



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, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12 noon

Gift Shop Hours: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org May 4, 2025 | 4 de mayo de 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

Reading I - Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 | Psalm - 30:2, 4, 5, 6, 11-12, 13 | Reading II - Revelation 5:11-14 | Gospel - John 21:1-19
Primera Lectura - Hechos 5:27-32, 40-41 | Salmo - 29:2, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12a, 13b | Segunda Lectura - Apocalipsis 5:11-14 | Evangelio - Juan 21:1-19

LIFELONG SERVICE

"I am going fishing." What an announcement! If asked who made it, and not told it was a Bible quote, we might guess "Grandpa" or "Uncle Fred," or admit, "I said that last summer!" But it is a Bible quote, from today's Gospel. The person who said it also once declared, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Yes, it's Peter! So today's announcement seems quite the comedown. Last Sunday Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." But Peter seems determined to return to his pre-apostolic occupation, until Jesus intervenes, making Peter's later announcement deeper, "Lord, you know that I love you," and Peter's apostolic calling clearer, "Tend my sheep." Peter does so. Acts presents the consequences: Peter declares, "We must obey God rather than men." As Revelation proclaims, "Worthy is the Lamb"—to receive Peter's lifelong service, and ours.

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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.



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. - Jn 21:12-13

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

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Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

Primera Lectura: Hechos de los Apóstoles 13:14, 43-52

Psalm/Salmo: 100(99):2, 3, 5

2nd Reading: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

Segunda Lectura: Apocalipsis 7:9, 14-17

Gospel/Evangelio: John (Juan) 10:27-30

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.

May 4, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 | Rev 5:11-14 | Jn 21:1-19

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

Underlying Peter's simple statement in today's Gospel, "I am going fishing," is an ocean of sadness. This leader of the Apostles was once so eager and self-assured that he declared to Jesus, "Even though I should have to die with you, I will not deny you." (Mt 26:35) But we know the story: At the decisive moment, Peter yielded under pressure and three times denied that he even knew Jesus. Now, after witnessing his Master's arrest and execution, Peter, whom Jesus called to leave his nets to be a fisher of men (see Mt 4:19), returns to his old profession. And even there he sustains another failure: he can't catch any fish! Swimming to shore, the ever-impulsive Apostle discovers that Jesus had already procured fish for breakfast without his help. Imagine Peter's consternation: my vocation as an Apostle, my career as a fisherman, my professed willingness to die for the Lord – everything I thought I could hang my hat on – were pretense and illusion.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In our relationship with God, we are at times beset by the reality of our own weaknesses and apparent failures. But for Peter as for us, despondency does not have to have the final word. In one of the most intimate exchanges in the Gospels, Jesus heals Peter's self-inflicted wound. "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" the Lord asks three times. What Jesus desires from the Apostle is not eloquent declarations of courage; he wants Peter's love; he wants his heart: conscious of its frailty and humble enough to be led where it does not want to go. Neither Peter's day job nor his grandiose spiritual aspirations are useful to the Lord if Peter has not first surrendered himself to God. This is because only a heart which belongs to God and draws its strength from him can bear fruit for the kingdom of heaven. Such is likewise true for us, often so anxious about tomorrow or preoccupied with our attempts to "earn" God's love. Our primary responsibility, without which none of our other labors will be fruitful, is to give our hearts completely to him.

PRAY

Repetition is the mother of learning. Three times, Jesus asked Peter to renew his love – perhaps, in part, to convince Peter! This week, offer your heart to God as soon as you get up in the morning. You could even use Peter's words: "Lord, you know that I love you." By making this a habit, you invite God's grace and strength to make each day's actions fruitful.

Gatty Images / EyeEm Mobile GmbH

Life of Stewardship

In today's Gospel, we find the Apostles dejected and discouraged following the death of our Lord. Poor Peter decides to throw in the towel on the whole disciple thing and go back to his old way of life, declaring, "I'm going fishing." Upon hearing this, the other disciples follow him.

