

# St. Elizabeth Church

## MARCH 7, 2010

### 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

#### Today's Readings

1st Rdg: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15  
2nd Rdg: 1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12  
Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

#### Next Week's Readings

1st Rdg: Jos 5:9a, 10-12  
2nd Rdg: 2Cor 5:17-21  
Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



### Upcoming Events

#### MARCH 8-14, 2010

#### 8<sup>th</sup> - MONDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

6:00 PM Women's Hula - Hall

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

7:00 PM Worship Committee - Hall Mtg Room 8

7:30 PM YCL Choir Practice - Church

#### 9<sup>th</sup> - TUESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

2:45 PM Beginning Hula - Hall

6:00 PM CCD Retreat Staff Mtg - Hall Mtg Room 8

6:30 PM SES PTG Meeting - Hall

7:00 PM FCC Board Mtg - Conference Room 3

7:30 PM Baptismal Class - 4th Grade Classroom

#### 10<sup>th</sup> - WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

3:00 PM Intermediate Hula - Hall

6:00 PM CCD Planning Mtg (Peace & Forgiveness) - Conf Room 3

6:00 PM 8am Choir Practice - Church

6:30 PM Tai Chi - Conference Room 1-2

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus - Hall Mtg Room 8

7:00 PM YCL Gathering - Hall

8:00 PM AA Group - 4th Grade Classroom

#### 11<sup>th</sup> - THURSDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

5:00 PM Line Dancing - Hall

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

7:00 PM FCC Novena - Church

#### 12<sup>th</sup> - FRIDAY

7:00 AM MASS - Church

8:15 AM SES MASS - Church

6:30 PM Mass / Stations - Church

7:00 PM FCC Novena - Conference Room 1-2

#### 13<sup>th</sup> - SATURDAY

7:00 AM MASS / Novena / Rosary - Church

8:30 AM CCD Classes (K-6) - Hall Mtg Rooms

10:00 AM Hula - Hall

4:00 PM Baptisms - Church

6:00 PM Mass - Church

7:00 PM FCC Novena - Church (follows Mass)

7:30 PM AA - 3rd Grade Classroom

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

*Calendar continued on page 5.*



#### *A few words for today ...*

If you're at the 8:00am Mass today, you're probably wondering why the readings being proclaimed by the Lector are not in the missalette. Are we trying to confuse you? Did the Lector turn to the wrong page?

Good news – it was planned! Whenever there are Elect preparing for Full Initiation at the Easter Vigil, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent readings are taken from Cycle A instead of the current reading (Cycle C). Cycle A readings are all taken from the Gospel of John with the respective First and Second Readings and Psalm. Are we trying to confuse you? Again, absolutely not.

Holy Mother Church, in her wisdom wants the Elect and the faith community to hear the wonderful three Gospel encounters with Jesus from John. Today's selection focuses on the water which gives life and the encounter with Jesus which also gives life.

Jesus meets the Woman of Samaria as she goes to take her daily ration of water from the village well. She goes at Noon when no one is around because she is an outcast in the village due to her immoral life style, having had five husbands and is now living with a man not her husband. But Jesus asks her for a drink of water – a surprise encounter since men and woman of that time do not have casual conversations at all.

During the conversation she comes to realize how special Jesus is in that he seems to know all about her and he treats her with respect. She is puzzled in all the talk about "water." Jesus speaks to her about a "living water welling up to eternal life." She yearns for this water so she won't have to keep hiding and coming back to the village well. She is still confused.

At its conclusion, she comes to believe when Jesus reveals himself as the Messiah, the Christ. She runs to the villagers unafraid of their reception and pleads with them to come and see.

For the Elect of our parish and for us, this encounter reminds us of how we grow in faith, slowly coming to a bold proclamation of our commitment to Christ and our joy in telling others about him.

The joy of the Gospel is also our joy.



