

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](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, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12noon

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

Website: [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) February 8, 2026 | 8 de febrero de 2026

## Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reading I - **Isaiah 58:7-10** | Psalm - **112:4-5,6-7,8-9** | Reading II - **1 Corinthians 2:1-5** | Gospel - **Matthew 5:13-16**  
Primera Lectura - **Isaías 58:7-10** | Salmo - **111:4-5,6-7,8-9** | Segunda Lectura - **1 Corintios 2:1-5** | Evangelio - **Mateo 5:13-16**

### THE CHOSEN REMNANT

Zephaniah is one of the least known of the Old Testament prophets. He speaks in today's first reading of impending judgment. But the Lord will leave a "remnant" in Israel. This image of a remnant, or remainder, was to become vital to both Judaism and Christianity.

Paul's letter to Corinth makes obvious his deep concern for the Christians there. They are too self-confident, he says, too sure of themselves. He admonishes them to remember that Christ has given them all they have.

Today's Gospel comprises the opening of Jesus' "Great Sermon." As God gave Moses the law on Sinai, so now Jesus gathers his disciples on a hillside to teach them the new law. Each of these Beatitudes contrasts the humiliation of the present with the glory of the future: poverty vs. the riches of God's kingdom, hunger for holiness vs. fulfillment in the Spirit, persecution vs. the reign of God. Jesus is here speaking to God's chosen "remnant." - Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

#### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection 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 evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



### 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." - Mt 5:14

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

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### Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

Primera Lectura: Sirácide 15:16-21

Psalm/Salmo: 119 (118): 1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Segunda Lectura: 1 Corintios 2:6-10

Gospel/Evangelio: Matthew (Mateo) 5:17-37

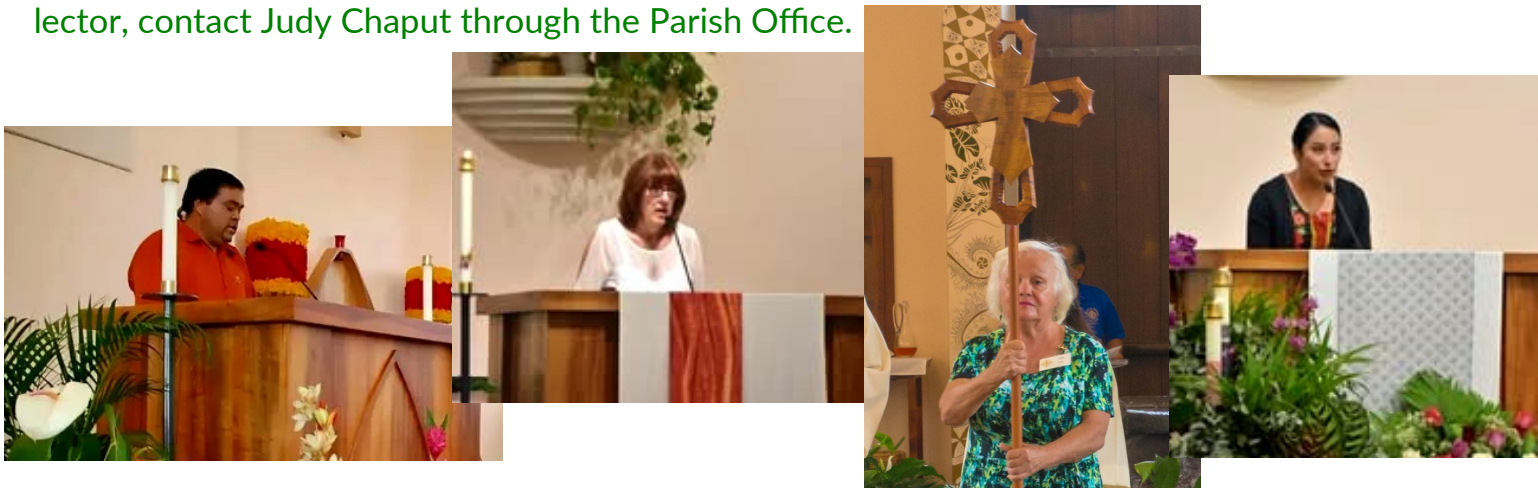
**Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule: 7am, 12noon & 5pm (English) 7pm (Spanish)**

**Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish** - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org). To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

# LECTORS

*'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news!'" (Romans 10:13-17).*

We are called to share the Good News of the Gospel and Bible in our daily lives and actions. Within our own parish, there is a special way of sharing the Word of the Lord with others, as lectors proclaim the Word of God for all to hear. Lectors (ages 16 and over) bring the Living Word of God to the liturgical assembly. Through them, God speaks to the gathered faithful. A person with strong faith, along with knowledge and command of communication skills, can be trained to proclaim the Word of God at Holy Mass with great dignity and reverence. Part-time residents may serve. Lectors must be approved and commissioned by the pastor. If you would like to become a lector, contact Judy Chaput through the Parish Office.



February 8, 2026  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Is 58:7-10 | 1 Cor 2:1-5 | Mt 5:13-16

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

My understanding of prayer changed when I read St. Teresa of Calcutta's statement that says, "I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things." Prayer is not an incantation that can change the will of God. It is the act of raising our hearts and minds to God, and of opening ourselves — our will, our understanding, our joys, and our sorrows — to be sanctified. The prophet Isaiah seems to be saying something similar in the first reading. He lists off the commands of the Lord to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and shelter the homeless, and then tells the faithful that if they do these things, "then your light shall break forth like the dawn." We certainly serve those who are vulnerable because each person has immeasurable dignity and deserves to be cared for as a child of God. But the act of caring for another also changes us. We are made more fully into who we were created to be — not an individual living in isolation, but one who is deeply connected in community to the rest of humankind.

## **SERVE**

The corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. This is not a list meant to overwhelm, but rather to provide opportunities to care for God's children. What act of service can you and your family engage in this week to allow the light of Christ to shine through you?

## **GO EVANGELIZE**

### **PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

An act of service, then, is much bigger than simply donating money or giving of our time. In caring for our neighbor, we proclaim God's goodness to a world in darkness, bearing witness to the love of God which is the source of all our actions. In the Gospel, Christ calls his followers to be "the light of the world," reminding us that he wants to shine his light through us. But we are not the source of the light. Even when we are the ones serving, we still remain only the vessel the true light shines through. When we love others, we are changed because we allow ourselves to be conformed more closely to Christ, allowing others to encounter his love in our actions.

# Life of Stewardship

Today's readings are both encouragement and instruction for us as Christian stewards. They offer clear direction on what matters most to God and how He calls us to use the gifts He has entrusted to us.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah gives us straightforward guidance: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own." There is no ambiguity here. Caring for our brothers and sisters in need is not optional - it is a fundamental responsibility of the Christian steward.

Yet the Lord also reminds us of His generosity when we live this way. "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed." When we give of ourselves, we do not lose - we gain. God's grace grows within us, and we experience deeper joy and peace as our lives become more aligned with His will.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks plainly to His disciples - and to us - calling us the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." But salt loses its purpose if it goes stale, and light cannot shine if it is hidden. Our faith must be lived, not concealed. We are called to act so that others may see the way we serve, how we care for the vulnerable, how we prioritize our families, and above all, how we love God - and through our witness, give glory to Him.

This is the stewardship way of life. Let us embrace it fully.  
- *Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

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## Parish News

### Blessed Palms for Ash Wednesday

Please bring your blessed palms to the Church so they may be prepared for Ash Wednesday. Kindly place them in the baskets located at the entrance. **Ash Wednesday is on February 18th. Masses will be at 7am, 12noon, and 5pm in English and 7pm in Spanish. All Masses will be celebrated at St. Michael's.**

### AARP Offering Free Tax Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those ages 50 and older. West Hawaii has two sites offering service from **February 4 until April 10**. Hale Halawai, located at 75-5600 Ali'i Drive is open on a walk-in basis on **Thursdays from 8am until 12 noon**. Yano Hall located at 82-6156 Mamalahoa Highway in Captain Cook is open for walk-in and appointments (808-765-9141) on **Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm**.

### St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship Program

St. Michael's is establishing a scholarship program for parishioners. The St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship aims to empower young adults to become active witnesses of the Catholic faith, supporting students in developing and participating in a faith-based environment at their campus or local church. The scholarship is available to incoming or current students at an accredited university, college, community college, or technical school.

