



Established  
July 5, 1840

# St. Michael the Archangel Parish

*We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.*

Churches: † Immaculate Conception-Holualoa † Holy Rosary-Kalaoa † St. Paul's-Kawanui † St. Peter's by-the-Sea-Kahalua  
St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: [stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org](mailto:stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org) / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am - 4:30pm

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception

Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am - 4:45pm / Confessions: Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church

WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12 noon

Gift Shop Hours: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

Website: [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) **February 2, 2025 | 2 de febrero de 2025**

## The Presentation of the LORD

Reading I - **Malachi 3:1-4** | Psalm - **24:7,8,9,10** | Reading II - **Hebrews 2:14-18** | Gospel - **Luke 2:22-40**  
Primera Lectura - **Malaquías 3:1-4** | Salmo - **23:7,8,9,10** | Segunda Lectura - **Hebreos 2:14-18** | Evangelio - **Lucas 2:22-40**



### THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel." - Lk 2:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: **Isaiah (Isaias) 6:1-2,3-8**

Psalm/Salmo: **138(137) 1-2,2-3,4-5,7-8**

2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: **1 Corinthians (1Corintios) 15:1-11**

Gospel/Evangelio: **Luke (Lucas) 5:1-11**

## A CHRISTMAS REPRISE

The Church's celebration three weeks ago of the Baptism of the LORD signaled the "official" end of the Christmas season. Today's feast of the Presentation of the LORD seems to extend the Incarnation celebration a bit longer. In fact, some have called this feast a "second Epiphany."

The first reading recalls the anticipation of Advent, as Malachi writes, "Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me." The reading from Hebrews reminds us of the Incarnation, proclaiming that Jesus had a "share" in our own "blood and flesh." The Gospel finds the infant Jesus on His first visit to Jerusalem and His human parents once again surprised and in awe over the events surrounding His birth.

In the simplicity of the manger, in the grandeur of the temple, in the domesticity of Nazareth, Jesus comes. May we come to know Him and so be filled with "wisdom" and the "favor of God." - Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.

### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



**St. Michael's 15th Annual Golf Tournament - Saturday, March 8 - Kona Country Club**  
**Format: 2-person Scramble \$150.00 per player / Register online using the QR Code**



**Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish** - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org). To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

February 2, 2025

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4 | Heb 2:14-18 | Lk 2:22-40

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE**

Mary and Joseph bring their 40-day-old infant Jesus to the temple in order to fulfill the Mosaic law. There, they are met by Simeon and Anna, the faithful prophets who have spent their lives waiting for the coming of the King of Glory. These many years of waiting were like the “refiner’s fire” which the prophet Malachi describes in the first reading. Refined like gold by prayer and fasting, Simeon and Anna are prepared to meet their Lord. And in this moment, the Old and New Testaments meet and the fulfillment of the Old is foreseen. Imagine the splendor of the moment when they finally laid their eyes on this king of light and glory – the culmination of a lifetime of hope, prayer, and preparation. Overcome with peace and joy at seeing his Lord, Simeon declares, “Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace,” for he had seen the glory of God.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### **PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Have you ever marveled at the beauty of a shiny, gold ring? Gold has long been regarded as one of earth’s greatest treasures, yet the gold we admire today doesn’t emerge in its pure, radiant form. To produce such beauty, gold must first undergo a process of intense refinement. A crude material is exposed to extreme heat to be melted and purified – until something of profound value emerges. Like gold, we, too, must be forged in fire to be made pure and holy. This is one way we can understand the prophet Malachi’s words. The “fires” we experience in our lives are not without purpose – God is purifying us so that one day we may live with him in eternity. He isn’t afraid of our “crude material”; rather, he gazes upon us with such intense love that our own beauty is revealed. As we undergo personal purification, let us stand in holy confidence like Simeon and Anna, witnessing to the truth that it is through the refiner’s fire that we are brought to glory.

### **REFLECT**

We can become discouraged, feeling that our prayers are unanswered or that a life devoted to Christ is too difficult. When these moments arise, consider the prophets Simeon and Anna, who gave their lives in quiet devotion, trusting in God’s promises. Pray Simeon’s canticle, meditating on the glorious gift we have been given in our salvation, and the promise that even in the darkest of days a bright and shining light awaits us.

“  
MY EYES HAVE  
SEEN YOUR  
SALVATION.

”  
(LK 2:30)





## Life of Stewardship

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, when Mary and Joseph brought their infant Son to the Temple in obedience to the laws of their Jewish faith. This is a beautiful, and in many ways, mysterious feast - and one that is filled with lessons for a stewardship way of life.

