



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-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: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org October 6, 2024 | 6 de octubre de 2024

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I - Genesis 2:18-24 | Psalm - 128:1-2,3,4-5,6 | Reading 1 - Hebrews 2:9-11 | Gospel - Mark 10:2-16

Primera Lectura - Génesis 2:18-24 | Salmo - 127:1-2,3,4-5,6 | Segunda Lectura - Hebreos 2:8-11 | Evangelio - Marcos 10:2-16

Toward Healthy Relationships

From the beginning of creation, God intended for people to live together in relationship with one another. Much of scripture shows us how to do this as it illustrates and clarifies God's plans. The readings this weekend guide us in the value and care of our relationships. Specifically, the Gospel focuses on the circumstances of failed relationships. Unlike the Pharisees, we would do well not to focus on the laws that pertain to failed relationships, but concentrate instead on what God really intended for us. Healthy bonds require a lot of our time and energy. They certainly require trust and honesty. Jesus demonstrated a deep commitment to his friends and to us. As our brother, he gave his very life for us. Children work hard at friendships. They trust, forgive, and love without conditions. The final words of today's Gospel invite us to welcome Jesus and the people of our relationships with the fresh enthusiasm of a child. - Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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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.

Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: **Wisdom (Sabiduría) 7:7-11**

Psalm/Salmo: **90(89):12-13,14-15,16-17**

2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: **Hebrews (Hebreos) 4:12-13**

Gospel/Evangelio: **Mark (Marcos) 10:17-30**

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.

October 6, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24 | Heb 2:9-11 | Mk 10:2-16

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

Everything in God's creation is intended to reflect his goodness and proclaim his glory. It's not hard to understand this idea when we behold the majesty of the sea. It can be more difficult, however, to remember this is also present in each of us and in our relationships - including that relationship God designed for man and woman: marriage. Our ability to turn away from God means that we sometimes reject, rather than reflect, him. This is one reason why Jesus responds to the Pharisees' question by revoking Moses' allowance for divorce, a concession God had made to the Israelites in the Old Testament. Jesus' statement might be unsettling because, in our time, divorce has affected nearly *everyone* in one way or another. But his words indicate the strength of the covenant the Lord has made with us: his love is permanent and unbreakable. We learn that the unbreakable bond between spouses reflects, in an imperfect way, God's perfectly faithful love for us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We find this truth about love in the wisdom of the Church. Love is not a "feeling." It is an action - a virtue - in which we consistently *will the good of another*. After all, this is who and what God is: a continuous outpouring of love. Our triune God is a relational community of love, and Jesus offers us the preeminent example of this: As the Son and out of love for the Father, he *chose* to remain on the cross, regardless of how he *felt*. Such was his love for us that he willed our redemption and sent us the Spirit to help us remain with him. Marriage, designed by God to mirror this triune communal, covenantal love, likewise requires a *decision to love* that is firm and constant, despite how we might *feel*. If we wish to be capable of the fidelity required for marriage, family life, or simply for our relationship with God, we must make the deliberate choice to love - *and we must do it over and over*. With time and with God's grace, the habit of choosing another's good becomes easier, and we experience the joy of a stable and authentic love.

PRACTICE We can reflect God's faithful love by becoming faithful ourselves. Choose one or two ways to exercise fidelity in little things this week. Examples might be getting up at the same time every morning without hitting the "snooze" button; spending five extra minutes in prayer each day; or offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God every time you are tempted to check your phone unnecessarily.

Life of Stewardship

Our readings this week speak to each of our domestic churches - the little churches that we call our families.

The First Reading from the book of Genesis takes us to the beginning of creation when God made man and woman. When Adam sees the woman he says, "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman.'"

We can almost hear the longing, gratitude, and appreciation in Adam's voice when he meets Eve as he says, "at last." She was a gift because she was an equal partner to him.

This was before the fall of man, meaning sin had not entered the world. Adam and Eve only viewed each other in total acceptance and love.

Our Gospel brings us to life after sin had entered the world - a time that is familiar to us. As the Pharisees questioned Jesus about divorce, He expressed that Moses permitted it because of the hardness of man's heart. However, Jesus was calling them to deeper holiness. He was calling them to restore the original plan God had intended for marriage, "A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

Jesus' words still apply to us here and now in each of our domestic churches. It is the task of families to tirelessly work to restore God's original plan for marriage and family life - homes filled with gratitude, acceptance, and love.

It takes a daily commitment to live out our call to holiness to restore our families to this beautiful image.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

Parish News

Respect Life Sunday

Celebrate Respect Life Sunday with Rosary cupcakes provided by our Respect Life Ministry after the 9am and 11:30am Masses on Sunday, October 6th. There is no charge. We ask for prayers that all come to respect the sanctity of human life, especially the life of the baby in the womb and for the legal protection of all unborn babies.

Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, Oct. 6th after the 1:30pm Mass.** We will pray Consecration Prayers to God Our Father and Divine Mercy. The Consecration prayer helps us to acknowledge God as our Eternal Father, to honor Him, and to give Him our commitment to follow his commandments.

Our Lady of the Rosary Month - October

For the month of October, one decade of the Rosary will be prayed 30 minutes before our weekend Masses.

Charismatic Prayer Group - Unbound Series

"Unbound has transformed many people's lives."

Unbound . . . A safe, loving, and effective model of prayer ministry by Neal Lozano, focused on individual healing and deliverance. The 8 week series of video teachings starts on Tuesday, October 8 from 6:30-8pm in the Grace Parish Center.

Eucharist Rosary Congress

From October 5-11, 2024 the Diocese of Honolulu will join

other dioceses around the nation for the 2024 Eucharistic Rosary Congress. The purpose of the ERC is to assist the faithful to fulfill the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

The relay starts on Saturday, October 5 at 6 p.m. and ends on Friday, October 11 at 6 p.m. Each six hour time slot is held at a different parish, religious community or Catholic school in our Diocese.

Our six-hour relay at St. Michael's is on Wednesday, Oct. 9 from 6am - 12noon. Please join us for Adoration after the 7am Mass until 5pm. We will also pray the Rosary at 6am, 7:30am, 8am, 9am, 10am, and 11am.

36th Annual Domestic Violence Vigil

"Silence to Strength" will be held on Friday, October 11 at St. Michael's. Meet at the Church at 4pm for sign waving. Vigil ceremony will begin at 5pm. Dove Release, Community Resources, DV Awareness Swag, Gifts for the Attendees and Keiki with Light Refreshments provided. This event is hosted and coordinated by the Family Violence Interagency Committee of West Hawaii.

Cemetery Clean-Up on Saturday, October 19

Our Cemetery Clean-Up at St. Michael's, Holoaloa & St. Paul's will start at 7:30am on Saturday, October 19. Please bring your gardening tools, hat and gloves. Bottled water and snacks will be provided. **TO FAMILIES WITH LOVED ONES BURIED AT OUR CEMETERIES:** Please help us to clear broken and damaged items from the gravesites. **REMINDER;** Flowers, trees, or bushes **cannot be planted** at the gravesite. This will eliminate damage to the gravesites from overgrown roots. Potted plants, live cut flowers, artificial flowers not more than two feet in height are still allowed. Please refrain from using breakable glass or ceramic containers. Mahalo!

40 Days For Life Campaign

Come show your support as we continue the international 40 Days for Life Campaign. Join us in peaceful prayer and sign waving outside St. Michael's entrance on Alii Drive. Register online at 40daysforlife.com/kona or contact Romana through the office.

Knights of Columbus Halloween Dinner & Dance

Please join fellow parishioners on October 19th for 5:30pm cocktails, 6:30pm dinner and 7:30pm to 9:30pm Halloween dance (no costumes) in the Grace Parish Center. The \$40 per person ticket sales will be held after all weekend masses on the church lanai from Sept. 22nd to Oct. 13th or until sold out.

All Souls' Day Remembrance

During the month of November, names and photos to honor all those who have passed and gone to be with our Heavenly Father will be on electronic display during each Mass. **Envelopes are available in our kiosks.** Please submit your names and photos as soon as possible. You may also email to stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes Grades K-5

No class on October 6th due to the Fall Break. We are

Stewardship of Treasure

September 23rd - 29th, 2024

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 1,550.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 8,868.70
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 7,267.55

Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$5,301,707.63** 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 SEPTEMBER 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 and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

still accepting students. Register at the office or online at saintmichaelparishkona.org. *- Margaret Essex, Cathecist*

Youth Ministry Classes Grades 6-12.

Our Youth Ministry classes for October will be held on Sunday, October 6, 20, & 27 from 5:15-7:15pm.

- Edwina Fujimoto, Youth Minister

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

As a young pastor years ago, I met with a middle-aged couple who had been divorced and civilly remarried. They were frustrated that an annulment had to precede a Church marriage. Sympathizing with their plight, I promised to walk with them along their journey. Once as we sat in my office, the man said to me, "Why is the Church so difficult on marriage?" I replied, "Actually, Jesus' teaching is what's difficult." He furrowed his brow and asked what I meant.

