



Q&A: A Bigger Font

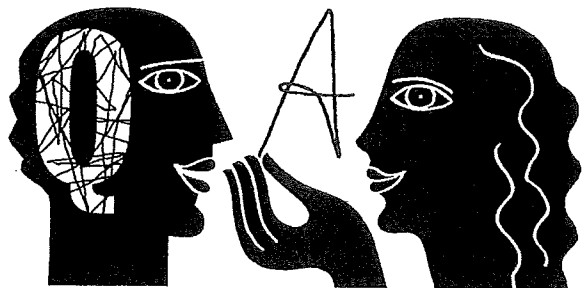
Many new or renovated churches have large baptismal fonts that look like pools. Why?

In our tradition, water brings to mind the chaos before creation, the great flood, the parted Red Sea, the water that flowed from the rock in the desert, Christ's baptism in the Jordan. These images provide the background for our use of water, particularly in baptism, and should influence the design of the fonts in which water is stored.

When the sacramental rites were revised after the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), the general introduction to the baptismal rites noted that baptism could be celebrated either by immersion or by pouring water over the head of a candidate (*Christian Initiation*, General Introduction, 22). In order to allow an adult to be baptized by immersion, new and renovated churches often have baptismal fonts which are small pools into which an adult can walk and in which the adult can kneel for the sacramental washing.

In Romans 6:3-5, Saint Paul wrote that through baptism we are buried with Christ, and entering a large font for baptism by immersion can evoke the image of a entering a tomb only to rise again with the risen Lord. For this reason, one ancient image of the baptismal font is that of the "tomb." Because Jesus speaks about being "born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5), another ancient image of the font is that of the "womb." In contrast, many fonts of the last few centuries look like bird baths!

Newer baptismal fonts are actually a return to a more ancient form of the baptism pool. Revised liturgical books even

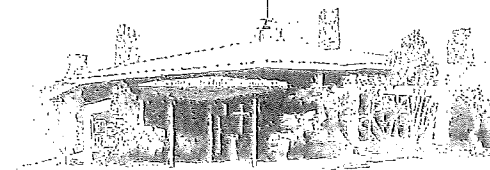
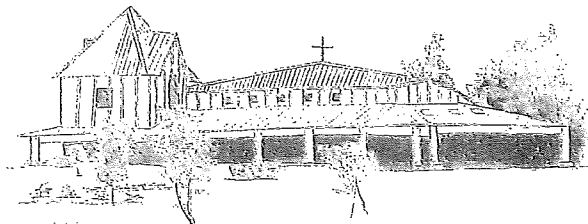


mention that such fonts might include flowing water, reminding us of Christ's statement that "from him shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). Rather than being a novelty, large pool-like fonts and celebrating baptism by immersion encourage us to return to a symbolically richer form of celebrating the sacrament of rebirth and resurrection, and help us recall the many ways that water refreshes, cleanses, quenches, and renews us during each day of our lives.

Baptism by immersion has been always been permitted in the western church, but various historical influences led to baptism by pouring being the standard method until the reforms of Vatican II. Eastern Christian churches have, in general, preserved the custom of celebrating baptism by immersion over the centuries. In fact, the word "baptism" is derived from the Greek word for "immersion." For this and other reasons, the revised baptismal rites recommend that the western church also use immersion when possible since it is "more suitable as a symbol of participation in the death and resurrection of Christ."

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Annunciation Parish



Readings:

Monday
Dn 9:4b-10
Ps 79:8-13
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday
Is:1-10, 16-21
Ps. 50:8-9
Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday
Jer. 18:18-20
Ps. 31:5-6, 14-16
Mt. 20:17-26

