

# The Parish & School News

SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

A SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE HAWAII CATHOLIC HERALD

## 1 PEARL CITY

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish**  
**Pamela Y. Scott**, Oahu program specialist for the **Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter** gave a three-part presentation on Aug. 30 in our parish center. **Father Pascual Abaya**, our pastor, welcomed 111 attendees from various churches, plus family members and friends, **Project Dana** volunteers and **Waianae Comprehensive Center** staff members. Texan **Belinda Valenzuela** has been caring for her 88-year-old mother who lives in Pearl City and has dementia. She said she now has a better perspective of the situation but wished she had learned about dementia earlier to avoid unnecessary frustration. The presentation, sponsored by our parish Ohana Ministry for the Homebound, addressed three topics: "The 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease, Communication and Behaviors." (Reported by *Bernadette Cabe*)



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## 2 WAHIAWA

**Our Lady of Sorrows Parish**  
Our parish was among the **Christian churches** sponsoring and participating in a **Family Fun Fest** at Wahiawa District Park on Aug. 16. The event was postponed from Aug. 9 because of Hurricane Iselle. All enjoyed free food, bouncers, games, music and fun. Pictured are helpers at the penny pitching booth: from left, **Denise Hale, Sean Quillan, Lorie Sugiki, Annette Pascua, Kelli Lung**, pastor **Sacred Hearts Father Richard McNally, Rosanna Laurel, Karen Lung** and **Mariisa Lung**. (Reported by *Jack Kampfer*)



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## 3 KAHULUI

**Christ the King Parish**  
"Joyful Discipleship," a ministry enrichment day retreat on Aug. 2, was the first retreat sponsored by our parish **Service Commission**, chaired by **Priscilla Duque**. Seminarian and retreat master **Alfred Guerrero** engaged approximately 75 devoted and dynamic parishioners with his enthusiasm, knowledge, leadership, humor and charisma. His famous bell ringing made sure that we were never tardy for each session. Thank you, **Father Adondee Arellano** and **Father Joseph Pilotin** for approving the retreat. Thank you also to the many generous parishioners who lovingly prepared for the event and thank you to the businesses and individuals who donated food and drinks. Until the next retreat, God bless us all! (Reported by *Audie Pascual*)



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## 4 KAILUA-KONA

**St. Michael Parish**  
**Paulette Abaire**, pictured here with pastor **Father Lio Faletoi**, was recognized at the Aug. 24 Youth Mass for earning the **Girl Scouts Emblem of Faith**. The Girl Scouts religious recognitions are created by the Catholic



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Church and other religious organizations to help girls grow in their faith. Leaders encourage the girls to work on the emblem and to practice their faith as taught at home. Paulette is an active member of the parish as altar server, altar server trainer and a member of our youth group. (Reported by *Shirley David*)

## 5 KEAUKAHA

**Malia Puka O Kalani Parish**  
Congratulations to our young parishioners, from left, **Chloe, Kapono, Kiara, Wyatt** and **Bryanna**, who received their **First Holy Communion** during the 9 a.m. Mass on May 18. The First Communicants went through First Reconciliation with **Father Oliver Ortega** the Saturday before. After Mass, the entire parish community celebrated the special with a wonderful brunch. (Reported by *Kehaulani Kuewa*)

## 6 PAHOA

**Sacred Heart Parish**

**Father Gregg** and **Deacon Julio** (pictured) celebrated Mass outdoors on June 29 for more than 200 parishioners to mark the 150th anniversary of our parish. The Mass was the closing event of the three-day celebration that included a garage sale, a 5K walk/run through the parish grounds, children's games, laulau, Korean chicken plate, Hawaiian food plate and potluck luncheon on Sunday with various ethnic groups performing. (Reported by *the Richard Robbins*)

## HONOLULU

**Sts. Peter and Paul Parish**

Here is a parish bulletin report from the parish outreach director, **Geri O'Leary**: The **Hawaii Food bank Hunger Walk** is our Outreach's primary fundraiser for the year. Our Hawaii Food bank account is used to purchase

the majority of food distributed by Outreach. Donations during the Hunger Walk replace the funds we use during the rest of the year. For those of you who would like to join us for the Hunger Walk event, it will be on Sept. 13, at the Honolulu Civic Center. Food bank has awarded Sts. Peter and Paul two participation awards in the last three years! (From the parish bulletin)