## Pastor's Corner

Fr. Thomas Purayidathil

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

I am happy to announce the newly formed Pastoral Council members. They are as follows:

Linda Cacpal (Chair Person)  
 Sr. Bernarda Sindol  
 Tom Teson  
 Manette Kokubun  
 Carolyn & Davis Savea  
 Charleston Unciano  
 Joseph Almeida

Rose de Vera Javier  
 Sefo Uiagalelei  
 Deacon Kin Borja  
 Deacon Fred Carahasen  
 Fr. Jon Cabico  
 Fr. Thomas Purayidathil

I am still looking for a recording secretary. The purpose of a pastoral council is to assist the Pastor in fostering pastoral activity in the parish. Let me quote the relevant Canon Law:

**Can. 536.**

1. If the diocesan bishop judges it opportune after he has heard the presbyteral council, a pastoral council is to be established in each parish, over which the pastor presides and in which the Christian faithful, together with those who share in pastoral care by virtue of their office in the parish, assist in fostering pastoral activity.
2. A pastoral council possesses a consultative vote only and is governed by the norms established by the diocesan bishop.

I am grateful to the members of the council for their generosity in serving the parish under this capacity.

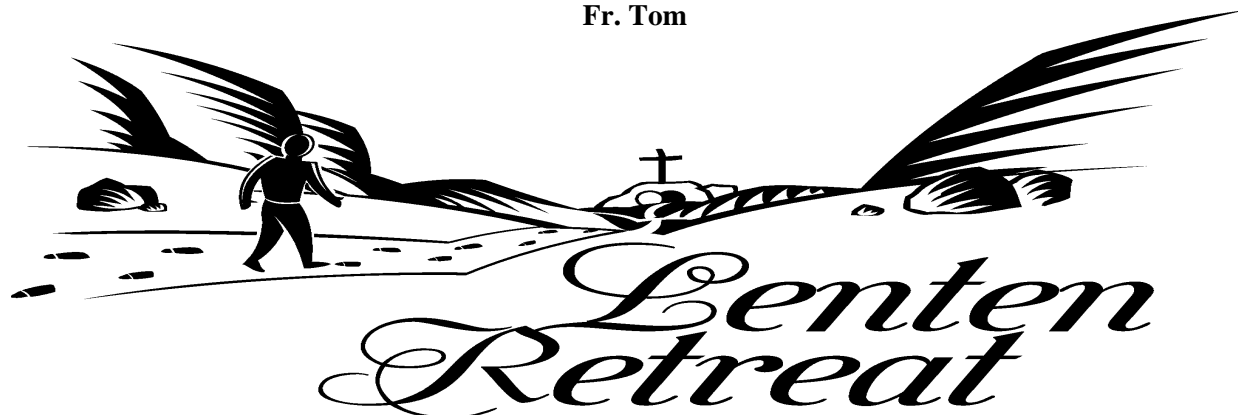


### PARISH RETREAT AND PENANCE SERVICE

Please make yourselves available to attend the Parish Lenten Retreat preached by Fr. Mathew Vellankal of Fremont, California, March 22 through March 24, at 7 pm (Mass at 6:30 pm). The Lenten Penance Service will be on March 25 at 7 pm. Several priests will be available for confessions that evening.

With prayers and blessings,

Fr. Tom



# Sunday Reflection

Fr. Jon Cabico

## Breaking Open the Word for March 07, 2010: The Third Sunday in Lent, Year C

### First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

This passage from the Book of Exodus is one of the most well-known stories in all of Scripture: Moses' encounter with God in the form of a burning bush. Last week, we read about God's covenant with Abram, but God did not reveal His name to Abram. Today's reading is connected to last week's when God identifies Himself to Moses as, "...the God of your fathers...the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." God tells Moses that if the Israelites ask for God's name, Moses is to tell them that "I AM sent me to you." Because God's name was considered to be ultimately holy, the Israelites avoided speaking it, instead calling God by the word "Adonai," which means "Lord." In Hebrew, God's name is a form of the verb "to be" and is written with only four letters: YHWH. The word "Yahweh" has multiple meanings: "I cause to be all that exists," "I cause to be all that happens," and "I am with you." Thus, by revealing His name of "I AM" to Moses and the Israelites in Egypt, God initiates a deeper level of intimacy with them than with previous generations of Abraham's descendants.

### Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

The words "Bless the Lord, O my soul" mark the beginning today's psalm. Jewish blessings tended to praise God for His power and providential love and care, as shown in His past actions and in future promises. God's love is shown not only in His personal interactions with various individuals (e.g. Moses and other prophets), but also in His personal interactions with the nation of Israel as a whole (e.g. providing for their sustenance during their 40 years in the desert). This selection from Psalm 103 ends by speaking of God's universal concern, which extends "toward those who fear him" precisely because "The Lord is kind and merciful."