Our Gospel passage from Luke, recounting the details of the Presentation, teaches us a stewardship lesson through the example of St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother, the "Holy Parents." Even knowing their Son was God, they still carefully observed the faith practices of their day bringing him to the temple "to present Him to the Lord just as it is written in the law of the Lord." Later in the passage we read that, "When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to their own town of Nazareth." The Holy Parents were good stewards of their child, teaching Him to live in obedience to the practices of their faith from his infancy and throughout His "growing up" years.

Those of us entrusted with the care of children, whether our own children, godchildren, nieces, and nephews, grandchildren, or students, have a vital role to play in the faith formation of these young ones. We, like the Holy Parents, must steward these children well, forming them in the faith by both instruction and example throughout their lives.

What a privilege and high calling we have as Christian stewards. Let us take these stewardship lessons to heart and present our gifts and our young ones joyfully to the Lord.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

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## Parish News

### New Parishioner Orientation Luncheon

You are invited to our New Parishioner Orientation and Lunch **on Sunday, February 2nd at 12:30pm in the Grace Parish Center.** Come learn the history of our Parish, meet our priests and ministry coordinators.

### Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, February 2 at 3pm.** We will pray Consecration Prayers to God Our Father and Divine Mercy. The Consecration prayer helps us to acknowledge God as our Eternal Father, to honor and to give Him our commitment to follow His commandments.

### Blessed Palms for Ash Wednesday

Please bring in your blessed palms from last year so we can prepare them for Ash Wednesday. Place them in the bins inside the front entrance. We will collect palms until Sunday, February 23. **Ash Wednesday is on March 5.**

### Blessing of Throats - Monday, February 3

The **Blessing of the Throats** is celebrated on February 3, the feast day of Saint Blaise of Sebaste. Parishioners desiring a blessing of their throats typically proceed to the front of the church where the priest with the two blessed candles, tied with a red ribbon, holds them in the form of an X. He touches the candles to each side of the person's neck and says: *"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of*

*the Holy Spirit."* The red ribbon represents the blood of martyrs, and the candles held in the shape of an "X" represent the mar-tyrdom of another saint, St. Andrew, who according to tradition was crucified on an X-shaped cross. Not only are we freed from disease but from everything keeping us from God. - [www.simplycatholic.com](http://www.simplycatholic.com)

## Kona Chorale Society Free Concert

The Kona Chorale Society presents their annual Gospel Heritage Concert of traditional spirituals and gospel tunes at St. Michael on **Friday, February 7, from 7:00-8:30pm.** Concert is free. Donations are appreciated.

## To Our Parish Members

The **presence of children** is a gift to the Church and they are a **reminder** that **our parish is growing.** Please **welcome** our children and give a **warm, supportive** smile of **encouragement** to their parents.

## To Families with Small Children:

**RELAX:** God put the wiggles in your little ones. No need to suppress it! **SIT CLOSE AND EXPLAIN:** Sit towards the front where it's easier to see and hear. Quietly explain the parts of the Mass. **PARTICIPATE:** Your child learns by imitating you. Sing, pray, and respond. Your child will follow your lead! **WANDER:** If you need to leave Mass, feel free to step outside, but please be sure to come back! Your St. Michael's Parish Ohana is happy you are here!

## Men of Faith

We invite all men to our weekly scripture sharing every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 6:30pm on the south lanai of our church. Come early to spend time with Christ in Adoration, evening prayer and Benediction starting at 5pm. On Wednesday, February 12th, Dr. Scott French will be sharing the first of his three series of the Miracles of the Holy Eucharist focused on helping men understand the sacredness of the Body and Blood of Christ.

## Valentine Dinner & Dance - February 14

Please join fellow parishioners on Friday, February 14th for 5pm cocktails, 6pm dinner and a Valentine dance from 7 to 9pm in the Grace Parish Center hosted by the Knights of Columbus. The \$40 per person ticket sales will be held after all weekend masses on the church lanai on February 2 and 9 or until sold out.

## St. Michael's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

St. Michael's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday March 8th at Kona Country Club. There are several ways you can help. Join us as a member of our organizing committee, be a golfer, a volunteer, or a sponsor. Join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, February 4 at 4pm. Call Don David at 808-756-6912 for more information.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

*"Could you not keep watch for one hour?" (Mark 14:37c)*  
Join our prayer disciples and spend one hour with Jesus on **Wednesdays from 7:30am—5pm.** For more information or to reserve your hour, contact TJ through the Parish Office.

