

the parish news

1 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Parish

Two hundred youth from the Pacific islands of Hawaii, Saipan, Guam, Palau and Kiribati, along with over a half-million other young people from all over the world, left their homes this week to greet the Holy Father and celebrate their Catholic faith at World Youth Day in Lisbon Aug. 1-6. At our parish, in preparation for their departure, 25 youth spent July 22 in prayer, culminating in a joyful celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. The next day, their pastor, **Father Edison**, gave the pilgrims a departing blessing during the Sunday morning Mass. They flew to Madrid, Spain, to join other Pacific islanders, and will go by train to Lisbon to see the Holy Father on Sunday, Aug. 7. The following day they will meet with youth from the many **Neocatechumenal Communities** of Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas, where the initiators of the Way, **Kiko Arguello**, **Father Mario and Asuncion** will greet them. Two days later they will travel north to Santiago de Compostela, the end of the Way of St. James, in Spain with more than 8,000 youth and catechists of the Neocatechumenal Way from the United States. **Noah Alo**, 18, of Makawao, who just graduated from Kamehameha High School, said he is going on this pilgrimage "because I want to have an encounter with Jesus Christ and hope to receive some direction as to my vocation in life." (Reported by *Father John Wadeson*)

2 KALIHI VALLEY

Our Lady of the Mount Parish

After the 9 a.m. Mass on July 23, our pastor, **Father Edgar Brillantes**, led his parishioners in blessing the newly-erected **Memorial for the Unborn** nestled in a side garden of the church. The project is the initiative of the **Knights Our Lady of the Mount Council 12935**, supported by the councils of **Immaculate Conception**, Ewa, and **St. John the Evangelist**, Mililani. The work was a collaborative effort by our parish Knights and volunteer parishioners led by **Kalolo Tuihalafatai** and his crew who erected the concrete structure. Our Knights, led by the **Grand Knight George Roberts** affixed the marble slabs onto the concrete. Our parish gratefully acknowledges the following donors: **M. Nakai Repair Service Ltd.** for donating the concrete, lumber and rebar; District Deputies **RJ Juanillo** and **Patrick Guzman** for the Plaque of the Unborn; George Roberts for the marble slabs; and parish Knights **Vicente Velasco**, **Renato dela Rosa**, **Andy Magbojos**, **Alex Pe Benito** and **Frankie Cabral** for completing the job. Decorative plants were added by the parish maintenance man, **Carlito Centino**, and the flowers and candles used for the blessing were provided by parishioners and members of the **Decorating Committee**. The **Knights of Columbus** worldwide are promoting their advocacy for life by erecting memorials for the unborn. Everyone is invited to stop by the memorial and say a prayer for all the children who were not given the chance to see the light of day. They surely pray for us in return. May we all value and uphold the sanctity of life from conception to natural death and promote a culture of life in our society. *Vivat Jesus!* (Reported by *Francisca Kovaloff*; photo by *Pamela Fontanilla*)



3 KEKAHA
St. Theresa Parish
Summertime, summertime, sum, sum, summertime! Well, we still have until Sept. 23 to enjoy summer; however, most schools resume learning on Aug. 7. Our parish is no exception, so while a **lot of our parishioners** enjoyed vacations here and there, it's time for things to gear up for fall. A lot of things are returning to "almost normal" now that most COVID restrictions have been lifted. We still need to be vigilant, but it's nice to have "normal" back. We are creatures of habit, so normal is nice. Here's wishing everyone happy remaining days of summer before fall begins and all of our special liturgical celebrations return. As a reminder, God's covenant of love appears above our church in the attached photo. (Reported by *Chantal A. Duarte*)

4 WAIALUA

St. Michael Parish

On June 17, **Father Romple Emwalu** took the time to honor the parish **Leadership Team** here and at **Sts. Peter and Paul Mission** with a **Thanks-**

giving Mass and luncheon. The Mass was joyful and the luncheon included a delicious catered meal from **Mana Pua**. Being together and breaking bread as a group allowed us to grow in fellowship. After lunch, we sang karaoke! Indeed, it was a great day to give thanks for all our blessings. It also was a time to remind us to move forward in our ministries, forming disciples in each and every ministry. (Reported by *Carolyn Alameida*)

