

July 19, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19 | Rom 8:26-27 | Mt 13:24-43

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

There have been moments in my life when I have not been able to find words for prayer, which leaves my efforts feeling unproductive and fruitless. But prayer's worth is not measured by the words we say. Prayer is the lifting of the mind and the heart to God. We place ourselves in the presence of God and allow our desires, our suffering, and our weakness to be transformed by his grace. In Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans he writes, "we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings." In prayer, we place our hope in that what we bring to God will be heard and magnified by his divine grace. And as Christians, we live with the intention of pleasing God, and we trust that God transforms our actions into something meaningful as well. As the mustard seed grows into a large tree or a small teaspoon of yeast enlivens an entire loaf of bread, God takes what we offer – regardless of whether or not we have the right words, or even any words at all – and transforms it into something extraordinary.

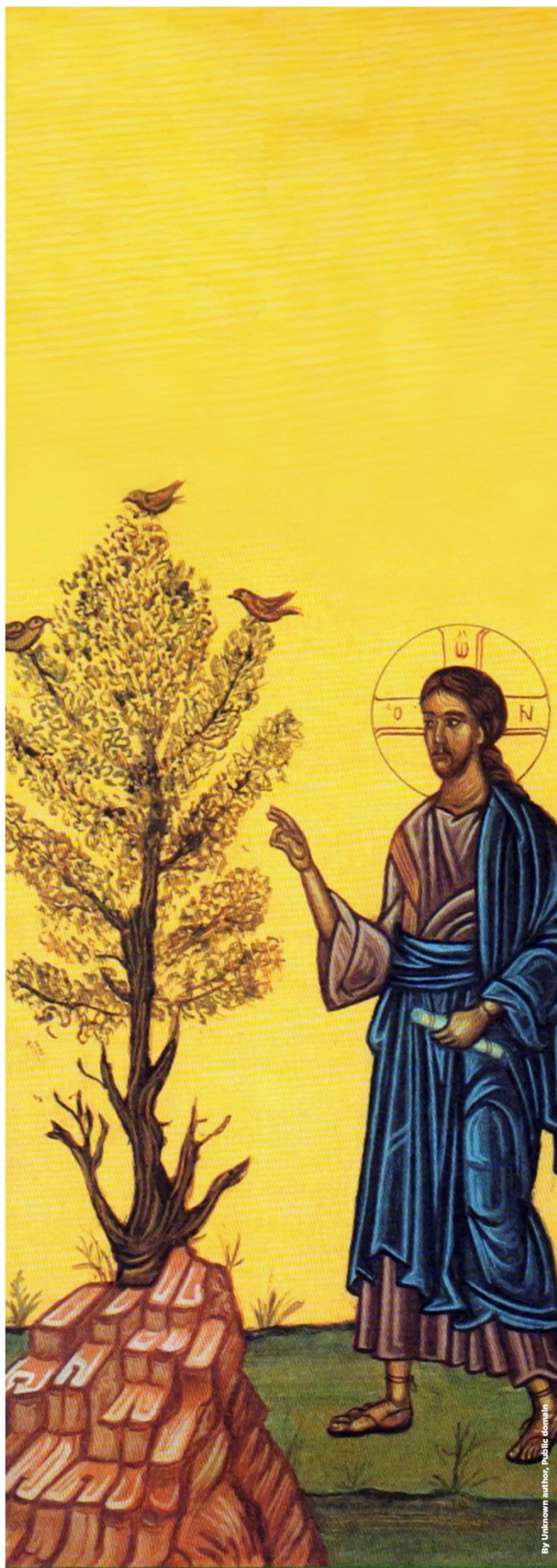
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the first reading, we are reminded of God's leniency in the face of justice. God's mercy does not mean a lack of accountability – Christ desires and commands that we love God and love our neighbor. But in his mercy, he does not condemn us for our sin but rather gives time for us to repent. As a Christian community, we are called to show that same mercy – that same patient forbearance with one another. By doing so, the love of God ripples across a community through acts of charity and compassion, making individuals feel known and cared for. In this kind of environment, like the birds who find rest in the branches of the large mustard bush, all who seek the Lord will find a welcome among God's people.

PRAY

Prayer is not only offered in word but also in sacrifice offered on behalf of another. Today, think of someone who needs your prayers. Bring their intention to God either in word or by offering a sacrifice on their behalf, not thinking about what is equal but what reflects God's mercy.





