

St. Elizabeth Church

DECEMBER 27, 2009

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



"Jesus' parents found him sitting in the temple surrounded by the teachers." Luke 21:28

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Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 28-JANUARY 3, 2010

28th - MONDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

29th - TUESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:30 PM Samoan Choir Practice - Conf Room 1-2

30th - WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:00 PM 8am Choir Practice - Church

7:00 PM YCL Gathering - Hall

8:00 PM AA Group - 4th Grade Classroom

31st -THURSDAY (Rectory closes at 12 Noon)

7:00 AM MASS - Church

January 1st - FRIDAY



9:00 AM MASS - Church

5:00 PM Adoration / Benediction - Church

2nd - SATURDAY

7:00 AM MASS / Novena / Rosary - Church

6:00 PM Mass / Novena - Church

7:30 PM AA - 3rd Grade Classroom

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

3rd - SUNDAY (Regular Mass Schedule)

RCIA on Break...Resume on January 10, 2010



Today's Readings

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

2nd Rdg: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Next Week's Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Rdg: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



A few words for today ...

A soft answer turneth away wrath ...

today's scripture readings are so valuable today and always. In the family the key is respect. For one another and for oneself. When we strive to show respect for each other we naturally extend that same respect outside the family and not only to our friends but our co-workers and strangers. The world would be a different place if we all extended respect to each other.

A soft answer turneth away wrath ... it takes a long time to make your default response patient and merciful. When I used to manage a customer service counter for 25 years, I always tried to teach my clerks to smile and be patient and courteous. That's half the battle, especially when you're dealing with customers that don't want to be there in the first place. If you allow yourself to become angry, that's when the oxygen drains from the brain and you can't think. One of the hardest fruits of the spirit is self-control. But what a great feeling when you can manage to be patient and kind and what a great feeling you give your customer too.

A soft answer turneth away wrath ... I was in the credit union waiting line. Only three people ahead of me, 10 teller windows but only three windows open. The fellow in front of me with a small child in tow was grumbling about why only three were open and what was the use of so many windows if they're only going to open three? He said it was the same every time he came when I suggested that maybe some had to take a late lunch. Well, I said, it's 3:00 pm and perhaps some had to close to balance their cash drawers so they can only leave a few open who are actually taking in money in transactions dated tomorrow. So if you come at the same time every day, maybe that's why you experience the same thing. Try coming at a different time. Surprisingly, he agreed since he didn't realize what cashiers have to do and now he had a little more insight. Customer service wherever you go ...

A soft answer turneth away wrath ... how wonderful and merciful God is towards us. Slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He gave the soft answer of a small child for our salvation instead of the wrath we surely deserved.



My dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth:

HEARTFELT MAHALO FOR YOUR WISHES!

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your Christmas cards, wishes and gifts. You will understand that I am unable to answer all of them individually. You are all in my prayers and I do appreciate your gesture.

We had a great celebration of Christmas. It has been possible because of the hard work of so many people. I wish to thank in a special way our various choirs, the lectors, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, sacristans, all the different ministries involved, those who put up all the decorations, those who volunteered to take care of parking, our ushers, money counters, office staff, Fr. Jon and our beloved Deacons. You have done this because of your love for the Lord and He will reward you full measure. I am deeply grateful to all of you. I wish to put on record my sincere thanks to all the parishioners of St. Elizabeth who sustain our community through your generosity that is unlimited. Mahalo!

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY

On the Sunday after Christmas, the Church celebrates the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is to remind us that family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God, as witnessed by the Holy Family. They did not have it easy just like most modern families. St. Joseph had to work very hard in his carpenter's shop to support the family. Our Blessed Mother did not have a domestic to help her with the daily household chores. It was not easy to bring up the Son of God. Imagine the agony they underwent when they could not find the Boy Jesus for three days! When you have difficulties in your own family life, think about the Holy Family and ask for their help and protection. A Happy Feast of the Holy Family to all of you!

