



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 / 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 **February 16, 2025 | 16 de febrero de 2025**

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reading I - **Jeremiah 17:5-8** | Psalm - **1:1-2,3,4,6** | Reading II - **1 Corinthians 15:2,16-20** | Gospel - **Luke 6:17,20-26**
Primera Lectura - **Jeremías 17:5-8** | Salmo - **1:1-2,3,4,6** | Segunda Lectura - **1 Corintios 15:2,16-20** | Evangelio - **Lucas 6:17,20-26**



PSALM 1

Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: **1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23**
Psalm/Salmo: **103(102:1-2,3-4,8,10,12-13)**

2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: **1 Corinthians (1Corintios) 15:45-49**
Gospel/Evangelio: **Luke (Lucas) 6:27-38**

BLESSED

When we think of the word "Beatitude" we think of today's discourse from Luke's Gospel, or the more familiar one from Matthew (which begins "Blessed are the poor in spirit . . ."). Actually, beatitudes occur throughout the prophets and Gospels. Today in Jeremiah (with an echo in the psalm) we hear, "Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:7). Following his resurrection in John's Gospel, Christ proclaims, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). The evangelists placed these sayings throughout the Gospels as short reminders about the characteristics that one will find in a follower of Christ, characteristics that will help spread the Good News in this life and lead to eternal blessings in the next. In Latin, the saints are called the *Beati*, the "Blessed," for they are the ones who lived the "blessed" life as described by Jesus throughout the Gospels. How blest are we, when we also strive to make our own days a living beatitude! - 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. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

February 16, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 17:5-8 | 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 | Lk 6:17, 20-26

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

"It is so good to be poor, to have nothing, to await all from God!" These sentiments of the humble French religious sister St. Jeanne Jugan sum up the spirit of Jesus' words in today's Gospel. Jesus praises poverty, hunger, sadness, and rejection, but certainly not as ends in themselves; God does not take pleasure in our suffering! He does use our suffering, however, to awaken us to our need for him. Poverty can spur us to pursue *heavenly* goods, and thus Jesus assures the poor, "the kingdom of God is yours." Hunger can cause us to seek God who alone can truly satiate our desires, and thus Jesus says to the hungry, "you will be satisfied." Those who weep will laugh, Jesus says - so long as their sadness inspires them to seek happiness in the service of God and the joys of eternal life. For all of us, no matter our means or our circumstances, today's Gospel is a reminder to allow everything - including our difficulties, disappointments, and unfulfilled desires - to turn our hearts to God and rely on his loving care.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It can be difficult to practice the spirit of the Beatitudes (as the "blessings" in today's Gospel are called) in the moment. Suffering, distress, and confusion easily divert our attention from God as we attempt to "make the problem go away." Sometimes we are even tempted to give up, to turn aside from God, and to seek consolation in other things. This is exactly the opposite of what he wants for us, and for good reason! God knows that it is best for us to always rely on him. This is why, as today's first reading explains, the man who trusts in the Lord is secure - "like a tree planted beside the waters ... it fears not the heat when it comes" - and fruitful - "its leaves stay green." For those who trust in the Lord, help comes from the all-powerful, infinitely loving Creator of the universe. When we entrust ourselves to him, we have nothing to fear.

ACCOMPANY

Is there someone in your life who is struggling with fear, loneliness, anxiety, or sadness? Take time to pray with that person and, together, try to discover God's invitation to a deeper reliance on him in the midst of the distress. These moments of suffering are never occasions for us to get "preachy." Instead, accompany your friend and be a reminder of the hope we have in God.



Life of Stewardship

Today's readings speak of an essential quality for the Christian steward - hope. This is especially fitting this year, as Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year with the theme, "Pilgrims of Hope."

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1817)."

In many ways, this is the very definition of a stewardship way of life - focusing on eternity as we live our daily lives and relying on God to provide for our needs and satisfy our deepest longings for meaning and happiness right now.

