and their unborn baby in your prayers. Support our local pregnancy center - LIV Pregnancy & Women's Wellness (www.livwellwomen.com).

#### Children's Rosary

The Children's Rosary group meets after the 9am Mass on Sunday, February 28th on the North Lanai. Parents: Please encourage your children to pray just one decade of the Rosary with other children once a month.

#### **Romans: The Gospel of Salvation**

Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. 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. The class meets on Thursdays from 10:30am - 12 Noon in the Grace Parish Center to view an engaging video presentation followed by group discussion.

#### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Maybe I'm weird, but I like spending time in doctor's offices, confession lines in churches, auto repair shops, prison cells, and support groups of various kinds. It's refreshing to be with people who humbly admit something is wrong and forthrightly set out on a path toward a solution. When we

ignore what is off kilter, we become alone and fragile. In places where people are honest and hopeful about brokenness, sturdy if subtle fellowship usually ensues.

Consider the image we see of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark. "... they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by a demon. The whole town was gathered at the door." The entire human community is afflicted in various ways, and so it gradually forms a strange new community around Jesus. The healer from Nazareth is like a sun of health around which orbits a throng of humanity absorbing his healing rays. These blessed souls can't fix themselves and become healthy, and they know it. But they have found in him the living source of all imaginable healing.

It's the Church, isn't it? A sin sick community gathered and healed is what happens at the beginning of every Mass. We shuffle in through the door from everywhere and announce that we are not okay, and we can't fix it. In doing so, we are drawn into the orbit of the healing power of Christ - and into a renewed community with the whole human family. It's nothing to fear or rush. Maybe we can even learn to enjoy more how good it is to be in such a happy place. - Father John Muir, ©LPi

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

"Last rites" is a persistent but pesky phrase in the Catholic lexicon, and not a particularly useful phrase since it props open the door to misunderstanding. Many Catholics presume it refers to the anointing of the sick, yet there is nothing "last" about it. Clearly, the Church desires anointing to be celebrated fairly early on in the crisis of illness, and not as a last measure. The Rites for the Dying stand apart in the Church's plan, and include two principal rites. The first is viaticum, Latin for "food for the journey," the reception of Holy Communion by a dying person. Even very active and aware Catholics often do not realize that this "last rite" does not require a priest's presence, but can be conducted by a deacon or minister of Holy Communion.

The second "last rite" in the pastoral plan is a prayer called "Commendation of the Dying." Similarly, this does not require the presence of a priest, but can be led by any minister or family member. Too often, we have focused on what only a priest can do, namely anoint, and have forgotten the fullness of liturgical care that the Church desires for its dying faithful. The "last rites" are completely available to us even when a priest is not.

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

#### **Everyday Stewardship - Gratefulness During Hard Times**

Sometimes we can feel like we are living the life of Job: everything is going wrong all at the same time. Everyone finds himself or herself in a valley once in awhile. How we got there is not nearly as important as how we are going to get out.

Everyday stewards are called to be grateful for all things, large and small. It is easier to be grateful for obvious things like family, health, and life itself, than it is to look for the ordinary gifts in our life. When we cul-

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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

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JANICE LACRO Administrative Assistant stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org tivate a sense of wonder and thankfulness for the many little things in life we find ourselves more resilient in times of trial. We can look out our window and see all those gifts in creation. We can look around our home and see all the things people take too easily for granted. Imagine life without some of the simplest things like clothing, warmth, water, and furniture. There are people in this world that long for all of those things. But God has given them for your benefit and for you to share with others.

Before Lent begins in a couple weeks, take the time to create a list of at least 10 things that you normally take for granted. Keep that list handy and maybe add to it from time-totime. When life seems hard and that cloud seems to hang over our heads, bring out the list and let gratefulness lift you up and out of your plight so that once again you can be about your Father's work.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

#### **Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments -** *Purpose and Pride*

Father, forgive me. Today's Gospel made me want to fight somebody.

If you want to make me really, really angry, you are sure of doing so if you tell me about an old woman who was sick, but felt a little better, and then her son-in-law and all his buddies showed up, so she cooked them a bunch of food and cleaned up after them.

