

THE SCHOOL NEWS

Next Parish News issue, March 10

1 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

On Feb. 9, we celebrated our pastor **Father Edmundo Barut Jr.'s** birthday! To honor the occasion, **students, faculty and staff** donated canned goods and nonperishable items to our parish pantry to be distributed to our needy brothers and sisters in Christ. Father Ed was greeted with many hugs, birthday wishes, leis and student-created birthday cards. Thank you very, very much Father Ed, for being our loving Christ-like shepherd to our school and parish community!

(Reported by Kahae Maikai-Iakopo)
... Catholic Schools Week is one of the annual events that our students look forward to. Every year our school makes sure that daily activities are aligned with the school's mission statement. The emphasis on Sunday was that of being active Catholics. Students attended the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass assuming the liturgical ministries as choir members, lectors and altar servers. On Monday, a **spelling bee** challenged students from kindergarten to grade eight. In the afternoon, the church echoed with thunderous applause and re-sounding "ooos" and "ahhs" as our **Responsive Producers** shared a variety of talents in singing (both vocal and lip syncing), dancing, instrument playing and gymnastics. Tuesday's educational field trip to **Hoa Aina O Makaha's Ke Ala**, a classroom without walls, enabled the school's **Holistic Learners** to experience hands-on farming chores such as planting kalo, making broomsticks from coconut fronds, pounding poi, and feeding and petting farm animals. To prepare for the Lenten project, **CRS Rice Bowl**, our school designated Wednesday as **Cultural Day** highlighting India, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Mexico and Zambia. Understanding the cultures of these countries will motivate students to give their support and cooperation. Thursday transformed the school grounds into an arena of sports. Students, **Capable Communicators**, were divided into three teams of blue, green, red and competed in various games. Students cheered and yelled for their teams, making this the noisiest, most interactive, most enjoyable day in spite of the exhaustion. Pictured, from left, planting kalo are fourth graders **Eseese Tui, Noah Wilson, Jeremy Alvarez** and **Ronan Giarretto**. *(Reported by Remedios Cabrera; photo by Katie Wilson)*

3 HONOLULU

Sacred Hearts Academy Lower School

Our school recognized **Scott Schroeder, Ph.D.**, as this year's Volunteer in Philanthropy at the **National Philanthropy Day Luncheon and Conference** at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel. Dr. Schroeder has faithfully served as chair of the **academic affairs committee** for the Academy's **board of directors**. He currently works at **Chaminade University** and is the longest-serving business dean in the school's history. During his 14-year tenure, Schroeder helped develop Hawaii's only Master's in Business Administration (MBA) programs in not-for-profit man-

agement and island business. Pictured, with Schroeder, from left, are board of directors chair **Shanlyn Park**, head of school **Betty White**, **Diane Peters-Nguyen** and **Korean Nakahodo**. *(Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)*

4 KAILUA

St. Anthony School

The year is passing by very quickly. We have been getting ready for our **WASC accreditation visit** at the end of February. We are very proud of our school and are excited to share what we do with the visiting team. We will have a **silent auction/wine tasting event** on April 22 as a fundraiser put on by our dedicated **PTSG**. For more information on the event or if you have donations, please call our office. ... On Feb. 11, during the great downpour, our **CSL Division II Boys Basketball Team** won their division championship. Congratu-

lations to the boys, their parents and our dedicated coach **David Cosier**. *(Reported by Patricia Barros)*

5 HONOLULU

St. Anthony School

Students, teachers, parents (and grandparent) and our school principal braved the storm early Saturday morning on Feb. 11 to visit the residents of **Maunalani Nursing and Rehabilitation Center**. Everyone was in high spirits as we danced and sang. **Giselle Aagsalud** taught everyone a simple hula movement to the delight of the "grandpas and grandmas"! The highlight of our visit was greeting and singing "**Grandma Thelma**" a happy birthday! This is the third year that we have reached out to Maunalani. We are looking forward to next year! *(Reported by Tess A. Reyes)*

