

THE SCHOOL NEWS

1 KAILUA

St. Anthony School

We made adjustments to our holiday festivities by having a **drive-thru light display**. The event was a great success! Many thanks to our hard-working **PTSG** who made it possible. Pictured is first-grade teacher **Mrs. Ensley** "shoveling snow" during the drive-thru. After a wonderful break spent with family, we returned to school to start the third quarter, ready to go. Although this year has been a challenge, we are happy to report we have been on campus since the beginning of the school year (except for a couple of weeks of **distance learning for our middle schoolers**). Teachers, students and parents have adapted well and are very happy to be in school. We continue to follow the guidelines of "Mask Up, Wash Up and Stay Apart." We have had many inquiries about the next school year, so if you are thinking about it be sure to check out our website at www.saskailua.org to apply. To see what we have been doing since the beginning of the year, check out our SAS News and events on www.saskailua.org/watch-now-sas-videos. God bless and stay safe. (Reported by Patricia Barros)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE

2 KAPAA

St. Catherine School

God bless all of us in this new year! I just wanted to highlight an **amazing fundraiser** that our school did in December. Our beloved **PTG** tried to be creative in ways to fundraise this year. The forever tireless **Audrey Ventura**, a mother at our school, touched base with our dedicated and enthusiastic PE teacher, **Coach Andrea**, and our school's first ever **Move-a-Thon** was born. Students raised money through an online forum. Students practiced stamina during PE classes. Students as a class chose a fun playlist to keep them excited during the actual event. And then it happened! The event was livestreamed so that parents and sponsors could watch. Students had the option to run/walk laps, dance, or do fun activities with jump ropes and hula hoops. Everyone had a really fun time, social distancing was maintained, and over \$30,000 was raised for our school. Prizes and popsicles were passed out at a later date for all who helped make this fundraiser a very memorable one. Maybe this could be an option for your school as we try our best to keep our schools thriving while keeping everyone safe. Sending love from St. Catherine School. Pictured is **Justine Nelson**, second grader, completing another lap at our Move-a-Thon fundraiser. (Reported by Elizabeth Sancho)



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of the year. We are very grateful for **our team of parents, teachers and staff** who make this possible! Cleaning and sanitizing the campus costs over \$4,000 per month. Though the cost was not budgeted, it was deemed necessary and has proven effective. Many donors and organizations have pitched in to keep costs manageable. A huge mahalo to all the angels out there who keep us going strong! Some give a little, some sponsor a whole month, and all are appreciated and blessed: Service Master and the **Kleidosty Ohana**, our **Seahawks Angel**, **Hawaii Community Foundation**, **Isabelle T.**, the **Manuel Ohana**, **Alejandra D.**, **Theresa A.**, **Sister Margarita Souza**, **Sandy Kucera Memorial**, **STS Community Building Team** (car wash raised \$908! See's Candy fundraiser, \$4,703! online auction, \$2,256.77!), and all who use the **St. Theresa Catholic Church and School charity on AmazonSmile**. Thank you to all who participate, those who give anonymously, and all who keep us in your prayers. Catholic education is a blessing and we feel honored to be able to continue our mission during these trying times. The **school endowment program** is going strong. Each year, contributions are matched by a very generous donor. The fund provides stability and ensures longevity for the school. Many thanks to our 2020 endowment donors. They donated \$12,445, for a matched total of \$24,890. Wonderful! Mahalo to **Hawaii Community Foundation**, **Munar Ohana**, **J. Zavaglia**, **M. Nitta**, **Shimatsu Ohana**, **Phuong Riola Photography**. For more informa-

tion about our school, visit our website www.sttheresakauai.com. (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte)

3 HONOLULU

Damien Memorial School

In December, **Hui Maluaha**, **Damien Memorial Students for Life**, held a donation drive for the **Pearson Place Pregnancy Resource Center**, which helps women and families in unplanned and crisis pregnancies. Hui Maluaha president, **Arimathea Bennett**, a parishioner at **Our Lady of Sorrows** in Wahiawa, with the assistance of **Rani Laurel** of the church office and **Robert Pagaili** of the **Respect Life Ministry**, for three weekends, collected donations in a box at the back of the church. "It was so beautiful to talk to people after Masses and to hear their support for me, my group, and the cause," Arimathea said. I also raised money at my parish, the **Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa**, with the help of my friend, **Jarden Carbon**, and parish secretary **Teresa Jacobs**. At two weekend Masses, and at select Misa de Gallo and Simbang Gabi Masses, a box was placed at the reservations kiosk. During parish business hours, a jar was placed near the secretary's office window. It was a daunting task to collect money, especially during these uncertain times, but thanks to the kindness and generosity of the faithful at St. Theresa and Our Lady of Sorrows we were able to collect "Spare Change to Spare Lives." Pictured are **Bridgette Bennett**, **Arimathea Bennett**, **Susan Duffy** and **Mary Smart**. (Reported by Christian Raquepo)