## MAKAKILO

**St. Jude Parish**

We welcomed back our **religious education students** on Sept. 7. Full classes are expected! **Life Teen/Edge** and classes for **Confirmation I and II** resumed on Aug. 25. **RCIA** will begin classes on Sept. 19. (Reported by *Caren Sue Argenzia*)

## WAIALUA

**St. Michael Parish**

Have you ever wondered why we bow, kneel, and genuflect at

Mass? Why we recite the creed every Sunday and the meaning of consubstantial with the Father? Come hear the answers as **Deacon Modesto Cordero**, Office of Worship director, walks through the Mass from beginning to end stopping along the way for explanations of the many parts of our most sacred form of worship. "Getting More Out of Mass" is 7-8:30 p.m., Sept. 16 and 17, in St. Damien Hall. Refreshments will be served. (From the parish bulletin)

## 7 WAILUKU

**St. Anthony of Padua Parish**  
Our **Youth/LIFE** team hosted a retreat for high school students Aug. 8-9. Despite threats from **Hurricanes Isele and Julio**, the retreat forged on to be a very successful event. Our parishioners attended along with students from **St. Anthony Jr.-Sr. High School, St. Ann Parish, Waihee, St. Joseph Parish, Makawao**, and the **Kula Catholic Community**. The theme was "Faith Full." Leading the retreat was well-known Catholic rapper **Joe Melendrez** assisted by his new bride **Noelle**. The California newlyweds from Chaminade Prep Academy were married on June 26 and honeymooned on Maui, ending with this retreat. **Marianist Father Roland Bunda** is our pastor; **Art Fillazar** is the Youth/LIFE moderator and retreat organizer. (Reported by *Art Fillazar*)

## 8 PAPAIKOU

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish**  
On June 21, **Teneil Cablayan, Miracle Souza, Alysa Perreira, Magdalena Madrid** and **Justice Aoki** were baptized by **Father Michael Scully**. These five along with **Alan Perreira**, received their First Communion on July 6 at the 10 a.m. Mass. Congratulations! ... July 13 brought all the parishioners together to say farewell to Father Scully, our administrator for the past five years, pictured left, and a welcome to **Father Rufino Gepiga**, right, our new administrator. The entertainment was excellent, the food delicious and, of course, the intermingling of members of the **Hamakua Catholic Community** a treasure. (Reported by *Pat Phillips*; photo by *Dotty Macanas*)

## 9 HAIKU

**St. Rita Parish**

On the weekend of July 6, we welcomed our new administrator **Father Leonard Ssempijja** after morning Mass with an informal coffee hour in the church hall. It was good to meet and talk story with our new pastor. Before coming to our parish, Father Leonard was parochial vicar at a neighboring parish just three miles away, **St. Joseph, Makawao**. Many in our upcountry area know of him. On July 20, Father Leonard celebrated his 20th anniversary to priesthood. Our parish prepared favorite dishes for this special event. We are blessed to have Father Leon-

ard shepherding our parish community. Pictured with our new administrator at his first Mass on July 6 is **Debbie Faborito**. (Reported by Esther Yap)

**10 KEKAHA St. Theresa Parish**

We welcome our new parish director of religious education **Sister Michael Ann O'Donnell**, pictured hard at work in the parish office, who has some big, little shoes to fill since our previous director **Sister Hannah Johncheck** left our parish for a special calling from the Lord. **RCIA classes** are held on Sundays before Mass, 7-8:15 a.m., in our school library. The first and second year **Confirmation classes** are held on Sundays, 9:45-11 a.m., in the parish hall and parish school library, respectively. Religious education classes for grades K-8 are Wednesday nights at the school, 6:30-7:30 p.m. It promises to be a year filled with lots of faith sharing and growth! Registrations are still being accepted. Call Sister Michael Ann at the parish office at 337-1548. (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte; photo by Gerry Mararagan)



**11 PEARL CITY Our Lady of Good Counsel School**

**Children love returning** to school after summer, toting their new supplies. They are excited to see their friends and to talk about the fun things that they did over the break. This was truly evident on Aug. 4 as our school came back to life with the sounds of **happy children, faculty and staff** as they arrived rested and eager to connect with everyone. We were overjoyed to welcome over 50 new students to our school. Their transition was seamless, as though they have been members of our community for years, instead of days. We are all looking forward to many events, as we celebrate our **50th anniversary** in September. Pictured are two students arriving with their mom on the first day of school. (Reported by Ginger KG Kamisugi)