We all project our own feelings, fears, insecurities, and desires onto the word of God. I certainly do. And most of my feelings, fears, insecurities, and desires spring from my current role as a tired mom of little kids.

I think there is a fear inside many of us of God's purpose for our lives. What if it's not aligned perfectly with what we think we need, or what we imagine we want? Most of the time, I think I need a nap, and I imagine that I want absolutely no one asking me for any kind of help. And here I am, perpetually napless and always being called on to render assistance.

The actions of Peter's mother-in-law were the only actions we would expect of a woman who had just received a miracle. She jumped up, and with bravery and boldness she served the Lord.

But couldn't she rest? Couldn't she serve him later? Couldn't she thank him with a smile and take a nap? Well, I suppose. But is that how you react to a miracle?

I have received my miracle - my family. My purpose. So why am I still lying down?

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman, ©LPi

## **Mass Intentions**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD • 4pm - Robert Robinson, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7am Aunty Melvine for Healing
- 9am Marcelino Bacxa, Rest in Peace
- 1:30pm Mariko Foster, for Healing
- 4:00pm Whit Kidwell & John Kluh for Healing, Oscar &Jay Kluh, may they rest in peace

Monday, February 5th

- 7am Natividad Fudolig, Rest in Peace
- 5pm Vera BanSchaick, Rest in Peace

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

7am - Vera BanSchaick, Rest in Peace
5pm - Dorothy Williams, 90th Birthday Blessing

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH • 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

Thursday, February 8th

- 7am Vera BanSchaick, Rest in Peace
- 5pm Dennis Nemmers for Healing

Friday, February 9th

- 7am Ed & Mindy Finnegan for Healing
- 5pm Ryan, Shawna, Shawn, and Desiree Nemmers, May they find their way back to Jesus and the Church

Saturday, February 10th

• 7am - Margie Carter, for Healing

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. February 4, 2024 • 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B

# It Feels Good to Go Back to Work

This Week's Readings at Mass

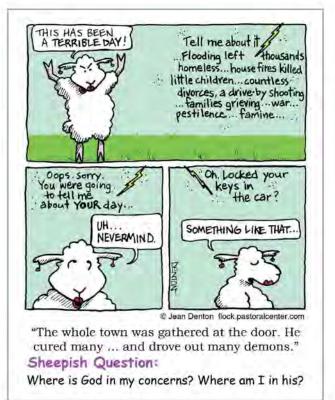
- ► Job 7:1-4, 6-7 Job's first reply
- 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Paul's recompense
- Mark 1:29-39 Cure of Peter's mother-in-law and other miracles

People sometimes take notice that as soon as Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law, she gets up and begins to wait on him and his friends, presumably including her own son-in-law. There she was sick in bed, and when she is healed, she had to go right back to work serving others? It doesn't quite seem fair to us now.

Yet there's another way to look at this scene. If you or anyone you know has been seriously or chronically sick, injured, or disabled, you may recognize the feeling of humility of not being able to help one's self and needing to rely on others for basic care. Being dependent on others can easily wound people's pride and make them question their self-worth. For some people, it leads to despair that they aren't "contributing" to the family or society and they may feel like they are a burden, even questioning why they are alive.

We don't know how long Simon's mother-in-law was sick or what exactly her illness was, but perhaps after she was healed she took great pride and satisfaction in being able to do something for others again. Maybe she wasn't going about her service just because it was her duty as a woman in that culture to serve the men. It could have been her genuine, thankful response for what Jesus did for her. In other words, she may have been happy to go back to work.

The next morning, after all Jesus' healing work with so many who were sick or possessed by demons, he must have been exhausted, but he still gets up early to



go off by himself to pray. His time alone might have been short-lived because the apostles found him and they headed off to other villages to continue his work.

## **Questions of the Week**

Have you had the experience of being sick or injured and having to rely on others to do things for you that you wish you could do for yourself? What is it like?

Jesus gives us a great example of self-care in this passage when he goes away by himself to pray after a particularly busy day. When you find yourself especially busy or stressed, what do you do—or what would you like to do to take care of yourself and get re-connected with God's strength?

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