

the parish news

1 PEARL CITY

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish

Our **Vacation Bible School** program was on Treasure Island, July 12-16, a week held outdoors and in-person. Through their adventures, children discovered that God's love is giving, kind, caring, forgiving and forever! (1 Corinthians 13:4-8) We had a great time with lively songs, creative crafts, exciting games, Bible stories and tasty snacks. Each day we learned about a wonderful saint. All these things make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children and the **amazing team of volunteers!** (Reported by Laurie Munoz)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE

2 EWA

Immaculate Conception Parish

"Remember those who led you, who spoke the Word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith." (Hebrews 13:7) Our parishioner spotlight this month is on **Manny Meno**, the pastoral council chair, member of the planning and building committee, a eucharistic minister, and the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Council 6734 at our parish. Manny served 30 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a colonel. He currently serves as a logistics management specialist for the Army at Fort Shafter. Manny has been married to his high school sweetheart **Lucille** for 32 years. They have two children, **Kevin and Samantha**. Manny and his family have been parishioners here since July 2016. Manny was exemplified into the Knights of Columbus in November of 2011 while stationed in the Republic of South Korea. Finally, Manny was born and raised in Guam and graduated from the University of Guam where he received his commission in the U.S. Army. Mahalo nui loa Manny for all your years of service and may our Lord continue to bless you and your family! (Reported by Normand HJ Robert)



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3 KIHAI

St. Theresa Parish

Our new pastor, **Father Arnel Soriano**, took up his position here on July 1. This is his first assignment on Maui and to familiarize himself with parishioners and activities, he has been busy holding meetings with all the different groups. Here he is pictured with parish leaders and heads of ministries. Father Arnel is finding out that a lot is going on here at this campus with both church and community events. He feels that the parish is very blessed by the talents and generosity of the parishioners and we feel that we are very blessed to have him here with us now. (Reported by Anita Carrington; photo by Candie Pinuala)



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4 LAHAINA

Maria Lanakila Parish

Our parish bid a fond **aloha and mahalo** to **Sister Rovie Jadlocon, SMF**, as she heads to Italy, at a parish "drive-by" parade, July 24, (due to COVID-19 restrictions). Sister Rovie was one of the first sisters to arrive in Lahaina and serve the church and school from the **Missionary Sisters of Faith** community who are based in Italy. Under the guidance of **Father Joseph Pathiyil** (pastor at the time), and the diligence of the **West side Catholic Community**, the sisters came July 1, 2016. Since then, they have spread their gifts and works in all areas of the school and church community. Sister Rovie worked in both areas until last year when she went full-time in the parish.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit and closed our doors, it was Sister who, using her media knowledge, kept Maria Lanakila alive by livestreaming the daily and Sunday Masses and posting an outrageous number of faith-filled pictures and messages on the church's Facebook page. Mid-summer Sister was elected by her community to be part of their leadership team. We will miss her vivacious and joyful spirit. We pray that God keeps her in his protection. (Reported by Mary Rosenthal)

5 KAHUKU/PUNALUU

St. Roch Parish/St. Joachim Mission

Our parish and mission continue to be active while following COVID guidelines. Our most special event celebrated the incardination of our new pastor **Father Sebastian Soosai** on July 11. The livestreamed Mass was presided over by **Bishop Larry Silva** and **Msr. Gary Secor**. Joining them were spiritual director **Father Ken Deasy**, minister of ceremonies **Regina Pfeiffer** and deacons **Keith Cabiles** and **Savilla Bartley**. The **Taira family** provided the music. The Mass was followed by a delicious

