

Newman Center

Holy Spirit Parish



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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

IT MAY BEAR
FRUIT IN THE
FUTURE.

LUKE 13:9

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025

Aloha! Welcome!

We are the Catholic Center and Campus Ministry at the University of Hawai'i, and under the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu, serving parishioners, staff, faculty, and students alike that stimulates critical thinking and dialogue about issues that challenge Christian living and commits to a living faith that practices and promotes justice.

We are a spirit-filled and welcoming community that proclaims and celebrates the Good News through liturgy, the sacraments, faith sharing, outreach, and social action. As the Roman Catholic Community of the University of Hawai'i, we offer opportunities for life-long faith development to all who choose to join us. We invite the contribution of gifts in stewardship and evangelism, and challenge one another in the same manner that Jesus challenges us: to love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

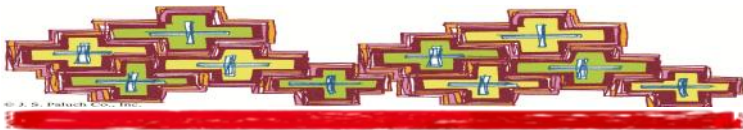
Come journey with us!

Pastoral Team

Phone Ext

Pastor Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Alfred Omar B. Guerrero pastor@newmanhawaii.org	214
Administrative Assistant Alofa Leasiolagi manager@newmanhawaii.org	219
Campus Minister Fay Pabo campusministry@newmanhawaii.org	211
Communications & Pastoral Assistant Brandon Akiona pastoralassistant@newmanhawaii.org	211

We welcome your call and are here to serve you! Contact the Parish Office to speak with us or make an appointment. We look forward to hearing from you!



Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm
(except Diocesan Holidays)
Newman Center may remain open till evening programs conclude

Saturday and Sunday:
Open during Mass times and for activities as needed.

From the Desk of the Pastor

"Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

As we journey through the Third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel presents us with a powerful message about repentance and God's mercy. Jesus reminds us that tragedies and suffering are not necessarily punishments for sin, but rather a call to examine our own lives. Instead of focusing on the faults of others, Jesus urges us to ask: Am I truly living a life that bears fruit for God?

In the parable of the barren fig tree, the landowner wants to cut it down because it has not produced fruit for three years. But the gardener intercedes, asking for more time to cultivate and nourish it. This is a beautiful image of God's patience with us. Though we may fall short, Jesus, our divine gardener, pleads for us and provides us with the grace we need to grow.

Lent is that special time for us to allow God to work in our hearts. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we remove what hinders us from bearing good fruit. It is a season of mercy—a time to turn back to God before it is too late. We must not take His patience for granted but use this time wisely.

Let us ask ourselves: Are we producing the fruits of love, generosity, and holiness? Or are we merely taking up space? Jesus calls us to conversion, but He also walks with us, nurturing us with His grace. This Lent, may we embrace His call, seek His mercy, and allow Him to transform us into fruitful disciples.

May we not waste this season of grace, but instead, bear fruit that will last.

I hope you will join us this week for our Lenten Faith Lift on Wednesday, March 26 at 6pm with Jesuit Father Martin Ngo.

Have a blessed Lenten week,

Fr. Alfred Omar
(@alfred808)



Important Notices

- Stations of the Cross: Friday @ 6:00PM
- Join us for "FAITH LIFT" with Fr. Martin Ngo on Wednesday, March 26 at 6:00PM
- Lenten Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, April 2 at 6PM

Liturgical Schedule

Daily Mass (<i>Tuesday-Friday</i>)	12:10PM
Sunday Mass (<i>Saturday Evening Anticipated</i>)	5:00PM 9:00AM 11:00AM
(<i>Student-led Mass</i>)	5:00PM

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation By Appointment

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

Baptism By Request

Please contact Fr. Alfred Omar at least one month before the date desired for the Baptism.

Funerals At Need

Funerals and the Rite of Christian Burial are made in conjunction with the Mortuary of your choosing. Please contact the Parish Office prior to finalizing a date with the mortuary.

