

the parish news

1 KALIHI VALLEY

Our Lady of the Mount Parish

Our pastor, **Father Edgar Brillantes**, celebrated his 45th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood on April 27. His classmates in the seminary, **Father Gus Acob** and **Father Tito Bonoan**, flew in from Oakland, Calif., and from the Philippines for the occasion. A Thanksgiving Mass was offered and celebrated by eight priests and one deacon. At the Prayers of the Faithful, we invoked God's blessing for all priests, and for the increase of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious and consecrated life. Following Mass, the parish staff, leadership in the pastoral and finance councils, ministries, organizations like the **Filipino Catholic Club, Knights of Columbus, Ilocano Ministry, Santo Nino Visayan Community** and parishioners joyfully tendered at the parish hall an appreciation reception and program. Pictured in the back from left, **Father Adrian Gervacio, Father Raymund Ellorin, Father Melchor Palomares, Father Leonard Tubana, Father Jojo Alnas, Father Paul Li**. Front, from left, **Deacon Romeo Ganibe, Father Gus Acob, Father Edgar Brillantes, Father Tito Bonoan**. (Reported by Francisca Kovaloff)



2 WAIKANE

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

On May 25, we celebrated **Trae and Keely Miller** who received their sacraments, and also the last day of Faith Formation SY 2024-25 at the 7:30 a.m. Mass and fellowship. It was a wonderful celebration, and we are so proud of all the keiki in Faith Formation! We want to thank all the Faith Formation students, parents and grandparents, sponsors, catechists, parishioners in prayer, and **Father Leo** who has made this Faith Formation an awesome year for everyone! Pictured from left, **Hannah Welch-Ornellas Salas, Justice Salas, Lucy Salas, Nadine Rapusas, Ryan Miller, Winnie Salas, Father Leonardo Tubana, Kateri Miller, Trae Miller, Keely Miller and Riley Miller**. Students, staff and parents missing from the photo are **Lily Rillamas, Maraea Kahala Salas, Kumu Pacita Woodward, Natasha Salas, Kanoe Rillamas, Julyne Padeken and Melody Rapusas**. (Reported by Lucy Salas)



EDITOR'S CHOICE

3 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

Children, parents and catechists bid farewell to our parochial vicar, **Father Kurt Meyer**, on the last day of reli-

gious education classes May 18. Father Kurt is being assigned to the **Newman Center** effective July 1. Pictured is Father Kurt with all of his leis. At the same event, certificates and gifts were given to **Outstanding Child for Catechetical Year 2024-2025** as follows: **Cireena Taisacan** for pre-kinder/kinder, **Kynsley Matias** for first grade, **Vash Derige** for CFC 1, grades 3-5, **Megan Palacay** for CFC 1 grades 6-8, **Elijah Arioli** and **Alzea Peralta** for CFC 2, grade 2, **Alexandria Cabudol** for CFC 2 grades 3-5, **Drisalynd Raymond** for children's OCIA, and **Samanta Susa** for high school OCIA year 1. (CFC means **Confirmation and First Communion**). The event concluded with everyone sharing spaghetti, desserts and drinks provided by the parents. Members of the **Filipino Catholic Club, Hubert and Lany Demerin, Joe and Priscila Rayray, Josie Seson**

and **Andy and Amy Yadao** assisted with set-up, serving, and clean up before, during and after the meal. (Reported by Julia Torres)

4 WAIPIO GENTRY

Resurrection of the Lord Parish

On April 19, **Father Peter Miti, Deacon Joe Ancheta** and **Deacon Daryl Salvador** celebrated the Easter Vigil Mass with parishioners of Resurrection of the Lord Church with **two new television screens** mounted above and off to the side of the altar. The screens digitally present the order of worship which includes the Bible references to the readings and the Gospel as well as the lyrics for the songs. The parish will no longer need to print orders of worship and will practice good stewardship by saving on printer ink and paper. This practice is an environmentally friendly approach which was

gifted on a great feast day. Happy Easter! (Reported by Susan Araki)

