

the parish news

1 PAUOA VALLEY

Blessed Sacrament Parish

The **religious education group** from our parish had a wonderful **Trunk or Treat** visit to **St. Stephen Church** in Nuuanu on Oct. 28. Many went dressed as saints for the Halloween event. Many decorative and creative car trunks lined the parking lot, which also had an orange filled pumpkin patch. With excitement, the children first looked for a pumpkin then went to each trunk with smiling parishioners handing them treats. The trunks featured themes and some even had some fun games to play which added to the fun activity. At the trunk nearest the church hall, children picked a partner and read a passage from the Bible which led them into the hall to decorate a cookie. What a refreshing and fun way to end our visit. Mahalo to St. Stephen, **Father Mario Raquepo, Velma Guieb-Mamuad** and **religious education staff** for your kind thoughtfulness in inviting us. (Reported by *Lei Kondo*)



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Marie Tokuda-Wong)

5 WAIMANALO

St. George Parish

Pictured is the investiture on Sept. 20 of **new altar servers** with **Father Ray Ellorin** at the podium. (Reported by *Vicky DeSilva*)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE

6 KOLOA

St. Raphael Parish

Our **festival of lights** for the "Joy of Christmas," done by parishioners, local businesses and organizations, was tested on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 6 p.m., and blessed by **Father Arlan Intal, MS**. All enjoyed a potluck after the test was over. Every Saturday and Sunday evening in December, from 6 p.m.-8 p.m., the public is welcome to drive through the gates at St. Raphael Church and walk on the pathways that lead to various "Joy of Christmas" festival of lights. We will have food, snacks, drinks for purchase as well as music. We also have a gift shop with many Advent and Christmas specialties for sale. Official opening for the "Joy of Christmas" is Dec. 1. Please join us this year to bring the "Joy of Christmas" to our **keiki, kupuna and all ages in-between**. (Reported by *Lillian Vierra*)

2 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

When the **religious education calendar** for 2018-2019 was prepared in July, a community service component for **Edge Middle School Youth Ministry** was added. Thus, Edgers served a **Thanksgiving lunch** on Nov. 18 for people who came to the parish's monthly food distribution. The simple menu included turkey, rice, corn and juice. The challenge: there was no money in the religious education budget for the project. So whom should we ask to donate turkeys? The answer: **Foodland's** free turkey offer for those who hold My Reward coupons. By only word of mouth, turkeys came to the office from parishioners. The donations did not stop at turkeys. Parishioners brought ham, pumpkin pies, dinner rolls and potato salad. Even **Sam's Club** donated pumpkin pies. The project pulled the community together to serve those most in need. Gratitude goes to the parish's **Food Pantry Team** who distributed the invitation, **Edge Middle School Core Team** and **Edgers with some parents, Filipino Catholic Club, Samoan ministry, RCIA and elementary catechists, music ministry and the Campbell High School JV girls soccer team**. Special thanks to parish staff **Mela Kim** and **Emily Tui** for coordinating the volunteers who cooked the turkeys in their homes. The project had the full support of our clergy. Shown is **Father Ed Barut** addressing attendees and volunteers before leading a thanksgiving prayer. **Father Jong Atinaja** is standing to the left of Father Ed. (Reported by *Julia Torres*)



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7 KAHULUI

Christ the King Parish

Veterans in our parish came to church to participate in our annual "**Rosary in Honor of Veterans Living and Deceased**," Nov. 20. Pictured, from left, **Theresa Lopez** (Philippine Army); **Leo Agcolicol** (U.S. Army); **Father Nap**; **John Duarte** (U.S. Army); **Jeff Grimes** (U.S. Navy); **Ralph Magundayao** (U.S. Army); **Greg Peros** (U.S. Army); **Bo Mahoe** (U.S. Coast Guard); and **Irene Decambra** who shared her husband's U.S. flag and medals of honor, including his Bronze Star. (Reported by *Caroline Sadiri*)