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 (1st & 3rd Sundays until 1:30pm) Wed 9:00am - 1:00pm

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org July 19, 2026 | 19 de julio de 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I - **Wisdom 12:13,16-19** | Psalm - **86:5-6,9-10,15-16** | Reading II - **Romans 8:26-27** | Gospel - **Matthew 13:24-43**
Reading I - **Sabiduría 12:13,16-19** | Salmo - **85:5-6,9-10,15-16** | Segunda Lectura - **Romanos 8:26-27** | Evangelio - **Mateo 13:24-43**

THE MERCY, POWER, AND LOVE OF GOD

The first reading today, from the book of Wisdom, makes its point over and over, at least five times in five verses! God is mighty, but lenient to all. God's power is shown in kindness and clemency, not in harshness and condemnation, and those who govern God's people must govern in the same way, with kindness. This loving kindness and gentleness is not contrary to God's might, but is a direct result of God's primacy over all. Who are we, then, to judge what is in the hearts of our fellow Christians and all people, when God commands justice with love and clemency?

Likewise, the Holy Spirit makes up for our ignorance of what we need, speaking in a language we do not yet understand. But God knows our needs before we do, understands the intercessions of the Spirit, and helps us in our weakness. This is our hope: God's mercy, power, and love.

- Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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.



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

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

GLPI

Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5,7-12

Primera Lectura: 1 Reyes 3:5-13

Psalm/Salmo: 119(118):57,72,76-77,127-128,129-130

2nd Rdg/Segunda Lectura: Romans (Romanos) 8:28-30

Gospel/Evangelio: Matthew (Mateo) 13:44-52

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.

Life of Stewardship

Today's Gospel passage from Matthew contains several parables that offer both challenge and encouragement to the Christian steward as Jesus describes the Kingdom of Heaven and our role in helping to build it.

First, He compares the Kingdom to a field where both wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest. Only then are they separated - the wheat gathered into the sower's barn and the weeds destroyed. It is a sobering reminder that our choices matter and that God, in His justice, will one day call each of us to account for how we have lived and used the gifts He has entrusted to us.

But Jesus also offers great encouragement. He compares the Kingdom to a mustard seed, the smallest of seeds, which grows into a large plant. He also compares it to a small amount of yeast that quietly transforms an entire batch of dough.

These images are especially consoling for Christian stewards. So often, the prayers we pray, the service we offer, and the gifts we share can seem small compared to the needs around us. Yet Jesus reminds us that God works powerfully through even the smallest acts of faithfulness.

God sees and treasures our offerings of time, talent, and treasure. When placed in His hands, they can bear far more fruit than we could ever imagine.

In gratitude for all He has given us, let us remain faithful to the mission entrusted to our care for the building of His Kingdom.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Parish News

Special Collection-Emergency Fund for Venezuela

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our special collection for Venezuela. Mahalo for answering this call with such compassion. Because of your generosity, families affected by the recent earthquakes will receive essential supplies and support during this difficult time. Your kindness reflects Christ's healing presence and gifts remind those who are suffering are not forgotten. May God bless you abundantly for the love you have shared.

St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

The second phase of bricks have been installed. If you've been thinking about purchasing a brick, this is the last opportunity to be part of this beautiful project. Information and order forms are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or from the Parish Office during the week. We offer three brick sizes, each with your choice of engraving.

Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds as we complete this final phase. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come.

Kupuna Ministry

The Kupuna Ministry welcomes seniors of all ages and meets on **Wednesdays from 8:30 to 10:30am** in the Grace Parish Center. We start with social time, coffee and snacks, song, and group prayer for the return of our families and friends to the Church through the intercession of **Saint Monica**. We offer crafts, conversation, and a friendly Mah Jong table. Whether you come for ten minutes or the whole morning, you'll find warmth, joy, and great company! Come

and join us . . . we would love to see you there!

Akamai Aging - A Free Speaker Series on Zoom

Come and listen to a variety of speakers to learn helpful strategies and resources to support healthy aging in your own home. We are blessed with the opportunity to join in on this series via zoom in the Grace Parish Center.

- *Palliative Care and Hospice - July 24: 10 -11am*
- *When You Can't Go It Alone - July 31: 11 - 12Noon*

Parents & Families at the Center of Faith Formation

You're invited to a workshop for Parents, and Parish Families on Saturday, July 25 from 9:30am to 12:30pm in the Grace Parish Center. Our guest speaker is our NCCL Project Consultant, Jayne Ragasa-Mondoy. Explore practical ways to accompany parents and families and strengthen faith formation in the home and parish. All are welcome. Please RSVP to 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!