**12 HONOLULU Maryknoll School**

**Kindergarteners** love their very own new playground! On Aug. 27, the students were busy exploring and having fun in their area. This is one of many campus improvement projects finished over the summer. School president **Perry Martin** noted the hard work that goes into providing the best possible surroundings in an urban setting. Our school is always working to provide a top-of-the-line, nurturing environment! (Reported by Laura Essenberg)

**13 HONOLULU Sacred Hearts Academy**

**Grade Our second graders** have been learning new things about their classmates and their families. The students brought a family photo to share and are creating a scrapbook with each page detailing the special second graders. Pictured are **Nikki Matsubara** and **Comi Mehning**. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)

**14 KAILUA St. John Vianney School**

Once again we are selling **Big Island Candy Bars** as our PTSA fall fundraiser at \$4 per bar, or the "Father Tom special" of five bars for \$20. ... Our Catholic Learners award winners are: early learning center 3, **Liam Scruggs**; early learning center 4, **Toanui Segovia**; kindergarten, **Josef Sievenpiper**; grade 1, **Luluka Palafox**; grade 2, **La'i Palafox**; grade 3, **Lawakua Palafox**; grade 4, **Noel Ah Mook Sang**; grade 5, **Talia Vazquez**; grade 6, **Kathleen Tereschuk**; grade 7, **Sophia Kava**; grade 8, **Kyra Kahahawai**. Many thanks to **Pablo Gonzales**, owner of Lanikai Juice, for donating a free smoothie coupon to each learner. ... The **band and orchestra program** is seeking **generous donors** to cover the cost of an instrument rental for one year. A handful of students are seeking scholarships. The fee for one year is \$200. If you are willing to sponsor a child, call the school office at 261-4651. (Reported by Earl Walker)



**15 HONOLULU Holy Family Catholic Academy**

**New students** gather for a photo one month into the start of the 2014-15 school year. Their smiling faces are a clear indication they are pleased with their new school and all it has to offer. Principal **Christina Malins** and assistant principal **Carol Chong** hosted several new student lunch gatherings the week of Aug. 25-29 to extend a warm welcome and provide a chance to get better acquainted. The 115 newcomers are transplants from around Oahu and various locations across the globe. We look forward to their successes and good times with us! (Reported by Christina Malins; photo by Cathy Kerch)

**16 HONOLULU Damien Memorial School**

Congratulations to students **Christian Cubacub '16**, **Huy Nguyen '16** and **Kacie Kimoto '17** for their nomination in the first ever Hiki No Award Festival. Hiki No ("Can Do"), the nation's first statewide student-run news network, airs on PBS every Thursday evening. Their

episode #515 about Damien 2014 graduate **Nick Acosta**, front, was nominated for best news writing. Nick was born with one hand, but under the wings of ukulele master teacher **Roy Sakuma**, has become an ukulele prodigy. A preview screening was held at Ward Theatre, attended by more than 20 schools, Public Broadcasting Service executives, and members of the Hawaii film industry. The winners will be announced via live stream on Sept. 17 on www.pbshawaii.org. Good luck to our Damien team! (Reported Diane M. Lota; photo by Dayne Teves)

**17 HONOLULU St. Anthony School**

Our school welcomed the **students, faculty, staff and parents** in its first day of school on Aug. 18. We also welcomed our returning principal, **Sister Victoria Lavente, SPC**. We are looking forward to school year 2014-15 with much enthusiasm and positive energy. May the Lord continue to bless all Catholic schools in the island! (Reported by Tess Reyes)

**18 KAILUA St. Anthony School**

Middle school science teacher **Mrs. Marcia Braden** is all smiles taking a photo with our **Garden Warriors**. The Garden Warriors, 17 students and six parents, spent Aug. 23 cleaning and prepping the school's garden beds in preparation for planting of vegetables and fruits. What a great way to begin the new school year! (Reported by Patricia Barros)

**19 KAPAA St. Catherine School**

Our school year opened on July 28. It has been a whirlwind start. Enrollment is up to 200 students, the highest in decades! We now have two pre-k classrooms and two kindergarten classrooms. Our faculty and staff have grown and we've added curriculum advisor **Mrs. Michelle Rutz**. Our new science teacher, **Cathleen Triplett**, has registered students for the geeky world of **Science Olympiad**. We even have a **French Cafe** run by French teacher **Madame Corbo** where students speak only French. We have embraced 21st century learning with Chromebooks for grades three to eight and iPads for kindergarten through second grade. ... In a great way to kick off the year, our PTG sponsored its annual waterslide party on Aug. 14. Families came together to share food and talk story. ... Our faculty and staff joined that of St. Theresa School, Kekaha, at St. Catherine Church for the Mass of the Holy Spirit on Aug. 18. Our pastor **Father Anthony Rapozo** presided and **Father Arnel** of St. Theresa celebrated. Liturgy was followed by a catechesis session by **Michael Cruz**. Our principal **Mrs. Celina Haigh** prepared lunch. It's always great to be with our St. Theresa colleagues. We continue to pray that the Holy Spirit guide both our schools through this exciting school year. (Reported by Madame Andrea Corbo and Patricia Doherty)