We opened the Bible and together read today's gospel passage from Mark 10:12 in which Jesus says, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery with her..." My two friends sat in silent astonishment. Surely Jesus understands the complexities of human life and sexual love. The words hung thick and heavy in the air. How could the merciful Lord be so seemingly unrealistic in his expectations, especially with so much divorce and remarriage in our world?

I didn't know what to say. So, we kept reading. Next, Jesus says, "Let the children come to me." The innocence of children allows them to receive and give love, to trust unconditionally, to believe in love that endures. Most children aren't yet jaded by statistics, broken hearts, or dysfunctional relationships. Children remind us of the world to come. The

couple and I began to talk about child-like trust in Jesus and his teaching, and we continued to move forward. When it comes to the Church's demanding teaching on marriage, it's best to approach it as trusting children, whatever situations in which we find ourselves.

- Father John Muir, ©LPi

Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. - Mark 10:14

Treasures From Our Tradition

The old world of what we call canonical penance, or the extraordinary one-time public repentance of sinners, began to collapse with the conversion of Constantine in the early fourth century. It tottered for a hundred years or so and then virtually disappeared. It served an isolated and persecuted church well, but once people began seeking baptism for economic and political privilege, a real pastoral crisis exploded. There were more lukewarm Christians afoot, and some "barbarians" rampaging through the ruins accepted baptism just because their leaders did.

As the old structures collapsed, people who still sought some sort of public conversion scampered off to the desert to live in monastic isolation. Penance disappeared from the parish scene, and the old bench where hungry penitents used to beg for prayers was empty. Some bishops faced the crisis by inventing alternate means of discipline, all more private than public. A person might be asked to refrain from receiving Communion for a time, or even to accept some sort of corporal punishment (the pedigree of the stocks and scarlet letters of colonial America). This had the effect of separating the sinner from the prayerful intercession of the gathered church, and made an already bad situation worse. Before long, the pastoral system of penance was in a shambles, and sadly irrelevant to ordinary Christians.

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

Everyday Stewardship - An Increase of Love

People can spend their entire lives looking for their most suitable partner. Some have an unattainable ideal in their minds that makes the search impossible. Others may choose a different partner over and over again without any real discernment, leading to a long series of breakups and heartache. Perhaps the greatest obstacle for people lies in their assumption that the most important criteria for choosing a partner is that the person they choose to love needs to be devoted to them and be faithful to them above all others. The truth is that if you want to have a suitable partner who you find yourself drawing ever closer to as the years go by, then the focus of both people involved needs to be on a much more important being than the two of you.

When I was a teenager, I remember seeing a triangle used as a visual aid in explaining how true love works. God is the top point and the two lovers, friends, or family members involved are the bottom points. If the two involved in the relationship love God more than each other, than in time it will be their love for the Divine that will bring them ever closer, like how a triangle narrows at the

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HERNÁNDEZ MORALES
MEALI'INANI DUARTE-HERNÁNDEZ
*Deacon / Pastoral Associate
shernandez@rcchawaii.org*

DEACON CRAIG CAMELLO
PAMELA CAMELLO
*Deacon / Pastoral Associate
ccamello@rcchawaii.org*

EDWINA FUJIMOTO
*Youth Minister
efujimoto@rcchawaii.org*

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

CHERYL APPLEBY
*Baptism Ministry
baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org*

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Community Outreach Ministry

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*Business Manager
skeen@rcchawaii.org*

JANICE LACRO
*Administrative Assistant
stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org*

top point.

The more I give of myself to my God, the greater I find my love is for my wife, my children, and my friends. A stewardship way of life will eventually strengthen all our relationships, for a surrender to the One who is love means an increase in the love we have to give to others. For those who continue to search for the "one," pause, pay attention, and see the One who has always loved you and will do so forevermore. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - The Hardness of Your Hearts

As far as I know, no one has ever woken up in the morning, looked out the window, and thought, "This is a beautiful sunrise. I'll have to be very careful not to let it make me happy."

But I'm certain that every day, lots of people - including, on not-infrequent occasions, myself - have woken up and remembered something that happened the day before. Something that made us feel upset or frustrated or insulted. And we thought to ourselves, "That makes me so, so angry." And we've pictured the face of the person who made us feel that way, and we have scoffed with disgust.

And we hold onto that anger because anger feels so much better than sadness. And deep within ourselves, in the place where we feel all the love and pain and confusion that is inherent in human existence, we harden.

Nobody ever intends to be hard-hearted. That's just the stuff of Bond villains and horror flicks. No, in real life a hardened heart isn't a conscious choice. It's a reflex. It's just us trying to protect ourselves, to be strong - or, at least, to embody the version of strength offered by a fallen world.

A heart of stone is not so easily scratched, you see. But it's also not so easily warmed or touched or moved.

