



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-Kahalu'u
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 12noon

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

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org **March 22, 2026 | 22 de marzo de 2026**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Reading I - **Ezekiel 37:12-14** | Psalm - **130:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8** | Reading II - **Romans 8:8-11** | Gospel - **John 11:1-45**

Primera Lectura - **Ezequiel 37:12-14** | Salmo - **129:1-2,3-4ab.4c-6,7-8** | Segunda Lectura - **Romanos 8:8-11** | Evangelio - **Juan 11:1-45**

JESUS' MINISTRY SUMMARIZED

The story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead is the single longest story (apart from the Passion) in the Gospel of John. In it we find a summary of most of Jesus' ministry. We see his very human nature as he is moved by Martha and Mary's sorrows and as he himself weeps at the tomb of Lazarus. He is the wisdom of God's Word made flesh as he explains to his followers that the death of Lazarus will serve as a sign of the glory of God. He crowns the miracles he works in John's Gospel (which began with the most "human" miracle of making new wine at Cana's wedding) by raising Lazarus from the dead - a "preview," if you will, of his own death and resurrection to come. This portrait of Jesus reminds us, as we near the end of our Lenten journey, that he is with us, knows us, understands us in every moment of our lives. He knows the joy of our human feasting, he knows the sorrow of our weeping. As we prepare to walk with him through the days of Holy Week, we are filled with faith that - through Christ - God's glory will be with us in every moment of our lives and - with Christ - in our life everlasting. - *Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.*



Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

At the Procession - Gospel: Matthew (Mateo) 21:1-11

1st Rdg/Primera Lectura: Isaiah (Isaias) 50:4-7

Psalm/Salmo: 22(21):8-9,17-19,19-20,23-24

2nd Rdg/Segunda Lectura: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel/Evangelio: Matthew (Mateo) 26:14 - 27:66

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection 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 evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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.



March 22, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14 | Rom 8:8-11 | Jn 11:1-45

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

The raising of Lazarus marks an irreversible turning point in Jesus' ministry. It's impossible to publicly raise someone from the dead and continue to fly beneath the radar. It's no surprise that the next time we meet Jesus, he'll be greeted with Hosannas and palm branches as the promised Son of David. But we also know that by raising Lazarus, Jesus attracts the attention of his enemies and sets himself on a course that ultimately leads to the cross. In our own life of discipleship, there may be times when we will have to step up and make a decisive and public choice for our faith or our values. Standing up for what's right may bring praise and admiration, or lead to misunderstanding or even persecution. We can draw strength in these decisive moments from the knowledge that the One we follow is the resurrection and the life. Any risk we take in following him is worth it in the end.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel passage features the shortest and perhaps one of the most profound verses in all of Scripture: "And Jesus wept." This text reveals that before he restored his friend to life, we have a God who weeps with us over the losses and tragedies of our lives. Likewise, before we can announce the Good News of the Gospel, we must learn the "art of accompaniment," as Pope Francis reminded us in *Evangelii Gaudium*. (169) This requires that we offer "our closeness and our compassionate gaze" to all those we seek to evangelize. When our first action consists of compassion, empathy, and entering into the joys and sorrows of others, our efforts at evangelization will bear much fruit.

INVITATION

St. Paul tells us to "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." (Rom 12:15) As we enter the final week of Lent and prepare for Holy Week, spend some time thinking about who in your life is experiencing a particular moment of joy or sorrow at this time. Consider one concrete action you can take to be present to them: it could be dropping off a meal to someone who recently had surgery, sitting with someone who lost a loved one and listening as they share stories of their lives together, or bringing a special treat to celebrate a friend's recent accomplishment. Then - do it.

Life of Stewardship

At this point in our Lenten journey, it is tempting to grow weary of the spiritual disciplines we have taken on. Today's readings inspire us to remain faithful, in grateful response to a God who loves us so much.

In our first reading, the prophet Ezekiel speaks God's own words to us. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live ... I have promised and I will do it, says the Lord." Our God wants to be so closely united to us that we are one with Him. And He has promised He will do it. But only if we make room for Him by making Him THE priority of our lives. Putting God first is a grateful response that is very pleasing to Him.

How can we do this? Our second reading, from Romans, tells us. "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh... you are in the spirit if only the Spirit of God dwells in you."

The disciplines of Lent and a stewardship way of life are wonderful gifts that free us from too great an attachment to "the flesh." The sacrifices we make as Christian stewards are not meant to restrict our freedom and joy. Quite the contrary. They are tools to help us find the real freedom and joy that only come when we make room in our lives for God.