6 HONOLULU

Mary, Star of the Sea School

During **Catholic Schools Week**, the students honored their **nation, faith, school, buddies and families**. The students also took time to give back to the community by creating bagged lunches for over 200 people at the **Next Step Shelter**. **Mother Teresa** said, "Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love." Our students put these words into action! Pictured are first grade students celebrated their faith by dressing up as Bible characters. Top, from left, **Ella Nozsa, Gabriela Sheridan, Guillermo Gutierrez** and **Maren Williams**. Middle row, **Rhys Matsuda, Hilaria Noda, Braden Lee** and **Ambrose Kone**. Third row, **Joely McGrath, Cecilia Garcia, Isabella Guerrero** and **Liam McGrath**. Front, **Azariah Blancaflor** and **Aukai Alameda**. *(Reported by Roselyn Vicente Mc-Mahon)*

7 HONOLULU

Mary, Star of the Sea Early Learning Center

Parents came to campus for a **Catholic Schools Week parents luncheon** with their children. Catholic Schools Week was from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2. *(Reported by Mariam Lazar)*



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8 KAPAA

St. Catherine School

Our **high school program** has the only **high school speech and debate club** on Kauai! Freshman **Gabriel Ballesteros**, pictured, took part in a qualifying competition on Jan. 28 at **St. Louis High School** on Oahu, competing in original oratory. Thank you **Mrs. Michelle Rutz** and **Mrs. Maria Ballesteros** for your help in coaching him. Thanks also to a generous donor for providing the means to travel to Oahu for the competition. Our high school is in its first year, operating in partnership with the **Archdiocese of Miami Virtual Catholic School** to bring the option of Catholic high school education to Kauai. There will be a high school open house on March 3 (5-7 p.m.) and March 5 (2-4 p.m.) on campus. ... **Catholic Schools Week** began Jan. 29 with a kickoff Mass at St. Catherine Church. Students took on roles of liturgical ministers. The church was packed with students in their uniforms who came together at the end of Mass to proudly sing their school song. On Jan. 30, children dressed in costumes representing their class theme. **Third grade** looked adorable in their tie-dyed beach shirts which their teacher **Miss Chock** provided. **Fifth grade** dressed up as faculty and staff members. The fifth grade teacher **Miss Slimko** was the perfect image of our principal, **Mrs. Celina Haigh**. Tuesday was wacky dress day and needless to say, students and faculty do wacky extremely well! Wednesday began with a **pet blessing** where cats and dogs were joined by a horse and the preschool bunny rabbit who almost escaped! Students also dressed as their role models. Parents, saints and athletes were among those recognized. Eighth

9 AIEA

St. Elizabeth School

Grades six, seven and eight took part in the **March for Life Rally** on Jan. 20 at the State Capitol. They enthusiastically waved pro-life signs they created themselves as they marched around the Capitol building. Our eighth grade student **Justin Tsai** took first place in the poster contest. Congratulations to all our students for doing a fabulous job. We are very proud of you! *(Reported by Sharon Nagasawa)*

10 HONOLULU

Saint Louis School

Our school celebrated **Blessed**

graders and high school students became teachers for a day. Thursday began with Mass at Kamalani Park where we were joined by our friends from **St. Theresa School**. On Friday, we again met up with St. Theresa's faculty and staff at Holy Cross Church for Mass and a spiritual retreat facilitated by **Kristina M. DeNeve**. **Father Anthony Rapozo** reminded us all that the mission of any Catholic school is evangelization. *(Reported by Andrea Carbo and Patricia Doherty)*

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10 MANOA

St. Francis School

We are proud to announce our valedictorian, **David Murray**, the first male valedictorian in our 93-year history. Our school only became coed in 2006 and the male student body is made up of 53 percent of students. David has a 4.2 GPA and is an avid reader and moviegoer. "It's a big honor," he said. "I put a lot of time and effort into my academic work, so I feel that's what got me to where I am now. Not much to say other than hard work and elbow grease basically." David's next step is to go to the University of Montana Western to major in English, so that he can hopefully become a screenwriter someday. Pictured is David, left, head of school **Franiscan Sister Joan of Arc Souza**, and salutatorian **Shinya Saito**. *(Reported by Tahiti Huetter)*