brunch organized by our hospitality committee — a grab-and-go burrito breakfast. We welcome Father Sebastian, pictured here with Bishop Silva, as our newly incardinated spiritual leader. ... During July, we had a daily rosary devotion in front of our newly-renovated grotto. Each evening the rosary was recited by a parish family. ... On July 26, we celebrated the feast day of St. Joaquin at St. Roch Church. We were joined by other priests including **Father Paul Li**, and three sisters. Special recognition was given to **Father Pascual Abaya**, rector of the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, who is celebrating 25 years as a priest. ... On July 31, we will host a seminar on bereavement by **Wesley Taira** who will cover how to help families grieving for lost loved ones. He will also speak about hospitality. Our goal is to provide a warm and loving service for our church families. ... We look forward to the celebration of the **feast of St. Roch** on Aug. 16 with **Bishop Silva**. ... We continue to pray the COVID prayer and pray for families who have suffered with the virus or have lost a loved one. (Reported by Sharin Au)

6 KALAHEO

Holy Cross Parish

We acknowledge a couple of very active parishioners honored by the greater community of the Garden Island: **Brian Kasperek** and **Allen Reis**. Brian was one of Kauai's 2021 Outstanding Older Americans celebrated by the **County's Agency on Elderly Affairs**. He was recognized in May for motivating many AARP volunteers and organizing tax preparation sites all over the island. He is an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, prepares the altar for Mass, heads the parish's stewardship commission and has been a member of the Holy Cross Church Noblemen. In May 2021, McBryde Resources, a subsidiary of **Alexander and Baldwin**, recognized Allen for his 50 years of service to Alexander and Baldwin and the community. Like Brian, Allen is an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, prepares the altar before Mass, and, as a catechist, assists families with Baptism preparation for their infants and children. We congratulate both gentlemen and thank them for their roles in the parish. We pray that God blesses them with good health. May the Spirit guide them as

they continue to steward their ministries. ... The parish's **Shared Blessings Social Ministry** joined the **YES Bus** pilot program, a collaborative street outreach initiative, June 2-July 22, with the **Department of Education** and its community partners including the food bank, health clinics, housing supports, libraries and enrichment programs. The parish provided food bags for the students and their families. ... The second summer project was the **yard sale** on July 24. Pictured are Parish Social Ministry members **Georgia Silva** and **Debra Soto** getting yard sale items ready. Besides yard sale items, two food plates, Filipino and Puerto Rican, were pre-sold. Mahalo from the ministry for your patronage of the event. If you want to be a part of the parish's Shared Blessings Social Ministry, contact a ministry member. Or email **Donna Miller**, parish social ministry coordinator, at sharedblessings808@gmail.com. ... **Moms, Dads, Aunties, Uncles, Grandmas and Grandpas** — **religious education registration** has begun. Sign up your children, nieces, nephews, and grandkids! The one-hour, in-person classes are on Sundays. Email holy-crosschurchccd.edge@gmail.com for the registration form. The first class will be Sept. 12. Catechists and substitutes are needed for all levels (K-5); training and support are provided. Please contact religious education coordinator **Caroline** at 651-3357. (Reported by Judy Cabanting; photo by Donna Miller)

7 HAIKU

St. Rita Parish

On June 20, our pastor **Father Chacko Muthoottil** baptized **Zerina Rayne Engoring** and **Keoni Roy Engoring**. Four generations of the **Martin and Esperanza Engoring ohana** witnessing this event. It was a blessing for St. Rita Church and its families to have the sacrament of Baptism and welcoming of these children of God into the Catholic Faith. (Reported by Esther Yap)

8 WAHIAWA

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

On June 13, the Gospel reading was a parable about the Kingdom of God. **Father Niko** in his homily drew a parallel with his plants. Ever since he came aboard at Our Lady of Sorrows, he has been planting. People tell him he has a "green thumb." He modestly says "no," his thumb is "brown." His passion for plants is amazing. The church is surrounded by blooming and flourishing plants. Instead of breathing dust, we have fresh air and beautiful flowers coming out of Mass. Flowering plants are used inside the church and brought outside only for sunshine and watering. Spending for expensive bouquets is eliminated. Relating to the Gospel, he said, "God's power, our faith and love, is what works, not a green thumb. All of us can make plants grow with God's power, will, love and our faith. We can give love to others through our faith and God's power. Pictured in front of the flowers around the church are **Marilyn Aracan, Elena Santos, Father Niko, Nida Agoo and Pacita Baron**. (Reported by Pacita Baron)

