

the parish news

1 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

A **Teaching Mass** was the topic of our parish **Eucharist Retreat** for two Saturdays, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1. The retreat, initially intended for first Communicants and their parents, was also attended by liturgical ministers and non-liturgical parishioners. Over 100 adults spent two Saturdays with our pastor **Father Ed Barut**. **Father Kurt Meyer**, parochial vicar, took care of the children with assistance from our first Communion catechists **Aurora Agcaoili, Valerie Alvarez, Mela Kim, Joe Rayray** and **Priscila Rayray**. The children's group learned the meaning of "Ite Missa Est" and what it meant to be on a mission after Mass by making a catapult. They also made their own first Communion banner with help from the **middle schoolers**. Father Ed explained to the adults the Mass from beginning to end. He highlighted the gestures of both priest and assembly. Small group sharing offered participants an opportunity to reflect on what they learned. The parish is grateful to the small group facilitators who led spirited discussions: **Stan Alvarez, Elisa Bautista, Sally Bautista, Martha Camacho, Wayne Campos, Deacon Rey Dinulong, Jo-Ann Dinulong, Melinda Gambol, Deacon Eric Kim, Aileen-Leonardo-Pila, Lyn Salis, Terra Harding, Sandy Javar** and **Lourdes Tupper**. The retreat ended with the Mass for the day around 1:30 p.m. As an offshoot of the retreat, the first Communicants are required to attend the 11 a.m. Mass every Sunday thereafter and to occupy the front three rows to focus on the Mass and to practice what they learned at the retreat, including the gestures. Pictured are most of the retreatants with Father Ed and Father Kurt. (Reported by Julia Torres)

2 KAHUKU

St. Roch Parish

Our devoted **Divine Mercy** members (pictured), led by **Lydia Daquioag**, held a novena for **St. Joseph**, the spouse of our Blessed Virgin Mary, March 10-18. On March 19 we celebrated the feast of St. Joseph with a potluck at the parish hall. Follow the activities and events of St. Roch and St. Joachim, on our **Facebook** page at <https://www.facebook.com/KahukuHawaii> or access our official website www.strochkahuku.com. ... We also have online giving at <http://www.osvhub.com/strochkahuku/funds>, if you would like to support our religious education building and maintenance, Mass intentions, a general contribution, or our urgent rectory repair. All donations are greatly appreciated.



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EDITOR'S CHOICE



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The site is secure. ... We have set our **Lenten-Easter schedule**. Each Friday during Lent we have stations of the cross at 7 a.m. and on the first Friday of each month we have adoration at 7 p.m. Our St. Joachim Palm Sunday Mass is April 12 at 4:45 p.m. St. Roch Masses are 7:45 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. April 13. We will have a procession with palms meeting at the grotto 15 minutes prior to the start of the Mass. **Holy Thursday Mass** is at 7 p.m. **Good Friday Stations** are at 5 p.m. Veneration of the Cross is at 7 p.m. **Easter Vigil Mass** will be at 7 p.m. at St. Roch. Easter Sunday Mass will be 8 a.m. at St. Roch and 10:30 a.m. at St. Joachim Church in Punaluu. There will be an Easter egg hunt for the children, with lots of prizes, on the grounds of St. Roch following the 8 a.m. Mass, along with fellowship in the parish hall. We continue with meditation every second and fourth Wednesday at St. Roch 3-5:30 p.m. "It is a time of silence and individual prayer for it is in the silence that we hear God's voice." ... Our new

confession hours at St. Roch are every first Friday 7:15-7:45 p.m., every Wednesday 8:15-8:45 a.m. and by appointment every Tuesday and Thursday. At St. Joachim, confessions will be heard from 4:15-4:45 p.m. ... Take a close look at the booklet inserted in your Rice Bowl. Use the calendar to pray, fast and give. Each week includes creative ways to give alms which you can donate at the end of Lent. On March 29, on the grounds of St. Joachim, we will have an all-day **Lenten Hope Retreat** led by **Father Bong**, starting at 9 a.m. and ending with Mass at 5 p.m. We are looking forward to this beautiful day. A healthy, happy blessed Easter to all from St. Roch/St. Joachim Parish. (Reported by Sharin Au)