5 KALAHEO

Holy Cross Parish

Congratulations to the 2025 **high school and college graduates** who attended the **Thanksgiving Mass** on May 25. We pray that God bless the graduates, their families, and especially their future plans as they venture forth in their lives. Best wishes and good luck! ... Fifteen candidates, 11 from Holy Cross Parish and four from **St. Raphael Parish**, received the sacraments of confirmation and first holy Communion at a Mass presided by **Bishop Larry Silva** on May 31 at Holy Cross Church. We would like to thank **Sister Gloria Camitan**, catechist, who prepared the 11 candidates from Holy Cross Parish. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to guide these young people continue their walk on their

faith journeys. ... A reminder that registration for OCIA and OCIC sacramental preparation classes is open. Adults ages 18 and older who are interested in becoming new Catholics, or want to receive the rest of the sacraments of initiation can register for classes in the OCIA program. Children who are 7 years and older will attend classes with Sister Gloria to prepare to receive the sacraments of initiation. Registration for our keiki, ages 3 to 6, is also open. Contact the office, 808-332-8011 for forms or information. ... Thank you for supporting the **FCC Huli Huli Chicken** fundraiser. Pick-up is June 7 at Holy Cross Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The funds collected will be used toward projects for both churches around the parish. ... Donations for the **Annual Yard Sale** have been accepted since June 2. The last day to drop off donation items is July 11. The sale is Saturday, July 19, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. ... A reminder for those who already bought tickets, don't forget the 50th sacerdotal anniversary luncheon for **Bishop Larry Silva** at noon, on June 29 at Smith's Luau in Wailua. Come, congratulate and talk story with Bishop Silva. ... This is a **Jubilee Year**. On July 7 we will welcome the **Jubilee Cross** at our parish and will host the Cross until July 13. The Jubilee Cross will be in the Kauai vicariate beginning June 16 at St. Catherine Parish through July 20 and will travel to all five parishes providing an opportunity for everyone to spend some time with the Cross. (Reported by Judy Cabanting; photo by Jackie Munos)

6 KAHULUI

Christ the King Parish

Our parish just acquired a new **Divine Mercy** image, blessed by **Father Efen Tomas** on Divine Mercy Sunday. It was sponsored/donated by the generous **Parilla family, Henry, Edna and Lucrecia Parilla**. Lucrecia is a longtime devotee to Jesus of Divine Mercy. The image is placed strategically by the confessional entrance and facing the church's front door to welcome the parishioners. ... Besides walking in the **Charity Walk**, Christ the King held line dancing and Zumba as part of the fundraising for the parish **outreach program**. Money raised helps the poor with their rent, medical bills, etc. Thanks to the leadership of **Caroline Sadiri**, our goal was met. Thank you to all who walked and donated. It was a successful and fun day. ... **Bernadette Acaso** and **Brianna Domingo** are two parishioners who were vying for the title of **Miss Maui Filipina**. Both girls are good and wholesome Christian

Catholic young ladies. Bernadette is a cantor/psalmist at church and Brianna has been an altar server since she was a very young child. Both are still serving the church. Both represented Christ the King Church well. They both supported each other throughout the pageant. Unfortunately, only one can receive the crown. Bernadette won the title and will compete in Honolulu for the title of **Miss Hawaii Filipina** in August. Good luck Bernadette! Pictured from left, **Brianna Domingo, Johanne Cruz Guevara** (Miss Maui Filipina 2023 and **Bernadette Acaso** (new Miss Maui Filipina). (Reported by Lucy Peros; photo by Audie Pascual)



9



10

Kipahulu and St. Joseph in Kaupo) of St. Mary Church, Hana, Maui, our beautiful mothers received a blessing from **Father Jun Bobier** and a long-stemmed red rose. May the Sacred Hearts bless all the mothers on their special day for all their care and love for their children and their children's children. (Reported by Sheila Roback)

12 KAHUKU

St. Roch Parish

Our parishioners recited the rosary at our grotto every evening, for the entire month of May (pictured). On May 13, in observance of the **Feast of Our Lady of Fatima** they offered white roses with prayer intentions to the Blessed Mother prior to reciting the rosary. On Mother's Day, **Father Bong** celebrated three Masses, surprising the moms of the parish and visiting moms with special Mother's Day gifts, putting a smile on all their faces. ... We would like to recognize and congratulate the graduates of our parish and wish them all the best. They are, elementary school: **Tautoa Noga, Braden Agustin, Mariah Meneses, Alyssa Nacnac, Syed Estrelion and Cee Jay Ancheta.** High school: **Dhesinehy Kayannah Hernandez, Taaron Swafford.** And from Hawaii Pacific University, **Precious Brown.** ... Our CCD classes have ended for the summer. The children had a special year-end party at St. Joachim Church by the beach, with swimming, games and lots of good food. They also had perfect weather. Thank you to our CCD teachers for providing this activity for them. ... The **eighth-grade students** from **St. Elizabeth School** had an all-day retreat at St. Joachim church. Father Bong spent the afternoon there and celebrated Mass with them. We would like to welcome two new members to our Catholic faith. They are **Amari Pasol** and **Keanilei Pasol**, baptized at St. Roch at our Sunday morning Mass. ... Congratulations to **Bishop Larry Silva** on the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Several of our parishioners attended the beautiful Mass and celebration. (Reported by Sharin Au)



