



St. Michael the Archangel Parish

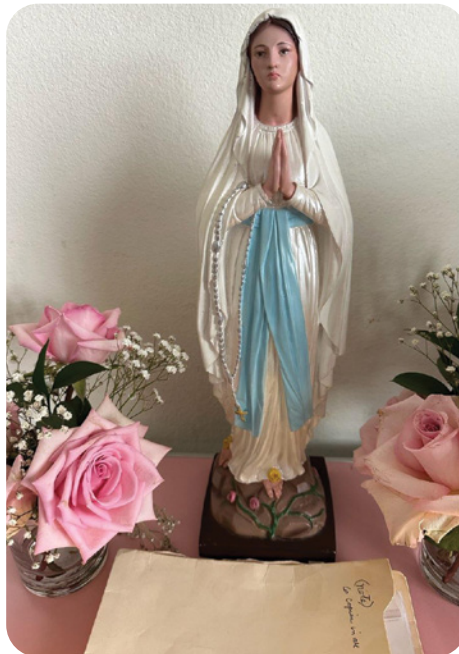
Traveling Rosary Bringing Many Graces to the Homes of Our Parish 'Ohana

The Rosary is a prayer that developed from a long history with roots going as far back as the third-century Desert Fathers' prayer ropes, and St. Dominic's dream in the year 1208. The word *rosary* refers to a garland of roses and is associated with many heavenly promises. St. Louis de Montfort was a great proponent of the Rosary and he spoke of this garland of roses in a very real way.

"Every time people say the Rosary devoutly, they place a crown of 153 white roses and 16 red roses upon the head of Jesus and Mary. Being heavenly flowers, these roses will never fade or lose their exquisite beauty," St. Louis de Montfort taught.

St. Michael's Traveling Rosary Ministry provides an opportunity for parishioners to join in prayer and devotion to Our Lady, bringing many graces from Jesus to our parish 'ohana. A statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary travels from family to family. Each family keeps the statue for a week and prays the Rosary each day for her intercession.

While the concept is simple, there is behind-the-scenes work that goes into scheduling each family and coordinating the exchange of the statue of Our Lady.



The statue of Mary that travels from home to home

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Meals That Heal Ministry Kau Kau

When a friend or family member is going through an overwhelming time in his or her life, we are called to reach out to our loved ones to offer them support. In the same way, we are also called to mālama those in our parish 'ohana who may need our help. The Meals That Heal Ministry provides meals to those who are temporarily homebound while recovering from surgery or another major life event, such as illness, childbirth, or chemotherapy.

"I know from experience how much energy a caretaker gives while helping their loved one to recover from such events," says ministry leader Cheryl Roderer. "We can supplement that assistance by providing meals a few times a week for up to two months. Having someone come and bring a home-cooked meal, or even a favorite meal from a restaurant is so helpful to the recovering patient and their family."

Meals that Heal Ministry first began in 2018, after Cheryl and her husband moved to Kona full-time and became parishioners at St. Michael.

"I met Shirley David and Cynthia Taylor while attending Mass," Cheryl says. "The three of us had lunch and I was trying to get a feel for how I could volunteer at the parish. I inquired if there was a ministry such as Meals that Heal and there was not, so Shirley and Cynthia encouraged me to start a new ministry to fill this need. It was something I had been involved in at my previous parish in Anchorage, Alaska."

The ministry provides each recipient with two to three meals per week for a period of six to eight weeks and sometimes longer if necessary. Recipients are determined based on referrals from St. Michael parishioners and staff who see a need for the meals. Currently, the ministry has 10-15 volunteers



who regularly participate, as well as another 15 who participate from time to time.

Volunteers deliver meals to the recipients on mutually agreed-upon days and times. It's not always necessary to make a separate meal — often, families will make double their own family meal and deliver that portion to the recipient, or bring them takeout from a local restaurant. After having to pause activities for almost a year due to COVID-19, Cheryl has enjoyed delivering meals again, and visiting with recipients when possible.

"I try to stay and chat with the recipient whenever possible, but we don't want to intrude on the family, either," she says. "If we are invited in then we are happy to engage. We still use caution when delivering depending on the recipient's health status, and we try to ask if they just want us to leave the meal outside. Most want to see us, but we are mindful of those who are ill in any way, and may still be vulnerable to exposure to any airborne illnesses."