# Stewardship of Treasure

January 13th - 19th, 2025

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 2,483.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 13,783.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 8,832.00

## Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$5,581,556.17** for the Parish Center Campaign, which includes pledge payments.

*Mahalo* for your continued generosity.

**Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or click on our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.**

## STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH JANUARY 2025

MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: **\$11,525.00**

MONTHLY 'OHANA IN CHRIST ASSESSMENT: **\$2,446.33**

The above amounts fund Diocesan ministries, as listed in 'Ohana in Christ to help support our parishes, pastors, schools, service agencies, and communities within the Diocese of Honolulu.

## Online Giving

St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

## Faith Formation

### Faith Formation Classes Grades K-5

Please take note the **new time for class is now 10:15 to 11:50**. Classes will be held on February 2, 9, and 23. No class on February 16.

*-Margaret Essex, Cathecist*

### Youth Ministry Classes Grades 6-12.

Classes will be held on February 2, 16, and 23. No class on February 9. We will have a **Retreat Day on Sunday, February 16th from 1 pm to 7:15 pm**. Refresh-ments will be provided.

*-Edwina Fujimoto, Youth Minister*

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

**Want to become Catholic? Want to receive the Sacraments?**

Anyone age 18+ who is curious about the history, rites, and spirituality of Christianity and wants to learn more about the Catholic faith, the development of Sacred Scripture, and/or is thinking of becoming Catholic to delve into a deeper relationship with God as an intentional disciple of Jesus Christ. We meet weekly on Sundays after the 9am Mass.

## Presentation of the LORD

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophesies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear - somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:35). What to make

of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hat-red, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, ex-posing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's di-vine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty. *- Father John Muir, ©LPi*

## Treasures from our Tradition

The song of the angels, "Holy, Holy, Holy," resounds from our lips at every Mass. There was a widespread belief in the first religions of the world that God stirred creation into being by a word, a song, a musical note. Music and a sense of God's presence have always been inseparable. In the liturgy, your voice is invited into this song as the priest names the reasons for our praise. "Heaven and earth are full of your glory," and we are not passive onlookers, but participants in this glory. Catholic prayer no longer assigns this angelic hymn to a choir, but gives it to you to sing. Even if your voice is thought to be suitable only for a well-insulated shower stall, you are called into this song.

We are born to sing - just listen to a baby testing the full range of newly-discovered vocal abilities. Soon we get shushed and hushed into quiet, and given lots of messages that our voices are unwanted, and that we need to raise our hands in order to be heard. All of that is overturned in liturgy, the place where God waits to hear us come alive in the song of all creation. In heaven, everyone's in the choir; why not start practicing now?

*- James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

## Everyday Stewardship - Healing Our Blindness

The value of stewardship living is difficult to see unless we are experiencing that way of life for ourselves. You can read 100 Everyday Stewardship reflections and go to church every Sunday, but unless you are actively growing in faith and trying to live a life of generous stewardship, you cannot see the power of such a lifestyle. Like most things, we need direct, purposeful experiences to really understand.

I worked in a stewardship parish for over 20 years, but it was only after I started treating all I have as God's, and began to actively offer all I am to Him for His glory, that I really got the message. That doesn't mean I am a perfect steward. Far from it! However, the stress and anxiety that comes with life has greatly diminished because all is in God's hands. I choose to act more generously than before, which provides me with a sense of fulfillment and joy. How I act towards my family, friends, and even

# YOU ARE INVITED

(schedule may change without advance notice)

## MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm  
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

## TUESDAY

- Coffee with the Priests 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:30-8:00pm

## WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm

## THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm  
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm

## FRIDAY - NO EVENTS

## SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

## SUNDAY

- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Immigration Seminar 1:00-2:00pm  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father 3:00pm  
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Faith Formation (K-5) 10:15-11:50am
- Faith Formation (6-12) 5:15-7:15pm  
(Please refer to the Faith Formation section for class dates)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

# Baptism

Classes are held once a month. Parents and Godparents must attend class.

To register, please email [baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org](mailto:baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org)

# Marriage

Please notify the office and allow six months before the date of marriage for preparation

people I meet daily has changed. Now I am more mindful of their presence, and I seek to give them a part of me that just might change their day and bring them a little closer to Christ. I am transforming into a disciple who seeks to use all I have been given to transform all that is around me.