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

In this letter, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to avoid the kind of behavior that the Israelites engaged in during their exodus from Egypt. A common way to interpret the Old Testament in Paul's time was through the use of what today's scripture scholars call "typology," where people and events from the Old Testament are seen as "types" or "foreshadows" of the people and events in the New Testament times. Thus, Paul sees the early Israelites' exodus as a "type" for the journey of the Christians of his day. Just as God provided for the Israelites during their difficult years in the desert, He will provide for the Christians during their difficult years waiting for Jesus to return. However, Paul reminds the Corinthians that many of the Israelites did not make it to the Promised Land because of their grumbling against God; thus, the Corinthians should not make the same mistake of complaining against God's loving and providential care.

### Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Today's passage from Luke was selected for this third Sunday of Lent because it teaches the urgency of repentance, giving us two very good reasons to repent: 1) sin causes death, and 2) we never know how long we have to repent, so it is best to repent now. In Jesus' response to the people at the beginning of the passage, He is making an argument against the popular belief of the people of His day: that all suffering is a punishment for sins. By recalling two contemporary examples of people suffering, Jesus makes the point that those people certainly did not suffer because they were "more guilty" or "greater sinners" than other people who did not suffer. However, Jesus also implies in both examples that all people are guilty of sin, and so both times He tells the people, "...if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did." Thus, Jesus is teaching that it is not suffering that is the price for sin, but death.

After making His point of repentance, Jesus tells the people a parable of a fruitless fig tree, which symbolizes any unrepentant person who continues to sin and thus fails to "bear fruit." The point of the parable is that none of us knows when we will die; thus, we would each do well to repent of any sins and turn away from living a sinful life as soon as possible, because only those who do so will be given true life. Jesus' Resurrection after death is a sign of His never having sinned, and the life promised to all those who repent of their sins and live a good life is a share in Jesus' own resurrected and eternal life.



### **Readings for the Week**

Monday, March 8

Tuesday, March 9

Wednesday, March 10

Thursday, March 11

Friday, March 12

Saturday, March 13

2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Luke 4:24-30

Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19

Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23

Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34

Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14



**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Last Week's Collection .....	\$ 11,387.34
Building Fund .....	\$ 363.00
Energy .....	\$ 215.00
<b>Total Collection for 2/27-28/10 .....</b>	<b>\$ 11,965.34</b>
<i>Catholic Herald</i> .....	\$ 186.00

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



*Stations of the Cross - A Sacred Walk With Jesus*  
Continuing the Walk ...

Thanks to the CCD Staff and Families for taking the lead for our Stations of the Cross walk last Friday, March 5. Join us in continuing our sacred walk next Friday, March 12. And don't forget ... come down to the Hall afterwards for a soup and bread meal with the family.

***..Let us continue to walk with the Lord and allow Him to carry our burdens. Let us nail ourselves to Him. Let us walk in love and repentance, behind Jesus, our Savior and Redemption.***

*Operation Rice Bowl . . .*  
*They're Here!*

Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl materials are now available in church, including the fold-out cardboard bowl where you can place your monetary offerings from sacrifices made during Lent. For instance, if you give up beer or cigarettes, you could have put the savings into the Rice Bowl. (We're sure your Doctor will thank you, too!)



Or, the family could put their loose change into the Rice Bowl whenever they have any.

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Your monetary offerings to CRS to fund Catholic relief to places around the world suffering from the aftermath of natural disasters, the homeless, the hungry and the suffering. Think Haiti! Think Darfur!

Please remember to do all you can as a sacrifice of love for our suffering brothers and sisters around the world, Catholic and non-Christian alike. You can turn in your Rice Bowl on Easter weekend, starting with the Easter Vigil, on April 3 and Easter Sunday, April 4.



Deacon Kin will be leading the next CD discussion. The CD to be discussed is "Truth" by Fr. Larry Richards. It will be sure to challenge your faith and make for an interesting discussion. Pick up your CD at the kiosk in the back of the church. Remember, the CDs are not free - they are purchased by the Knights and any return on them is placed in a fund for vocations. Please be as generous as you can, at least the full suggested amount.