A heart hardened by resentment and pain and anger is not just protected from injury. It is protected from the impact of the whole spectrum of tender feelings. It is not open to forgiveness, so it cannot feel the rush of life giving mercy. It is closed off to new ideas, so it can never feel the awe of discovery.

There is a reason we are called to guard ourselves against hard-heartedness. God gave us hearts of flesh and blood. They are hearts that can be broken, yes - but also, they are hearts that can be made new.

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman, ©LPI



As Catholics, let us witness the beautiful gift of life with civility and love, and with our peaceful prayers and our compassionate service to all those in need. - USCCB 5/10/22

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
4pm - Angelo F. Padillo, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7am - Melvine Kualii, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace and Dale Geiger, Rest in Peace
- 1:30pm - Mark Grande, Birthday Blessings
- 4pm - Narciso Sempliciano, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

- 7am - Miguel Cinque for Protection and Peace
- 5pm - Charles Hildebrandt, Rest in Peace

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

- 7am - Wayne Essex, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Natividad Alfaro, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

- 7am - Gloria Giudici Floyd, Special Intention
- 5pm - Claire Migliore, Rest in Peace

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

- 7am - Zachary Kanuha, 80th Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Claire Migliore, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

- 7am - Vivian Sua, Rest in Peace & Anthony Lizio, Rest in Peace, & Thelma Blair, 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.**

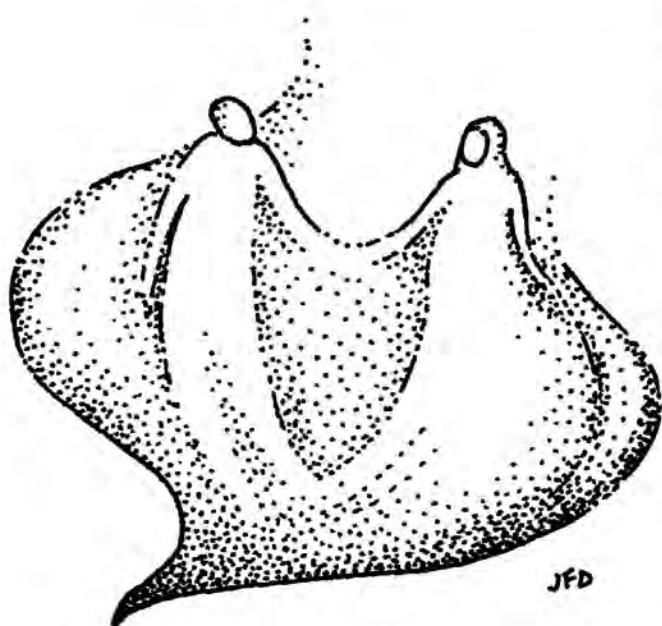
What About Divorce?

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Genesis 2:18-24 - Second story of creation, the creation of woman
- ▶ Hebrews 2:9-11 - Jesus' exaltation through abasement
- ▶ Mark 10:2-16 - Question of divorce and Jesus blessing the children

The Old Testament reading from the second creation story was the ancient Hebrews' explanation for why men and women have intercourse and how new families form. Three thousand years later, it didn't "work" for everyone. However, it was a piece of the common understanding about marriage when the Pharisees quizzed Jesus about his thoughts on the subject.

According to Jewish law at the time, divorce was legal, but there was an ongoing debate about just what constituted the grounds for a divorce. In that patriarchal culture, men had the power to divorce their wives, but women did not have that option. Because women were the "property" of their fathers or husbands, a divorce would jeopardize her survival. She would have no way to support herself and her children and it would have been a scandal for another man to marry her. Jesus understood the danger that divorce posed for women and he called out the Pharisees' "hardness of heart" on this point.



Sheepish Question:
How can I be more conscientious about my role in God's creation?

He also reminded his listeners of the divine purpose of marriage: to be joined together in love, and he ended with the now-famous line "Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate" (Mk. 10:9). The important question for Catholics, then, is whether a couple was truly joined together by God.

Unfortunately, millions of people know the pain of a marriage ending. Divorce doesn't discriminate between "good Christians" and "mediocre Christians." Jesus would be the first to offer compassion and sensitivity to anyone who knows the suffering of divorce, and we do well to heed his teaching "Do not judge so that you may not be judged" (Mt. 7:1).

Questions of the Week

- 1 What is your initial reaction to Jesus' response about the legality of divorce?
- 2 What does the following statement mean to you? "Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate."

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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 8:30-10:30am
- 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) 10:15-11:20am
- Faith Formation (6-12) 5:15-7:15pm
(See the Faith Formation section of bulletin for class dates)

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