How easy it is for all of us to backslide on changes we have made in our lives, especially when it comes to our spiritual lives. But look how Jesus treats the disciples during their "backslide." He is right there with them in the midst of it, already waiting for them on the shore when they come back from their unsuccessful return to the fishing business (after abandoning their mission as disciples). Our Lord greets them tenderly, gives them some fishing pointers, and then prepares their breakfast. How gracious He is to them!

He is just as gracious today. When we find ourselves "out at sea" - discouraged by our failures or for squandering the gifts God has given us, or simply by a lack of progress in our faith life, Jesus is with us! He is calling to us from the shore to come back to Him without shame or embarrassment, but with hope-filled trust in His steadfast love. He never tires of offering "do-overs" if we just keep returning to Him.

This constant process of turning back to the Lord, of reevaluating our goals and priorities as we aim for Heaven, is the essence of a stewardship way of life. Let us take heart as we continue our journey today, secure in the knowledge that Jesus is beside us every step of the way.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

Parish News

Hawaii Island Charity Walk

The Hawaii Island Charity Walk returns to the Waikoloa Beach Resort Queen's Marketplace on Saturday, **May 10th**. We are recruiting everyone to **join Team Catholic Charities** to fundraise and participate in the event. Fr. Lio has issued his annual challenge to his fellow priests in the West Hawaii Vicariate (and Fr. Steve Macedo) to raise the most funds. There will also be prizes for the top three fundraisers for the Catholic Charities team. **See the Charity Walk table before or after the weekend Masses this weekend to join the team or to make a donation.** You may also place a donation in the collection basket by writing a check payable to St. Michael's and note for Charity Walk.

Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, May 4 at 2:45pm**. 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.

ASAP (Assistance and Support After Pregnancy)

The Knights of Columbus will be distributing Baby Bottles after each mass on May 10 & 11 for an ASAP fundraiser. Please assist by putting your daily change in the bottle. The bottles will be collected on Fathers Day June 18th. All of the monies collected will go to support mothers & children in need. **Please make checks out to St. Michael's Church or the Knights of Columbus and note for ASAP.**

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Please join fellow parishioners on Mother's Day, May 11th, after the 7am and 9am masses for a delicious breakfast and warm fellowship in the Grace Parish Center. The \$5 per person (Mother's and children are free) menu items include pancakes, sausages, fruit, juice, water and Kona coffee.

Baptism Class

Our next Baptism class will be held on Saturday, May 24 at 9am in the Parish Office Conference room. All parents and godparents are required to attend. Please email **baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org** to register.

Neocatechumenal Way Catechesis

This past century has seen our society undergo dramatic and profound changes with a loss of the sense of what is sacred and holy in the world, which led us to believe the only solution is technological progress or change in social structures. This is evident not only in society in general but even within the Church itself. The Second Vatican Council has been a gift of the Holy Spirit to enable the Church to address these situations, but their documents need to be implemented within the parish where every day Christians live their faith. The Neocatechumenate is one way to help the already baptised to come to adult faith, and it began at the same time as the Council Fathers of Vatican II were discussing the need to reimplement the catechumenate to prepare those seeking baptism to enter the Church. Saint Pope Paul VI said it doesn't matter whether this catechumenate is done before or after baptism, but it is essential that everyone seeking faith embarks on this journey, else they will never discover the riches of their baptism.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Neocatechumenal Way catechesis starting May 10 in the Grace Parish Center. We will meet at 6pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays until June 28. For more information, please contact Jonathan at stengerjp@hotmail.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Spiritual Book Club

Our next Spiritual Book Club meeting is on Thursday, May 15 at 4pm in the Grace Parish Center. Meetings are available via Zoom. Call the Parish Office for more info.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Join our prayer disciples and spend one hour with Jesus on Wednesdays from 7:30am to 5pm. For more information or to reserve your hour, contact TJ through the Office.

