



The Ascension of the Lord
May 24, 2020



**Saint John Vianney Parish
Community**

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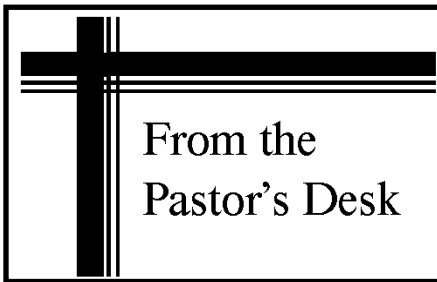
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Dear Parish Family,

Happy Ascension Sunday! Mission accomplished!

Though Jesus would have wanted to do more with his physical presence here on earth, the mission he was sent to do had somewhat come to an end. At this time, he was returning to his original glory and he promised his disciples: ***“I am going to prepare a place for you.”*** This only shows that although our lives may take different twists and turns, our destination is the same, union with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

However, where Jesus’ mission ends here on earth, a new journey begins for us: ***“Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you ...”*** With that, he was lifted up as they looked dumbfounded, staring into the sky. The torch had been passed over to them to be witnesses and their lives would no longer be the same.

To be a witness of Jesus, is both a privilege and an obligation. This honor bestowed on us can, for the most part, be scary because many times we feel unworthy. It is the Lord who makes us worthy, though, when we turn to him. This shows that it was Jesus’ intent to pass on the torch to be kept burning. Jesus, being realistic, knew very well that the work and mission he was handing over would be challenging and difficult at times, leading some to want to give up or quit. ***It is for this reason that he promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit to help them in this urgent and important mission: “I am with you always, until the end of the age.”***

Next Sunday on ***Pentecost***, we will see how we are never alone; in health and sickness, in poverty and in riches, in pandemics and lockdowns, laboring as stewards in the vineyard of the Lord.

In the Risen Christ,
Fr. Peter

Stewardship of Treasure



Offertory: Our weekly donation for **May 16-22, 2020** is \$ 14,141.00 and the weekly budget is \$ 9,288.00. Therefore, we have a **surplus** of \$ 4,853.00.

MAHALO for your continued **SUPPORT** to **GIVE**. If you give online, keep giving online, and if you give by envelope, you can mail or drop off your donation at the Parish Office or place in the Slot Box.

FOOD DRIVE: Collected \$ 870.00.
Mahalo for your generosity!

School News *by Earl Walker*

St. John Vianney School will end the current school year on Friday, May 29. We began this year with standard in-class instruction, however due to the Coronavirus Pandemic our students have been successfully engaged in Distant Learning for the past few months from their homes. We thank those students who helped their teachers by stepping up and sharing their amazing knowledge and skills during this program. Students were also able to participate in our music program and other activities. We congratulate our graduating 8th graders and wish them much success as they enter the best high schools on Oahu. (see their pictures at sjvkailua.org). As we look forward to 2020-2021 your parish school has Covid-19 safety guidelines in place for in-classroom instruction, but is also prepared for Distant Learning if necessary. For more information or an application for new students, please call 261-4651.



Know Your Catholic Faith Corner

Apologetics without apology!

Why do Catholics confess to a Priest?

Question: ...but isn't it that only God can forgive sins?

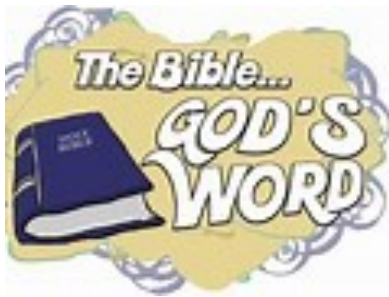
Yes! Only God can and it is He who forgives sins in the Sacrament of Confession and not the priest. However, had **God willed for us to confess directly to Him, Jesus wouldn't have given His power and authority to forgive sins to His Apostles, and nor would he have instituted the Sacrament of Confession.** (Jn. 20:21-23) When the priest gives absolution or forgives sin in Confession, he lends his voice to Christ: **He acts in the person of Christ.** It is Christ himself who says **"I absolve you from your sins..."**

Besides, one advantage of obeying God's will to confess our sins to His instruments is the absolute assurance of having been forgiven upon receiving sacramental absolution, a fact which we cannot be absolutely sure if we confess our sins directly to God. By confessing our sins to God's instruments, who are also sinners as we are, He also wants us to practice and grow in humility and faith, necessary virtues in order to receive God's loving mercy.

Let us thank God for giving us the Sacrament of Confession out of His bountiful love and mercy for us. **He knows that we are sinners and weak: and since He loves us and longs for us, He gave us this remedy so as to begin again after having fallen.**

The practice of confessing one's sins has been present since the time of the Apostles. James 5: 14 says: ***Therefore confess your sins to one another...that you may be healed...***

*Next Sunday we will look at
the next steps after
forgiveness...Penance*



Next Week

*Pentecost Sunday
May 31, 2020*

Reading I	Acts of the Apostle	2:1-11
Reading II	1 Corinthians	12:3b-7,12-13
Gospel	John	20:19-23



*Healing of
Daisy Houghtailing
Kathleen Heirakuji
and
for the Homebound*



Please join the **Sodality** in reciting the
Rosary on the lanai,
Sat., May 30, 2020, 9 to 10 am

Social distancing and wearing of mask
or face covering are required for you
and
others safety.

*Congratulations St. John Vianney School
Graduating Class of 2020*



St. John Vianney School
940 Keolu Drive
Kailua, HI 96734
sjvkailua.org

Mrs. Jamie DeRego, our Eighth grade teacher, had this to say about our 2019-2020 graduates: “My 8th graders are an amazing bunch of young adults. Not only do they strive to do their very best academically and succeed at it, their school spirit shines in the selfless acts of kindness they do while serving the wider community. Each and every one of them have incredible personalities that shine bright in their own way. They always wear a smile to class and continue to be eager to learn. Students like mine make my teaching job all the more rewarding. I’m so proud of all they’ve accomplished and will miss them dearly. I wish the SJV Class of 2020 all the best, as they move forward in their academic journey to the high schools they chose.” We will all miss this wonderful group of graduates and know they will go on to be excellent representatives of St. John Vianney School.

St. John Vianney Parish

FOOD DRIVE



Last Sunday morning (May 17, 2020) a group of nearly 50 volunteers from St. John Vianney Kailua gathered at the church to set up an assembly line to receive food donations for Windward families who are especially struggling during this time. Over the course of two hours approximately 100 hundred cars, parishioners and people from the wider Kailua community, came to drop off food, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, and other monetary donations. As cars drove through a drop off line, volunteers grabbed bags of food from people's trunks, then carried them to the parish basement where more volunteers organized the donations to be delivered. Over 1.5 tons of food were gathered, and will be distributed to families and Kupuna in our SJV Parish, at St. Roch's in Kahuku, and shared with the food pantries at St. George's in Waimanalo and St. Anthony in Kailua.