9 KALIHI VALLEY

Our Lady of the Mount Parish

The persisting threat of COVID-19 did not prevent the parish **Knights of Columbus Father Jose Nacu Council 12935** from regrouping and resuming its activities. First, the 20th-anniversary celebration of the council's establishment in May 2021 stirred and spurred them on. They held recruitment drives

which resulted in the online exemplification for the first, second and third degrees of four new members — **Andrew Mamotos, Noemi Joseph Llantero, Liberato Valdez and Alejandro Pe Benito**. New officers were elected under the guidance of the then-District Deputy **RJ Juanillo**. Their installation and blessing followed in June 2021. In attendance were State Deputy **Ryan Brown**, State Warden **Lito Alvarez** and District Deputies **Rolando Juanillo** and **Alex Ty**. KC Insurance agent **Knight Cicero Seisdedos** was the guest speaker. We congratulate the new officers of Council 12935 for the year 2021-2022: Grand Knight **Herman Monico**, Deputy Grand Knight **Andresito Magbojos**, Chancellor **Anthony Peterson**, Financial Secretary **Ropati Liua**, Recorder **Felix Santos**, Treasurer **Silverio A. Palting**, Warden **Frankie Cabral Jr.**, Lecturer **Abraham Pascual**, Trustee (one year) **Marcelino Ulep**, Trustee (two years) **Abraham Pascual**, Trustee (three years) **Alvin Baron**, Advocate **Florencio Sipalay**, Inside Guard **Vicente Velasco**, Outside Guard **Virgilio Cabico**, Chaplain **Father Edgar Brillantes**. We express our appreciation to the outgoing officers for their dedicated service and welcome the incoming ones wishing them all the best. The council members just signed up to assist in the **Hawaii Foodbank** annual fund drive on Aug. 14. They are also anticipating the first anniversary of the beatification of the Knights of Columbus founder, **Blessed Michael McGivney**, in October 2021. We invite our Catholic gentlemen, age 18 and up, to be counted among the thousands of Knights of Columbus all over the world. Join online at www.koc.org/joinus. Be a Knight and make a difference! (Written by Father Edgar Brillantes; reported by Francisca Kovaloff)



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10 MAKAKILO

St. Jude Parish

After the 5 p.m. Mass on May 8, the **vocations ministry** held its annual crowning of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**. This event often referred to as the May Crowning has parishioners offer fresh cut flowers and leis to our Blessed Virgin followed by the recitation of the rosary. Due to pandemic constraints, there was no potluck, but goodie bags and bottled water were distributed. The pandemic did not mar the faithful's desire to honor the month of May as Mother Mary's celebration of her motherhood and the special role she holds in our lives. (Reported by Tere Hunt)

11 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Parish

Altar server **Luke Jones** is at the Benedictine Monastery on the Isle of Wight in the United Kingdom attending a "monastic internship" for men 18 to 25. It offers candidates the opportunity to live in the monastery for eight weeks, following a way of life similar to

that of the monks. Luke will be there two-and-a-half months and afterward will go to the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill in Oxford, England. After the Carmelites, he will attend other monasteries or perhaps some priestly fraternities. He returns in late November or early December when he plans to meet **Father Joseph Diaz**, diocesan vocation director. We ask your prayers for Luke Jones as he journeys to pursue his call. (Reported by Deacon Patrick Constantino; photo by Jacob Metz)