As we journey closer to the Passion of our Lord, let us intensify our Lenten resolutions and our stewardship way of life, inviting the Holy Spirit to take over more and more of our lives. By Easter, we will be freer to rejoice in Him and truly pleasing to God. - *Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

Parish News

* NEW* Helping Children with Loss program

All of us have experienced grief throughout our lives, a result of many changes and losses. These losses begin in childhood – for example, when we move from one home to another, when our parents go through divorce, when a pet dies, a first love doesn't work out, or our team lost. The "**Helping Children with Loss**" program **teaches adults** (parents, grandparents, teachers, daycare providers and others who have, love, or work with children) **how to help children to deal with loss**. The program is an action-based program with reading and writing assignments, outlined in the book "*When Children Grieve*" (book provided). Based on the Grief Recovery Method program, "**Helping Children with Loss**" is a 4-session program for a total of 10 hours. This is **not** a drop-in program, as each session builds on previous sessions. All 4 sessions must be completed. This program will be held on Wednesdays, **April 8 – 29, 2026 from 10am to 12:30pm**. **There is no charge**. To register, call **Suzanne Zaw**, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, by Friday March 27 at (808) 339-7980.

40DaysForLife

The Respect Life Committee invites our parish 'ohana to join us for a strong and prayerful finish to the international 40 Days for Life campaign. As we conclude these 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, we gather daily in faith and unity to stand up for the dignity of every human life. We welcome everyone to participate in our community outreach outside the front entrance on Ali'i Drive. Signs are provided. For more information, contact Lori through the Parish Office.

Hawaii Island Chrism Mass

Bishop Larry Silva will preside at our Hawaii Island Chrism Mass on **Tuesday, March 24** at St. Joseph Church in Hilo. All Parishes on our island will receive their Chrism Oils. Mass begins at **5:30pm**. Everyone is invited.

2026 Lenten Reconciliation Service

Join us for our Lenten Reconciliation Service at **6pm on Wednesday, March 25** at St. Michael's.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Every **Friday** during Lent, the Stations of the Cross will **be prayed at 5pm at St. Michael's in English and at 6pm at Immaculate Conception in Spanish**.

Ministry Training

There will be a training for all **Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans** on **Saturday, March 28**. Following the 7am Mass, we will have coffee & donuts in the Grace Parish Center and training will begin at 7:45. If you are unable to attend, please let your ministry leader know.

Lenten Fish Fry Fridays

Please join us each **Friday after Stations of the Cross from 5:45pm to 7:15pm**, for Lenten Fish Fry Fridays in the Grace Parish Center. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus. **Eat-In or Take-Out** dinner is only \$15 per person. See posters on the church kiosks for more information.

Knights of Columbus 40 Cans for Lent

Please consider **donating one can for each day** of our Lenten *season*. Donations can be left in the carts inside the front entrance of the Church.

Children's Rosary

Join us **after the 9am Mass on Sunday, March 29** as our children lead one decade of the Rosary in prayerful devotion. Parents are invited to pray alongside them - a beautiful way to grow in faith as a family. Prayer requests may be placed at the grotto. "Count Your Blessings" boxes are available for children to add intentions throughout the month. We gather on the last Sunday of each month and will pray together for all the intentions collected.

Immigration Ministry Seminar

Come to our Immigration Ministry Seminar on **Sunday, March 29 at 1:00pm** in the Grace Parish Center! Attorney Evita will discuss federal immigration laws in an informational one-hour seminar. 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.

St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

Phase 1 has been installed and Phase 2 is scheduled for installation soon. Order forms and information are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or at the Parish Office during the week. Three brick sizes are offered, each with your choice of engraving. Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come.

Stewardship of Treasure

March 9th - March 15th, 2026

| | |
|--|-------------|
| ONLINE GIVING | \$ 3,525.00 |
| SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS | \$ 8,118.00 |
| BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE | \$ 5,047.20 |

We are grateful that our construction debt for the Grace Parish Center has been paid off. Our weekly second collection will be for our Building Repairs & Maintenance. *Mahalo* for your continued generosity!

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

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH MARCH 2026 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$14,082.75

The Diocesan Assessment covers shared staff and administrative resources from the Diocese supporting every parish. The new "Annual Appeal" assessment starting in January provides funds for collaborative Catholic ministries and services that extend beyond the capacity of any single parish.

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.