Save the Date - Saturday, August 15 - 11am

Join us for a special Mass here at St. Michael's as we welcome our newly appointed **Bishop Michael Thomas Tupou Castori, S.J.**

Following the Mass, all are welcome to a **reception** in the **Grace Parish Center**. Each parish in the **West Hawaii Vicariate** will be providing assigned dishes as we celebrate together in fellowship and gratitude.

Friendly Place Lunches Ministry

Every Monday, members of our ministry prepare and deliver a **hot lunch to the Friendly Place** to feed those experiencing homelessness. This ministry is a beautiful way to live out our call to compassion and service. There are several ways to help: prepare part of the meal (entrée, side, dessert), serve the meal at the Friendly Place from 11 to 12noon, or donate to help with the cost of ingredients. **Team Leaders** are: 1st Monday - **Patty Kellar**; 2nd Monday - **Cheryl Roderer & Sue Costa**; 3rd Monday - **Parish Office**; 4th Monday - **Teresa Clark**; 5th Monday - **Debra Miles**. If you would like to join our ministry, please call the Parish Office.

Your gifts of **time, talent, and treasure** truly make a difference. Come join us in providing **hot meals - and hope - for our community!**

Stewardship of Treasure

July 6th - 12th, 2026

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 3,535.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 13,123.00
BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 7,183.80

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 OF JULY 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.

Marriage Preparation

If you are planning a Catholic wedding either here or in another Catholic Church, please keep in mind that attending an **Engaged Encounter Weekend** is required by the Diocese of Honolulu. The next opportunity on the Big Island is **September 12-13** here at **St. Michael's**. Register online at <https://hawaii.engagedencounter.com>. Call the **Parish Office at 808-326-7771** for detailed information about the marriage preparation process.

Faith Formation

Kids' Bulletin

The Kids' Bulletin is a great resource for kids who would like to have some fun while learning about the readings from the Sunday Mass each week. Bulletins can be found in the kiosks or online at www.thekidsbulletin.com.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. "It's supposed to be God's Kingdom on earth," he said, "but it's full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can't the Church just be better?" That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus' parables in today's Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field," yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God's reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the

Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God's quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church's flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

- Father John Muir, ©LPi

Treasures From Our Tradition

For centuries, the only Eucharistic Prayer we heard as Western Catholics was the old Roman Canon, usually recited in a low voice by the priest, in Latin. By the 1940s, many Catholics were learning to follow along with the actions of the priest by means of a bilingual missal, with Latin on one side and English on the other. Drawings of the priest's position at the altar, moving from one side to the other, or bowing or standing with uplifted hands at the center, helped the readers stay on track.

The Roman Canon is a long prayer, and since it was done every day for every occasion, priests had a way of galloping through it. Even though long, its structure is fairly simple, with the consecration and sacrifice clearly marked out. Sadly, this surviving prayer had triumphed over many treasures of our tradition that emphasized other dimensions of Eucharist. The *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* in 1963 did not call directly for new Eucharistic Prayers, but that direction was inevitable. Discussion began almost immediately, and by 1967 the Vatican approved three new Eucharistic Prayers. In 1974, the Congregation for Worship unveiled the experiment of two Eucharistic Prayers for Masses of Reconciliation, and three for Masses with Children. At last, a period of creativity and enrichment had begun.

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

Everyday Stewardship - What Does God Want You to Be?

How time flies! This coming year I will have one child graduate from college, one from high school, and one starting high school. I am exhausted thinking about it. My prayer for all my children is that they take the Holy Spirit with them in all that they do, and call on God to aid them in discerning their future. That is my prayer, but I know that it will not always be easy for them to follow this path. The key will be for each of them, if they choose, to be what God intended them to be, as opposed to trying to be what they want to be.

It sounds great to say to a child, "You can be anything you want to be." But at the core of this statement is often the lie that true happiness lies in fulfilling your will for your life. I have seen many people in my life that reached their goals only to find an emptiness and longing for something more. The reality is that our ultimate fulfillment and joy is becoming the person, not that we wanted to be, but the person that God created us to be. This does not mean that we are stuck in some predestined

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
(meetings resume on Tuesday, 9/8)

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
(1st & 3rd Thursday-meetings resume on 8/6)

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 2:45pm
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly.