Grief Recovery Method Program

The Grief Recovery Method program provides a safe environment for you to look at your old beliefs about coping with loss, which losses continue to affect your life, and take effective actions that will lead you to complete unresolved emotions that may still be causing you pain. This is an "action-based" program, involves reading and writing assignments outlined in *The Grief Recovery Handbook, 20th Anniversary Expanded Edition* (book

Stewardship of Treasure

April 21st - 27th, 2025

| | |
|--|--------------|
| ONLINE GIVING | \$ 3,331.00 |
| SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS | \$ 12,110.00 |
| GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN | \$ 11,541.00 |

Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$5,935,242.19** 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 APRIL 2025

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.

provided). This program is not a drop-in group, and registered participants meet for 8 weekly sessions.

There is **no cost for this program**, but it does require a firm commitment and attendance at all sessions for success in learning to recover from unresolved grief.

The 8-week program will be held **Wednesdays, June 4 - July 23, 2025, from 10 am - 12 noon**, at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Office. For more information, please see the *Grief Recovery Method Overview flyer* in the church kiosks. Registration before June 4 is required - To register, contact **Suzanne Zaw**, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, at (808)339-7980, or leave a message for Suzanne at the Parish Office (808)326-7771.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Classes

On Sunday, May 4, grades K-5 will from 10:15am to 11:50am. Grades 6-12 will meet from 5:15pm to 7:15pm. This will be the last class for this school year.

-Margaret Essex, Cathecist

- Edwina Fujimoto, Youth Minister

Third Sunday of Easter

I eat breakfast. If I don't have something substantial, I'm fading by midmorning. Breakfast is my key meal because it sets up my physical wellbeing for the rest of the day.

Spiritually speaking, we need sustenance to get us going. This is true for the Apostles in this Sunday's remarkable Gospel reading. The risen Jesus makes his third appearance to them in the early morning light and calls, "Come, have breakfast" (John 21:12). The exhausted and cold fishermen sit, and he feeds them bread and fish as the dawn breaks.

They are overwhelmed by his presence to the point of awe-struck silence. As they eat, their bodies and their hearts come alive. Once refreshed by their morning meal, they will be ready to feed others - indeed, the whole world - with the love of the risen Jesus. But first, they need breakfast from him.

Do you realize how essential early morning prayer is? Jesus desires to refresh us every morning with his word of love, with his grace-filled presence. This week, hear Jesus calling to you: "Come, have breakfast!" Embrace some form of spiritual, meditative practice each morning for spiritual strength to get you going. -Father John Muir, ©LPi

Treasures from Our Tradition

The Gospel today sees Peter and his colleagues after the Resurrection, returning to Galilee and resuming the family business. They are fishing by night. Although it is true that fish feed by night, the mention of darkness here is more about the human spirit than it is about fishing advice. Modern life keeps darkness effectively under control; much of the world has been glowing radiantly through the night for a century. Yet just as surely as the Risen Christ breaks into Peter's fishing, so does he break into the usual patterns of our own darkness, electric lights notwithstanding. It is Easter, and we are the people of the light.

In our tradition, Evening Prayer, celebrated in monasteries, parishes, cathedrals, and homes everywhere, is a kind of solemn protest against the darkness and its claims, an act of praise for our light-bearing God, and a commitment to carrying that light forward. Sunset is a turning point of our day, felt less acutely in an electrified world, but still an effective reminder that one day darkness overtakes us all. Yet our Eastering has taught us in a hundred ways that the victory belongs to the Bearer of Light. Easter summons us to transform our everyday "blackouts," perhaps in a way as simple as a whispered prayer of thanks at evening for the blessings of the day.

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

Everyday Stewardship - Gifts in Disguise

Have you ever opened a gift and wondered what the giver was thinking?

I won't call out any of my family or friends here, but suffice to say, I think we have all been the confused recipient of a sweater that wasn't our size or a gift card to a store where we don't shop. But we smiled all the same and said how much it meant to us, because we know that when it comes to gifts, it's all about the gesture.

Suffering is a lot like that - the gift you never asked for, and don't really want to receive. Sometimes we look at suffering and, like the apostles who see Jesus as a stranger on the shore, we don't recognize it for what it can be. We don't appreciate the catalyst suffering can be for change, for growth, for grace.