Holy Matrimony By Request

Couples need to contact Fr. Alfred Omar at least eight months prior to your desired wedding date to begin the marriage preparation required by the Diocese of Honolulu.

Holy Orders—Religious Life By Call

Is God calling you to the Priesthood, Diaconate, or Religious Life? God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called. Call us today to setup a discussion with our Pastor where you can continue discerning God's call.

Holy Communion Ongoing

Programs are available for those who have not yet received their First Eucharist. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Confirmation Ongoing

Programs are available for those who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick By Request

If you or someone you know are in need of receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call our parish office to schedule

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults Ongoing

If you or someone you know are have not yet been baptized and are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Faith, please call our parish office to learn more about the OCIA,



The Word of the Lord Weekly

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"This is what you shall tell the Israelites:
I AM sent me to you." (Ex 3:14)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

These things happened to them as an example,
and they have been written down as a warning to us,
upon whom the end of the ages has come. (1 Cor 10:11)

Gospel:

"But I tell you, if you do not repent,
you will all perish as they did!" (Lk 13:5)

Readings for the week of March 23, 2025

Sunday:

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8,
11 (8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15,
19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday:

2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday:

Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/
Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday:

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday:

Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday:

Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab,
14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday:

Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/
Lk 18:9-14

Observances for the week of March 23, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

Tuesday: The Annunciation of the Lord

Nourishing Our Faith

Prayer On the Go

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>
<https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

Daily Scripture and Reflections:

<https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/>

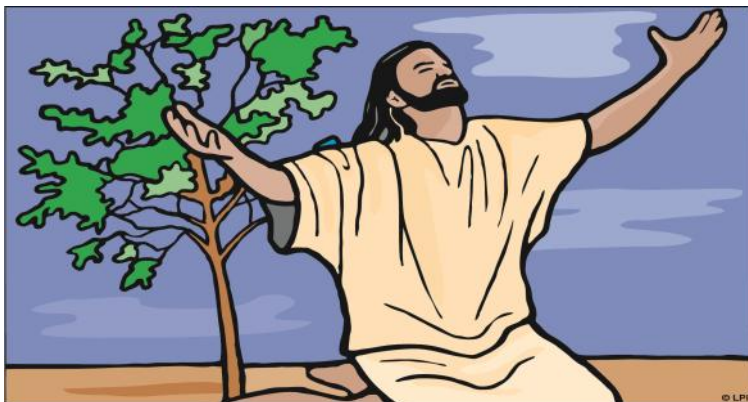
Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom)

Monday Nights at 6:30 pm. 30 minutes of silence, followed by Scripture and Sharing. For more information, contact Cheryl Treiber-Kawaoka 808-227-5162

Family Connection

We may be unfamiliar with fig trees, but we might know about the growth of spring flowers. Perhaps we have looked at a dry, brown flower bulb and wondered how this produces the colorful tulip or daffodil blossom that we expect to bloom in the spring. Perhaps we've even thought about the patience and hope that are required to plant flower bulbs in October. We don't have to be gardeners, however, to know about patience and hopefulness. As parents, we practice these virtues each day with our children. We may become frustrated and even angered by their willfulness and lack of cooperation. Yet we continue to offer our attention and guidance in hope that one day our efforts will bear fruit. Today's parable suggests that God is like that with us, working with us in patience and in hope that one day we will show evidence that such work is not in vain. As parents, we know God's kindness when we find evidence for our hope for our children. Does God find such glimmers of hope as he works with us?

Gather your family and show a spring flower in bloom. Recall that in the fall this flower was a dry bulb (if a flower bulb is available, show this as well). Talk about the hopefulness and patience shown by those who plant flower bulbs in the fall in the hope that they will bloom in the spring. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 13:1-9. Compare the parable of the barren fig tree to your discussion about spring flowers. Consider the patience and hopefulness that God has with us as he works with us, calling us to return to him when we sin. Offer prayers of thanks and praise to God for his patience and hopefulness towards us. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 103.



Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

Tithes and Offerings:

03/15/2025-03/16/2025 \$1,797.00

Online

03/14/2025-03/20/2025 : \$1,977.00

May we continue to receive God's gifts gratefully, manage them responsibly, and share them joyfully. Mahalo for your generosity!

Upcoming Second Collections:

Catholic Relief Services—March 29/30

Rice Bowl: 04/17/2025

Good Friday: 04/18/2025

Giving Made Easy

Giving online is safe and easy using our secured online platform, by visiting WeShare at:

newmanhawaii.weshareonline.org

Thank you, for your continued support of our parish as we strive to meet the needs of our faith community!



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Generous and Loving Creator, you have called us to Malama i ka Makana (Cherish the Gift).

As disciples of your Son, we ask that your Spirit open our minds and hearts to more deeply appreciate your countless blessings. Increase your transforming spirit within us, so as to nurture our call to stewardship as a way of life marked always by faith-filled prayer, service to others and generous giving.

With the kokua of St. Marianne and St. Damien, teach us to be good stewards so we may return a hundred-fold the makana entrusted to us.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Around the Parish

New to Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish?

NEMWAN CENTER-HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

LENT

Faith Lift

GUEST SPEAKER:
FR. MARTIN NGO, S.J.

Come and join us as we hear from Fr. Martin Ngo, a priest of the Society of Jesus and currently teaching Production in the School of Film & Television at Loyola Marymount University. Visit the Jesuit website to learn more: <https://www.jesuits.org/profile/martin-huynh-ngo-sj/>

WEDNESDAY 03/26 | 6:00PM

CONTACT PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE INFO

808.988.6222

INFO@NEWMANHAWAII.ORG

Aloha! E Komo Mail!

We welcome you to your new spiritual home and are delighted to have you join our parish community!

At Newman Center - Holy Spirit Parish, we know that we are all individual parts of the mystical Body of Christ. Working together, we find great joy in doing God's work here on earth. We invite and encourage you to join us as we pray, work and fellowship together.

Please contact the Parish Office to register. Welcome!

Prayer Corner

This column in our bulletin are for those in our community who are sick and those who recently died. To add someone (with their permission) or yourself to the prayer list for the sick or someone on the In Memoriam list, please contact the parish office.


Pray for ...
© J. S. Palach Co., Inc.

Christie Dinell
Tom Dinell
Denise Esposito

Please remember the sick and homebound in our community. Pray that they may find comfort and healing, especially:

Vernon Chock
Daniel Barr



In remembrance, let us pray for all who have died, that they may rejoice with the Risen Lord, especially our recently deceased:

William Stephen Llorens

CONFESS - FORGIVE - BE FORGIVEN

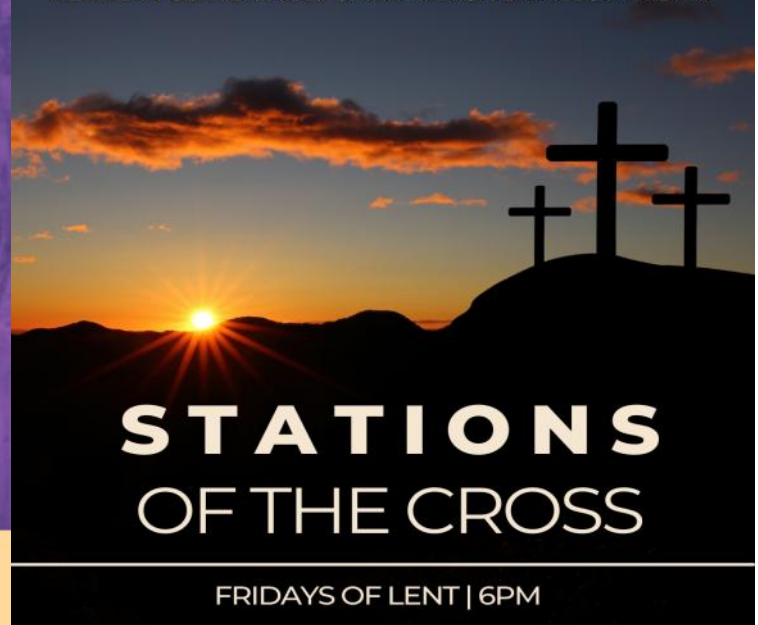
LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
6:00 PM

NEWMAN CENTER
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
PRAYER AND RECONCILIATION!

