

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

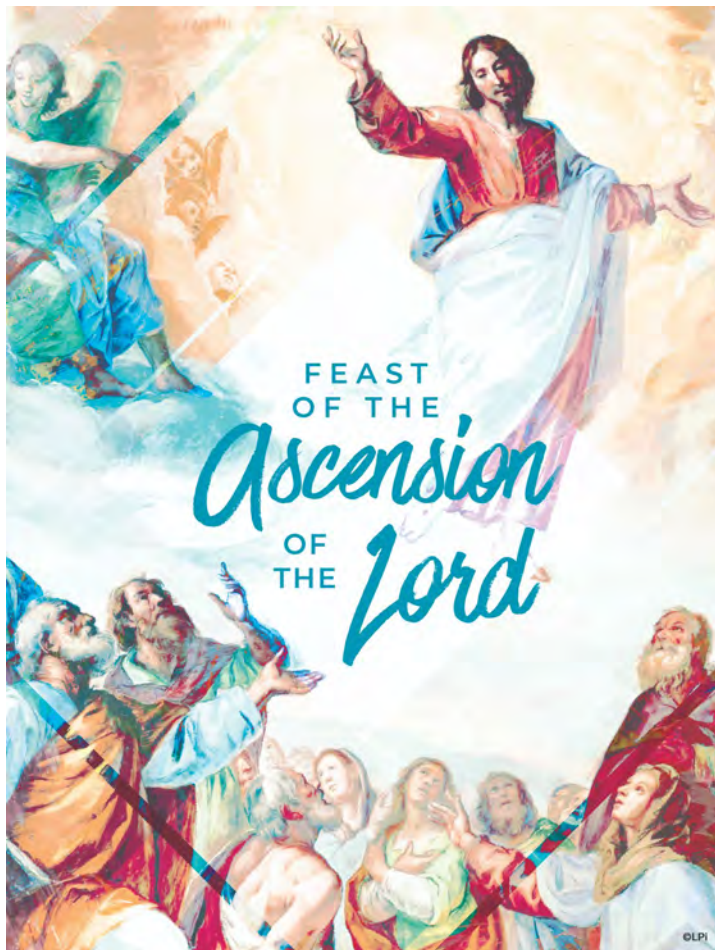
WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12 noon

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

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org **June 1, 2025 | 1 de junio de 2025**

The Ascension of the LORD

Reading I - **Acts 1:1-11** | Psalm - **47:2-3,6-7,8-9** | Reading II - **Ephesians 1:17-23** | Gospel - **Luke 24:46-53**
Primera Lectura - **Hechos 1:1-11** | Salmo - **46:2-3,6-7,8-9** | Segunda Lectura - **Efesios 1:17-23** | Evangelio - **Lucas 24:46-53**



Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading: **Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11**

Primera Lectura: **Hechos de los Apóstoles 2:1-11**

Psalm/Salmo: **104(103):1,24,29-30,31,34**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13**

Segunda Lectura: **1 Corintios 12:3-7,12-13**

Gospel/Evangelio: **John (Juan) 20:19-23**

FEET ON THE GROUND

"Until next week, keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars!" Not today's scriptural wisdom, but legendary DJ Casey Kasem's sage advice, heard across America for generations, *American Top 40's* challenging sign off. Though Casey wasn't quoting scripture, today's Acts of the Apostles offers similar advice. As Jesus ascended, disciples "were looking intently at the sky." Wouldn't we prefer a soul relaxing gaze into peaceful blue skies to a heart-breaking focus on this blood-stained earth? But heavenly questioners asked Jesus' first disciples, "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" Earth awaited their mission!

While our hearts should "keep reaching for" heaven, we need to "keep our feet on the ground." Ascension's scriptures and the Jubilee of Mercy remind us: the Jesus we revere as "ascended into heaven" lives right here among us on earth, awaiting our recognition and loving service.

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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. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.