"How many times have you said to someone, 'Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help?' Ninety-nine times out of 100, the person replies that they don't need anything — it seems we are conditioned to not need others. But when I offer help, I really want to do something." — CHERYL RODERER



for Kōkua and Aloha in Times of Need

Meals That Heal is enriching not only for the recipients but also for the volunteers, in that it allows them to grow in fellowship with their fellow parishioners through an act of aloha.

“This ministry allows me to be a more involved part of our parish community,” Cheryl says. “I meet new people and it helps me to be more connected to our church family. Whenever I hear that there is a person who has a major medical event, I always wonder what I can do to help out.

“How many times have you said to someone, ‘Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help?’” she adds. “Ninety-nine times out of 100, the person replies that they don’t need anything — it seems we are conditioned to not need others. But

when I offer help, I really want to do something. In this way, I can offer my support and let them know that I am praying for them to heal.”

As Cheryl notes, ministry members have been very blessed to be welcomed into the lives of recipients and to kokua in this way.

“They are very grateful to have the support offered by our ministry,” she says. “Some of our recipients will join the ministry once they have recovered if they are able because it was so helpful to them. Some have said that they truly appreciate the meals that are made and delivered with the love of the volunteer.”

Meals That Heal is an opportunity to be the loving face of Christ to others, and all are welcome to participate!

For more information, contact Cheryl Roderer at caroderer@gmail.com or 702-910-8140.

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday of the Lord’s Supper

April 6

Lauds: 7 a.m.

Holy Mass: 7 p.m.

Good Friday April 7

Lauds: 7 a.m.

Stations of the Cross (English): 12 p.m.

Stations of the Cross (Español): 3 p.m.

Good Friday service with Veneration
of the Cross: 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 8

Lauds: 7 a.m.

Easter Vigil of the Holy Night: 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday April 9

7 a.m. – English / ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

9 a.m. – English

11:30 a.m. – Español

1:30 p.m. – English

4 p.m. – English

All events are at St. Michael the Archangel

A LOOK BACK AT THE DEDICATION OF

On Feb. 23, we celebrated the dedication of our Grace Parish Center. Mahalo to all of those who participated in the dedication and all of those who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to bring the dream of our parish center to reality.





OUR GRACE PARISH CENTER



DEACON CRAIG CAMELLO

JOURNEY AND FELLOWSHIP

The journey to Deacon Craig Camello's entry into the diaconate has always been a journey bound in faith. And as we enter into the celebration of Easter through the journey of Lent, Deacon Craig is working to organize a spiritual Men's Group that will enable parish members to grow in their own faith.

Deacon Craig tells the story of his journey that began when he was an infant.

"Our Christian initiation, as we all know, begins on the day of our Baptism," he says. "For some, it may come at a time when Christ enters our minds and hearts, and for some, it may come at a time of near death. Some may enter the journey when their parents felt it was time for understanding of life with Christ. As for me, it was 10 days after the day I was born as my parents were told I was very sick with intestinal problems. Although my parents were young at that time with two children already in diapers, their faith kept them strong."

Deacon Craig's parents soon found that his ailment was too much for them to manage, so his father's mother took him under her care for most of his infant years.

"My grandmother, full of God's belief with cultural healing, nursed me through my first four years and then handed me back to my parents," Deacon Craig says. "Throughout my childhood life, our parents ensured my siblings and I had an enriched Catholic education by having us attend St. Joseph's School in



Deacon Craig Camello

Waipahu until we graduated from St. Louis High School."

As Deacon Craig moved on to life on his own, he was struggling with his faith. He attended church only when necessary, or at Christmas and Easter.

"Only when it hit me as I was moving to Hawai'i Island, my father said to me, 'All I ask you to do, is to give our Lord one hour of your time per week and go to church,'" Deacon Craig says.

It was his arrival here in Kailua-Kona in October 1990 that his journey back to the Church caught fire. He found himself immediately back in the pews at St. Michael the Archangel Church, attending Mass each Sunday. Since then, this became a weekly commitment.

"It was then that I furthered my talents with music ministry where I met Pam and her children," he says. "It was from that moment onward that my journey in faith with God was deepened by joining our love with the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. We continued our music ministry together at St. Michael's from 1991 to 2003, leading our youth Mass, youth ministry, and other ministries of our parish."