Parents and Godparents must attend class. Our next baptism class will be held on Saturday, August 22 at 8:30am in the Grace Parish Center.

To register, please email baptism.stmichaeklona@rcchawaii.org

Marriage

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

situation. There are many ways we can live out our destiny and use fully use the gifts God gave each of us. But it does mean that we have chosen a path based on where God is leading us and informed by an insight of the distinct gifts with which we have been created. At the end of that path is a life filled with joy, peace, and contentment.

This is what I want for my kids. May they find their success by discerning God's will and becoming the wonderful people that God intended. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - The Weeds We Need

Driving up my street in late spring, you can see which yard is mine from a whole block away: it's the one covered in dandelions. And I like it that way.

I fear neither my husband's shame nor the snarky comments of neighbors: I will never apologize for my dandelion-filled yard. "It's for the pollinators," I say, but it's a total lie. I just think it looks lovely. Who doesn't like a splash of yellow after a long, dreary winter?

People call dandelions "weeds," but it's just not true. Weeds are, by definition, any plant growing where it isn't wanted. A rosebush is a weed, if it's in the middle of a cornfield. I want my dandelions. Plants that are commonly considered weeds can even have beneficial properties. They attract pollinators, for instance, and they promote nutrient cycling, whereby soil health is improved.

We all have metaphorical "weeds" in the garden of our lives. I certainly do: facets of my personality I loathe, realities of my life I resent, limitations in my abilities I dread - these are my weeds, and their roots run deep, coiling closely around those of the plants I try to cultivate. But if I could rid my garden of any one of these weeds, would it really benefit me? And if I examined them all closely, could I tell them apart - the blessing from the curse, the struggle from the triumph?

One day, it will all become clear: what is the wheat, and what is the weed. We will be put to our ultimate purpose, and we will see ourselves for what we are meant to be.

Until then, we need the weeds. It's not harvest time yet. - Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPI

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The mustard seed was the smallest seed, but it grew to be the largest plant because it was well-tended. This is faith: looking past what is to see what can be, if only we make the necessary choice. - ©LPI

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

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

SUNDAY, JULY 19TH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7am - Perfecta Dela Cruz Bucog, Death Anniversary, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Adrian Moses, Birthday Blessings
- 4pm - Zola Ingram, 1st Anniversary of Death, May she Rest in Peace

MONDAY, JULY 20TH

- 7am - Gabe Hermosura, Special Intention
- 5pm - Bobbie Courtade, Rest in Peace

TUESDAY, JULY 21ST

- 7am - Christine Flasz, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Loraine Gateley, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22ND

- 7am - Alfred Lacro, deceased, Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, JULY 23RD

- 7am - Julie Wight for Healing
- 5pm - MISSA PRO POPULO

FRIDAY, JULY 24TH

- 7am - Necitas Revilla, deceased, Birthday Remembrance
- 5pm - Sharon Yarnall, deceased, Birthday Remembrance

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH

- 7am - Roy Peloquin, Thomas Burgoon, Richard Fuson, Dennis Langlois, Raymond Langlois, Mr. O'Mailey, Jane Roberts, Rita Kneuen, Sr. Leanne Herda, May they Rest in Peace and Birthday Blessings for Larry Juffer

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.



SCAN ME

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

Mahalo for your support!

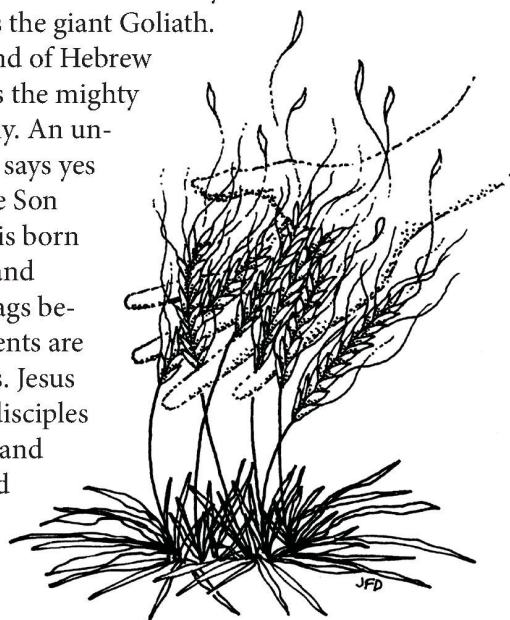
God Works with Small Things

This Week's Readings at Mass

- Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 • On God's mercy
- Romans 8:26-27 • The intercession of the Spirit
- Matthew 13:24-30 • The parable of the weeds

