

St. Elizabeth Church

AUGUST 23, 2009

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus asked them, "Do you also want to leave me?" Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go?"

John 6:60

1

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 24-30, 2009

24th - MONDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:00 PM Women's Hula - Hall

7:00 PM Golf Meeting - Conference Room 3

7:00 PM Prayer Group - Conference Room 1-2

25th - TUESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:00 PM Hope Alive - Conference Room 3

6:30 PM SES Orientation - Church & Classrooms

7:00 PM YAM - Young Adult Office

26th - WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

8:00 AM Seniors' Gathering - Conf Room 1-2

6:00 PM 8am Choir Practice - Church

6:30 PM Tai Chi - Hall Meeting Room 8

7:00 PM Finance Meeting - Conference Room 1-2

7:00 PM YCL Meeting - Hall

7:00 PM Scouts - Meeting House

8:00 PM AA Group - 4th Grade Classroom

27th - THURSDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

5:00 PM Line Dancing - Hall

6:30 PM Golf Mtg for Volunteers - Conf Room 1-2

6:30 PM Samoan Choir Practice - Church

7:30 PM YCL Choir Practice - Church

28th - FRIDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

GOLF FUNFEST ~ Waialeale Golf Course

10am Registration / 12:30pm Shotgun Start

29th - SATURDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:00 PM Mass - Church

7:30 PM AA - 3rd Grade Classroom

8:00 PM AI-Anon - 4th Grade Classroom

30th - SUNDAY (Regular Mass Schedule)

9:30 AM RCIA - Conference Room 1-2

Today's Readings

1st Rdg: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

2nd Reading: Eph 5:21-32

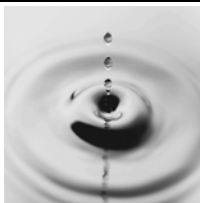
Gospel: John 6:60-69

Next Week's Readings

1st Rdg: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

2nd Rdg: Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Gospel: Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



A few words for today ...

Subordinate. Sounds like a bad word, doesn't it, ladies? Subordinate – of a lower order. Gee, do you think St. Paul was really listening to the Holy Spirit when he used that word? We know what St. Paul really meant to say because he said it in the first lines – "Be subordinate to one another." But we never hear "Husbands, be subordinate to your wives." Well, maybe in our dreams.

Discipleship is demanding. That's the flip side of the Gift – the Eucharist. There are consequences for love. All we have to do is look at the cross and we see how far love can take us. Love requires trust. Just as the bride gives her love to her husband in trust, respect and honor should be given her in return.

Year in and year out, we celebrate the lives of the holy men and women, the martyrs, the witnesses to Love. So many of them in August – St. Benedetta of the Cross (Edith Stein), St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Lawrence the Deacon – martyrs all. Did they throw their lives away? No – they freely gave of themselves without reserve for love of the One who loved us to the end. That's the kind of love the world needs. Nothing else will change hearts but a radical love that goes all the way to the end.

In today's Gospel, we see that the Gift of Jesus' Body and Blood, the true food that never fails, is offered to all but not everyone steps up and many of Jesus' disciples turn away. What a staggering revelation – we might have been among those who turned away.

But it was the Twelve who knew him best – who were close up to the miracles, who talked with him in close companionship, who listened to his teachings, they knew he had "the words of eternal life." They sensed something beyond this life in Jesus and were willing to stand with him, in trust. It's only trust and love that enable one to do great things. We were not meant for an easy life, but for great things.

So ladies, when all is said and done, when the last pile of laundry is washed and dried, when the last child is off to school, when the needs of Mom and Dad have been seen to, remember ... after climbing the last hill to where the tall gates conceal the heavenly Jerusalem and your name is read out with the loving deeds of your earthly life, you will ask, "Lord, am I worthy to enter?" You will hear those loving words, "Yes, dear."

"Whatever you can do or dream, you can begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."