The couple and their children spent nine years in Hilo where they shared their music ministry at Sacred Heart in Pāhoa and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Pāpa'ikou, and while their youngest daughter attended St. Joseph's School in Hilo and Waiākea High School. In 2012 they returned to Kona, back to St. John



REFLECTS ON VOCATION FOR MEN OF OUR COMMUNITY

the Baptist and St. Benedict's in Hōnaunau, where Pam had grounded her music ministry.

As they continued their music ministry, Deacon Jerry Nunogawa shared his story of life as a deacon during the Mass at Vocations Weekend.

"His belief of vocations was that it is a religious desire to dedicate one's life to serve others spiritually in the name of God's love and compassion, which is a special gift from His Son, Jesus Christ," Deacon Craig says. "Focused on the music at hand, much of what was said at that time really went over my head — only to learn that Fr. Al had made reservations for Pam and I and two other couples to attend a deacon inquiry weekend at St. Stephen's Diocesan Center on O'ahu.

"In 2013, Pam and I spent the next 12 months in an aspirant year of a diaconate journey," he adds. "Hence, five years later I was ordained on Feb. 2, 2018, with Pam and our children, Sidney, Stacey, and Chelsea, along with my parents, Roy and Angie, my mother-in-law Esquiela, better known as Stella, and our faith community here at St. Michael the Archangel Church."

As Deacon Craig began his service here as a deacon, his life has grown even sweeter through his faith.

"I find my role in the parish to be humbling with a life of joy and love of God," he says. "It is one of spreading the Good News of the Gospel."

Deacon Craig acknowledges we live in a secular society with many challenges that fill our world today.

"We all strive to live a life of Christ in our own vision and will, but it can be blurry at times," he says. "The light dims at times and then it will light up as it is filled with joy and love. When darkness enters our lives, it can be difficult to cope with the understanding of 'what it is, is what it is!' We find ourselves dealing with many changes in our work life, our family life, and even our faith life.

"All these situations have given me a desire in becoming a deacon to be — and to build — a support system for our parish and to assist our pastor in reaching out to our parishioners' needs and wants — to find ways of comfort and peace in our hearts through the Word of God that we hear every week, every day," he adds.

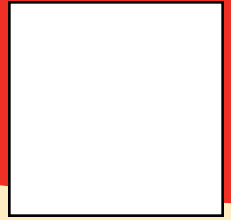
Deacon Craig hopes that, through Lent, the Men's Group will be organized to help members grow in faith and to truly understand what the Word of God means.

"I hope such a group will enable the members to truly understand how the Word of God can form our lives in a way He wills us to live," he says "I hope it will help us grow in faith and to truly understand what the Word of God means to us. God created us to live out His will the best way we know how. And to do that, it is through faith, hope, and love of His Son Jesus Christ!"

"I find my role in the parish to be humbling with a life of joy and love of God. It is one of spreading the Good News of the Gospel."

— DEACON CRAIG CAMELLO

For more information about the Men's Group, contact Deacon Craig at the parish office, 808-326-7771.



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Traveling Rosary *continued from front cover*

“We usually meet at the church on Sunday or call the parishioner who is next on the list to coordinate,” says ministry coordinator Beth Smith. “If no one is available, I’ll pick it up from them and take it to the next person’s house just to make it easy for everybody. If I’m in town, they’re welcome to call me.”

Beth began leading this ministry a year ago. She moved from San Diego two years ago and her previous parish had a similar ministry in which she had been involved. The Traveling Rosary has been around our parish for a while, and Beth was happy to get involved and ensure that Our Lady continues to be honored and bless the homes and families that welcome her and her Son.

There are currently about 16 families involved with the Traveling Rosary and more are always welcome. The family that has the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary prays for the general intentions of the parish but they also bring their own personal needs to the feet of Our Lady. No intention is too small or too big for Our Lady’s intercession.

“Being Catholic, the Virgin Mary is a big part of our lives,” Beth says. “We just encourage everybody to invite the Virgin Mary to their house. If there’s someone who is sick in your family, you can pray with her.”

Honoring Our Lady pleases her Son, and Mary will be sure to draw us close to Jesus as we pray the Rosary and grow in our devotion to her. All families are invited to sign up for a week of prayer with Mary through the Traveling Rosary.

*To be put on the schedule to receive the statue of Mary into your home,
call the parish office at 808-326-7771 — Beth will then reach out to you to schedule your week.*

Special notice: The Mass schedule will be changing in April.
Please check the website and bulletin for more details. Mahalo!