

Established  
July 5, 1840

# 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-Kahaluu

St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: [stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org](mailto: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: Sun 6:30am - 2:30pm

Website: [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) September 1, 2024 | 1 de septiembre de 2024

## Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I - Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8 | Psalm - 15:2-3 3-4,4-5 | Reading 1 - James: 1:17-18,21b-22,27 | Gospel - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Primera Lectura - Deuteronomio 4:1-2,6-8 | Salmo - 14: 2-3a.3bc-4ab,5 | Segunda Lectura - Santiago: 1:17-18,21b-22,27 | Evangelio - Marcos 7:1-8,14-15,21-23



### 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

### Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: **Isaiah (Isaías) 35:4-7**

Psalm/Salmo: **146(145):6-7,8-9,9-10**

2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: **James (Santiago) 2:1-5**

Gospel/Evangelio: **Mark (Marcos) 7:31-37**

### TRADITION

Tradition is long human memory set, not in stone, but in human interaction. Without this active memory, the bonds of relationship and affection fray and fall apart. Communities dissolve as surely as neglected buildings do. After participating in events, celebrations, and even small rituals, we remark about how good it is to gather and remember.

Today's readings remind us of foundations laid deeper than the human will to relate. Today we hear about God's will to relate to us - to be our God as we are called to be God's own beloved people.

Today in three readings and three ways we remember the covenant bonds that create us as a people and the obligation and responsibility that express the innermost attitude of soul. You are mine. I am yours. These are God's words that created a people as surely as "Let there be light" created the sun and moon and all the stars.

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### 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.

**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](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org). To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.



September 1, 2024

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 | Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 | Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

Traditions are so important to us! They help define and preserve our heritage and our communities while also offering comfort and stability. They shape our human world as we see and live it. But in today's Gospel, Jesus scolds the Pharisees and scribes for allowing "the tradition of the elders" to drive them to hypocrisy: "In vain do they worship [the Lord], teaching as doctrines human precepts." He accuses them, saying "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." How could this be? Were the laws of ritual purity not important? They were, insofar as they were observed for the right reason: glorifying and honoring God, and being mindful of their covenantal relationship. We know, historically, that those who had questioned Jesus, leading to his response, were interested more in legalities, religious control, pride, and power. There was little "love for their neighbor" and a fair amount of "love for themselves." Therefore, Jesus is instructive when he tells them, "Nothing that enters one from the outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." In other words: Ritual actions don't make us pure; the purity or impurity of our heart is what matters.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

What does it mean to be pure or impure of heart? Intentions matter; motivations matter. Jesus, quoting Isaiah, tells the Pharisees and scribes that they are honoring him with their lips but not their hearts; in other words, they were paying him "lip-service." "Oh those Pharisees!" we might say. They are easy to criticize and pontificate upon, aren't they? But how about us? It is worth looking at ourselves and honestly asking whether there might be times when we, too, are simply offering lip service to God? Are we truly offering him our hearts when we engage in our traditions and our activities? Our goal, as Jesus' disciples, is to be "doers of the word and not hearers only," as James puts it so succinctly in his letter. We are to hear God's word and commandments and then act on them in love.

**ACT** "From within people ... come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice..." Jesus says. Pray specifically this week for the grace to see where God may want to purify your heart. Meditate on Psalm 51:10: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.*



## Life of Stewardship

Our readings today call us to pause for a moment and consider how we respond to God's love for us each day.

Our Gospel recounts a dialogue between the Pharisees and Jesus. The Pharisees questioned why Jesus' disciples did not practice the ritual washing before eating a meal.

Jesus' response reminds us to ask ourselves 'why.' Why do we remain faithful to God's commands? Why do we pray or go to Mass? Why do we participate in the Sacraments? Why do we love others?

Often, we are living our faith a certain way out of obligation, fear, or duty. But Jesus reminds us that the greatest way to live out our faith is through love. Our faith has obligations to provide us opportunities to love, honor, and praise the Lord. They are meant to aid us on our personal journey with Jesus Christ.

St. James reminds us that every moment of each day is an opportunity to respond to God's infinite love for us with love and gratitude in return.

If we approach our relationship with Jesus with this in mind, then we begin to realize that the gift of the Mass is an opportunity to worship God, the Sacraments are ways to draw us closer to Him and His commandments are opportunities to love Him more faithfully.

And if we approach our day-to-day moments with this in mind, then we begin to see just how many blessings God has given us. Looking at life through the lens of gratitude helps us to see each moment as a gift with endless opportunities to respond in love.

This is how we ought to live our lives as Christian stewards - by recognizing our lives as a gift and an opportunity to love God in response to how He has loved us.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

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## Parish News

### Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, September 1 at 2:30pm.** We will pray Consecration Prayers to God Our Father and Divine Mercy.