8 ENCHANTED LAKE

St. John Vianney Parish

Our parish continues its theme on **The Year of the Mass**, the center of our Catholic faith. Launched on the feast day of St. John Vianney by our pastor **Father Peter Miti** and the **Parish Faith Formation Committee**, our focus during December will be that attendance at Holy Mass is worthy of good conduct. There is nothing more important we can do in this life than to attend Mass with reverence and respect. Therefore, during December we will review how each of us should conduct ourselves before, during and after Mass. We are not attending a performance, but should participate in the songs and prayers, follow the readings and listen attentively to the homily. Our goal is to help us realize that we should adopt an attitude of piety, humility and reverence as if attending each Mass was our first, and possibly even our last. (Reported by *Earl Walker*)

9 KAILUA

St. Anthony Parish

Director of religious education **Cindy Kaul** hosted a mini-retreat for eighth graders on **servant leadership**. Students worked together on problem solving games, discussed the qualities of great leaders, and reflected on how they can better model the servant leadership that Jesus teaches us in the Gospels. ... The **first grade retreat** focused on kindness, with parents volunteering to teach lessons on kindness and healing little hurts. ... for **First Reconciliation** school and religious education students came together Nov. 17 for a 3-hour retreat on

KULIOUOU

Holy Trinity Parish

Advent is a time to prepare our faith for the birth of Jesus. **Adult faith formation** presents **Family Faith Night** Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. Come and listen to parish families extol how Jesus hears us. Every parishioner has a story to tell. We are especially blessed to have several parish families who want to share their faith stories. Questions we may be asking ourselves: Why is God important to my family? How did our parents and grandparents teach us to know and love God? (From the parish bulletin)

HONOLULU

Sts. Peter and Paul Parish

In less than a year, on Sept. 28, 2019, the parish will celebrate the **50th anniversary** of its founding. In planning for this milestone event, our church

has obtained a proposal for the second phase of our **stained glass project** to replace 24 panels in 12 windows on the top tier of the church which have deteriorated and darkened due to weathering, heat and mold. Eight of the panels will depict the descent of the Holy Spirit above the altar, a baptism font, statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. The rest of the panels will be designed to connect to the theme. (From the parish bulletin)

3 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Parish

A prayer service at **St. Joseph Cemetery** on All Soul Day was led by **Father Michael Tolentino, Father Jaime Jose** and **Deacon Pat**. Our reader was **Corazon Constantino**. Our youth lit candles on each grave as a blessing

was said on each by Father Jaime, Father Michael and Deacon Pat. It was a beautiful evening when all the candles were lit and stars were shining bright! Cars stopped to take pictures of our cemetery! May our parishioners rest in peace! (Reported by *Patrick Constantino*; photo by *Jacob Metz*)

4 NUUANU

St. Stephen Parish

Hawaii's **Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians** celebrated the **76th foundation** anniversary of their congregation on Oct. 23. **Father Mario Raquepo** and **Father Arnold Ortiz** concelebrated the 5 p.m. Mass. A potluck fellowship followed in the parish hall. Celebrating were, pictured from left, **Sister Meristella Umdor, Sister Ruth Zonunthari Sister** and

MaryKutty Kottuppallil. Sister MaryKutty and Sister Ruth have been in Hawaii 10 years and Sister Meristella has been here five years. The sisters renewed their vows and were blessed by Father Mario. These three charismatic missionaries have touched the lives of many in the islands with their support, comfort, peace, love and hope. When the sisters sang "I Will Give Thanks To You" they sounded like angels and were asked to sing it again. For the 280-plus people present, it was a night of fellowship and spiritual bonding. It was heartwarming to see many from other parishes come to honor the missionaries on this happy occasion. The camaraderie was awesome. To Sister MaryKutty, Sister Ruth and Sister Meristella, mahalo and God bless you. (Reported by *Ginny Jordan*; photo by