In today's Gospel from Luke, Jesus describes the true richness of life that is possible for those of us who are willing to live as his hope-filled disciples. We are all familiar with this passage in which Jesus reveals the Beatitudes: blessed are the poor; they have the kingdom of God. Blessed are those now hungry because they will be satisfied. Blessed are those who weep because they will laugh. Blessed are those who are hated, excluded, and insulted because they are disciples of Jesus; they will be greatly rewarded in heaven. Jesus is describing here the character of one who is living a life of hope - the life of a Christian steward whose trust is firmly rooted in God and who is focused on others and eternity. It is not always an easy life, but it is a deeply meaningful life and one that leads to eternal reward.

- *Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship*

Parish News

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.**

****NEW** Women of Faith Ministry **NEW****

The Women of Faith will hold their first meeting on Thursday, February 20 from 2 - 3pm in the Grace Parish Center. Through our recent Parish survey, we discovered that there is a strong desire for an active women's group to support our faith and community. Please join us at our first meeting to share ideas and needs to establish our ministry mission.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the soul of **Joseph Reynolds**. May he have eternal rest.

Children's Rosary

Our Children's Rosary Club will meet at the grotto after the 9am Mass on February 23 to pray one decade of the rosary.

Immigration Ministry Seminar

Please join us on Sunday, February 23 at 1:00pm in the Grace Parish Center for an informational one-hour seminar on immigration by attorney Evita, who will discuss federal immigration laws. If you, or someone you know from any country in the world, are here in the USA without legal status and are not sure where to begin the process to become legal, this is a must attend. All immigration questions will be answered.

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Tuesday, February 25 at St. Michael's**. Anyone in need of physical, emotional, and spiritual healing or healing in relationships are encouraged to come. **Praise & Worship and Confession at 6pm. Mass begins at 6:30pm.** For more information, contact Monica Choe at (720) 341-3752.

Meals That Heal Ministry

Dedicated volunteers prepare and deliver meals to those who are temporarily homebound or ill. This ministry is for those who will need a little extra assistance following surgery, someone who is undergoing medical treatment or someone who has just had a baby, etc. Often family and friends are able to help for a short time but our volunteers help to supplement that assistance by providing meals a few times a week for up to two months.

Our volunteers may bring home cooked meals, bring meals from a restaurant or have a food delivery service bring a meal. Our goal is to help alleviate any extra stress on families during these times. It is a very beautiful way to let our Parish family know that we are thinking of them and praying for them. Contact **Cheryl Roderer at caroderer@gmail.com or call the parish office** to join as a volunteer or to put us in touch with someone who could benefit from this ministry.

St. Michael's 15th Annual Golf Tournament

St. Michael's 15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday March 8th at Kona Country Club. Volunteers are needed. Please see the Golf Desk after each Mass for details. Silent auction items will also be available for bidding after each Mass.

Friendly Place Lunches Ministry

This ministry provides a hot meal every Monday for our unsheltered neighbors here in Kona. Meals are served at the Friendly Place. We prepare a hot entrée, salad, and dessert every Monday for sixty people. We are always looking for more help. Please consider joining this much needed ministry. There are several ways to help! Prepare part of the meal, help to serve the food at the Friendly Place, or make a donation to help with the cost of the weekly meal. For more info, contact Janice at the Parish office.

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!

Stewardship of Treasure

February 3rd - 9th, 2025

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 3,095.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 12,625.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 64,754.00

Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$5,675,926.17** 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 FEBRUARY 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 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

No class on February 16. Class resumes on February 23.

- Margaret Essex, *Catholicist*

Youth Ministry Classes Grades 6-12.

Classes will be held on February 16 and 23. **Retreat Day is on Sunday, Feb. 16 from 1pm to 7:15 pm.** Refreshments 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.

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

I craved four things as a teenager: success in sports, food, fun and the attention of popular people. However, I noticed that as I acquired them, I was more unsatisfied than before. So, I'd strive even more energetically, achieve more, and the sense of emptiness was greater still. These four things started to feel like burdens or even curses. Soon after, I encountered Christ in my high school youth group. Experiencing his love was totally different than anything those four things previously produced. It produced a lasting happiness.

