

Holy Family Catholic Church

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Times

January 21-22, 2012

Mass Schedule

Monday-Saturday: 7:15 AM

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM &
7:00 PM

1st Sunday—Samoan Mass:
@ 2:00 PM

Confessions Saturday:
4:00—4:45 PM
and after daily Masses

First Friday of the Month
Benediction
After 7:15 am Mass

“Our Family”

*“The family that prays
together stays together.”*

By Fr. Patrick Peyton

*“If we ever forget that we
are one nation under
God, then we will be a
nation gone under.”*

By President Ronald Reagan

PASTOR

Fr. Sebastian Chacko

PASTORAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Jerome Andrade

PARISH WEBSITE:

HolyFamilyHonolulu.Org

PASTOR'S CORNER

Two weeks ago, we celebrated the Epiphany, the Manifestation of the Lord to the three wise men from the East. The Orthodox Christians celebrate the Epiphany in a more glamorous and meaningful way that we Roman Catholics do. The Birth of Christ is important, however to the Orthodox Christians, His Manifestation to the world is more important and Liturgically the basis of the proclamation and belief in the Good News of Christ for ALL.

In our First Reading today, Jonah the Prophet tells us clearly what the Good News is. Jonah was reluctant to preach. He tried to do what was politically correct according to the thoughts and mentality of the people of the times. He was asked to declare forty days of fasting.

We will start in a few weeks time forty days of fasting , prayer and abstinence. The good news of Jonah and the Good News of Christ begins with repentance.

Saint Paul was so convinced of the imminent return of Christ that he even exhorted husbands and wives to behave as if they were not married. The idea was to focus on the return of Christ and not to do anything that would prevent them from meeting Christ when He returned.

In the Gospel, Jesus begins to call His Disciples. You and I are personally called by Christ to bring the Good News of Christ to others. We begin by our own realization that we are sinners, made clean by the Lamb of God. We must also realize that we need to work with Christ, in these trying and difficult times to live upright lives and helping others too to live according to the Gospel values of Christ.

Thank you for your prayers and monetary support. I did have some quality time with my family, relatives and friends. It was a good to go back home and catch up with many people and re- visit places of my childhood. I am now ready for another year's spiritual work in our Parish. God bless you all.

- Fr Sebastian

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS—PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

By universal consent, Thomas Aquinas is the preeminent spokesman of the Catholic tradition of reason and of divine revelation. He is one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church, honored with the titles Doctor of the Church and Angelic Doctor. At five he was given to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino in his parents' hopes that he would choose that way of life and eventually became abbot. In 1239 he was sent to Naples to complete his studies. It was here that he was first attracted to Aristotle's philosophy. His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings. One might expect Thomas, as a man of the gospel, to be an ardent defender of revealed truth. But he was broad enough, deep enough, to see the whole natural order as coming from God the Creator, and to see reason as a divine gift to be highly cherished. The *Summa Theologiae*, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology. He stopped work on it after celebrating Mass on December 6, 1273. When asked why he stopped writing, he replied, "I cannot go on.... All that I have written seems to me like so much straw compared to what I have seen and what has been revealed to me." He died March 7, 1274.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan. 23-Monday-7:00 pm-Bible Sharing Hour
Jan. 25-Wednesday
6:30 pm-Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
7:00 pm-Bible Study
Jan. 30- Monday—7:00 pm-Bible Sharing Hour
Feb. 1-Wednesday
6:30 pm-Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
Feb. 3- **BENEDICTION after morning Mass**
Feb. 6-Monday-7:00pm-Bible Sharing Hour
Feb. 8 -Wednesday
6:30 pm-Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
7:00 pm-Bible Study
Feb. 13- Monday-7:00 pm-Bible Sharing Hour
Feb. 15-Wednesday
6:30 pm-Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Thank you to all from our Parish who participated in the Retreat/Seminar conducted by our Bishop on Saturday January 21. There were over one hundred delegates from all the Parishes of Oahu. There were also some representatives from the outer islands.**
2. **We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family our Parish Feast next Sunday. The celebrations will coincide with the Diocesan Catholic Education Week. The HFCA will participate in our celebrations.**
3. **Individuals and Groups will be asked to participate as best they can to make our Family Celebration a success.**
4. **The Pastoral Council and Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday to finalize the Plans for our Feast Day celebrations.**
5. **Baptism Classes will be conducted this Sunday. Baptisms will be administered next Sunday after the 8.30 Mass.**
6. **All regular Parishes activities, that were either curtailed or suspended during my absence will resume this week. Thank you for your patience.**
7. **All accounts of our Parish weekly Offerings from Christmas till today will be provided in our next Bulletin.**