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the **healing sacrament of reconciliation**. They participated in a stained glass craft demonstrating how Christ's Light shines through us, role played confession with their parents and made sacrifice beads to help them learn the little way of St. Therese. ... At a **Saint Fair** sponsored by **Kelsey Lawley's seventh graders**, students researched and (some) dressed as saints. The first, second and fifth graders were invited to visit the fair and talk to the saints one-on-one to learn more about their lives. The younger ones especially loved the handmade prayer cards the seventh grade "saints" gave them. Pictured are saints Elizabeth Ann Seton, Teresa of Calcutta and Katera Tekakwitha. *(Reported by Nikki Dewitt and Cindy Kaul)*

10 KEKAHA

St. Theresa Parish

On Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, our parish joined other parishes throughout the Diocese of Honolulu in the ringing of the "**Bells of Peace**" 21 times, honoring the 116,516 Americans who died in WWI on its 100th anniversary. At both Sunday morning Masses, parishioners placed on a remembrance table photos of their deceased loved ones who served in all wars. A blessing was said over them and all the souls we are remembering throughout November. In the evening, our **religious education ministry and youth ministry** conducted a **luminary light service** in memory of all deceased loved ones on the grounds of St. Theresa School. Over 100 luminaries were decorated by those whose loved ones have passed on and were placed in a semi-circle around the prayer group. A unique and beautiful cloud formation swirled above just before the service started, then slowly departed back to heaven. We all felt the presence of our deceased loved ones and all the angels and saints. A big "Mahalo!" to our religious education coordinator **Mary Ann McMillen** and to our youth ministry coordinators, **Blu and Rena Ulanday, Jonelle Renti Cruz**, and especially our youth group members! Pictured are some of the many luminaries prepared by family and friends. *(Reported by Chantal A. Duarte)*

11 LAHAINA

Maria Lanakila Parish

On Nov. 11, our parish held its **ministry fair** in response to the **parish pastoral plan**. Tents were filled with parishioners and even visitors after each morning Mass. People strolled

around visiting tables, eating their continental breakfast and speaking to the representatives of each ministry. *(Reported by Mary Rosenthal)*

12 KANEOHE

St. Ann Parish

Ms. Kelii read the book "**My Thanksgiving Prayer**" to the **early learning center student** on Nov. 16. The book shows how there is so much to be thankful for, like good food and the people we love. But there are other things to thank God for at **Thanksgiving** time and at any time. The students prayed for those who are less fortunate and donated canned goods to our **holiday food drive** so that the parish will have enough to fill every basket to our neighbors in need. The **Dolphin class** prepared table mats to be taken to our senior care home **Pohai Nani** for their Thanksgiving meal. The placemats read, "Thank you God for everything — for family, friends and fun. But most of all for Jesus, My Savior and Your Son." *(Reported by Darlene Kelii; photo by Carla Castro)*

13 HAIKU

St. Rita Parish

Our **eighth annual parish Fall Sale** on Nov. 3 was an awesome and successful event! We were blessed with great weather, an abundance of rummage items, scrumptious breads baked by **St. Rita bakers**, pickled items, jams and jellies. Ono foods cooked by parishioners included kalua pork plate, gandule rice and pansit. Also, an array of silent auction items were donated by community merchants. Our own **Wayne Freitas and friends** welcomed all with local music. We thank the **Maui community** for coming and supporting our annual event. A big mahalo to our hardworking parish volunteers and all who donated items. Pictured are parishioners gathering for the blessing of the event by our pastor **Father Chacko Muthoottil**. *(Reported by Esther Yap)*

WAIALUA

St. Michael Parish

The parish, in celebration of the **Feast of Christ the King**, Nov. 25, conducted a **eucharistic procession** around the church. The procession was a public display of Christ's sovereignty over the entire universe. The procession was intended to be a reminder to all who see that Christ is truly King of this church, the community and the entire world. *(From the parish bulletin)*