

the parish news

1 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

A deacon and his wife, a seminarian, catechists, lectors, musicians, sacristans, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, ushers, members of Respect Life Ministry, Catholic Women's Circle, Bereavement Ministry, Sacred Hearts Society, First Saturday Marian Devotion and Holy Trinity Prayer Group, food pantry, Samoan Ministry, Filipino Catholic Club, Knights of Columbus, Media Group, church cleaners and Parish Pastoral Council — practically all ministries and parish groups were represented in a retreat/workshop March 5 at our parish. Fifty participants came, most of whom currently serve in more than one ministry. They came to watch six segments of the video "The Universal Call to Holiness" by **Franciscan at Home**, a catechetical institute of Franciscan University at Steubenville. Franciscan at Home is a diocesan resource for **lay ecclesial ministry formation and certification**. When asked about the take-aways from the retreat/workshop, **Michael Leonardo-Pila**, an usher and member of the parish pastoral council, said "it allowed me to reflect on the things that I do on a daily basis and made me realize that if we trust in God, he has a plan for us." While wife **Aileen**, a catechist and lector, added that "in our Lenten journey to strengthen our relationship with God, we realize the desire is mutual. As we seek him, he also seeks us." Their daughter **Emily**, a lector and catechist assistant, understood that "God will call us individually, but wants us to respond as a community," and son **Joshua**, also a lector and catechist assistant, added that "when we look for God in the simple things, we begin to see that he is everywhere in our daily lives." Other comments from participants included "Holiness is doing those things that please God, walking with God in his ways, avoiding temptation and obeying God's words," by **Cora Yahiku**, lector and member of Sacred Heart Society. Catechist **Susan Marbella** said "the retreat is a time for us to reflect and recollect our own calling. It is the time for us to answer the call of our Lord and our goal is to be with him in his Kingdom." **Eleanor Ragojo**, a catechist and extraordinary minister of holy Communion, said that "holiness is one universal word to describe God's utmost love for us throughout all his wonderful creations and all the blessings we receive in our life." **Ana Dumlaio**, the leader of First Saturday Marian Devotion and Holy Trinity Prayer Group, stated that "holiness is serving God and all the people around you with happiness, gratefulness, humility and a 100 percent love which could only be achieved through God's grace and through the intercession of Mama Mary and St. Joseph." **Lyn Salis**, a lector and catechist, said that she "came away with humility and the realization to be strong, steadfast and committed to my calling in holiness." (Reported by *Julia Torres*; photo by *Anthony Tran*)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE



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Lenten Mission this year will be on Tuesday, March 29, and Wednesday, March 30. The subject for Tuesday is **Saints and Relics**, and for Wednesday, **Marian Apparitions**. Join us for this informative and inspirational two-night event led by **Peter Cruz**. ... Our parish faith formation committee continues our Year of the Holy Spirit with monthly informative flyers distributed to parishioners. During March, the focus was on the Gift of Wisdom from the Holy Spirit. For April, our focus will be the Holy Spirit's Gift of Understanding. ... Our parish is looking forward to Holy Week and Easter Sunday. (Reported by *Earl Walker*)

3 KEKAHA

St. Theresa Parish

As if we don't have enough chickens on Kauai! Our parish came together and the results were a most successful and good-fun fellowship **kiawe grilled chicken fundraiser!** Parishioners from both St. Theresa and Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church (our mission church in Waimea) came together and worked as brothers and sisters in Christ. Although it was a lot of work, everything came together for a very successful event. We have so many people to thank but will suffice to say that everyone was appreciated for whatever part they had

in bringing this to fruition. Mahalo to everyone who bought tickets and got to enjoy the onolichous chicken! Pictured are from left, back row, are **Deacon Bambi, Charlie Raco, Father Edwin, Blu Ulanday**. Front row, **Lola Cruz and Rena Ulanday**. (Reported by *Chantal A. Duarte*; photo by *Ursuline Munar*)