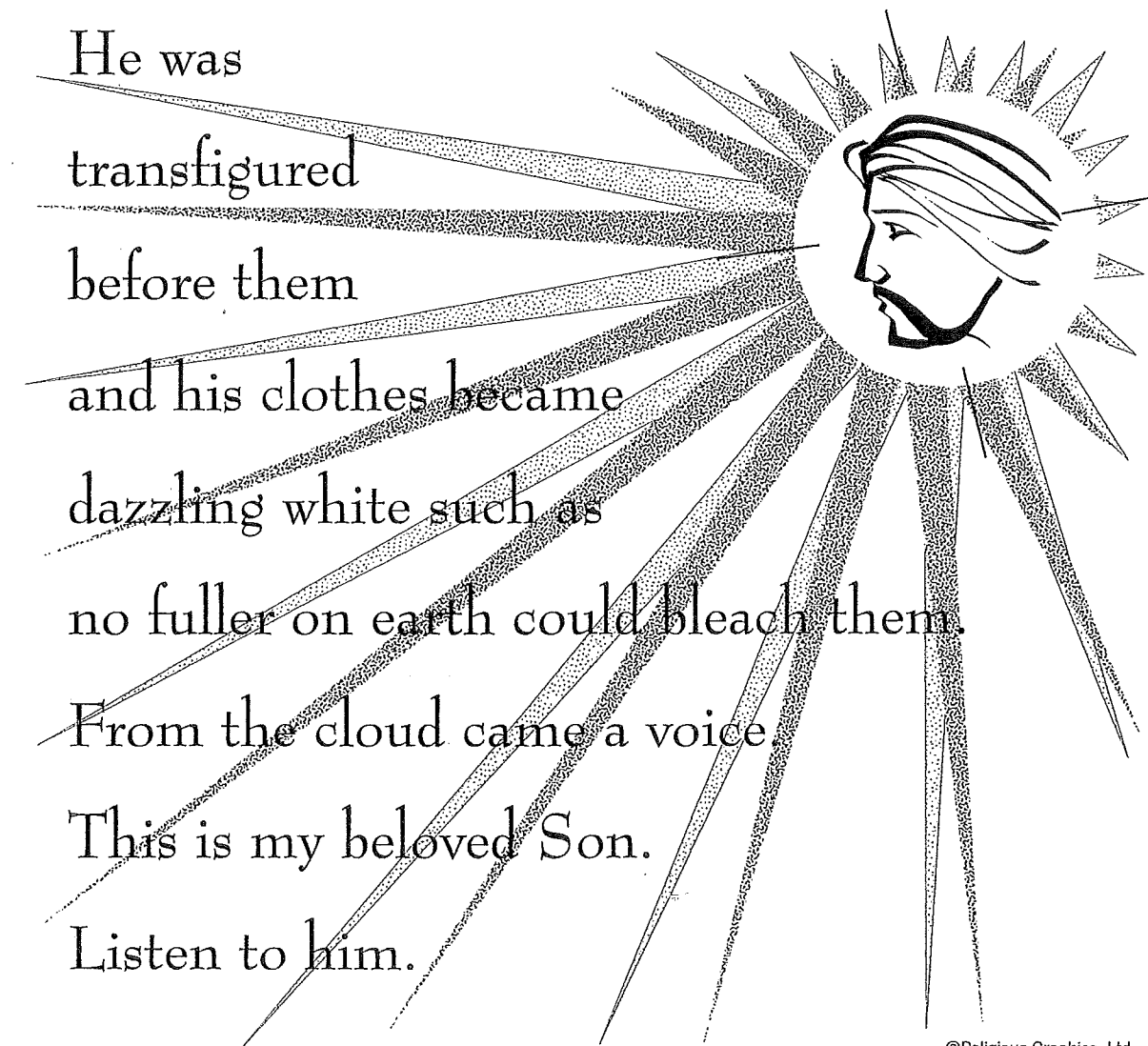
Thursday
Jer. 17:5-10
Ps. 1:1-4, 6
Lk. 16:19-31

Friday
Gn. 37:3-4 12-13
Ps. 105:16-21
Mt. 21:33-43 45-46

Saturday
Mi. 7:14-15 18-20
Ps. 103:1-4 9-12
Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday
Ex. 20:1-17
Ps. 19:8-11
1 Cor 1:22-25
Jn. 2:13-25

He was
transfigured
before them
and his clothes became
dazzling white such as
no fuller on earth could bleach them.
From the cloud came a voice.
This is my beloved Son.
Listen to him.



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**Second Sunday
of Lent**

February 25, 2018

It is your face,
O Lord, that I seek!

Annunciation Parish – February 25, 2018

Church of the Annunciation Waimea – Ascension Mission Puako

Rev. Stephen Macedo Pastor

Parish Office (808) 887-1220 Religious Education (808) 887-1203

P. O. Box 301 – Kamuela HI 96743

E-mail: annchhi@hawaiiantel.net Website: www.bigislandcatholicchurch.org

Mass Times

Annunciation Church Waimea: Saturday 5:00PM Sunday 8:00AM

Ascension Mission Puako: Sunday 10:00AM

Tuesday – Friday Mass 7:00AM – Waimea

First Friday Mass 12:00 Noon - Waimea

Adoration Fridays after morning Mass until Noon and from 6-9PM on First Fridays

Confession Saturday 4:00 – 4:30PM or by appointment

Religious Education Classes Sunday 8:15 AM Puako; 9:15 AM Waimea.

Marriage Allow six months for preparation.

Baptism of Children Parents attend class offered quarterly. Next class after Easter.

Hospital Visits Anointing of the Sick Please call office.

My Brothers and Sisters,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) posts notes regarding all the Books of the Bible. In its introduction to Paul's Letter to the Romans (our Second Reading), the USCCB says, "Of all the letters of Paul, that to the Christians at Rome has long held pride of place: It is the longest and most systematic unfolding of the apostle's thought, expounding the gospel of God's righteousness that saves all who believe; it reflects a universal outlook."