Pastor's Corner

Fr. Thomas Purayidathil

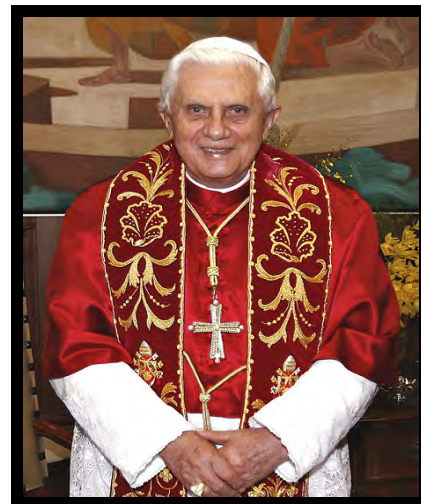


My dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth:

The center of a Catholic parish community is the Eucharist. We take every care to make the Eucharist the center of our lives. The Catholic tradition also encourages devotions. Devotion to Mary the mother of God is very much encouraged. When dying on the Cross, Jesus gave Mary to us as our mother too when He said "Woman, this is your son." The Rosary is a prayer that is encouraged to be said in the family and individually. There is a small group of people who say the Rosary in the Church immediately after week-day masses. Those who can, try to join them. Another traditional devotion is the novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Hopefully we will be able to start this novena every Saturday after the 7 am mass, come September. George and Pat Souza are working on the possibility of starting a weekly one hour adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, possibly on Fridays. The start of a Bible study group is also on the anvil. The more we pray, the better it is for us individually and as a parish.

With blessings!

Fr. Tom



Did you know? Fun Facts about Pope Benedict XVI

Pope Benedict XVI is our 265th Pope.

Joseph Ratzinger, was born in Markti am Inn, a Bavarian village, on April 16, 1927. The pope was born on Holy Saturday and was baptized that same day. He is one of Josef and Maria Ratzinger's three children. The pope has a brother, Georg. His sister, Maria, is deceased.

Growing up, the pope wasn't interested in sports but loved music and reading. He took piano lessons as a child and still plays today. The pope enjoys playing Mozart and Bach.

Ratzinger entered the seminary at age 12. His studies were put on hold when he was drafted, but he continued them after the war. On June 29, 1951, he was ordained on the same day his brother was.

Pope Benedict collects cat figurines, which fill his apartment. Last year he approved publication of a children's book supposedly narrated by his orange tiger striped cat, Chico. It is called Joseph and Chico.

A cat tells the life of Pope Benedict XVI.

Sunday Reflection

Fr. Jon

August 23, 2009: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

The Book of Joshua tells us the story of the Israelites as they leave the desert, cross the Jordan River, and start to take possession of the land that God had promised to Abraham. Joshua, the leader who followed after Moses, has gathered all of the tribes of Israel at Shechem, a city in central Palestine, with the leadership of the tribes standing "in ranks before God." Joshua presents these leaders with a clear choice: "Decide today whom you will serve." They have three possibilities: serve "the Lord," "the gods your fathers served beyond the River," or "the gods of the Amorites." The Israelites are being asked if they are going to be faithful to the covenant made with the Lord God, a covenant which involves worshiping God and only God. Choosing to serve the Lord God, the Israelites recall all that God has done for them in the period of time spanning Moses' return to Egypt as a prophet and their current situation at Shechem.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21

Today's verses from Psalm 34 continue the past few weeks' Psalm readings. The verses chosen for today's selection provide a synopsis of Israel's relationship with the Lord God, who led them out of slavery in Egypt, fed and sustained them through the desert, and protected and delivered them through many challenges and battles. For these things, the Israelites are reminded by the Psalmist that the "goodness of the Lord" can indeed be experienced not only spiritually or emotionally, but also through the senses, allowing all "the just" to "taste and see" and "glory in the Lord."

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32

This continuation from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians speaks of a situation which we know today to be evil: the subordination of wives to their husbands. This cultural practice (still found in some modern societies) violates both human dignity and Christian morality. However, it is easy for us to forget that St. Paul addresses the reality of the Ephesian community of his day; he is not condoning this practice of spousal subordination, but instead references instances of this practice in the Ephesian church to Christ's own love for his Church. While today's selection from Ephesians 5 speaks specifically to the relationship between husband and wife, it can rightly be applied more broadly to all relationships that involve an hierarchical basis, calling for these relationships to be based on the sacrificial love that we know exists between Jesus Christ and the Church that he sacrificed himself for. St. Paul turns a relationship that was previously based on duty owed by the "subordinate" party to the "higher," into a relationship now lived out of love and sacrifice by the "higher" party for the sake of the "subordinate." All Christians are now called to "be subordinate to one another" in order that we may live as "servants" to each other out of mutual love, always putting the good of others before our own.