5 WAILUKU

St. Anthony Parish

On July 19, nearly 200 clergy and Christian faithful of churches on Maui and Lanai were blessed to participate in an inspirational event with **Deacon Larry Oney** and his wife **Andi Oney**. They traveled to Hawaii from **Divine Mercy Parish** in Kenner, Louisiana, for the **I Thirst Eucharistic Conference**, coordinated by the Maui/Lanai Vicariate, focused on the Eucharistic Revival sweeping across our country. The couple gave an inspirational presentation about the parishioners' role in the church and the importance of the Eucharistic Revival. This gathering is the first of several parish presenta-



tions observing the Eucharistic Revival Year. (Reported by *Stephanie Hall*; photo by *Madelyn Pascual*)

6 KAILUA

St. John Vianney Parish

We will celebrate the 61st anniversary of our beloved parish on the weekend of Aug. 5-6. Our parish was named in honor of **Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney**, who was ordained in 1805 and became the humble priest of Ars, France. Within a short time, his reputation as a confessor grew, and people began coming to him from all parts of France and other countries. During the last 10 years of his life, he spent 16 to 18 hours a day in the confessional. He was canonized in 1925 and declared the patron saint of parish priests in 1929 by **Pope Pius XI**. On July 27 our parishioners and school students began a novena to our patron ending on his feast day, Aug. 4. On Saturday evening we will celebrate a special Mass with our **Youth Band** as music ministers, followed by food and drink on the Fellowship Lanai. On Sunday, Aug. 6, we will celebrate Mass at 7, 9 and 11 a.m. with breakfast served by

students from our school after each Mass. Our pastor **Father Vincent Vu** says, "May St. John Vianney pray for all our priests, pray for us, and pray for the mission of our parish. Amen." We look forward to this celebration which will honor the rich history of our parish and its people. For more information, please contact the parish office at 808-262-8317. (Reported by *Earl Walker*)

7 HAIKU

St. Rita Parish

On Sunday, June 4, **Father Joseph Pathiyil** visiting from California celebrated Mass with **Father Chacko Muthoottil**. It was a blessing to have two priests of the **Missionaries of Faith** greeting parishioners as they arrived for Mass. It was Father Chacko's birthday and before Mass ended, we sang happy birthday to Father and **Diane Nifong**, a parishioner who celebrated the same birthday. We gathered after Mass to celebrate the occasion. It was a beautiful and memorable day for all who attended. (Reported by *Esther Yap*)

8 KAHUKU

St. Roch Church

On June 30, our pastor of three years, **Father Sebastian Soosai**, was reassigned to **St. Elizabeth Church** in Aiea. Before he left, we had our final Bible class and Father Sebastian designed and distributed beautiful certificates, which he awarded to each student at our graduation ceremony (pictured). A potluck dinner followed. ... We had a farewell party for Father on June 26. Each ministry head spoke, expressing appreciation for all the accomplishments Father Sebastian completed with the help of parishioners. Father surprised us with a traditional dance from his home country of India. We had lots of entertainment by the parishioners and a potluck dinner with an extensive, delicious menu. We wish Father Sebastian the best at his new assignment, and we will continue to remember him in our prayers. Thank you sincerely, Father. ... On July 1, we welcomed **Father Paul John "PJ" Camiring**, who came to us from St. Elizabeth Church. We have had several meetings to familiarize him with the ministries, the leaders, and the parishioners. Father is learning everyone's name and the workings of our little country church. We look forward to working with and supporting him. Father is planning retraining classes to update members of the ministries on the required protocol. ... On July 26 we had a special Mass for the **Feast of St. Joachim** and on July 28 a potluck gathering on the grounds of St. Joachim after Mass to celebrate the feast day. Aug. 16 is the feast of St. Roch, our parish patron saint. Mass will be at 9 a.m. On Sunday, Aug. 20, a lunch will celebrate the feast day. ... We would like to say thank you very much and farewell to **Wesley Taira** and his family. They provided the beautiful music each Sunday at our 9:30 a.m. Mass. We will miss them. ... We have new ministry heads: **Junior Garo** of the extraordinary ministers and **Wayne and Barbara Hookano** of our altar servers. ... Our **Knights of Columbus** are planning a pancake breakfast for the near future. ... The **Diocese of Honolulu Evangelization Task Force** continues to join us at St. Joachim on the first Saturday of each month where we also have our Healing Mass. (Reported by *Sharin Au*)

EDITOR'S CHOICE