KAILUA

St. John Vianney Parish

The feast day of **St. John Vianney** is Aug. 4, however, our parish celebrated it on the weekend of July 31 and Aug. 1. We prayed a novena prayer in his honor for nine days prior to his feast day. ... August is also the 59th anniversary of our beloved parish, which serves Enchanted Lake and the surrounding area. It was in August 1962 that the Diocese of Honolulu established the new parish to serve the growing Kai-

lua community. We pray that next year we will be able to celebrate our **60th anniversary** together as a family with festive events and activities. ... Each month one of our many ministries gives a presentation at all the Masses. This year-long plan was organized by our stewardship committee to encourage more participation among our parishioners. For August, members of our **RCIA Team** will explain the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for those who want to join the Catholic Church. ... We continue to honor the **Year of St. Joseph**, declared by Pope Francis, with a monthly insert in our weekend bulletin about the saint with a beautiful picture of him with the child Jesus. (Reported by Earl Walker)

12 HAWI

Sacred Heart Parish

What a **whirlwind summer!** From easing off on protocols in June for COVID-19, numbers were going in the right direction, **down**, to planning social gatherings (which were

so missed) to picking up on fundraising for our parish, to getting ready for the painting of our church in and out (much needed), to back to the **Worst COVID Numbers Ever**. What more can we say. ... **Be Safe Kohala** as we begin the new school year. The photo is of the last Mass celebrated in our church before the new painting began. (Reported by Lee Rivera)

13 KEKAHA

St. Theresa Parish

Our parish is certainly blessed! We welcomed **nine new members** into the Body of Christ receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion on July 18. **Bishop Larry Silva** presided, with pastor **Father Edwin D. Conselva, M.S.**, concelebrating, and **Deacons Bambi Emayo, Andy Ragasa and Averiet Soto** assisting. Sponsors, family and invited guests filled our church, while continuing to follow all COVID-19 guidelines to witness the reception of these sacraments. Our parish thanks our religious education

coordinator **Mary Ann McMillen** and religious education instructors **Susan Chandler, Mary Alvarez-Manuel** and **David Verdugo** for teaching and guiding these young disciples on their faith journey! RCIA classes are available for adults and others who have not yet completed the sacraments of initiation. Contact **Clarissa Emayo** at 651-9725 or call our parish office at 337-1548 to register for classes, which begin in September. It's a great time to start your faith journey! Registration for basic religious education for kindergarten and first grades, as well as Confirmation and First Communion, for grades two to 12, will be accepted Aug. 1-31. Please contact religious education coordinator **Mary Ann McMillen** at 639-7067. **Youth Ministry** is also welcoming students in grades six through 12 (don't need to be Catholic). Contact **Rena and Blu Ulanday** at 635-2701. We wish all incoming students a most productive and safe school year! (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte; photo by Addy (Mattos) Gilliam)

14 PAHOA

Sacred Heart Parish

A statue of **St. Damien** created by parishioner **Bill Cesaliotti**, pictured, will be dedicated soon. A plaque will be installed at the base of the statue describing St. Damien's journeys across the Big Island (especially Puna and Kohala) establishing churches throughout. (Reported by Richard J. Robbins)

15 WAILUKU

St. Anthony Parish

The welcoming ceremony for our new pastor **Msgr. Terry Watanabe**, new parochial vicar **Father Ace Tui** and **David Kenney**, the new head of St. Anthony School, took place July 25 after the 10 a.m. Mass. **Stephen Kealoha**, chairman of the parish pastoral council, opened the program by inviting Msgr. Terry and Father Ace to the front of the altar for a blessing. Kealoha prayed a prayer of blessing while the rest of the parishioners extended their hands in unity and love over their new shepherds. Then the assembly sang "Hoonani Ka Makua Mau" and representatives of the pastoral council presented the two priests with gifts. The school board, represented by **Jeanne Unemori Skog**, introduced David to the parish. Msgr. Terry then said a prayer of blessing over David and his wife, **Kathleen**, who were greeted with applause. Likewise, the school board presented all three with gifts. Father Ace spoke words of gratitude to the pastoral council and school board for their "abundant" gift of aloha and support. (Reported by Father Ese'ese "Ace" Tui)

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