VISIT TO INDIA

As mentioned earlier, I will be away in India from December 29 to January 27. I have to attend the first death anniversary of my Dad. Since I am going so far, I am taking the occasion to take my yearly vacation as well. The Bishop and the Chancery are aware of it.

During my absence Fr. Jon Cabico will be the acting pastor. To help him with the ministry we are fortunate to have **Fr. Paulson Mundanmani**, Pastor of St. Mary's Walnut Creek of the Diocese of Oakland. Hearty welcome to Fr. Paulson to St. Elizabeth Parish! I will be keeping you in my prayers. Say a little prayer so that I may have a safe trip.

OFFERING BOX

You might have noticed an offering box near the relic of St. Damien. It will be cleared several times during the day. Candle money, your offerings etc. could be deposited safely in that collection box.

NEW CARPETS, NEW CANDELABRAS, NEW SANCTUARY CANDLESTICKS

Due to the generosity of three parishioners we will be having runners on the isles of the Church, new candelabras for our benediction service and new Sanctuary Candlesticks. They have been ordered and will arrive in a month's time. Our prayerful gratitude goes out to these generous souls. The candelabras have already arrived and we have started using them.

As we are in the Holy Season of Christmas let me wish you the **Compliments of the Season and a Happy New Year!**

With blessings & prayers,
Fr. Tom



Sunday Reflection

Fr. Jon Cabico

Breaking Open the Word for December 27, 2009: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Originally written in Hebrew by Ben Sirach between 200 BC and 175 BC, the Book of Sirach was translated into Greek by his grandson. With his audience being a group of Israelites who had embraced the Greek culture, the author writes in praise of the traditions of their common Israelite ancestors. In today's passage, the author teaches about the kind of family relationships that please God. Because God gives parents authority over their children, to honor one's parents means living in right relationship not only with parents, but also with God. Honoring one's parents throughout their lifetimes is a concrete act of honoring God, who will be attentive to the prayers of those who do so.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

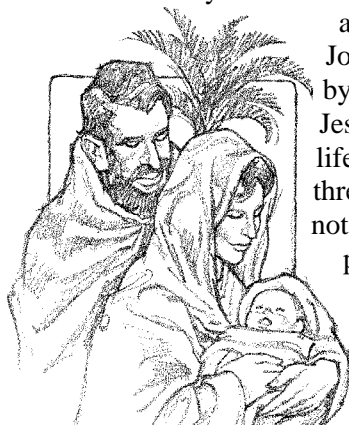
Psalms 127 and 128 are psalms for families. In Psalm 127, we learn that the prosperity of families depends upon God's blessings; in Psalm 128, we learn that the only way to obtain those blessings spoken of in Psalm 127 - blessings which will make families comfortable - is to live in the fear of God and in obedience to Him.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

The author of this letter is reminding the Colossians that they have been chosen by God, and that they are "holy" and "beloved." As such, they must treat each other with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." This passage is taken from a parenthesis - or ethical exhortation - that outlines what was probably an early form of Christian catechesis. A list of virtues is given, which are to be "put on." This is suggestive of the white robes candidates for baptism were given to wear as they emerged from the baptismal waters. Having been reborn in spirit into Christ, the newly-baptized must make this rebirth visible through their concrete actions and attitudes.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

This story about the Holy Family appears only in Luke's Gospel. Like last Sunday's Gospel passage, this story was written from a post-resurrection point of view, and thus teaches what became understood about Jesus by the Christian community only after Jesus' resurrection. Mary and Joseph are portrayed as faithful Jews who observed the pilgrimage feast of Passover by going to the Temple in Jerusalem to celebrate for seven days. We see that the boy Jesus was "lost" in Jerusalem for three days. This story, set in the early part of Jesus' life, foreshadows the ending of Luke's Gospel, when Jesus will again be "lost" for three days (in the tomb) during the Passover feast. Notice that Mary and Joseph "did not understand what he said to them" in today's passage. This lack of understanding parallels the lack of understanding that appears at the end of Luke's Gospel when Jesus' disciples do not understand why He had to do His Father's will, which was to suffer His passion and death before His resurrection.