3 KALAHEO

Holy Cross Parish

We welcome the new **Young Women** group into our parish. Please pray for the young women who attend these sessions and for others to join. Please also pray for the organizers who share their

talent, time and faith. ... A belated thank you to **Father Melchor Palomares** from the Diocese of Laoag in the Philippines assisted at our parish in January while our pastor, **Father Danny Galang, MS**, was on a trip. ... Thankfully, one of the bigger parish repair and maintenance projects is completed. The stone pillars at the entrance gate to our church have been repaired. They look sturdier and cleaner and ready to last another 100 years. Thanks to the masonry contractor and our parishioners for their generosity. ... Lent began on Ash Wednesday and one opportunity for our Lenten preparation was the parish **Lenten Retreat** March 15 facilitated by **Peter Cruz** of St. Anthony Parish in Kailua, Oahu. He spoke on the canonization process, saints and the Eucharist and displayed some of his collection of relics. Feedback from the participants, which included members of other Kauai parish, reflected awe, amazement and an overwhelming awakening of renewed faith. Many thanks to

Peter and those who made the retreat happen. ... Please mark your calendars for the **Parish Penance Service** on April 1 in Holy Cross Church. If you are unable to attend on this date, make plans to attend the service at another parish. All services begin at 6 p.m. Here are the other dates: St. Theresa, Kekaha, March 31. St. Raphael, Koloa, April 2. Immaculate Conception, Lihue, April 3. St. Catherine, Kapaa, April 7. Do not forget to also attend the **chrism Mass** at St. Catherine April 8 at 6 p.m. The chrism Mass blesses the holy oils to be used during the year. (Reported by Judy Cabanting)

4 KAHULUI

Christ the King Parish

Parishioners participated at the **Maui and Lanai Vicariate Stewardship Day** on Feb. 15, with **Bishop Larry Silva** officiated at Mass to open the event, which about 300 people attended. Our first guest speaker, **Father Poli Ty, SSS**, pastor of St. Joseph Church, Hilo, shared that stewardship is a commitment, a calling, a way of life in the home, workplace, and in our parishes. It's a loving relationship with Jesus. The divine intention is to be a disciple and is God's desire for us. He also shared that the Eucharist is the true encounter of the Lord. A steward is one who embraces the mission of Christ, which is service. Our second guest speakers were **Tom and Debbie Sategna** of Immaculate Conception Church, Kauai. They gave testimonies on the importance of the Eucharist and stewardship in their challenging faith journey. The attendees could identify with their personal testimonies. We thank all of the speakers for helping us in our spiritual growth. ... **Father Ace Tui** of St. Anthony Church, Maui, led our Christ the King parish ministry retreat on March 1, followed with a Mass and recommissioning of all the ministers. The first topic discussed was our parish culture and mission. Another topic was Timothy O'Malley's deeper encounter with our Lord in the Eucharist, his four dimensions — 1. Eucharist culture and reverence; 2. Eucharist formation; 3. Catholic Life; 4. Solidarity — transform parish and neighborhood. The youth in the parish got to be involved in the discussions. ... Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) before Ash Wednesday is our **Parish Traditional Malassadas Making Day**. This year our parish sold about 475 dozen malassadas. Mahalo to those who helped make it happen. It was enjoyed by all who purchased them. Proceeds were earmarked for the repaving of our church parking lot. (Reported by Lucy Peros; photo by Audie Pascual)

5 PAHOA

Sacred Heart Parish

Eight parish sixth-12th graders took part in the **Diocesan Youth Ministry Big Island Youth Day** at **St. Michael the Archangel Church** in Kailua-Kona. The event was an opportunity to discover their faith, build meaningful relationships, and experience the peace and joy of Christ's presence by stepping away from distractions in their everyday lives. Activities were grounded in the Universal Church's Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope theme. **Kershaun Dopich**, one of the Sacred Heart youth, stated that he enjoyed the time and learned many lessons about the sacraments and about life. Pictured in back, from left, **Cysten San-Jose Ramos, Kertten Dopich, Xavier Tablit** (Epic Ministry and St. Joseph School), **Rachel Baquial, Leah Baquial**. In front from left, **Sharen Chaves** (chaperone), **Lana Walker, Lovely Refit, Kershaun Dopich, Noah Baquial, Ilyn Narciso** (chaperone). (Reported by *Janan Malinowski*)