Paul's Letter to the Romans is in fact the longest of his letters in the New Testament. (Romans is more than 7,000 words; that is much shorter, of course, than the shortest Gospel, Mark, which is still more than 11,000 words.) However, as stated by the Bishops, the Letter to the Romans explained in a more detailed way Paul's theology and spirituality than any other letter.

Regardless the length, today's reading contains a statement with which many of us are familiar, but which has great meaning: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" The significance of that is that if we are on the side of righteousness, which should be a major goal of our Lenten experience, there should be nothing to threaten us.

We understand that we will be judged. Paul's point is if we are judged "not guilty" by God, who can bring an additional charge with any merit? Or, if Jesus is our advocate, promoting our benefit, then who can condemn us? This is the time to place our trust in God and in His love.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Stephen

A Stewardship Note on this Second Sunday of Lent

Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Issac.

St. Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare His own Son."

Are my gifts to the Lord – of my resources, of my time, of myself – also sacrificial?

Up Coming Events

- Stations of the Cross – Friday, March 2, 6PM in Waimea, followed by soup and bread in the hall hosted by lectors & ushers
- Adoration – Friday, March 2 following 7AM Mass-Noon and again from 6PM – 9PM in the Chapel.
- Youth Ministry Gathering – Saturday, March 3, 6PM
- Chrism Mass – Blessing of the Oils and Consecration of the Chrism – Thursday, March 8 at 6PM, St. Michael's Church – Kona
- Lenten Reconciliation Services (all at 6PM)
Thursday, March 22 – Annunciation Church-Waimea
Other West Vicariate Reconciliation Services:
March 13 – Our Lady of Lourdes-Honokaa
March 19 – St. Michael's – Kona
March 20 – St. John's - Kealakekua
March 21 – Sacred Heart - Hawi

Youth Ministry

ATTENTION High School Youth! Come join us for our monthly Youth Ministry gathering on Saturday, March 3rd from 6:00pm - 8:30pm in the parish hall.

RSVP by to annunciationyg96743@gmail.com or visit bit.ly/aym website for more information.

Deacon Formation Inquiry Weekends

As part of the inquiry process for men who are interested or discerning a call to the Diaconate, the Office of Permanent Deacon Formation will be having two Deacon Formation Inquiry Weekends at St. Stephens Diocesan Center for formation (which begins in January 2019). Attendance at either March 9-11, 2018 weekend or June 8-10, 2018 weekend is required to apply. Check out catholicahawaii.org/formation for more information or contact Deacon John Coughlin at 808-203- 6727 or jcoughlin@rcchawaii.org.

DON'T GIVE UP CHOCOLATE FOR LENT

Lent comes every year. It's meant to be a time when we invite God to help us become the-best-version-of-ourselves. But for many of us, Lent isn't a transformative experience. It's just a time when we give up chocolate or something else we enjoy, then go back to it at Easter.

This Lent, do something different. Join our parish for BEST LENT EVER, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that is designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. Each day, you'll receive an email with inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories.

Are you ready for the Best Lent Ever? SIGN UP AT DYNAMICCATHOLIC.COM/40Days

Evening Adoration Time for March 2

We will be having evening Adoration on the 1st Friday of March, this week Friday, March 2, 2018. Adoration will be held in Waimea Annunciation Church Blessed Sacrament Chapel from 6:00pm - 9:00pm. This is IN ADDITION to the First Friday Adoration following 7AM Mass - 12:00 Noon on the same day.

Please plan on spending some time with the Blessed Sacrament.

Habitat for Humanity Request for Help

Next month, Habitat for Humanity will begin a new critical home repair project in Kuhio Village, Waimea. They have a team of volunteers coming from the mainland to help; and have requested volunteers to help provide lunches for 15-17 people Tuesday, March 6th thru Friday March 9. If you can volunteer to bring sandwiches please call Amanda MacIntosh, Community Relations Coordinator for Habitat W. HI, at 808-491-5420. If you can help for a couple of weeks after that, they will be doing some additional construction work in the area as well and need volunteers in various ways. Mahalo!

Hawaiian Air - 5% off

Planning a trip to the mainland? Or a future trip back to the mainland for our visitors? Annunciation Catholic Church is now part of the Hawaiian Airlines Preferred Affiliate Program. With this program, parishioners and visitors will receive a 5% discount on all transpacific web fares booked through our Preferred Affiliate page, including First Class. Book your flight today by visiting www.hawaiianairlines.com/affiliate and enter the program code: Annunciation

Hospitality Sunday This Sunday

Please join your fellow parishioners and volunteers this Sunday after Mass for fellowship and refreshments.

Feb 14 & 17/18 Sunday Mass Count and Your Gift of Treasure		
Ash Wed.	145 (W) 150 (P)	\$2346.02
5PM	179 people	\$1594.00
8AM	236 people	\$1937.00
10AM	360 people	\$2809.95
<i>Mahalo for your gift of treasure!</i>		