Jesus utters a kind of four-fold curse in this week's Gospel

of Saint Luke's "woes": "Woe to you who are rich...who are filled now...who laugh now...who are well-spoken of" (cf. Luke 6:24-26). How marvelous that these correspond perfectly to the four things that obsessed my teenage soul: riches, food, laughter and good reputation. The "woes" the Lord speaks are warnings: when those things are the purpose of your life, you'll be miserable. He is saying, "You'll be happy, or blessed, in the measure that these things do not determine the shape of our lives, and the kingdom of God does."

To some degree, we're all spiritual teenagers, addicted to one or more of those four "woes." How splendid that the Lord wants his to bless us - that is, to satisfy us, make us laugh with joy, and in the kingdom of God, offer us what will truly satisfy us. But first let's admit what is causing our "woes." - *Father John Muir, ©LPI*

Every Day Stewardship - Acts of Generosity

When I was a child, I often thought of the Church as something mystical and supernatural. I wasn't wrong in my understanding of the Body of Christ, for surely the Church has these characteristics. However, even though we speak about the foundation of all we are as Church being the "mystery of Christ," Jesus became a man so that supernatural element could break into the natural world in a profound way. What we once could not see, we now see. What we saw as a God in a distant place now dwelt among us. It is one of the aspects of Catholicism that I have grown to appreciate the most as I have matured: for a Catholic, the supernatural is natural. The communion of saints is heavenly and earthly at the same time.

The Beatitudes instruct us about this reality. Pope Francis reminds us that holiness is "not about swooning in mystic rapture." Holiness is about living in the real world and doing extraordinary things with our ordinary lives. Our stewardship way of life consists of actions in the natural world that have extraordinary repercussions.

Do not ever take your simple actions of generosity and love for granted. As disciples called to a life of stewardship, we participate in something more profound than what we can see. We are blessed to be called to follow Jesus, and we bring blessing to all those with whom we choose to share ourselves. - *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI*

Everyday Stewardship - Planted Near Water

We all know that there are times when life can feel, as Jeremiah writes, empty and wasted. There are moments when we think we resemble a barren bush, thirsting in the desert sun.

That's why it is imperative for us to know the location of our water source. I promise you, it's closer than you think. God never planted a seed in barren ground.

For me, it's the Mass. Going to Mass is where I find total peace and renewal. I don't have any great theological explanation for this - Mass is simply where I can truly rest in God for a time, where nothing and no one in the world can touch me. And wouldn't you know it, it's in the toughest times that I need Mass the most - that my

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

- Women of Faith Ministry 2:00-3:00pm
- 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

Marriage

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

roots stretch harder for that water.

Woe to the rich, says Jesus - woe to the popular, to the content, to the happy. It's not because He hates to see us smile. It's because He knows our humanity. He knows our limitations. He knows that when things are going really well, we often stop looking for God.

What replenishes you as a disciple, as a steward, as a Christian? If it feels far away or hard to reach, why is that? How can you bring it closer?

We are all trees planted near water, to yield our fruit in due season. Let's pray for the strength to know where our water source is, and to seek it both in good times and in bad.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - In The End, Does it Matter?

When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: "In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground."

What he meant was, it doesn't matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We're all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the stuff, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so important: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with what I was going to become that I wasn't spending a lot of time thinking about who I was going to become. But the who is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it's all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on "the five-year plan" when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can't take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success - wealth, popularity, pleasure - did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it's radical today. Are we ready to be radical, too?