### Charismatic Prayer Group - September 3

The Charismatic Prayer Group resumes their weekly meetings on Tuesdays in the Grace Parish Center. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 3rd from 6:30-8pm.**

### Life Care Ministry

Come join our Life Care Ministry on **Thursday mornings from 9:45am to 11:00am** to help with Communion Service at Life Care Center of Kona. We begin at 10am with Communion Service in the recreation room with the residents who can come. Holy Communion is brought to the rooms of those who are unable to come to the recreation room. They are extremely grateful for our visits, bringing Christ to them in the Eucharist, in his Holy Word, with Prayers, song and joy. After the Communion Service we have a fun sing-along.

### Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Please join fellow parishioners on **September 8th after the 7am and 9am masses** for a delicious breakfast and fellowship

in the Grace Parish Center. The \$5 per person (children free when accompanied by parent) menu items include pancakes, sausages, fruit, juice, water and kona coffee.

### Honokaa Holy Ghost Feast Day - Sept. 8

Please note that this event has been **rescheduled to Sunday, September 8.** Our sister Parish in Honokaa - Our Lady of Lourdes invites us to join their Holy Ghost Feast Celebration and Annual Fundraiser. Procession will start at 8am followed by Mass. The Bazaar is open from 10am - 3pm. The event will be held at the Church at 45-5028 Plumeria St. in Honokaa. Hope to see you there!

### Kupuna Ministry

The **Kupuna Ministry** meets Wednesdays from 8:30am to 11:00am in the Grace Parish Center welcoming seniors of all ages. Come at any time and stay as long as you want. We begin with social time, then coffee, snacks, song and group prayer. We pray a special prayer for the return of our family and friends to the Faith with the intercession of Saint Monica. Craft making follows or you can play Mah Jong, beginners welcome, or just come for company and fellowship. In June, the crafters crocheted PRAYER SHAWLS and made ORIGAMI GIFT BOXES. In July and August, we learned to make RAINBOW ROSARIES. Come join us in September for DRAWING and PAINTING. We will create Mary pendants and watercolor pictures. **Supplies are provided.** On September 4<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Mary's birthday with cake and songs.

### National Remembrance for Aborted Children - Saturday, Sept 14

This is a national campaign to remember children lost by abortion through prayer vigil, and also for hope and healing for women and men who have been affected by abortion.

Our Respect Life Ministry will pray the Rosary at the St. Michael Cemetery at 3pm on Saturday, September 14 and then we will attend our 4pm Vigil Mass. "Cupcakes for Life" will be available after Mass at the Respect for Life information desk.

### Grief Recovery Class

The Grief Recovery Method program provides a safe environment for you to look at your old beliefs about dealing with loss, which losses continue to affect your life, and take actions that will lead you to complete unresolved emotions that may still be causing you pain. It's an action-based group, involves reading and writing assignments outlined in *The Grief Recovery Handbook - 20th Anniversary Expanded Edition* (book provided). This program is not a drop-in group, registered participants meet for 8 weekly sessions. You will learn actions that help, and you will choose what loss you want to focus upon. The Grief Recovery Method is a scientifically-tested Evidence-Based Program that provides anyone coping with emotional pain from loss, with an effective method to help them heal, whether the loss was recent or in the past. There is **no cost for this program**, but it does require a

# Stewardship of Treasure

August 19th - 25th, 2024

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 1,650.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 6,283.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 4,798.00

## Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$5,255,777.08** 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 AUGUST 2024

MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: **\$11,525.00**

MONTHLY 'OHANA IN CHRIST ASSESSMENT: **\$2,446.33**

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](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

firm commitment to recover from unresolved loss, and attendance at all weekly sessions. Facilitated by **Suzanne Zaw**, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, the 8-week program will be held on **Wednesdays, September 25 - Nov 13, 2024**, from **10am-12noon** at St. Michael's. Call Suzanne to register at (808)339-7980, or leave a message at the Parish Office (808)326-7771.

## Faith Formation

### Faith Formation Classes Grades K-5

Faith Formation classes for students in **grades K-5** begin on **Sunday, September 22nd from 10:20-11:20**. Students in K-3 will meet in the Grace Parish Center, and 4th and 5th will meet on the North Lanai.

All students **must be registered before attending** class. Parents can register in the office or online. Students who come to Faith Formation on the first day without being registered can complete a registration form and will be asked to attend class the following Sunday. A copy of your child's Baptismal certificate is needed if your child was not baptized at St. Michael's.

*- Margaret Essex, Catechist*

### Youth Ministry Classes Grades 6-12.

The orientation meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday, September 1st. We will meet at 5:15pm with parents and students for orientation and to go over our plan and curriculum for the year. You may also register your children at this time and pick up a class schedule. *- Edwina Fujimoto, Youth Minister*

## Men of Faith

Is meeting with fellow men of our parish and growing in your faith of interest to you? If yes, we invite you to join us every Wednesday from 5:30 - 6:30 PM on St. Michael's South Lanai! We will reflect upon the prior Sunday's readings and discuss how they can positively impact our lives. **Special invitation:** The last Wednesday of each month is extra special as we have a potluck dinner in the Grace Parish Center beginning at 5:30 PM.

## Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Purity isn't popular at the moment. Or is it? Look at a rack of health magazines or at popular podcasts. You will see an infinite ocean of regulations and rituals of diets, intermittent fasting, morning sun rituals, intense juice detox practices, lists of dangerous foods, mental practices, as well as long lists of dos and don'ts for the proper cleaning of clothes, dishes, cars, houses, pets, and children. Like it or not, we long to be pure, clean, and without blemish.

This question of purity haunted people in Jesus' day, too. The Pharisees and scribes (the leading purity authorities of the day) criticize Jesus, asking, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" (Mark 7:5). Jesus responds by saying, "There is nothing outside the person that can defile him if it goes into him; but the things that come out of the person are what defile the person" (Mark 7:15). What does he mean, and how can it help us be pure?

We've probably all heard the somewhat shopworn interpretation that Jesus replaces the ritual, exterior notion of purity with a moral, interior one. Christianity is thus seen as a kind of moral re-tooling, as if religion doesn't make us pure. Good moral intentions do. But this doesn't take the rest of Jesus' ministry seriously enough, nor our obsession with purity. The better reading is that Jesus audaciously offers himself as the ultimate source of human purity - from within each human heart. Both our religious ritual practices and our moral actions are meant to flow from this encounter with Jesus the Lord. When we are in friendship with him, everything becomes pure for us. *- Father John Muir, ©LPi*

## Everyday Stewardship - Give it all Back

Pop culture has given us a unique idea of the term justice. Justice, we often think, is about taking. Taking what's owed. Taking revenge. Taking what we deserve. This worldview tends to make mincemeat of our Catholic social teachings. Seeking the good of the poor, a call to community and participation, solidarity - on the face of it, in a society where everything must be earned and we are encouraged to hoard for ourselves whatever success we can achieve, these principles look a lot like highway robbery.

But when you remember the presence of an omnipotent, all-loving and all-merciful God, it turns our gun-slinging sense of justice on its head. For how does justice inhabit the same universe as a God who is so quick to give and indeed to forgive?

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Pastor and Vicar Forane of the  
West Hawaii Vicariate

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Well, very easily, when we remember Who exactly is the source of every good and perfect thing in this world. There is no law that cannot be traced back to the Word. And the Word saves our souls.

Is that justice? No, that is a gift. It is the reckless, indulgent gift of a father whose love is greater than His anger. What is justice in the Biblical sense?

The answer is simple. Look at your life. See the hours in your day? See your spouse, your kids, your grandkids? See the house they live in, the money in your wallet, the food in your fridge, the breath in your lungs?

Calling it all your own, refusing to share any of it - that's robbery. Giving it all back to the One who gave it to you - that's justice.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

## Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - The Word

On November 28, 1981, Alphonsine Mumureke was in the dining room at her high school in Kibeho, a small village in southwestern Rwanda. She heard a voice. It was a woman, veiled and beautiful. Alphonsine asked her who she was. "I am the Mother of the Word," answered the woman.

It was the first appearance of Our Lady of Kibeho, who would return to visit Alphonsine and two of her schoolmates over the course of the next eight years. She left with them an urgent call for repentance, along with a prophecy of the Rwandan genocide that would come to fruition in the next decade. I have always found it compelling that Our Lady chose to identify herself in this way at Kibeho. The Mother of the Word. A title so simple and so concise, but so heavy with meaning.

"In the beginning was the Word..." says the Gospel of John in its opening lines. But what is the Word? Is it spoken, or is it felt? Is it seen, written, heard? Is it shouted or whispered? Is it scribbled across pages that will one day dry and disappear? Is it carved into stone tablets, or on the nameplate above a cross? Is it poured over our foreheads? Is it set ablaze in a bush? Is it etched into our hearts?

It is all of these things, yes, but it is more, still. The Word is not something that is merely spoken. It is not merely written. The Word is something that is done. It is something that we must choose to do.