What was the gift that you received in disguise? Was it a relationship that confounded and frustrated you? Was it a job that tested your spirit? An obstacle that stopped you dead in your tracks? A rejection that threat-

YOU ARE INVITED

(schedule may change without advance notice)

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

- Coffee with the Priests 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:30-8:00pm

WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Hula Ministry Practice 5:30-6:30pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm
- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00pm

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00pm

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 1:00-2:00pm
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father 3:00pm
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly as needed. Parents and Godparents must attend class. To register, please email baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org

Marriage

Please notify the office and allow six months before the date of marriage for preparation.

ened to break your spirit?

If I go back and look at the worst gifts I've ever gotten, chances are that I didn't like them because I didn't know what to do with them - they were more fitted for someone else's interests, someone else's life. It's the same with suffering. We're tempted to cast suffering aside when it comes our way because it doesn't fit the person we are. Suffering is made to fit the person God knows we have the ability, with His grace, to become. Hang onto that suffering. Unlike the misshapen sweater, it really will come in handy.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - The Witnesses of What Makes No Sense

It never fails to amuse me that the disciples in today's Gospel don't recognize Jesus until he asks them to do something that makes absolutely no logical sense.

He's just some random stranger on the shore - until he gives them an order that, in any other circumstances, would have them rolling their eyes into the backs of their head: Drop the nets again. I know you haven't caught anything all night. I know you're tired. Just do it one more time. Trust me. Again. That's when they recognize him. The disciples display such poor recognition of Jesus after the resurrection. I'm sure there's a good, theologically sound reason for it, one I am not smart enough to explain. Whatever that reason is, it's very clear that God was carefully orchestrating these moments of realization. He is trying to tell us something about how we recognize the risen Christ - the one who has conquered sin, the one whose love was stronger than death. The one who never made any sense, and never will, because his kingdom is not of this world, and to understand him - to recognize him - you have to detach from the priorities, the expectations, the limitations of this present world.

You have to be willing to do what makes no sense. Love - again, even when it doesn't make sense. Forgive - again, even when it doesn't make sense. Believe - again, even when it doesn't make sense.

"We are the witnesses of these things," Peter tells the Sanhedrin (Acts 5:32). Peter, who was so full of joy when he recognized Jesus that he leapt into the sea, fully clothed, desperate to be near him.

It makes no sense, and that's okay. That's kind of our whole thing, as Christians. We are the witnesses of the things that make no sense.

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman, LPI



SATURDAY, MAY 3RD

4pm - Raymond Jaramillo, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 7am - Gloria Lynne Fabel, Anniversary of Death
- 9am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Daniela Ganir, Birthday Blessings

MONDAY, MAY 5TH

- 7am - For all Victims of Violence
- 5pm - Repose of the Soul of Charles Perez

TUESDAY, MAY 6TH

- 7am - Po'okela Hanato-Smith, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Joseph Reynolds, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7TH

- 7am - Brenda Robinson, Rest in Peace

THURSDAY, MAY 8TH

- 7am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH

- 7am - Antonio Romolor, Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - Linde Rimkus, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

- 7am - Priscilla Cabrera, deceased, Birthday Remembrance, Rest in Peace

Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **808-326-7771**.

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.**



SCAN ME

Use this QR Code for our Amazon Wishlist. Items purchased can be mailed directly to the Parish Office. Mahalo for your support!

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Responding to the Lord

God our Helper,
you appear to us
in average moments,
in our daily routines.
Grant us the courage
to open our eyes,
for the wisdom to see you.
Guide us to show our love for you
by singing your praises
and caring for your people.
You have rescued us!
We give thanks to your holy name.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 4, 2025
Do You Love Him?



Today's readings: Acts 5:27–32, 40b–41; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–12, 13; Revelation 5:11–14; John 21:1–19 or John 21:1–14. Today, we hear about Jesus revealing himself to his disciples for a third time after the resurrection. He shows up on an average day, as the disciples do their work. They are struggling to catch fish, and he directs them to cast their net on the right side of the boat. After they do so, they are unable to pull the net because of the number of fish they have caught. So Jesus is recognized: “It is the Lord.” He invites them to break bread with him.

When they finish their breakfast, Jesus asks Peter: “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?”