June 1, 2025

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1:17-23 | Lk 24:46-53

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Every day the world urges us to place our trust in countless things: money, brands, self-improvement methods — all with instant results! As Christians, however, we know that only God's promises are worth betting everything on, and they are not fulfilled on our self-determined timelines. Today's readings portray Jesus, the wounds of his crucifixion still visible, accompanying his followers for 40 days after his resurrection. Now the Apostles, some with questions of their own, are asked to wait once more for "the promise of the Father" of which they heard Jesus speak: baptism by the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. For the Apostles as for us, following Christ is not an easy path, the Apostles likely were wondering what to expect in this "baptism." The fulfillment of God's promises doesn't always happen quickly, nor are we usually able to grasp the big picture at the moment of fulfillment. Nevertheless, it is in these periods of waiting that faith takes root and deepens. Uncertainty makes room for faith, and as the Holy Spirit descends into our life and makes things clear, we see the beauty in God's mysterious and loving plan for us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

There's a saying, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." It is often a matter of timing and expectations around life that can sew doubt into our faith. In the first reading, the Apostles ask the resurrected Christ if now he would restore the kingdom of Israel. He responds, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons." We are reminded that our faith never obligates us to know what events are to come, and which date in our calendars to mark. Our role, as the second reading says, is to let our "hearts be enlightened, that [we] may know what is the hope that belongs to his call." We wait in faith for the Holy Spirit to move and enlighten us to what God wills. We can rest secure in the assurance that we will be given all we need.

PRAY

Is your prayer sometimes full of questions about God's timing and intentions, or are you able to wait in faith for God to act? Ask the Holy Spirit for the faith and hope you need to remain at peace as you wait. Then, keep your eyes fixed on Christ, and be not afraid.

By Benvenuto Tisi - Web Gallery of Art Public Domain

Life of Stewardship

On this Feast of the Ascension, we celebrate Christ's triumphant return to the Father after perfectly accomplishing His mission on earth. But we also can also view this Feast as a celebration of the "launch day" of our commissioning as Christ's disciples.

Today's Gospel draws our attention to the clear instructions that Jesus gave His disciples (and to us) just before ascending to the Father: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Embracing a stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the use of time, talent and treasure, helps us to live in such a way that our very lives speak as a witness of the Good News of the Gospel. While we take time to reflect and renew our commitments in these three areas annually as a parish family, it is of great benefit to take some time individually throughout the year to take stock of the commitments we have made - looking at both our strengths and our need for continued growth in each area.

On this Feast of our "launch day," take some time to celebrate your victories as Christ's disciples and renew your commitment to remain faithful to Him and the unique mission He has entrusted to you!

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

Parish News

Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, June 1st 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.

Special Collection-Catholic Communications Campaign

This week's special collection connects Catholics with Christ in the United States using the internet, television, radio and print media. Your support spreads the gospel message! Envelopes are available in the kiosks.

Neocatechumenal Way Catechesis

An Announcement of Joy! Does God still speak to us today as He did in the time of Abraham and the Exodus from the slavery of Egypt? If Jesus said he would be with his Church until the end of time, then where is he today? Many of us believe that Jesus Christ is still present today in the same way he has always been since his Ascension, but our lived experience suggests that it is more of a faint hope than a lived experience. But to discover that the history of Abraham's journey of faith is identical to our own, and the escape of Moses and the Hebrew people from the bondage of slavery is no different than what the Lord wants to accomplish in us today is to discover Him speaking to us in His Word. And to meet Jesus Christ, this same Word made flesh, in his Church. This discovery is the beginning of walking in a way of faith in a Community of concrete brothers and sisters, not as an anonymous person

within a mass of people but in the communion of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Come join the Neocatechumenal catechesis on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 6pm in the Grace Parish Center.

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*. 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 on **Wednesdays, June 4th - July 23rd, 2025**, from **10am - 12noon** at St Michael's. To register, contact **Suzanne Zaw**, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, at (808) 339-7980.

Men of Faith

Would you like to increase your spirituality with fellow men of our parish? Well, that opportunity is available to you every Wednesday! Our meetings focus on reflections on the prior weekend readings as we strive to grow closer to our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ and His church. We meet on the St. Michael's south lanai from 5:30 to 6:30pm. See you there!

Women's Retreat on June 7 - CANCELLED

Please note that the Women's Retreat scheduled for June 7 has been cancelled due to the Kamehameha Day parade. We will publish the new date as soon as it is available.

Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Ghost Feast Bazaar

Please support Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Honoka'a with their annual fundraiser on Sunday, June 8. Holy Mass begins at 8:30am followed by the Feast Bazaar featuring their famous Charola auction, food booths, crafts, games, entertainment, BBQ, baked goods, merch & more from 9:30 until 3:30pm.

Sacred Heart Parish - Hawi Centennial Celebration

Please join Sacred Heart Parish - Hawi as they celebrate one hundred years of faith, community and service. A Unity Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, June 8 at 8:30am followed by hamburgers and hot dogs and lots of entertainment in St. Damien Hall. All are welcome to join in on this blessed event!

Healing Mass

We will have a Healing Mass on Tuesday, June 10 at St. Michael's. Anyone in need of physical, emotional, and spiritual healing or healing in relationships are encourage to come. Confession and Praise & Worship at 6:00pm. Mass begins at 6:30pm. For more information, contact Monica Choe at (720) 341-3752. Please join us!

Stewardship of Treasure

May 19th –25th, 2025

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 2,090.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 11,752.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 5,186.00

Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$6,019,669.39** 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 MAY 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.

Baptism Class

Our next Baptism class will be held on Saturday, June 14 at 9am in the Parish Office Conference room. All parents and godparents are required to attend. To register for class, email baptism.stmichaelskona@rcchawaii.org.

Faith Formation

Children's Bulletin

We encourage you to download the Children's Bulletin each week from www.thekidsbulletin.com. The Kids' Bulletin is created by a mom in Canada who is happy to share them with anyone who can use them to help learn or teach about the truth and beauty of the Catholic Faith. It is a great resource for kids who would like to have some fun while learning about the readings from the Sunday Mass each week. Bulletins are available in English and Spanish.

Encounter . . . Summer Bible Camp

We are excited to present our first ever Bible Camp for youth entering grades 6-12. Register now as space is limited! Join us for Bible Camp from 8am to 4pm on July 14 through July 18 in the Grace Parish Center. Registration forms are in the kiosks. There is no cost to attend.

The Ascension of the LORD

It was a Delta flight from Salt Lake City to Phoenix, and it looked like an on-time departure. As the large plane rolled away from the gate, the pilot announced over the intercom: "Ladies and Gentlemen, the crew outside didn't fill up the tanks with fuel. We are going back to the gate to wait for them." The passengers groaned with impatience. But over the next hour,

we knew the waiting had a purpose: it meant fuel to get us to our destination.

The disciples at the Lord's Ascension are in a similar predicament but on a massively higher plane. They want the Kingdom of God to begin on earth as it is in heaven. But Jesus says, "I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high"

(Luke 24:49). They stay together in prayer in Jerusalem and wait nine long days until the Holy Spirit descends.

Empowered by supernatural gifts, they go forth to the ends of the earth and to their deaths proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. The wait was worth it.

Before you begin a task or endeavor, do you take time to patiently pray for the Holy Spirit to come? The bigger the task, the more ardent the prayer should be. Try it this week, and you'll be clothed with power to get where God wants you to go. - Father John Muir, ©LPi

Treasures from Our Tradition

The mystery of the Ascension has to do with holding in tension a sense of God's nearness, along with the burden caused by apparent signs of absence. The risen Jesus says to Mary Magdalene, "Do not cling to me," perhaps pointing out to her that his physical presence to the disciples was time-bound and temporary. It was a gift for their transformation, and after forty days, he vanished from their sight and hearing, though never out of their consciousness.

They do not mourn at his going this time: there is no trace of the disciples who hid in fear at his crucifixion, no sense of the women who wept softly as they carried ointments to the tomb through the dewy morning light. Instead, the scriptural accounts show them full of joy, comforted by his promise to be with them forever, and open to the Spirit's power. They are joyful, energized, aware, and united with one another in love. They seem to grasp an awareness that if the mission to the whole world was a serious one, then the presence of the Risen Christ could not be pinned down to any one place or time, but had to be always and everywhere completely available. All peoples, all times, all cultures were opened to receive him in this moment of the Ascension. The energy of this feast is drawn not from absence, but renewed and deeper presence.