Readings for the Week

Monday, December 28

1 John 1:15-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

Tuesday, December 29

1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35

Wednesday, December 30

1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40

Thursday, December 31

1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18

Friday, January 1

Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

Saturday, January 2

1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28





WEEKLY COLLECTION

Last Week's Collection	\$ 11,817.50
Building Fund	\$ 645.00
Energy	\$ 231.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 265.00
Total Collection for 12/19-20/09	\$ 12,958.50
<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	\$ 25.00

Every year, the Diocese approves a list of second collections and provides envelopes for this purpose. In December, the collection is for: Retirement Fund for the Religious . To assist with this, St. Elizabeth's will donate 10% of the 4th Sunday's collection in November.



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

- Elijah Felix Echavaria*
- Jennavica Annette Fuentes*
- Ikaika Damien Byong Ho Kang*
- Kalena Gianna Byong Mi Kang*
- Isabel Victoria Madrid*
- Maile Kathrine Meiling Shriver*

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

CENTRAL OAHU VICARIATE

Christmas Youth Dance
Wednesday Dec. 30th, 2009



Place: Resurrection of the Lord Catholic Community, Waipio Gentry
(94-1260 Lumikula St., Waipahu)
Time: 6pm – 10pm

Fun, Fellowship,
Live Band and a
DJ! Lots of
Dancing and
Holiday Sharing
by several
Parishes in the
Central Oahu
Vicariate.

COME OUT & FELLOWSHIP
FOR A GOOD CAUSE!
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL
CARISS 808-636-3402 OR
CHUCKY 808-478-9917

*We are collecting \$5.00
Gift Cards for our Sisters &
Brothers in the area
homeless transitional shelters.*



Lighthouse Catholic Media discussion sessions

On Saturday, January 09, 2010, at 11:00 a.m.
(room to be announced prior), there will be a one-

hour discussion session on Matthew Kelley's "A Call to Joy," (of the Lighthouse Catholic Media CD collection) for all who are interested. This first session will be led by Fr. Jon Cabico, with the frequency of future sessions and CD selection dependent on participants' input and feedback. We hope to have a lively and enlightening discussion, so please listen to "A Call to Joy" prior to the session. CD's are available in the display stand at the back of the church. Please contact Angela Haissig if you are interested in joining us, or for further information, at 678-9160.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT - please complete and drop in the collection basket to receive your 2009 Statement of Contributions for tax purposes (Statements will be available beginning February 1st.)

Name: _____

Envelope No. _____ Address: _____

Phone No. _____ **Mahalo for your support!**



Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve
7:00 a.m.

New Year's Day
9:00 a.m. ONLY

*Please Note:
New Year's Day is not a
Holy Day of Obligation.*



A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
from St. Elizabeth Health Ministry

Happy New Year!

Looking for a set of New Year's resolutions that will be something you can actually do? We suggested these last year and felt, why not renew our promises to self and loved ones? Try these:

- ✦ Make a list of the things and people who make you happy.
- ✦ Resolve to make time for these things and people in your life.
- ✦ Take your diary and for the next six months mark time when you're going to do these things or visit those dear to you.

Try to ensure that your time is divided up so that you care for others as well as yourself – body, mind and [spirit](#).

Have a blessed 2010!



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

*Please remember in your prayers our
brothers & sisters who have been deployed
to the Middle East.*