4 EWA

Immaculate Conception Parish

Grand Knight Manny Meno Council 6734 with the **Hawaii Chapter of Knights on Bikes** represented by its vice-president **Jose Rafael Nater-Rodriguez**, brought the Silver Rose to our church March 5 and 6. On both days, parishioners of, including many children from the **parish religious education program**, participated in the Silver Rose Prayer Service. Here is a brief history of the Silver Rose: **Our Lady of Guadalupe** did so much for her people in Mexico that, in 1960, the **Columbian Squires**, a youth organization of the Knights of Columbus, wanted to give something back to her. The group of young men in Council 2312 in Monterrey, Mexico, had the idea of running a rose to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico. The rose was chosen to commemorate **Juan Diego** and the miracle

of the roses, an important part of the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The first rose was a natural rose blessed by **Bishop John C. Cody** of London. It was then flown to New York where it was received by **Grand Knight Joseph Thomasen** who took it to **Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart**. Mr. Hart then shepherded the rose to Dallas, Texas. There, **Texas State Deputy Jack Collierin** received the rose and took it to Laredo, Texas, where it was finally given to the Squires from Monterrey, Mexico, at the International Bridge in Laredo. They ran the rose from the International Bridge through Sabinas Hidalgo, Mexico, to Cienega de Flores and on to the Basilica in Monterrey, Mexico, on Dec. 12, 1960. After the March 6 service, the catechists reiterated to the children that the Silver Rose was started by children their age and no matter how old you are, if you Love the Lord, anything can happen. Council 6734 and the Hawaii Chapter of Knights on Bikes pray that other councils and parishes, will request a visit from the Silver Rose. (Reported by *Normand HJ Robert*)

5 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Parish

Father Michael and **Deacon Pat** welcome back a packed capacity church with pandemic restrictions lessened. It

was a beautiful way to start our Lenten season! We just about ran out of the Body of Christ! Thank God for the message and miracle of the multiplication of bread and fish! We expect higher church attendance as Lent advances. Let us make this Lent the best ever with prayers, alms giving, and whatever we can do to the least of brothers and sisters with a lot of love in life and faith! Amen! (Reported by *Patrick Constantino*; photo by *Jacob Metz*)

6 HAIKU

St. Rita Parish

Our parish proudly presented **Gloria Madden-Barsinas** and **Nathaniel David-Paul Dennis** at the **Rite of Election** at St. Anthony Church March 5 with **Bishop Larry Silva**. Gloria and Nathaniel are looking forward to receiving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. This dedication to preparation is exactly what they "SIGNED UP FOR" as Bishop Silva explained in his beautiful homily — dedication to Christ. (Reported by *Christine Matheis*)

7 KAHUKU

St. Roch Parish

On Feb. 13 in conjunction with **Valentine's Day** we recognized all married couples in our parish, especially those married 50 or more years, with a special Mass, gifts and flowers. The church was beautifully decorated. Our couples processed down the aisle with **Father Sebastian** and the 50-year couples had special seating. Each of them shared their secrets for their long, healthy and happy marriages. Their words were very inspiring. ... Our **religious ed fundraising car wash** was a huge success and lots of fun. The weather was perfect. Thank you, Father Sebastian, teachers, students' parents and friends for your participation and thank you to those who had their cars washed. We appreciate everyone's support. ... All 16 members of our incoming **parish council** were installed during our Sunday Mass. They have accepted the responsibilities of serving our church. Thank you! ... We now have a **healing Mass** on the third Sunday of every month at 9:30 a.m. If you need a healing blessing, please join us. ... On the first Sunday of each month, we will be joined by our newly formed **Children's Choir**. It is such a delight to hear these young voices singing songs of praise. ... We will have a **Novena to St Joseph** March 10-18 following our 9 a.m. Mass. The feast of St Joseph is March 19. ... We have a three-day Lenten retreat March 29-31 with **Father Herman Gomes**. Our penitential service and confession will be on day three. Eight priests from the Windward Vicariate will be joining us. ... On April 15, we have a **day of prayer and meditation** scheduled from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. when we will have family adoration. At 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. we will have **ventionation of the cross**, and at 4 p.m. **Stations of the Cross**. ... We have two candidates for our RCIA Sacrament of Initiation this year during our Easter Vigil Mass at 6:30 p.m. They are **Malikai Meneses** and **Mariah Meneses**. We look forward to welcoming them into the Catholic Faith. ... For **Easter Sunday** we will have a sunrise service at 6 a.m., at **St. Joachim Church** in Punaluu. We are hoping to livestream it. We will also have two Masses at St. Roch at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. ... Our annual **Easter egg hunt** is being planned by our religious ed teachers. ... On April 24, six candidates will receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and Confirmation at 6 p.m. Mass. **Bishop Larry Silva** will preside. ... We have been working hard planning a ministry fair and appreciation dinner for May 1. Details will be shared in the next issue. ... We continue to pray the **COVID prayer** for those suffering from the virus, those who have lost loved ones, and those who have passed. Wishing a blessed Holy Week and a happy Easter to all. (Reported by *Sharin Au*)