Visit St. Michael's website [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) for

eligibility criteria and application. Deadline to apply is March 15. Top candidates will be notified by May 1. Scholarship amounts can vary and will be determined based on availability of funds. If you wish to donate to the scholarship fund, envelopes are available in the kiosks. Call the Parish Office for more information.

### St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

We are accepting orders for Phase 2, scheduled for installation in the Spring 2026. Order forms and information are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or at the Parish Office during the week. Three brick sizes are offered, each with your choice of engraving. Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come. Everyone is welcome to participate.

### Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance

Please join us on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 9pm, for a romantic fun filled evening of drinks, dinner and dancing in the Grace Parish Center. This is the last weekend to purchase tickets after all masses on the church lanai for only \$40 per person. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus. See posters on church kiosks for more information.

### 40DaysForLife

The Respect Life Committee begins the 40DaysForLife Campaign, from **Wednesday, February 18 to Sunday, March 29**. This is an international event of 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're invited to join us in peaceful prayer during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside St. Michael's church on Ali'i Drive.

If you'd like to volunteer as a prayer disciple, or stand up for life and participate in our community outreach, please sign up at [www.40daysforlife.com/en/kona](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/kona). Signs are provided. For more information, contact Lori through our parish office.

### Spiritual Book Club - February 19

Join us for the next Spiritual Book Club discussion of the book: Francis of Assisi: a new biography by Augustine Thompson, O.P. This is a fresh look at the historical St. Francis. Who was the real St. Francis beneath the centuries of legends and myths? We meet Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Grace Parish Center. Please call the office if you would like to join on Zoom. The book is available in Hardback and Kindle.

### Women of the Word Retreat - February 21

Sister Malia Wong, a Dominican Sister of the Most Holy Rosary, will be leading "Bread for the Journey: Walking with the Word, a Women of the Word (WOW) ½ day retreat on the Saturday, February 21. This women's retreat invites participants to slow down, listen deeply and walk alongside women of Scripture through guided reflection, creative prayer, and embodied practice. Participants will discover how one word, one gesture, or one faithful step can be carried home, nourishing everyday life. Come as

# Stewardship of Treasure

January 26th - February 1st, 2026

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 3,982.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 18,880.00
BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 7,937.00

We are grateful that our construction debt for the Grace Parish Center has been paid off.

Our weekly second collection will now go toward our Building Repairs & Maintenance.

*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 JANUARY 2026 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$14,082.75

The Diocesan Assessment covers shared staff and administrative resources from the Diocese supporting every parish.

The new "Annual Appeal" assessment starting in January provides funds for collaborative Catholic ministries and services that extend beyond the capacity of any single parish.

## 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.

you are. Leave with bread for the journey.

We will gather at 7am for Mass, followed by a light breakfast and the retreat in the Grace Parish Center. The retreat concludes with a noon-time lunch. Sign up after Mass at the Women of the Word table, during the week at the parish office or on-line at St. Michael's website. All women of the parish and visitors are welcome.

## Healing Mass

We will have a Healing Mass on Tuesday, February 24 at St. Michael's. Everyone is welcome! Confession and Praise & Worship at 6pm. Healing Mass at 6:30pm followed by healing prayers for emotional, physical, spiritual healing and healing in relationships. Come and experience the healing touch from God's love! **For more information, contact Monica (720) 341-3752.**

## Men of Faith Retreat - February 28

Deacon Jerome Bettencourt will lead the Men in Faith retreat on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, starting with daily Mass at 7am and retreat to follow in the Grace Parish Center. Deacon Jerome Bettencourt was ordained in 2011 and served the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for 14 years as a deacon. He has worked as a catechist, retreat leader, and spiritual director. He recently retired from his career as a professional educator after 40 years of service. He moved to our island last August and is assigned to Sacred Heart Parish in Pahoehoe. He also serves as a Byzantine (Eastern Rite) Deacon for the Byzantine Outreach in Honomu.

All Men of Faith of our Parish and Beyond are invited. We will have a continental breakfast to start and lunch will be

provided. To sign up, please see Deacon Craig Camello or John Czajkowski.

## St. Michael's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

St. Michael's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament will take place Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> at Kona Country Club. There are several ways you can help. Join us as a member of our organizing committee, be a golfer, a volunteer, or a sponsor. Join us at our next meeting. For more info, call Don David at 808-756-6912.