11



12

7 PAHOA

Sacred Heart Parish

On Memorial Day 2025, the parish **youth group** had a special outing. They began with the rosary and Mass in the parish church, and then travelled into Hilo for activities at the mall. There they shared lunch, played games, and watched "Lilo and Stitch" at the theater. Pictured back row, from left, **Father John Molina, John Sohlith, Emson Sorcy, Cysten San Jose Ramos, Jake Sohlith, Leah Baquial, Michael Gamiao.** Middle row, from left, **Sharen Chaves, Grace Aranda, Rachel Baquial, Noah Baquial.** Front row: **Nanay Priscilla Molina, Simon Vo, Theresa Weber, Harry Baquial;** kneeling **Donna Baquial.** (Reported by Janan Malinowski)

8 EWA

Immaculate Conception Parish

In the spirit and theme of the **Jubilee Year**, our parish **stewardship committee** has been publishing monthly testimonies of our parishioners' own pilgrimages in their faith. Whether it was a physical trip to the Holy Land or spiritual pilgrimage back to the church, it has allowed us to share in our mission to love and serve God and one another. The first monthly reflection, written by **Angel Valladares**, a former U.S. Marine, tells of his journey back to the Catholic faith of his childhood through a journey of doubts and trials. He concludes by saying: "In

October of 2024, I returned to the Catholic Church not out of routine, but out of passionate hunger for the truth, for the traditions and for the Word of God. My journey was long and full of doubt, but God never stopped pursuing me. He spoke to me in ways I never expected, through visions, experiences and even a TV show recommendation. Now I am living my faith with conviction, no longer blindly following, but embracing the fullness of Catholicism with an open heart." Pictured are **Angel and Maryanne Valladares** and their children **Milan and Azel.** (Reported by Trinisha Paxton)

9 WAIANAЕ

Sacred Heart Parish

We celebrated **St. Damien's Feast Day** with great joy, including themed clothing to honor his work with **St. Marianne** on Molokai. Pictured: **Deacon Morton** and **Carol Zabala** with a portrait of St. Damien in Sacred Heart Church. ... Our Waianae community is deeply honored to have been the first stop for the traveling **Jubilee Cross** on its sacred journey throughout the islands. The Jubilee Cross made its inaugural visit to our parish, bringing a renewed

sense of hope and spiritual revival to Sacred Heart, Waianae. (Reported by Glenn Klinger)

NUUANU

St. Stephen Parish

Nuuanu Valley's own bazaar at St. Stephen Church grounds and Hall is set for June 28 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at 2747 Pali Highway. You will find food, games, crafts, baked goods, a white elephant sale, a country store and much more. Mark your calendar! Come to our **Ohana Bazaar and Craft Fair!** (Reported by Ginny Jordan)

10 KAILUA

St. John Vianney Parish

On May 17 our pastor **Father Vincent Vu** celebrated his sixth anniversary of priesthood. We thanked him for serving our parish and asked the Lord to keep him safe. Also, 21 religious education students received their sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation at the 5 p.m. Mass with **Bishop Larry Silva** presiding. ... The **Koolau Catholic Men's Fellowship** met at St. John Vianney for dinner on May 22 at 6:30 p.m. with special speaker **Father Arrión Rosales-Llantos**, the parochial vicar of St. Anthony

Church in Kailua and chaplain of Catholic Men's Fellowship. The group enjoyed a delicious dinner and heard an inspirational talk encouraging them to be men of faith. ... Parish couples celebrating 50 years of marriage or more will be honored at the 5 p.m. Mass on June 14. Afterward there will be a special celebratory dinner for them in the parish lounge. Space is limited to 20 couples. The cost is \$40 per couple. All are encouraged to sign up at the parish office. ... We are pleased to announce a summer vacation **Bible School** that will take place from June 23-27. The theme will be "Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace." Every child will get to explore first-hand the culture of Joseph's world. They will experience the heartbreaking trials, joyous victories and tear-filled celebrations of this unique Bible hero. Registration is on the events page of our website saintjohnvianneyhawaii.org. (Reported by Earl Walker)

11 HANA

St. Mary Parish

In celebration of **Mother's Day 2025**, May 11, at **St. Peter Church** in Puuiki, one of the three mission churches (along with **St. Paul in**



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