

# THE SCHOOL NEWS

## 1 HONOLULU

### Damien Memorial School

Math teacher **Dan Mawyer** was the recipient of Chaminade University's individual **2022 Ka Hooulu Innovation Awards**. He was recognized as being a school champion in the areas of technology, computing and robotics. He has built coding challenges, robotics teams and STEM activities that engage students in technology, critical thinking and teamwork. During the COVID crisis, Mawyer stepped up to the plate and offered his expertise to use technology, particularly digital communications, to keep the school community informed and unified. The whole school benefitted from his innovative approach in creating visually appealing and informative content for sharing and online learning. The Ka Hooulu Awards were created in 2020 to recognize outstanding educators from Catholic schools throughout the state. Pictured, from left, are **Arnold Laanui**, president and CEO of Damien Memorial; **Helen Turner** of Chaminade; **Daniel Mawyer**; **Nicole Paishon**, assistant principal of Damien; and **Dr. Kyle Atabay**, principal. (Reported by Stacey (Higa) Ishii)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE



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## 2 HONOLULU

### Maryknoll School

On Sept. 8, we gathered as a school community and had the honor of having **Bishop Larry Silva** preside over our **95th anniversary Mass**. We were blessed to have our **Maryknoll Sisters**, who founded the school in 1927, attend the celebration. We were also incredibly blessed to have Hawaii Catholic Schools superintendent **Llewellyn Young**, former school leaders, and members of our school board, and alumni council join in our festivities. Alumna **Mailani Makainai** ('98) sang "Pu'u Malia," the beautiful mele she wrote for the school in 2014, which has become our signature song at graduation and on special occasions. The culmination of the event was the entire community singing "Happy Anniversary" to honor Maryknoll School's 95th anniversary as well as the 75th anniversary of our sister organization **Catholic Charities Hawaii** — a serendipitous moment since the Maryknoll Sisters also founded the nonprofit. School president **Shana Tong** ('83) was joined by Catholic Charities Hawaii president and CEO **Rob Van Tassell** at the cake presentation. Pictured are current and former Maryknoll leaders, from left, former high school principal **Betsey Gunderson** ('68), former grade school principal **James Gahler**, former high school principal **Andrew Corcoran** ('64) and Shana Tong ('83). (Reported by Lori A.K. Carlos)



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## 3 KAHULUI

### Christ the King Early Learning Center

The children learned about world peace as they prepared a banner for the celebration of **World Peace Day**. A short ceremony consisting of prayers, thoughts, songs and a moment of silence to reflect on the peace we receive through **Jesus**. The children shared their thoughts. Here are some of their comments: "Sharing is caring," "love and hugs," "helping each other,"

"praying for one another," "respecting each other," and "I Love Father Gus." The release of the doves symbolized the hope for peace throughout the world. The children were allowed to pet one of the doves. ... Our **pre-schoolers** planned a small presentation of appreciation for our priests, **Father Augustine Uthuppu** and **Father Napoleon Andres**. The children presented each of them with a lei, a card and songs of appreciation in celebration of **Priesthood Sunday**. With their bright big smiles they showed their love and thanksgiving for all that they do for our church and school. (Reported by Mildred S. Chargualaf; photo by Susan Hiraoka)

## 4 HONOLULU

### Mary, Star of the Sea School

In September, our school was awarded the team **Ka Hooulu Innovation Award** for its literacy program. This team award, created by **Chaminade Center for Strategy and Innovation**, recognizes outstanding educators and programs from Catholic schools throughout the state. **Laci Hitchcock**, the curriculum director, received the award from **Helen Turner** from Chaminade and **Llewellyn Young**, superintendent of Hawaii Catholic Schools. The teachers feel very honored and are committed to keeping up this movement of lifelong learning and building a reading culture that is

part of their DNA. (Reported by Lorenna Vogeler)

## 5 KAPAA

### St. Catherine School

The school had a ceremony on Sept. 21, marking the **International Day of Peace** at 8 a.m. by the campus **Peace Pole**. Vice principal **Kristel Bedford** served as emcee and gave the history of pole. **Deacon Andy Ragasa** led the peace prayer. Music teacher **Rosie Alfiler-Taboniar** gave the Hawaiian blessing. **Father Nick Apetorgbor** gave the final peace blessing. Prayers were inserted in the top of peace pole. (Reported by Geri Guino Cuenca)

## 6 KAILUA

### St. John Vianney School

Our **entire student body and staff** were happy to shower **Father Vincent Vu** with love and appreciation at the school Mass on Sept. 23. In the short time he has been with us, he has captured our hearts with his enthusiasm and obvious love of our school! We are so grateful to the Lord for sending him to us. ... The **SJV Halau**, under the direction of **Kumu Jack McKeague**, marched and performed in the **Aloha Festivities Parade** on Sept. 24! They were remarkable as they performed the Hawaiian War Chant. ... **School conferences** are scheduled for three half days: Oct. 17 through Oct. 19. We are happy that conferences could be held in person this year. Parent-teacher conferences are a chance to get to know a child's teacher, learn about the curriculum and discuss each child's strengths and weaknesses in various areas. It also gives us a chance to learn from the parent about their child's special needs or interests. Our students experience God's grace and presence in their lives through their relationships with family, friends and teachers. Through our comprehensive academic and extracurricular programs students develop a strong foundation on which to build bright academic futures. They also learn that they have a responsibility to respond to the needs of others and to make a difference in the world. (Reported by Earl Walker)

## 7 MAKAWAO

### St. Joseph Early Learning Center

The **school staff** enjoyed a relaxing and Spirit-filled retreat on Sept. 16 at the **Sacred Hearts Mission Church** in Kapalua. The retreat was facilitated by **Father "Ace" Tui** from St. Anthony Church in Wailuku. The staff celebrated Mass, reflecting on the importance of the Holy Eucharist. They also had meditation moments on the Act of Faith prayer, Act of Hope prayer and the Act of Love prayer. After the retreat the participants enjoyed a refreshing lunch. Mahalo to Father Ace Tui and the **Maria Lanakila Catholic Church staff**. (Reported by Helen Souza; photo by Renette Koa)

## 8 HONOLULU

### St. Theresa School

On Sept. 16, **eighth-grade students** paired up with **kindergartners** to complete their first of many service learning projects for the year. This project included decorating cards and writing well wishes to **kupuna at Lanakila Senior Center**. In pairs, kindergarten "littles" drew pictures and told their eighth-grade "biggies" what to write in their messages. Before sending in their completed projects, each pair prayed over their cards to bless the person who would receive it. This is one way the eighth-grade class has stepped into a new role of leadership and responsibility this school year. They also assist their little buddies every Friday at Mass by demonstrating proper behavior in church and how to respond appropriately. Pictured are eighth-grade student, **Lilinoe Caris**, and her kindergarten buddy, **Charmie Corpuz**, showing the card they made for a kupuna at Lanakila Senior Center. (Reported by Johannah Kane)