## Faith Formation

### Faith Formation Is a Lifelong Journey

#### REMINDER to all parents:

Faith Formation doesn't end with the Sacraments. Even after receiving First Communion and Confirmation, children continue to grow in their understanding of God's love and their role in the Church. Faith Formation classes help to nurture that growth through prayer, learning, and community. We encourage you to bring your children to Faith Formation and Youth Ministry classes so they may continue their spiritual journey!

### Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

Classes continue on Sundays from 10:15 to 11:50am in the Grace Parish Center. Attendance is required in order to receive your Sacraments.

### Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Reminder, Big Island Youth Day forms are due. No Youth Ministry on Super Bowl Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Family Catechesis is on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:15-7:15pm. It is also the last Sunday before Lent, bring your favorite dish to share.

## Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

I recently learned why zebras have stripes. Scientists used to think it was for camouflage, but new research suggests something more interesting: the stripes help zebras blend in with one another. When a predator looks at a herd, the overlapping stripes make it hard to single out one animal. But if a researcher spray-paints a dot on just one zebra, predators lock on it and eventually attack. The lesson? In the wild, blending in is protection. Standing out can be dangerous.

Human beings are not so different. Most of us would rather blend in than stand out, especially when it comes to our faith. We know that giving bold witness to Jesus - through our words, values, or public choices - can make us targets for criticism, isolation, or judgment. That's why Jesus' words in today's Gospel are so challenging: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).

A city on a hill draws attention. It also draws fire. But that's part of the cost of discipleship. Jesus doesn't call us to be tribal or boastful. He calls us to stand in the open with humble confidence, so that people might see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven. Today, let's ask for the courage not just to believe in Christ, but to be seen believing in him. - Father John Muir, ©LPI

# 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)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

## TUESDAY

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

## 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 6:00-7:00pm  
(Last Wed. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm

## THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm  
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm  
(First Thursday - Grace Parish Center)  
(Third Thursday - Ola Brew)

## FRIDAY

- Women of the Word 12:00-1:00pm

## SATURDAY

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

## SUNDAY

- Gift Shop Open 7:30am-11am
- 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. The next class will be held at 8:30am on Saturday, Feb. 14 in the Office Conference Room.

To register, please email [baptism.stmichaekona@rcchawaii.org](mailto:baptism.stmichaekona@rcchawaii.org)

# Marriage

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

## Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - Be Salty

I want you to close your eyes. Are they closed? (I'm serious.) Okay. Now think of the greatest saint in history.

I don't care who you're thinking of. It's going to be different for everyone. Just think of that person. Think of his or her life. And answer the question: Why is he or she a great saint?

You're all thinking of different people, but the answer is the same for everyone. And it's not "Because he did great things for God" or "Because she sacrificed everything she had for the poor." Those answers show evidence of the reason. But the reason is something more.

The greatest saints in history were not great at holiness. God brought holiness about within them because (ding ding ding! Here's the answer!) the greatest saints in history were great at being who they were meant to be.

Not who they wanted to be. Not who they thought they should be. Who they were meant to be.

Simply put, they gave themselves to God. All of themselves. Flaws and all. And God took them, in their totality, and said: "Now watch this."

Just imagine if salt was ashamed of being salty. Imagine if it looked at the sodium content on its nutrition label and thought, "That's embarrassing," and decided it was going to stop being salt. Well, great. Now it's just a box of tiny rocks.

Wouldn't it have been better for the salt to trust the baker using it?

There is a plan for each of us. There is a path to holiness for each of us. This path doesn't bypass our flaws or our weaknesses; it incorporates them. It transforms them. It fulfills them.

So be salty. Be who you were meant to be.

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPI

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Salt without flavor is no longer salt. Light that illuminates nothing is no longer light. As Christians, we must be what we have been made to be. So think about it, carefully: what stands between you and being who you were made to be? - CPLi



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, FEBRUARY 7TH

- 4pm - Jamie Carpentier, Rest in Peace

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 7am - Hāloa Kaaekuahiwi, 1st yr. Birthday Blessings
- 9am - Sudsanguan Nelson, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Zola Ingram, Rest in Peace

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

- 7am - Debra Williams, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Susan Bender, Special Intention

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

- 7am - Repose of the Souls of Marciana Estencion and Steve Passos
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

- 7am - Leandra Afaga, 14th Death Anniversary and Birthday Remembrance & Teodolfo Afaga, deceased, Rest in Peace

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

- 7am - Palemon De La Torre and Josefina Velasquez, Rest In Peace
- 5pm - Mass of Thanksgiving

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

- 7am - Mass of Thanksgiving
- 5pm - Remigio Belleza, for Healing

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

- 7am - Carol Miles, 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..."***

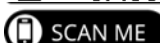
—Matthew 25:35

## 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.



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



Mahalo for your support!