NEWMAN CENTER-HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CAMPUS MINISTRY



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS OF LENT | 6PM

LENTEN

BLESSING BAG

PROJECT

WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF:



Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, soap, comb, feminine hygiene products, deodorant

Necessities: gallon size Ziploc bags, band-aids, baby wipes, hand sanitizer, small washcloth, slippers



Non-perishable items: energy bars, trail mix, gum, instant oatmeal

Mahalo
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

NEWMAN CENTER
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
CAMPUS MINISTRY



Newman Center-Holy Spirit Parish presents:

9TH ANNUAL

DAN DEVER STUDENTS' NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025
5:30PM - 8:00PM

Join us for an evening of students showcase, dinner, and fellowship!

RSVP BY APRIL 16
INFO@NEWMANHAWAII.ORG | 808.988.6222

CAMPUS MINISTRY

LET'S ALL

TACO-BOUT IT TUESDAY

March 11 & 25
6:00 pm
Newman Center - Student Lounge

Enjoy tacos & Talk story with the Campus Minister



NEWMAN CENTER HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CAMPUS MINISTRY



2025 **COST: \$50 PER PERSON**

Spring Retreat

MARCH 28-30
YMCA CAMP ERDMAN
WAIALUA, HAWAII




"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD." - PSALM 46:11



Pray

Struggling to surrender yourself to God?
Try this Chaplet of the Fiat
Aleteia - published on 06/15/17

Penny Michalak, foundress of the Sisters of The Fiat, has interwoven prayers of the Church and Scripture, along with a consecration prayer, in a prayer she calls the Chaplet of the Fiat. This simple and quick prayer is a means to ask for the grace of totally accepting the will of God in our life. The repetition of Mary's expression of ultimate submission to God's will is somehow both soothing and challenging, and gives us an opportunity to really focus on the heroism of her simple "yes."

Read about Penny and the order of sisters she founded, and their school's special ministry to children with special needs here and here.

The Chaplet of the Fiat
Begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Creed.

Then, before every decade of the Fiat prayer, pray the Hail Holy Queen.

On each of the 10 beads, say the words Our Lady said to Gabriel, which resulted in the Incarnation of the Son of God:

BEHOLD THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD: Be it done unto me according to Thy word.

Recite the Memorare on each of the five beads after the Crucifix.

Then, pray the Consecration Prayer:
My God, I consecrate myself completely to You. I surrender everything I am and have to You. Give me the grace to desire only to live Your Will. Fill me with the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who strengthens, transforms, and unites my soul completely to You so that in living Your Divine Will, Perfect Love may reign in me.

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2017/06/15/struggling-to-surrender-yourself-to-god-try-this-chaplet-of-the-fiat>



Grow

Unplugging for Lent
Daniel Esparza - published on 03/15/25

Fasting from food is the most traditional Lenten practice, but in an era of endless notifications, doom-scrolling, and digital distractions, a different kind of fast might be just as necessary: a fast from some forms of technology.

Some of us rely on technology for everything, including our spiritual lives. Prayer apps guide our devotions, digital rosaries track our prayers, and live-streamed Masses keep those of us who are homebound somehow connected with our communities. But could constant digital engagement — even with faith-based content — be keeping us from true spiritual depth?

Lent is a time to step back and ask: Is my technology serving my soul, or is it shaping my spiritual habits in ways I don't even notice?

When prayer becomes just another notification

There's no doubt that Catholic tech resources have real value. Pope Francis himself launched the Click to Pray app, and many Catholics have found solace in online faith communities. But there's also a danger: When prayer apps become just another part of our daily scrolling, do we risk treating prayer like a checklist instead of an encounter?

St. Thérèse of Lisieux famously said, "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven." But a heart surging toward heaven requires focus. If prayer is constantly interrupted by texts, social media, and news alerts, are we truly present to God?