We are in the midst of a period of hearing Gospel readings about the Kingdom of God and how God is active in the world, sometimes in subtle ways. At the same time, the First and Second readings point out other characteristics of God. The First Reading, from the book of Wisdom, was written about 50 years before Jesus' birth. The author stresses how mighty and powerful God is, yet how God is also tolerant, forgiving, and kind. Paul's words to the Romans teach that the Spirit of our God speaks in and through us, especially when we don't know how to pray. Taken together, all three readings today provide hope that God is alive and active in our lives, whether we always recognize it or now.

The parables of the mustard seed and the yeast which leavens the bread are well-known parables that point to God's ability to bring about great things starting with something small and seemingly insignificant. In fact, that is a theme found throughout the Bible. The entire Jewish race begins because of Abraham and Sarah's faithfulness. The boy David defeats the giant Goliath. The small band of Hebrew slaves escapes the mighty Egyptian army. An unwed teenager says yes to bearing the Son of God. God is born into a stable and wrapped in rags because his parents are poor refugees. Jesus reminds his disciples to have hope and trust that God



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Sheepish Question:
Which is more difficult for me: being good and just, or being kind? What must I fix?

can and does, work through small things to do great things.

On the other hand, the parable about the wheat and the weeds seems to make a different point: we must have patience when we experience good and evil existing side-by-side in our world. Just as the farmer had no control over the fact that weeds were growing amidst his wheat crop, we have no control over bad things that happen to us. We can do all that is possible to cultivate the good (by sowing good seeds), but we have to live with unexpected and disappointing outcomes. As the farmer teaches his crew, it is not their job to sift out the bad from the good. Ultimately that is God's job. In the meantime, God invites us to live, and still grow together, with all that is imperfect in the world.

Questions of the Week

- 1 When have you seen some small act of courage or love have a profound effect on others?
- 2 What "weeds" or unwanted problems are you called to accept and live with now?

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REV. KONELIO FALETOI
Pastor and Vicar Forane of the
West Hawaii Vicariate

REV. CLAUDIO AGUIRRE
Parochial Vicar

**DEACON SÁNDOR
HERNÁNDEZ MORALES**
MEALI'INANI DUARTE-HERNÁNDEZ
Deacon / Pastoral Associate
shernandez@rcchawaii.org

DEACON CRAIG CAMELLO
PAMELA CAMELLO
Deacon / Pastoral Associate
ccamello@rcchawaii.org

CYRIL JAIRUS (CJ) ALTARES
Seminararian

EDWINA FUJIMOTO
Youth Minister
efujimoto@rcchawaii.org

MARGARET ESSEX
Children's Faith Formation K-5
messex@rcchawaii.org

CHERYL APPELEY
Baptism Ministry
baptism.stmichaelskona@rcchawaii.org

SHIRLEY DAVID
Pastoral Council Chair

DAVE BATEMAN
Finance Council Chair

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MIGUEL SALAZAR
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CAROLINE SMITH / LOUELLA BRANCO
Funeral Ministry

PAULETTE ADAMS
Wedding Coordinator

MAYRA RAMIREZ
Spanish Wedding & Quinceañera Coordinator

BILL CULHANE
Food Pantry Ministry

THELMA BACXA
Community Outreach Ministry

STEPHANIE CHAIKIN
Gift Shop Coordinator

JANICE LACRO
Administrative Assistant
stmichaelsarchangel@rcchawaii.org



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Joseph Dutton for
Veneration.*

Loving and Eternal Father,
You chose Brother Joseph Dutton as
An ardent apostle of Your Divine Compassion.
I humbly ask you, through the intercession of
Brother Joseph Dutton, that You will
grant me this favor - - -
Brother Joseph Dutton, please pray for me.
I will be forever thankful if you present my
request to God through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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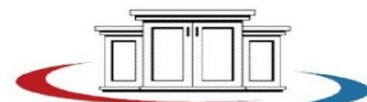
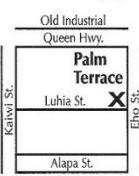
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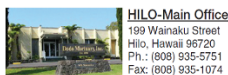


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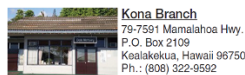
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