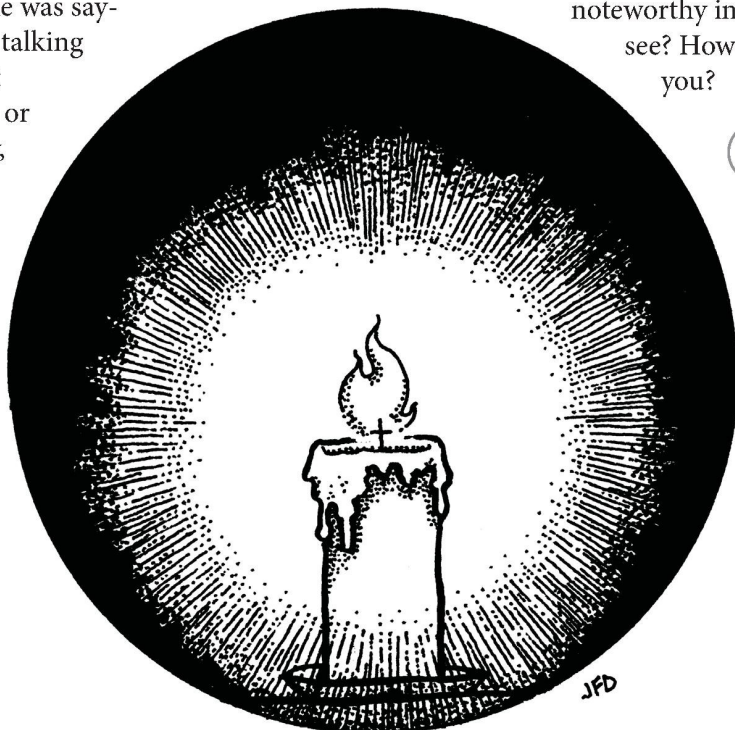
# He Saw Something in Them

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Isaiah 58:7-10 • Caring for the needy
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 • Preaching on Christ crucified
- ▶ Matthew 5:13-16 • Salt of the earth, light of the world

Jesus' metaphor for his disciples "You are the salt of the earth" may not seem that noteworthy to us living in a time when salt is just one very common seasoning among dozens in the food we eat. Yet in Jesus' day, salt was one of the few seasonings used regularly in a diet that was much more restricted—we might even say "boring"—than the rich variety of foods we have access to today. For that reason alone it was a precious commodity. Not only was salt used as the primary flavoring of his time, but it was also used to preserve fish and meat in the days before refrigerators and freezers. Salt was so precious that Roman soldiers were sometimes paid in salt, or given allowances to buy it.

When Jesus tells his disciples they are "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" (in a world where there was no such thing as artificial light at the flip of a switch) he was saying something! He was talking to people who were not wealthy, well-educated, or high-ranking in society, so this was probably news to them. They probably would have been surprised to hear this, a bit proud, and very likely eager to rise to the challenge for someone who saw such goodness and potential in them. Jesus had high expectations for them which



“You are the salt of the earth.”

**Sheepish Question:**  
When have I shied away from exemplifying the Gospel among my friends?

gave them a chance to grow into their new role as salt and light for the world.

## Questions of the Week

- 1 When have you had an experience of someone seeing something good and noteworthy in you that others didn't see? How did that recognition affect you?
- 2 How might Jesus be calling you to let "your light shine before others" this week?

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& Safe Environment

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Spanish Music Ministry

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**PAULETTE ADAMS**  
Wedding Coordinator

**MAYRA RAMIREZ**  
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OF EACH MONTH  
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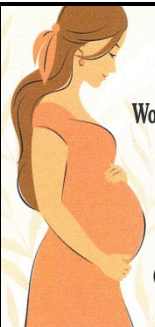
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