- 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 15TH

4pm - Dorothy M. Lacey, 13th Anniversary of Death

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 7am - Shirlen Haanio, Rest in Peace
- 9am - In Memory of Sudsanguan Nelson, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Rudy Estorpe, deceased, Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

- 7am - Daniel J. Minan, 6th Anniversary of Death, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Maria E., Special Intention

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

- 7am - Della Crooks, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Antonio Romolor, Anniversary of Death

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

- 7am - Joe Reynolds, Rest in Peace

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

- 7am - James "Jimmy" McClean, 3rd Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

- 7am - Richardson K. Smith, Sr. deceased, Birthday Remembrance
- 5pm - Esther Lopez, 4 years resting in the hands of the Lord

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

- 7am - Seangara Bunrasi, Surang Bunrasi, Robert Dowling, Roy Peloquin, Gary Lewis, Surin Kailuanam, Rose Lewis, Dr. Arthur Bourgeois, May they Rest in Peace

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.**

Good News or Bad News?

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Jeremiah 17:5-8 - True wisdom
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20 - The resurrection and faith
- ▶ Luke 6:17, 20-26 - The great discourses

The word *gospel* comes from the Greek word meaning “good news.” At some points, Luke’s Gospel might seem like “good news for the poor” and “bad news for the rich,” though, as in today’s passage. Matthew’s version of the Beatitudes includes only positive promises such as “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of God.” Luke’s version, however, includes strong words from Jesus to those who are living in comfort now.

We get the sense that Jesus’ audience here includes some very poor people to whom he speaks directly. “Blessed are *you* who are poor... blessed are *you* who are hungry now... blessed are *you* who weep now,” not the more generic “blessed are the poor in spirit... blessed are those who mourn.”

The crowd must also include some wealthy listeners because Jesus also addresses them directly “But woe to you who are rich... woe to you who are full now...” There are many other places in this Gospel (and the Acts of the Apostles, which Luke also wrote) where Jesus speaks bluntly about wealth, poverty, and practices that contribute to economic inequality.

Although Jesus says some things that are hard for the rich to hear, he doesn’t dislike rich people. He did banquet with them frequently, after all! Jesus came to free *everyone* from what holds them captive, and he knows that for some rich people it is their wealth which imprisons them. His words may sound like “bad news” on the surface, but if they help free

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“Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours.”

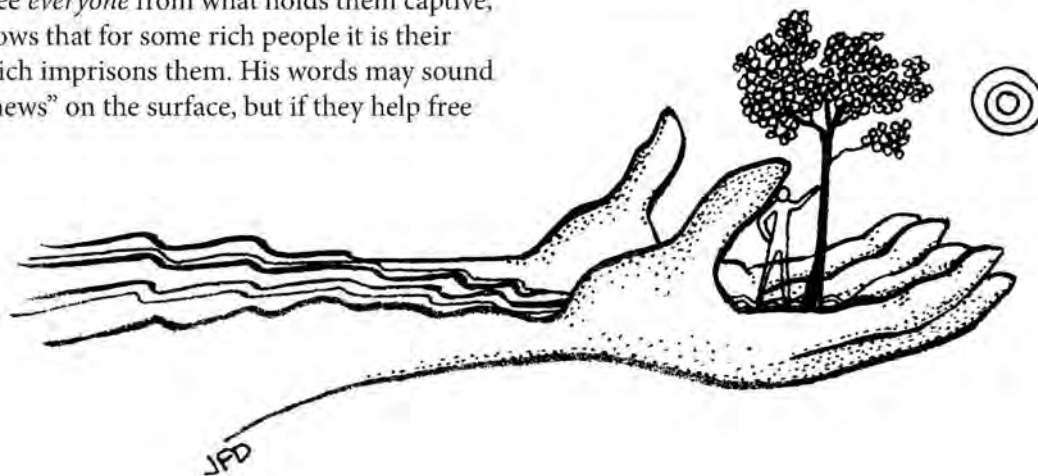
Sheepish Questions:
Who have I ignored or disdained lately? What is the root cause of my attitude and how can I change it?

people and move them towards greater generosity, justice, and trust in God rather than possessions, then ultimately Jesus is speaking good news.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What strikes you first when you hear this version of the Beatitudes? What is your initial reaction?
- 2 Which line of the Beatitudes most speaks to you today?

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