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

Everyday Stewardship - Famous Last Words

A fun way to waste an hour or two on the internet is to Google "famous last words." There are entire websites devoted to chronicling the last utterances of celebrities and historical figures. I think the fascination with parting words stems from the drama of a person's final moment on earth. We want to ascribe some kind of power and significance to the last words they say, especially if they are our loved ones, because it gives us something to carry with us in our grief.

In Jesus' case, every word he ever said had power and significance, but especially those he said before ascending into Heaven: "You will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth." And then he was gone.

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.

If I were one of the Apostles, I think a small anxiety attack would have commenced at that point. As much as they knew and believed that Christ was still with them, it must have felt awfully lonely standing there staring at an empty sky, with the mother of all homework assignments having just been handed down.

Stewardship is intimidating by nature. The baptismal call is an honor and a gift. But it is also a little scary bearing witness to Christ.

When we doubt ourselves, let's return to Christ's last words and cling to the faith he had in his Father's love for us. He says not "you will be witnesses" but "you are witnesses." We already have what we need. God is within us, and we take Him wherever we go.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Practicing Catholic - Now We Wait

You can tell a lot about a person by how they wait in line. The driver who leans on her horn if the car in front of her pauses before turning on a red light is probably also the woman who says, "I thought you forgot about us" to the waitress who's slow to bring water to the table.

The shopper with a full cart who lets someone buying two bananas cut ahead of him in the checkout line is probably also the guy who says, "Here, take mine," if the creamer runs out in the morning coffee queue.

Here's how I wait: I pull out my phone. I check my email. I make shopping lists in my head. I busy myself. The anxiety of falling behind is just too overwhelming. Waiting scares me.

I'm not saying the first person is nasty and bad, the second one is a saint, and I'm a neurotic workaholic. I'm only saying that it's hard to press "pause" on the fulfillment of any desire we have, even if it's just the desire to move on. It's hard to be made to wait. It's a test, and like all tests, it either proves our strengths or reveals our weaknesses.

The Ascension begins a period of waiting for the disciples. Christ has been with them, blessed them, taught them - and now he's gone in a cloud, leaving behind a vague promise that they can't really understand.

Make no mistake: this is a test. And it reveals them to be faithful. They return to Jerusalem "with great joy" (Luke 24:52) and receive, a few days later, the Holy Spirit.

In a sense, we are all waiting, every moment of our lives - lingering in expectation of a promise not yet fulfilled, bound by instructions we only partially comprehend. This is a test. What will it reveal about us?

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman, LPI

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MAY 31ST

4pm - Alejandro Pedro "Peter" Ganir, deceased, Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

- 7am - Efen Buenaventura, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Joe Reynolds, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, JUNE 2ND

- 7am - Chuck Easton, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

TUESDAY, JUNE 3RD

- 7am - Hialoa Morimoto, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Marty Miller, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH

- 7am - Francisco Urgino, deceased, Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

- 7am - Gloria Lynne Fabel, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Mary Sotomayor, Rest in Peace

FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH

- 7am - Sheila Mae Bucog, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Gloria Giudici Floyd, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH

- 7am - Robert Leopoldino, 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!