Gospel: John 6:60-69

Today we come to the fifth and last installment of readings taken from John 6. In last week's and today's selections, Jesus' disciples objected ("murmured") to the idea that they were to eat Jesus' flesh in order to have eternal life. Yet Jesus did not back down from his claim, nor did he reinterpret or soften his words in any way. As a result, "many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him." It takes great faith to accept Jesus' words at face-value, yet faith is a requirement for everlasting life. Like the Israelites in the first reading from Joshua, Jesus' disciples (then and today) are given a choice. It is telling that Jesus - "the Son of Man" whose words are "Spirit and life" and who we can presume wants every person to be saved - does not make the choice of faith any easier for any of his disciples, then and now.

CCD News

Just a few updates for our CCD Families:



- ❖ **Commissioning of all catechists will take place on Sunday, September 13 at the 10 a.m. Mass.** Following will be a potluck.
- ❖ CCD Classes begin September 19 & 20 (Saturday & Sunday).
- ❖ **Interested in becoming a CCD Teacher?** Please contact Manette at 487-7994.





WEEKLY COLLECTION

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Last Week's Collection..... | \$ 0 |
| Building Fund | \$ 0 |
| Energy | \$ 0 |
| Total Collection for 8/15-16//09 | \$ 0 |

Will be reported in the Aug 30th bulletin.

Every year, the Diocese approves a list of second collections and provides envelopes for this purpose. In September, the collection is for: Catholic University of America (September 12-13, 2009). To assist with this, St. Elizabeth's will donate 10% of the 4th Sunday's collection in September.

**Senior Citizen Outreach Ministry
.....for the Young at Heart**

Mission: Faith Community whose mission is to nurture the spiritual, social, health and service needs of all seniors of St. Elizabeth Church by fostering hospitality, involvement, and opportunities for spiritual growth.

Please join us for fun and fellowship at our monthly gathering on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 in Conference Rms. 1 & 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Father Tom, our new Pastor, is joining us to bless all the Seniors present. We will also be learning how to make a knotted Rosary from Lee Ramos.

You may bring a snack to share if you wish.

Come and enjoy.....

- Socializing with old friends and making new friends
- Praying together
- Talk Story with your fellow St. Elizabeth Seniors



HELP FEED THE HUNGRY...

Many thanks to all of you who so graciously give your time to help feed the homeless at the IHS shelters. Please mark your calendars for **Wednesday, August 26** and put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board just outside the Church entrance. Join your friends! Get involved! Make a difference! Our I.H.S. Ministry needs help serving dinner to over 300 homeless men, women & children at the two shelters. Dinner is served at the women's & children's facility from 5-5:30pm and at the men's facility from 6-6:45pm. We need 17 people to help; 5 at one shelter and 12 at the other. We also need desserts ...

Please bring your desserts to the rectory between 8am & 3:30pm on Wednesday. Our team will pick it up & deliver it to the shelters. God bless you for caring & helping! *For details of how to get to either one of the shelters, please see the bulletin board just outside the Church.*



**10th Annual Golf Fun Fest
August 28, 2009**

SIGN UP NOW.....We are still in need of door prizes and will be very grateful for any donations (i.e., gift cards or certificates, cash, televisions, new appliances, new golf balls, etc.) We also need donations of canned sodas, beer and chips. Please bring your donations to

the Parish Office before August 27, 2009.

This year's FunFest is being held at Waialeale Golf Course. Please consider playing with us...invite your family and friends for a day of fun and fellowship. Applications are available at the Rectory or at the Church entrance. **Volunteers are also needed on the day of the event...we'll meet on Thursday, August 27 at 6:30pm in Conf Room 1-2** to discuss details. Need more info? Please call Faga Tuala at 291-4687.



Congratulations to the parents & welcome little ones into our parish family.

- Bronson Jayce Suguitan Abendanio*
- Ethan Myles Pascual Cabrerros*
- Kalei Akeakamai Gordon Piianaia*
- Sydney Talia Makana Savea*
- Mikaeighla Lexi P. Vida*

May God bless you & grant you joy & happiness forever!



It's ALOHA SUNDAY ...