11 KAILUA

St. John Vianney School

Two teams from our school entered in the **Island Pacific Academy Robotics Tournament** on Feb. 4. **Zachary Masaitis, Lawa Palafox, Alex Asing** and **Faith Brooks** made up the elementary team, while **Ben Carrico, Alex Pickens** and **Isabella Carrico** made up the middle school team. The middle school team, in their first tournament, placed fourth out of 42 teams in the qualification rounds and participated in a tournament at Windward Mall on Feb. 18. Our elementary team's skills scores (programming and driver skills events) qualified them for the **Hawaii State Championship tournament**, Feb. 20, at the Hawaii Convention Center. ... The following students represented our school at the **District Science Fair** Feb. 17-18: **Jack Radio, Gianna Query-Hagedorn**, and **Danielle Query-Hagedorn** (grade 6), **Liberty Lum** and **Alex Picken** (grade 7), **Chloe Masaitis** and **Conner O'Sullivan** (grade 8). Congratulations to all and their advisor **Ms. Jones**. ... **The Windward Knights of Columbus (Council 6307)** will host their annual **Fish Fry** in our parish hall March 17 to raise money for Catholic school students financial needs (specifically students of St. John Vianney and St. Anthony Schools). *(Reported by Earl Walker)*

12 HONOLULU

Saint Louis School

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13 HILO

St. Joseph High School

Our school has been recognized as one of the **"Best Schools in America"** by Niche, the largest website for researching K-12 schools! For the second year in a row we have been ranked **No. 1 Best Catholic High School in the State of Hawaii**. "We are very humbled and honored by this designation



14 HONOLULU

St. Theresa School

In a showcase of stewardship on Feb. 4, the school had a **Savers project**. **Students, families,**

finding a possible match to save lives. *(Reported by Liane Bilonta)*

15 WAIALUA

St. Michael School

Students in grades 6-8 were treated to a special talk by **Meg Hunter-Kilmer**, the self-proclaimed Hobo for Christ, during their religion class on Jan. 25. Meg Hunter-Kilmer, a former Catholic school teacher with two degrees in theology, travels around the world preaching and engaging in discussions about our Catholic faith while practically living out of her car. Students described her presentation as captivating, inspiring, and very relatable to their lives. *(Reported by Kainoa Fukumoto)*

16 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Early Learning Center

Our students enjoyed a walking field trip to our community post office Feb. 10 to mail Valentine Cards handmade for their ohana. They were treated to a tour of the **Makawao Post Office** and the delivery mail truck. They also received a coloring page, stickers and goodies. Pictured is **Postmaster and parishioner Celine Balthazar Suda** distributing heart-shaped Valentine necklaces to students and teachers. Thank you to the chaperones, Mrs. Balthazar-Suda and the staff of the Makawao Post Office for making the visit a safe and fun experience. *(Reported by Helen Souza)*

17 PEARL CITY

Our Lady of Good Counsel School

Our school celebrated **National Catholic Schools Week** and participated in many worthwhile events to celebrate faith, knowledge and service. The **Baby Steps Walk-A-Thon** was a wonderful success due to the school's strong community of staff, parents and students! Together, the students walked over 300 miles, collected a truckload of baby items, and raised \$1,500 for the **Mary Jane Home of Catholic Charities Hawaii**. The Mary Jane Home is a program that serves pregnant women and newborn mothers as they transition into motherhood and independence. The school proudly presented the check on Feb. 9, and learned more about how valuable and appreciated their efforts are! *(Reported by Chantelle Luarca)*

18 HONOLULU

St. Patrick School

At the end of **Catholic Schools Week** on Feb. 3, more than 700 Catholic educators across Oahu came together in celebration to give thanks and to recognize those individuals marking anniversaries in the Hawaii Catholic School System. Two of our own were honored for 20 years of service. **Mrs. Adrienne Hill** teaches six grade and is also the religious coordinator for St. Patrick Church. **Mrs. Hale Harbottle** is our school's after school care supervisor as well as helping around the church monastery. We are blessed to have these two individuals in the St. Patrick community and thank them for their service. *(Reported by Pamela Asuelo-Montalla)*