*Spc Nick Abelardo
Army National Guard*

*TSgt Frank Keoni Abreu
US Air Force*

*Ethan Mae Aganon, E2
US Army*

*Spc Romar Agmata
US Army*

*Joseph K. Ahsing
Hawaii National Guard*

*PO1 Marc John Alejo
US Navy Reserve*

*SSgt. Roke Almeida
US Army*

*Major John E. Amadeo, Jr.
US Military Service*

*Sgt. Efren Antonio
Hawaii National Guard*

*PFC Rene Baliscao
US Army*

*Capt Brad Bellis
US Navy*

*CSMJ James Bickie
US Air Force*

*SSgt Tevet Bruhn, Jr.
US Air Force*

*MSgt John Buendia
US Air Force*

*Sgt Clyde Bueno
Hawaii National Guard*

*MRC Antonio Castro
US Navy*

*BGen Joseph J. Chaves
Hawaii National Guard*

*1Lt Joseph Chaves, Jr.
US Army*

*Capt Frank Cho
US Army*

*Sgt Prescott Dela Cruz
US Army*

*Lorenzo Depaynos, Jr.
US Military Service*

*SSgt Samuel DeMent
US Army Special Forces*

*SSgt Darrell DeMotta
US Air Force*

*Lt. Col. David Doherty
US Army*

*Howard Egger
Civilian*

*Sgt. Bernard Espinosa
US Air Force*

*Sgt Edwin Espinosa
US Air Force*

*Pelias Espinosa, Jr.
Hawaii National Guard*

*James Fea'tiame
US Military*

*CW3 Tomas Flores
US Army*

*PO1 Arnel Gacad
US Navy*

*Capt Ron Geronimo
US Army*

*LCrp Jose Giron
US Marine Corp*

*Sgt Livingston D. Hodges III
USMC, 3rd Battalion 3rd Marines*

*Sgt Shawn-Patrick Keola Kalani
Hawaii National Guard*

*CWO Andrew Keahiolalo
US Army*

*PO2 Kristopher Keahiolalo
US Navy*

*Pete Leao
US Military*

*Tofi & Frank Lopez
US Military*

*Spc Liza Lehua Lino
US Army*

*Brian Marcos, E7
US Air Force*

*Ryan Mina
Hawaii National Guard*

*SFC Sampson T. O'Toole
US Army Engineers*

*Bienvenido Jason Pascua III
US Army Reserve*

*PV2 David Luis R. Quiambao
US Army*

*PV2 Richie Steven S. Quiambao
US Army*

*Tsgt. Kristie Revera
US Air Force*

*Msgt. Gary Rucks
US Air Force*

*Sgt Philip Santiago
US Army*

*Lt JG David Silva
US Navy*

*LTC John A. Smyrski
US Army*

*Eric Soares
Civilian*

*Sgt Lance Taufa'asau
Hawaii National Guard*

*Cdr. Jana Vavasseur
US Navy*

*Sgt Leonard H. Ventura
National Guard Reserve*

*Jerome LeHiwa Wills
US Army*

*Sgt Clifton Young
US Army*

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

MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT, January 23 & 24, 2010, location: Chaminade University of Honolulu, - "The family that prays together stays together." The Marianist Family Retreat provides a special time to allow God to strengthen and nurture your family. Parents and children of all ages will re-connect through prayer, conversation, engaging skits, and lively activities. Why attend a family retreat? We all know that the family is intrinsically holy and sacred. We believe it to be the foundation of the Church and the core of society. Family is our first and primary experience of community, forming our values and nurturing our faith. Being on retreat together creates a foundation for life-long formation and it's FUN! For more information contact Bro. Dennis Schmitz, S.M. at (808) 735 - 4801 or download a registration brochure at www.marianisthawaii.org; Registration deadline: January 15, 2010, Cost: \$65 for a family of 4 or less (includes program and five meals), Each additional child: \$10

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE a peer ministry support group for the widowed, divorced and permanently separated. We invite people of all faiths to join us. 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.

REMEMBER HIS WILL IN YOURS - You can express your commitment to your Church by making a bequest in your Will. Simply include the following statement in your Will - "*I leave to the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, St. Elizabeth Church, 99-312 Moanalua Road, Aiea, Hawaii 96701, \$_____ or _____% of my estate (choose one). My gift may be used for general purposes (or specify for school, building fund, Diocese, etc.)*". For more info see your Pastor or contact Robert J. Stillwell, Ed.D., Director of Development, at 203-6723.