Our Lady of Kibeho lamented that this world "has neither love nor peace." "If you do not convert and heal your hearts, you will all fall into an abyss," she warned. But how do we convert our hearts? What snatches us

## Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31ST  
4pm - Teresa Herrera, Happy Birthday Blessings

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST  
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7am - Whitney Amone, deceased, Birthday Remembrance and Patricia Debina Ushiroda, 10th Anniversary of Death
- 9am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 1:30pm - Mike and Mary Sotomayor, and Henry Vasquez, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Karl and Theresia Rupp, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

- 7am - Wayne Essex, Rest in Peace and Patricia Debina Ushiroda, 10th Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - Patty Statton, Rest in Peace

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

- 7am - Rhine Smith, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Barbara Mescall, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - James Stephen Passos, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

- 7am - Richard Merenda, Rest in Peace
- 7am - Kevin Davis, Encouragement & Healing
- 5pm - Tania Paola Garcia, Birthday Blessings

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

- 7am - Tadeusz Jackow, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Adrian Guillen, Birthday Blessings

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

- 7am - Gregoria Arriaga Servin, Rest in Peace

## 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 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from **9 - 9:45am** at **Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.**

# It's Not About the Germs

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

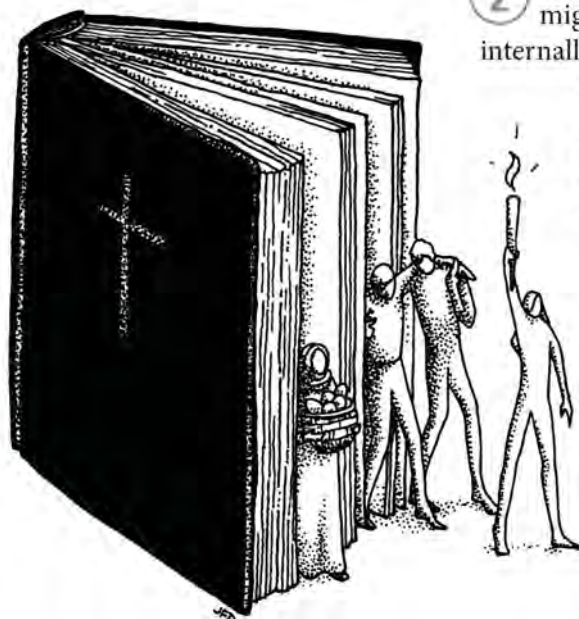
- ▶ Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 - Advantages of fidelity
- ▶ James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 - Response to God's gift
- ▶ Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 - Jesus and the Pharisees

Once again in the Gospel reading, some Pharisees protest how Jesus and his disciples go about their daily lives. Sometimes they protest who Jesus hangs out with; other times they take offense at who he dines with; still other times they are scandalized by his words of healing or forgiveness. Today they complain to Jesus that his disciples aren't washing their hands before they eat.

In Biblical times, the practice of cleansing hands and purifying cups, jugs, kettles, and beds was about making things holy—set apart. Jews understood themselves as the chosen ones, set apart from the surrounding peoples, so they followed elaborate rules to keep themselves and their possessions clean, "holy," or set apart. They had strict laws for purifying themselves and their things if they became dirty or defiled in any way.

The Pharisees believed that eating with sinners would "contaminate" them. Of course, that didn't stop Jesus. The Pharisees followed laws that disallowed touching a leper, a menstruating woman, or a dead body because lepers were unclean, blood was unclean, and dead bodies were *definitely* unclean. Jesus broke all of these rules, as well.

In this passage, the Pharisees are critical because the disciples didn't wash their hands after coming from the marketplace where they would have come into contact with plenty of unclean people and objects. Once again,



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“Be doers of the word, not hearers only, deluding yourselves.”

**Sheepish Question:**  
When and why have I tried to get around what God really wants?

Jesus calls them back to the spirit of the law, not the letter of the law, reminding them not to focus on the externals but to pay more attention to their interior lives.

## Questions of the Week

- 1 What are some religious rules, laws, or customs that can sometimes be broken to honor the spirit of the law?
- 2 Putting aside external rules, what might God be inviting you to change internally to be more like Jesus and less like the Pharisees?

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# Parish Life Photos

Be featured in our bulletin, website, social media, newsletters, etc. Send your ministry/parish life photos to [smkonamedia@rcchawaii.org](mailto:smkonamedia@rcchawaii.org)

**St. Michael's**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 13227**  
**MEETS ON THE 2ND MONDAY**  
**OF EACH MONTH**  
**5:45PM**  
**ST MICHAEL'S**  
**GRACE PARISH CENTER**



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### PARISH EVENTS

(may change without advance notice)

#### MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm  
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

#### TUESDAY

- Coffee, Sweets & Tweets with Fr. Lio 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:30-8:00pm  
(resumes on Tuesday, September 3)

#### WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-11:00am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm

#### THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm  
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm

#### FRIDAY - NO EVENTS

#### SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

#### SUNDAY

- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Immigration Seminar 12:30-1:30pm  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father After 1:30 Mass  
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Faith Formation (K-5) 10:20-11:20am
- Faith Formation (6-12) 5:15-7:15pm  
(See the Faith Formation section of bulletin for class dates)

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 I humbly ask you, through the intercession of  
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 Brother Joseph Dutton, please pray for me.  
 I will be forever thankful if you present my  
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