

**April 26, 2020**  
**Third - Sunday of Easter**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

### **LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP**

Today's readings focus on a theme of "sojourning." As Christian stewards we know that our lives are a sojourn towards the ultimate destination of heaven.

Our second reading instructs us to "conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed... with the precious blood of Christ." What a powerful reminder during the Easter season of our "why" for embracing the stewardship way of life — we have been ransomed by our Lord's saving death and resurrection. Our lives are a gift from Him — as we sojourn through life, we are to make of our lives a gift to Him in return.

Our Gospel passage today describes a sojourn as well, the familiar Easter season story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. The two are dejected and despondent after Jesus' death. These men knew Jesus personally. They were believers. They had heard the Gospel message directly from His lips. They talked with Him, traveled with Him, ate with Him. They heard the testimony of the women who discovered the empty tomb of our Lord and saw a vision of angels announcing He was alive. And if that were not enough, they had also been informed by other disciples who went to the tomb that all was exactly as the women reported.

How much more obvious could the Good News be?

And yet, at times, the reaction of the two disciples describes our own walk of faith, doesn't it? We have the fullness of the Catholic faith, the power of the sacraments, the support of our parish family. Yet, we lose our way. We fail to see all the gifts we have been given. We lack trust in the perfect goodness and almighty power of God. The life of a disciple — even for us modern-day disciples — is truly a sojourn, with valleys and mountaintops, wrong turns and course corrections required on a regular basis.

Our Lord offers a course correction to the two disciples who have lost their way, opening their eyes to the reality of His presence and the truth of His Resurrection. What happens when their eyes are opened once again and they recognize Jesus in the Eucharist — "the breaking of the bread?" They are transformed! Their hearts are set on fire with love for the Lord and their faith. They recall that their hearts began "burning within" as the Lord was explaining the Scriptures to them.

So, what can we do when we become discouraged, when we need our hearts set on fire once again? We can go to the same sources as the two disciples on the road to Emmaus — the Scriptures (the living Word of God) and the Eucharist (the very source and summit of our faith). Frequent recourse to these two gifts from our Lord is absolutely essential to sustain us in the stewardship way of life.

In this Easter season, resolve to feast deeply on these two sources of grace. They are the fuel that will propel us on the journey towards heaven, with a renewed sense of joy and gratitude as we go!

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### **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 April 30.

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

"Christ came to save us,  
to show us the way,  
the only way out  
of the quicksand  
of sin, and this  
is mercy"

Pope Francis, at the Holy Cardinal Mass



## 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. Thank you all for your continuous support. We will get through this crisis together. Mahalo

### Offering Envelopes



Ordinarily, families would bring their Rice Bowls to Mass on Holy Thursday. Because of the COVID-19, the Diocese is encouraging us to conclude our Lenten journey by counting the sacrificial gifts collected in your Rice Bowls. Families you may send your gifts directly to CRS online or save it and bring it to your parish when all are able to safely gather again. Mahalo!



Aloha Dear Parishioners,

Happy Easter! Although the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our lives in so many ways. As we each reflect on our blessings and the best uses of our time, our talent, and our treasure. Support our Parish although public Masses have been suspended. We humbly ask for your continuous support for our church through your "Offering Envelope". We are grateful for your generosity and your stewardship. We will overcome this pandemic together. Let us continue to pray and unite in our Masses. Mahalo



## Mass Intentions

### Rest of the Souls of;

- Charito Gabriel Palting
- Marlene & his son's

### Birthdays;

- Harize & Harizelle

### 04/27 – 05/02 for the Rest of the Souls of;

- Nicolasa Barot
- Charina Padaca

### 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 more deeply appreciate your countless blessings. Increase your transforming spirit within us, so as 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

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

First Sunday @ 10am Samoan Mass