4 HONOLULU

Holy Family Early Learning Center

To celebrate our 25th Anniversary, we conducted a **donation drive** in December for the **Aloha Diaper Bank**. The school collected donations of baby diapers, baby wipes and money to aid families with young children facing hardship. Aloha Diaper Bank's vision is for every child to be clean, dry and healthy. Faculty and staff were challenged to each donate a package of diapers for this worthy cause. At the end of the month, over 2,800 diapers, 106 packages of baby wipes, and \$50 was collected. To commemorate its 25th anniversary, the Early Learning Center is organizing one service project a month. Both the preschool and Holy Family Catholic Academy are invited to participate. In August, we collected 116 towels in a **pet shelter towel donation drive** for the **Hawaiian Humane Society**. In September, a **Quarter Drive** raised \$1,100 for **HUGS Hawaii**. In October, students created over 430 **Cards of Gratitude** for Hawaii's COVID healthcare workers. In November, a **canned food drive** delivered more than 1,300 cans (1,217 pounds of food) to the **Hawaii Foodbank**. For January, teacher **Ms. Mary McMillin** and her preschool class are hosting a **slipper drive** for the **Institute for Human Services**. We welcome monetary donations. Contact our director, **Allen Akiona**, at 421-1265 or aakiona@hfca-hawaii.org. Pictured are preschool students who helped collect diapers and baby wipes. Top, **Aiden D.**, **Mia H.**, **Lo-**

gan S. Middle, **Ashley B.**, **Mia T.**, **Lance A.** Bottom: **Anna A.**, **Ridley R.**, **Aubrey D.** (Reported by Suzanne Carlos)

5 HONOLULU

Star of the Sea Early Learning Center

Congratulations to assistant director and teacher, **Mrs. Sheila Makahanalo**, for her 40 years of dedicated service at our Early Learning Center! She retired in August 2020. Congratulations also to chef **Glenn Scooter Haraguchi**, pictured with assistant cook **Han Haraguchi**, for their 15 years of amazing culinary service at our school! They retired in December. (Reported by Lisa Foster)

6 HONOLULU

Holy Family Catholic Academy

On Jan. 4, **Mrs. Debbie Gibo** was featured as an **"Extraordinary Educator"** on **Hawaii News Now's** 4 p.m. newscast. Mrs. Gibo has been with our school since 1984 — that's over 36 years! She has worn many hats during her tenure — teacher, administrator, RTI teacher, student council advisor and liturgical coordinator to name just a few. Her commitment to the students and the mission of our school is commendable. Despite the challenges of the current pandemic, she continues to be flexible and work alongside and support her colleagues as a mentor. Principal **Ms. Celeste Akiu**, who nominated Mrs. Gibo for the Extraordinary Educator award said, "Her dedication and commitment as an educator reminds us all of why we became teachers." Congratulations, Mrs. Gibo! (Reported by Suzanne Carlos)

7 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Early Learning Center

We celebrated **Christmas** virtually. Pictured is the **Ladybug Class** as they sing the classic Christmas song **"Jingle Bells"** while their families watch the performance via Zoom. The school decided to have the classes perform virtually at three separate Zoom meetings, keeping safety in mind. This will make the first time a Christmas program was done without an audience, but it was appreciated and spirit-filled. The children made their own T-shirts and closed their program outside with a manger scene alongside the **Holy Family**. wishing all a happy and blessed New Year! (Reported by Helen Souza)

8 KAILUA

St. John Vianney School

Our **students, as well as our faculty and staff**, are happy to be back in the classrooms after a three-week break for the holidays. All classes resumed Jan. 4. Our parish school provides a Catholic education that helps each student grow into the very best person they can be. It is our mission to develop the gifts of each child so they may fulfill their God-given potential. Students also learn that they have a responsibility to respond to the needs of others and to make a difference in the world. Our teachers provide them with the foundation upon which to build a meaningful life as they prepare each student for success in higher education. **Our school motto is "inspiring hearts, minds and lives!"** You can learn more about our school and students on both **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/sjvkailua and on **Instagram** at [IG@sjvkailua](https://www.instagram.com/sjvkailua) and which interesting news stories are posted on both media. For more information, please call 261-4651. (Reported by Earl Walker)