Peter replies with a resounding “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus asks the same question twice more, perhaps because Peter denied him three times during the passion. Each time Peter replies yes, Jesus instructs the disciple to feed or tend the Lord’s sheep.

It is a blessing to reflect on the many ways Jesus appears to us. We know he is present in the Word and in the Eucharist, but today we are reminded that he also appears to us in ordinary ways. When he appears to you in your day-to-day routines and asks you if you love him, what do you say to him? Is your response timid or resounding? How do you feed his lambs or tend his sheep?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 5

Food for Eternal Life

Jesus tells the crowd searching for him in Capernaum that they should “not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life.” Consider what you dedicate yourself to throughout the day. Do you spend your time focusing on earthly desires? What inspires you to say yes to the Lord? Why do you choose to follow him? This evening, spend time praying about your relationship with God. Ask for the strength to set your focus on “the food that endures for eternal life.” *Today’s readings: Acts 6:8–15; Psalm 119:23–24, 26–27, 29–30; John 6:22–29.*

Tuesday, May 6

When Preaching Is Challenging

Stephen concludes his discourse angrily, calling out those around him as “stiff-necked” and opposing the Spirit. The people Stephen addresses are infuriated and begin to stone him. Stephen, “filled with the Holy Spirit,” is given the strength he needs to face his martyrdom. Reflect on times you have struggled to preach the Gospel. What has been challenging for you? Ask for the strength to wholeheartedly follow the Lord. *Today’s readings: Acts 7:51–8:1a; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; John 6:30–35.*

Wednesday, May 7

There Was Great Joy

After Stephen is martyred, “a severe persecution of the Church in Jerusalem” broke out. Those who followed Jesus were “scattered throughout the countryside” and “went about preaching the word.” We are told that Philip goes to Samaria to preach the Word. Despite being persecuted, the crowds experience great joy because of Philip’s ministry. When you are persecuted or put down by life’s struggles, to whom or to what do you turn for “great joy”? *Today’s readings: Acts 8:1b–8; Psalm 66:1–3a, 4–5, 6–7a; John 6:35–40.*

Thursday, May 8

Called to Serve

In today’s first reading, from Acts, an angel of the Lord and the Spirit guide Philip to minister to an Ethiopian court official. Philip proclaims Jesus to him by explaining Scripture and baptizing him. When have you felt called to serve someone else? Ask God for the wisdom to hear and the courage to respond when you are being called to serve another. *Today’s readings: Acts 8:26–40; Psalm 66:8–9, 16–17, 20; John 6:44–51.*

Friday, May 9

Instruments

Today’s first reading begins with Saul “still breathing murderous threats” against the disciples. Despite the atrocities Saul has committed, the Lord describes him to Ananias as “a chosen instrument.” Saul is eventually baptized and proclaims that Jesus is the Son of God in the synagogues. We believe in a God who can do all things! Today, say a prayer for someone who is working against God. Kindly lift them up and ask God to be with them. *Today’s readings: Acts 9:1–20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52–59.*

Saturday, May 10

St. John of Avila

St. John of Avila was born in the Castile region of Spain. He studied law, philosophy, and theology before he was ordained a diocesan priest. He inherited his parents’ fortune and chose to distribute the inheritance to the poor. John came to be known as a great preacher and spiritual director, unafraid of denouncing evil. To celebrate his feast day, say a prayer in gratitude for the gifts (spiritual, financial, professional, and practical) that you have inherited from previous generations. How can you share your inheritance? *Today’s readings: Acts 9:31–42; Psalm 116:12–13, 14–15, 16–17; John 6:60–69.*