AARP Offering Free Tax Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those ages 50 and older. West Hawaii has two sites offering service from **February 4 until April 10**. Hale Halawai, located at 75-5600 Ali'i Drive is open on a walk-in basis on **Thursdays from 8am until 12 noon**.

Yano Hall located at 82-6156 Mamalahoa Highway in Captain Cook is open for walk-in and appointments (808-765-9141) on **Wednesdays from 10am until 4pm**.

Hawaii Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Our **Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal** is an exciting opportunity for our parish community to come together and *Share God's Gifts* in support of the vital ministries that strengthen our Church across the islands. Make your gift online using the QR code or use the envelopes in the kiosks. Your generosity supports Catholic schools and faith formation programs, outreach to individuals and families in need, evangelization efforts, and the formation of seminarians preparing for the priesthood.



Faith Formation

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

Class on Sunday, March 22 from 10:15 to 11:50am in the Grace Parish Center.

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Camp was great although cut short and the venue changed but God showed up and we are blessed. No class this Sunday, next class March 28th.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

A friend of mine wrote an imaginative reflection on the raising of Lazarus that caught me off guard. She proposed that when Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb, the man was not joyful but angry and annoyed. After so much suffering, maybe death felt like a release. He had finally escaped the pain. And then, suddenly, Jesus' voice cuts through the silence: "Lazarus, come out!" (John 11:43) The light stings his eyes. The pain returns. And now he is dragged back into a world that had broken him.

It startled me at first, but the more I sat with it, the more it made sense. Sometimes, people do not want to be raised. Not at first. Think of those in the grip of addiction, despair, or numbness. The tomb can feel safer than the risk of living again. Yet Jesus, moved by the grief and faith of others (Martha, Mary, the community) calls the dead man out. Lazarus obeys. But he is still bound, head to foot. Jesus says to the bystanders, "Untie him and let him go" (John 11:44).

That is often how healing happens: slowly, reluctantly. Not just by a personal decision, but through the love and persistence of others. Resurrection is not always euphoric. It may begin in protest and confusion and only later turn to gratitude and freedom. But Christ's voice breaks through, anyway.

Lenten challenge: Who in your life needs to be called back to life? Pray for them. If that person is you, listen for the voice. It is calling even now. - *Father John Muir, ©LPi*

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent - Committed

I remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

- *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI*

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 6:00-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Hula Ministry Practice 5:30-6:30pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm
- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00-7:00pm
(Last Wed. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm

THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm
(First Thursday - Grace Parish Center)
(Third Thursday - Ola Brew)

FRIDAY

- Women of the Word 12:00-1:00pm

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

- Gift Shop Open 7:30am-11am
- 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)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly as needed. Parents and Godparents must attend class. To register, please email baptism.stmichaeklona@rcchawaii.org

Marriage

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

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - What Lazarus Wanted

"It must be so crazy, being God," one of my friends said in high school. "Does it feel like playing The Sims all day? Just making people do stuff because you want to see what happens?"

I think we all sometimes fall into this warped manner of thinking about God's omnipotence. It's understandable, to a degree. The flimsiness of our own agency in this world, our real ability to impact or change anything ... well, it all feels especially puny when you put it next to the power of the Creator. "Oh God, thy sea is so great," goes the old fisherman's prayer. "And my boat is so small."

But today, in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, we are reminded that God is all about giving us agency.

Jesus could have raised any random person from the dead on this, the Fifth Sunday of Lent. His intention was clear: to foreshadow his own passion, death and resurrection, and to exhibit the closeness of God to those who mourn. "This illness is not to end in death," he tells his companions. "But is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." (John 11:4)

So if it could have been anyone, why was it Lazarus?

I think the answer has to be that this was something Lazarus agreed to. Perhaps not in an explicit way, for he didn't know the mind or the plans of God. But in his friendship with Jesus, in the strength of his faith and the depth of his devotion to God, in every prayer he ever uttered - "Lord, let your will be done" - he was agreeing to it. Over and over, in what he said and what he did, Lazarus, beloved friend of Christ, said, "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

In this last full week of Lent, let us say it with him: "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPI

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Lazarus, come out!" Jesus calls into the tomb. These same words he cries into the depths of our hearts. "Come out!" God is calling you. Come out from the sleep of your indifference. Easter is near.