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6 KAPAA

St Catherine Parish

On March 15, parishioners celebrated **St. Patrick's Day** in style at our Coyle Hall! We enjoyed a chef-prepared corned beef and cabbage dinner, with freshly made soda bread, salads and several lovely cakes. Traditional and lively Irish music played as everyone settled to share the meal in the beautifully decorated room. Most of us remembered our green attire along with some fun green accessories. There was dancing, a sing a-long, lots of laughing, sharing and fellowship — a lovely evening! (Reported by *Sister Rachel Marius, MSMHC*)

munities joined forces March 15 for a **St. Joseph Feast Day Celebration**. The day began with Mass, celebrated by **Bishop Larry Silva**, and continued into the afternoon with entertainment, food, vendors and lots of fellowship and laughter. A great time was had by all. (Photo by *Justin Agustin*)

7 WAIPAHAU

St. Joseph Parish

The parish and school com-

Ethan Golden, Sophia and Gil Penaranda.

9 HAIKU

St. Rita Parish

On March 1 after evening Mass our parish celebrated **Mardi Gras 2025** — the annual feasting before the Lenten season of fasting begins. **Father Robert** welcomed parishioners and opened with a prayer of thanksgiving. Our generous chef **Agnes Groff** baked a delicious meal of creole macaroni and fresh bread. **Annette Scognamillo** prepared an amazing salad bar. Parishioners provided an array of desserts. The evening included a friendly game of bingo led by

the youth of St. Rita. It was a great celebration of fun, food, fellowship and bingo! (Reported by *Esther Yap*)

WAIHAWA

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

Happy feast day for **Our Lady of Sorrows** on Sept. 15 the same month of the feast day of the Filipino saint **Lorenzo de Ruiz**. **Bishop Larry Silva** blessed a new statue of the Filipino martyr celebrating Mass for both occasions. After Mass, parishioners enjoyed the festive get-together with bountiful delicacies perfect for the special day, plus performances of dances and songs by young

and old alike. There were prizes for everyone and comedy rendered for joy and laughter. The old adage "laughter is the best medicine for life of hunger and hardship" still works all the time. There was also the blessing of the new Holy Family statue donated anonymously by a parishioner (Reported by *Pacita Baron*)

KAILUA

St. John Vianney Parish

As part of this **Jubilee Year of Hope**, our parish hosted a Lenten mission on March 12 at 7 p.m. in the church. The mission was conducted by **Father Dario Rinaldi**, the pastor of Holy Family Church. The theme was "how fasting and self-denial can strengthen hope." Learning to rely on something greater than one's own desires and physical needs, fasting and self-denial can strengthen one's hope. Rather than immediate gratification, they will ultimately lead us to a deeper trust in God. ... Every Friday during Lent our parish is conducting the **Stations of the Cross**, also known as the Way of the Cross. These devotions offer a period of spiritual preparation for Easter because they provide an opportunity to reflect on the suffering and sacrifice Jesus made for us. We thank **Louise Souza** for donating Stations prayer cards and lapel pins for all our parishioners. ... The **Knights of Columbus - Council 6307** will host its annual **Lenten Fish Fry** at our parish hall on Friday, April 4, 5-7 p.m. Tickets have been sold, but a limited number of fish dinners will be available at the door. All proceeds are used to support scholarships for students of St. John Vianney and St. Anthony schools and **Ho'ola Na Pua**. ... Our parish is again helping to save lives by hosting the **Blood Bank of Hawaii's Bloodmobile** on April 6. One may register online or by calling the parish office. (Reported by *Earl Walker*)

8 KAPOLEI

St. Jude Parish

Six happy couples validated their marriages on Feb. 26 at St. Jude Church. From left, **James and Ann Thomas, Chris and Rayna Meana, Delilah and Noah Cabiles, Father Rheo Ofalsa, Boa and Elijah Butt, Natasha and**

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