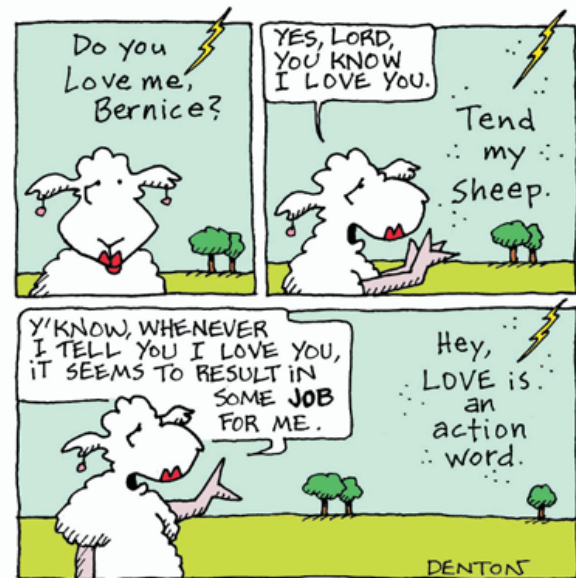
Feast on the Beach

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 - Disciples' second trial before the Sanhedrin
- ▶ Revelation 5:11-14 - Praise to the lamb
- ▶ John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14 - Appearance at the Sea of Tiberias

As usual in the Gospel stories, Jesus meets people where they are at, busily going about their daily lives. In this story, sometime after Jesus' resurrection, the disciples are back working at their profession—fishing. They have a rough night and come up empty, without any fish to eat or sell for their living. Then, as in a previous story in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus asks them to try again, and suddenly their catch is so big they can barely bring it all to shore. At that point, the beloved disciple recognizes it is Jesus on the shore, and he has a breakfast feast ready for them. Interestingly, even though Jesus could have provided everything for this wonderful meal on the beach after a long, hard night of work, he asks them to contribute to the meal by sharing some of the fish they just caught.

Jesus doesn't just give in one direction. He wants the relationship to go both ways—with each party sharing something with the others. How many times have we given something to a friend or loved one only to have them give us something in return? Or perhaps when we thought we were “serving” the less fortunate, we discovered their desire to serve us or give something to us in return. We can probably all recognize the uncomfortable feeling of inequality or a power differential when someone from “above” gives something to someone “below” who can't return the favor. Jesus seems to understand this. We will never be equal to him, but he still wants us



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“Do you love me?...Feed my lambs.”

Sheepish Question:

What am I doing that truly shows my love for God?

to contribute what we can in the relationship so that there is some mutuality.

So it was with the disciples that morning when they had breakfast together on the beach. Jesus provided some of the food, and they provided some of it. Later, the conversation turned to what Jesus asked Peter to do for him. After all that time of Jesus doing things for the apostles, now comes the time when Jesus wants Peter to rise to the occasion and start doing the same for others by feeding and tending his sheep.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What are some of the ways Jesus has “fed you” in your lifetime?
- 2 In what way(s) are you being called to feed and tend Jesus' sheep now?

Word of the Week •
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REV. KONELIO FALETOI
Pastor and Vicar Forane of the
West Hawaii Vicariate

REV. CLAUDIO AGUIRRE
Parochial Vicar

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HERNÁNDEZ MORALES**
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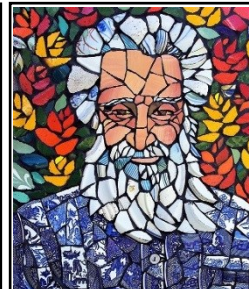
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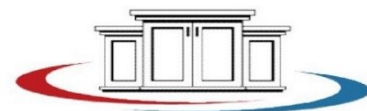
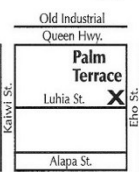
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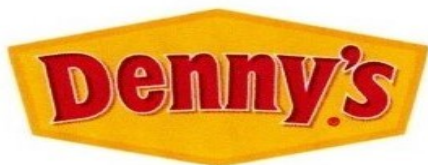


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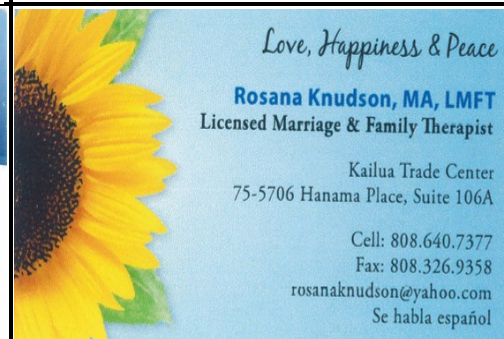
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