The Lenten call to presence

Lent is a season of stripping away distractions to make space for God. The Church calls us to fasting, almsgiving, and prayer — not as burdens, but as ways to reorient our hearts. Technology is not inherently bad, but it often conditions us for shallow attention, making sustained prayer more difficult.

Catholic theology emphasizes real presence — not just in the Eucharist, but in our whole approach to faith. God became flesh, not data. Sacraments require physical participation, not just virtual engagement. If our prayer lives are becoming more digital than incarnational, Lent is the perfect time to restore balance.



Grow

How to practice a digital fast this Lent
A Lenten tech fast doesn't have to mean abandoning all devices. Instead, it can be a way to recalibrate our habits:

- Limit prayer apps – Use them to guide prayer, but don't let them replace deep, device-free time with God. Try praying a Rosary without tracking your progress on an app.
- Fast from passive consumption – Reduce time spent watching religious content and spend more time actively engaging: reading Scripture, attending Adoration, or praying in silence.
- Disconnect to reconnect – Turn off notifications during prayer. Consider setting aside one evening a week to be completely offline.
- Make Mass a phone-free experience – If you've been watching livestreams out of habit, prioritize in-person attendance whenever possible. Check in with your parish homebound ministry to ensure that you are receiving the Eucharist at least weekly.

Beyond Lent: Reclaiming silence
Lent teaches us discipline, but it also awakens desire — desire for a deeper connection with God. A digital fast isn't about rejecting technology but reclaiming the silence it so often drowns out.

In the Book of Kings, Elijah does not hear God in the earthquake or the fire, but in a "still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12). If we never put our phones down, how will we hear it?

This Lent, perhaps the greatest sacrifice we can offer is our attention.

Resource: <https://aleteia.org/2025/03/15/unplugging-for-lent>

Reflect

Back in high school, my friends and I joined the cheerleading team at one of the Catholic brother schools to avoid taking PE at our own school. Boy, were we in for more than we expected. On the first day of practice, the head coach made us run 20 laps around the school, including up and down the stairs of the entire campus. By the time I reached the end, I was completely exhausted. My throat was so dry, and I could barely catch my breath. I realized at that moment that I had forgotten my water bottle. Just when I thought I couldn't handle it anymore, my teammate noticed and handed me her water bottle. That first sip was like an instant relief. This is exactly what I needed. I hadn't realized how thirsty I was until that moment.

In this Sunday's Scrutiny Gospel reading, we hear about Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well and talks to her about a deeper kind of thirst, not just for water, but for something more. The woman comes to the well carrying the weight of her past and feeling rejected by others. But Jesus approaches her with kindness, not judgment. He offers her "living water," which is His grace and love, the only thing that can truly satisfy her heart. Her encounter with Jesus changes her, and she is filled with hope that she can't wait to tell others about Him.

Just like the Samaritan woman, we all experience time when we feel empty and restless, searching for something to make us feel whole. We might try to fill that emptiness with success, approval, or comfort, but nothing truly satisfies us. Jesus reminds us that He alone can quench that deeper thirst. He meets us where we are, offering us the living water of His love and mercy.

As we continue our Lenten journey, may we reflect on what we are searching for. Are we trying to satisfy our hearts with things that don't last? Or are we open to letting Jesus fill us with His grace and peace? May we have the courage to come to Him, knowing that He alone can satisfy the thirst in our hearts.

"Jesus does not ask us to give up on living, but to accept a newness and fullness of life that only He can give." – St. John Paul II

A BIG MAHALO to our parishioners and benefactors for your continued prayers, love, and support for campus ministry. We are blessed by your generosity and kindness to our student community. May we continue to pray for one another, and for peace in our world and among our brothers and sisters.

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us!

Blessings to you and your 'ohana!
- **Fay C. Pabo @fa_jo_pab0**



NEWMAN CENTER HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
CAMPUS MINISTRY

SCAN
Here

"BE WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE." – ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

QR CODE
TO SIGN UP

@NewmanHawaii