It would be a shame to be blind to the important things for an entire life. Today, consider taking a path of life-changing stewardship. Give it all to God. In the midst of all you have been given, you just might find God in a profound way. You may even find the real person God created you to be.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

## Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - The Thoughts of Many Hearts

When Simeon cradles the infant Messiah in his arms, he speaks of salvation and glory and revelation. He speaks of his own death. He speaks of the fulfillment of God's promise to all people.

But most memorable, in my opinion, are his words about the hearts of men. This Child, he says, will be the way "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Perhaps you're like me. Perhaps you don't enjoy scrutinizing yourself, your actions, your intentions. You don't like reflecting on why you feel or react the way you do, and you really don't enjoy measuring those feelings and reactions against what you know they could be. It's exhausting to sit with God, your heart in your hands, both of us looking at it, talking about it. So far too often, I opt out. The oldest trick of the devil, you see, is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do. There are so many other things I could be doing, after all. Answering emails. Catching up on laundry. Scrolling Facebook. Worrying about inflation and the election. Stressing about my kid's dance recital and next week's busy schedule.

But where is God truly at work? Where is the place God will point to, when my life on Earth has come to its close?

It is the very depths of my heart. The place where I am my most authentic self, for better or worse. The place where all my pretensions crumble away, and I am alone with the truth of who I am and what I choose to do.

Am I brave enough to look into the depths of my own heart? - Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman, ©LPI



As Catholics, let us witness the beautiful gift of life with civility and love, and with our peaceful prayers and our compassionate service to all those in need. - USCCB 5/10/22



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

- 4pm - Robin Ganir, Birthday Blessings

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

- 7am - Adam Santos, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Betty Estorpe, deceased, 1st Anniversary of Death

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

- 7am - Dorothy Shim, deceased, Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - Christopher Grogan and Scott Danaher, May they Rest in Peace

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

- 7am - Gloria Lynne Fabel, Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - Charles Perez, Rest in Peace

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

- 7am - Edith Urgino, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Mary MacCheyne, Rest in Peace

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

- 7am - Robert Leopoldino, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Edith Urgino, Rest in Peace

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

- 7am - Dixie Martinelli for Healing

## Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **808-326-7771**.

**Mass cards are available.**

**"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..."**

—Matthew 25:35

## The Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from **9 - 9:45am** at **Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot**.



# A Poor Family's Offering

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Malachi 3:1-4 • Messenger of the Covenant
- ▶ Hebrews 2:14-18 • Becoming Like Us to Save Us
- ▶ Luke 2:22-40 • The Presentation in the Temple



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord today marks the trip that Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus made to the Temple in Jerusalem to fulfill their duty according to Jewish Law. Observant Jews at the time of Jesus' birth followed the tradition spelled out in Leviticus 12:2-8. A mother was considered "unclean" for seven days after giving birth to a son. For 33 days, she was not allowed to enter the sanctuary of the temple. After that, she was required to bring a lamb and a small bird as an offering to the priest. The priest would then sacrifice the animals as an atonement for her sins. Only then was she declared ritually pure again. Those who couldn't afford a lamb and a bird, like Mary and Joseph, could bring two turtledoves or two pigeons instead.

The language and rituals surrounding uncleanness, impurity, sacrifice, and atonement might seem primitive and archaic to us thousands of years later. Rather than judge them or find fault with such practices, we can focus our attention on the points Luke was trying to make in passing on this story. He is telling us that Jesus was born into a poor family that doesn't have a sheep to spare, nor the money to purchase one. However, this family worked hard to be faithful to their religious practices and to God as they understood him.

Whereas other Gospel writers focus almost all of their attention on male characters, Luke is careful to balance stories of men with stories of women in his life. Elizabeth and Mary were the "stars" of the first two chapters of Luke's Gospel (not Zechariah or Joseph).



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"They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."

**Sheepish Question:**  
God dedicated his only son to our salvation—what is the most important thing that I have dedicated to God?

When Jesus is presented in public for the first time, Luke makes a point of stating that a man and a woman, Simeon and Anna (whom he calls a "prophetess"), both recognize the baby for the extraordinary person he is—the hope of the Jews and a light to the Gentiles (all of whom were not Jewish).

## Questions of the Week

- 1 Think about some of the Gospel stories featuring women. Which ones stand out for you? Why?
- 2 Simeon and Anna recognize Jesus as someone who will be a positive force for people across religious divides. Who in modern history can you say the same of? What was it about them that made them appealing to people of different backgrounds?

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