Our Weekly Offerings
January 14-15, 2012
Thank you for your generous
contribution for the past weekend.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Next week, Sunday, January 29, will be dedicated to the theme of “Our Family” and the very special patron of Holy Family Church and Catholic Academy—Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The day also marks the beginning of Catholic School Week observance for our school. HFCA students, families and faculty will gather together at the 8:30A.M. Sunday Mass to celebrate and share our culture of faith, academics, and service. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the Mass. All are cordially invited. As a parish and school community we have much to celebrate!

How is God’s Love Expressed?

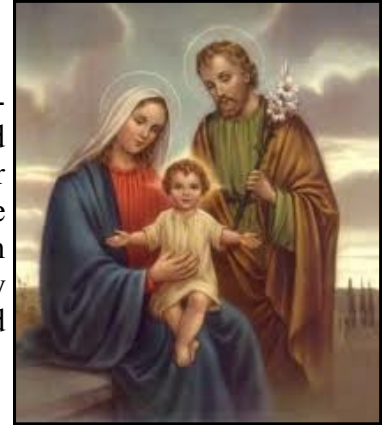
The mission of Jesus—to serve and not be served—is the task of the Church, the community of disciples. The image of God sitting upon a throne looking for homage from a subservient people clashes with the revelation given us in the person of Jesus. God's royal garments are coarse work clothes.

The love that explains Bethlehem and Calvary also explains the great love moments of our sacramental life. Love wants to visit, love wants to be present as a sign of concern. So this Christian God keeps breaking into our lives when a baby is baptized, when children receive first Communion and Reconciliation, when the Spirit comes in Confirmation, when commitments for life are made, when sickness and death need divine strength and courage. Love "goes where the suffering is" and, yes, where joy is, too. God is love, present and manifest in signs and symbols and nature and community.

God's love is not coercive. Gifted with freedom, we can turn away from the divine mystery. When choices are made that alienate and divide, we enter the realm of darkness and death. At this juncture God's love "seems" like wrath or anger. In reality, God, who is love, is always compassionate and filled with light and life. We need but "turn around" (repent), to experience once again, in freedom, the source of all peace and joy.

Holy Family Parish

Welcomes Fr. Sebastian back “home” and we prayed that your vacation and time with your family in India was a very happy reunion. God bless you.



SYNAGOGUES

Going back nearly 1,000 years before Christ, the center of worship for the Jewish people was the Temple in Jerusalem. There was no other temple. Some 500 years before Christ, when the Temple was first destroyed and before it was rebuilt, synagogues came into being. They were built in the cities and towns of Israel, and also in foreign lands where there were Jewish settlements. Synagogues were not mini-temples. They had no altar, no sacrifice, and no priestly staff. Rather, they were places where members of the community could meet for various purposes, including study of the Law and the Jewish traditions. On the Sabbath and on feast days, prayer services were held there, led by members of the congregations or guests.

The synagogue Sabbath service at the time of Jesus followed this basic pattern: singing a psalm, recitation of the Shema (verses from Deuteronomy 6), a reading from the Torah (the first five books of the Jewish scriptures), a reading from the Prophets, a sermon expounding on the above Scriptures (Jesus was sometimes the guest preacher in synagogues), and a blessing spoken by the head of the synagogues.

Note: The Temple in Jerusalem was again destroyed in 70 A.D. (this time by the Roman army). Since then there has been no Jewish and no Jewish sacrifice.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Newcomers are encouraged to register with the parish and are welcome to participate in all parish activities and ministries. Registration Forms are available in the church.