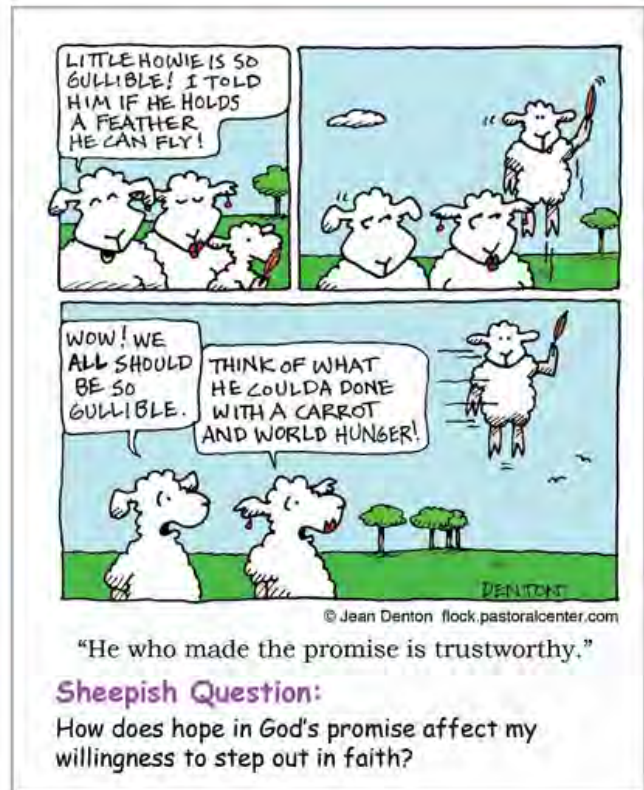
Letting Go Instead of Clinging

This Week's Readings at Mass

- Acts 1:1-11 - The Ascension of Jesus
- Ephesians 1:17-23 - A Spirit of wisdom
- Luke 24:46-53 - The Ascension

There is a significant difference in how the disciples experience Jesus' departure at his ascension from how they experienced his death and burial. After the fear, shock, and horror of his arrest and torturous death they had three agonizing days of emptiness as he lay in the tomb. They didn't know how the story would end. Even though he had predicted he would rise from the dead, there was no way they could have imagined what that meant. None of the Gospels tell us they had any hope of that before he came back to them alive.

When it is time for Jesus to physically leave them forever, the disciples seem like a different group. They had moved through their earlier experiences of him after the resurrection when they were fearful or trying to cling to him or still in doubt about whether the person they saw in front of them was really their friend. Now they are at peace when he is taken up to heaven. They hear and accept his last words without question. They do him homage as he rises into the sky. When he is gone, they return to Jerusalem "with great joy and they were continually in the temple praising God" as they waited for the gift of the Holy Spirit Jesus promised. They have been transformed by his repeated offerings of peace and assurance, and they have accepted his

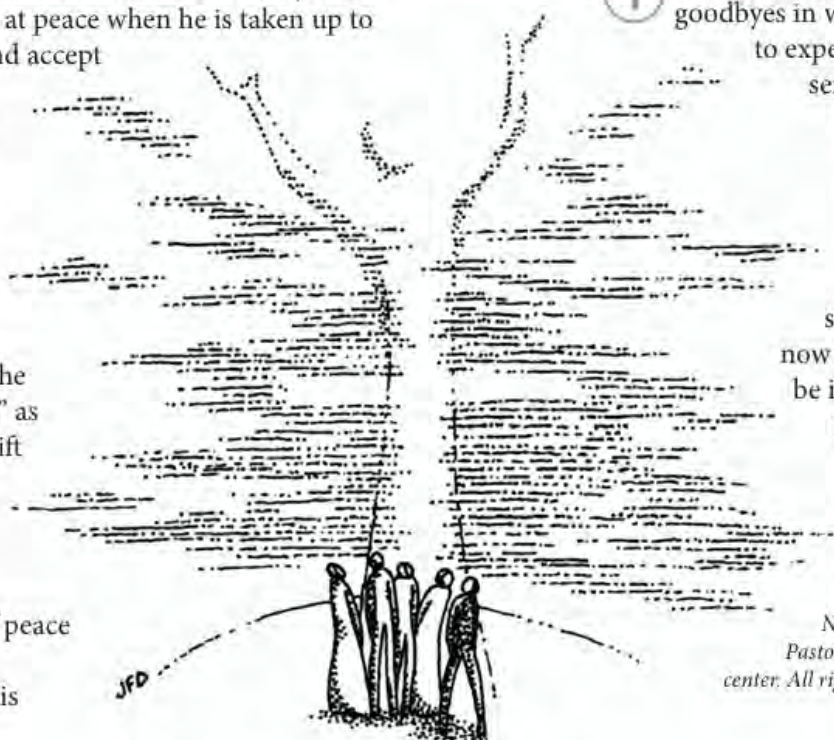


invitation to trust him and the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit. Now they are poised to go out and change the world.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Have you experienced any goodbyes in which you were able to experience a deep-felt sense of peace despite the pain of the separation? Please share.
- 2 Is there any person or situation in your life now in which you might be invited to let go more freely, trusting that the Holy Spirit will sustain you?