**I.H. S. UPDATE** from Bettelynn Smith

IHS received a very large donation of baked items this month, it was awesome!

Kind words of appreciation were extended to our ministry and St. Elizabeth Church from everyone. Total served:

- Men - 180
- Women/Children - 65

Again, our sincere thanks to all who help prepare the deserts, serve the food, and cook the food...our ministry at I.H.S. would not be possible without you!



## Worship Committee ~ Celebrating the Holy One

Worship Committee is gathering for a special meeting this coming **Monday, March 8, 2010 at 7pm**. Location should be Room 8 in the Hall. Please remember to bring your copy of the Agenda. Emphasis is on the Triduum and Easter Season. Many thanks to all for your leadership in making our liturgical celebrations beautiful and reverent.

*See you there!*



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

### The Elect ...

Please pray for the Elect and the Candidates as the time grows nearer for the sacraments of the Easter Vigil. The Elect are busily memorizing the Nicene Creed which they will be called on to recite with the other Elect of Oahu on Holy Saturday morning when they gather for Morning Prayer with Bishop Larry. He will also administer the first anointing, the Rite of Ephphrata – a blessing on the eyes and ears that they will be ready to hear the Word of God and proclaim it.

They are also being fitted with their white baptismal robes – a reminder that they will “put on” Christ in baptism and their lives are made new in him, a victory of life over death.

They have chosen their Saint names for Confirmation and have been reminded to pray often to their chosen Saint for guidance and intercession.

The way of the Elect is the way for all of us ...

Listen to the whispers .... and respond!

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

**Pope Benedict XVI**

For more information ... please contact our Ministry Coordinator, Linda Cacpal, at **487 7994** or by email at: [RCIA2000@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:RCIA2000@hawaii.rr.com)



### Good Friday Stations of the Cross April 2 – 12:00 Noon

For all of you who wish you could be a reader but who don't belong to a sponsoring ministry, we would love to have you participate. The Good Friday Stations is an “at-large” invitation to individuals to be readers. We will need about 10 people.

Please give Linda Cacpal a call or leave a voice message at 487 7994.

*Please remember that the Good Friday Stations are at Noon and not 7pm as on other Fridays. Please be sure you are available during the day. Blessings ...*

## CCD News

Just some updates on CCD....



- Our CCD Phase I students are hosting a Lenten Service Project to help the **Next Step Shelter** in Kaka'ako. A Hawaiian food menu is being planned. To help with this task, we are asking for donations of food and/or monetary donations (Note: checks should be made payable to St. Elizabeth Church). Items needed:

**Non-Perishable:** Rice, long rice noodles, chicken broth, potatoes, macaroni, mayonnaise, juice syrup, bottle water, can juice, paper plates, forks. *Will collect at any time.*

**Perishables:** kalua pig, cabbage, green onion, chicken, eggs, pineapple, carrots, olives. *Will collect on March 21st only.*

With your help, we know this will be a successful project.

Please contact Manette in the CCD Office, 487-7994, with any questions, concerns or donations. Mahalo.



### 14<sup>th</sup> – SUNDAY (Regular Mass Schedule)

9:30 AM RCIA - Conference Room 1-2

9:30 PM Filipino Catholic Club Mtg - Hall

4:30 PM CCD Classes (7th-HS) - Hall Rooms

7:00 PM FCC Novena (following Mass) - Church

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

**ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for the 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR;** space is available in all grade levels on a first come first served basis. Tuition assistance for registered St. Elizabeth parishioners is also available. Contact the school office for either application at 488-5322.

All are invited to join **St. Ann's Church in Kaneohe for the 2010 TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE**, Friday, March 12 at 7:30PM ( *Prayer service to begin shortly after the 7PM Stations of the Cross*). Taize is a quiet, contemplative form of community worship. Some key elements of the service include Taize songs, scripture readings, moments of silence, & Veneration of the Cross.

From February 25-April 5,2010 Honolulu will unite with other communities across North America for the largest, longest coordinated pro-life mobilization in history the: **40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN**. For more information on how to speak for those who can't defend themselves, visit [www.40DaysForLife.com/Honolulu](http://www.40DaysForLife.com/Honolulu).

**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](http://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](http://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.