Come meet fellow parishioners and enjoy light refreshments, in the hall after the 6, 8 & 10am Masses. Our hosts this month:

6am
Select
Members

8am
Elizabethans &
St. Vincent de Paul

10am
Monday Night
Prayer Group



R.C.I.A. - the Journey of a lifetime

Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour



The Holy Spirit

Where would we be without someone to show us the way – lost, I'm sure. The Third Person of the Blessed Trinity is, after all, available to us because of Love. We usually think of the Holy Spirit as only having to do with the Sacrament of Confirmation. But we were baptized in the name of the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When adults are received into the

Church at the Easter Vigil the sacrament becomes a bit clearer – immediately after Baptism, the adults are Confirmed. The fullness of the Holy Spirit is conferred with the laying on of hands and the anointing with sacred chrism – the same blessed oil used in ordination. We are anointed for mission, we are anointed with grace, strength and power to do as Jesus did, to love as he loved us.

Our RCIA is a growing group, 21 in number. Please keep them in your prayers as they strive to grow in faith and love. If you would like to act as an RCIA Sponsor, we definitely need committed Catholics who are enthusiastic about their faith and will to be spiritual friends to one who is God within the Catholic Church. To contact us, email or call our ministry contact below:

Listen to the whispers

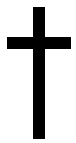


"Our God is not a distant God ... Our God has a heart,"

Pope Benedict XVI

St. Elizabeth RCIA:

Ministering to all adults seeking to know the Lord in the Catholic Church Ministry Coordinator: Linda Cacpal 487 7994



Young Christian Life

YCL is for youth between the ages of 14 & 18 years old who want to grow in their faith and relationship with God. Come, see what we are all about, join us for:

Basketball Freeplay, Wed., 5:30 pm
Prayer Meetings, Wed., 7-8:30pm in the hall
Youth Mass, Sundays, at 6pm

Need more information? Call Davis or Carolyn Savea, Youth Directors, at (808) 630-9757. God's blessings to all!



A TRIP TO THE BEACH!

It's that time of year... we're planning now so mark your calendar for the

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC
Monday, Sept. 7, 9am-3pm
Bellows ~ Pavilion 5C

Bring Your Own Everything!
Something to grill, something to drink, something to share...*As in previous years, Fathers will provide the charcoal & paper goods.*

SPECIAL NOTES

- ❖ *Military Families - other than your ID, no additional information is required for you to enter Bellows AFS.*
- ❖ All others - if there is even a remote chance that you want to attend the picnic, please be sure to:
Sign up no later than August 30th (sheets are at the front entrance to the church) and include the following information:
-Last four of SSN or Driver's License #
-Make, Model, License Plate # of each driver's vehicle.
-Note: Children 12 & younger need not be listed.
- Have in your possession when you approach the guard:
-A valid driver's license
-Current proof of Hawaii auto insurance
-Current vehicle registration
-Current vehicle safety inspection paperwork.
-The lack of any one of these items could result in the vehicle (not the people in it) not being allowed onto the base.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ... When you care enough to love the very best in your marriage, treat yourselves to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information, please contact Ricky & Jo Ann Viernes at 393-2396 and/or visit our website www.lovemoredeeply.org.

CAMP MOKULEIA APPRECIATION DAY—AUGUST 30: Join us for a day of appreciation as friends of the camp gather to enjoy the place that has brought such blessings. Enjoy the beach & pool, hike the trails, play volleyball, basketball & soccer...Gather for a picnic style lunch and an awards ceremony that will bring laughter and many mahalos as we celebrate the contributors that make Camp Mokuleia the jewel of the North Shore. Call 637-6241 for more information on this free day at the camp.

RETREAT FOR LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009, 8:30am—3pm, St. Stephen Diocesan Center, Kaneohe, with Fr. John Chandler, SJ and Maxine Pollock. Come and spend some time away with God and your peers. Remember who called you into ministry and how you can re-ignite your hope and passion. For more information please contact Sharon Chiarucci at 203-5733 or email her at schiarucci@rcchawaii.org.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE a peer ministry support group for the widowed, divorced and permanently separated. Persons of all faiths. Call Arlene 949-3387 or Linda 294-8571 for more information.

Marriage Help – RETROUVAILLE (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information call 625-7430 or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

FREE MINISTRY For nationwide Mass times & locations, call: 1-800-Mass-Times (1-800-627-7846) or check on-line at www.Masstimes.org.
