

**May 24, 2020**  
**The Ascension of the Lord**  
**Sunday**



**FEAST OF THE  
ASCENSION**

BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS,  
UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE

## Parish Calendar

As we are all aware, we are in a unique time in which a pandemic that has had deadly effects needs to be halted.

Therefore, the public celebration of Mass will be canceled in all locations until May 31.

No group prayer meetings, no gatherings etc. in the church and the hall, due to “social distancing” being enforced.

Father Diego will offer private Masses for the spiritual welfare of the people and specially to offer the Mass “pro populo” (for the people of the parish) every Sunday.

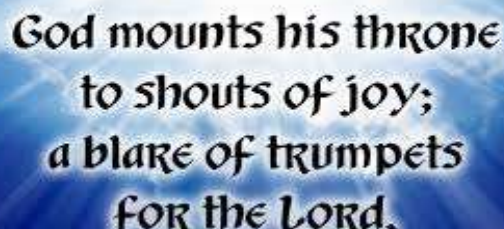
If you want to offer Mass Intentions, you can do so by calling the office, email, parish website and our Facebook page.

[www.saintjohnthebaptisthawaii.org](http://www.saintjohnthebaptisthawaii.org)

Facebook Page: St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Email: [sjbkalihi@gmail.com](mailto:sjbkalihi@gmail.com)

Phone: 808-845-0984



**God mounts his throne  
to shouts of joy;  
a blare of trumpets  
for the Lord.**

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

### LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

Today we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord, that glorious moment when Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection, was lifted up — quite literally— into heaven, as the apostles watched in stunned amazement. It is recounted in both our first reading, from Acts, as well as the Gospel passage, from Matthew. It must have been an extraordinary thing to witness.

But the first reading tells us that the apostles were not permitted to simply bask in the moment for very long. “While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?’” In other words, “Don’t just stand there, do something!”

This verse is a call to each one of us Christian stewards this very day. We have been given every grace and blessing through the Mass and all of the sacraments, through the Word of God, the rich teachings of our faith, and even our talents and our material possessions — so many gifts and blessings that we should live in a kind of stunned amazement ourselves.

And like those first apostles, we are not meant to just stand here, but to do something with these gifts — in love and gratitude to the One Who gave them to us. We are called, just as much as the first apostles “to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth,” not with our own power, but through the power of the Holy Spirit in us.

Our second reading, from the Letter to the Ephesians, reminds us of the might and power of God whose witnesses we are. In fact, St. Paul describes “the surpassing greatness of His power.” He reminds us that the Father raised Christ from the dead and has placed Him “far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion... not only in this age but also in the one to come.” This is the mighty God we serve, the One Who has blessed us with every good thing, and the One Who now gives us the privilege of serving as His witnesses to the ends of the earth.

This God knows us, His children, so well. He knows that we are prone to fear and weakness just as the first apostles were. In the Gospel passage we read that they went to the mountain as the Lord instructed, and they saw Him there just as He promised. “When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.” The Lord was not angered by their doubt. Instead, He encouraged them with a reminder that “all power in heaven and on earth” had been given to Him. With that, He sent them on their way. “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,” He told them and He tells us today. And because He is so loving, He gives us one more powerful, comforting reminder — “I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

On this feast of the Ascension, let us take a moment to “look up at the heavens” and ponder all the graces and blessings our loving God has given us. Then, let’s do something! Let’s put all those gifts to work as we serve as grateful witnesses to this amazing God.

## Stewardship Collection

Total Weekly Collection - 04/14 to 04/28	\$5,289.00
Other Offerings (Mass Offering, Funerals, Marriages, Donations)	\$1,567.52
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection Maintenance Fund	\$474.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$7,330.52</b>
Weekly Offering needed for Operations	\$6,743.00
*Unplanned expenses in our budget for This Year (Increase) Parish Assessment and Property & Liability Insurance	\$21,898.00
Collection <u>not retained</u> by the Parish	\$209.00



## Mass Intentions

### Rest of the Souls of;

- (+) Saturnino Palting
- (+) Tereza Dagulo
- (+) Leonard & Shirley DeCorte

### Thanksgiving for;

- Leota Family

### Blessings for;

- Princess Philomena. Leota

### God's guidance for;

- Erin Miyashiro

### May 25-30 For the repose of the Souls;

- (+) Claro D. Daoang
- (+) Pio B. Enrico

### Thanksgiving & Birthday;

- Kellen Sagayaga

If you would like to have confession. You can call the office to schedule an appointment for Father. Thank you.

### Our Stewardship Prayer

Generous and Loving Creator, you have called us to Malama i ka Makana (Cherish the Gift). As disciples of your Son, we ask that your Spirit open our minds and hearts to appreciate your countless blessings more deeply. Increase your transforming spirit within us, to nurture our call to stewardship as a way of life marked always by faith-filled prayer, service to others and generous giving. With the kokua of St. Marianne and St. Damien, teach us to be good stewards so we may return a hundred-fold the makana entrusted to us. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Stewardship Collection

- Due to this covid-19 pandemic, we are asking for your support for our church through your offerings or envelope. You can drop off your envelope to the parish office from Monday to Friday from 8am to 12pm. Or you can mail it to the office. We will get through this crisis together. Mahalo!

Rev. Diego Restrepo Serna  
Parish Administrator

Peter Soumwei  
Deacon

Ricardo Burgos  
Deacon

Bertha Guerrero  
Secretary & Business Manager

Carol Chong  
School Principal

Sr. Esther Pagdato, O.P.  
Sisters Convent & Superior

Renier Torres  
Pastoral Council Chair

Ping Blas  
Finance Council Chair

Danielle Burgos  
Religious Education Director

## PARISH MINISTRIES

**Building & Maintenance**

**Baptism Preparation**

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

**Marriage Preparation**

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**Lectors**

**Altar Server**

**Altar Cleaners**

**Ushers/Hospitality**

**Social/Outreach**

**Neo-Catechumenal Way**

**Divine Mercy**

**Music Ministries**

**Knights of Columbus**

**Youth Ministry**

**Gimong ti Novena**

**Ethnic Ministries (Hispanic, Samoan, Ilocano, Chuukese)**

### Other Masses, Adorations & Devotions

- \* First Friday @ 7:45am-9:00am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- \* First Friday @ 6:00pm- Ilocano Mass
- \* First Saturday @ 8:00am- Holy Rosary - Dominican Lay Associates
- \* First Sunday @ 5:00pm- Chuukese Mass