Now is the time. Come out! - ©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

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST

- 4pm - Richard Asakura and Zola Ingram, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7am - Jammie Shim, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Alicia Pasco and Marisa Farm, Birthday Blessings
- 4pm - Joe Reynolds, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, MARCH 23RD

- 7am - Leopoldo Mendez Vargas, Juan Sanchez Geronimo, Mark Weaver, Jacen Ham, Christopher Kanoko, Catalina Ramos, Gabriel Zarate, All Souls in Purgatory
- 5pm - Kathy Sutherland, Rest in Peace

TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH

- 7am - Don Lawson for Healing
- 5pm - Carlyle Terry for Healing

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH

- 7am - Richard Casiano, Steve Age, Br. Boniface (Greg) Bateman, Carl Ester, Robert Brown, Janet Ester, Roy Peloquin, Surang Bunrasi, Necitas Revilla., Lt. Col. Sherril Owens, May they Rest in Peace

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

- 7am - Felixberto Aseron, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

- 7am - Ayla Mammadova, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Emma Martinez, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

- 7am - David Todd, Blessings

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.**



Use this QR Code for our Amazon Wishlist. Items purchased can be mailed directly to the Parish Office.



Mahalo for your support!

Mysteries

This Week's Readings at Mass

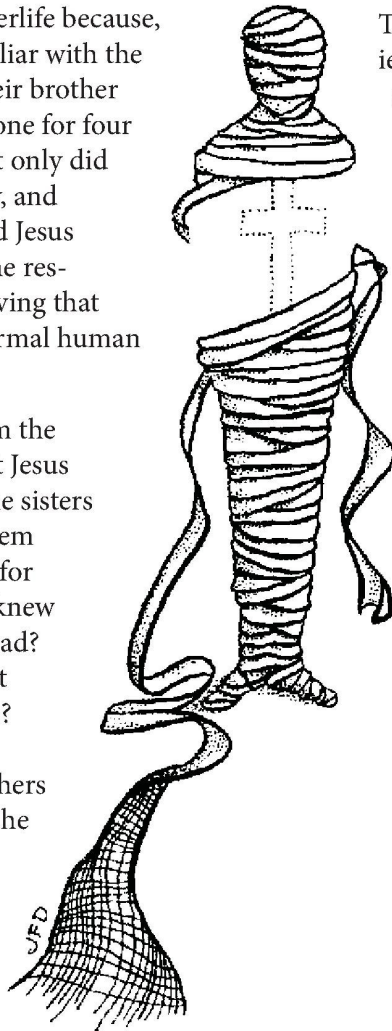
- ▶ Ezekiel 37:12-14 • Promise of resurrection
- ▶ Romans 8:8-11 • The flesh and the Spirit
- ▶ John 11:1-45 • The raising of Lazarus



The first reading from Ezekiel is perfectly paired with the Gospel reading of the raising of Lazarus. Ezekiel hears God say very clearly that God will raise his people from the dead, animating them with the spirit that will bring them back to life. The second reading from St. Paul also addresses the Jewish and Christian theological question, “Is death the end of everything?” Paul is as emphatic as Ezekiel. No. “The One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also.”

Of course, it might seem easy to believe in life after death until we have had a loved one die. Martha and Mary might have believed in an afterlife because, as Jews, they would have been familiar with the promise from Ezekiel. Yet when their brother died and the reality of him being gone for four days sank in, they doubted too. Not only did they doubt, but they grieved deeply, and even got angry at Jesus. Martha told Jesus she believes Lazarus “will rise, in the resurrection on the last day,” but believing that didn’t lessen her other perfectly normal human emotions.

Even after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, mysteries remain. Why didn’t Jesus go to Lazarus immediately when the sisters summoned him? Why did he let them experience heart-breaking sadness for four days? Why did Jesus cry if he knew he would raise Lazarus from the dead? Why did Jesus raise Lazarus but not others who died during his lifetime? Why do some people today get to experience healing miracles, but others don’t? Why do we have to wait for the resurrection of the dead to see our loved ones again?



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“You shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and have you rise from them.”

Sheepish Question:
In what ways do I need to strengthen my belief in God’s power, particularly in the truth of resurrection?

These readings today don’t solve any mysteries of our faith. They don’t give us answers about God, but they point to the complete conviction of three different biblical writers who do not doubt that Jesus is “the resurrection and the life.”

Questions of the Week

- 1 What most stands out to you when you hear the Gospel reading today? Why?
- 2 If you have lost a loved one(s), did that affect on what you believe about the afterlife? How so?

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Music Ministry

MIGUEL SALAZAR
Spanish Music Ministry

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