**KEKAHA St. Theresa School**

Good news! Our school is happy to report an **increase in enrollment!** Whoo hoo! ... Now that school is underway, we're already working on lots of activities. On Sept. 5, for **Grandparents' Day**, faculty, staff and students enjoyed lunch with their kupuna in the shade of the huge tree in the center of the schoolyard. Our school ohana is also working very hard on this year's **St. Theresa Feast day** celebration. A tridium of Masses will be celebrated, culminating with dinner at the Sheraton Kauai Resort on Oct. 4. Tickets are on sale after weekend Masses and at the school office at 337-1351. All Kauai parishes are invited to this evening of food, fun and fellowship with door prizes and a special raffle! Proceeds benefit the school **scholarship fund**. We wish all students a very productive and successful school year with God's blessings! (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte)



**WAIALUA St. Michael School**

Last month's impending storms gave us an opportunity to test our new **Parent Alert System**, resulting in very positive feedback from parents. We were able to contact parents in various ways to alert them on how the first day of school went and what was planned for the school's storm closure. (Reported by Jennifer Holmberg)

**20 HONOLULU Star of the Sea School**

The new school year began with a flag-raising ceremony and last year's school choir, **Na Hoku**, leading the alma mater, "School of Our Lady," accompanied by Hawaiian language teacher **Keith Haugen**, who doubles as choir director. The new choir is already rehearsing for Christmas concerts ... Student council officers were recently installed. Front row, **Liam Esteban**, treasurer; **Rion Kawahara**, co-historian; **Sydney Goto**, representative-at-large. Back row: **Ronan Witherwax**, secretary; **Angelo Rufo**, vice president; **Lance Tan**, president; **Isabella Gary**, historian; **Melia Nishimura**, sergeant-at-arms; and **Mrs. Margaret Rufo**, interim principal. Faculty advisors to the council are **Ms. Kathy Botelho**, left; and **Mrs. Yurani Fox**, right. (Reported by Keith Haugen)

**21 HONOLULU Sacred Hearts Academy High School**

Seniors **Ye Eun "Stella" Lee** and **Erica Freitas** participated in the **Medical Treatment and Diagnosis Outreach Program** at the John A. Burns Medical Center, Kakaako. During the weekend summer program, the students explored the facility, learned how to take vital signs and how to examine a patient. In the anatomy lab, they examined various organs and cadavers. Stella and Erica agreed it was an outstanding summer experience. They made new friends, gained an understanding of what it would be like to be a medical student, and motivated them to pursue careers in the medical profession. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)

**22 WAILUKU St. Anthony Junior-Senior High School**

Our new school year offers classes in digital media storytelling, robotics and science, technology, engineering and math. "Our school has embraced 21st century technology," said head of school **Betsey Gunderson**. ... This year, we have approximately 35 new students, bringing enrollment up to nearly 150. We still have a limited number of openings for this school year.

Financial aid is available. ... On the first day of classes, student council president **Jonathan Ibanez** urged his fellow students to seize the day when they walk on campus. "Look up in the early morning sky," he said. "It is painted blue, gold and white. Take that as a sign that every day is a day that you can dominate." For enrollment information, call admissions director Art Fillazar at 244-4190, ext. 232, or visit www.sasmaui.org. ... Pictured is senior **Grayson Nolette** deep in prayer in St. Anthony Church on the opening day of classes. (Reported by Betsey Gunderson)

**23 HONOLULU St. Theresa School**

We've been working hard all summer to improve the appearance of our buildings. **Volunteers, teachers and professional painters** gave countless hours of their time and energy toward improving our school. Now, our school colors shine brightly on the walls, lanais, doors, railings, and inside the classrooms, reminding us all of our school spirit. This school-wide facelift was a great way to energize our **faculty, teachers, students and parents**, and start fresh with this new school year. Pictured doing her part is fourth grade teacher **Ms. Meaghan O'Brien**. (Reported by Katherine Lilly)

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