Word of the Week •
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SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



Strength to Be Instruments

Gracious God,
we shout to you with cries of gladness,
for you have defeated death
and given us hope for eternal life.
With great joy,
we celebrate Jesus returning to you,
knowing that you remain with us
in the Holy Spirit.
Empower us
to be instruments of holy work.
Give us the strength
to see and respond to you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Witnesses



Today's readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 1:17–23 or Hebrews 9:24–28; 10:19–23; Luke 24: 46–53. Before ascending to heaven, Jesus points to Scripture: “It is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations.” He reminds his disciples that they are witnesses to these life-changing events. Being a witness requires recalling the event (or events) that one has seen. The disciples are called to share with all nations the news of the miraculous events that they have witnessed. You, too, are a witness to the paschal mystery and participate in it each time you attend Mass. As Mass ends, the priest dismisses the faithful

to spread the news. That we are sent forth becomes evident in the dismissals “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord” and “Go In peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.”

Though preaching the Gospel may seem like an overwhelming task, God enables and accompanies us. Jesus tells the disciples to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit comes, and they “are clothed with the power from on high.” The Spirit strengthens them to joyfully accept the difficult yet transformative call to be followers of Christ. We, too, must lean on God for the tenacity to live as the hands and feet of Christ. Pray for the wisdom to see the Holy Spirit moving through you.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, June 2

Sts. Marcellinus and Peter

Though little is known about Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, they were important enough to be included in one of our Eucharistic Prayers. Marcellinus and Peter were a priest and an exorcist, respectively, in the fourth century. Both were beheaded in 304. Today, their service to the Church is celebrated: those whose blood is shed in the name of their faith are joined closely to Christ and, thus, to us. Say a prayer in gratitude for the long tradition to which saints such as Marcellinus and Peter have dedicated themselves. *Today's readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

Tuesday, June 3

St. Charles Lwanga and Companions

In various parts of Africa, St. Charles Lwanga is well known as the patron of youth and Catholic action. Charles and twenty-one other young Ugandans were burned to death for refusing to participate in immoral acts in 1886. The virtue of courage is exemplified in these martyrs. How can you courageously say yes to your faith in times of temptation? *Today's readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.*

Wednesday, June 4

Tend the Church of God

Today we hear St. Paul address the presbyters. He is instructing them on the difficulties found in the community at Ephesus and surrounding areas. He warns them to guard the community against false prophets that are sure to emerge once he departs. He concludes his remarks by citing Jesus, who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” How are you giving to the Church? What is a way you can “tend the Church of God”? *Today's readings: Acts 20:28–38; Psalm 68:29–30, 33–35a, 35bc–36ab; John 17:11b–19.*

Thursday, June 5

St. Boniface

St. Boniface was an English Benedictine monk. He dedicated himself to the conversion of Germanic tribes. To reform the German Church, Boniface was guided by two principles: restoring the obedience of wayward clergy and establishing Benedictine monasteries (houses of prayer). He was massacred with more than fifty others while preparing converts for confirmation. *Today's readings: Acts 22:30, 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

Friday, June 6

St. Norbert

St. Norbert founded the Premonstratensians, or the Norbertines, (a religious order) in twelfth-century France. They were tasked with combating heresies, revitalizing the faithful, and aiding in reconciliation efforts among enemies. St. Norbert knew that none of that important work could be done without God and found much strength in his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. If Eucharistic adoration is available in your area, schedule time to pray before the sacrament. If it is not available, spend time in silence praying near a tabernacle. Ask Jesus to strengthen your faith. *Today's readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.*

Saturday, June 7

Gazing on the Lord's Face

Joining the psalmist, we sing, “The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.” What is a just deed to which you can commit yourself as the end of the Easter season nears? How have you gazed on the Lord's face? Regardless of whether you consider yourself artistic, consider drawing or painting the face of the Lord that you are gazing upon. Challenge yourself to think creatively. Allow the Lord to speak to you through this time spent creating. *Today's readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*

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

REV. CLAUDIO AGUIRRE
Parochial Vicar

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